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Announcements

• Meals on Wheels is available to anyone age 60 and over who are wanting a prepared hot, nutritious meal on a regular basis. Meals are available Sunday through Friday, including holidays. The meals are prepared at Kenyon Senior Living and volunteers deliver them right to your home. Delivery is available to anyone living in Kenyon city limits. The cost per meal is \$7.25. Volunteers provide you with a meal card to use as payment for your meals. Each meal card contains 12 meals, totaling a cost of \$87.00. You pick which days you would like to receive meals and can change it at any time. Meals are typically delivered between 11:15 and 12:15.

For more information about the program contact Barb St. John at 507-789-5553.

• 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 threeriverscap.org for more information.

• **Kenyon SEMCAC dinners** are served Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at Gunderson Gardens at 11:15a.m. to anyone 60 or older. A suggested donation is posted. Reservations are required by signing up the day before or calling Helen Aase at 789-5315.

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

Benefit to Be Held for Local Resident

Jennifer Lerfald is a graduate of Kenyon-Wanamingo High School and has been a lifetime resident of the area. She and her boyfriend Nick have two children who are in middle school. Nick works for Banks Outdoors in Cannon Falls and Jennifer worked at David's Bridal in Rochester.

On Monday evening December 23rd Jennifer suffered a stroke and was taken to St. Mary's hospital in Rochester. It was discovered that she had a blood clot near her temple and surgery was performed to remove part of the clot. A second surgery was necessary to remove part of her skull because of the swelling. Later in January a clot was discovered in her leg as well. In mid-February she moved to a rehab facility in Golden Valley and is anticipating returning to home by mid-April.

A benefit fundraiser is being planned on

Purple Ribbon Fund Has Its Roots In The 4-H Auction



Noah Schaefer received a generous premium for his hog at the 2021 Minnesota State Fair thanks to 26 contributors to the Goodhue County Purple Ribbon Fund.

Back Row: Derrick Dicke, Kevin Altendorff, Shannon and Matt Schaefer. Front row: Noah, Elih, and Macy Schaefer, and Chase Dohrn feeding the hog.

By Beth Brekke

The Goodhue County Purple Ribbon Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization that was formed using the mission statement "to better the Goodhue County youth". The fund offers monetary awards to graduating seniors that have been in 4-H for at least six years with a goal of expanding the awards to other youth organizations in the future. Although a more inclusive effort was already underway, the recently formed non-profit grew from a longrunning effort to help kids with the cost of raising 4-H market animals.

(continued on page 4)



May 7th in Wanamingo at the Community Center with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Wanamingo Lion's Club from 7 to 11am. There will be a bake sale and a silent auction held at the same time. Donations are being accepted and you may contact Ashley at 507-210-7396 or Kasey at 507-272-8928 to submit items for the silent auction. There is also a gofund-me site at https://www.gofundme.com/f/jennifer-lerfalds-benefit-fund. An account has been set up at the Security State Bank of Kenyon as well if you wish to donate funds there.



Religion

- KENYON MESSENGER -

Deuteronomy: 'Census in the Wilderness'



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

I was reminded that as I write these articles, overviews really, that we can come to God's word simply to know things. I don't want to lose my aim in walking through these texts with you each month. My aim being that as we engage reading the Bible, we would encounter God Himself. The Bible doesn't contain God's word, it IS God's word. He has revealed it to us graciously so that we would know Him personally. May you be able to say, "I have come to know God more." As we continue, we enter Deuteronomy. Moses wants to remind and encourage God's people as these are his parting words before his death.

Deuteronomy: [doo-tuh-ron-uh-mee] noun --- means "second law"; the fifth book of the Pentateuch, containing a second statement of the Mosaic law.

The author of this book is Moses, including the collection of his sermons to Israel just before they crossed the Jordan around the year 1406. "These are the words that Moses spoke..." (1:1). Someone else (Joshua, perhaps) may have written the last chapter.

OVERVIEW: While the meaning of Deuteronomy means second law and gives that information in the text, this book is much more. The book offers a restatement of the Law for a new generation, yet Moses has more to say than simply to give a copy of the law. Years have passed ensuring that the majority of the previous generation, which grumbled and complained, rebelled against God when the Law was given, had passed away. This multitude to which Moses is speaking had not experienced the miracle at the Red Sea or heard the law given at Sinai. They were about to enter a new land with many dangers and temptations. The book of Deuteronomy was given to remind them of God's law and God's power.

