



Dodge Center Messenger™

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MARCH, 2022

Volume 3 • Issue 12

Local Event Center Has The Same Charm with New Owners

By Kenya Narveson



Aaron and Rachel, are a husband-and-wife team who are now the proud owners of Divanix Event Center and Photography (formerly known as Coops Event Barn) here in Dodge Center. Along with the event center and photography services, they offer graphic design services and a photo booth. Their plan and desire is to provide their customers with the best venue and pictures for any celebration.

They recently purchased the event center and are making some minor adjustments. Aaron explained, "The former owners, Keith and Linda did a beautiful job with the property and that's why we fell in love with it. It's an awesome property for photography."

He mentioned that he and his wife have visited several event centers over the last 10 years and noticed that while some venues are beautiful they lack places to take pictures or have a pole in the way of a photo opportunity. So the minor adjustments that are being made to the event center are only to ensure

the best quality usable photography space. "We truly believe that our background in photography will guide us to provide customers with a unique and stunning location for any event. We want all our customers and their guests to leave our venue with happy memories and positive experiences."

Divanix Event Center is not only for weddings but quinceañeras, reunions, and other special gatherings. The Divanix Photography services include weddings, couples, families, pets, and etc. The graphic design services offer color picture correction, custom designed invitations/announcements, professional touch ups and background changes. The photo booth rental service is available to locals and those further away from our home base for a small travel fee. The photo booth rental comes with the use of

many high quality props. Not just the mustaches on a stick. By renting their photo booth, you are able to reprint any of the photos taken in the photo booth as large as 34" x 23" without losing quality.

Aaron is a Rochester, Minnesota native that has a background in Computer Science. Rachel was born and raised in Guadalajara, Mexico. They were both on vacation in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico when they met and fell in love. Rachel finished college with a Graphic Design degree and moved here to Minnesota to live happily ever after with Aaron. Check out the Divanix Facebook page for the upcoming announcement of their Grand Opening. This is open to the community to come out and enjoy food, music, and fun at the event center! divanix.com



Aaron and Rachel

Announcements

• The United Methodist Church of Dodge Center at 20 First Street NE offers a meal carry out from 5:00-6:00pm the third Wednesday of each month.

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



Curtain Rises on Annie

March 30, 31,
and April 1 and 2

Triton High School's spring musical, Annie, will be performing Thursday, March 31st, Friday, April 1st, and Saturday, April 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

Additionally, the free senior citizen matinee will be on Wednesday, March 30th at 1:00 p.m. All are encouraged to attend!

The production, under the direction of Anne Schreiber, promises to be an enjoyable event.

(continued on page 4)

LIVE MUSIC

The D'Sievers Friday, March 25 at 7:00 PM

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The Vulnerability of Jesus



By Peter Moen

When certain trials in our life take hold of us, how do we respond? Do we turn our face toward the danger and take it head on, or do we wilt and let fear overcome us? Over the last few years of my life I have had to answer these questions head on in ways I would not have otherwise imagined.

All of us here have had to answer the same questions. Do we give up? Do we hide? Do we pretend the situation is going to go away? Or, do we take on the problem head on?

Jesus was faced with these questions when he was warned in Luke 13:31-35—by some Pharisees no less—that Herod wanted him dead and he should stay away from Jerusalem. Jesus' response to imminent doom was to call Herod a fox and set his eyes toward Jerusalem. He was intent on facing the danger.

This courage is fascinating to me. Not only does it require Jesus to be confident in his mission, but he also must make himself vulnerable at the same time. Quite literally, when Jesus turns his face toward Jerusalem and acknowledges he will die there he makes himself vulnerable. Vulnerable to suffering, vulnerable to death.

And that, I think, is important to mark. Because, as a culture, we do not often equate vulnerability with courage and strength. We equate vulnerability with care, love, and concern, perhaps, but not often with courage and strength. At our worst, we see vulnerability as a sign of weakness, something to be avoided at all costs.

We see this with our political leaders all the time. How often do they go out of their way to show any sign of weakness? How often are they willing to take a position that leaves them vulnerable?

Instead, they puff out their chest and will

not admit defeat and will go out of their way to show their dominance, and, if they were to ever to show a sign of weakness, we would be weary to the fact they have ulterior motives for their actions; that they might have something up their sleeve or they are pandering to a certain group of people.

It is quite an opposite message with Jesus. His glory was not going to be found in puffing out his chest and dominating. His glory was going to be in death. God loves us so dearly and yearns to protect us so much he will make himself vulnerable, even to death, for us.

We are just over four weeks away from one of the two most consequential events in all of history. The first event is God coming to live among us as Jesus, the second event is Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. It is Jesus purposefully putting himself in the way of danger, torture, and death.

In the lead up to Easter, may we reflect on Jesus' courage and vulnerability as he places himself in danger for us. May we allow ourselves time to reflect even now on the sacrifice Jesus made for us. And may we too find a courageous vulnerability in the trials and tribulations of our lives.

Obituary

Dorothy Mae Gross



Dorothy Mae Gross, 83, of Kasson, MN, formerly of Dodge Center, MN, died on Sunday, March 13, 2022 at Prairie Meadows Senior Living in Kasson, MN.

Dorothy was born on February 5, 1939, the daughter of Robert and Gertrude (Heimberg) Klossner in Pine Island, MN. She graduated from Kasson High School in 1957. She was united in marriage on January 18, 1958 to Alvin Gross in Kasson, MN.

Dorothy worked as a daycare provider for many years in the Dodge Center and Kasson communities. She also worked as a

nurse aid in Hayfield and helped with physical therapy. Dorothy enjoyed flowers, camping, gardening, dancing and listening to Bluegrass music. She was a member of Praise Fellowship Church in Dodge Center, MN. She will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Dorothy is survived by her children, William Gross of Farmington, MN, Bruce (Jan) Gross of Tarpon Springs, FL, Cindy (Rodney) Severson of Jacksonville, FL, and Cheryl (Nhut) Tran of Rochester, MN; sister, Alice Klossner of Rochester, MN; sister-in-law, Judy Klossner; brothers-in-law, Chuck Koenig, Herman Stahl, and John Foley; 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin; parents, Robert and Gertrude; 4 sisters, Lina Torgenson and her husband Lowell "Butch", Margaret Foley, Amanda Stahl, Rose Koenig and 2 brothers, John and Ernie.

The family wishes to thank Prairie Mead-

ows for the wonderful care of both Alvin and Dorothy and to Moments Hospice for their compassion in Dorothy's final days.

The funeral service will be at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 17, 2022 at Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE in Kasson, with Pastor Roger Langworthy officiating. Visitation will be held 4:00 -7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at the funeral home and one hour prior to the service Thursday. Interment will be in Fairview Cemetery in Hayfield, MN. You are invited to join a live stream of the funeral service on the Czaplewski Facebook page; <https://www.facebook.com/Czaplewski-Family-Funeral-Homes-Crematory-336420016774213/>.

To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE Kasson, MN 55944 (507)634-6510. Blessed be his memory.

Area Church Directory

In Christ, Love Conquers Hate

Scripture Reading — Matthew 5:21-26

"Anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. . . . Anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell." — Matthew 5:22

We have a natural tendency to hate or ignore God and our neighbor. We tell ourselves we are good people. But our selfishness and anger lie just below the surface. Anger often erupts in violent, hateful words and actions. If we don't seem angry, it may just mean that our anger has not yet reached its boiling point or had an opportunity to erupt. In fact, we may be seething with inner anger.

