

Goodhue-Bellechester Bellechester VIESSENDER JULY 2022

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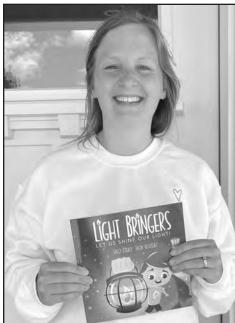
Goodhue Gesundheits 4-H Club To Observe 90th Birthday

A potluck picnic will be held at noon on July 24th at shelter one in Rosie Park in honor of the Goodhue Gesundheits 90th birthday. All past and current members, parents and leaders are encouraged to attend. The event coincides with the open house at the Historical Society Museum from 1-4 the same day. Please bring any former fair projects you may have so they can be displayed during the events. Contact Shelly Strusz with any questions 651-380-9993. (continued on page 5)

Announcements

Belvidere Happy-Go-Luckies 4-H Club (usually) meets the first Monday of each month at 7p.m. at St. Peter's Church, rural Goodhue. New members are always welcome! Contact club leader Michelle Benrud at 651-923-5247 for more information.
The Goodhue Area Historical Society Museum is open for the season. June thru August Thursday & Sunday 1 to 4pm. For after hours appointments call Marie 651-923-4302 or 651-301-5731.

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



Cassondra O'Reilly

Newly Published Children's Book Filled with Light

By Keely Keller What was your favorite children's book? Mine was *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst. When I was young, I could relate to Alexander's intense dislike of lima beans. As an adult, I appreciate the notion that all bad days come to an end and there is new light in the morning to try again! Cassondra O'Reilly, a newly published children's book author from Goodhue, enjoyed The Seven Silly Eaters by Mary Ann Hoberman, especially when her grandma read it to her. Cassy, mother of five, now reads the same book to her children along with other favorites.

While there is plenty of reading going on in the O'Reilly home, there is also writing taking place. Cassy recently wrote and published a brand new children's book inspired by God and her children.

Cassy always thought it would be fun to write a children's book, but many of the ideas that came to her she'd seen in other books. She forgot about the idea for a while until she started having recurring dreams where she was in school and not getting work done. Cassy believes this was a gentle nudge from God to get her started, so she just went with it. Shortly thereafter, an idea popped into her head for *Light Bringers!* She jotted down short short phrases as they came to her. The phrases started to connect, and eventually, she felt her first book was complete. She worked with a publishing company and an illustrator to bring the book to life. Of course, Cassy's favorite part of the process was holding the hard copy in her hands and surprising family and friends with the finished product.

The book, *Light Bringers: Let Us Shine Our Light*, is all about how we can be the light of the world. Cassy hopes the book will provide an opportunity for readers (both children and adults) to dive into the word of God through verses she's included in the text.

(continued on page 4)

2022 Volksfest

95 year-old Donald Reese drives his John Deere tractor towing a cart carrying his wife, Lila. The Volksfest parade entry was in honor of their 70th wedding anniversary and the sign on the back said, "70 Years and she's still chasing me". (additional pictures on pages 6 & 7)





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Religion

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

The Leader of the Pack Rev, 4:8-11, 5:6-10

Who's your favorite racer? Could be Nascar, Indy, Kentucky Derby, cross country, or in our area: Motor Cross. Adoring fans spend money and time obtaining information, photos, and tidbits about their favorite stars. They form "Fan clubs' and spend time watching them, going to the races, cheering them on- even betting on them. After poring over the material and resources to 'get to know' the racer; fans feel as if they really know their heroes. But do they? Do we really know our heroes? Oftentimes we can be disappointedthey aren't the people we had hoped they would be.

There is one 'hero' that is supreme and over all and He will never disappoint us. Jesus is His name. When you know Jesus, you know hope. The people in our lives may change, they may disappoint, but we can know Jesus and then we'll know true hope!

The world that the apostle John was living in was evil- there was prejudice, persecution, and wars and hatred. For us too, we live in a world that is far, far, from perfect- and filled with all kinds of evil and deprivation. That's why the picture in Revelations 4 is so powerful that John shares with us. The experience is very similar to Isaiah's and so is the song that was being sung. They sang, 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. This song sets Jesus apart from all other gods- being holy means being set apart. It also means pure and powerful. It's not evil that has all the power but God in His holiness- that power is over all other power. That power is omnipotent and forever! We can trust in His power and justice now and forever. Because of his holiness and justice, we can have hope in the future- no matter what happens in the world around us.

The living creatures around the throne give recognition to Jesus- they knew Him, the one that was and is and is to come- He is the eternal One. Because they knew Him, they bowed down and laid their crowns at His feet. They acknowledged his sovereignty and authority. Jesus is worthy of all their praise. He is worthy of your and my praise too. When we acknowledge His authority and His power and majesty- we acknowledge that He is able to take care of the world and all of His people here as well. We are not without resource, we are not alone, He is with us. He has a plan for us. When we KNOW Jesus we can know Hope in the future.

The lion of the tribe of Judah is worthy-Jesus has triumphed over the grave! There was no one found worthy- but the Lion of Judah, the Lamb of God and He is worthy! A lamb that looked as if it had been slainbut it is alive. Jesus paid the price, and the sacrifice has been satisfied. Now he appears alive as one that had been slain- the marks of the crucifixion remain, yet He is alive forevermore!!!

John wants us to see recognize that Jesus is supremely powerful, all knowing and the He

(Holy Trinity Parish Office has sacramental records and St. Columbkill, Belle Creek, since m

.: 8:15AM - 8:35AM Confessi

has won the victory over sin and death by His death of the cross and resurrection 3 days later! Jesus is all powerful, and He willingly gave His ALL for us.

There is a perfect harmony between Jesus and His Father that is threaded throughout the entire book of Revelations. As Jesus took the book there is an outpouring of worship- celebrating-The 24 elders fall down before Him. The prayers of the saints are presented to Him, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders are worshiping and singing a new song; Vs 9-10 "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.'

This is a new song, the old was one of the laws and of sacrifice. No other song would fit- so John calls it a new song- one he had never heard or experienced before. "You are worthy." Only Jesus fit the bill. He alone is worthy. He is God's one and only Son- sent to be 100% man and 100% God living among humankind on earth. He is the only one who never sinned- lived a life totally and completely committed to God His Father. Jesus willingly laid His life down for the sins of all people of all time forever! He alone could be our redemption. He alone is worthy of all our praise. He alone is God's

tion, has been purchased by the blood of Jesus for God. We are purchased so that we may belong to God.

