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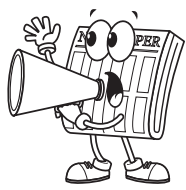
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JANUARY, 2022

Volume 16 • Issue 11

Announcements

RENEW YOUR VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION TO THE MESSENGER!
See the insert in this issue.



REMINDERS:

• **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

WARNING FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES:

Do your part to make the streets of Dundas safe for driving and snow removal. Any violations of the following will be issued a ticket for noncompliance:

Garbage Carts: No garbage carts allowed in the street on pickup day! Per City Code place them back from the curb.

Snow Removal: Per City and State Codes: NO BLOWING or PUSHING snow into streets or across the road!

Street Parking: Per City Code Winter Parking Ban – NO parking in streets from 2:00 am to 6:30 am.

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

Dundas Will Hire New Public Works Assistant, Bring on Intern

Courtesy of KYMN Radio

The City of Dundas will soon bring in two new employees to improve the overall performance of the city.

The Dundas City Council authorized City Administrator Jenelle Teppen to post a job opening for a new public works assistant.

Teppen said the Council had been discussing the need for another public works employee for several months. The position was worked into the 2022 budget, she said. Now all that remains is finding the person to fill the role.

The Dundas Public Works Department is responsible for street upkeep and lighting, water mains wells and storage tanks, sanitary and storm sewers, and parks and facilities.

With two employees in the department, Director Duane Meliza and one assistant, there is more work to do than people to do it. The new assistant will be a regular full-time position with benefits, she said.

Additionally, she said the city has recently received a stipend from the Minnesota City/County management Association that will at least partially pay for an administrative intern. Dundas City Government is growing, and an intern could pick up more of the day-to-day simple business operations, while learning the intricacies of municipal government.

The city will recruit someone who is currently studying for a degree, undergrad or post-graduate, in Public Administration.

DUNDAS

Teppen said there is a general timeline to make the new hires, but the city will not try to speed up the process just to have a warm body filling the roles.

"We'll have a timeline in terms of an application deadline, but you want to find the right person and the right fit. My first effort here is to talk about it on the radio. If there's anybody out there looking for a great job in a great community, give us a call. Go online, and we'll have everything posted there."

The Public Works Assistant position will be posted to the Dundas City Website shortly. The administrative intern position will be made available later this year.

2022 Dennison Flake Out Festival Planned for Feb. 19th

Mark Your Calendar, The Dennison Lions Club is planning the 2022 Flake Out Festival & Winter Parade for Saturday, February 19th.

The club is holding a raffle in conjunction with the days events to raise funds to support Lions Clubs activities and help support other area non-profit entities and those in need that the club donates to and supports throughout the year. A \$500 1st Prize, plus other cash and gift certificates will be given away.

The Annual Lighted Parade will take place at 6:30 PM, and anyone can participate.

The BBQ Cook Off returns, If you are interested in participating, text Steve at 612-968-9547 or email: kingpin1876@gmail.com

At press time, other events are being finalized including Euchre, Bingo and live music.



Flake Out Parade in Dennison file photo

150 Years of U.S. Military History on Display in Cannon Falls Machine Shed Turned Museum

Courtesy of WCCO

There's a place in Goodhue County where you can find military history dating back a century and a half.

In this week's Finding Minnesota, John Lauritsen shows us how a Vietnam veteran built the Cannon Falls Military History Museum all by himself. *(continued on page 11)*

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The Faithfulness of God

“Back in the eighteenth century, a young boy was born into a Christian home. For the first six years of his life, he heard the truths of the gospel, and he was loved. Sadly, though, his parents died. The orphaned boy went to live with his relatives. There he was mistreated and abused and ridiculed for his faith in Christ.

The boy couldn't tolerate that situation, and he fled and joined the Royal Navy. In the navy, the boy's life went downhill. He became known as a brawler, was whipped many times, and participated in some of his comrades' being keel-hauled. Finally, while he was still young, he deserted the Royal Navy and fled to Africa, where he attached himself to a Portuguese slave trader. The young man's pattern of life had become so depraved, he couldn't stay out of trouble. As the story goes, he stole the ship's whiskey and got so drunk that he fell overboard. He was close to drowning when one of his shipmates harpooned him and brought him back on board. As a result, the young man had a huge scar in his side for the rest of his life. After that escapade, he couldn't get much lower. Eventually the young man began to reflect on the Scripture verses he had heard as a child and he was marvelously converted. The new life he found is reflected in his own heartfelt words, familiar to millions now: “Amazing grace! How sweet the sound—That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see.” John Newton's experience put into words: the ultimate point of Romans 3, “For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. 24 Yet God, in his grace, freely makes

us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

The law cannot save us, but God revealed a righteousness that will save us, apart from the law. This is the heart of God's plan of salvation in Jesus Christ. We now have a salvation that is offered apart from the law. We can't earn it and we don't deserve it. It is totally separate from our own doing. Now- instead of a lamb, we bring only ourselves and we will receive forgiveness of our sins. The price of the sacrificial lamb has been paid- once and for all!

Christ died to set us free from the penalty of sins under the first covenant (the law) and to make a way for us to be made right with God. When we have faith in Jesus, we are made right with God. And it's not just true for the people of Israel- the Jewish people but for EVERYONE who believes. Everyone- there is no favoritism. Paul continually reminds the Jewish believers that salvation is not only for them, because Jesus came for all humankind! Every person past, present and future can be made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

As believers, when God looks at us, we are now holy- we are now filled with Christ and free of our sin! God declares that we are righteous. It is all about God's grace- undeserved kindness from a holy, just and loving God.

God is holy and pure. This is the starting point for understanding God and his relationship with people and the world. If we don't feel a sense of awe and fear and admiration for the infinite holiness of God which hates evil and all that it does; we will lose sight of who God is and what He has done for us. Paul says our acquittal isn't based on following the law- if it were we would be condemned. Our acquittal is based on our faith. We are made right with God through faith! Ephesians 2:8 puts it this way, “God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift

from God.”

We are saved through faith. This is the truth that rocked Martin Luther's life. Martin Luther came to believe that the Bible is the central source of religious authority, and that salvation is reached through faith and not deeds; which shaped the core of Protestantism. John Newton came to a belief in Jesus Christ through faith- he knew he would never be accepted through his life- he was a notorious slave trader- had lived a terrible life- and yet, he experienced the amazing grace that he received through faith. That he could be forgiven, and he could be righteous in the eyes of God through the blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus paid it all.

