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JULY, 2022

Volume 19 • Issue 11

Dundas Dukers to Host 2022 Baseball Tournaments

The Minnesota Baseball Association and the Dundas Dukers announced they will be hosting the State Class B and Class C tournaments in Dundas, Faribault and Miesville.



Tournaments will be held on three weekends starting August 19-21, August 26-28, and September 2-5, 2022. The Class B title game will be played at Dundas on September 5, and the Class C title game will be played at Faribaults Bell Field on September 5.

(continued on page 4)

54th Annual Randolph Hampton Chicken BBQ and Street Dance



The 54th Annual Randolph Hampton Chicken BBQ and Street Dance will be held Saturday August 20, 2022 in Randolph. The Annual Fund Raising event will be serving from 3 PM - 8 PM with the Street Dance from 8 PM - Midnight. Chad Johnson and the MN T's will perform Live.

In 2001, the City of Randolph and the City of Hampton combined their volunteer fire departments into what is now the Randolph-Hampton Fire District. With a roster of 32 Volunteer Firefighters, the department provides fire and rescue service to the cities of

Hampton and Randolph as well as parts of seven rural townships covering 70 square miles.

Watch the website and facebook page for updates.

Dig Pink Volleyball Fundraiser Moving to Tackle Cancer

Courtesy of Randolph School

We are moving our annual Dig Pink volleyball fundraiser to Tackle Cancer this year. Our initiative has been strongly supported over the years, and we are ready to build on the foundation that is already in place. The fundraiser will be run in the same manner as always, along with some fun new additions. All funds will be donated to the Randy Shaver Cancer Research and Community Fund by choice of the Rocket Football program. In addition, we will still support a local family through our "Community Spotlight" and senior head-shaving tradition.

We are excited about this new adventure, and we look forward to the positive impact our community can continue to make towards advances in cancer research. This event will be held Friday, September 30th, at Klahr Field. If you have any questions or are interested in participating in Tackle Cancer as an annual sponsor, please contact Kate Esser (esserk@district195.org).

Announcements

• **St. Mark's Lutheran Church Annual Feast & Festival August 7, 2022. Feast from 11a.m.-1p.m.**

(see ad on page 3)

• **Lunch Bunch** is a group of RHS Alumni that meets at 11 a.m. the third Monday of the month for lunch at Little Oscar's. All alumni and friends are invited to join us.

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

Dennison Days August 5 & 6, 2022



The Dennison Lions Club will host Dennison Days coming up August 5 & 6, with many old favorites returning to the weekends event schedule.

Check the website www.dennisondays.org for any schedule updates. Mar Leas is hosting their Street Dance with DJ with DJ Justin this year to kick off the celebration.

Saturday morning brings the Waffle Breakfast and the BBQ cook off. If you want to participate in the BBQ cook off, just give Steve a call or text at 612-968-9547, or e-mail him at kingpin1876@gmail.com.

City Wide Garage sales are also part of the days events. Just look around for the signs. Dads Waffle Breakfast returns and serves from 8 AM to 11 AM under the big tent on main street hosted by The Dennison Church.

(continued on page 4)

#GRANTSTRONG BENEFIT TO SUPPORT J.J. GRANT SILENT AUCTION - BEER BASH

Saturday, August 6, 2022
5:00-8:00 PM



Watch Facebook for any updates
27 5th Street
Farmington



NEW HOURS

Wed.-Sat. Kitchen Open 3-8PM
Sun. 8:30AM-8:00PM
Bar Open Until Closing



New Trier, MN 55031
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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 disappointed- they 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 slain- but 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 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 worshipping 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 Son and victorious Lion of Judah and Victorious Lamb of God! Every sinner, from every tribe and language and people and nation, 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 all-powerful. We can trust him with our future. We can trust Him with the future of our world. Jesus is the Lamb of God. To Know Jesus is to Know Hope Now!



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RANDOLPH BAPTIST CHURCH

29020 Dawson Avenue in the heart of Randolph
(adjacent to Randolph Public School grounds).
Sunday School 9:00a.m.
(children, teen, and adult classes)
Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.
Jesus and Me (JAM) Kids Club 3:00-5:00p.m.
first and second Wednesday of the school month.
Pastor Dennis Ingolfsland
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Wednesday Evening Youth Group 7:00-8:30p.m.