When we are followers of Jesus Christ we are chosen. We don't have to go through the ancient priests any longer- we can approach the presence of God through prayer whenever we desire. When Jesus died on the cross he took down the barrier and opened wide the holy of holies so that anyone who believes in Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord has access. Jesus is our mediator. We can go to him anytime and He will hear us and will answer.

When Jesus returns as the Lamb of God it matters what we know about Him. It matters if we believe He is who He says He is. It matters if we know Him now or only when it will be too late. What do you believe about Jesus and who He is?

We make the decision to believe Jesus in our hearts and our heads. It isn't enough to only say we believe or to show up to church or to Sunday school. Our belief in who Jesus is will show up every day- each hour. Are we loving, trusting, open and caring? Does God get first place every morning? Are we only Christians on Sunday morning? If we don't have who Jesus is settled in our hearts we will be lost on the day of judgement. Without Jesus there is no hope, there is no future. He has full control. He sees all and He is allpowerful. We can trust him with our future. We can trust Him with the future of our





Page 2

Obituaries

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

Paul Carl Betcher

July, 2022

Paul Carl Betcher, 72, of Goodhue, died



Thursday, June 9, 2022, at Mayo Clinic Hospital Methodist Campus in Rochester, surrounded by family. He was born November 7, 1949, in Red Wing, to Carl and

I r e n e

(Gerdes)

Betcher. He was baptized at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hay Creek and attended St. Peter's Parochial School and Church, where he was confirmed, and was a 1967 graduate of Goodhue High School. He furthered his education at the University of MN where he received a bachelor's degree. On April 17, 1971, he was united in marriage to Linda Stemmann. Paul farmed on Linda's family farm until his "retirement" when he sold his dairy cattle. He continued to raise crops and steers until present. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in rural Goodhue, Bellechester American Legion Post 598 and a past member of the Goodhue Jaycees. Paul's passion was farming but he also enjoyed fishing, deer hunting, watching his farm eagles and watching his grandchildren's sporting events.

He is survived by four children, Cammy (Dave) Kohutko of Lake City, Travis (Shannon) Betcher of Goodhue, Nicole Betcher of Goodhue and Scott (Beth) Betcher of Lakeville; five grandchildren, Madisen and

Taylor Betcher and Emelyn, Greyson and Oliver Betcher; four siblings, Bill (Judy) Betcher of Cannon Falls, Curt (Kathi) Betcher of Rapid City, SD, Dave (Kay) Betcher of Red Wing, Ruth Betcher of Rochester; two sisters-in-law, Krista Betcher of Northfield and Diane (Dennis) Johnson of Cannon Falls and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda in 2015; infant son and a brother, Larry Betcher. Funeral service was at 11 a.m. Monday, June 13, 2022, at St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Goodhue. Reverend Todd Engel officiated. Burial with military honors by the Bellechester Legion Post 598 was at the church cemetery. Lunch was served at the church following the services. Visitation was 3-6 p.m. Sunday, June 12, at the church. Family requested masks to be worn.

In lieu of flowers memorials are preferred to St. John's Church or the Bellechester American Legion Post 598. Arrangements handled by Mahn Family Funeral Home, Bodelson-Mahn Chapel. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com Belvidere Township, Goodhue, Minnesota, to Harry and Margaret (Heitman) Diercks. He attended schools in Wabasha and Goodhue County, graduating from Red Wing Central High School in 1951. During high school he worked for several area farmers. While still in school he joined the Navy Reserve. After graduating he went on active duty with the Navy, serving from 1951-1953. He was stationed on a destroyer in Korean waters.

He married Marilyn Kohrs on January 1, 1954. He worked at several jobs before starting at Riedell Shoe in March of 1955 as a floor worker. He retired as plant manager after 40 years.

In 1962 they moved to a small farm in Belvidere Township where he farmed evenings and weekends until moving to Red Wing in 2006.

Giving blood was very important to Stanley. He was a 10-gallon donor.

He was a member of St. Peters Lutheran Church, Belvidere and held many church offices. He enjoyed his factory job, farming, his 1930 model A, and sports. Especially watching his grandchildren's sporting activities.

Stanley is survived by his wife of 68 years, Marilyn; 3 sons, David (Sue) of Red Wing, Bill (Ruth) of Brookings, South Dakota, and Brad (Linda) of Red Wing; 9 grandchildren, Tally Diercks, Brittany (Ben) O'Reilly, Zachary Diercks, Caleb (Joan) Diercks, Samuel (Mallory) Diercks, Brady (Leeann) Diercks, Noah (Alex) Diercks, Matthew (Kelly) Diercks and Allie Nissen; 21 greatgrandchildren; siblings, John (Elaine), Dean (Mary), Jerry (Sue), Marcia Luhman, Ruth (Richard) Berg, and Kathleen (Fran) Jonas; sisters-in-law, Elaine, Janice and Linda Diercks; as well as many nieces and nephews, cousins, other family and many friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, grandson, Ross Diercks; siblings; Richard, Ralph, Roger, Edith Milligan, Maxine Wiech and Judy O'Reilly; brothers-in-laws, Dean Luhman, Dale Wiech and Jim O'Reilly.

A funeral service was at 11 a.m., Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Belvidere. Rev. Steve Frenz officiated. Visitation was 4-7 p.m., Monday, June 20, 2022 at the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Bodelson-Mahn Chapel, Red Wing and one hour prior to the service at church. Burial was at St. Peter's Cemetery. Memorials are preferred to the charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left for the family atwww.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com

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Stanley Gerald Diercks Stanley Gerald Diercks, 89, of Red Wing, died Thursday, June 16, 2022 at his home at Deer Crest. He was born August 6, 1932 in





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Community & Sports

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

Newly Published Children's Book Filled with Light

(continued from page 1)

She provided the following summary:

Who are we? We are light bringers! Come along and join us on this mighty mission as the children of God HE calls us to be. Dive into what the Word of God has to say on how to be the light of this world. Let us shine our light to bring His glory to all of those around us!