Strictly following the command "You shall not murder" is not enough to overcome hatred. We must address the source of that sin. If we keep our anger from boiling over, we do well. But to gain mastery over anger, we need love. And showing love, especially toward people who have hurt us, does not come naturally. In fact, only the supernatural love of Christ can overcome the hatred we may feel for our enemies.

When the Romans and the Jews hatefully killed Jesus Christ, he could have called on God's army of angels to stop and destroy them (see Matthew 26:52-53). But instead he responded in love, asking the Father to forgive them. When Jesus gave himself for us on the cross, he certainly obeyed the law—do not kill. But he did far more: he fulfilled the greatest law of love.

Prayer

O God, help us not to add to the anger in our world today. Help us not only to control our anger but also to overcome it with your love. And thank you for showing us the way of love, through Jesus. Amen.

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hometownmessenger@gmail.com

FAX 507-645-9878

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For advertising information,
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- Faith Lutheran Church**
308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center
Intern Pastor Kira Anderson • 507-374-2174
Traditional Worship 8a.m.; Fellowship 9a.m.
Christian Education 9:15a.m.
Contemporary Worship 10a.m.
- Grace Lutheran Church**
404 Central Avenue N, Dodge Center
Rev. Elliot Malm • 507-633-2253
Worship 9a.m.; Sunday School 10:30a.m.
- Praise Fellowship Church**
602 Central Avenue S, Dodge Center
Roger Langworthy • 507-374-6400
Kid: Church 9:15a.m.; Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.
- Dodge Center Methodist Church**
201 1st St. SE, Dodge Center
Rev. Chad Christensen • 507-374-6885
Worship 8a.m.
- St. John Baptist De La Salle**
20 2nd St. NE, Dodge Center • 507-374-6830
Mass Saturday 5p.m.
- Living Water Assembly Church**
104 1st St. NW, Dodge Center
Roy Andrews • 507-374-6561
Sunday 10a.m.
- Dodge Center SDA Church**
410 3rd Ave. SW, Dodge Center • 507-374-6895
Sabbath School 9:15a.m.; Saturday Worship 11a.m.
- Anchor of Hope Church,
a 7th Day Baptist Congregation**
203 E. Main St., Dodge Center
507-374-6755
Saturday 10a.m. Worship; 11:45a.m. Sabbath School
- Bible Lutheran Church**
(American Assoc. of Lutheran Churches)
11 1st Ave. N.E., Dodge Center
www.biblelc.org • 612-803-1212
Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.
(weekly sermons available on YouTube and on website)

Marion Ann Johnson

Marion Ann Johnson, 76, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Saturday, February 12, 2022, in Harlingen, TX near their winter home in Rio Hondo, TX.

Marion was born on June 19, 1945, in Steele County, MN, west of Blooming Prairie, to Henry and Marion (Awes)

Haberman. She attended school in Ellendale, MN, graduating from there in 1963. After graduation she moved to Owatonna, MN.

Marion met Harold Johnson and they married on July 16, 1966, celebrating 55 years together. After marrying they made their home in Houston, MN. They welcomed their first child, Vicki in March of 1967. They lived there for two years, then moved to Stewartville, MN. They made their forever home in Dodge Center, MN in Harold's family home. They welcomed their second child, Sueann in February of 1971.

Marion was a stay-at-home mother, then was a daycare mother to many children. When Harold took over his own printing business, which became Dodge County Printing, Marion became his business partner in this adventure. They welcomed their third child, Amanda in September of 1982. In 2017, Amanda honored them with their granddaughter, Brooke.

Marion and Harold enjoyed many traveling adventures including all of the continental United States. When Harold retired and Marion semi-retired, they were able to spend 24 years wintering in Rio Hondo, TX. They enjoyed the warm weather, friends, Mexico, and the beaches of South Padre Island. Marion also enjoyed knitting, embroidery, jigsaw puzzles, word find, and crossword puzzles, reading and baking especially with Brooke. Taking care of Brooke was their favorite thing to do and she was their joy.

Marion was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and board member. She was a past member of the Kasson Chamber of Commerce, where Harold and Marion were named "Business People of the Year".

Marion is survived by her husband, Harold; daughters, Vicki, Sueann, and Amanda (Adam Hanenberger); granddaughter, Brooke; sister, Jenelle Gallus; and sister-in-law, Charlotte Haberman; Harold's brother, Lloyd and many nieces and nephews; along with many that called her mom and grandma.

She was preceded in death by her parents; stepmother, Zenobia Haberman; brothers, Gerald and Donald; brother-in-law, Leonard Gallus; Harold's parents, Sever and Frances; Harold's brother and his wife, Richard and Donna Johnson.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m.



Saturday, February 26, 2022, at Faith Lutheran Church, 308 2nd Street NW in Dodge Center. Pastor Mike Zaske officiated. Visitation was from 12:00 p.m. until the time of the service Saturday. Inurnment will be held at a later date in Riverside cemetery in Dodge Center, MN.

To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 25 South Street SW P.O. Box 502, Dodge Center, MN 55927 (507) 374-2155. Blessed be her memory.

LaMae Pearl Rislov

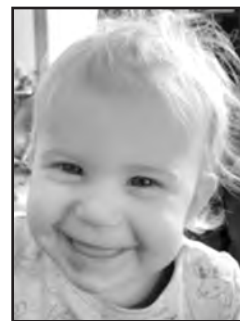
For 473 days, we had our beautiful baby girl LaMae Pearl Rislov. LaMae came into this world two weeks early on November 7, 2020, and as fast as she came in, she was called home to be with the Lord on February 23, 2022. On January 3rd 2021, LaMae got the honor of

wearing her Great Grandma LaMae's baptismal gown, becoming a member of the family of God.

We are proud of our miracle 10.5 pound NICU baby that was constantly on the go keeping up with her big sister Emma. Emma loves her baby sister with all her heart, she would constantly say they were twins, by repeating each other and dressing the same. You could often find Emma and LaMae playing babies together, and Emma teaching LaMae about her favorite subject, dinosaurs.

You always knew where LaMae was as she would announce her presence on the karaoke machine that her sister so graciously taught her how to use. She had an infectious smile with a shit eating grin, a cute little dimple and a glow that would light up the whole world. The only thing that was bigger than her smile was her appetite. One time we went to town and bought five containers of raspberries and we only made it home with one container left to eat. The only thing that could upset LaMae was when you didn't feed her fast enough, as she had her father's appetites with a never-ending stomach.

When she was learning to walk, she would get so excited after taking two steps that she would giggle, fall down, attempt to get back up, make it part way back up, fall down, and attempt it two more times before taking off crawling because to her that was always the faster way. (You can tell by her rug burned knees). On occasion she could even be found crawling around at Papa James' house cleaning the floor. Although LaMae didn't walk much on her own, all of that time being held and carried will always be cherished as extra



time to hold and love her.

When her favorite person was in the room, she would spot him, head straight for him and "nothing else matters". You always knew where she would be for the rest of the time. Although LaMae was a Daddies girl, the only person that she would cuddle up with was her Mommy who she shared her loving stubborn heart with.

