

Randolph-Hampton-Castle Rock essenger • NOVEMBER, 2021

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Volume 19 • Issue 3

Thank You

We want to Thank You for your continued support of the Randolph-Hampton-Castle Rock 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.

(continued on page 10)



• Lunch Bunch is a group of RHS Alumni that meets at 11 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch at Little Oscar's. All alumni and friends are invited to join us.

Do you have an announcement? Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

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

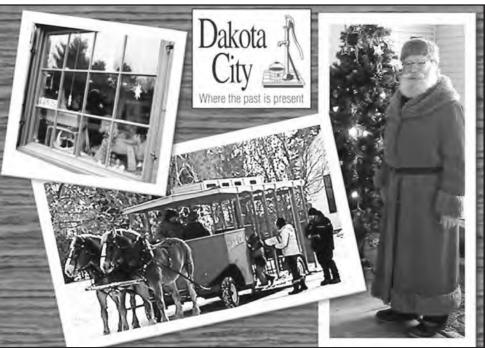
Dakota City, located on the Dakota County Fairgrounds in Farmington, will once again

Toots Mies Recognized for Years of Driving **School Bus**



Courtesy of Randolph School

Toots Mies was recognized as the Distinguished Service Award winner in Rochester tonight at the Region 1A Activities Director Banquet for her many years of driving school bus. Thank you for your service Toots, you are irreplaceable!



host its annual CHRISTMAS IN THE VIL-LAGE 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

(continued on page 4)

photo courtesy of Dakota City





of the village.

Religion

- RANDOLPH-HAMPTON-CASTLE ROCK MESSENGER -

Thanksgiving Generosity

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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 wind. 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 Millville- 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 Millville: 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.

Randolph-Hampton-Castle Rock

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Messenger

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 ½ 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.

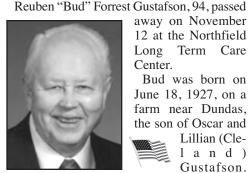


Obituaries

- RANDOLPH-HAMPTON-CASTLE ROCK MESSENGER -

November, 2021

Reuben "Bud" Forrest Gustafson



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 (Cle-1 a n d) 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.

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.

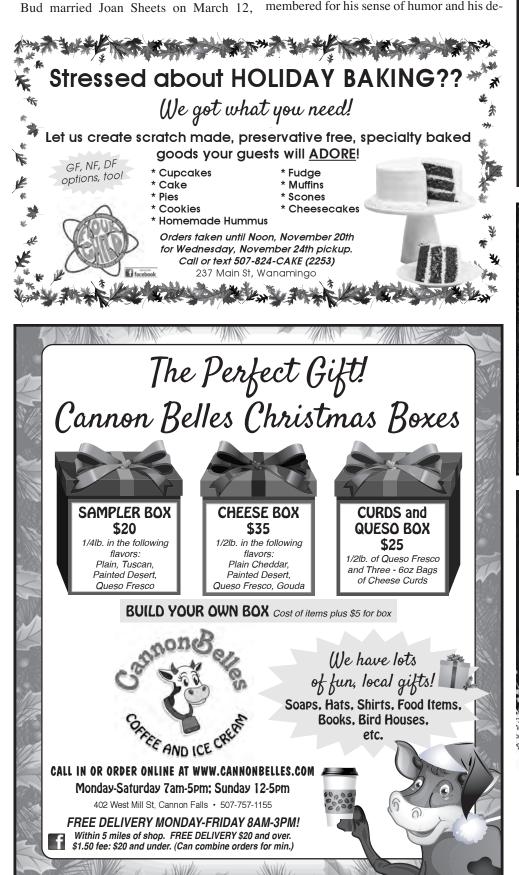
He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan in February; his parents; brother Merrill (Ruth) Gustafson; sister-in-law Shirley Gustafson; and sister-in-law June (Bob) Lind. The family would like to thank the staff at

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





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Community

- RANDOLPH-HAMPTON-CASTLE ROCK MESSENGER -

November, 2021

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

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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 experi-