So one might think that since Jesus paid it all- we can live anyway we want and it doesn't matter- Paul answers that with a resounding; NO! “Of course not! It is only by faith that we can truly obey the law.” Romans 3:30. Seems to be a contradiction- but it isn't. When we have faith in Jesus Christ- our heart is right with Him- the Holy Spirit comes to live within us and to give us His

power to live a holy life. God calls us to live like Jesus- who never sinned. On this side of heaven, we won't do it perfectly- but we can live by faith- out of our love for God and our love for people and our obedience to the law will be satisfied. When Jesus was asked about the most important commandments he responded, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.” 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:37-40

It is by faith we are saved! It is by faith in Jesus Christ that we are made righteous. When we are filled with Jesus- His blood purifies our lives and we are made right with God.

Begin 2022 right by getting right with God today. Believe on the name of Jesus Christ and You will be saved. Be filled with Jesus. Happy New Year!

Area Church Directory

‘Hours and Days and Years and Ages’

Scripture Reading — Psalm 103:13-18

From everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him... — Psalm 103:17

As we enter the new year, we often reflect on the past year. One thing I experience with the passing of each year is that I often look back and wonder, “Where did the time go?”

As we reflect on the past year and the fleeting passage of time, we are reminded that no matter how fast time seems to go by, God is still faithful. As Psalm 103 says, “From everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him.” As quickly as the time comes and goes, there is one thing that never changes: the Lord's great love for us.

In the hymn “Hours and Days and Years and Ages” we sing about time passing away swiftly. Yet God is still our God, and he is ever faithful. No matter what we have faced in the past year—and no matter what we will face in the year ahead—God remains and will be our faithful, loving God.

What a comforting thought: God's love remains with us from “everlasting to everlasting.” That is a really long time, for eternity!

God's love for us in Jesus Christ never changes. As stanza 3 of the hymn says, “When life's dangers overwhelm us, you will ever be our stay;/ through your Son you are our Father, always changeless, come what may.”

Thank you, Lord!

Prayer: Dear God, as we come to the end of another year, we thank you for showing us your love “from everlasting to everlasting.” Amen.

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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

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Wednesday: Middle School Ministry - doors open at 5:30; programming 6-7:15;
High School Ministry - doors open at 7pm; programming 7:30-9pm

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Charles Earl DeMann

Charles Earl DeMann, age 96, died on Thursday, January 6, 2022, in Reflection at the Three Links Care Center in Northfield, following a brief illness, with his family by his side.

Chuck was born on July 16, 1925, at home in Dundas, MN, to Jacob and Lucille (Spears) DeMann. He grew up on the family farm in Dundas with his two sisters and started working at an early age by milking cows and pulling his wagon around town selling the milk. After graduating from high school he enlisted in the Navy, at the age of 17, and served in WWII. He was a sailor on the USS Little DD 803, which was sunk by kamikaze aircraft on May 3, 1945, after doing battle in Iwo Jima and Okinawa. He received a purple heart and was very proud to be a veteran.

After returning home from the war, he studied at the General Motors Institute and then

joined the family automotive business, DeMann & Son Chevrolet, in Dundas. On January 23, 1952, he was united in marriage to Audrey Robbie and they were blessed with four sons.

Chuck and Audrey had many adventures living up north before returning to Dundas in 1972. Over the years Chuck worked in the automobile industry, sales, and property development. He was a member of the Northfield VFW and a spent many years participating in the Defeat of Jesse James Days celebration as a member of the James Younger Gang. He was a kind soul and an avid storyteller who enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

Chuck is survived by his wife Audrey of Dundas; sons Jerry (Lesta Starr) of Shidler, OK, Chip of Northfield, Doug (Becky) of Dundas, Chris (Danette) of Dundas; grandchildren Justin DeMann Smith, Troy DeMann (Alexia Fletcher), Lizabeth DeMann (Scott Sannes), Leah DeMann, Trip DeMann, Gus DeMann, Molly DeMann (Luke Winzig), Amanda DeMann (Meghan Carmona), Anna Edwards (Joel), Ashley Opatrny (Joshua), Jacob DeMann (Ashley Winzig), Travis DeMann (Stephanie Ohmann); 20 great grandchildren; sisters-in-law Millie MacKay, Linda Lieske; and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters Marguerite Collison, Donna Lee; nephew John Collison; sister-in-law Karleene Adams; brothers-in-law Jim Collison, Walter Lee, Butch Lieske, Steve MacKay, Jerry Adams; and daughter-in-law Mary Jane Moline.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorials are preferred to the Northfield VFW Post 4393. Arrangements by Bierman Funeral Home and Crematory. biermanfuneralhome.com.

Thomas K. "Tom" Furlong

Thomas K. "Tom" Furlong, age 69 of Faribault, MN passed away on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at the Homestead Hospice House in Owatonna, MN following an extended illness.

Thomas Kevin, the son of Donald and Anne (Barteki) Furlong was born on July 25, 1952 in Minneapolis, MN. He attended Faribault High School and graduated with the class of 1970. After high school he attended Bemidji State University and played football for two years. He then transferred to the University of North Dakota and graduated with his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business. While living in Grand Forks he purchased the Red Pepper Restaurant and it became a popular gathering spot for students at UND. On May 29, 1976 he was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart, Dee dee Duncan in Faribault. Tom then began his career in the insurance business with World Service Life Insurance Company. Over the years he was one of the top salesman and earned many awards and trips that took them to different destinations. In 1991

Tom purchased the Chevrolet dealership in Northfield, MN and turned that into a GM Superstore over the next 20 years.

Tom loved excursions into the Northwoods to their family cabin at Fowl Lake. He enjoyed fishing and hunting with his two children and his friends. His passion for hunting lead him from Canada's Niska Lodge to the Florida Bayou.

Never able to fully retire, Tom started Furlong Motors Direct in Faribault and is carried on by his family to this day.

Tom took nothing in life for granted and lived life to its fullest. His spirit and generosity made an impact on everyone who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Diane Furlong of Faribault; by his children, Lauren (Brad) Keil of Faribault and their daughters, Norah and Frankie and Dan (Andi) Furlong of Faribault and their daughter, Josie; by his siblings, Barb (Mike) Baldwin of Prior Lake, MN and Jim (Colleen) Furlong of Faribault and by nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Anne Furlong.

A Celebration of Life was held on Sunday, January 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at the Parker Kohl Funeral Home & Crematory of Faribault. Pastor Jeff Sandgren officiated. Interment will be held at a later date at Meadow Ridge Memorial Park, Faribault. A reception followed the service at the Faribault Golf Club.

