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FEBRUARY, 2022

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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

• **Wanamingo Veterans Honor Guard** invite you to become a member. Join us and help us make the Wanamingo Veterans Honor Guard an even bigger success. WVHG meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Wanamingo Community Center. The VFW will meet from 7-7:30p.m. The Honor Guard will meet from 7:30-8:30p.m. For more information contact Paul Rugg 507-824-3306, Gary Floan at 507-732-7740, or Larry Van De Walker at 507-421-4674.

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

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 veterans, 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.

(continued on page 13)

Wanamingo City Council

Wanamingo will be participating in the NZSSD. The North Zumbro Sanitary Sewer District project will be locating the cooperative waste water treatment plant project in Zumbrota and the other cooperating cities will be pumping sewage to that site. The project will process the waste water for Goodhue, Pine Island, Wanamingo and Zumbrota. Originally Mazeppa was in the discussion as well but their plant required updating quicker than the cooperative would be online. The project is expected to cost over \$84 million dollars.

The city council also looked at proposed rate increases on water meters from \$290 to \$315, sewer fees \$18 per month to \$20, Garbage fees from \$14.25 to \$15.21 and recycling fees from \$6.30 to \$6.45 per month. A pay scale increase of 10% over five years will keep the community competitive with other towns for hiring new staff.

(continued on page 13)

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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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Ann Traxler
Attorney

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February 13: 9:45a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship;

2:00p.m. Cannon River Conference via Zoom

February 14: 8:30a.m. Quilters meet at Trinity

February 16: 4:30p.m. Confirmation;

6:30p.m. Church Council Meeting

February 20: 9:45a.m. Sunday School;

10:30a.m. Worship with Holy Communion; Installation of

Council Members;

11:30-12:30 Community Meal at Community Center

February 21: 8:30a.m. Quilters meet at Trinity

February 23: 4:30p.m. Confirmation

February 27 Transfiguration of Our Lord

9:45a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship

February 28: 8:30a.m. Quilters meet at Trinity



Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to the
Wanamingo Messenger at:
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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

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 Bjugan, 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 (Hjortaas) 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 Addison 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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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) Gadiant; 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

- WANAMINGO 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:** Korbyn 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 Nesseth, K-W High School senior, has been chosen as the girl Triple 'A' Award Winner for Region 1A!



Rachel Nesseth, 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 1AA 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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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 impor-



Alex Vold



Rachel Nesseth

tant 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 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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Hubbell House to Re-open with New Owners

After 75 years of ownership by the Pappas family, the Hubbell House in Mantorville has been sold to Powers Ventures of Rochester. They are a family owned restaurant and catering business with over 159 employees. They started the Canadian Honker in 1984, The Rochester International Event Center in 2006 and Pinnacle Catering in 2013. Thee Hubbell House will be closed until April for an extensive kitchen remodel project.

The Hubbell House was built by John Hubbell in 1854, first as a 16' x 24' log cabin and then in 1856 the current three story structure, one the first of its kind in Minnesota, was built out of Limestone block out of the local quarry. The building was to become a famous stagecoach stop, saloon and café in the mid-19th century history of Dodge County. The Hubbell House had fallen onto hard times by 1930 and Walt Stussy purchased the building for housing quarry workers during the Great

Depression. Paul Pappas married Walt Stussy's daughter, Irene in 1942 and they opened the Hubbell House as a restaurant on June 29, 1946. On the first day of business they served twenty-four customers with only three employees.

By 1959 on Mother's Day they served 1,500 customers with fifty employees. Don Pappas took over the reins of the Hubbell House from his father Paul, and Don's daughter Alaina became general manager in 2015.

The Hubbell House has been a favorite with many residents of Dodge County over the last seventy-five years as well as many state and national figures, including United States presidents, athletes and actors. Most of us who have dined there have read the names of past and present famous people on the placemat while waiting for our meal. Another interesting artifact at the Hubbell is the large painting on the wall just in front of the Senator Ramsey Room. It was painted by Albert Lea artist Sue Geiken and it features 99 famous Minnesotans from the mid 1800's to the late 1970's. Many times I have tested my high school history knowledge to identify those faces.

The new owners have expressed commitment to continuing the high level of quality that the Hubbell House has been known for. Keep an eye out for the grand re-opening of the Hubbell House this spring.



Hubbell House 1857

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Community Child Care Solutions



Tim Penny
So. MN Initiative Foundation

It is no secret that our child care system is strained. Even before the pandemic, rural Minnesota was struggling with a child care shortage. For parents, this has made it challenging to enter or stay in the workforce. For communities, the challenge is attracting and retaining residents if they do not have enough care available in town. Fortunately, at Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) we have seen some real progress through our work addressing this challenge.