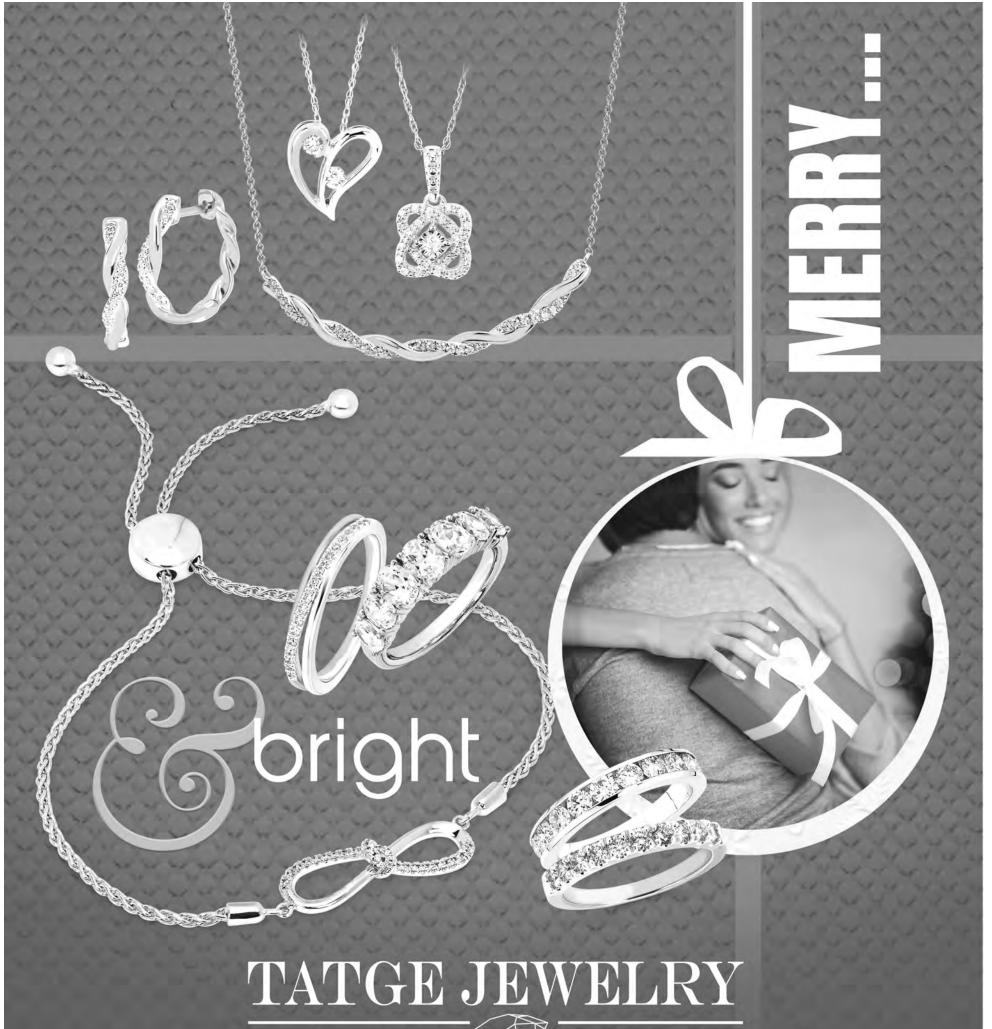
ence a more simple life and this bygone holiday era. At press time, Dakota City reminds everyone there are volunteer opportunities available during this event, and year 'round at the village. Check the website at www.dakotacity.org for more information

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 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

114114

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.