LaMae got to spend four amazing months being loved on by her Grandma until her daycare mommy, Lisa was able to take over. She was surrounded by her loved ones during her final moments where the brave first responders did everything in their power to save her until the end where she went to walk with Jesus;

LaMae leaves behind to cherish her memory; her loving Mommy, Daddy and Sister, Allison, Jacob and Emma Rislov; Grandparents, Grant and Barb Erler, and James Rislov; Julie Rislov; Aunts, Uncles and Cousins, Vanessa and Nick Haltvick (Harrison, Stella, Calvin, Walter), Grant and Sarah Erler (Preston, Laryssa, Reid), Michael Rislov, Cory and Becky Rislov (Harper, Mason), Joseph Rislov (Brooklyn); Great Grandmas, Kaye, and Judith; and many, many loving Great Aunts and Uncles;

LaMae is welcomed into Heaven by her Great Grandparents Harold and LaMae Erler, Bob and Dorothy Fitzgerald, Don and Pearl Rislov, and Richard McGinley

LaMae will be deeply missed, but always remembered and will live on in all of our hearts;

Funeral service for LaMae was at 11:00 am on Monday, February 28, 2022, at Faith Lutheran Church in Dodge Center, MN, with a time for visitation one hour before. Visitation for LaMae was held from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at Faith Lutheran Church in Dodge Center, MN. Interment took place at Concord Cemetery in West Concord, MN.

Susan "Sue" Marie Virnig

Susan "Sue" Marie Virnig, 60, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Saturday, February 26, 2022, at Mayo Clinic Hospital in Rochester, MN.

Sue was born on May 27, 1961, in Lanesboro, MN to Gerald John and Ruth Louise (Colgan) Virnig. She

grew up in Dodge Center and attended school there, until she met Jim Plank in 1981. Sue and Jim had three children. She had many hobbies including playing cards, fishing, camping, playing bingo, and bonfires surrounded by family and friends. Sue had a contagious laugh and loved many.

Sue is survived by her lifelong partner, James (Jim) Plank of Dodge Center, MN; daughters, Jennifer Plank of West Concord, MN, Carri (Michael) Peters of Dodge Center, MN, and Rose (Rudy) Bailey of Kasson, MN; sisters, Marianne (Dan) Champagne of Bemidji, MN, Sandy (Wayne) Sanford of Dodge Center, MN; four grandchildren, Kendall, Raydenn, Raelynn, and Rena; and many nieces and nephews.



She was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers, Bill, Bob, and Pete.

A celebration of life was held from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Friday, March 4, 2022, at the Dodge Center Community Center located in the City Hall building, 35 E Main St Dodge Center, MN 55927.

To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 25 South Street SW P.O. Box 502, Dodge Center, MN 55927 (507) 374-2155. Blessed be her memory.

Donald A. Hope

Donald A. Hope, age 91, of Nerstrand died on Monday, February 28, 2022, at the Regina Hospital in Hastings.

Donald Albert Hope, the son of Carl and Milla (Quale) Hope, was born on August 9, 1930, in Faribault. He grew up on a farm near Nerstrand. During

WWII his four oldest brothers served in the US Military, while he and his other two brothers stayed back and ran the family farm. Donald did various jobs, setting bowling pins, working at Andrew's Nursery, fire watch up north and working at McQuay's. He returned to farming and also working construction. He was a proud member of the Carpenters Local #7. He worked on several overpasses for the construction of I-35 and I-494. He also helped construct buildings at St. Olaf and Carlton Colleges, Owatonna High School, District 1 Hospital in Faribault, and the Owatonna Power Plant. He was an active member of Valley Grove Church, serving in several different leadership rolls. On December 28, 1954, he married Kathleen O'Hara in Faribault. Donald enjoyed walks in the woods, photography and fishing. He was a talented wood worker. He built several pieces of furniture; many pieces for his family. He also enjoyed bird watching, turkey hunting, canning jellies and sauces, and baking his own bread. Donald was a voracious reader and had a library of vary wide subject matter. Almost all of his reading was for information. He would spend hours studying maps including lake maps with their depths.

He is survived by his daughters, Nadine (Randy) Langworthy of Dodge Center, Elizabeth Hope (special friend Brad Neset) of Nerstrand and Kari Hope of Ely; grandchildren Karma (Chad) Baumgartner, Belden Hope, Patrick (Erin) Moravitz, Samuel (Claire) Moravitz and great grandchildren Trevor Thomas, Derik, Jenna and Braden Baumgartner, Milla, Evie Hope, Ella Perish, and Leland Moravitz. He is preceded in death by his parents, son David Hope, sister Carol Gunhus and brothers, Harding, Glenn, Russell, Philip, James and Allan.

Visitation was held from 4:00pm until 7:00pm on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at Michaelson Funeral Home in Kenyon and an hour prior to the service at the church. Funeral services will be held at 11:00am, on Friday, March 4, 2022, at the Valley Grove Church northwest of Nerstrand.



WE'RE ONLINE!

Keep Up With Your Hometown News at www.dodgecentermn.com

Dodge Center Messenger

Curtain Rises on Annie

March 30, 31, and April 1 and 2

(continued from page 1)

Also involved are Aimee Hampton as music director and pianist, John Schreiber as technical director, and Sadie Short as choreographer.

Ticket prices are \$4 for students and \$6 for adults, and they may be purchased in advance at the high school office. Audience members are encouraged to get advance tickets because it's sure to be a family crowd-pleaser, and the school would like to ensure enough room for everyone.

The musical Annie has a long tradition on Broadway and in movies, and it's no stranger to the Triton stage. Schreiber herself performed in it when she was a sophomore at Triton. "I chose Annie for several reasons," she says, "but one of the main ones is that I feel the message is very encouraging. Annie is an orphan, but no matter her circumstance or the bad news she receives, she is continually grateful and optimistic. The beating heart of this show is her optimism, and I believe that's why this show is so beloved."

The story's plot is simple: Annie, a poor orphan living under the tyrannical presence of Miss Hannigan, dreams of a better life, and that opportunity is given through Mr. Warbucks, a billionaire who soon realizes love is missing in his life. The only problem is Miss

Triton High School
Theater Dept. Presents...