One of the ways we have helped develop solutions to the child care shortage is by offering complimentary consulting services. Jeff Andrews, SMIF's early childhood business consultant, provides direct support to family providers, owners/operators of child care centers and communities.

SMIF is currently working with multiple communities as they approach ways to support child care locally. One thing that is clear is that there is not a one-size-fits-all answer, which is why SMIF helps communities develop solutions that are unique to them. One example of this is Jeff's work in Northfield. Under his guidance, Three Rivers Community Action and Healthy Community Initiative created a plan to open a new family child care owner initiative at the Northfield Community Resource Center. Using this partnership model, they will be able to provide classroom space and business support to individuals who are looking to start a new career or relocate their current family child care business.

When a major business closed a few years ago in Waseca, community partners came together to reimagine how to use the large, vacant building that was left behind. SMIF has worked alongside partners from the City, Chamber, EDA, County and School District to create a plan for this building which will include a traditional child care center as well as spaces for family care. Additionally, with Jeff's guidance, the partners will also be focused on supporting existing providers in town through trainings and other initiatives.

Supporting existing providers is another critical tool in addressing the child care shortage. Providers are often stretched thin in a very demanding job which can lead to burnout and, ultimately, leaving the industry. Additionally, the needs of families are changing and evolving due to how the pandemic



has impacted people's work lives and personal lives. Providers are finding themselves at a crossroads and realizing that the way they have always done things isn't working any more. Because of this, SMIF offers consultation services that help providers create a more sustainable business model that also aligns with their own personal goals.

One of the most recent success stories in this space is a partnership between SMIF and Families First of Minnesota that has been a joint effort to get more providers into Parent Aware, Minnesota's quality rating program. All 17 participating providers, from across SMIF's 20-county region, have had an opportunity to work directly with Jeff to discuss changing their business models to adapt to the current climate and reimagine their future, all the while providing the same quality care for families and kids.

Finally, the owners and operators of child care centers are a third area where SMIF's consulting services are available. Jeff's approach with centers, whether new or existing, is more in-depth and complex to help owners understand the nuances of the child care center business. Recently, through Jeff's support, a new preschool opened in Caledonia and a new child care center opened in Lake Crystal. The preschool at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro has also been expanded. Additionally, a new child care center, Leo Augusta Children's Academy, will be opening soon in Blooming Prairie.

The availability of quality child care undoubtedly plays a critical role in our communities. In 2022 I encourage community partners, providers and center owner/operators to reach out to SMIF for our complimentary consultation services. We are ready to help you reimagine your future.

The best way to start is by filling out a form on our website at smifoundation.org/early-childhood or by contacting Jeff at 507-214-7056 or jeffa@smifoundation.org.

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

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How to Write a Loved Ones Obituary

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you provide any tips on how to write an obituary? My dad, who has terminal cancer, has asked me to write his obituary, which will be published in the funeral program and run in our local newspaper.

-- Not a Writer

Dear Not a Writer,

I'm very sorry to hear about your dad's prognosis. Writing your dad's obituary would be a nice way for you to honor him and sum up his life, not to mention avoiding any possible mistakes that sometimes occur when obituaries are hurriedly written at the time of death. Here's what you should know, along with some tips and tools to help you write it.

Contact the Newspaper

Before you start writing your dad's obituary, your first step is to check with the newspaper you want it to run in. Some newspapers have specific style guidelines or restrictions on length, some only accept obituaries directly from funeral homes, and some only publish obituaries written by newspaper staff members.

If your newspaper accepts family-written obits, find out if they have a template to guide you, or check with your dad's chosen funeral provider. Most funeral homes provide forms for basic information and will write the full obituary for you as part of the services they provide.

You also need to be aware that most newspapers charge by the word, line or column inch to publish an obituary, so your cost will vary depending on your newspaper's rate and the length of your obit - most range between 200 and 600 words.

Also note that many newspapers offer free public service death listings too, which only include the name of the person who died along with the date and location of death and brief details about the funeral or memorial service.

Obituary Contents

Depending on how detailed you want to be, the most basic information in an obituary usually would include your dad's full name (and nickname if relevant), age, date of birth, date of death, where he was living when he died, significant other (alive or dead), and details of the funeral service (public or private). If public, include the date, time, and location of service.

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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 cur-

riculum – “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 proposed 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

CITY OF WANAMINGO
City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2022 7:00 P.M.
Wanamingo City Council Chambers – 401 Main Street
Wanamingo, MN

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Holmes.

PRESENT: Council: Ryan Holmes, Larry VanDeWalker, Eric Dierks, Stuart Ohr, and Jeremiah Flotterud

City Administrator: Michael Boulton

Deputy Clerk: Karen Masters

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kennedy, Benjamin Dierks, and Todd Greseth – Goodhue County Commissioner.

