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FEBRUARY, 2022

Volume 15 • Issue 10

The Messenger Recipe Contest



Share your favorite recipe with other readers and you can win a free dinner out on us. Just e-mail your favorite recipe to us. Each month we will feature 2 recipes. If we use your recipe and print it, you will receive a free certificate.

(see ad on page 6)

Announcements

• Got crutches? You may have heard that there's a shortage of crutches in the U.S. right now. (There's a shortage of aluminum to build them.) Northfield Hospital + Clinics' supply is running low. If you have gently used crutches you don't need, please consider donating them for patients to use. Aluminum crutches only, in good condition. No wooden or broken crutches, please. Drop off your donation at Northfield Hospital's main entrance (weekdays 7am-4pm) or Emergency Department entrance anytime. The hospital is at 2000 North Ave. in Northfield. NH+C will clean and sanitize the crutches and get them to patients who need them. (Crutches are given free to patients.) Thank you!

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Wanamingo Native Writes Hymn For Local Church Sesquicentennial

Marty Haugen was born and raised in Wanamingo and has a B.A. degree in psychology from Luther College and an M.A. degree in pastoral studies from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. His first position was a church musician in a Roman Catholic parish. He writes contemporary hymns and liturgical music for the Lutheran church and has composed over four hundred compositions published worldwide. He has also arranged carols from France, Scotland, West Africa, Germany, Poland Mexico as well as the US. Marty also con-

ducts workshops for church musicians interested in renewing the role of music in worship. He has also performed concerts across the United States, Europe, Asia, Central America and the Pacific Rim over the last thirty-five years. Marty has also served as an editor and consultant on many church hymnals. He currently resides in Eagan, Minnesota.

Just last month he presented a hymn he recently wrote, for the Zwingli United Church of Christ in Berne, which will be celebrating their one-hundred and fiftieth anniversary

this summer. His sister, Michelle Spitzack, who is a church musician at the church, sang the hymn is titled "Blessed be God, Who Choose us in Christ".



Marty Haugen

Steve Drazkowski to Seek State Senate Seat Vacated by Mike Goggin



Representative
Steve Drazkowski

State Senator Mike Goggin (R – Red Wing) announced January 27 that he will not be seeking reelection in 2022. Senator Goggin was first elected to the senate in 2016. Goggin issued the following statement: "It has been my honor and privilege to serve Senate District 21 over the past six years. In my time at the senate, I've championed legislation that prioritizes our vet-

erans, farmers, small businesses, and everyday folks that will leave a lasting impact on our community, in which I take such pride. I have met many of you and made great friends throughout my time as your senator. "I am looking forward to spending more time with family, especially my new grandchild and traveling with my wife, Pam. There is still more to be done, and I will be working hard throughout the next year to ensure every person has the chance to grow, prosper, and succeed here in Minnesota."

On January 27 Representative Steve Drazkowski announced he is seeking the Republican endorsement for the senate seat being vacated by Senator Mike Goggin of

Red Wing. "I am humbled by the overwhelming support from constituents, having received two-thirds of votes in House District 21B last election. Many citizens throughout our senate district have encouraged me to take this important step," said Drazkowski. Drazkowski said, "Senator Goggin has done a superb job representing the people of our senate district. He and I have developed a strong friendship and worked very closely in both legislative and campaign work over the past five years. I wish him the best on his next adventure."

(continued on page 10)

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Leviticus: 'Approach God'



By Pastor Colin Rueter,
New Life Church
(colin@nlcwanamingo.org)

Before we walk through our next book in the Bible, I want to say thank you. Thank you for reading these articles as we journey through God's word. Thank you for sharing your thoughts as I have met some of you in Area 57 or on city walks (on warmer days). I am encouraged by hearing how these have helped you make connections in the Bible! So now – we come to the Book of Leviticus.

Leviticus: [li-vit-i-kuhs]/ noun --- laws relating to the priests and Levites and to the forms of Jewish ceremonial observance.

The author of this book is Moses. We find more than fifty occasions where Leviticus states a similar phrase, "The LORD spoke to Moses" (Leviticus 1:1; 4:1; 6:1). The New Testament also refers to Moses as the author of passages from Leviticus (Matthew 8:4; Luke 2:22; Hebrews 8:5).

Overview: As a reminder, we enter the Book of Leviticus after the Israelites had been held captive in Egypt for 400 years, their concept

of God had been distorted by the polytheistic, pagan Egyptians. The tabernacle had been built and commandments had been given to the people. They have been redeemed by God, now they are given laws to guide and protect them in a pagan world. The purpose of Leviticus is to provide instruction and laws to guide a sinful, yet redeemed people in their relationship with the holy God.

Two main themes in this text are sin and holiness, people's sin and God's holiness respectively. In chapters 1–7, we see the outline for offerings that are required of both the common people and the priesthood. Next, chapters 8–10 describe the consecration of Aaron and his sons to the priesthood, in order that they may minister to the people and for the people to God. We see the teaching that sin must be atoned for through the offering of proper sacrifices. In chapters 11-15, we read about God addressing different types of uncleanness, the things that will keep people from being set apart and able to approach God. Some topics covered in these chapters are diets (clean and unclean foods to be consumed), childbirth, and diseases which are to be carefully regulated. In chapter 16, we read about the Day of Atonement when an annual sacrifice is made for the cumulative sin of the people. A key teaching is the people of God are to guard their personal, moral, and social living, in contrast to the then-current practices of the pagan world around them. These are God's specific guidelines to His people for practical holiness. Various feasts were instituted in the people's worship of God, convened, and practiced according to God's


laws. Blessings or curses would accompany either the keeping or neglect of God's commandments (chapter 26). Vows to the Lord are covered in chapter 27.