Annie

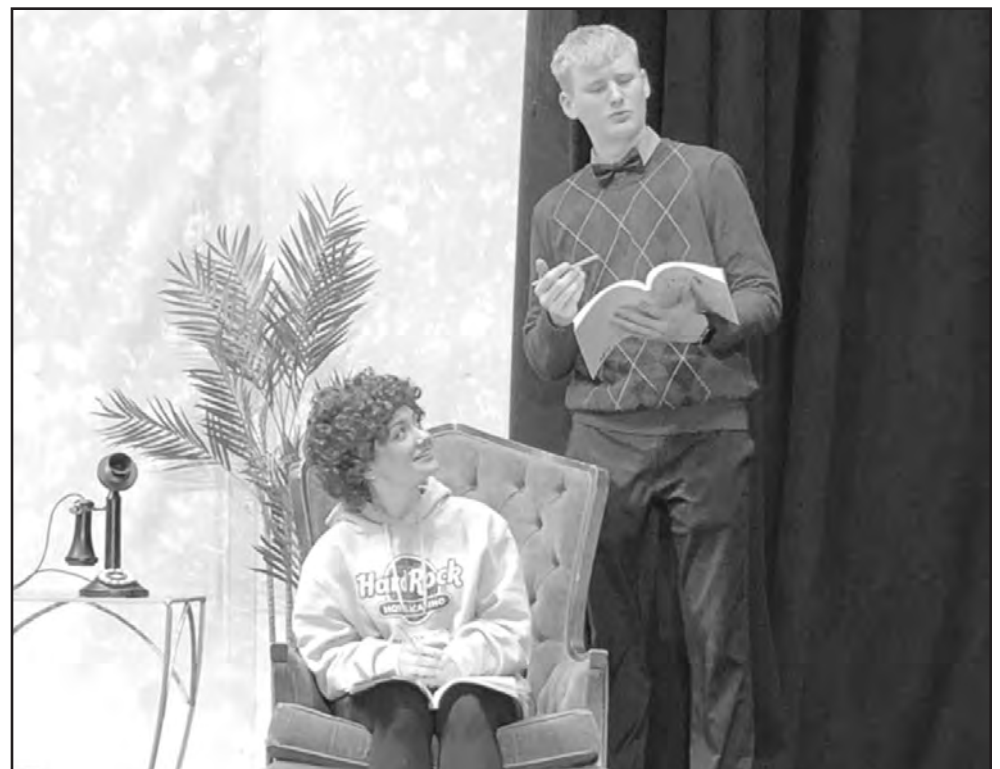
Advance tickets available at the high school office!

March 31, April 1, & April 2 @ 7:00 p.m.

\$4 - students, \$6 - adults
Free senior citizen matinee: March 30th at 1:00 p.m.

Hannigan's brother Rooster, who schemes for a better life, using Annie to try to make that come true. The musical features many well-known songs such as "It's a Hard-Knock Life," "Easy Street," "I Don't Need Anything but You," and of course, "Tomorrow."

The talented cast and crew are busy putting the final touches on the show, finalizing songs, lines, choreography, and getting ready for the first performance on March 30th. Junior Jude Gosse, who plays Mr. Warbucks, states, "My favorite part of the musical so far has been singing, practicing, and overall improving my skills as an actor and musician." Senior August Kozisek, playing Rooster Hannigan, adds to that: "I love that I get to become a character with a vastly different personality from my own. I also enjoy doing



Obituary

Nancy Irene Kuball

Nancy Irene Kuball, 78, of Dodge Center, MN passed away peacefully on March 10, 2022 at Season's Hospice House, Rochester following a courageous battle against pancreatic cancer. Nancy was born June 24, 1943 in Morristown, MN to Ernest and Mildred (Michael) Anderson.



Nancy grew up in Morristown and was graduated from Morristown High School. After high school, she attended Ancker Hospital School of Nursing in St. Paul, MN. She graduated as a registered nurse in July of 1964. On November 28, 1964, she married her high school classmate & college sweetheart, Milton Kuball. In 1973, Milt and Nancy moved to Dodge Center, MN where together they raised four children.



Nancy worked as a registered nurse for 41 years. She worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN for 37 years before retiring in 2005. Nancy was a proud member of the Fairview Nursing Home Ladies Auxiliary in Dodge Center, MN.

Nancy really enjoyed reading, traveling, fishing and spending time at their cabin on the lake. Nancy and Milton spent as much time as they could at their cabin. There they enjoyed relaxing and just being together. They also enjoyed fishing, sunsets, campfires and spending time with their friends. The thing Nancy treasured the most was spending time with her family. She was very proud of her children and grandchildren. She made sure they all knew they were loved.

Nancy is survived by her husband Milton of Dodge Center; sister Audrey (Howard) Ridgeway of Eagan; children Terri (Mitch) Hallaway of Claremont, Greg (Darloe) Kuball of Kasson, Jeff (Jo) Kuball of Rochester and Troy (Julie) Kuball of Pine Island as well as seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life for Nancy will be held at a later date.

All memorial gifts will be donated to charities that are special to the family.

Dibble Funeral Home & Cremation Services – Kasson is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be shared at www.dibblefuneralhome.com.

the fun accents with this character."

All involved, from the directors to the cast and crew, hope people come to see the show. Senior Kai Zill, playing Grace Farrell, says, "People should come to the musical because it's going to be super exciting!" Junior Mad-

die Jarrett, playing Annie herself, concurs: "Everyone has put in so much hard work and it's fun to perform. I hope that the people who are coming to see it enjoy it as much as I do!"

Contact the high school office at (507) 418-7520 for more information.

Superintendent Schlichting Honored for Earning AASA National Superintendent Certification®

Dodge Center, MN – Craig Schlichting Superintendent at Triton Public Schools, was among the nearly 30 Minnesota superintendents recognized on March 10th for successfully completing the AASA National Superintendent Certification Program®.

The program, administered by AASA, The School Superintendents Association, is a collaborative effort with AASA state affiliates, the National School Boards Association, and business and corporate leaders. The master teachers and guest instructors have all been sitting superintendents and have proven track records of success.

“AASA’s National Superintendent Certification Program® is one of the best professional development experiences I’ve ever had as an educator,” said Schlichting “Given the uncertainty of today’s unprecedented times, I felt the program was so invaluable because it provided me with ample opportunities to

work with like-minded peers from across the state who challenged each other to improve. As the nation works to strengthen our public schools, I would highly encourage superintendents from across my state of Minnesota and the country to enroll in this outstanding program.”

“In the COVID world we live in, excellence in public school system leadership has never been more vital to our children’s well-being,” said Steve Sallee, executive director, Southeast Service Cooperative, in Rochester, Minn. “The AASA National Superintendent Certification Program® provides superintendents with opportunities to engage in a world-class professional learning opportunity. I am pleased to congratulate Superintendent Schlichting for completing the program, an initiative that provides on-the-ground coaching, mentoring and support from individuals who are experiencing the same challenges and successes that superintendents from across the country are experiencing.”

The AASA National Superintendent Certification Program® sharpens the skills that successful superintendents identify as essential for leading in today’s complex and challenging education environment. The program was developed by superintendents, exclusively for superintendents, and is led by seasoned and successful superintendents.

For more information, contact Mort Sherman, AASA associate executive director, Leadership Network, at msherman@aasa.org

or Amy Sichel, lead superintendent, at amy.sichel@aasa.org.

About AASA

AASA, The School Superintendents Association, founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders in the United States and throughout the world. AASA’s mission is to support and develop effective school system leaders who are dedicated to equitable access for all students to the highest quality public education. For more information, visit www.aasa.org.



Craig Schlichting, Superintendent

Triton FFA Steak Feed

The Triton FFA held their annual Steak Feed in West Concord at the Faith Community Church building on Saturday March 5th. They served a total of 544 meals.



TRITON CLASS OF 2022



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Isabella Selthun is a senior at Triton High School.

Her parents are Alisha and Greg Selthun and she has one brother.

Isabella is active in Student Council, MHS, Link Crew and is class president.

She also participates in Triton athletics in basketball, cross country, track and field and trap shooting.

Outside of school she is a life guard and teaches Sunday School.

Her hobbies include cooking, baking and watching cooking shows.