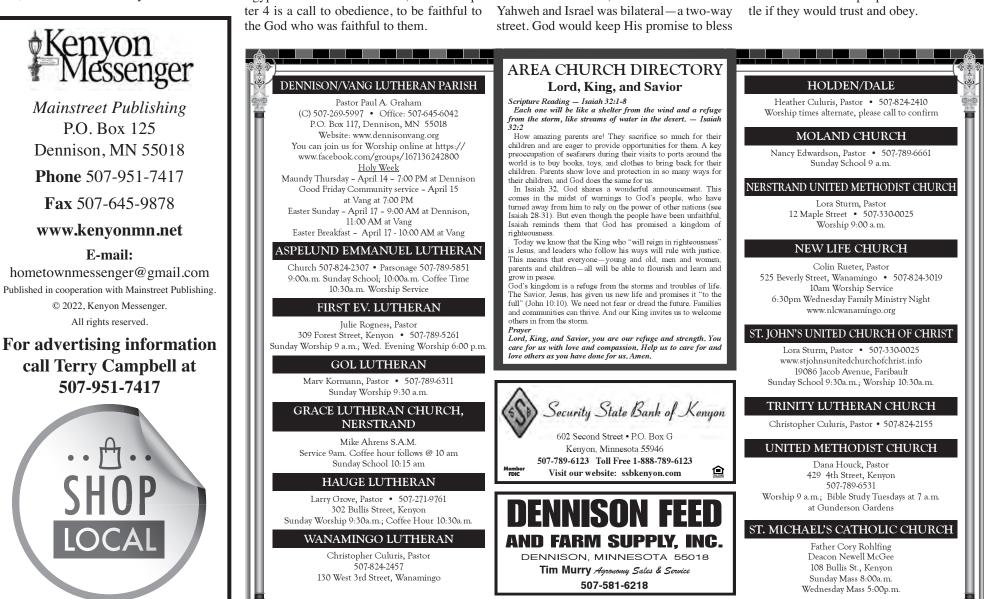
The Israelites are commanded to remember four things: God's faithfulness, God's holiness, God's blessings, and God's warnings. The first three chapters recap the trip from Egypt to their current location, Moab. Chap-

Chapters 5 through 26 are a repetition of the Law. The Ten Commandments, the laws concerning sacrifices and specials days, and the rest of the laws are given to the new generation. Blessings and curses are given based on action. The theme of blessing and cursing is continued in chapters 27-30. This portion of the book ends with God's desire for His people found in what He recommends: "choose life" (30:19). In the final chapters, Moses encourages the people; commissions his replacement, Joshua; records a song; and gives a final blessing to each of the tribes of Israel. Chapter 34 relates the circumstances of Moses' death as he climbed Mt. Pisgah, where the Lord showed him the Promised Land. At 120 years old, but still with good eyesight and the strength of youth, Moses died in the presence of the Lord. The book of Deuteronomy ends with a short obituary on Moses, the great leader and prophet of Israel.

SO WHAT? This text is a reminder that the God of Israel was unique. While polytheism abounded during this time, Israel worshipped one God, Yahweh. Their God was totally unique; there was none other like Him among all the "gods" of the nations surrounding them. Deuteronomy 6:4 summarizes this belief in the Shema, the basic confession of faith in Judaism even today. "Hear, O Israel! The LORD [Yahweh] is our God, the LORD [Yahweh] is one!

Unlike the unconditional covenant God made with Abraham, the covenant between the nation if the people remained faithful. The adult Israelites were too young to have participated in the first covenant ceremony at Mount Sinai. Therefore, Moses reviewed the Law at the doorstep to the Promised Land, urging this new generation to re-covenant with Yahweh, to recommit themselves to His ways. The necessity of keeping perfectly the Mosaic Law and the impossibility of doing so was a foreshadow to the need for inward transformation which would be done by God and for God. The endless sacrifices necessary to atone for the sins of the people-who continually broke the Law-would find their fulfillment in the final "once for all" sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 10:10). Because of His atoning work on the cross, we would need no further sacrifices for sin, but to trust in the Lamb who was slain for our salvation. In addition, God's choosing of the Israelites as His special people foreshadows His choosing of those who would believe in Christ (1 Peter 2:9). In this text, we must think on the implication of living out our faith. Although we are no longer under the Old Testament law, we are still responsible to submit to the will of God in our lives. Simple obedience brings blessing, and sin has its own consequences.

Next month, we will look at the Book of Joshua - who records the culmination of Israel's journey to the Promised Land. Joshua portrays the Lord as their general, the One who would lead His people in victorious bat-



Page 2

Obituaries

- KENYON MESSENGER -

Dorothy Jeanne Pince

April, 2022



home surrounded by family on March 29, 2022, following a short battle with pancreatic cancer.

Dorothy was born September 30, 1941, in Albert Lea, MN. She attended country school and later went to beautician school, working for several

years as a beautician. She married Dennis Clayton Pince on February 20, 1960, in Wells, MN. He was the love of her life. They welcomed their first child, Amber in June 1961. Wynn, Aledia, Ravenna, and Wade followed.