625-2nd Street Kenyon, MN 55946 (507) 789-6522 (800) 58-TATGE

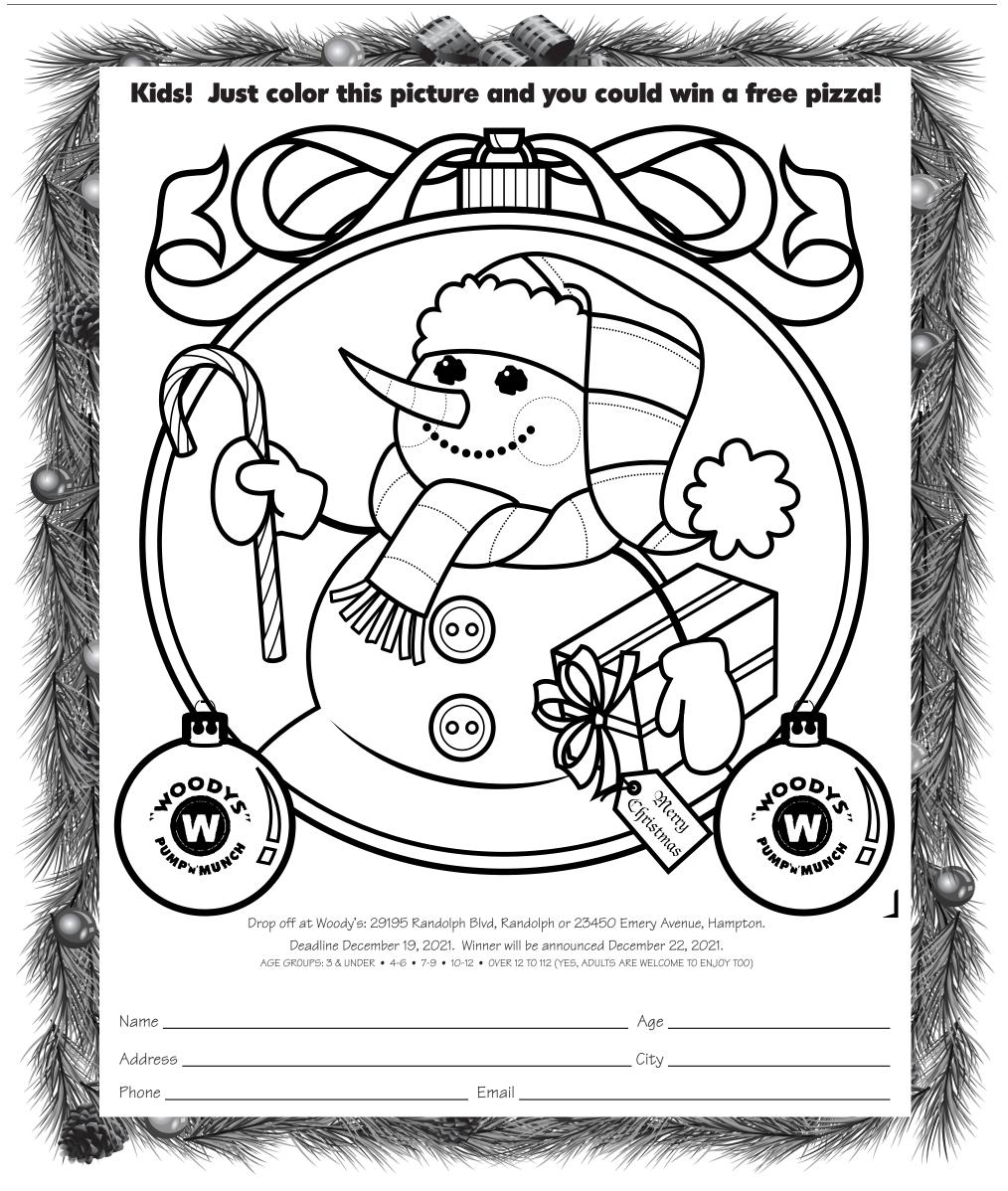
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November, 2021



3020 457th Street Way, Kenyon + 507-789-6113 + SALES HOURS: M-T-Th 7:30aun .-8p.m.; W-F 7:30aun .-6pun .; Sat. 8aun .-4pun .



City of Randolph Regular Council Meeting October 13, 2021

The regular Randolph City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert Appelgren.

Roll Call

action.

replacement.

cial meeting.