Her favorite music is country and Christian pop. Her favorite artist is For King and Country

After graduation she plans to go to Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA for electrical engineering and a minor in business management



ISABELLA SELTHUN

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Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

When I first began classes in educational leadership, I remember a class in which we were given an assignment to define who we were and who we were going to be as an administrator. It was a unique opportunity that helped me to reflect on what I valued and what I believed. I learned that my core reason for being in education was to help students. I came to the realization that I really wanted to be in education because of the teachers that had a positive impact on my life. My teachers helped guide me through difficult life experiences. This assignment helped me become very aware of how important and special those educators were to me. I can honestly say that without their help, I would not have considered the option of going to college. Living through this pandemic has created additional stresses to our lives. I have found that I have needed to reflect on that assignment and focus on why I am in the field of education in the first place. I have reflected on the advice that I have given to students over the years and learned that I needed to listen to my own advice.

After I obtained my license from all those "principal" classes, I often found quotes or sayings that helped in my quest to help students. I posted those things in my office so I could refer to them when I met with students. The first of those was a quote from Publilius Syrus. "Many receive advice, but only the wise profit from it." In the role of a principal, you often find yourself giving advice, but you are often giving it to individuals that are not in the mood to hear it. They were often upset

and emotional and may have even wanted to argue about the righteousness of their perspective. I would listen to their perspective, and then offer advice. I would tell students that it was advice that they were free to use as they saw fit. If they ignored it, and repeated the behavior, then I usually found another opportunity to share it with them more than once. This process provided me an opportunity to listen to students and often learn that their behavior was simply an act of frustration. It was due to circumstances creating stress in their life that manifested itself in the form of poor behaviors in school. Finding the root of that stress and helping a student process through that frustration is truly gratifying. Understand why they were in the office in the first place, and then what they could do to address the situation that was causing the behaviors. It really is a teaching process, only the subject matter was behavior. I realize that at times there are consequences that are associated with the poor choice in behavior, but the art of teaching a student to learn from their mistakes is what it is most important. The process of listening and understanding a student's perspective is important, they need to feel heard. When we listen, we learn about their stress, the cause of their behaviors. They need help and support to process their stress, and advice on how to work through it. This brings up another important step in working with students, the discussion of perspective. The perspective you choose will impact how you view things. The easy response for a student when you ask them to correct or change is, "I can't do that" or, "that will never happen." To which I replied, "you're right." If you have the perspective that you can't change or correct something, you won't. You need to have a different perspective to make a positive change. You need to begin with believing that you CAN. You must understand that the choices we make influence the outcome of any situation.

This is much like the analogy of the glass of water that is half-full or half empty. The perspective of looking at what you have, a glass that is half-full of water versus what you don't have. A glass that is half-empty. Either answer is correct, but what you choose to focus on is a choice. It is also important to

understand that which you can control, and that which is out of our control. Learning to focus on the things we can control, and not worrying about the things that are out of our control.

This often leads to a discussion about how many of the things we do, begin with a thought. Focusing on what we think about is something we CAN control. When we work to create a positive thought loop it creates an opportunity of positive results. I use this quote to explain the power of positive thoughts.

"Watch your thoughts, they become your words; watch your words, they become your actions; watch your actions, they become your habits; watch your habits, they become your character; watch your character, it becomes your destiny." Lao Tzu

I am going to admit that the first three years of being the superintendent at Triton have been difficult and stressful. I know that this has also been a difficult time for our families, staff, and students. My first three years as a superintendent are not at all what I had envisioned. It has been a challenging time in my career. Even though there are many challenges we have had to endure, I am learning to use much of my own advice that I have given to students in the past. It leads me to another great quote from a Cherokee Proverb

that says:

"There is a battle of two wolves inside us all. One is evil. It is anger, jealousy, greed, resentment, lies, inferiority, and ego. The other is good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, humility, kindness, empathy, and truth. The wolf that wins? The one you feed."

I think difficult times can create opportunities. For me, even though it has been difficult, I have found comfort in advice that I have given others and humility in the fact that I need to follow it myself. An activity that we have done with staff over the past few years is to ask them "why" they are in the field of education.

My "why" is because I feel better when I can help others feel better. I hope that you know that you are not in this pandemic alone, and it is important to help each other feed the good wolf. How you react and respond to difficult times is a choice. Making the choice to be happy is related to my favorite quote from Abraham Lincoln.

"Most people are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

I hope that by writing this article, I have been able to help someone, I know it has helped me to reflect on the amazing opportunities that I have had to work with students in my years as an educator.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

TRACTORS • TRUCKS • FARM EQUIPMENT
SAT. APRIL 9, 2022 AT 10 A.M.

Location: Produce State Bank in Glenville, MN
300 West Main St, Glenville, MN (Lot behind the bank)

TRACTORS: Make/Model (Serial #), Case IH 656 w/loader (14242), Farmall C, Farmall Super C (194240), Farmall H (112829), Farmall M *restored (263765), Allis Chalmers 7040 (4035301), Farmall W6 *restored (BK3873), Ferguson F20, Allis Chalmers C, 1976 Ford Grain Truck, Bush 600042 Chisel Plow - Yellow (80984), 2x Wagons, Case 1845 Skid Loader (JAF0162484), 2002 36' Flat Trailer, Farm King Snow Blower (20401640), Livestock Trailer, 2x LP Tanks, JD 218 Bean Head (496503), JD Auger Wagon, Quick Hitch, 3x LP Cylinders, Feeder - Stainless, JD 85 Cultivator, Honey Wagons, Disk, Tandem Axel Trailer, Concrete Mixer, 2x Tractor Tires, Antique Misc.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Numerous tractors available to bid on! Be on time, there are no small items.

For questions on the equipment, contact Greg Jensen at 507-383-1067.

TERMS: Cash, Good Check. Nothing is to be removed from the premises until settled for. Any announcement made the day of the sale takes precedence over advertised material. Buyer is responsible for items after purchase. Not responsible for accidents.

OWNER: PRODUCE STATE BANK OF GLENVILLE, MN

GREG JENSEN
LANDPROZ BROKER / AUCTIONEER - #24-108
Lic: MN & IA
507-383-1067 / gregjensen@landproz.com

SONNY JENSEN
AUCTIONEER - #24-01



HOLLAND AUCTION

Auction

Farmers Machinery Consignment

Live & Online Bidding
Saturday, APRIL 16, 2022 - 9:30 A.M.

LOCATION: East of Beaver Lake, Ellendale MN

Taking consignments: Tractors • Combines • Haying Equip. • Tillage Equip. • Planters • Wagons • Farm Pickups & Trucks • Construction Equip. • All Types of Farm Machinery • Recreational Items Welcomed (No car or truck tires)

Call early to take full advantage of advertising.
Always a large auction, running two auction rings all day.
Limited Rack Items Accepted!

Delivery of Consignments will be on April 10, 11, 12, 13, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
NO Consignments on April 14th and 15th!