SO WHAT? The overall application of this text could be stated as sanctification (a gradual growing righteousness) leading to holiness (set apart, righteous living). As we come to faith, as we are redeemed by faith through Jesus alone, we then look to the law, the commands, and the word of God in how we pursue holiness (Eph. 2:8-9; 1 John 5:1-4). As we pursue a holy life, looking to the perfect God, we will gradually grow in our right living (sanctification) as God works in us (Phil. 2:12-13). We must have this right understanding and order of thought: God alone is perfect, yet came to redeem sinners and then transform them by His grace to "be holy as He is holy" (Lev. 19:2; Matt. 5:48; 1 Peter 1:15-16) to His delight (Psalm 147:11; Zeph. 3:17).

God takes His holiness very seriously, and so should we. The trend in today's postmodern church, and Christian, is to create God in our own image, giving attributes we would like Him to have instead of the ones His Word describes. God's utter holiness, His transcendent splendor, and His "unapproachable light" (1 Timothy 6:16) are not to be foreign concepts to Christians. We are called to walk in the Light and to put away the darkness in our lives so that we may be pleasing in His sight. A holy God cannot tolerate blatant, unashamed sin in His people and His holiness requires Him to punish it. As we see the foreshadow of sacrifice and substitution

in Leviticus, we are reminded of the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus on behalf of sinners. The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross was the substitute for our sins which was done once for all in order that we would be made holy (Hebrews 10:10). Through faith in Jesus, we can now stand before a God of utter holiness without fear because He sees in us the righteousness of Christ. Praise God! Now in this new life of faith, may we reflect our heavenly Father's character to the world around us as we live a life different and set apart joyfully.

Next month, we will look at the Book of Numbers – a historical look at Israel's early days and the account of God's faithfulness to His people, discipline in their rebellion, and delight in their obedience.



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Worship Times – February

Sunday, February 13 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Vang – 11:00 AM
Wednesday, February 16

Dennison – 7:00 PM – Taize Evening Prayer
Sunday, February 20 – Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Dennison – 9:00 AM (Songs of My Life); Vang – 11:00 AM
Sunday, February 27 – Last Sunday after Epiphany
Vang – 11:00 AM

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Learning Together

Scripture Reading — *Luke 24:13-19*
As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them. — Luke 24:15

Social media does not provide a healthy setting for Christian debate on controversial issues. It's too easy for users to sound off with hurtful words over people's interpretations of Scripture, judging them to be dead wrong or even devil-led.

Imagine such an online debate between people who believed in Christ's resurrection and those who considered it fake news. Thankfully, the calm, respectful discussion we find on the road to Emmaus invites a genuine discovery of the truth. Where these two gathered, Jesus showed up and was there with them (see Matthew 18:20; 28:20).

God designed that his people would live, learn, and grow together in community. None of us has perfect knowledge of God's Word, but we gain insight by studying it with others. "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).

I have participated in many small groups in which we studied the Bible, which is "useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16), and applied it to life situations. As a pastor, I do not have all of the answers, but I have found that when we communally seek to know him better, Jesus joins us and we sense his presence.

As Christ-followers, we can scare people away with our insistence on being right, or we can attract people with our invitation to walk and learn together with Jesus as our guide.

Prayer
Thank you, Lord, for being with us in our life of faith, and for guiding us to search for truth together. Amen.



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Ruthel Burnette (Shelstad) Zalky

Ruthel Burnette (Shelstad) Zalky died on Sunday, January 23, 2022 at Pine Haven Care Center in Pine Island, MN. She was born on April 13, 1933 to Ludvig and Clara (Benson) Shelstad. Ruthel graduated from Wanamingo High School with a couple of her nephews,

which she always tried to keep quiet! She was a lifelong member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wykoff, MN and was an active member in the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary of Wykoff for 65 years. Ruthel was a member of the Preston Golf Course for 40 years. She enjoyed golfing and the time spent with fellow golfers. She also enjoyed fishing and snowmobiling.

Ruthel married Dale Zalky on September 14, 1957. Together they enjoyed traveling and visited Louisiana, Washington state and many other interesting places. They lived in Wykoff for over 60 years. Ruthel spent her early years working at Mayo Clinic and many of her long term friendships were made in those years at Mayo. After her marriage she served as Deputy Clerk for the City of Wykoff for 21 years.

Following her husband's passing in 2011, she moved to Wanamingo and spent 8 years at Heritage Hill Apartments before moving to the Pine Haven Care Center. She was a good Lutheran lady who was baptized, confirmed, married, and will have a funeral in Lands Lutheran Church in Zumbrota. She was always glad to have visitors and was always up for a good laugh. Ruthel and Dale were very proud of being Godparents to many of their nieces and nephews over the years.

Ruthel is survived by her brother Arland (Shelly) Shelstad and many caring nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Dale, her parents Ludvig and Clara, her sisters Gina Myran, Cora Bjungan, Lydia Miller, Meldora Myran, Anna Berry and her brothers Palvin Shelstad and Bennie Shelstad.

A funeral and celebration of life will be held in the spring.

Jennifer Kay Mosher

Jennifer Kay Mosher, passed away on January 6, 2022 at the age of 43, in St Paul.

Jennifer was born Jan 11, 1978 to Terry and Kay (Skillestad) Mosher. She grew up in Wanamingo, MN and enjoyed traveling, crafts, going out to dinner and spending time with her friends and family members.

At the age of 17, Jen had a brain aneurysm that left her confined to a wheelchair. She persevered through this disability for 27 years which was not without significant challenges including, the loss of her father three months after her aneurysm and subsequently her mother in 2007. She attended Courage Center and was in numerous group homes and care facilities in Olmsted County. Her final journey was at Cerenity Care Center in St. Paul, MN. She touched the staff there with her humor, quick wit and one liners. Her two requests prior to her death were to go to the Mall of America with her brother Sam and his family and to have a Celebration of Life. Both were granted to her, and the Celebration of Life was held at Cerenity with many of her family and friends in attendance.

Jennifer was a lifelong member of Wanamingo Lutheran Church. Pastor Chris from Wanamingo was instrumental in her faith and Chaplain Laurie at Cerenity brought her spiritual comfort especially in the last few months of her life.