Also it was noted that we included in the

water bills being mailed out, a notice to all

residents regarding our blight ordinance and

a reminder that building permits are needed

for items such as roofing, siding and window

Water Meters

The company indicated they wanted to

know how many 2 inch meters we intended

to return. We used 2 of them and have 4 to

return. Ask what credit they will give us by

September 22nd so we can discuss at the spe-

New Business

Dakota County Deputy

there was nothing new to report at this time.

accidents so due to that they are going to try

to do more traffic stops due to speeding and

stop sign violations. Reminder to lock doors

Liquor License

ent to request a liquor license for The R Bar

for 2022. They have prepared the paper work

Motion by Friedrich to approve the liquor

license for R Bar pending the approval from

the Sheriff's office for 2022, seconded by Ap-

pelgren. All voting in favor, none opposed,

Once Clerk Haro receives the paperwork

back from the Sheriff's office and proof of in-

surance from R Bar she will submit the doc-

Resolution re ARPA Funds

the ARPA funds in the amount of \$47,191.00.

We need a resolution that we are accepting

We received half now and the other half

Haro made a motion to approve Resolution

No. 21-10 accepting the Coronavirus Local

Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the

American Rescue Plan Act in the amount of \$47,191.00, seconded by Podritz. All voting

in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Approval for Sandy to move Funds with

Merchants Bank

Merchants Bank would like written confir-

mation that Sandy can move funds for the

City of Randolph since she currently does not

Appelgren made a motion to approve

Sandy, City of Randolph's treasurer, to re-

quest Merchants Bank to move funds from

one account to another for the City of Ran-

dolph's accounts, seconded by Friedrich. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed

Dan Wenstrom

conference regarding the Hereford Hills

Third Addition. He indicated he is not going

to move forward with Hereford Hills Fourth

Addition until the city knows for sure re-

garding the sewer system. According to the Development Agreement, Dan needs to pay a

few for park land. Matt had called the Dakota

County Assessors Office and indicated the

fee would be 10% of \$27,400 which would

be \$2,740. It was also noted that Dan owes the amount of \$2,317.50 for past Bolton &

Menk invoices for a total of \$5,057.50. It was

noted that once we receive the check from

Dan in the amount of \$5,057.50 we will re-

Podritz made a motion to release the letter

of credit contingent on receiving a check

from Dan in the amount of \$5,057.50, sec-

onded by Carlock. All voting in favor, none

lease the letter of credit.

We had a discussion with Dan via phone

and submitted it to the Sheriff's Office.

motion passed 5:0.

umentation to the state.

will be received next year.

have this authorization.

5:0.

Nate Icaza and Ashley Gergen were pres-

and vehicles when sitting outside.

Deputy Youngren stopped in and reported

She did note there has been an increase in

Present were Mayor Robert Appelgren, Council Members Sarah Podritz, Jacob Friedrich and Todd D. Carlock, Treasurer Sandy Nicolai and Clerk Mary Haro. **Public Comments**

None made.

Minutes A motion to approve the September 8, 2021 and special meeting September 22, 2021 council meeting minutes was made by Po-

council meeting minutes was made by Podritz, seconded by Friedrich. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0. Approval of Treasurer Report

Sandy indicated that she transferred \$10,400 from the general account to the water account for the water hook up fee for permits for this year and last year as it was never done last year.

Brad from Dakota Supply Group is going to come down and meet with Bryce to go over what 6 inch meters we need. If we return some and then need to purchase them again the price of the meters has gone up so we would be paying more. We have six of them and need two for installation. He cannot give us a price on the other meters until we figure out what we are returning. He will give us a discount on the meters that we are purchasing instead of giving us a credit on the meters we are returning. We should keep a few in stock for future businesses like Step Savers, etc.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as written was made by Friedrich, seconded by Haro. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Approval to Pay Bills

Motion to approve the payment of bills as written was made by Podritz, and seconded by Friedrich. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Old Business Bids for Pump House

Podritz received bids from One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning that we discussed. The bid for \$3,661 is for the dehumidifier which includes duct work which we don't need so the cost would actually be \$1,000 less. It was noted there is no air conditioning in the pumphouse and the current heater is not sufficient for it so the other bids of \$9,830 is just the air and the \$11,558 bid also includes

a new heat system. Motion by Appelgren to have One Hour Heating and Air Conditioning install the heating, air conditioning and dehumidifier which also includes electrical work in the approximate amount of \$14,000, seconded by Carlock. The ARPA funds will be used to pay for these services. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Violation of Ordinances

Several council members have received complaints about some properties containing several items of blight, such as boats, unlicensed vehicles that appear to be abandoned, etc. Friedrich went through our ordinances to look into what we can do as council members. We discussed several ordinances that appear that these homeowners are in violation of. After discussion it was noted that Clerk Haro will send violation notices to these property owners pointing out to them these ordinance and that they need to get rid of the items on their properties or they could face civil court

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opposed, motion passed 5:0.