Dorothy Jeanne Pince passed away at her

Dorothy and Dennis lived in West St. Paul until 1970. At that time, they moved to Sogn Valley. Dorothy moved into Cannon Falls after Dennis died in June, 2011.

She was a member of Vang Lutheran Church. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, and spending time with family. She adored her 15 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father, Lewis Perkins; husband, Dennis on June 13, 2011: and son, Wade on January 25, 2013.

She is survived by her children, Amber West, Wynn (Roy) Street, Aledia (Mark) Karow, and Ravenna (Troy) Gentry; grandchildren, Derek West, Ryan (Bridget) West, Adam West (fiancée, Natalie Tatge), Richard McConnell (fiancée, Heather Erickson), Nicholas McConnell, Joshua (Stephanie) Karow, Jacob (Heather) Karow, Jenna Karow (Nick Winter), Tyler Gentry, Cody (Paige) Gentry, Courtney (Nick) Henry, Brittany Gentry, Justin Pince, Jill Pince, and Jonah Pince; great grandchildren, Hannah Benson, Carson McConnell, John and Emma Karow, Bennett and Lydia Henry, and Kylee Pince; and siblings, Ruth (Lyle) Boelter of Albert Lea, Lewis (Thea) Perkins of Iowa and William Perkins of Illinois.

A private family service was held. Her grandsons were active pallbearers, and her granddaughters and great grandchildren were honorary pallbearers.

Roy John Janousek

Roy John Janousek, age 94, passed away on



Saturday, April 2, 2022, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis. Roy was born on February 14, 1928, to John and Laura Janousek in Iona, South Dakota. When he was in second grade, his family moved to Dodge

Center, Minnesota, and three years later, moved to Kenyon. He graduated in 1941 from District 140, and then attended high school for one year and three days before leaving school to help his parents farm.

On September 21, 1952, Roy married Yvonne Anderson, and they raised four daughters. He continued to farm until his retirement in December, 1969. For the next 12 years, Roy worked in the Parts Department at Hermann Implement in Wanamingo. During this time, Roy and Yvonne established Our Basement Crafts and Sunrise Gardens, which they continued until Yvonne's passing in February, 2001 Roy continued to do woodworking and selling his products until May, 2014. In February 2002, Roy married Audrey Wille of Kenyon. She preceded him in death in December, 2010.

Roy was a long time member of the United Methodist Church of Kenyon. He had an optimistic attitude and was always willing to help others. He loved to make puzzles and play cards and bingo, but most of all, he loved to grow produce and share it with others. Even in his last years in assisted living, he grew onions, tomatoes and watermelon to share with the other residents.

In addition to his parents and wives, Roy was preceded in death by his brothers, Richard and William; granddaughter, Pamela; and great-granddaughter, Charlee.

He is survived by his daughters, Linda (Jeff) Jansen of Reeds Spring, MO; Peggy (David) Pfister of Northfield, MN; Nancy (Earl) Emerick of Rochester, MN; Darcy (Thaddeus) Monroe of Northfield, MN; nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. A private service will be held.

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Community

- KENYON MESSENGER -

Purple Ribbon Fund Has Its Roots In The 4-H Auction

(continued from page 1)

The Goodhue Co. 4.H Livestock Auction was started in 1968 when Jim Bryan, Jim Foss, Don Webster, Gerald Meyer, Morris Nysteun. LaMar Juliar, and Dick Houghton formed the Goodhue County Livestock Auction Committee.

Carl Bang, who later became a long-time fairboard member, was the first person to go through the auction with his champion market lamb. It was held outside in front of the sheep barn using wooden fence panels and wooden bleachers.

Auctioneer Don Webster conducted the sale. His sons would take over and continued working the sale until just a few years ago when the Houghton family of auctioneers took over. All auction expenses are donated by the auctioneers or the livestock committee.

There were about 50 animals bought by local supporters and businesses at that first sale. It has evolved into a much larger sale, some-

times exceeding 225 animals. In the early days some animals were available for actual purchase and butchering if they were not going to the state fair. Now it is a premium only auction and the 4-Her retains ownership of the animal. Any member who receives a blue or red ribbon on their market animal is eligible to be in the county auction.

The auction day begins with a buyers' breakfast which is cooked, served, and donated by 4-H. Usually there is some fun that goes on during the 3-hour-long auction in the show arena. Marty Kehren from the Goodhue Lions Club tries to buy the Chicken entries for their Chicken Barbeque the next day and the Pork Producers make him pay dearly.

If any organization, business, or individual would like to participate in the local auction, any amount of money works. Auction committee members canvas local towns and businesses for donations. Mark and Noah Erickson take care of the Zumbrota area, Brandon Schafer does Goodhue/Bellechester, Mark Flom covers Kenyon and Cannon Falls, Kevin Altendorf and Bob Eppen do Red Wing and the surrounding area. Call any one of these people to support the auction and get your name on the big billboard in the show arena for the year.