She is survived by her brother, Sam (Nicole Tierney) Mosher; niece, Alania Mosher; nephew, Mitchell Mosher (Jordan, MN); aunts and uncles, Larry and Sue Skillestad (Rochester, MN), John and Diane Mosher (St. Louis, MO); cousins, Sam, JD and Penny.

She was preceded in death by her parents; grandparents, Claremont and Esther (Wicksell) Skillestad of Bombay, MN, Daryl and Katherine (Richmond) Mosher of Owatonna, MN; and aunt, Joanne Mosher of Winona, MN

Memorial service was held at 2pm Sunday, January 23rd at the Wanamingo Lutheran Church in Wanamingo, MN. Visitation was one hour prior to the service. Inurnment washeld at the Holden Lutheran Church Cemetery in Kenyon, MN. In lieu of flowers, the family would like memorials sent to Courage Center in Golden Valley, MN.

Elaine Jacobson

Elaine Jacobson, age 83, of Kenyon, passed away Monday, January 17, 2022 at Madonna Towers in Rochester, MN. Elaine Quam was born November 26, 1938 in Cherry Grove Township to David and Mayme (Hjortaa) Quam. Elaine was baptized and confirmed at Lands Lutheran Church in Zumbrota.

She grew up in that area and graduated from Wanamingo High School in 1956. Elaine then attended Rochester Junior College. After college she worked for Olmsted County Social Services Department until her

marriage. On October 26, 1974, Elaine was united in marriage to Olaf Jacobson at Lands Lutheran Church. After her marriage, she was very active in the Holden Lutheran Church. At Holden, she served on several committees, volunteered for quilting, the annual fundraising supper, Vocational Bible School and was a member of the Circle and the WELCA. For years, on Wednesdays, Elaine volunteered at the Kenyon Sunset Home assisting in recreational activities for the residents. She relished working on Word Search/Circle a Word books and enjoyed reading and keeping up with the news, weather, and sports.

Elaine is survived by her brother, LeRoy (Margaret) Quam; 6 nieces and her sister-in-law, Marcia Hansen. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband Olaf.

The memorial service was at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 29th, at Dale Lutheran Church. Pastor Julie Rogness officiated. Visitation was one hour prior to the service, at the church. Interment was at Holden Lutheran Church Cemetery.

If so desired, memorials may be given to a charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences are welcome and may be shared at mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Dorothy Pohlman

Dorothy Pohlman, 59, of Wanamingo, passed away on Monday, January 31, 2022 at Mayo Clinic Hospital, Saint Marys Campus in Rochester after a long battle with follicular thyroid cancer.

Dorothy Alice was born May 24, 1962 in Mankato to parents Joseph and Margaret (Caven) Flintrop. She grew up on the family farm in rural Waseca and attended Sacred Heart Catholic School in her youth before graduating from Waseca High School in 1980. She attended Alexandria Vo-Tech and U of M-Waseca.

On September 14, 1985, she was united in marriage to Lorin Pohlman at the Church of the Sacred Heart in Waseca. They relocated to rural Wanamingo, where they were blessed to raise their 2 boys, Billy and Andy.

Dorothy worked most of her career in personal care roles, spending most of her years working overnights at the Zumbrota Nursing Home and Riverview Services in Wanamingo. She took immense joy in the care she provided to her patients and residents, in addition to the friendly relationships she developed with them.

Dorothy had a unique zest on life with an infectious laugh, smile, and witty sense of humor. She enjoyed gardening, reading, watching mysteries, collecting pig memorabilia, spending time with family and friends, sitting around a bonfire, and being a neighborhood mom to the "kids" of rural Cherry Grove township.

She is survived by her husband Lorin Pohlman of Wanamingo; son Andy (Jenny) Pohlman of Lake Elmo; granddaughters Ad-

dison and Emma Pohlman of Lake Elmo; siblings Eileen (Tom) Jewison of Janesville, Kathy Flintrop of Coldwater, OH, Teresa Fimon of Stewartville, and Jim (Donna) Flintrop of Waseca; and many brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Margaret (Caven) Flintrop; father- and mother-in-law Wilfred and Lucille (Albrecht) Pohlman; son Billy Pohlman; brother Bill Flintrop; brother-in-law Curtis Fimon; and nephews Carey and Jeffrey Pohlman and baby boy Buxengard.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, February 5, 2022, at 11:00 AM at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Kenyon with a visitation two hours before the service. Fr. Louie Floeder will officiate. Inurnment will be in the St. Michael's Catholic Church Cemetery at a later date.

Family requested masks for all attendees.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to family. Arrangements are being handled by Mahn Family Funeral Home- Larson Chapel, Zumbrota. Online condolences are welcome and may be shared at mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com. Livestream of Dorothy's memorial service was available on the St. Michael's Catholic Church Facebook page.

Jay Floyd Smith

Jay Floyd Smith, 73, of Trout Creek, Michigan, passed away on January 9, 2022.

He was born to parents Floyd Smith and Pauline Koelsch, on August 17, 1948 in Rochester, Minnesota.

He graduated from John Marshall High School in 1967.

Jay joined the Marine Corps in 1967 where he served in the Vietnam war.

He was the recipient of two Purple Hearts, the Vietnam Service medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

He loved his country and he loved the Marine Corps.

Jay spent most of his life in sales where he won many awards.

He enjoyed: Hunting, fishing, motor cycles and the outdoors.

Jay is survived by: Son, Jason (Amalia) Smith of Lumberton, TX, Son, Andrew (Kelli) Smith of Rochester, MN and Grandchildren, Jordan, Jesalyn, Gavin, Olivia, Mitchell and Judah, and Sister, Paulette (John) Uttech of Mankato, MN.

He is preceded in death by: Father, Floyd Smith, Mother, Pauline Koelsch and brother, Wilbert "Bob" Walker.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 9:00 am at Rochester Assembly of God church.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jay's name to All Secure Foundation: <https://allsecurefoundation.org/donate/>

(obituaries continued on page 4)

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Obituaries

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- KENYON MESSENGER -

February, 2022

Minor (Corky) Buckingham

Corky was a loving father, grandfather, brother, and friend. He died unexpectedly in his home on February 1, 2022 at the age of 76.