To consign, call: Holland Auction at (507) 684-2955 or Tracy Holland, 507-456-5128 (cell) or e-mail hollandauction@frontiernet.net

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The Nelsons have retired from operating their home family farm. Therefore, they shall sell all of their well cared for line of machinery at auction. **Bidding Opens Mon., March 7, 8:00 a.m.**

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JD 4440, 4040 & 2510

'78 JD 4440, 2781 Hrs JD Reman Engine, Quad, 20.8x38 Axle Duals, Weights; '79 JD 4040, 5401 Act Hrs, Quad, 18.4x38; JD 2510, Dsl, Open Station, Fenders, 3915 Hrs, PS, 15.5x38

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JD 1750 Planter, JD Tillage Equipment

JD 1750 MaxEmerge XP Planter, 6R30", Dry Fert., 3 Bu. Seed Boxes, Vacuum; JD 722 Soil Finisher, 18.5', Wings, 5 Bar Harro; JD 714 Disc Chisel Plow, 9 Shank, 12"; JD 27 Stalk Chopper, 1000PTO, 14"

JD 9410 2WD Combine & Heads

'98 JD 9410 Combine, 2541 Sep/3665 Eng. Hrs, Bin Topper, Chopper/Spread, 30.5x32, Brown Box Monitor, Clean; '01 JD 918F Bean Head, 18', Full Finger; JD 213 Bean Head; JD 6-43 Corn Head, 6R30"

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PAYMENT & PICK UP DATE:
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ESTATE AUCTION

Sunday, March 20 10:00am

Preview Saturday, March 19 10:00am - 2:00pm
In case of severe storm watch internet.

Montgomery Auction Barn, 303 Montgomery Ave. SE
Hwy. 21, South side of Montgomery, MN 56069

Edison Fireside cylinder phonograph & 75 cylinders; 2 Concert Roller Organs; Philco Predicta TV; 4 Case threshing machine hubs; 5gal RW water cooler; 3 & 5gal RW jugs; crocks (3gal salt, 3, & 4gal, RW); 3 H.H. Heller Union Brewery, Shakopee beer glasses; Hawkeye Refrigerator picnic basket; AC One-Ninety XT & 8070 pedal tractors; advertising; jewelry; trunks; kitchen collectibles; fishing items; 55 boxes of S&P shakers; 175 Christmas Village blds; toys (semis, tractors, cars, Tonka, Harley, Hot Wheels, Star Trek Next Gen, FP); Craftsman 6hp 25gal air compressor; Craftsman 3pc tool box; tools.

Sells at 12:00 Noon: Craftsman YTS 4000 24hp hydro riding mower w/42" deck & 42" front snow blower; Craftsman 8.5/26 elec snow blower.

Selling 5 Estate Long guns at 1:00

Coins to be sold at 2:00: 7 gold coins: 1876CC \$20, 1908 \$20, 1879-S \$5, 1880 \$5, 1897-S \$5, 1853 \$2.50, 1888 \$1; Morgans (1889CC, 1880-S, 1881-S, 1883-S, 1887, 1901-O); 1875-S 20-cent; half & lg cents; 1893 Isabella quarter; lots of silver coins.

Elwood Bauleke Estate of Le Sueur & Estate from Jordan.

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UPCOMING 2022 AUCTIONS

<p>Sat., April 16, 2022 • 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>If you have one item or a full line, give us a call early to take full advantage of advertising. Tractors, combines, haying & tillage equipment, planters, wagons, farm pickups and grain trucks, recreational items, construction equipment, all types of farm machinery.</p> <p>To consign, call Holland Auction at 507-684-2955 or Tracy Holland at 507-456-5128. Live and Online Bidding</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LARGE MACHINERY AUCTION Ellendale, MN</p>	<p>Sat., April 30, 2022 • 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>10+ Collector Tractors - Wood Threshing - Farm + Horse Equipment - Trailers - Outdoor Items</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRESTEGARD FARM Owatonna, MN</p> <hr/> <p>Sat., June 18, 2022 • 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>40+ John Deere Collector Tractors - Trailer - Collector Tractor Parts - John Deere Memorabilia - Misc. Items</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PHIL BRIGGS - ESTATE KAREN BRIGGS - OWNER Ellendale, MN</p>
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AUCTION CALENDAR

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Bidding Begins: ... Mar. 7, 2022
Starts Closing: ... Mar. 17, 2022
Alton, MN
 TIMED ONLINE ONLY CLEAN FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FOR RANDY & JULIE NELSON
 John Deere 4440, 4040, & 2510 Dsl Power Shift Tractors, John Deere 9410 Combine, 918 & 643 Heads, JD 1750 Planter, 8200 Drill, JD 722 Soil Finisher, New Westfield Auger, Freightliner Tri Axle Grain Truck Auto, 16,000 Bushel Grain Bin, Farm Support Items

March 23, 2022... 2:00 PM CST
New Prague, MN
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April 3, 2022
Bidding Begins: ... Mar. 26, 2022
Starts Closing: ... April 3, 2022
Kenyon, MN
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 John Deere, Case IH, International, Massey Ferguson, Allis Chalmers Tractor, 1/16 & 1/64th Scale, 4WD Tractors, Farm Toy Sets, Big Farm Tractors, New Ray Long Haulers, Custom Toys, Banks, JD Cookie Jars & Ornaments, Signs, Pedal Tractors

April 30, 2022... 8:00 AM CST
Dundas, MN
 ONLINE ONLY ESTATE AUCTION FOR THE PAUL GULLORD ESTATE
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 If you are interested in being a lifeguard and need training, please contact Sara Jo for information.
 For more information or an application, please contact Sara Jo Vulcan at NR City Hall or call (507)-465-3514.
 All Applications must be in the City Clerk's office by 4 p.m. on April 8, 2022.

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Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM
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5 Ways to Spring Clean Your Routine

(StatePoint) Falling short of your goals? In a period of stagnation? It may be time to spring clean your routine. Here are a few tips and ideas for getting more done with greater ease.

1. Spruce up your settings: Do you find some of the push notifications on your phone distracting? Give yourself the gift of fewer beeps and buzzes by spending just a few minutes reviewing and changing the notification settings of your apps.

2. Squeeze in self-care: Taking regular breaks from your work is essential. Not only are these interludes good for your mind and body, they can actually help you be more creative and productive. However, if you're someone who loses track of time easily when you're concentrating, you may need a tool to remind you to step away from your worksta-

tion. That's where a watch like those in the G-Shock lineup can be of assistance. Equipped with multi-function alarms, a step tracker and a heart rate monitor, you may just be motivated to use your break to take a brisk walk.

3. Reduce mealtime stress: If weeknight dinners are rushed and chaotic but you don't want to resort to takeout more than once or twice a week, try subscribing to a meal kit service that delivers all the ingredients and instructions you need to create delicious and wholesome home-cooked meals. The good news is that many such services have ever-changing menus, as well as flexible options for those who are on special diets. These kits can also be a good way for kitchen novices to master basic culinary skills before embarking on more complicated efforts.

4. Stay focused: Everyone is overscheduled these days. Having tech tools handy that keep you task-oriented can help ensure you never miss an important meeting or appointment. Those who embrace classic styles should consider Casio Edifice watches. Particularly suitable for those who frequently travel or

work with others in different time zones, the watch displays the time of cities all around the world. And because the watches are water-resistant and in many cases, solar-powered, it's a timepiece you can rely on.

5. Write it down: On the first of each month, take a few moments to jot down any goals you have for the month ahead, as well as any

habits you want to start or stop. Take time to note how you are planning to fulfill your objectives. At the end of the month, review what worked and what didn't.

Getting out of a rut can be as simple as making a few tweaks to your routine. Lean on tools and strategies designed to help.