(continued on page 6)



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K-W Noble Knights

April, 2022

- KENYON MESSENGER -



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for March 18, 2022 Front Row: Riley Falenschek, KG, Mrs. Short; Braydon Rappe, 1ST, Mrs. Benbrooks; Tatum Brandon, 1St, Mr. Donkers; Aria Amiot, 2ND, Mrs. Hinrichs. Back Row: Ivan Estrada, 2ND, Ms. Sabrowsky; Travis Geisinger, 3RD, Ms. Sahl; Stellon Kyllo, 3RD, Ms. Ashland; Cora Foss, 4th, Ms. Subra; Eagan Grant, 4TH, Ms. Thesing



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for March 25, 2022 Front Row: Tucker Westlund, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Maverick Moechnig, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Emmett Peterson, Gr. 2, Ms. Deb Hinrichs; Ben Keller, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky. Back Row: Frederick Johnson, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Jacob Johnson, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Bradley Arnold, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen SubraThesing



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for April 1, 2022 Front Row: Luka Noney, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Charlie Baker, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Harper Kerr, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky. Back Row: Kora Theobald, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Sadie Engen, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Chayton Berge, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen Subra; Parker Amundson, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for April 8, 2022 Front Row: Ezra Noerenberg, Gr. 1, Ms. Katie Benbrooks; Henry Skillestad, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Sawyer Hanson, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Nori Fleming, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky. Back Row: Page Buchal, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Adlee Lunde, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Mason Fink, Gr. 4, Ms. Jen Subra; Lillian Flom, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing

Page 5

Page 6

(continued from page 4)

All money bid goes to Goodhue County 4-H kids. The auction proceeds are split, with the exhibitor keeping 80% and the other 20% going into the 4-H General Fund to defray the cost of State Fair trips for non-livestock exhibitors. The Purple Ribbon Fund originated from a desire to increase this funding and the premiums received by the Goodhue County 4-Hers lucky enough to participate in the State Fair livestock auction. Animals need to earn a purple ribbon at the State Fair and then, only the top few of each species are selected, so it is a very elite group which usually includes 3 or 4 local youth.

To raise this additional funding, organizers started auctioning off gift baskets following the regular county livestock auction. The baskets are donated by the previous year's entrants in the Minnesota State Fair Livestock Auction. Additional donations and funding ideas are being sought by board members and volunteers Derrick Dicke, Betty Dicke, Brandon Schafer, Noah Erickson, Andy Mann and Bob Eppen. Donations may be sent to: Goodhue Co. Purple Ribbon Fund, 34890 165th Ave. Way, Goodhue, MN 55027. For more information or to pledge a donation, call Bob Eppen at (651) 380-0494.



Lucas Erickson's market lamb was chosen for the 2021 Minnesota State Fair livestock auction and received a premium raised in part by the Goodhue County Purple Ribbon Fund. Pictured with Lucas are Kevin Altendorf, Derrick Dicke, Morgan Berg, and Beth and Will Erickson.







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Terms: Cash or good check w/proper I.D. required. 10% buyers fee applies. All major credit cards with 4% convenience fee. Items MUST be picked up on April 23rd. No shipping available. Items are sold as is, where is. Not responsible for accidents. View complete tarms on parybid/insenauctions. complete terms on proxibid/jensenauctions.

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Page 10



April, 2022



- KENYON MESSENGER -

The Rich Family in Our Church

By Eddie Ogan

I'll never forget Easter 1946. I was 14, my little sister Ocy 12, and my older sister Darlene 16. We lived at home with our mother, and the four of us knew what it was like to do without many things. My dad had died five years before, leaving Mom with seven school kids to raise and no money. By 1946, my older sisters were married, and my brothers had left home.

A month before Easter, the pastor of our church announced that a special Easter offering would be taken to help a poor family. He asked everyone to save and give sacrificially. When we got home, we talked about what we could do. We decided to buy 50 pounds of potatoes and live on them for a month. This would allow us to save \$20 of our grocery money for the offering. Then we thought that if we kept our electric lights turned out as much as possible and didn't listen to the radio, we'd save money on that month's electric bill. Darlene got as many house and yard cleaning jobs as possible, and both of us baby sat for everyone we could. For 15 cents, we could buy enough cotton loops to make three potholders to sell for \$1. We made \$20 on potholders.

That month was one of the best of our lives. Every day we counted the money to see how much we had saved. At night we'd sit in the dark and talk about how the poor family was going to enjoy having the money the church would give them. We had about 80 people in our church, so we figured that whatever amount of money we had to give, the offering would surely be 20 times that much. After all, every Sunday the Pastor had reminded everyone to save for the sacrificial offering.