Visitation was held at the Parker Kohl Funeral Home on Sunday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.



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Tax Tips: Know the Difference Between Standard and Itemized Deductions

By IRS

Taxpayers have two options when completing a tax return, take the standard deduction or itemize their deductions. Most taxpayers use the option that gives them the lowest overall tax.

Due to all the tax law changes in the recent years, including increases to the standard deduction, people who itemized in the past might want to switch to the standard deduction.

Here are some details about the two options.

Standard deduction

The standard deduction amount increases slightly every year and varies by filing status. The standard deduction amount depends on the taxpayer's filing status, whether they are 65 or older or blind, and whether another taxpayer can claim them as a dependent. Taxpayers who are age 65 or older on the last day of the year and don't itemize deductions are entitled to a higher standard deduction.

Most filers who use Form 1040 can find their standard deduction on the first page of the form. The standard deduction for most fil-

ers of Form 1040-SR, U.S. Tax Return for Seniors, is on page 4 of that form.

Not all taxpayers can take a standard deduction, which is discussed in the Instructions for Forms 1040 and 1040-SR. Those taxpayers include:

A married individual filing as married filing separately whose spouse itemizes deductions—if one spouse itemizes on a separate return, both must itemize.

An individual who files a tax return for a period of less than 12 months. This is uncommon and could be due to a change in their annual accounting period.

An individual who was a nonresident alien or a dual-status alien during the year. However, nonresident aliens who are married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien can take the standard deduction in certain situations.

Itemized deductions

Taxpayers choose to itemize deductions by filing Schedule A, Form 1040, Itemized Deductions. Itemized deductions that taxpayers may claim include:

- State and local income or sales taxes
- Real estate and personal property taxes
- Home mortgage interest
- Mortgage insurance premiums on a home mortgage
- Personal casualty and theft losses from a federally declared disaster

Gifts to a qualified charity
Unreimbursed medical and dental expenses that exceed 7.5% of adjusted gross income

Some itemized deductions, such as the deduction for taxes, may be limited. Taxpayers should review the instructions for Schedule A Form 1040 for more information on limitations.

Bird Love in Winter



Teri Knight



Wow, I hope you are surviving our roller coaster of cold arctic air! As I write this, the temperature is 6 below zero but tomorrow is supposed to be 30 above. And then the deep freeze comes again.

How on Earth do our wild birds stay warm? Ruffling their feathers is number one. Most of our birds look twice as chubby in winter as in summer due to fluffing their feathers to provide insulation.

Night time for birds is tougher yet. That's why providing nesting boxes and/or other shelter (like that spent Christmas tree) is such a good idea. The birds will cuddle up for warmth.

Birds will crouch down and fluff their feathers around their feet, or they'll pull one foot toward their body at a time.

You'll also find birds sunning themselves! They're not looking to tan on a Mexican beach but warm up those little bodies! Birds will turn their back (the largest part of their body) to the sun to absorb the sun's warmth on their skin.

One of the most important things for us to do is provide them with food to fuel their bodies which creates warmth. It's a good reminder as the temperatures are so drastic WE don't always want to go out there to check the feeders. Fill those feeders with quality feed. Spike's & Houles have locally milled feed for birds.

Teri Knight became a Master Gardener with Dakota County, Minnesota in 2003. She currently produces her website, www.gardenbite.com. 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!



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End of a Four-Year Road to Transition Farmland Now in Sight for Singing Hills Dairy

Courtesy of AgWeek

Lynne Reeck, owner and operator of Singing Hills Dairy, has been looking to transition off her farmland since 2018. Now thanks to a partnership between Renewing the Countryside and American Farmland Trust, a successful transition could be in the near future.

NERSTRAND, Minn.— There are only two goats left at Singing Hills Dairy, and they are nervous.

The two goats once were part of a herd consisting of 26 milking Saanen and Nubian, and they are the only animals left of Lynne Reeck's operation.

Singing Hills Dairy is a small goat cheese dairy farm owned and operated by Reeck, who produced fresh chevre, feta, curds and yogurt in the certified cheese plant on the farm. The farm also raised whey-fed pork in season.

That's all in past tense because after nearly 25 years, Reeck is ready to move on from the farm and business, which is too much for her to handle on her own. She sold the rest of the goat herd for meat in the process of packing up her operation to prepare for a transition in the near future, if all goes as planned.

"They're not sure what to do with themselves," said Reeck on a frigid Jan. 7, as the two goats scampered to the corner when they saw a person other than Reeck enter the barn. "They're nervous, but they're warm in here."

As a wave of farmers like Reeck look to retire and transition their land, Minnesota's statewide programs such as Farm Link fall short in getting transitions done in a timely manner. Filling in the gaps in Reeck's case is a partnership between Minnesota-based Renewing the Countryside and the national organization American Farmland Trust, built to help lower the price of the farm for the incoming farmer.

Reeck's cheesemaking skills were honed in the building a few steps away from the barn she visited the goats on Jan. 7. In the small cheese plant she used milk from her goats to make chèvres and fetas — once in high demand for aficionados near the Twin Cities, along with traditional cheese and yogurt.

All the necessary instruments were still inside Reeck's small cheesemaking plant on Jan. 7. Empty coolers and buckets lined the lower shelves, a scale and open recipe book was on the tabletop, and a digital chart recorder hung plugged-in on the wall. Reeck worked six days a week in the space to produce around 150 pounds of cheese and yogurt a week, which she'd sell pretty much all of that same week.

She prepared extra cheese for the Dec. 18 Mill City Farmers Market in Minneapolis, because it was her final sale. She sold out of everything within an hour.

In a separate room of the cheesemaking

plant, there is a milking parlor which Reeck milked goats in twice daily, as they fed on organic grain. The stand is surrounded by remnants of encouragement even though the parlor won't be used again by her. A boombox with a box of CD albums next to it was still playing, and a KEEP CALM AND LOVE CHEESE sign hung on the wall.

Land ideal for farming

Reeck purchased the 25-acre plot that borders the Nerstrand-Big Woods State Park in 1996, from a family who she said were the biggest landowners in Rice County at the time. The land was rented for decades before she bought it, and Reeck said several updates were needed to make it suitable for a successful operation.

In 2009, Reeck transitioned from growing vegetables on the land to raising goats for a micro-dairy. The shaded pasture turned out to be the perfect setting to raise a goat herd, which grazed on the farm's grasses and foliage from the many trees. In the winter, the goats fed on alfalfa hay.