ADOPT AGENDA: Ohr motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by VanDeWalker. Passed 5-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA: Dierks motioned, seconded by VanDeWalker. Passed 5-0-0.

PRESENTERS:

A) Brad Kennedy reported on:

- 1) Started trimming brush and trees along the Nature Trail
- 2) Picked up branches from December 15th wind storm. Livery Barn has roof damage that will be repaired later by Jason Bauer.
- 3) Trimmed tree along trail easement between MN TH 60 and 1st Avenue
- 4) Changed out 19 water meters this month
- 5) LED light fixtures were installed at shop behind City Hall
- 6) Worked on Livery Barn clean up and organizing
- 7) Plowed snow twice and sanded streets on a number of occasions
- 8) Hockey Rink - have been building ice for the past two. The ice is skateable but will need additional layers
- 9) Made repairs to backup mobile generator that is meant for use at the fire hall

VanDeWalker asked Kennedy how the new roll of maintenance supervisor is going. Kennedy stated that the transition has worked well since the Council approved his hiring in the fall. Boulton stated that Kennedy officially began his new position on January 1st.

B) Todd Greseth – Goodhue County Commissioner reported on:

Here to listen to the Council's concerns and to provide some County Board of Commissioners updates

County Board approved a final 2022 budget with a 5.9% levy increase (1.7% increase to existing properties as rest was covered by new growth). The board needed to make up the loss of \$2 million due to a court ordered valuation decrease on Xcel Energy of \$71 million.

ARPA classifications of how funds are spent continue to change. Still would like to find a way to purchase new EMS radios that are nearing 20 years old and are no longer serviceable.

Lake Byllesby improvements update – The County portion of the project increased to \$835,000 while a grant is covering \$1.35 million for improvements of a bathhouse and bathrooms.

Holmes thanked Greseth and the County for their support of the North Zumbro Sanitary Sewer District (Cities of Goodhue, Pine Island, Wanamingo, and Zumbrota) bonding bill project.

David Jacobsen, City Attorney provided a written email explaining that he had completed draft large industrial waste water users changes to the Wanamingo Code of Ordinance and had drafted a sample permit, sample rate schedule, and a sample fine schedule.

The committee of David Jacobsen, Rick Turri, Brad Kennedy, and Michael Boulton will review the drafts, and make necessary changes. Once reviewed that drafts will be brought to the City Council for review at the February City Council meeting and then consideration of approval at the March City Council meeting.

(continued on page 13)

Wanamingo City Council

(continued from page 12)

NEW BUSINESS: RESOLUTION:

22-001 = Approving 2022 Appointments & Legals: Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Passed 5-0-0.

22-002 = Setting 2022 City Council Meeting Schedule: VanDeWalker moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Passed 5-0-0.

22-003 = Authorizing Temporary Liquor License for the Fire Relief Association snowmobile run: Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Passed 5-0-0.

22-004 = Approving 2022 Updated Wanamingo Emergency Management Plan: VanDeWalker moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Boulton stated that he and Gregg Erickson, the Wanamingo Civil Defense Director, had reviewed and made the necessary changes. The changes were mainly in the contacts and contact information. Passed 5-0-0.

22-005 = Authorizing a Temporary Gambling Permit for the Wanamingo Fire Relief Association: Dierks moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Passed 5-0-0.

22-006 = Approving Financial Authorization: Flotterud moved to approve, seconded by Dierks. Ryan Holmes, Larry VanDeWalker, and Michael Boulton continue to be designated check signers. Karen Masters is authorized to do banking transactions for account ending in 9301. Michael Boulton is authorized to do banking transactions for ac-

counts ending in 9301 and 9314. Passed 5-0-0.

22-007 = Approving the Pay Equity Implementation Report for the City of Wanamingo: VanDeWalker moved to approve, seconded by Ohr. Boulton stated that the updates from 2019 report include the addition of the Maintenance Supervisor position along with the increased five year pay scale by 10%. VanDeWalker stated that the Personnel Committee is concerned that it would be difficult to hire new staff at the current pay scale and that an adjustment was needed. Passed 5-0-0.

22-008 = Approving Communications System Agreement with Goodhue County Sheriff's Office: Dierks moved to approve, seconded by Flotterud. Passed 5-0-0.

22-009 = Authorizing a Temporary Gambling Permit for the Cannon Falls Youth Sporting Club, Inc.: Flotterud moved to approve, seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

22-010 = Accepting a Wanamingo Fire Relief Association Charitable Gambling Donation and Designating the Funds to the 333 Equipment Fund – Fire Department Tanker Portion of the 2022 Bond Payment: VanDeWalker moved to approve, seconded by Flotterud. Boulton stated that the \$28,655 would be placed in the 333 Equipment fund with the intention to utilize as the 2022 bond payment.