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*Email your church announcements, schedule, etc.
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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Smells Beautiful
"Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me." — Mark 14:6
After Jesus died, his body was supposed to be anointed. That was the custom with dead bodies, to honor the deceased and help keep away the smell of decay. But when a group of women came to anoint Jesus' body in the tomb (Mark 16), they could not find it! Jesus had risen from the dead.
This helps to explain an important detail in our reading for today. A few days before Jesus died, a woman anointed him at a dinner gathering using expensive perfume. Some of the guests were offended at the waste, but Jesus was not. He said, "She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial" (v. 8). Even if the woman didn't know it then, her act of honor and devotion hinted at the resurrection; she was anointing Jesus because he wouldn't be anointed later.
Jesus said that what she did was beautiful. Any action that points to the resurrection of Jesus is beautiful. When we preach about the resurrection today, it is beautiful. When a hospice nurse gives tender care to a dying person, it is beautiful. When we raise children to live with courage in a world of fear, it is beautiful. When we are willing to give up trying to control things that we can't control, even though it makes us afraid of our limits, it is beautiful. Jesus rose from the dead, and celebrating that fact is a beautiful way to live.
Risen Lord Jesus, we praise you for your victory over death. We praise you that as the anointed King, you would die and rise again to give us new life. Amen.

The Church Directory is Sponsored by:



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& 1st Wednesday at 11:00a.m.
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7:30a.m. Monday Mass
Questions? Call Mon.-Friday 651-437-9030

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9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Coffee After
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
Questions? Call 507-645-0042

Carol Mae (Olsen) Remme

Carol Mae (Olsen) Remme, 80, of Dennison, died Friday, June 24, 2022 at her home with her family by her side.



She was born May 1, 1942 in Ruthton, Minnesota to Albert and Valborg (Christansen) Olsen, one of five children. She was baptized and confirmed in Ruthton

and graduated in 1959 from Ruthton High School. She continued her education at the Minneapolis Business College graduating in 1960 with a degree in Private Secretarial and Finishing Degree. Shortly after graduating she met Marlo Remme at the Prom Ballroom. They were married on August 10th, 1963 in

Ruthton for 49 years until Marlo's passing. They had two sons and one daughter. Carol and Marlo spent time together at tractor pulls, threshing shows, Model T tours and sporting events for their children. Carol worked at various jobs at First National Bank, 3M, and Sheldahl, bookkeeping for her family and was very hard working.

Carol was known for her love of her family and mostly her precious grandchildren. She loved tending to her gardens, enjoyed cooking and puzzles and playing accordion. She loved spending time with her family and friends.

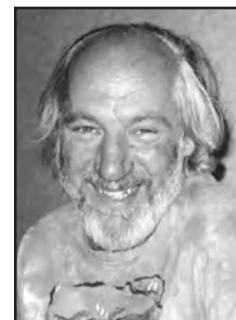
Carol was a very loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She will be deeply missed by all. Carol took great care of Marlo and her brother-in-law Albert Remme in their final years with deep devotion.

She is survived by her sons, David Remme

of Dennison, Dennis (Pam Freeman of Henderson) Remme of Dennison; daughter, Dawn (and Greg) Huisman of Ellsworth; grandchildren, Dalton (Brooke) Huisman of Adrian, Alexa (Shadrach) Wacker of Jackson, Hayden Remme of Northfield; great-grandchildren, Ryder Huisman Booker Wacker; sisters, Betty Vos of Ruthton, Alice (Dan) Mikel of West St. Paul, Helen (and Gary) Jorgensen of Arco, Nancy Greenfield of Balaton.

She was preceded in death by her husband Marlo Remme; and her parents Albert and Valborg Olsen; brothers-in-law, Melvin Vos, Kenneth Greenfield, Albert Remme; sister-in-law, Evelyn Remme

Funeral services were held on Thursday, June 30th, 2022, at 11AM, at Vang Lutheran Church 3060 Cty 49 Blvd. Dennison, with a visitation one-hour prior. Pastor Grant Aaseng officiated. Interment was in the Vang Lutheran Church Cemetery in Dennison. Memorials are preferred to Vang Lutheran Cemetery or Vang Lutheran Church.



He served in the Vietnam War from June 26, 1969 to March 24, 1971. He was honorably discharged on March 24, 1971. He married Sharon (Leese) Pedersen in December, 1976. Together they

had 3 children, Tabettha, Corinna and Wayne. They later divorced. He was a steel worker at North Star Steel (Cargill) for 25 years, until his retirement in 2000. He will be known for his quick wit, sense of humor, and love for his family.

He was preceded in death by his father, Clifford; mother, Eleanor; brothers, Stephen and David; and stepfather, Duane Darrow.

Kenneth is survived by his children, Tabettha Popp (Brett Reilein), Corinna Popp (Mike Bledsoe), and Wayne Popp (Alisha Fitzpatrick); grandchildren, Karmen, Carson and Conner Kronenberger; and great-grandson, Chase Klahr. Kenneth is also survived by brothers, Michael (Mary) Popp, Rick (Kathy) Popp, and Jeff Popp; sister, Deb Fredrickson; and many nieces and nephews.