Light Bringers: Let Us Shine Our Light shines Cassondra's light on anyone who reads her book. She encourages others to share their gifts, especially when God puts it on your heart. "If that's writing a book like me, being an artist, playing music, helping others, teaching, woodworking, etc., whatever your gift from God may be, trust in Him and do it. Not only will it bless others but also bring God's glory into your life..."

When asked if Cassy plans to write more books, she responded with, "We will see what God puts in my heart and go from there!" Cassandra's first book is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Xulon Press.



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Goodhue Boys Basketball Camp

The Goodhue Boys Basketball program recently held their annual summer camp. Nearly 100 participants took part in a camp that ran from June 6th-June 9th. The camp is put on by the boys basketball coaching staff including Mark Opsahl, Jacob McNamara, Mike De-Weese, and Matt Halverson.

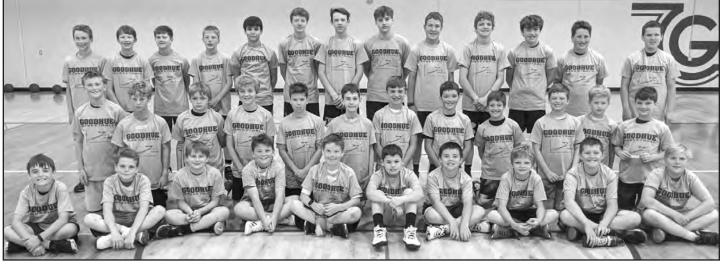


1-4 Grade

Front Row: Taylor Richardson, Garrett Peters, Eli Roschen, Griffin Marquardt, Eric Meyer, Miles Breuer, Paxton Thomforde, Finnegan Lodermeier, Carter Huntley, Joe Gangelhoff, Connor Nelson, Cole Jablonski, Edwin Gronvall

Middle Row: Lewis Von Knobelsdorff, Carson Nobles, Lincoln Dicke, Virgil Dicke, Zach Graveman, Cameron Schofield, Jence Fitzgerald, Bergan Wieme, Garret Lodermeier, Connor Dicke, Micah Diercks, Jakobe Agenten, Kade Agenten, Lane Wytaske. Back Row: Taye Roschen, Eyean Jennings, Walton Gronvall, Gavin Gangelhoff, Wyatt Gangelhoff, Caleb Schofield, Caleb Hanson, Joey

Back Row: Taye Roschen, Evean Jennings, Walton Gronvall, Gavin Gangelhoff, Wyatt Gangelhoff, Caleb Schofield, Caleb Hanson, Joey Buck, Keiten Matthees, Jay Roschen, Kevin Meyer, Jaxon Harrell, Mason Jaeger



5-8 Grade

Front Row: Kipton Thomforde, Jack Buck, Brody Doerhoefer, Tobias Lodermeier, Ethan Weckerling, Mitchell Poston, Max Bremer, Wyatt Klindworth, Wilson Breuer, Brayden Hinck

Middle Row: Gus Raasch, Brady McNamara, Dylan Klindworth, Jackson Loderemeier, Jeffrey Huntley, William Peterson, Corbin Jaeger, Duncan Poncelet, Logan Ganser, Calvin Brinkman, Cole Ganser Back Row: Wesley Ryan, Ayden Horsman, Owen Roschen, Cam Agenten, Colten Lohman, Brady Harrell, Carter Dicke, Aly Loos, Atticus

Back Row: Wesley Ryan, Ayden Horsman, Owen Roschen, Cam Agenten, Colten Lohman, Brady Harrell, Carter Dicke, Alx Loos, Atticus Miller, Curtis Klindworth, Cody Ryan, Rhett Miller, Vernon Gronvall



9-12 Grade

Front Row: Wyatt Finnesgard, Austin Bartholome, Caden Lodermeier, Carter Lindholm, Roland Munson, Michael Roschen, Luke Roschen, Sean Matthees, Jed Ryan.

Back Row: Max Loss, Cole Jenson, Henry Caswell, Justin Buck, Will Opsahl, Adam Poncelet, Jacob Ryan, Carson Roschen, Caden Berg, Gavin Schafer

Community

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

Goodhue **Gesundheits 4-H Club To Observe 90th Birthday**

(continued from page 1)

The following story is a brief history of the club

By Shelly Strusz, adult leader

The Goodhue Gesundheit 4-H Club was formed from an existing community social club in May of 1931 by Miss Hilda Bartlett, the county 4-H leader. The first official club meeting was held in the St. John's Lutheran Church East of Goodhue. In August of 1931, the Goodhue Township 4-H Club chose the name Goodhue Gesundheits, finding the German word meaning "good health" fitting for a club pledging the 4 h's: head, heart, hands



and health. The first club had around 9 members with Raynold voth as the first president and Bernice Matthees as the secretary and treasurer but no adult leader.

Meetings were, and still are, held monthly with the exception of August since the county fair is during that month. In addition to meeting at St. John's, the club has utilized Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Goodhue Township Hall, the Civic Club Meeting room in the basement of what was the dentist office at the time, and at members' homes. The club currently meets in the Lions' Building. Membership has been anywhere from 9 to 80 with current membership around the average of 20.

In the early years of the club, meetings were a social time for the youth with a little business meeting, singing songs, speakers, games and of course, lunch. A few years later, older youth called Junior Leaders, were asked to plan the games, do demonstrations and suggest areas that youth would like to learn more about. Around 1958 Junior Leaders and Adult Leaders took on roles as Project Leaders in the club. These leaders would plan a meeting around their project expertise. In the 50's the club had a Contact Leader, 2 Assistant Leaders, 1-2 Demonstration Leaders and an Exploring 4-H Leader. The main project areas were: dairy, beef, poultry, and sheep, child development, creative arts, veterinary science, fishing, clothing and home environment, indoor and outdoor gardening, needle art, shop, safety and fire prevention, and photography. Today's club plans the meetings in

month to have an educational demonstration and provide a snack.

Looking through the old secretary notes, books, and by asking past club members if they remember much of community service work, I found that although it was present since the 1960's, it really didn't become a focus of the club until the late 80's to early 90's. At first the community service was picking up road ditches. Around the year 2000, the Goodhue School was looking for funds to build a new playground. The Gesundheits began collecting aluminum cans to raise money for the playground. It became such a huge success that through the years money was donated not only to playgrounds but also to the Ag Museum, Rosie's Park, pianos and library books for the school and upkeep on the ball fields to name a few. The Goodhue Gesundheit 4-H Club today enjoys making and delivering fruit bags to senior homes and a Grandparents Bingo Party. We still do the regular road ditch pick up because you never know what you may find (one year we found a \$50 bill).