In the first few years after switching from vegetables, Reeck also raised pigs and around 20 goats for meat, which she'd sell to restaurants in the Twin Cities. To meet demand and maintain supply in recent years, Reeck bought milk from her neighbors, Morgan and Keith Allen of Hay Creek Farm, who milk 30 goats.

A workload too heavy

Although the farm was considered a micro-dairy, the daily workload required to maintain Singing Hills Dairy was big. For several years, Reeck handled all of the farm work on her own. The help she got from family was with packaging and selling.

It was 2018 when Reeck said she decided the work that went into the operation was too much for her to sustain.

"The process of transferring the farm has been for me, a many, many years-long process," said Reeck. "There's been various steps along the way that I've taken to try to make it possible for me to do the work of transferring, since I'm here alone."

Realizing the work required more than one person, Reeck took steps such as cutting the herd down and getting help from her neighbors, but the daily milking and weekly cheesemaking was still too much.

"The business itself was too much work, and then taking care of the farm properly, and keeping things up, really, is probably a three person job," she said. "And I thought the farm was going to sell in 2019, but it didn't, and here we still are."

Renewing the Countryside

Since 2018, Reeck has been working with Renewing the Countryside to find a way to successfully transition the land to new farmers.

"As with many farmers, (Reeck) farms by herself, and there comes a time when you realize that you just can't do it all," said Jan Joannides, executive director and co-founder of Renewing the Countryside. "But she really wanted the farm to be transitioned to a new farm family, and a farm family that would have the same conservation values that she did to protect the land, and that's how we got started working with Lynne."

At first, Renewing the Countryside helped to get the word out that the land was for sale. The efforts attracted offers, but Reeck said



Lynne Reeck, owner and operator of Singing Hills Dairy, points to the pasture which she raised a small goat herd on since 2009. *photo courtesy of AgWeek*

they were far less than she needed to feel financially stable transitioning off the land. She said after several offers to purchase the land fell through, it was clear that another approach was required.

"I was getting fairly desperate in terms of finding a solution because of just the precarious position I was in financially," said Reeck. "And (Renewing the Countryside) really stepped in and used the resources they had to help make contacts and connections."

The biggest connection made was with American Farmland Trust. AFT is a national agricultural organization that works with on-the-ground projects like Renewing the Countryside's with Reeck's farm. According to its website, AFT has prevented millions of acres of farmland from being converted into residential or commercial land.

The model

To make the land which Singing Hills Dairy exists on today more affordable to emerging farmers, and to protect it from development, Renewing the Countryside and AFT have partnered to raise the funds needed to place an agricultural conservation easement on the land. Placing an agricultural conservation easement on the land will cover the difference between the farm's current purchase price and the price of the farm after it's protected by the easement, therefore allowing the farm to be sold at a reduced price to an incoming farmer.

The transition model (nicknamed Buy, Protect, Sell) may be new for Minnesota, but it's been used "quite a bit" on the East Coast, said Joannides. She said in other areas of the country, there are state funds that can be used to cover an agricultural conservation easement, which can then be matched by federal funds.

"In the case that we're working on here in Minnesota, Renewing the Countryside and American Farmland Trust are working to-

gether to raise those funds to be able to cover the cost of that easement," said Joannides.

The cost of the easement is \$150,000. As of Jan. 7, Joannides said that around \$110,000 had been raised through the partnership between Renewing the Countryside and AFT. She said the hope is to have the the funds raised and the farm closed on by American Farmland Trust by the end of February.

Land of their own

From there, the goal of Renewing the Countryside is to facilitate the transition of Singing Hills Farm to another farm. The new operation to take over the land will be the Lor family, who Joannides said have been farming for over 20 years on rented land.

"The Lor family is a multi-generational family of farmers, started by the parents who now have children who are young adults, who've farmed with them," she said.

The Lor family has succeeded at growing and selling their produce in the Twin Cities area, but the uncertain future that comes with farming on rented land has held them back. The problem when leasing land, said Joannides, is that farmers never truly know how long a lease will last.

"(The Lor family) has been in a couple situations where the landowner decided to sell the land, and so they no longer had access to it, and had to move their operation somewhere else," she said. "It's just a challenge to figure out how to do everything again, in a new space."

Reeck hoped originally that the entire business of Singing Hills Dairy could be sold, because she said the cheese business is a "niche that nobody else is filling" in the area. But once she met the Lor family, she knew they were the right ones to take over the land.

"They're great people, and I think they're very excited to be here," said Reeck of the Lor family. "And I think that for them, this place is going to be a blessing."

The Golden Rule of Influence: Give Others the Benefit You Give Yourself



By Stevie Ray

To influence someone, you must first be clear about their motives, and what drives them to act a certain way or prefer one thing over another. We can't move forward with relationships until we assign motives for people's actions.

The same action can be seen as criminal or saintly, depending upon the reason behind the action. However, since we rarely have the chance to ask a person their intent, we must assign motives to others. Psychologists called this attribution. Sadly, attribution is a flawed process. Humans are lousy at reading other people accurately.

There are two main attributes we assign to actions. Actions are either a product of circumstance or of character. Which attribute you use to explain the actions of others will paint markedly different pictures of them and affect how you choose to interact with them.

Circumstances include resources (Does the person have access to other options? If so, could they afford them?), obstacles (Is there a

reasonable barrier to taking action?), information (Were they given information that affected their decision?), and time (Do they even have the time to do what I am asking them to do? Are there other tasks that take priority?). When we consider the circumstances another person faces, we are using situational attribution.

Assigning motives based on character is a whole other ball game. Is the person smart enough to do things the way I think should be done? (Note: information and intelligence are two different motives.) Do they care enough? (A moral judgement.) Are they honest? Are they trustworthy? Assigning motives based on character is called dispositional attribution. When we assign others' motives incorrectly, it is called an attribution error. And humans err so often when reading others that psychologists refer to it as fundamental attribution error.

Now, one might think that, since reading others wrong is so common, that it can't be that harmful, but there is a reason we should all examine our own behavior in this regard. It has to do with the difference between the motives we assign ourselves and those we assign to others.

When subjects were asked to explain why they did certain things, people always talked about the circumstances that led to their decision. The reason for their actions always came down to time, resources, or some other outside force beyond their control. When people explained their own actions, the picture they painted made it seem like they not only made the best choice, but that they really had no other options. People almost always assign themselves situational attributes. Circumstances beyond our control are wonderful because circumstances take the responsibility for our actions off of our own shoulders.