He was born in Owatonna, MN to Minor and Jean (Mulvihill) Buckingham.

Corky graduated from West Concord High School and attended Mankato State.

He worked in a variety of jobs around West Concord and then found his passion in farming while also being a rural mail carrier for

over 40 years. In his later years, he was a Real Estate Agent. He was also instrumental in starting the West Concord Public Charter School.

Corky was very active in his community. He helped restore the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Kenyon, MN. He was very passionate about community service and played a vital role in updating and maintaining the West Concord softball field. He was a Cardinal Club member, Concord Township Clerk, and on the Dodge County Zoning and Planning committee.

Corky was always willing to help anyone. He found enjoyment in going up to Leech Lake, walking with friends, morel mushroom hunting, driving around the countryside, and frequenting Sam's Club. His love for music

led him to attending many concerts and plays. He loved having a full house and entertaining friends and family. As well as hosting deer camp and making his famous chili.

Corky married Roberta Surprenant on March 19, 1966. They had 5 children. He married Ann Ryan on March 7, 1993 and had two children together along with 4 step-children.

Corky was preceded in death by his parents Jean and Minor Buckingham; and wife Ann Buckingham. He is survived by his 7 children Toni (Rowan) McDonnell, Teri (Jon) Streiff, James (Katrina) Buckingham, Traci (Luke) Payette, Joseph (Megan) Buckingham, Alexandra Buckingham, Matthew Buckingham; and his 4 step-children Natalie (Joe) Gorman, Dustin (Jenna) Gadiant, Jacqueline (Ernie) Loerzel, Dane (Lisa) Ga-

dient; grandchildren Molly, Rowan, Cassidy, Courtney, Carter, Madeline, Luke, Charis, Shonnie, Aidan, Kirsten, Natalie, Ryan, Jason, Elizabeth, Max, Gavin, Keegan, Cayden, Magdalynn, Liam and Wade; and 4 siblings Tomi Pirrotta, Glenda Dollander, John Buckingham, and Ann Ryan.

Visitation will be held at the West Concord Historical Society on Thursday, February 10th from 4PM-8PM. A Celebration of Life will be held at the West Concord Historical Society on Friday, February 11th from 1PM-4PM.

Memorials are preferred and will be directed by the family to some of Corky's favorite organizations including: West Concord Cardinal Club, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, and the Concord Church of Christ.

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K-W Noble Knights

February, 2022

- KENYON MESSENGER -

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K-W Noble Knights of the Week for January 14, 2022

Front Row: Isabella McGowan, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Warner Hendrickson, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Ian Morales-Vasquez, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Sabin Varanelli, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Lily Knott, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers. Back Row: Madeline Engen, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Alaria Hunt, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Mariah Brainard, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Piper Rueger, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen Subra; Jace Tuma-Brezina, Gr.4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for January 21, 2022

Front Row: Samuel Keller, KG, Ms. Tanya Short; Aftyn Meyers, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Asher Porras, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Maya Ramirez, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Nathan Flom, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Mason Quam, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Briar Garrison-Luepke, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Alex Vadner, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen Subra; Sawyer Overend, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for January 28, 2022

Front Row: Isaac Sivahop, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; William Amundson, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Aubree Cagle, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Bree Helgeson, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers. Back Row: Marshall Christensen, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Carter Sivahop, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Isaac Caron, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Morgan Laue, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen Subra; Khloe Evenson, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for February 4, 2022

Front Row: Lola Hernandez-Washington, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Brinley Murdick, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Lily Knott, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Ava LaCanne-Gillis, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Korbeyn Meyers, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; David Meyer, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Boe Aronson, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Noah Carel, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen Subra; Scarlett Stock, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing

Rachel Nesselth, K-W High School senior, has been chosen as the girl Triple 'A' Award Winner for Region 1A!



Rachel Nesselth, K-W High School senior, has been chosen as the girl Triple 'A' Award Winner for Region 1A! Rachel will now represent the Region in the Triple 'A' competition at the state level. To honor Rachel for being selected as the Region 1A Winner, her and her parents will be invited to the Section Basketball Championships at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester. Rachel and her parents will be honored on March 10 just prior to the start of the IAA GBB Championship game at 8 p.m. Rachel will also be recognized on March 26 at the Triple 'A' Banquet and the on court ceremony at the State Boys Basketball Tournament.

Congratulations to Rachel on being selected as the Region 1A Triple 'A' Award Winner! This is an outstanding accomplishment for Rachel, her family, and Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools! Best of luck to Rachel as she advances to the state level Triple 'A' competition!

The picture collage captures some of what makes Rachel such a well-rounded student and a very deserving Triple 'A' Award Winner!

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Recipe Contest

Show your friends and neighbors as well as all the readers your culinary expertise!

Just send us your recipe with the ingredient list and preparation instructions and we will draw 2 recipes each month to run in the Messenger with your name as the submitter.

E-mail your recipe to hometownmessenger@gmail.com

If we use your recipe and print it, you will receive a free certificate. Be sure to include your name and address so we can mail you a gift card if your entry is the winner.

The original Minnesota Tater Tot Hot Dish

We'll walk you through how to make this classic tater tot casserole recipe. There are lots of variations on the hotdish, but this easy recipe is a good place to start. You'll need:

- 3/4 to 1 pound ground beef
- 1 small onion, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 package (16 ounces) frozen tater tots
- 1 package (16 ounces) frozen mixed vegetables
- 1 can (10-3/4 ounces) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 2/3 cup 2% milk
- 1 cup shredded cheese

To start, break out your favorite large skillet—cast iron works great here! Heat it over medium heat, then add the ground beef and onion. Season with salt and pepper and cook until the meat is cooked through. Drain any excess grease.

Transfer the ground beef and onion mixture to a greased, two-quart baking dish. Top with the frozen tater tots.

In mixing bowl, whisk together the milk and condensed soup and then pour it over the potatoes. Top with shredded cheese—use whatever cheese you like best.