Our cub was not in existence for the early projects of Corn Club and Canning Club. In the 30's, baking and livestock were big project areas. In the first club, 6 of the girls took the cake baking project and met at different homes to bake. Then they tried to judge their baking to the best of their ability to make the best better. In 1935, one of the parents was quoted as saying, "If we only had had 4-H when we were boys and girls." In the 50's I kept coming across this "better grooming contest". Marlys and Joyce Hinrichs helped

September with each family choosing a me find out that this was a contest for 4-H girls put on by the county. Girls were judged on posture, nails, hair, walking and manners, although you needed to dress nicely this was not like the fashion revue. Speaking of the fashion revue, the Goodhue Gesundheit 4-H Club had a member named Fashion Revue Queen in 1959. Looking through the records of projects listed for club members we find out that the Gesundheit club has always had a very diverse group of members and projects. All livestock species have been shown by members as well as a wide variety of food and gardening projects.

Outside of the club and projects, many members have attended camps. One of the first camps mentioned was held at the Frontenac Methodist Campus where 2 club delegates were sent in 1959. Members also participated in the Jr. Leadership Conference in the Twin Cities and National 4-H Congress in 1956. More recently, members have participated in the Missoula Theatre productions, dairy judging teams, shooting sports, dog training, Citizen Washington Focus, regional camp, Cloverbud Day Camp, and Project In The Park Camp.

If you read through the books that are in the Goodhue Area Historical Museum library, you may find parents, uncles, aunts, grandparents or even great grandparents names that were members. I found that my children were 3rd or 4th generation Goodhue Gesundheit members. If you are ever looking for a fun time, come to our club meetings. I call them "organized chaos with so much fun in between".





Volksfest

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -



Although the vendor fair and bounce party were moved indoors, the rain let up and did not hamper the Volksfest bean bag tournament.



Pastor Robbin Robbert volunteers for this version of a dunk tank outside St. Peter's Lutheran Church during the burrito breakfast and quilt show that was held inside.



JT & The Gunslingers on stage Saturday night. Also performing was Bryan Anderson, a Cannon Falls area artist. Friday nights' entertainment included Rhino and the popular Hairball show.



Sand volleyball was among the popular Volksfest outdoor activities Saturday afternoon, June 11th.

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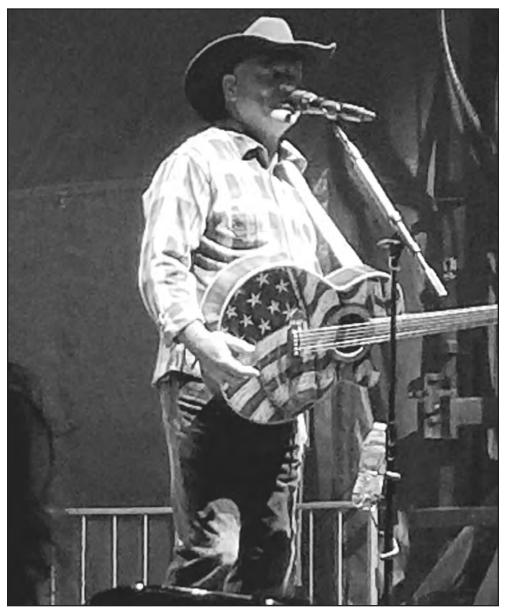
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Page 6

Volksfest





Country music star John Michael Montgomery headlined Saturday night's street dance. He drew a large crowd and took to the stage shortly after the fireworks show finished at Rosie Park.



Duane and Pat Stemmann, Grand Marshalls, led Sunday's Volksfest parade.



Newly crowned Miss Goodhue, Emma Thomforde, and attendants, Kennedy Diercks and Tally Stehr float along the parade route.



2022 Volksfest King and Queen, Paul and Deb Huneke, greet the large crowd of parade spectators gathered along the streets.



Lanny Reese grew his beard and found a hat to simulate a photo in the Goodhue Jubilee book that shows a picture of his great uncle, Art Reese Jr. who drove the same tractor towing the same threshing machine in the parade 50 years ago.

Page 7

Community

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

From a Hobby to Business

CannonBelles begin making cheese in new plant



Courtesy of Dairy Star CANNON FALLS, Minn. – After 11 years of making cheese at a pilot test plant and in turkey roasters, the ladies of Cannon-

Belles have finally moved into their new cheese plant in Cannon Falls.

"I walk into our make room and it's just this bright light and red floors," Kathy Hupf said. "It's awesome and a fun feeling of something new and exciting."

Friends Hupf, Deeann Lufkin and Jackie Ohmann first started making cheese in 2011 as a hobby but quickly found they all needed a career change. Now, more than a decade later, they are making cheese at their own cheese plant which became operational May 6.

6. "This is our fourth cheese make in the new plant so we're still trying to dial in all of the little tiny differences with equipment and ingredients; making sure that our product is very similar or the same as what we made before," said Lufkin, the head cheesemaker. "But, it's a great feeling because this plant is ours."

All of the equipment in the plant is new.

The plant is 5,800 square feet and includes a pasteurizer, two vats, cheese compress, curd mill, tanks for cleaning equipment, packaging sealer, large walk-in coolers for fresh and aged cheese, bulk tank for milk storage, testing and lab equipment, and a sub-zero freezer for cultures.

"We do want to get a new vacuum sealer and adjust some equipment on the cheese vat," Ohmann said. "Even though the equipment has only been in use for three weeks, we're already seeing what we need to change and do to grow."

Hupf agreed.

"This equipment is slightly different from what we have been using for the last six years so it's a real learning curve for us too," she said. "It's similar but yet different."

They get their milk from Blake and Chicky Otte's farm, Square Deal Dairy, near Randolph.

"They are our choice for several reasons," Hupf said. "One, they are only 5 miles away from our plant; and two, they do a great job managing their herd of cows. They produce a high-quality product for us where we can get more cheese yield out of their milk, and they have three grown sons who have come back to the farm so we see longevity in them being able to supply our milk for the long term."

Before moving into the plant this spring, they were making cheese at the University of Minnesota's pilot plant for over six years and in Ohmann's kitchen with turkey roasters prior. "They have a pilot cheesemaker's program so we were able to tap into that and get trained by master cheesemaker Ray Miller," Hupf said.