**NATALIE WEBB FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER
2022 EMPLOYMENT**

The City of Dodge Center will be accepting applications for aquatic center employment until Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

The following positions are being offered:
**Manager, Lead Lifeguards (Assistant Managers),
 Lifeguards & Water Safety Instructors,
 Food Court Staff, Crossing Guards and Bathhouse/
 Front Desk Attendants (Rotation).**

Applicants must be available to work days, nights, and weekends. Copies of all Lifeguard, WSI and CPR certifications must accompany the application. Competitive wages! Reimbursement for training! Applications are available at Dodge Center City Hall or on the City's website at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us

The Problem of Overweight Pets

By most estimates, well over half of all cats and dogs in the United States are overweight.

Dr. Gene Pavlovsky, a small animal veterinarian at the University of Illinois Veterinary Medicine South Clinic in Urbana, says that those extra pounds can have serious health consequences for pets. He has suggestions for keeping your pet at a healthy weight.

"In order to tell if a pet is considered overweight or obese, we use a scale called the body conditioning score," Dr. Pavlovsky says. This is a subjective measure based on physical examination and criteria. Small animal medicine commonly uses two body conditioning score systems, one on a five-point scale and the other on a nine-point scale. In both systems, 1 refers to the animal being very thin or emaciated; a very overweight pet ranks as 5 or 9, depending on the scale. An ideal score is at the midpoint of the range, or 3 on the five-point scale and 4.5-5 on the nine-point scale.

During an annual physical exam, the veterinarian will feel the pet's ribs and determine how much fat is covering them. The more fat that is present, the more overweight the pet is. At an ideal weight, the ribs should be easily felt without having to press too firmly.

"In cats specifically, the body conditioning score criteria involves looking at the animal from the side," Dr. Pavlovsky explains. "During this part of the exam, I am looking for an abdominal fat pad that is more easily seen from the side to determine the score."

"Often times, pet owners won't notice that their pet has gained weight," Dr. Pavlovsky says. Owners see the pet every day and are surprised when they learn that their pet is overweight. Dr. Pavlovsky says that owners will often report that their pet is slowing down as they age or that they are limping. Both of these signs can be exacerbated by weight gain.

"In cats, increased weight gain often doesn't allow them to groom themselves properly or use their litter box," Dr. Pavlovsky says. As a result, they may have an unkempt hair coat and the owners may notice inappropriate urination and defecation just outside of the litter box.

Dr. Pavlovsky explains that there are several proven connections between weight gain in pets and their health. For example, overweight pets are more likely to develop diabetes and orthopedic diseases.

"Pets that are overweight typically have mobility issues that can lead to reductions in both quality of life and life expectancy," Dr. Pavlovsky says. The pet could struggle going up and down steps to reach their food or litter box or to get outside. A pet may struggle to jump up in bed or into a car like they used to be able to do.

If a pet owner notices any of these signs or that their pet has gained weight, it is important to seek the advice of a veterinarian on how to safely help the pet lose weight. The veterinarian will make sure that there aren't any other health issues with the pet and make recommendations.

"It is vital to a pet's health to not just reduce the amount of food that a pet is fed," Dr. Pavlovsky says. In cats, simply reducing the food they eat may create problems for their internal organs.

"There are so many different diets available to pet owners that it can be overwhelming," Dr. Pavlovsky notes, as he offers some broad advice.

His first recommendation is to choose a reputable brand that has been around for a long time and has veterinary nutritionists on staff. He also says the life stage of the food should be right for the age of the animal; for example, a puppy should be eating a specifically labeled "puppy food" and an adult dog should eat a diet designed for adults.

Owners should also look for an Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) statement on the bag. This ensures that the food follows the rules and is complete and balanced.

The amount to feed listed on the pet food bag gives a good starting point, but is based on the pet's ideal weight, not the weight that they are currently at.

"Owners need to remember that any other food—human table scraps or treats—that their pet gets adds calories to the diet," Dr. Pavlovsky says. It is important to use consistent treat brands versus switching between brands to avoid stomach upset, and calories from treats should make up less than 10% of the diet. It's generally advisable to avoid giving human food as treats.

Dr. Pavlovsky emphasizes that overweight pets are a very common problem, but one that can be resolved. Love and affection can be given in other ways than food, such as through interaction and training.

"Veterinarians are available to help pets lose weight safely and help pets do what they love for as long as possible," he says.

If you have any questions about pet obesity, contact your local veterinarian.

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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 4 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.

March Winners

Caramel Bars

Submitted by Deb Grotke

2 cups flour
1/2 cup oatmeal
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup softened butter

Mix these 6 ingredients and reserve one cup for topping. Pat the rest in greased 9x13 pan and bake at 350 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes.

Mix one (12 oz) jar caramel topping with 4 Tablespoons flour and pour over the crust.

Sprinkle one cup of mini chocolate chips on caramel and crumble the reserved 1 cup on top.

Bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes. Don't over bake, they set up after coming out of oven.

Impossible Pie

Submitted by Linda Gobin

4 eggs
1/2 stick margarine
1 Cup sugar
1/2 cup flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp baking powder
2 cups milk
1 cup coconut
1 tsp vanilla

Place all ingredients in the blender at one time, blend until mixed thoroughly, pour into 10-inch pie pan bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. When pie is done crust is on bottom, custard in middle and coconut is on top. So delicious!

Slow Cooker Chicken Tortilla Soup

Submitted by Andrea Dawson

1 Cup Pace Picante Sauce
2 cans (10 1/2 ounces each) Campbell's Condensed Cream of Chicken Soup
1 1/4 pounds skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cut into 1/2" pieces
2 Cups frozen whole kernel corn
1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
1 1/3 Cup water
1 teaspoon ground cumin
4 corn tortillas (6") cut into strips
1 Cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1/3 Cup chopped cilantro

Stir the picante sauce, soup, chicken, corn, beans, water and cumin in a 4 quart slow cooker. Cover and cook on LOW for 4-5 hours or until the chicken is cooked through. Stir the tortillas, cheese and cilantro into the cooker. Cover and cook for 15 minutes. Serve with additional cheese and avocado if desired.

Coffee Ice Cream Punch

Submitted by Judy Dyck

1 c. sugar
1 c. water
1 T. instant coffee
1/2 t. vanilla

Boil water; add sugar; coffee, and vanilla. Cool. Pour into 2 1/2 gal. container.

Add:
1/2 gal. (8 cups) milk
1/4 gal. (4 cups) vanilla ice cream, soft
1/4 gal. (4 cups) fudge ripple ice cream

Stir and serve.

THE SAVVY SENIOR



By Jim Miller

Brought to You By



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Dear Savvy Senior,

My 80-year-old mother, who lives alone, has fallen several times over the past year. Are there any extra precautions you recommend that can help her with this?

Worried Daughter

Dear Worried,

Falls are a big concern for many elderly seniors and their families. Each year, more than 1-in-4 older Americans fall, making it the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries for those age 65 and older. But many falls can be prevented. Depending on what's causing your mom to fall, here are some different tips that can help prevent it.

ENCOURAGE EXERCISE

Weak leg muscles and poor balance are two of the biggest risk factors that cause seniors to fall. Walking, strength training and tai chi are all good for improving balance and strength, as are a number of balance exercises your mom can do anytime like standing on one foot for 30 seconds then switching to the other foot, and walking heel-to-toe across the room. For additional balance and leg strengthening exercises, see the National Institute on Aging's (NIA) Exercise and Physical Activity website at NIA.NIH.gov/health/exercise-physical-activity.