It was noted by our legal counsel, Korine, that we will need to amend the development agreement to indicate that the park dedication fee was paid. She will draw up an amended development agreement so we can review it and act on it at next month's meeting.

Miscellaneous

Mike Slavik was present to discuss items happening in Dakota County. He indicated that they plan to use some of the ARPA funds to pay off the dam so they will not have to take out a loan for the repairs being done. They passed a 0% levy for 2022 so they will not be increasing property taxes for the second year. He also noted to us that we do not qualify for the low-moderate CDBG grants because we are above the income level for the city

We could apply for planning purposes grant such as ordinance but there are many other cities that will be applying and Randolph was not high on the list to receive funds. He indicated the capital improvement plan for the next five years is available on their website. We discussed the accidents that are happening at the intersection of Highways 86 and 56 and what else can be done. He noted that Dakota County does not own this intersection as it is owned by the state so they are not in control. He indicated that flashing stop signs could help as well as better lighting. He indicated that if they owned it they would do things differently.

Mayor Appelgren brought up that Clerk Haro has been cleaning the hall and should be compensated for her time. We did pay someone before \$90.00 a month to clean the hall.

Appelgren made a motion to pay Clerk



Haro \$90.00 a month for cleaning city hall, seconded by Friedrich. Haro abstained from voting. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 4:0.

Appelgren noted that hydrants will be flushed some time during the week of October 18 -25th.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Podritz, seconded by Friedrich, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0. Respectfully submitted, Mary Haro

City of Randolph Special Council Meeting October 13, 2021

The special Randolph City Council meeting was called to order at 7:57 p.m. by Mayor Robert Appelgren.

Roll Call

Present were Mayor Robert Appelgren, Council Members Sarah Podritz, Jacob Friedrich and Todd D. Carlock, and Clerk Mary Haro and Treasurer Sandy Nicolai.

Motion to move to close the meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd. 3(b) was made by Podritz, seconded by Haro. All voting in favor, motion passed 5:0.

Motion to reopen the meeting made by Friedrich, seconded by Podritz. All voting in favor, motion passed 5:0.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the special meeting made by Podritz, seconded by Carlock, the

meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Haro



Hampton City Regular Meeting Minutes for October 12, 2021

The Hampton City Council met on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at the Hampton City Hall for the regular scheduled meeting.

Present were Mayor John Knetter; Council Members Cindy Flodeen, David Luhring, Anthony Verch, and Nick Russell. Also present was Marlin Reinardy, Water/Sewer Superintendent; Brad Fisher with Bolton and Menk; Chris Meyer, City Treasurer; Mikaela Ziegler, Carolyn Fackler, and Bryant Ficek with MNDOT; Todd Bartels, Chase Bartels, and Neil Hoadley.

Regular Meeting called to Order - Mayor Knetter called the Regular Scheduled Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present were Mayor John Knetter; Council Members Cindy Flodeen, David Luhring, Anthony Verch, and Nick Russell.

Disclosure of Interest - None

Approval of September 14, 2021 Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes – Motion by Verch seconded by Luhring to approve the September 14, 2021 Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 5:0.

Approval of Disbursements – Motion by Russell seconded by Verch to approve the October disbursements. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 5:0.