Lufkin agreed.

"We were able to use a lot of different pieces of equipment and figure out what we wanted," she said. "For example, we have chosen to use a high-temperature, short-time pasteurizer because we can grow into it, and it takes less time to pasteurize."

They also toured other facilities, asked questions and received advice from other cheesemakers before making cheese in their new plant.

One thing they learned from other cheesemakers was to leave room for expansion.

"We heard from a lot of cheesemakers not to make our make room too small so we can expand if needed," Lufkin said. "Thus, limiting our downtime so we can just add on rather than having to stop production if we expand. We really kept those in mind as we built this."

Ohmann agreed.

"The coolers are also pretty empty so we have room for growth," she said.

Lufkin went to the cheesemaker short course at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls in 2014 where she heard about someone who could write grants for them.

"We knew we needed money so we got lined up with him," Lufkin said. "It slowed us way down, and it was painful. But, the best thing that happened for us. I really think we would've been closed by now if we were still at the pace we originally wanted to be at."

Before deciding where to build, they looked at several options of either remodeling an existing building or building new.

"We learned that it was going to be safer to build our own building," Hupf said.

Lufkin agreed.

"The amount of regulations for dairy plants are pretty intense so it would have cost us more to fit into an existing building than it would to build new," she said.

This summer, the creamery plans to start tours. Consumers will be able to see cows on the farm where the milk is produced, tour the plant and go to the nearby coffee shop to eat the cheese.

The women enjoy being able to make cheese when they want and expand and grow their markets.

"At the University of Minnesota, we were only able to make cheese once a month and not at all during COVID-19," Lufkin said. "Now, we can also play and have the freedom to make new cheese flavors."

Before they only processed 1,000 pounds of cheese a month at the pilot plant and have now been able to process 400 to 500 pounds of cheese within a week.

They currently make cheese once a week on Tuesdays and make queso fresco, four aged cheddars, gouda, Colby and eight flavors of cheese curds including bacon, dill, ranch, jalapeno and grim reaper which is Carolina reaper, habanero, serrano and jalapeno peppers.

"We are also able to add our horseradish and garlic flavors back," Lufkin said. "We can now also allow Jackie to come up with new flavors." Hupf agreed. "As of now, we don't have a definite pattern of what cheeses we will make when," she said. "We will make cheese curds more often now for summer sales, but we will also start making our aged cheeses to build up our supply and get ready for our Christmas sales, giving them time to age."

They are thankful for the family and friends who have been there to support them either through volunteering or sharing their story.

"For me being an outsider, the Minnesota dairy community has been amazing," Lufkin said. "It's more of a family. Everybody is happy to answer questions, help us find answers and be there with us. I've never seen this in any other job or career I've had. It's unbelievable to me, and I am honored to be a part of it."

CannonBelles is planning a grand opening



Friends and owners of CannonBelles – (from left) Jackie Ohmann, Kathy Hupf and Deeann Lufkin – stand in front of their new cheese plant near Cannon Falls, Minnesota. The new cheese plant became operational May 6.

July 15 where customers can see the new plant.

"There's not a day that goes by that we don't get 10 to 20 inquiries about it," Hupf said. "Now we can finally say, 'We're in.' It's exciting and terrifying all at the same time."

Goodhue County Breakfast on the Farm



Goodhue FFA members wrangle a sheep that was part of an animal display they provided at the Goodhue County Breakfast on the Farm promotion.



Micah Bollman and Marshall Hernke try the tractor driving simulator set up at the Casey and Kim O'Reilly farm where 1500 people were served Breakfast on the Farm June 17th.











Community

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER



Donald and Lila Reese Celebrate 70th Wedding Anniversary



photo courtesy of Stephanie Carpenter

Donald and Lila Reese share a kiss in front of the 1949 car Don bought new and used to take his bride on their honeymoon in 1952. The car sat in front of the Goodhue Lions' Club as the couple celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary inside on June 26th. For more on the Reese family, see the October 2021 issue of the Messenger online at www.goodhuemn.com.





Harvey Mackay

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

July, 2022

Believe In Yourself Even When No One Else Does



By Harvey Mackay

Life is not a parabolic curve. It doesn't go straight up. There are a lot of lumps, a lot of bumps. I have never yet met a successful person that hasn't had to overcome either a little or a lot of adversity in his or her life. Overnight success is much more of a myth than reality.

Remember the four-minute mile? Humans had been trying to do it for centuries, since the days of the ancient Greeks. They found the old records, how the Greeks tried to accomplish this. They had wild animals chase the runners, hoping that would make them run faster. They tried tiger's milk, not the stuff you get down at the supermarket. I'm talking about the real thing. Nothing worked.

So, the experts decided it was physiologically impossible for a human being to run a mile in four minutes. Our bone structure is all wrong. Our wind resistance is too great. Humans have inadequate lung power. There were a million reasons – until one day when one human being proved the doctors, the trainers and the athletes all wrong.

In 1954, Roger Bannister showed the world that it could be done. Over the next few years, more and more people broke the fourminute mile once they realized that yes, it was possible.

When Bannister passed away in early March of this year, it brought back a lot of memories from that time in history that I remember so well.

The world was changing a great deal. People around the world were overcoming the



long-perceived physical boundaries of nature. American pilot Chuck Yeager broke the sound barrier in 1947. And who can forget Sir Edmond Hillary and his Sherpa guide Tenzing Norgay conquering Mount Everest in 1953.

Many famous people have overcome tremendous adversity to triumph:

Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft and one of the richest people in the world, dropped out of school and had his first business fail.

Oprah Winfrey overcame terrible poverty growing up in rural Mississippi to become a billionaire media mogul who has inspired millions around the world.

Albert Einstein didn't speak until he was four years old and couldn't get a job in physics for two years after graduation.

Richard Branson didn't let his dyslexia stop him from founding Virgin Group and controlling more than 400 companies.

Popular recording star Jay-Z came from a rough Brooklyn neighborhood but couldn't get signed to any record labels as a rapper. In 2013, "Time Magazine," ranked him as one of the most influential people in the world.

Vincent Van Gogh is considered one of the greatest painters of all time, yet he only sold one painting during his lifetime.

Simon Cowell, star judge from "American Idol" and "The X Factor" had a record company fail.