The day before Easter, Ocy and I walked to the grocery store and got the manager to give us three crisp \$20 bills and one \$10 bill for all our change. We ran all the way home to show Mom and Darlene. We had never had so much money before. That night we were so excited we could hardly sleep. We didn't care that we wouldn't have new clothes for Easter; we had \$70 for the sacrificial offering. We could hardly wait to get to church! On Sunday morning, rain was pouring. We didn't own an umbrella, and the church was over a mile from our home, but it didn't seem to matter how wet we got. Darlene had cardboard in her shoes to fill the holes. The cardboard came apart, and her feet got wet, but we sat in church proudly, despite how we looked. I heard some teenagers talking about the Smith girls having on their old dresses. I looked at them in their new clothes, and I felt so rich.

When the sacrificial offering was taken, we were sitting on the second row from the front. Mom put in the \$10 bill, and each of us girls put in a \$20. As we walked home after church, we sang all the way. At lunch, Mom had a surprise for us. She had bought a dozen eggs, and we had boiled Easter eggs with our fried potatoes!

Late that afternoon the minister drove up in his car. Mom went to the door, talked with him for a moment, and then came back with an envelope in her hand. We asked what it was, but she didn't say a word. She opened the envelope and out fell a bunch of money. There were three crisp \$20 bills, one \$10 bill, and seventeen \$1 bills. Mom put the money back in the envelope. We didn't talk, but instead, just sat and stared at the floor. We had gone from feeling like millionaires to feeling like poor white trash.

We kids had had such a happy life that we felt sorry for anyone who didn't have our mom and dad for parents and a house full of brothers and sisters and other kids visiting constantly. We thought it was fun to share silverware and see whether we got the fork or the spoon that night. We had two knives which we passed around to whoever needed them. I knew we didn't have a lot of things that other people had, but I'd never thought we were poor. That Easter Day I found out we were poor. The minister had brought us the money for the poor family, so we must be poor.

I didn't like being poor. I looked at my dress and worn-out shoes and felt so ashamed that I didn't want to go back to church. Everyone there probably already knew we were poor! I thought about school. I was in the ninth grade and at the top of my class of over 100 students. I wondered if the kids at school knew we were poor. I decided I could quit school since I had finished the eighth grade. That was all the law required at that time.

We sat in silence for a long time. Then it got dark, and we went to bed. All that week, we girls went to school and came home, and no one talked much. Finally on Saturday, Mom asked us what we wanted to do with the money. What did poor people do with money? We didn't know. We'd never known we were poor.

We didn't want to go to church on Sunday, but Mom said we had to. Although it was a sunny day, we didn't talk on the way. Mom started to sing, but no one joined in and she only sang one verse. At church we had

a missionary speaker. He talked about how churches in Africa made buildings out of sundried bricks, but they need money to buy roofs. He said \$100 would put a roof on a church. The minister said, "Can't we all sacrifice to help these poor people?"

We looked at each other and smiled for the first time in a week. Mom reached into her purse and pulled out the envelope. She passed it to Darlene. Darlene gave it to me, and I handed it to Ocy. Ocy put it in the offering plate. When the offering was counted, the minister announced that it was a little over \$100. The missionary was excited. He hadn't expected such a large offering from our small church. He said, "You must have some rich people in this church."

Suddenly it struck us! We had given \$87 of that "little over \$100." We were the rich family in the church! Hadn't the missionary just said so?

From that day on I've never been poor again. I've always remembered how rich I am because I have Jesus!





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Kenyon Senior Living

Page 12

Opinion

KENYON MESSENGER

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

KW Public Schools And A Strategic Plan Gone Amok

It would happen like this. Someone...someone with the statutory authority to represent a school district would decide that it was not their job to get involved. And, as is almost always the case, it would be the children and grandchildren who would suffer the consequences. Welcome to my old alma mater.

Let me begin my concerns about a recent article in the Kenyon Leader by making reference to a series of quotations that should catch the eye of anyone who has committed themselves to the design and implementation of a school district's strategic plan. Beginning with an opening note of "frustration" by Mrs. Debb Paquin and ending with Mr. Kevin Anderson's suggestion to "Step back and let the administration team run with it," the article leads one to believe that the Kenyon-Wanamingo School Board would like to wash their hands of the entire process. And to make matters even worse, it was reported that 'board members felt good about the progress they had made in their hour-and-a-half brainstorming session.

In the school board's proposal to focus on the principles of culture and curriculum, Mrs. Paquin expressed "Frustration with the board being tasked with creating the goals that go into the plan." Moreover, she said, "I don't believe this is our work to be doing. Our administration should be bringing this to us for us to brainstorm. They need to prioritize what's important. This is for the administration and superintendent to figure out what's more important.'