REVIEW HER MEDICATIONS

Does your mom take any medicine, or combination of medicines, that make her dizzy, sleepy or lightheaded? If so, make a list or gather up all the drugs she takes – prescriptions and over the counter medications, and contact her doctor or pharmacist for a drug review and adjustment.

GET A VISION TEST

Poor vision can be another contributor to falls, so your mom should get her eyes checked once a year and be sure to update her eyeglasses if needed. Also be aware that if your mom wears bifocal or progressive lenses, they too can cause falls, especially when walking outside or going down steps. These lenses can affect depth perception, so she may want to get a pair of glasses with only her distance prescription for outdoor activities.

FALL-PROOF HER HOME

There are a number of simple household modifications you can do to make your mom's living area safer. Start by helping her arrange or move the furniture so there are clear pathways to walk through and pick-up items on the floor that could cause her to trip like newspapers, shoes, clothes, electrical or phone cords. If she has throw rugs, remove them or use double-sided tape to secure them. In the bathroom buy some nonskid rugs for the floors and a rubber suction-grip mat or adhesive non-skid tape for the floor of the tub or shower, and have a carpenter install grab bars in and around the tub/shower for support.

Also, make sure the lighting throughout the house is good, purchase some plug-in nightlights for the bathrooms and hallways, and if she has stairs, put handrails on both sides. For more tips, see the NIA Fall-Proofing Your Home web page at NIA.NIH.gov/health/fall-proofing-your-home.

CHOOSE SAFE FOOTWEAR

Going barefoot or wearing slippers or socks at home can also cause falls, as can wearing backless shoes, high heels, and shoes with smooth leather soles. The safest option for your mom is rubber-sole, low-heel shoes.

PURCHASE SOME HELPFUL AIDS

If your mom needs some additional help getting around, get her a cane or walker. Also, to help ensure your mom's safety, and provide you some peace of mind, consider getting her a medical alert device that comes with a wearable emergency button that would allow her to call for help if she were to fall or need assistance.

Dodge Center Council Minutes

SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, February 14, 2022

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the February 14, Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Matt Maas, Bryce Lange, Tina Kozisek, Dave Kenworthy, Gerald Runnells, Rod French, Tim Swift, others.

The City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda, minutes, and accounts payable as presented;
 - Resolution 2022-009, A Resolution Approving a Conditional Use Permit for Hamilton Real Estate Group;
 - Purchase of AEDs for City Hall and the Library and a case for City Hall;
 - Advertising for Aquatic Center Staff;
 - \$400 payment for US-14 Partnership Membership;
 - Purchase of new overhead doors for the Fire Department;
 - Hiring three new Volunteer Firefighters;
 - Hiring a paid on-call Ambulance member
- Meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm

SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, February 28, 2022

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the February 28, Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Bill Ketchum, Cathy Skogen, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Bryce Lange, Tina Kozisek, Mark Barwald, Angie Jarrett, AJ Gengler, Tracy Morrow, David Myrom, Jacob Schauf, others.

The City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda, minutes, and accounts payable as presented;
 - Staff to apply for the DNR Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan Grant;
 - Garbage hauler licenses for Waste Management, Skjeveland Enterprises, and Home-town Haulers;
 - Resolution 2022-010, Certifying Delinquent Utility & Fire Charges to County Auditor for Collection;
 - Hiring City Gardener;
 - Adding a \$50 fee to water bills on properties that have a manual read meter or no meter and have not upgraded or installed a water meter after 30 days' notice;
 - Maintenance Supervisor and City Administrator to make a purchase of a used dump truck up to the budgeted amount;
 - Resolution 2022-011, Authorization to Execute Minnesota Department of Transportation Agency Agreement for federal Airport Expenses Reimbursement;
 - Xcel Energy placing a street light at the intersection of 2nd Street NE and Highway Street, and \$10 per month billing;
 - Giving maintenance employees a \$600 yearly stipend instead of uniforms provided by Cintas;
 - Monthly stipend for staff members that would choose the option of using their personal cellphone for City business instead of carrying a second phone;
 - Reclass of the Administrative Services Coordinator to a supervisor for the Aquatic Staff and City Hall front office, as well as taking over a large portion of Human Resources, and making the position a salaried position, and starting the employee at a Step 4 on the pay scale, retroactive to February 27, 2022.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm

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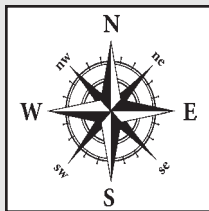
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

Ambulance Alarm Clock



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.

We live five miles out of town on a road that leads to Holiday Shores and Loon Bay. These lake communities were built on Lake Barkley and consist of many very fancy water front properties. They were built over forty years ago by folks who were loving the lake life. Now they are barely clinging to life.

It seems about every morning we get a wake-up call in the form of a wailing siren. Somebody wakes up down the road and decides to call for assistance. The dogs hear it

first and begin to howl. Then we can hear it in the distance and soon the blue and red lights go flashing by. It may be the EMT in the rescue truck, a Stewart County deputy in a brown SUV or the big, boxy white ambulance.

Down here we joke that the ambulance chasers are not attorneys, but real estate agents looking for a house that will be going on the market shortly. Quite frequently we go out for breakfast at the local diner, just up the road, and usually hear what all the commotion was about that day. Between the waitress and the old farmers at the café, we get the whole story, quite a bit of history and a great commentary of amusing anecdotes.

The other day we heard on the radio what one of the calls was about. It was for an eighty-plus year-old lady who decided to run into town the first thing in the morning. Instead of backing up though, she charged ahead in her Caddy like a battering ram and drove right through the front of the house cruising through the living room, right past the kitchen and came to a stop on the back deck. The medics determined she was alright and the sheriff reported that she mistook the gas pedal for the brake pedal. No news on if she will be driving into town anytime soon though.

A Minnesotan: Goats



By RosaLin Alcoser

My older sister believes that everyone has had at least one great goat story in their lives.

For her and I it was the time one of the neighbors down the road received a goat for Father's Day. The goat got out and ended up on our front porch then proceeded to bleat if my sister did not sit outside with it. Our dog went ballistic and had to be kept inside all day until our parents figured out whose goat it was.

While they did that we proceeded to name that goat Kiddie; Kiddie was later renamed by his owners. We only had Kiddie for an afternoon but he was a good goat. About a year or so later our family bought him and he was delicious when we had

him for dinner.

One of my friend's goat story is from when he and his sister kept goats as a 4-H project back in grade school. Once when their aunt was staying over to watch them for a few days she pulled her car up to their car port in the late evening and heard a sound coming from inside.

Apparently the sound sounded like there was someone inside of the car port pretending to be a goat. Naturally since there was a suspected person pretending to be a goat hiding in the car port she called the deputy to come check it out. It turned out to be one of the 4-H goats bleating like a person pretending to be a bleating goat.

For one of my sister's friends their goat story happened after she told her friends about her belief in everyone having at least one great goat story. This friend was from a big city and had never seen a goat in person. So everyone in their group decided that they needed to take him to see a goat.

So his one great goat story is about the time he was taken to a petting zoo and forced to pet a goat.

Everyone has at least one great story about an encounter with a goat. Whether it is having one show up at your door, keeping goats that pretend to be people pretending to be goats or being forced to pet one by your friends. And if you do not have one great story about an encounter with a goat then clearly you have not spent enough time around goats.



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