But what happens when people are asked to explain the actions of others? That is when the coin is flipped. When assigning motives to others, people default to character. "He did

it because he is dishonest." "She did it because she was afraid." "They did it because they lack moral rectitude." The actions of others were assigned dispositional attributes.

And here is the kicker: during experiments, subjects would perform the exact same action as someone else, but assign situational attributes to themselves while assigning dispositional attributes to others. In short, we believe that our own actions are the reasonable outcome of the circumstances in which we live, but others' actions are the product of bad choices, poor character, or lack of intelligence. It is certainly reasonable for us to view our own actions through the lens of circumstance. We certainly don't expect people to explain their actions with, "I did it because I'm a loser!" But assuming others' motives to be the result of character instead of circumstance is unfair, inaccurate, and unproductive.

The impact fundamental attribution error has on our ability to influence others is significant. You cannot guide a conversation to a positive end if you misconstrue someone's motives. If you mis-assign motives, you will appeal to factors that do not motivate the listener, or break the vital connection needed to have a positive impact. And, assuming the



Actions are either a product of circumstance or of character. Which attribute you use to explain the actions of others will paint markedly different pictures of them and affect how you choose to interact with them.

worst in others is a terrible way to build a relationship.

The Golden Rule states that we should treat others as we would have them treat us. The Golden Rule of Influence states that we should give others the same benefit of the doubt, and the same reasonable motives, that we give ourselves.

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Auction Location: 44241 70th Ave, Kenyon, MN 55946
Bidding Begins: Thursday, January 20 at 8:00 a.m.

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Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022 • 3:00 p.m.

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January 30, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...Jan. 21, 2022
Starts Closing: ...Jan. 30, 2022

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John Deere Compact Loader Tractor, JD Lawn Tractor, Snowblower, Power & Hand Tools, Jeep Wrangler, Dump Trailer, Compact Tractor & Skid Loader Attachments, Furniture

January 30, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...Jan. 21, 2022
Starts Closing: ...Jan. 30, 2022

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RING 2 OF THE ONLINE ONLY CLEAN DOUBLE ESTATE AUCTION OF THE BLACK & JELUM ESTATES
100+ FIREARMS, RIFLES, Shotguns, Ar Style, Revolvers & Pistols, Winchester, Savage 99, Marlin, Remington, Smith & Wesson, Colt, Hi Standard, Taurus, Military, Ammo, 150 Collector Knives, Leather Holsters And More

February 1, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...Jan. 20, 2022
Starts Closing: ...Feb. 1, 2022

Kenyon, MN
169.58 ACRES IN STEELE CO., MN, SELLING ONLINE ONLY FOR THE FINNE/KRUCKENBERG FAMILY FARM
169.58 Acres In Section 26 of Aurora Township, Steele County, MN. 160.9 Tillable Acres, 90 CPI Average, Drain Tile in Place, Class A Farm Land, Century Farm, Selling Timed Online Only Real Estate Auction

February 6, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...Jan. 28, 2022
Starts Closing: ...Feb. 6, 2022

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600+ Lots of Collector Farm Toys, Ertl, Spec Cast, Precision, Collector Edition, All Brands, Semi's, International, Farmall & CIH Memorabilia

February 20, 2022
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March 12, 2021.... 9:00 AM CST

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~ AUCTION RING 1 ~



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~ AUCTION RING 2 ~

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




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150 Years of U.S. Military History on Display in Cannon Falls Machine Shed Turned Museum

(continued from page 1)

“My cousin Tom was a Marine. My cousin Dan was a Marine. My cousin Billy was in the Air Force,” said Vince Cockriel.

For Vince, military service runs in the family. It began with his grandfather, who lied about his age so he could fight in the Spanish-American War. That same grandfather kept everything from his 30 years in the Army.

“It was a treasure trove to go into his barn,” said Vince. “The door would open of our station wagon, we all would pile out and the first thing I would do is go in there. I’d find something cool and go ‘Grandpa, do you mind if I have this?’ And ‘Yeah, go ahead,’ he’d say.”

So began a life-long passion for collecting. A Marine and Vietnam veteran himself, word got out that Vince was into military memorabilia, also known as “militaria.” It wasn’t

long before his basement was chock full of it — and that’s when he got an idea.

“I said ‘I really should get this stuff out for people to see,’” said Vince.

His machine shed then became his museum — a free museum, to be exact. The sign on top of a 1946 car outside of Cannon Falls points you in the right direction. Once inside, you’ll find relics that date back to the Civil War.

“I started out, the first two years were strictly World War II. Those guys were dying at about a thousand a day,” said Vince. “The guys with their canes or whatever would walk along and go, ‘Oh yeah, I spent 30 days in Bastogne in a tent just like that.’ And the kids would walk up to me after and say ‘He’s never talked about that before.’”

It inspired him to look for more.

“Estate sales, garage sales, flea markets, other collectors that knew that I look for this stuff,” he said.

For Vince, it’s not about glorifying war. It’s about educating. Some of his favorite exhibits are those that include the lesser-known parts of history.

“As far as the women themselves, they were under-represented for years,” said Vince.

There’s a tribute to the American Women’s Cavalry Corps, and to the history of Black soldiers, who weren’t always given the credit



photo courtesy of WCCO

they deserved.

When you have something like this, the stories come to you, as museum volunteer John Opheim will attest.

“We had a guy ... he was 93 years old, World War II paratrooper who came in and sat down and we spoke for about 45 minutes to an hour, sharing his stories,” said John.

It’s funny just how much you can learn inside a machine shed. For Vince, they are les-

sons he hopes people never get tired of hearing.

“I hope they get to see it, touch it, smell it, become familiar with it, because it just isn’t taught in schools anymore. Not in this manner,” said Vince.

Vince’s museum is located about 2.5 miles southwest of Cannon Falls. He’s open on many holiday weekends.



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Rice County Sheriff Jesse Thomas is Reminding All Who Enjoy Ice Fishing to be Safe When Heading Out Onto the Ice

Courtesy of KYMN



Rice County Sheriff
Jesse Thomas

Thomas said the strange weather conditions this year, an early blizzard followed by warmer weather, might have been good for lake ice, but he said, ice is never 100% safe.

The strength of the ice on a lake cannot be judged by its appearance, age, thickness, the outside

temperature, or whether the ice is covered

with snow. Strength is based on all of those factors, plus the depth of the water under the ice, the size of the body of water, the water chemistry and the currents in the lake, the distribution of the load on the ice, and, of course, weather conditions.