Petitions, Requests, and Communications:

Minnesota Department of Transportation Highway 52 Pavement Improvement Project - Presentation by Mikaela Ziegler, Public Engagement Coordinator and Carolyn Fackler, Project Manager – Ziegler began by giving an overview of the project. The goal of the project is to improve the ride and smoothness of the pavement, which has deteriorated to the point where work needs to be done for Hwy 52 to be considered a good highway again. The project scope includes replacing concrete surfaces to extend pavement life, update guardrail, replace signs, and repair drainage. Prior to the beginning of the highway reconstruction, MNDOT will be constructing temporary access crossovers to be used by landowners who have property on both sides of the highway. These temporary access crossovers will be constructed this coming winter. The project will be done in phases. Phase A of the project will begin in the spring of 2023. Phase B will be done in the fall of 2023. During the winter of 2023-2024, will

weather does not allow for construction work to be done. Phase C will begin in the spring of 2024. Phase D is the planned construction finish, which will be in the fall of 2024. Ziegler presented options for people to use to stay informed by tracking the progress of the project. Fackler began by providing the project beginning and ending points for those people at the meeting who did not have maps. The project will begin at County Road 42 in Rosemount and end at County Road 86 north of Cannon Falls. The project will be split into two sections. The first section to be worked on will be the section to the north of STH 50, and that work will be done in 2023. The second section to be worked on will be south of STH 50, and that work will be done in 2024. Fackler asked Councilors if they had any questions. She then provided information regarding detours for the project. Knetter asked if any changes would be made where 190th Street crosses Hwy 52. He feels that this is a dangerous intersection that has had many close calls and accidents. Fackler responded that she would bring this up to other members of the construction project team because if there is a need to make a change, now would be a good time to address it. Knetter asked if MNDOT would be working with the City's engineer's regarding drainage issues on southbound Hwy 52 that might affect the ballfield and parks in the City. Fackler mentioned that she thought there was a meeting set up for the following week for that. Knetter asked Reinardy if he could attend the meeting because of his expertise in drainage and water flow issues. He asked if Reinardy could attend virtually to which Fackler responded that he could. Additional discussion about construction utilizing bituminous versus concrete. The hope is that the concrete construction will have a 30year life span. Additionally, because MNDOT will be milling off 2 inches of bituminous material and replacing with approximately 8 inches of concrete, bridge abutments will require reconstruction and guardrails will need to be replaced. Also located within the project are 2 floodplains. Through those areas, the elevation of the road cannot be raised, so in those areas there will need to be some reconstruction as well. Councilors thanked Fackler and Ziegler for coming, and for providing so much information regarding the project.

be returning to existing conditions, as weather does not allow for construction work **Lease of property at 5370 Lincoln Street** MN Department of Health was here yesterday **Discussion** – Todd Bartels introduced him- and they took samples of PFAS (polyfluo-

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self and Chase Bartels to Council. Bartels stated that, if Council is interested in renting the space, they would be ideal tenants that take care of and even improve the property. The use of the building would be for doing their work on import cars. Knetter asked how much space they would need, to which Bartels responded that they would like the entire building. Knetter stated that the City currently uses a portion of the building for storage of tools and equipment, and that the City would like to retain that portion of the building currently being used for storage, which would be 10-12 feet at the west door. What would be available for rent would be about 2-1/2 stalls of the garage and the office space. Knetter also mentioned that, if they want the bay area of the garage to be heated, the furnace for that area currently does not work. Bartels stated that they are interested in touring the building, and will be flexible in working with the City. Knetter said he or Marlin Reinardy could be available to give them a tour of the building, and the issue of the non-working furnace would be worked out by both parties. Bartels asked if, in a few years, the City could potentially create a space for the items currently stored in the building. Knetter responded that it could hinge on the location of the new water tower.

Ordinances and Resolutions - None Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees:

Engineer Report – Brad Fisher with Bolton and Menk stated that he had no formal update this month, but was at the meeting to answer any questions. He once again mentioned the meeting with MNDOT that is scheduled for later this month to discuss drainage issues associated with the Hwy 52 reconstruction project, and he will report about that to Council next month.