Botanists say trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves. Perhaps people need to meet the stresses of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A stormy period in our lives can be a prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness. That is if we keep our self-confidence and faith in the future.

Everyone faces adversity, pain, loss and suffering in life. When you go through those periods, it's hard to remember that the emotions you're feeling are only temporary. The best thing to do is to develop a plan for what you will do when these times hit and find your way to the silver lining – the place where you can feel hopeful again.

You need a personal sense of commitment, the ability to let go when appropriate, and strong values. Take charge of the things you can control, such as your treatment of others, the way you spend your time outside of work, how you think about yourself, how often you exercise, when and how to share your feelings, how to let others know you're stressed and how mature you act.

Who says that you can't accomplish your goals? Who says that you're not tougher and better and smarter and harder working and more able than your competition? It doesn't matter if they say you can't do it. The only thing that matters is if you say it. So, we all know, if we believe in ourselves, there's hardly anything that we can't accomplish.

Mackay's Moral: How you handle adversity says a lot about how you will handle success.





July, 2022

Health & Wellness

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

How to Conquer **Fatigue and Low Energy**



By Shauna Burshem, D.C.

Being tired and exhausted is one of the most common complaints in society today. To address fatigue and low energy, you need to improve mitochondrial energy production. Mitochondria are miniature organs within your body's cells. Mitochondria are the powerhouses of the cells. Mitochondria use the energy we consume from food and oxygen to provide our cells with energy to function and live. In high school biology, we were taught that mitochondria were automatic energy generators for our cells. Now science has learned that they are an essential part of metabolism. Mitochondria's ability to manufacture energy declines 10% with each decade of life. A senior citizen may have 50 -75% less mitochondria function than a younger person. In addition, Mitochondria function decreases with stress, anxiety, inflammation, sleep deprivation, environmental toxins and poor nutrition.

The most common causes of mitochondrial deficiency are eating too much omega 6 fats. Omega 6 fats are found in corn, soybeans and

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meats. Avoiding vegetable oils (corn, soy, canola, sunflower, safflower), daily consumption of red meats, dark meat chicken and turkey will help your mitochondria perform at an optimal level. Exercise on a daily basis also improves mitochondria function as well as periods fasting. Intermittent fasting 2-3 days a week will jump start your metabolism which improves how the mitochondria work. An intermittent fast is not eating for a period of 14-16 hours (which is each easy if you include the hours when you are sleeping.) Lastly, Light deficiency affects mitochondria function and is another common cause for fatigue. Sun exposure not only begins vitamin D production in the body, but also helps energy levels.

Melatonin is a hormone in the body that helps with our sleep cycle and sleep rhythm. 95% of melatonin in the body is produced by



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mitochondria when exposed to sunlight. Melatonin is a strong anti-inflammatory. This allows sunlight to focus in on cell damage caused by oxidative stress right where it's needed the most, inside the cells. Melatonin via sunlight is absolutely vital for protecting your mitochondria and protecting them from damage as you age. According to experts, swallowing melatonin is useless for this, as oral melatonin supplementation, while effective for a good night's sleep, cannot reach the mitochondria inside the cells. Only sunlight can do this. Red and infrared light directly stimulate energy production in the mitochondria. These light wavelengths also instruct the mitochondria to grow bigger and stronger. Healthy, timed, non-burning sun exposure (without sun block) is crucial for healthy mitochondria and energy levels. If you absolutely abhor being out in the sun or you have a job that prevents you from acquiring the light waves that your body needs, there are artificial lights that provide the light wavelengths needed to help with mitochondria production and improving sleep while fighting fatigue. I use the Theralight Halo Bright Light Therapy Lamp. It sits on my desk and when I am writing these articles, paying the bills, checking email or just surfing the web, the light is on providing me with the light wavelengths needed to help my mitochondria function. In addition, if you suffer from anxiety or depression, light therapy has been shown to be a very helpful adjunct therapy. FYI, the Theralight Halo Bright Light is available online for \$69.99.

Chiropractic Thought for the Week: The nervous system, via neural impulses from the brain through the spinal cord and spinal nerves to the body's cells, tissues and organs, controls every function in the body, including body chemistry. Body chemistry refers to all processes in the body, including cell production. That being said, my discussion of mitochondria health and fatigue levels must include the chiropractic effect on improving neural impulse flow which then positively affects body chemistry, including mitochondria cellular health and fatigue in the body. Spinal adjustments on a regular basis improve neural impulse flow and in turn function in the body.





I am not a doctor and not giving medical advice. I want to share my personal experience. A few years back I had the same pair of tennis shoes for a while. My knees started to hurt. I don't even know how I discovered that I needed new shoes, and nothing was wrong with my knees. I used to be a sale shopper, and don't get me wrong, sometimes I still like a good sale. But after that, I became what I like to call myself, a shoe snob. No more buying 10 pairs of \$1.99 flip flops. I buy Fit Missy PAPENFUS Flops. I have walked all day in my fit flops, and I could keep on walking

no problem. I also swear by Brooks Ghost tennis shoes and Sorel Kinetic slip-on tennis shoes. I know I am spending less money in the long run, because I buy less pairs!

MISSY'S MESSAGE

It was mother's day weekend this year, and I was riding up to our cabin with my in-laws. My mother-in-law told me her knee had been hurting and she was wondering if I thought it could be something she was eating. I asked her if she had tried a new pair of shoes? Start with a new pair of shoes and see what happens.

I knew she needed some Sorel slip on tennis shoes. After four stores, I found the style and bought them for her for mother's day. Every time I see her, she's wearing the shoes. I keep asking if the knee pain is gone still, and she says yes. Listen to your body. It might be as simple as a new pair of shoes.

Memo from MotoProz...

Mazeppa Daze starts Thursday, July 7th at 7pm with Field of Flags. Comes see us (MotoProz) in the Mazeppa Daze Parade Friday, July 8th and catch a coolie! Don't miss the best fireworks around Saturday, July 9th at dusk and the Tractor Pull Sunday, July 10th! The place to go is MotoProz!

Missy and her husband Mike own MotoProz in Mazeppa.