All that's left is to pop this hotdish into a 350°F oven and bake uncovered for 30 to 40 minutes, or until heated through.

Serve this up with a quick side salad and some homemade rolls and you've got dinner! If you really want a full Midwestern experience, try these dessert recipes right from the heartland. They're just the way to finish off this hearty meal dontcha know!



Kenyon-Wanamingo High School Students Nominated for Triple 'A' Award

Alex Vold and Rachel Nesseth, K-W High School seniors, have been selected to represent their school in the Academics, Arts, and Athletics Award program, Matt Ryan, Kenyon-Wanamingo High School Principal announced. A rubric is used to score all local applications and these two individuals were selected based on the criteria.

Established in 1988, the Academics, Arts, and Athletics Award (Triple 'A' Award) is sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League. The award goes to high school seniors who have a "B" or better grade point average and who participate in League-sponsored athletic and fine arts activities. Triple 'A' Award recipients are selected by a multi-level process involving the MSHSL's member schools and administrative regions.

A special congratulations to Rachel Nesseth as she was also recognized as the Sub-Region 4 Triple 'A' selection!

Alex Vold, son of Cory and Jen Vold of Kenyon, has been involved in the following activities: Football, Baseball, Trap Shooting, Band, and National Honor Society. Alex has challenged himself academically with a rigorous course load including AP and College in the Schools classes! He has a 4.205 weighted GPA. Alex plans to attend Rochester Community and Technical College and enroll

in the Facility Service and Technology Program (FAST).

Rachel Nesseth, daughter of Barney and Laura Nesseth of rural Wanamingo, has been involved in the following activities: Volleyball, Dance Team, Track and Field, Band, Choir, Theater, Student Council, National Honor Society, Knowledge Bowl, and Student School Board Representative. Rachel has challenged herself academically with a rigorous course load including AP and College in the Schools classes! She has a 4.3 weighted GPA. Rachel plans to attend Concordia College in Moorhead for Biochemistry. Rachel also plans to participate in Track and Field at Concordia.

Matt Ryan, KWHS Principal stated, "Alex and Rachel are students who have embraced their high school experience at Kenyon-Wanamingo by being involved in the arts as well as multiple extracurricular and leadership opportunities. They are also high achieving students academically who have taken higher rigor classes to help them prepare for their future educational plans. When it comes to students who are well rounded in all three areas of the Triple 'A' Award, Alex and Rachel are two of the best!" As part of the Triple 'A' Award application process students were asked to share how their involvement in the arts, athletics, and academics has developed them as a person.

Alex and Rachel wrote the following in response.

Alex Vold: I believe it is extremely important to be involved in the Arts, Academics, and Athletics because they create an overall more well-rounded person when someone is involved in these activities as I am. Hard

work and persistence are essential to being successful. After every home baseball game, the team "puts the field to bed", meaning we restore the field to the perfect condition it was before the game. I take pride in having an excellent baseball field to play on because it shows we are proud of our school and work ethic. Receiving the Charlie Hustle Award in Baseball was proof of my desire and dedication to the condition of the baseball field and the team. Additionally, my hard work and tenacity paid off on the football field this fall by being named the Kenyon-Wanamingo Most Improved Football Player. I am proud that my dedication and the results of my hard work were recognized by my teammates and coaches. Another lesson I learned was to enhance my problem-solving skills by challenging myself. Being in the percussion is an example of using my problem-solving skills because I need to master many different instruments. Problem-solving skills are essential to succeed in everyday life because there will always be obstacles to overcome and problems to solve. No matter what you do after high school, problem-solving skills are always needed and they are skills that I will continue to use throughout the rest of my life."

Rachel Nesseth: My involvement in the arts, academics and athletics has shaped who I am as a person. It has taught me patience, persistence, teamwork, and efficient communication as well as numerous other things that will continue to help me wherever I end up in life. With the arts I've learned how to work to be creative and reach personal goals as well as working together with a group to achieve a common goal. My involvement in



Alex Vold



Rachel Nesseth

academics and my drive that I have found and used will get me far throughout college, internships and my life as a whole. Pushing myself to be the best that I can be and holding myself to a high standard is something that I am very proud of. And lastly my involvement in athletics, which I believe has shaped me the most into the person I am today. Throughout the years of being involved in athletics, I've learned in the process how to be a good teammate and support others as well as push others to achieve goals. I have learned how to listen to input from coaches and work to make those changes. I have directly seen that when you put in the work you will get the results and I believe that my involvement in all of these activities throughout high school has benefited me in many ways. These experiences have impacted my perspective on life, given me opportunities to grow and be challenged. I look forward to continuing these aspects in my future.

Congratulations to Alex and Rachel and best of luck to them in their bright futures!

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**Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of The Messenger.*

K-12 CURRICULUM

Ethnic studies will turn schools into extremist boot camps

We need to hold our leaders accountable for our children's education.

- Katherine Kersten

Minnesota parents: In the midst of the Twin Cities' ongoing crime surge, do you want your children taught that the sense of disorder in carjackings and "smash-and-grab" looting is merely a social "construction"? That the work of the men and women of our police departments – charged with stemming this crime wave – is rooted in slavery and "oppression"? Do you want your kids to be trained to view themselves and their classmates as members of "racialized hierarchies" based on "dominant European beauty standards"? To disdain their families' religious beliefs as the source of "caste systems" used to "justify imperialism, colonization, warfare and chattel slavery"?

Do you believe that our public schools' mission is to train our kids to "resist" America's "systemic" abuse of power against "marginalized," oppressed groups?

If the Minnesota Department of Education's (MDE) proposed new social studies standards are adopted – having begun the formal rule-making process – this is what our children will be learning for the next 10 years.

MDE acknowledges its new standards mark a "major shift" from curriculum standards. In fact, in MDE's brave new educational world, ideology will replace the basic factual knowledge students need to be informed citizens, enlisting them as foot soldiers in an extremist political crusade.