Thomas said he himself has not yet tested the strength of the ice on any area lake. However, he said, everyone should keep in mind that the ice might be thick and strong on one lake, and very unsafe on another.

According to the Minnesota DNR website, in fact, ice rarely freezes uniformly. It could be quite thick in one area and just a few inches away, it might be very thin. Therefore, the DNR advises checking the ice every 150 feet or so. Other things to keep in mind, according to the DNR, new ice is generally stronger than older ice, schools of fish or flocks of birds can adversely affect ice conditions, and snow cover can slow down the freezing process on a lake.

Sheriff Thomas said there are simple precautions everyone should take.

“Let people know where you’re going, take precautions, take your ice picks if you’re going to venture out into an unknown area. And if you’re staying overnight in an ice shelter, or a fish house, make sure you have a carbon monoxide detector, because we’ve lost people to that in the past.

Vehicles can go through the ice at any time.

The DNR advises that people look for 5”-7” of ice before taking a snowmobile onto a lake, 8”-12” for a car or a small pickup, and 12”-15” for a medium sized truck.

Thomas said it is important to remember that ice is not consistent, and safety must always be the first priority.

County Board Combines, Expands Social Work and Corrections Departments

The Rice County Board of Commissioners approved the merger of the County Social Services Department with the County Corrections Department, creating a new County Department of Community Services. While the move to streamline services in an effort to provide more holistic care to the citizens of Rice County was not a surprise, the manner in which the Commissioners chose to go about the merger was a mild one.

Earlier this month, County Administrator Sara Folstad, Director of Social Services Mark Shaw, and Director of County Corrections Rick Gieseke proposed the merger offering three different options with varying costs. The Board selected the option that offered the most sweeping changes, and the highest price tag.

The new structure replaces the two department head positions with a single Deputy Administrator of Community Services who will report to the county administrator. It also splits the social services manager role into two, one Adult Services Manager and one Child and Family Services Manager. The new department also includes an Operations/Family Support Manager and a Community Corrections Manager.

Rice County Administrator Sara Folstad estimated it will cost the county up to an additional \$260,200 annually – before reimbursements – to implement the new structure.

According to the statement issued by the county announcing the merger, Rice County ranks near the bottom in overall expenditures per capita, despite being the 14th largest county in the state. Overall, it said that Rice County ranks 75th out of 87 Minnesota counties when it comes to spending.

“Having the lowest ranking per capita isn’t the best thing,” said Commissioner Galen Malecha noting the need for more county mental health services.

“Sometimes you’ve got to spend money to correct issues that have been happening.” Administrator Folstad will provide updates on the departments’ merger throughout the process.

Rice SWCD Seeks Public Input Regarding Election Options for District Supervisors

The Rice SWCD Board of supervisors invites local constituents and partners to provide feedback about the current election framework that elects district supervisors. At their February board meeting, the board will discuss election options and will adopt a motion or a resolution to either maintain the current election framework or to put in place a schedule to adopt the authorized option.

Briefly, the options are as follows:

Option 1 (Supervisors elected at large – Minnesota Statute 103C.311 subd. 1) provides for the establishment of nominating districts that determine who will be on the general election ballot for vote by the general electorate of the county. These nominating districts have historically reflected the natural resource diversity of the county. They have not been focused on the distribution of population, but on distribution of supervisors geographically across the county so board members have a better chance at being physically closer to and personally aware of the natural resource issues across the county. Under this option, all eligible voters within the county may vote for all SWCD supervisors.

Option 2 (Supervisors elected by districts – Minnesota Statute 103C.311 subd. 2) provides discretionary authority for SWCDs (mandatory for SWCDs in the 7-county metro area), with the approval of the Board of Water and Soil Resources, to change from the current countywide election of supervisors to election by a nominating district. If an SWCD chooses to move to election by a district, the district boundaries must be drawn by the county board, in consultation with the SWCD board and then with approval by BWSR. The

boundaries need to be compact, include only contiguous territory, and be substantially equal in population, and therefore reviewed after each decennial federal census. This option allows the number of supervisors to be greater than five in counties with more than five county commissioner districts, such as Dakota, Ramsey, Hennepin, and St. Louis. This option tends to reflect the distribution of the population.

Currently, Rice SWCD supervisors are elected through option one.

Local constituents and partners may provide feedback in several ways. Written comments can be sent to the Rice SWCD, 1810 30th Street NW, Faribault, MN 55021. They may also be sent via email to ricecountyswcd@gmail.com. Written comments must be received by Friday, February 4, 2022.

Constituents may also voice their feedback at the next Board of Supervisors meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at the Straight River Room, Rice County Fairgrounds. Please contact Steve Pahs, District Manager, at 507-332-5408 if you have any questions regarding this issue.

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DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 13, 2021 7:00 p.m.
City Hall

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

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

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

TRUTH-IN-TAXATION HEARING (TNT)

Budget 2022 Review and Discussion of Levy for Taxes Payable in 2022

Financial consultant Blake Torbeck of ABDO presented the Budget and Levy for 2022. He stated overall the budget shows an increase of \$146,000 from previous year or 12% covering the General Fund, EDA, and debt service. He reviewed the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) allocated cost areas. Torbeck stated Rice County showed Tax Capacity on value of property up 10%. He reported on the market values will be about \$25.00 increase per \$100,000. Final 2022 Enterprise Funds Budget financial consultant Blake Torbeck of ABDO presented 2022 budget for Enterprise Funds breaking down into four categories of water, sewer, storm water and refuse. He referred to water study with water budget to increase 3% and sewer budget increase 4%. He compared income to expenses. No increase was recommended to storm water or refuse.

PUBLIC FORUM

No input from public.