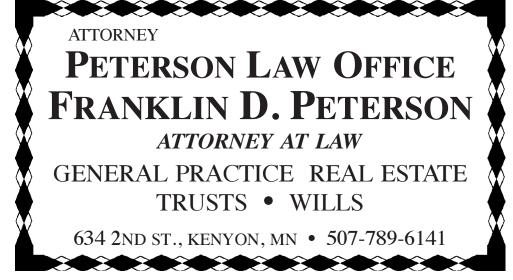
While the literature is clear when it comes to the impact a quality culture and a robust curriculum will have on the success of a school district, the idea that a school board and selected representatives of the community are left out of the loop is not only contrary to good policy, but when one looks at the forces that have found their way into public education, it becomes dangerous. I can think of no other time in my 49 years in education when the necessity to keep the school district's planning process out of the hands of politically motivated administrators and teachers is more important than it is today. If you do not believe me, just take a close look at where their respective "parent" organizations are trying to take our children and grandchildren. No...honesty and integrity must be part of the "stop the fact that Kenyon-Wanamingo Public

gap" if the process is going to work. This will Schools has a history of cultivating a "good not happen if it is left in the hands of people who have long-since sold their loyalty to their unions.

As I continued reading the article, I found school board member, Mr. AJ Lindell, saying, "If we don't do this, its not going to get done. Is this our work to do? Probably not. But if we aren't taking the initiative, we will be left behind the eight-ball and our kids won't have the direction they need." Unfortunately, and with the exception of his comment on "probably not," he is correct in his assessment. Now, and due to the fact that current and previous school boards have placed their trust in the wrong people, they find themselves in a place that they have never been before; a place that they do not want to be...and it shows every time you open the Kenyon Leader and read the school board members' comments.

A number of years ago Mrs. Paquin asked me about the kind of duties she could expect as a school board member if she decided to run for it. When I told her that it would entail some of the same challenges that she and her colleagues are now trying to avoid, she seemed undeterred. While I will admit that no one could have foreseen what we are now facing in public education, it does not change the fact that when she and her colleagues took the pledge to represent the community, they were telling us that they were willing to take on both the good and the bad; they were telling us that they were in it for the long haul ... and it was our sense that they were sincere about it. Maybe that is why the article made reference to her comment about the 'repercussions you would face at your job if you did not perform the duties directed to you.' Perhaps she was telling us that the time has finally come to apply the same kind of standards when it pertains to leadership at the school district level. I sure hope this is the message she is trying to send to the community.

As the school board begins the process of changing the culture and the purpose behind having a quality curriculum in the school district, they need to keep two things in mind. First, the most difficult part of their assignment will be the culture. According to Parkway, Haas and Anctil (2010, p. 59), "It is the way of life common to a group of people; it represents their way of looking at the world. It also consists of the values, attitudes, and beliefs that influence their behavior." Due to



old boy culture" within the respective buildings, it is paramount that they find a way to change the old way of doing business. Sadly, it has been my experience that these kinds of cultures will do everything in their power to sabotage the process. How do they get by with it? They get by with it because the ultimate power in a school district: its school board (See Minnesota Statutes), sits back and allows it to happen. It is time that they find a way to take back the power.

And second, and here is where it gets serious, the school district's curriculum leaders must start raising questions like: Why is our student achievement consistently behind other SE Minnesota schools as reported in the Rochester Post Bulletin? What is our purpose as we move forward? Where are we at and where do we want to go? How do we achieve it—and who is going to lead us? If the school district does not have the right person/people at the helm, they need to find him/her/them before it is too late. There is just too much at stake for the future of our children and grandchildren.

And finally, the school board needs to be vigilant when it comes to the curriculum development piece of the school district's plan for school improvement. If they aren't; if they leave it to the wrong people with the wrong motives for our children and grandchildren, the community is going to wake up some morning and find out that Critical Race Theory, Black Lives Matter, White Fragility, the soon find out that the same people who are promoting CRT, BLM, White Fragility and other racist ideologies (the political Left) have an entirely different definition for what it should actually mean. Remember, these people have already proven that they are not the friends of public education. And if you do not believe me, just take a close look at what has taken place over the last two years.

In conclusion, and in reference to taking back the power, I would like to remind the community that there will be a school board election before the end of the year. With term limits expiring for Mrs. Craig, Mrs. Paquin, Mr. Anderson, and Mrs. Syverson on the first Monday in January of 2023, it will give perspective candidates a chance to review student achievement and other notable issues that have led to where the school district finds itself today. As someone who has spent his professional career working with K-12 through higher education doctoral students, I would be happy to share my thoughts with anyone who might be interested in helping to create a new beginning at Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools. It is getting late....

Dr. James Russell Lehman, '63 Kenvon, MN 55946 507-273-7635 or 507-789-5248



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Local Government

- KENYON MESSENGER -

April, 2022

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 8th day of February 2022. The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Rechtzigel.