The ideological lens through which social studies subjects like history, and geography will be taught is ethnic studies – a highly politicized "fifth strand" that MDE has added to the fourth social studies content areas named in state law. Its theories and assumptions are set forth in a 2017 essay titled "The Need for Ethnic Studies Curriculum in Minnesota Schools."

The essay's lead author, Jonathan Hamilton, is a member of the MDE appointed committee that drafted the standards. He is also the leader of Education for Liberation Minnesota, a group that has denounced our state's public education system as a "white supremacist puzzle that must be taken apart and exposed for the lie it is."

Hamilton writes that K-12 academic standards have been "shaped to maintain" the "existing power structure privileging whites."

"Ethnic Studies is a political struggle" to change that system, according to the essay.

Forget about teaching students about the historical leaders and events that shaped our democracy, like George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and American-led victories in World War II. Minnesota's new ethnic studies standards will drill three ideological tenets into kids' heads: that their skin color determines their "identity"; that life is a zero-sum power struggle between race-based oppressor and victim groups; and that American history is a shameful story of domination, marginalization and injustice.

Ethnic studies starts kids down the path to political activism. Under the new standards, one of which is titled "Resistance," for example, they are instructed to "organize" to resist America's "systemic and coordinated exercises of power" against "marginalized," oppressed groups.

How will this play out in Minnesota classrooms? Here is an example: Students will study our police departments and justice system in connection with an ethnic studies standard that requires them to "understand the roots of contemporary systems of oppression."

Education for Liberation, Hamilton's organization, teaches that "formalized American policing really began with slave patrols" that were "empowered" to "brutalize" "Black and Native folks," and evolved "directly into modern police departments."

Fifth-graders will first "examine contemporary policing" and its alleged "historical roots in early America." "Sixth-graders will "describe the goals, offenses, penalties, long-term consequences, privacy concerns, of Minnesota's juvenile justice system" and "evaluate the impact on youth, including those from historically disenfranchised groups."

Finally, high-schoolers will "examine incarceration" and "explore how criminality is constructed and what makes a person a criminal."

Biased, misleading instruction of this kind will likely generate fear and resentment in students of some racial/ethnic groups, and convince them that policing and criminality are oppressive, racially "constructed," and among the many things they are called on to "resist."

How do our public schools get hijacked in service of this extremist agenda?

MDE appointed prominent activists from the Minnesota Ethnic Studies Coalition (MESC) – an alliance of advocacy groups – to the committee that drafted its new standards.

Education for Liberation has described MESC as one of its own "projects." The coalition's primary mission, when it was created in 2019, was "revising the state Social Studies through participating on the Minnesota Social Studies Standards Revision Committee," according to Education for Liberation's website.

The coalition has issued an action alert aimed at building public support for the new standards' benchmark on "the history of policing."

"It is impossible" for students "to learn about fights against injustice in this country," it declares, "without addressing policing, which continues to be the center of the fight for racial justice in Minnesota and elsewhere." The action alert features an image of a student with a raised fist.

Education for Liberation is also working hard to drum up support for the anti-policing benchmarks. Posting under the name of "Support the 5th Strand!!" the group retweeted a graphic that makes its end game clear.

"The Abolition of Policing is about Building a New World." "Defunding the police" and "rebuilding the commons" means "abolishing the social order and building a new society."

The group has already created a school curriculum - "aligned to Minnesota State Standards" - to convince young people that it is imperative to abolish the police.

This is the "companion curriculum" to the "MPD150 Report," which Education for Liberation describes as a "community-written history of the Minneapolis Police Department." The report describes the MPD as "the front end of a system of mass incarceration that devours Black, brown, and Indigenous peoples" and is "not reformable."

"The idea of a police-free future," it maintains, is "the only pragmatic solution to the challenge of a police system rooted in the era of slavery and Indian removal."

The policing benchmarks are just the tip of the "activist agenda" iceberg in MDE's pro-

posed new social studies standards. If adopted, these standards – which will teach our children that life is a never-ending power struggle between those who share their skin color and everyone else – will rend our social fabric.

Ultimately, the responsibility for education policy remains with the governor and Minnesota legislators. Parents and citizens need to hold them accountable.

Katherine Kersten (kerstenkatherine@gmail.com) is a senior policy fellow at the Center of the American Experiment.

Submitted by
Dr. James Russell Lehman
Kenyon, MN 55046

Kenyon City Council

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 14th day of December 2021. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henke.

The following members were present: Mayor Doug Henke, Council Members Mary Bailey and Dan Rechtzigel

Via Zoom: Tom Gard and Molly Ryan (7:10 pm)

Also, present: Administrator Mark Vahlsing, Engineer Derek Olinger, Engineer Joe Rhein, Attorney Scott Riggs, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom, Michelle Vlasak reporter for Kenyon Leader, Finance Clerk Kathy Flikke, Public Works Supervisor Wayne Ehrich, Sue and Tom Dodds, Linda and Cal Bean, Brian & Tasha Homeier, Josephine & Hailee Homeier

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(continued on page 9)

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Kenyon City Council

(continued from page 8)

CITIZEN COMMENT ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Rechtzigel second by Bailey to approve the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye
Motion carried 4-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Rechtzigel second by Bailey to approve the Consent Agenda and payment of check numbers 73035 through 73145; 3830E through 3847E and appoint Brian Homeier as a full-time police officer.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye
Motion carried 4-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ RECOGNITIONS/ PROLAMATIONS

Administrator Vahlsing recognized Sue Dodds for her 26 years of service to the City as the Finance Clerk.

ENGINEERING

Red Wing Avenue Project

Engineer Olinger discussed the details of the damage negotiations with Wencel Construction.

Change order #4

Engineer Olinger stated that Wencel Construction was requesting Change Order #4 to remove the liquidated damage provisions from the contract and replace them with re-

vised damages of \$7,500.

Pay Request #13 (Final) – \$52,376.34 Wencel Construction.

Olinger stated that if Change Order #4 is approved, then the final pay request to Wencel Construction would be \$52,376.34.