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 November 22, 2021; Disbursements - \$210,658.68. MCU

OLD BUSINESS

No old business brought before Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS Resolution 2021-34 A Resolution Approving 2022 Proposed General Fund Budget and 2022 Final Property Tax Levy

Motion by Modory, second by Fowler, to approve Resolution 2021-34. MCU

Resolution 2021-35 A Resolution Authorizing Staff to Pay Invoices Received Between December 8 and 21, 2021

Administrator Teppen stated due to lack of quorum for December 27 meeting, City Attorney indicated invoices can be paid during the period December 2 through 21 by Resolution. Motion by Swartwood, second by LaCroix, to approve Resolution 2021-35. MCU

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approving Gambling Premises Permits for 2022

Motion by Switzer, second by LaCroix, to approve a 2022 Gambling Premises Permits for: (1) Fire Relief Association of Northfield at Dawn's Corner Bar, 200 Railway Street North; (2) Dundas Baseball Association at L&M Bar and Grill, 224 Railway Street North; and (3) Waterford Warriors at Dawn's

Corner Bar at 200 Railway Street North. MCU

Consider Approving Cigarette Licenses for 2022

Motion by Switzer, second by LaCroix, to approve 2022 Cigarette Licenses for: (1) AJE Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Firehouse Liquor at 607 Stafford Road North; (2) Four Browns, LLC, d/b/a MGM Wine and Spirits at 420 Schilling Drive North; (3) Kwik Trip, Inc. d/b/a Kwik Trip #489 at 415 Hester Street East; and (4) Dawn's Corner Bar, Inc. d/b/a Dawn's Corner Bar at 200 Railway Street North. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer – Dustin Tipp

Engineer Tipp gave updates on various projects including; Menards stormwater pond, joint road policy on 115th Street; preliminary road design for 115th Street; proposing County Road 1 and Hwy 3 project moved to 2023 as Rice County has no funds budgeted for cost sharing in 2022; seeking costs from other companies on jetting sewer lines; Northfield submitted permit to MPCA for capacity increase with anticipating a 60-day review period; and issuance of a grading permit to Stoneridge Hills. Mayor Switzer suggested informing Bridgewater Township the City has reviewed their joint road policy and the City will be responding.

City Administrator/Clerk – Jenelle Teppen

Administrator Teppen reported on complaints after first snow, mainly not quick enough noting staff worked prepping during snow and then from 3:00 a.m. to noon including trail removal. She reported on following up on the new snow plow, it is still scheduled for March 2022. She reviewed holiday schedule for the City. Mayor, Councilors and Committees Mayor Switzer stated the consultant presented their report at NAFRS at the last meeting and the chief will be retiring in January 2022. Teppen stated at the next meeting there will be a motion to appoint an interim chief, Tom Nelson, for a period of up to 12 months.

ADJOURN

Motion by LaCroix, second by Fowler, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. MCU

Submitted by: Jenelle Teppen,

City Administrator

Attest: Glenn Switzer, Mayor

DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL INITIAL and REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, January 10, 2022

Present: Mayor Glenn Switzer; Councilors Larry Fowler, Luke LaCroix, Grant Modory, Luke Swartwood
Staff Present: City Engineer Dustin Tipp, City 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. with the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC FORUM/PRESENTATION - No one present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

INITIAL MEETING

Resolution 2021-01 A Resolution Designating Depositories and Establishing Procedures for Depositing and Investing Funds

Motion by LaCroix, and second by Fowler, to approve Resolution 2021-01. MCU

Name Official Newspaper – Faribault Daily News

Motion by Swartwood, second by LaCroix, to approve Faribault Daily News as the official City of Dunas newspaper. MCU

Appoint Acting Mayor

Motion by Switzer, second by Fowler, to approve the appointment of Grant Modory, as Acting Mayor. MCU

Appoint Officers and Members of Boards, Commissions, Committees

Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood, to approve appointments as recommended by Mayor Switzer: Larry Fowler: one-year term Parks & Recreations Advisory Board as Council Representative; Grant Modory: one-year term Planning Commission as Council Representative; Glen Switzer: four-year term Planning Commission expiring December 31, 2025. MCU

Appoint Council Members to City Council Committees

Motion by LaCroix, second by Fowler, to continue the following Council committees and to approve the Mayor's recommendations for appointments as follows: Glenn Switzer and Luke Swartwood to the Finance and Legislation Committee; Luke LaCroix and Grant Modory to the Human Resource Committee; Larry Fowler and Luke Swartwood to the Public Safety Committee; Grant Modory and Larry Fowler to the Public Works Committee; Glenn Switzer and Luke LaCroix to the Business Development Committee; and City Administrator/Clerk to all standing committees. MCU

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Fowler, second by Swartwood, to approve the consent agenda as follows Regular Minutes of December 13, 2021; Disbursements 12/27/21 - \$53,816.28; and Disbursements 1/13/22 - \$88,473.57. MCU

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Approving Draft Parks Survey

Administrator Teppen reviewed a revised draft parks survey with the changes suggested by the City Council previously. She indicated the intention is to send a postcard to every mailing address in the City asking them to participate in the survey and providing a QR code to do online. Councilor LaCroix inquired if question on dog park should be included with Teppen indicating dog park is used by a number of nonDundas residents and with the dog park possibly being relocated in 2023, that's a project staff will be working on yet this year with public participation included. Mayor Switzer suggested redoing Schilling Park to actual area as it has a stormwater area running through it. Motion by Fowler, second by LaCroix, to accept the revised draft park survey. MCU

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS No Ordinance or additional Resolutions presented to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Authorizing Staff to Recruit for Full-Time Public Works Assistant

Administrator Teppen stated the 2022 budget has allowed for the hiring of a second full time Public Works Assistant and request authorization for staff to begin recruiting. Motion by Swartwood, second by Fowler, to authorize staff to begin the recruiting for a full time Public Works Assistant. MCU

Consider Authorizing Staff to Recruit for Administrative Intern

Administrator Teppen reviewed previous conversation on applying to sponsor an internship and if approved would receive funds up to \$3,500 from the MN City/County Managers Association. She stated after applying to the program, outlining the areas the intern would participate in, work 20 hours a week, the City was selected. Teppen stated the salary range, job description and funding areas bearing the cost. Motion by Swartwood, second by Fowler, to approve the posting for an internship position at 20 hours a week for one year with a salary between \$17.00 to \$20.00 an hour; the job description as an Administrative Intern; and accept matching funds of \$3,500 from the Minnesota City/County Managers Association. MCU

Consider Approving 2022 Salary Adjustments

Administrator Teppen review the proposed 2022 Compensation Plan based on a cost of living adjustment of 3% being included in the 2022 budget. Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood, to approve the 2022 Compensation Plan and salary adjustments for staff. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer – Dustin Tipp

Tipp reported on updates from his report of January 6: Hester Street storm sewer maintenance relating to Menards; joint road policy involving Bridgewater Township; pedestrian crossing at CSAH1/TH3; sculpture reset and bids for landscaping; contractor to cleaning sewer lines Schilling/Hester area and new connection; working with PCA on possibility of Dundas having its own wastewater facility; and base on water demand projections looking at additional third well.