Water / Sewer Report – Reinardy reported he had spoken with both Sieben Plumbing and Peine Plumbing in the last couple of days. Sieben is the company that will be working on the backflow preventers. Peine is the company that installed the new solenoid that is not working properly. The plan is for Sieben to get the work done on the backflow preventers first to make sure they are working properly, and then have Peine work on figuring out if the solenoid is defective. The solution may be to install a check valve. The



and they took samples of PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl substances), which are human-made chemicals that are grease resistant that are used for things such as pizza boxes and fast food containers. These samplings are being carried out statewide. Awaiting the results of samples. Additionally, Reinardy reported that yesterday the new generator had an antifreeze leak. The repair was done today. Reinardy spoke to Gery Wagner, of Interstate Power Systems regarding a maintenance contract on the generator. Wegner will be sending the City a proposal for the generator service contract. One other item to report is that hydrants will be flushed yet this month. As a final note, Reinardy reported receiving a quote from Automatic Systems Co. for the replacement of the Well #1 Control Panel. He said the total for the quote was around \$11,000. Mayor Knetter stated that he had received a copy of the quote, and he had asked a co-worker to review the quote to see if that individual felt that the price was reasonable. According to the coworker, they felt that the City would not get a better price for the control panel. For sewer related items, discharging has begun. Reinardy stated that Minnesota Valley Testing Laboratories had called him on Friday and told him the fecal count of samples taken on Thursday was quite high. Reinardy said this was a first when it comes to samples. He indicated that when he was in the area of the ponds he noticed that there were a lot of birds there. Knetter said that he was in that area on Sunday and he also saw a very large number of birds. Discussion about authorizing a special hunting season for removal of the birds so that the City does not lose its permit with the state

Law Enforcement Report – Mayor Knetter acknowledged Sheriff Deputies in attendance and asked if they had anything to report. It was mentioned that there continues to be a problem with the theft of catalytic converters from vehicles. There have also been break-ins into buildings and unlocked cars on the street. Deputies reminded everyone about the importance of keeping buildings and vehicles locked.

Park Report – Councilor Verch stated that the park season is winding down, but is excited about the upcoming skating season. Mayor Knetter mentioned that Councilor Russell has offered to volunteer his time in the maintenance of the hockey rink. Knetter stated that he would not like the flooding of the rink to be done utilizing fire trucks anymore. Russell mentioned that the existing goal nets need to be repaired or replaced. Knetter suggested to Verch that he order new nets, as there is money available in the parks budget.

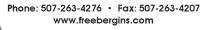
Street Report – Councilor Luhring reported that there is nothing new, other than scheduling the fall street sweeping to be done in the first or second week of November. **Old Business** – None

New Business - None

Adjournment - Motion by Verch seconded by Luhring to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 5:0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Judy O'Brien

rage 9



INSURANCE

CANNON FALLS, MN

EST 1979

Laura Freeberg (Cell: 612-396-0533) Geri Geiken (Cell: 651-353-4676)

INSURANCE BUILT

AROUND YOU

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 its 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

Thank You

(continued from page 1)

While there are pleanty 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.

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 un-

need for more timely information within the month, so we look forward to expanding our digital and online offerings in coming the

the

months, while

neighbors.

able."

derstand

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 Lil-

lian would do the laundry when the winter

came and it would be too cold outside.

Lester commented that he would like to en-

close the porch, but farming in the 1950's

did not look like the money would be avail-

able. The next day, Otis stopped down and

handed Lester \$500. He said, "fix the porch

for your family, pay me back when you are

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 cul-

tivating corn and the grass would plug up

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!



the cultivator shovels. Most people would get eighty-year old fir floor joists. It will bend a frustrated and raise the cultivator and pop the nail right over. This was a home to my clutch to bounce the sod balls of the shovels. grand-parents. Two of the nicest people you But not my grandfather. Jim said he watched would ever meet. I knew my grandmother for over forty-years, but my grandfather him raise the front mounted cultivator, back died the year I was born. My memories of up and then dismount from the tractor and slowly make his way around the front and my grandfather Otis, came from some of my push the dirt and grass off the shovels with Lester Derby was one of my neighbors one crutch. Calmly and patiently, each time who lived in the valley next to us when I with the demeanor of a man who was un-



By RosaLin Alcoser

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.

flappable.