Motion by Henke second by Ryan to approve Change Order Request #4 and final pay request #13 for \$52,376.34 contingent on the receipt of the final close out paperwork from Wencel Construction.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Riverside Park FEMA Flood Repairs

Engineer Olinger stated that the Riverside Park FEMA project is now complete and ready for final payment.

Pay Request #1 – \$76,662.80 Griffin Construction.

Motion by Rechtzigel second by Bailey to approve pay request No. 1 to Griffin Construction in the amount of \$76,662.80 as the final payment.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

LEGAL

Agreement for Opioid Settlement in Minnesota

Attorney Riggs stated that the Minnesota Attorney General has settled a lawsuit with the opioid companies. The City of Kenyon needs to opt-in to this settlement to receive money from them.

Resolution 2021-19 Approving the MOA Between the State of MN and Local Gov- ernments and Authorizing Participation in National Opioid Settlements

Motion by Bailey second by Henke to adopt Resolution 2021-19.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-16: Adopting the 2022 Budget and Establishing the Tax Levy for Payable 2022

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the budget was discussed at the 6:30 work session. No public comments were received at the Truth in Taxation meeting on December 7. The final budget shows a maximum proposed levy increase of 6.49% for 2022.

Motion by Rechtzigel second by Gard to adopt Resolution 2021-16 adopting the 2022 budget and establishing the tax levy of \$1,107,960 payable in 2022.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-17: A Resolution Com- mitting Capital Fund Balances

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the general accounting standard (GASB 54) requires all public entities to set year end Capital fund balances before the end of the current year contingent on audited final numbers. The final year-end capital fund amounts will not be known until the 2021 audit is completed.

Motion by Bailey seconded by Ryan to adopt Resolution 2021-17 committing capital fund balances.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Approve Transfer of Fire Department Year End Remaining Funds to Capital Fund

Administrator Vahlsing stated that council approval is needed to move the year end Fire Department budget balance to the capital fund. The actual transfer amount will be determined by the auditors as part of the 2021 audit.

Motion by Rechtzigel seconded by Bailey to approve the transfer of fire department year end remaining funds to capital funds.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Approve Transfer of Street Maintenance Year End Remaining Funds to Capital Fund

Administrator Vahlsing stated that council approval is needed to move the year end Street Maintenance Department budget balance to the capital fund. The actual transfer amount will be determined by the auditors as part of the 2021 audit.

Motion by Henke seconded by Rechtzigel to approve the transfer of street maintenance department year end remaining funds to capital funds.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Approve Transfer of Excess Funds from the Library Book Budget to Capital Fund

Administrator Vahlsing stated that council approval is needed to move excess funds from the library book budget to the capital fund.

The actual transfer amount will be determined by the auditors as part of the 2021 audit.

Motion by Bailey seconded by Gard to approve the transfer of excess library book funds to capital funds.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

2022 Tobacco License Renewals Kenyon Market

River Country Co-Op (Speedway) Kenyon Municipal Liquor Store

Motion by Henke seconded by Bailey to approve to approve the 2022 tobacco license renewals.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Resolution 2021-18: Designating Annual Polling Place

Administrator Vahlsing noted that State law requires that all City's annually designate a polling place by resolution by December 31 and at least 90 days prior to an election. The Fire Hall will remain the polling place in 2022.

Motion by Rechtzigel seconded by Ryan to adopt Resolution 2021-18 designating the Fire Hall as the annual polling place for 2022.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

KMU Meeting: Tuesday, December 21 @ 2:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting: Monday, December 20 @ 6:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, January 11 @ 7 p.m.

COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL COMMENTS

Councilman Rechtzigel recognized the good work the police department did on catching a burglary in progress on the east end of town.

Councilman Gard thanked the City and the citizens of Kenyon for electing him. He has had the privilege of working with great people, but due to health issues he will be resigning his council seat at the end of the year.

The council relayed their thanks to Tom Gard and noted that he will be missed on the council.

Mayor Henke welcomed Brian Homeier as the new full-time police officer. He also wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year.

Administrator Vahlsing wished everyone happy holidays and noted it had been a good year.

Attorney Riggs wished everyone happy and safe holidays. He also sent his prayers to Tom Gard.

Engineer Rhein stated it was nice to see everyone again and wished everyone happy holidays.

Chief Sjoblom introduced Brian Homeier and his wife Tasha, and daughters Josephine and Hailee.

Motion by Ryan second by Bailey to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye
Motion carried 5-0-0.

Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant
Douglas Henke, Mayor



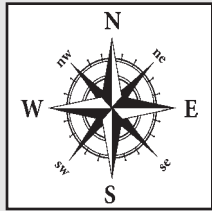
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes River Boats



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.

One thing that always fascinates me are the barges moving up and down the Cumberland River near where we live in Tennessee. They seem huge, especially when you pass them

on the river in small runabout.

They call them pusher boats or tow boats and they are about fifty feet long with a 4,000 horsepower diesel engine powering them. The towboats on the Cumberland River are limited to a tow of 15 barges lashed three wide and five long because of the locks at the dams and the channel of the river. On the Mississippi River, south of St. Louis the tows can be three times that size with a pusher boat with an 11,000 horsepower diesel engine.

Each barge is 195 feet long and 35 feet wide. It can carry 1,500 tons, which is 15 times the capacity of a rail car and sixty times the capacity of a semi-trailer. They carry 20% of the nation's coal and that is the standard load that goes up the Cumberland River to the power plant at Cumberland City. This payload can take up to half a mile to stop, so boats on the river are supposed to give the barges a wide berth. The barges have a draft of 9 feet when fully loaded but the hull is designed so they don't create a large wake. With the number of small fishing



and pleasure crafts on the river this is an important feature.

Crews on the towboats work thirty day shifts with a month off in between. There are six to eight guys living on the towboat and one of them is a full time cook to keep the crew fed. They like the schedule because it allows them a free month to hunt and fish.