City Administrator – Jenelle Teppen

Teppen reported the last time compensation for the City Council was 2014 and would bring some information at the next work session. She indicated any additional compensation would be effective 2023. She indicated the City Attorney Shephard reported several cities are going remote again due to the Covid pandemic and she asked the Council if they thought Council meetings should again be held online and they declined.

Mayor, Councilors and Committees

Mayor Switzer gave update from NAFRS stating January 18 is the last day for the current Fire Chief Franek and Assistant Chief Tom Nelson was approved Interim Chief for up to one year. Administrator Teppen stated NAFRS annual organizational meeting will be this week and they plan to go back to monthly meetings.

ADJOURN Motion by Swartwood, second by LaCroix, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. MCU

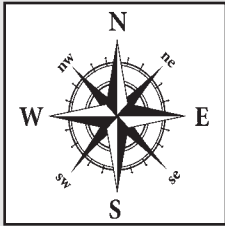
Submitted by: Jenelle Teppen,

Administrator/Clerk

Attest: Glenn Switzer, Mayor

Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

Farmer Seed Corn Dealers



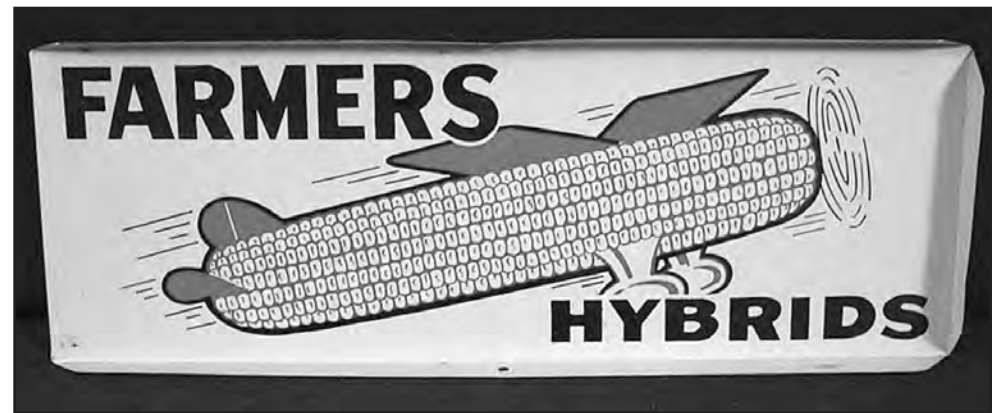
By Terry Campbell

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.

Cleaning out some buildings on the farm this fall I came across some metal seed corn company signs. Does anyone else remember when many farmers were also seed corn dealers? It was a common thing in the 1960's. All throughout the country along side the mail box was a tin sign with the seed corn company and often the farmers name below. Dekalb, Pioneer, Blaney, Funks, Mallard, Lowe, Trojan, Crows, Renk, Supercrost, Northrup King and Farmers Hybrid are a few that come to my mind. I can still remember the farmer's names as well who sold each brand.

Each farmer would grow his crops and try to sell his neighbor on the variety that produced the highest corn yield on his farm. Small pocket notebooks were handed out with a few pages of advertising of the companies seed varieties and plenty of ruled pages for record keeping of planting dates, fertilizer rates and anything pertinent that occurred during the summer.

My dad planted a seed plot every year. In the spring, Wally Thompson, the field rep for



Farmers Hybrid would come out and they would measure, mark, plant and record dozens of varieties of seed corn. Four rows of each. Plant to the end of the field and then dump the seed back in the bag and put a different variety in the seed hopper and head back across the field. Neighbor farmers would drop off a partial bag of seed of their brand to be planted as well.

The fun part was in the fall. When harvesting time came and the field day arrived. Wally would show back up with the weigh wagon and the combining commenced. Farmers showed up to watch the results and the yields tallied on a big tagboard chart. Everyone was excited to see how the corn yields were competing. And there was pop, coffee and doughnuts for all as the results unfolded. The farmer seed corn dealer whose variety did the best would be getting orders for that seed variety for the coming year from all his neighbors. Everyone hedged their bets by ordering a few bags each of the top five or more performers. I was a little kid but this seemed as fun as a

day at the fair to me. A couple hours in the middle of a cornfield listening to my neighbor farmers talk farming beats almost anything else hands down. It was a noble profession and I was in the presence of the experts as they passed around their wisdom.

After the harvest was over and the field work done, I could look forward to the seed company meetings in the winter. My dad took me with him and I reveled in the event. It was usually held at a fancy restaurant in the evening and started out with a great meal. Not like the local café or my mom's supper. This was a steak and baked potato, and a couple things I didn't recognize but always delicious. Then came the sales pitch for next year's new varieties and expectations and awards for farmer dealers who sold the most bags of seed corn that year. They passed out pencils, pens, notebooks, stickers and those tin signs that we put out by the mailbox to tell all our neighbors what company my father represented. It made me feel pretty important as a young kid to know my dad was a farmer dealer.

A Minnesotan: Snow Fall



By RosaLin Alcoser

Being high up though makes the snow fall better in a different way from the ground; don't get me wrong I love to watch the snow fall from home on the ground level. But when you're high up, you don't have any chance of having to go out in the snow for the rest of the day, and looking out over the snowfall the world looks like a snow globe.

During that first really big snow of the season when I looked out my window it reminded me of looking into my mother's snow globe that she would put out at Christmas.

That first snow also reminded me that when you watch a snow plow from high up that all the plows- big and small- look a lot like the robots from Wall-E. Which is tons of fun to watch because not only can you watch the plows go while pretending that they're little animated worker robots, but you can also give them names. I for one like to call the one that does the loop for my building 3X7-J; because why not.

At the end of any day when we don't have to go away, watching the snowfall can be pretty and sometimes fun. It can be even more fun when you get to watch it from a different perspective... and when you're not the one who has to move it after.

It is already a known fact to me that watching it rain from the 11th floor of a high rise apartment can be anti-climatic. However, what I have learned in the last few weeks is that watching it snow from the same height can be extremely pretty.

A couple of weeks ago we got the first really big snow of the year here in the Twin Cities on a Friday afternoon, prompting me to work from home for most of the day. Because just because I can drive through snow and my Subaru can make it through loose sand doesn't mean that I want to do that.

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Cheryl Gardzinski
Elyce Darcy
Annie Stensland
Lauren Piper

Deb Kohn
Amy Niebur
Deb Langerud
Grace Sullivan
Becky Dominie
Deb Gnotke
Lori Windhorst
Miranda Predmore
Maurine Olson

Dundas
Messenger



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022

We'd like to share our thanks and best wishes with everyone who has been a part of our year.



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