The fund balance will increase for the purpose of stopping the levying/billing to townships early or aid in the purchasing of the next fire truck. Passed 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Public Hearing - Mayor Holmes opened Ordinance #196 - 2022 Fee Schedule Hearing at 7:30PM. Administrator Boulton went over the anticipated changes from 2021 Fee Schedule for the proposed 2022 fee schedule including increasing the water meter cost from \$290 to \$315, increasing the cigarette license fee from \$40.00 to \$50.00, increasing

the sewer debt service/base fee from \$18.00/month to \$20.00/month, increasing the monthly garbage fee from \$14.25/month to \$15.21/month, and increasing the monthly recycling fee from \$6.30/month to \$6.45/month. The increase to the cigarette license fee will help to cover actual costs. The increase to the water meter fee helps to cover increases to the actual costs of the water meters and readers. Boulton stated that the proposed monthly sewer base rate/debt service fee increase of \$2.00/month to each hook-up would bring in roughly \$12,000 in new revenue in 2022. The garbage and recycling monthly increase reflect the yearly contract increases with Waste Management. Throughout the year, including the budgeting process the Council has discussed and has recommended the above changes. The City Auditors recommend that the Council review sewer/water rates and make small adjustments regularly to capture revenue as opposed to large jumps. The waste water treatment plant will need upgrades in the near future which could cost millions of dollars. The plan is to replace the Mingo View and downtown water towers, a new chemical building, and additional water main looping in 2022 which will cost over \$2.5 million. The City needs to continue building a larger fund balance in waste water fund before upgrades become reality. Administrator Boulton said estimates are between \$7 million to \$10 million for plant upgrades with \$200,000 to \$300,000 yearly debt service costs. In past years the City has increased its cash reserve \$50,000-\$70,000 per year. The fund has a current estimate balance of \$500,000. Administrator Boulton stated that the Council should review and make small yearly increases over the next few years to build up the fund balance. No Public Comments Offered. Mayor Holmes closed the public hearing at 7:35PM.

Ordinance #196 - 2022 Fee Schedule - 2nd Reading - Dierks moved to approve, seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

Administrator Boulton presented the 2021 Wanamingo Outstanding Indebtedness Report. The Wanamingo EDA paid \$25,000 in principal in 2021 and owes \$351,000 at the

beginning of 2022. The City paid \$1,291,000 in principal and added \$2,153,000 in principal in 2021 and owes \$4,970,000 at the beginning of 2022. The City refunded three bonds and advanced refunded two bonds in 2021. The two advanced refunding bonds carry over \$1,510,000 which will be paid back 2/1/2022. Without the advance refunding balance on the books the total debt owed by the City/EDA would be \$3,811,000. Administrator Boulton stated that this would be the lowest amount of debt on hand for many years as the plan to add roughly \$2,440,000 in 2022 for the Utility Improvements Project. The report has been submitted to Goodhue County According to the MN State Statutes.

North Zumbro Sanitary Sewer District Update: Mayor Holmes and Administrator Boulton attended a meeting with all the mayors along with the district work group subcommittee. The group discussed the 2022 Minnesota State Legislative Session strategy for the bonding bill and other funding sources for the proposed project. The mayors will be taking an active roll in lobbying for the project. The committee has discussed the potential of hiring a lobbyist to aid in the process of when the group needs to reach out and lobby for the project. It was discussed to hire the Olmstead County lobbyist, Jennifer Berquam. Berquam served on the Wanamingo City Council from 2012-2015. Boulton stated that district subcommittee would bring cost estimates to the Council for approval before any hiring action takes place.

Boulton stated that the annual City Council/Staff Appreciation Dinner would be held on Saturday January 29th. The event will be held at Area 57 Café with social starting at 6:00PM and dinner at 7:00PM. Boulton stated that formal invites would be sent out later in the week.

*Next City Council meeting on 2/14/2022 at 7:00pm.

Adjourn: At 7:43PM a motion to adjourn was made by VanDeWalker and seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

Signed:

Attest:

Ryan Holmes, Mayor

Michael Boulton, City Administrator

Wanamingo City Council

(continued from page 1)

The Fire Department Relief Association charitable gambling donated \$28,655 to the city for retiring fire department debt on equipment purchases four years ago.



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Steve Drazkowski to Seek State Senate Seat Vacated by Mike Goggin

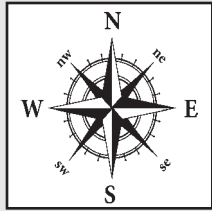
(continued from page 1)

"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." 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 government." 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.

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 navi-

gational 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.

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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 heaven
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 Her-
ringway
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

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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- Twelve (12) debit card transactions posted and settled
- Enrollment in and agreement to receive E-Statements are qualifications of this account.

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