The towboats have the most modern navigational systems to keep them on course and a large screen GPS that shows where the boat will be 90 seconds ahead. There are many

turns in the river and the captain has to keep that long barge in the center of the channel. Another challenge is looking out for stalled fishing or leisure crafts in front of the barge. In the event of a boat dead in the water ahead of them, the crew will sprint to the front of the barge to try and push the helpless boat aside. The tow boat uses all the power it has to push the loaded barges up river, but coming back with a tow of empty barges it hardly works at all.

A Minnesotan: Ice Fishing



By RosaLin Alcoser

Minnesota is the land of 10,000 lakes and as Minnesotans we spend a good chunk of our lives at the lake. We spend the late spring and summer out on the lake as well as the fall and the winter out on the lake. Basically Minnesotans spend our free time on the lake.

While the summer months have boating and playing on the lake all the seasons have one lake actively in common. Fishing. No matter what there seems to be some point in every season when Minnesotan's fish weather that be from the shore, a boat, or by walking out into the middle of the frozen lake drilling a hole in

the ice and fishing through that.

Now my Southern family is not from up here, but I did spend most of my childhood in Minnesota and well now... I'm still in Minnesota. So, I have been ice fishing, once as a child and was so annoying that I never got taken again.

Which I was fine with at the time and am still fine with now. While my older sister enjoyed ice fishing when we were kids I did not mostly because I didn't care for the cold, fishing or walking out onto the frozen lake.

You might be asking exactly how seven-year-old RosaLin got herself banned, by Grandpa, from ice fishing for life. Well as I have already mentioned it was for being annoying but it was how I was annoying that got me banned.

At the time I was very into Lilo and Stitch on Disney and as a result at the time I knew a couple of Elvis songs. Which I sang down the fishing hole the one time I was taken ice fishing. I must say the fish of the mid-2000's were not big Elvis fans and we did not catch much that day- the guy on the other side of the lake who never caught anything did, but we didn't nor did others around us.

I honestly think that's a good enough reason to never take me again and I'm ok with that.

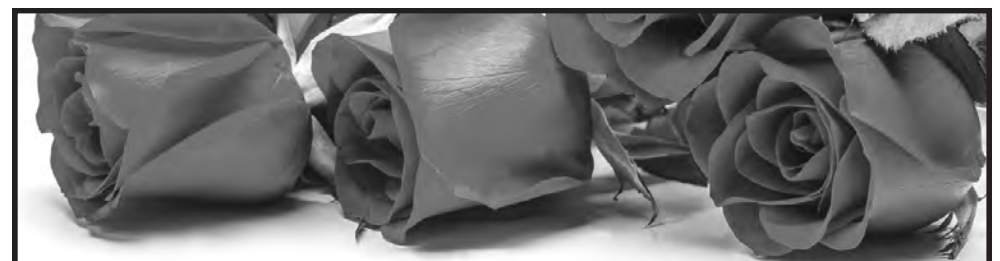
Steve Drazkowski to Seek State Senate Seat Vacated by Mike Goggin

(continued from page 1)

Looking to the campaign ahead, Drazkowski will try to draw a clear contrast with Minnesota Democrats.

He said, "The anti-freedom policies of Tim Walz and Joe Biden have seized our civil liberties, burned our cities, disrespected the police and the rule of law, and severely threatened the economic well-being of our families. Our campaign will promote a people-centered agenda that restores freedom, honors the rule of law, and strengthens families and citizens – instead of growing gov-

ernment." Elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2007, Drazkowski has won eight consecutive elections to the Minnesota House and one state senate primary election. He has served as chair of the House Property Tax Committee for four years and is the leader of the New House Republican Caucus. Prior to that he served as an assistant minority leader in the House Republican Caucus. Representative Drazkowski can be contacted at steve@draz.com or (651) 564-0638. His campaign website is draz.com.



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THEME: VALENTINE'S DAY
ACROSS

1. Fantasy sports data
6. Accounting acronym
9. Stark daughter on "Game of Thrones"
13. Branch of economics
14. All talk, no action type of service
15. Relating to symmetry, in geometry
16. Base-8 numeral system
17. "_____ the land of the free..."
18. Lots and lots
19. *Actor Ryan of "Blue Valentine"
21. *Desdemona's suspicious husband
23. Big fuss
24. Nose-in-the-air type
25. Uber alternative
28. One on a pedestal
30. Moderately wide
35. Eye layer
37. Twelfth month of Jewish year
39. Cheese-covered chip
40. Popped relief?
41. "'Love, _____'" movie
43. Splints _____
44. Muhammad's teachings
46. Orchestra instrument
47. Past of heave
48. Avoids work, in British slang
50. Give off
52. Dose of sunshine
53. Back seat
55. Hair-raising product
57. *_____ valentine, an opposite of love note
61. English author perhaps best known for "The Canterbury Tales"
65. Like Mary-Kate and Ashley
66. Pooh's "wise" friend
68. Bring to an end
69. Potassium nitrate
70. Farm sound
71. Arm bones
72. Back talk
73. Uniting conjunction
74. Imposter

DOWN

1. Smoke plus fog
2. Comes in hard or soft shell
3. Parts of a play
4. _____ -la
5. Plural of solidus
6. Heidi's shoe
7. *Sweetie follower
8. Cook's cover
9. Wheel holder
10. Cambodian money
11. Two-masted vessel
12. "The Sun _____ Rises"
15. Trash can for fireplace (2 words)
20. Source of lymphocytes, pl.
22. Pull along
24. Dormant state
25. *Famous archer
26. Dispatch boat
27. "_____ and whistles"
29. Hodgepodge
31. Mr. and Mrs. Incredible's son
32. Blood of the gods, Greek mythology
33. Seven days postmortem
34. *Hive-related endearment
36. Unfortunately, exclamation
38. Rumpelstiltskin machine
42. Stallion's cry
45. Business combination
49. Old Man's turf, according to Hemingway
51. Darjeeling server
54. Smell, usually pleasant
56. Calms
57. Ford Transit and such
58. Pelvic parts
59. Lice eggs
60. Augments
61. Oaf
62. Scoop holder
63. Biblical twin
64. Donna or Lou
67. Got a blue ribbon

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