The following members were present: Council Members Dan Rechtzigel and Molly Ryan

Via Zoom: Mayor Doug Henke

Absent: Mary Bailey

Also, present: Administrator Mark Vahlsing, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom, Engineer Derek Olinger, Attorney Scott Riggs, Kathy Flikke Finance Clerk, and Michelle Vlasak reporter for Kenyon Leader, Police Officer Brian Homeier, Public Works Director Wayne Ehrich, Cheryl Dahl, and Brandi Kyllo

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENT ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Ryan second by Henke to approve the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Ryan second by Henke to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers, 73256 through 73407; 3854E through 3877E and appoint John Cambronne to the Planning Commission.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0. PRESENTATIONS/ **PUBLIC HEARINGS/**

RECOGNITIONS/PROLAMATIONS ENGINEERING Pearl Creek and Forest Street Sanitary



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Sewer Improvements Update

Engineering/Survey Proposal

City Engineer Olinger provided an update on the Pearl Creek and Forest Street Sanitary Sewer Improvement project. Olinger requested approval to complete the remainder of preliminary design, alternatives analysis, data collection and survey work. The total cost of this work is estimated to be \$48,300 and would be completed by July 2022.

Motion by Ryan second by Henke to approve the proposal for continued preliminary design and survey work on the Pearl Creek and Forest Street Sanitary Sewer Improvement project in the amount of \$48,300.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

North Street Drainage Improvements Engineer Olinger reviewed the North Street drainage issues that were identified in 2021. The storm sewer line will need to be replaced. The estimated project cost of \$75,000 for design work and construction were included in the 2022 budget.

Requests for Proposals to Contractors

Motion by Rechtzigel second by Ryan to authorize the City Engineers to seek construction proposals for the North Street drainage improvements.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

Consider Authorizing Acquisition of Drainage Easement for New Storm Sewer

Motion by Ryan second by Rechtzigel to authorize the City Engineers to acquire a drainage easement for the North Street drainage project.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

LEGAL Ag Lease for City Owned Land

Attorney Riggs stated that staff had discovered that 2.25 acres of City-owned land located just east of the wastewater plant overflow lagoon had been farmed by Festal Farms for many years. Festal Farms sold their adjoining land by auction last month. Vahlsing recommended a lease agreement for the 2.25 acres between the city and the new owner of the larger parcel.

Motion by Henke second by Ryan to approve the lease agreement for 2.25 acres with Richard Nystuen.

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Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS Discuss Lease for Fire/EMS Vehicle

Administrator Vahlsing reported that the city received notification from Rosenbauer Equipment that the EMS/Fire rescue vehicle that was ordered in 2020 was ready to go. The city paid \$41,397 toward the purchase price of \$181,739 when the truck was ordered. A lease estimate from Kinetic Leasing for the remaining balance of \$137,434 through the Security State Bank of Kenyon was reviewed.

Mottion by Ryan second by Rechtzigel to approve the proposed seven-year lease agreement at 3.29% interest with seven annual payments of \$21,620.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Ave, Ryan - Ave

Motion carried 3-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS Kenyon Muni - 2022 Rose Fest Street **Dance Band Contract**

Motion by Ryan second by Rechtzigel to approve The Dads agreement for the Rose Fest street dance on August 20, 2022

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

Discuss and Possibly Appoint Person to City Council

Rechtzigel stated that the Council appointment would be tabled until the March meeting to give absent council members a chance to review the interviews.

Renew Lease for City Hall Copier -Toshiba

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the current copier lease with Toshiba will expire at the end of the year. The city has the option to replace the copier in the last year of the lease. Toshiba proposed an upgraded model at a lower cost.

Motion by Ryan second by Henke to approve a 5-year lease with Toshiba for a 45ppm copier at a rate of \$175.82 per month. Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -

Aye, Ryan - Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

Goodhue County Sheriff's Department-**Communications Subscriber Agreement-**

with Kenyon PD

Police Chief Sjoblom discussed the Com-

Commissioner Corner

Greetings, last month was the annual meetings for our townships and I just want to send out a big Thank you to all our supervisors, clerks, treasurers and staff that work for our townships. Being a local representative can be vey challenging and rewarding. I also want to thank all who attended their township meetings, this is one of your opportunities to see what is happening in your township and also meet some of your neighbors. We are still working with our ARPA dollars that have been given to the county, spending this money efficiently is very important to me. During the re-

districting process we did vote to change 1 township to balance out the voting numbers in our county, there were other options sent to us but after weighing out our options we agreed to just move the one. We still are looking to hire detention deputies, so if you know of a qualified person who would be willing to apply please send them to the county. I am available to listen to any concerns that arise in our county, give me a call or send me a note. Todd

Todd Greseth Goodhue County Commissioner **District 3**

munications System Subscriber Agreement with Goodhue County Sheriff's Department regarding the utilization of the Regional Public Safety 800 MHz radio system. All the cities in Goodhue County, and Prairie Island would participate in this agreement, which runs through 2027.