Government

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

Roger Kittelson -Nominating Petition Accepted for MN House 20A -A New House Seat



On June 1, Roger Kittelson of Goodhue Township was notified that his petition with close to 550 eligible voters in Goodhue, Wabasha, and Douglas Township in Dakota County was accepted by the Goodhue County Elections Officer for his candi-

Roger Kittelson

dacy to the new Minnesota House of Representatives 20A legislative seat.

Minnesota law allows Independent Candidates the opportunity to be a Minnesota House candidate if they can obtain at least 500 eligible voters signatures, address, and year of birth, on a Nominating Petition between May 17 and May 31, from voters that live in the new Minnesota House of Representatives 20A District. Roger Kittelson and many volunteers were able to gather over 500 signatures in the first 7 days and more eligible voters continued to sign the nomination petition the last 7 days. They gathered signatures in Bellechester, Goodhue, Red Wing, Hay Creek, Lake City, Cannon Falls, Miesville, Welch, Vasa, Wacouta, Wabasha, and many rural townships in all three counties.

"The main comment from voters about this nominating petition, after it was explained to our eligible voters, was; we need more independents. That statement is now our campaign slogan, as one of the main reasons for this independent candidacy is due to the factional fighting within our State political parties and we believe it needs to stop. We Need More Independents in order to improve Minnesota so we can have a responsible legislative and executive branch of government working for us in Minnesota." Roger explained.

Furthermore, I was asked by potential voters which items I wanted to accomplish if elected and I shared the issues I felt would be good for Minnesota. First a state funded 4 year old preschool program for every school in Minnesota, increased funding for police safety and public safety in the communities that need help fighting crime, and supporting current healthcare legislation referred to as Minnesota - Healthcare for All - which is a single payer health care system that eliminates the for profit healthcare insurance companies from taking our healthcare funding. These questions and answers helped gather over 9 out of 10 of the eligible voters asked to sign the nominating petition. I feel that common sense issues and courtesy will help move us forward.

Many voters asked for my professional background which included being a substitute teacher for the past 4 years in the Goodhue, Red Wing, Zumbrota, and Mazeppa schools. I have seen the advantages that a 4 year old preschool program provides our schools from kindergarten through high school. Furthermore, as a businessperson I know that a more educated workforce means our Minnesota economy will do better relative to other states. It is a good investment with great returns. These issues were the main topics we shared while obtaining the signatures. I know there are many more but education, police/public safety, and healthcare were the main issues shared during the 14 days obtaining signatures. We are excited that gathering the signatures and receiving such a strong approval will be helpful in the goal of being elected this fall.

Rogers professional background includes over 30 years as a Dairy Ingredients Marketing Manager with sales into the food, feed, and pharmaceutical industries domestically and internationally. Currently, Roger splits his time between operating a small business marketing dairy ingredients to the food and feed industries and substitute teaching in the Red Wing and Goodhue School Districts.

Roger Kittelson is the father of 4 adult children and 5 grandchildren. He is a member of the Bellechester and Zumbrota Lions Club, Goodhue-Bellechester RailRiders, Red Wing Red Mens Club, Minnesota Quilters, Minnesota Sheriffs Association, Lifetime Member Pheasants Forever, and Life Member of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. Roger was an eight year school board member with 2 years as Chairperson, and served on several ad hoc committees hiring two principals and one superintendent. He graduated from Goodhue Public School and received undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota, St Paul, MN

The new 20A legislative district includes these townships in Goodhue County - Welch, Cannon Falls, Vasa, Featherstone, Hay Creek, Belle Creek, Goodhue, Belvidere, Red Wing, and Wacouta - Wabasha County - Mount Pleasant, Lake, Pepin, Wabasha, Chester, Gilford, West Albany, and Glasgow plus Douglas township in Dakota County. The communities that are in 20A are Cannon Falls, Miesville, Welch, Red Wing, Frontenac, Lake City, Bellechester, Wabasha, and Goodhue. Since the last census our state population has grown and this legislative district is also larger and covers more rural areas.

The general election is November 8, 2022. Please get out to vote and I would appreciate your support.









Local Government

- GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER -

Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes May 18, 2022 @ 6:00PM

Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jody Gordon at 5:00 p.m. Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Jody Gordon, Council people Rich Majerus, Kyle Blattner, as well as City Clerk Lisa Redepenning and Treasurer Kyle McKeown were present. Jered Buxengard was present via phone. Also present was Jeremy Mancelmann.

Minutes of April, 2022 regular meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Kyle Blattner to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed and a motion by Rich Majerus with a second by Mark Gerken to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

• Sewer Project Update – design committee designated to review water meter, data collection, and billing software options. Council designated Rich Majerus, et al as well as possibly rotating additional member to be on design committee.

New business:

• J. Mancelmann – Allowance of trailer to be moved to another current city lot. Contract for deed may be occurring on a property and he inquired about moving his current trailer onto this property. Current ordinance was reviewed and discussed. Council declined the possibility of moving a trailer onto a city lot due to current ordinances.

• Liquor License – Bellechester Tavern & Legion. Motion was made by Kyle Blattner with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard to approve the liquor licenses for both Bellechester Tavern and American Legion. Motion carried.

• Building Permit – Bellechester Tavern build new walk-in cooler. Building a walk in cooler behind the east end of the building, adding to the building. Plans were passed out for review. Motion was made by Jered Buxengard with a 2nd by Mark Gerken to approve the building permit as presented. Motion carried.

• Building Permit – Sump Pump, basket interior drain tile – 309 1st Street. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to approve the building. Motion carried.

• Dance permit – Bellechester Tavern - 7/1 event – Motion was made by Kyle Blattner with a 2nd by Rich Majerus to approve the dance permit. Motion carried.

• Removal of excess vehicles on residential property complaints – Vehicle removal was discussed. Council discussed a possible letter with copy of ordinance to all city residents in the utility billing sent in June.



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Tabled until next month.

• Clean up of K. Poncelet property complaint – see above.

• Parking semis near county road intersection obstructing view complaints - Poncelet Metals.

• Approve opening of account for Interim financing – Motion was by Jered Buxengard with a 2nd by Rich Majerus to approve the opening of checking account that is required for the interim financing funds. Motion carried.

• Approve Owner-Engineer Agreement for Sewer Project – Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to approve the owner-engineer agreement as presented for the sewer project. Motion carried.

• Finances for Fire and Ambulance Associations – discuss. New pumper truck purchase is in the future for fire association. Ambulance association is in need of new cots. \$4000 for fire and \$1000 for ambulance was recommended. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to approve these donation to both of these agencies to assist in these purchases. Motion carried.