As I stripped the house down to the subfloor 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.

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.

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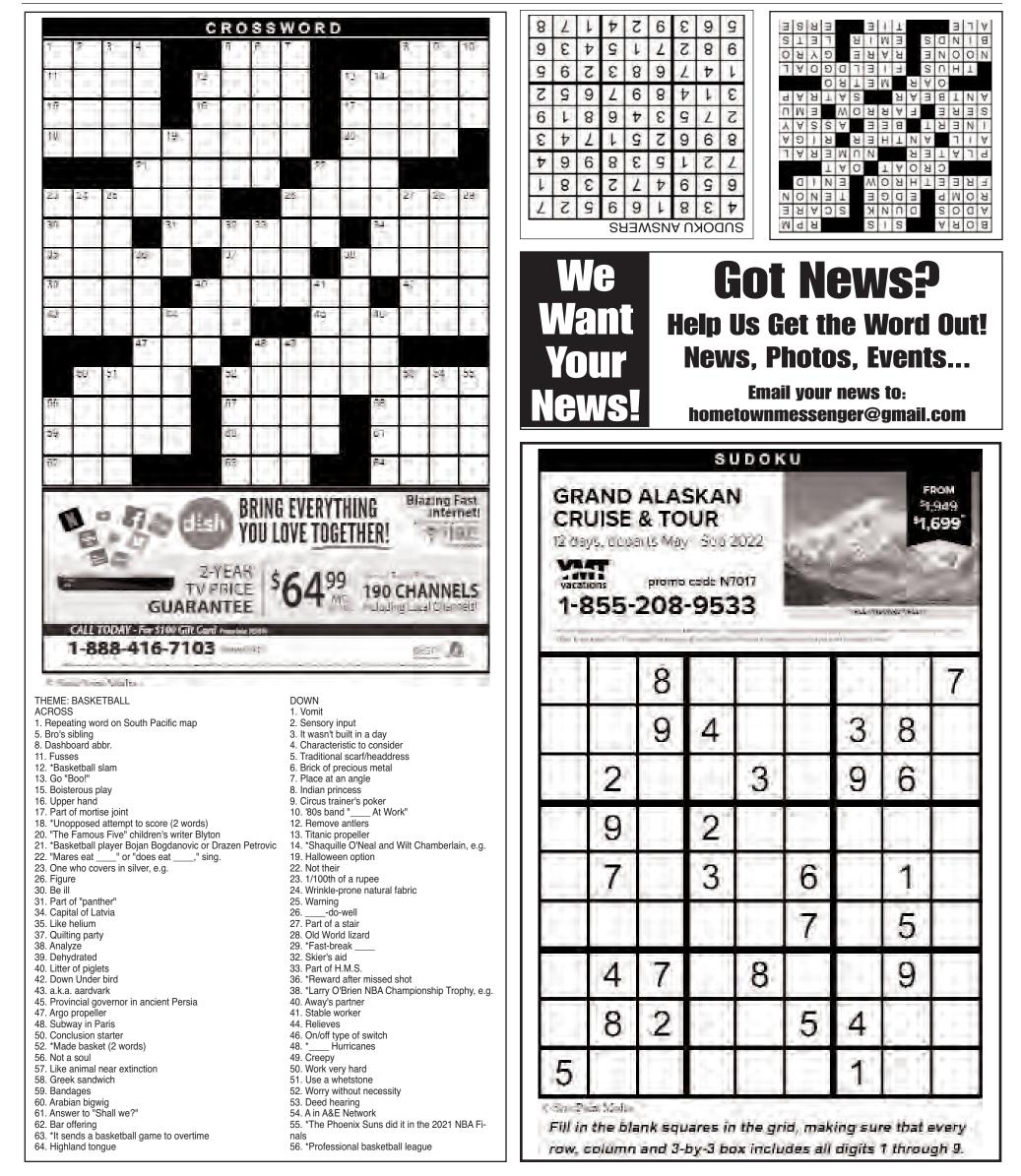
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Christmas in the Village

- RANDOLPH-HAMPTON-CASTLE ROCK MESSENGER -

November, 2021