Motion by Ryan second by Rechtzigel to approve the Communications System Subscriber Agreement with Goodhue County Sheriff's Department through 2027.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

Appoint Pool Manager 2022 Season

Administrator Vahlsing stated that Cheryl Dahl is stepping down as the pool manager. The position was posted, and the personnel committee recommended Brandi Kyllo be appointed as pool manager for the 2022 season.

Motion by Ryan second by Rechtzigel to approve the hiring of Brandi Kyllo as the pool manager for the 2022 season.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

KMU Meeting: Tuesday, February 15th @ 2:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 8th @ 7 p.m.

EDA Annual Meeting March 15, 2022@ 9:00 a.m.

Board of Appeal & Equalization: Thursday, April 14th @ 5:00 p.m.

COUNCIL AND STAFF **GENERAL COMMENTS**

Police Chief Sjoblom gave an update on the new police department furnishings

Councilman Ryan thanked Cheryl Dahl on the great job she did as pool manager.

Mayor Henke also expressed his thanks to Cheryl Dahl and complimented the police department on the great job they are doing.

Motion by Ryan second by Henke to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rechtzigel -Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant Dan Rechtzigel, Acting Mayor





Changes in Latitudes, **Changes in Attitudes**

> We Sell Farmland

By Terry Campbell This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell. Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when its warm here and Tennessee

when it's cold here.

I saw an ad in the local paper saying "we sell Farmland". It struck me as such an over simplification. It should have read, "We sell the lifetime hopes and dreams of a farmer.' March is the month most farmland is sold. Land transactions are completed before the crop season starts. This last year has seen a 26[®] increase in the price of farmland over the previous year. Not sure the price of crops and cost of inputs makes that logical.

It may seem like a simple sale, just a business deal for the ever expanding and enlarging farms. But for a farmer, land is their lifeblood. They are intimately attached to it. They raise their crops, livestock, families and dreams in the land. They care for it and it rewards them with its bounty. It is planted in hope, cultivated in hard work and harvested in thankfulness. Some years the return is meager, some years plentiful.

When I grew up there were small farms everywhere across the county. Little family run businesses that provided a good living and a great lifestyle. No better place to raise a family. The kids went to the local school, the parents patronized the small-town businesses, dads and moms were active in the community in a myriad of ways.

I was blessed to grow up on a small farm and I was fortunate to raise my children on a small farm. My daughters played with barn cats, raised calves, operated machinery and even learned that the little pig they fed daily and named "Porker" went to the butcher shop in the livestock trailer and came back in freezer wrap.

My great grand-father broke this land with a horse and plow. I often thought about him listening to the birds sing as the horses pulled the steel wheeled implements across the field. I covered the same ground in a

A Minnesotan: Seven Dozen Easter Eggs



By RosaLin Alcoser

Easter 2004 was my all time favorite Easter of my childhood. I was seven years old that year and it was the Easter of seven dozen Easter eggs.

That year we spent Easter Sunday at my adopted grandparents house.Which is where we had one of the most memorable Easter Egg Hunts of my childhood. It is the most memorable for two reasons. First off it was the most eggs we ever had outside of a church egg hunt and secondly not all the eggs were found on Easter Sunday.

Why seven dozen Easter eggs you might ask? That's simple, my older sister and I dyed three dozen eggs at home, a dozen each and a spare incase some of them broke during the dyeing process. Then two dozen were dyed at my adoptive grandparents house then their friend dyed another two dozen and left them at the house for us on Easter Sunday. Which is why there were seven dozen eggs that year.

The best part was not dying the Easter Eggs but Easter Sunday itself. After church we went over to my adopted grandparents house and everyone was there; my mom, sister, grandparents, a set of their parents, and their son.

That year their son was about 25 yearsold and he hid the seven dozen eggs while we were at church. This was the only year that I can remember that the eggs were not found and hidden multiple times throughout the afternoon to keep us amused. Because he hid all seven dozen eggs way too hard for children.

They were hidden in places we would never think to look; inside and outside of the house. Up high out of our line of sight and if memory serves me correctly in a couple of places that we were not allowed to be in because we were children.

The eggs were so well hidden that my older sister believes that after spending all day looking we found a good 75-80% of those eggs on Easter Sunday. Then Grandpa was finding the rest well into July of that year, because his son forgot where he hid the ones that we could not find.

I have done dozens of egg hunts in my childhood and helped with many more as a teen and young adult. But the Easter of 2004 where seven dozen Easter Eggs were hidden and not all found will always be my favorite egg hunt of my childhood.







- KENYON MESSENGER -