Engineer Report – Meter discussion will need to be done during the design mode of

the project.

Clerk Report – Election training – attended training on 5/10 in Goodhue County. FYI – filing period for council and mayor seats is 8/2 – 8/16. Interim Loan Application – We have been approved for this loan. Solid Waste Official William Root From Goodhue County – contacted us offering himself to attend a meeting if you wish to discuss recycling, waste reduction and reuse efforts in Goodhue County.

 $\label{eq:treasurer} Treasurer \ Report - mostly \ current.$

Water/Wastewater/Facility Report – flushing hydrants on Friday morning.

Mayor Concerns: Fence issue with resident discussed.

Council Concerns: Branch removal near roadway was discussed. **Adjourn**

Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Kyle Blattner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm. Next meeting is June 15th @ 6:00 p.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning City Clerk

City of Goodhue EDA Meeting Minutes May 25, 2022

Update was given on Community Gardens, City Dog Park and grants, Façade projects and new business entrepreneur.

Motion by Thuman and seconded by Hahn to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0. Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Buxengard City Clerk

City of Goodhue City Council Meeting Minutes June 8, 2022

Present were Mayor Bien, Council persons Brunkhorst, Hahn and Thuman. Also present were Adam Lodermeier, Officer Sievers, Duane Aland, Joe Benda, Laural Stincen, Mary Ramboldt, Chief Smith, Treyben Kehren, Ronelle Schulz, Jason Mandelkow, Motion by Hahn and seconded by Thuman to approve the agenda.

Motion by Hahn and seconded by Frunkan to approve the dgenda. Motion by Hahn and seconded by Brunkhorst to approve the May 25, 2022 minutes.

Motion by Brukhorst and seconded by Brukhorst to approve the total 25, 2022 initials. Motion by Brukhorst and seconded by Thuman to approve the pool variance for Nelson. Motion by Brunkhorst and seconded by Thuman to approve a deck building permit for Bitzan.

Motion by Thuman and seconded by Brunkhorst to approve the bills. Motion by Hahn and seconded by Thuman to adjourn the meeting. Respectfully Submitted Jill Buxengard City Clerk



Changes in Latitudes, **Changes in Attitudes**

Meeting the Old People who Once **Lived in Our** House



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.

We bought an old house in Tennessee. It is not as old as the house up the street that was once reportedly used as a stop in the underground railroad prior to the Civil War, but it has a history. Our friend Jim's grandparents used to live in the house, and he still lives nearby. He drives past every day. He stopped in with his sister Pat, to meet the new owners of their family's house. That is how we got acquainted with some the original owners. Jim's son Danny is the local newspaper publisher and the bedroom upstairs that I use as my office was once Danny's bedroom when he was a kid. I find that an interesting coincidence.

Aulsie was the family matriarch. She seems to have ruled the family with an iron fist. Aulsie is as far back as we can find as an original owner of the house. She owned about 70 acres on this lot and accumulated

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land by marrying husbands. Three by our count, and she outlived them all. Our new friends brought us pictures of the house many years ago as well as pictures of Aulsie, who was an old woman before any photos were taken of her. The stories about Aulsie lacked affection, but gave you a kind of a healthy respect for her and a hope she wasn't still around listening in. One of the pictures was of Aulsie and couple of her old lady friends sitting in the living room, each with a cigar in their mouth.

Pat relates that she was a young girl when she remembered seeing Aulsie on the front porch with a pistol on her lap. Seems someone was shooting frogs in the pond and the old woman was going to put an end to it. When Pat was a teenager, she was staying with her grandmother and snuck out of the house with a couple friends to join some boys swimming at the pond. Aulsie told Pat's dad that "the boys had no pants on and had whiskey bottles in their pockets." Her dad was very mad and gave her "what fer" and so she stormed back to grandma Aulsie's house to defend her honor. She found herself looking at Aulsie, down the barrel of a shotgun.

Her Uncle Garfield lived up on top of the hill in an old log cabin and was the local drunk. Her dad and Garfield would raise a hog each summer and butcher it in the fall for meat. Garfield would trade his hog for cases of beer and stay drunk for weeks. They would send eight-year-old Pat up to find out if he was dead or just still drunk.

Pat and her husband moved into the old farmhouse when they were first married. Her last recollection of Garfield was watching him come down the hill one day while she was eight months pregnant. She picked up the shotgun and walked out on the porch where she dared him to come closer because he was not in range yet. He looked at her and said, "you would really shoot me, wouldn't you"? She said yes, and he turned around and headed back up the hill.

Life could be rough out in the backwoods Tennessee country and girls learned to be tough to survive.

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WRITERS WANTE





By RosaLin Alcoser

I absolutely love to watch fireworks. Last Fourth of July I watched them from my apartment window. At University I went to watch the start of year fireworks every year. I've photographed them for newspapers and have watched them go off over the lake a number of times. In fact I just watched some while visiting my grandpa over Father's Day weekend this year.

This love of fireworks has not always been the case. Like most small children I was not a fan of fireworks, mainly because they were loud and I did not quite understand how they worked. On the Fourth of July, when I was two, I watched the fireworks with a tiny child's lawn chair over my head; my mother says that I told them at the time that the chair was to protect my hair from catching on fire from the fireworks.

As I got a little bit older I started being

less afraid of fireworks for a few years. By less afraid I mean that I was OK with sparklers and fireworks that were set off far away from where I was watching them from.

One Fourth of July when I was probably seven, I was excited about the sparkler cake that we had for a birthday that same day. In full honesty I was a bit disappointed when it was not an actual cake, but it was still pretty cool.

Fireworks were less bad for me until the next Fourth of July when I was eight. That year one of Grandpa's buddies who will not be named, you know who are, came over to set off fireworks from the deck while we were on the deck. He brought a Mad Dog firework that lasted forever; and let me tell you, you do not want to share a deck space with one of those things.

After that I was scared of fireworks again for a one to three of the next couple of years and proceeded to spend the next couple Fourth of July fireworks in the basement because I was now more afraid of the fireworks then I was of the furnace. I was also afraid of Grandpa's buddy after that because of the Mad Dog firework.

Thankfully for me and my family, who like to go to fireworks, I am no longer afraid of fireworks unless they are set off on the deck while I am on it.



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