Burial with full military honors will be held on Monday, August 22 at 9:00 am at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Please meet at Assembly Area #3 at 8:45 am.

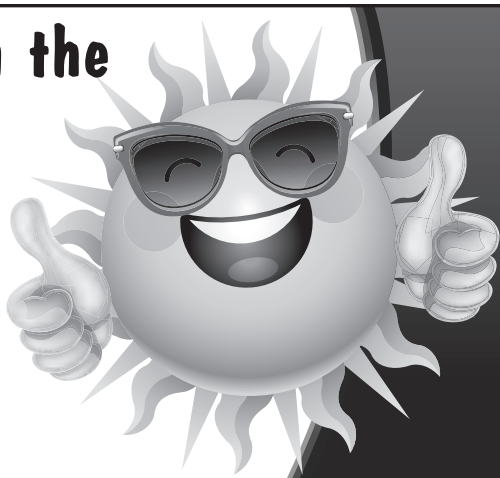
Kenneth Popp

Kenneth Popp passed away on July 4, 2022, at Three Links Care Center in Northfield, MN, after a courageous battle with bladder cancer.

Kenneth Wayne Popp was born on January 18, 1950 in New Ulm, MN, to Clifford and Eleanor Popp. Kenneth graduated from Randolph High School in 1968. On August 20, 1968, he enlisted in the United States Army.

Place Your Ad in the August Issue of the Messenger!

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Sunday
AUGUST 07 2022

FESTIVITIES

— Church Service —
10am

— Live Music —
featuring blue grass music

— Live Auction —
bidding begins at 1pm

— Cash Raffle —
\$20 tickets*
cash payouts totalling \$3,000
winners announced at event

— Kids Activities —
bouncy houses, petting zoo,
dunk tank and much more!

— Bake Sale —
homemade goods

FEAST
11am - 1:00pm
BBQ PULLED PORK
FRESH SWEET CORN
BAKED BEANS
COLE SLAW
PIES
ROOT BEER FLOATS

Meal Ticket Prices

	Presale	Day of Event
Adults (ages 12+)	\$12*	\$15
Children (ages 3-11)	\$5*	\$7

*To purchase meal or raffle tickets in advance, email us at stmarkschurchfestival@gmail.com

28595 Randolph Blvd
Randolph, MN 55065
507-263-9182

Dennison Days August 5 & 6, 2022

(continued from page 1)

The Classic Car Show hosted by the Clutchmen Club will again be on main street across from the Fireside. Those interested in the Car Show can also contact Steve King at 612-968-9547.

Other activities include Euchre, which will be at The Fireside Lounge this year, and the Truck and Tractor Pull on the north side of town. The 5 K Run/Walk returns this year. Participants can sign up after 7 AM on main street and be a part of a fun activity to help raise funds for the Dennison Community Lutheran Church and their outreach programs. The race kicks off at 8.

For participating runners, a Free Waffle Breakfast is included that you may enjoy before or after the run.

The Cannon Falls Lions Food Stand will be

on main street to keep you filled up with your favorite summer "fair" food. The Cow Milking Contest is at 10 AM, with the Dairy Princesses scheduled to join in, and this years special guests will be announced soon. MarLeas will host a bags tournament, and Kids Bingo will begin about 11 under the big tent. The kids pedal pull was unable to happen this year due to the passing of the pedal pull operator, and scheduling conflicts for a replacement. The Lions Club hopes to find an replacement operator for 2023.

The Dennison Days Parade is at 1:30 PM, with a \$100 Prize for Best Float.

Afternoon events include

POWER TOOL and DESIGNER PURSE Bingo under the big top at 2:30 PM, and Minute to Win It returns to the stage at 5 PM/

Again this year is FREE EVENING ENTERTAINMENT under the Mainstreet tent, with the return of the Variety Band DRIVER 5 taking the stage.

Remember to get your Raffle Tickets as well for your chance at the \$500.00 Grand Prize. Tickets Available at Heritage Bank, Dennison Depot, Fireside Lounge, MarLeas, or any Lions Club Member

Watch www.dennisondays.org for updates.

Dundas Dukes to Host 2022 Baseball Tournaments

(continued from page 1)

The Class B tournament will have games taking place in Miesville and Dundas with 16 teams playing in the tournament.

The Class C tournament will have games at all three sites, with the finals being played in Faribault.

Mike Ludwig, co-manager of The Dukes, stated they expect crowds of over 500 for most of the games, and 8000-12000 people attending over the three weekends.

This will be the second time Dundas has been a host for the state tournament. Dundas and Northfield hosted the tournament in 2003 with attendance for those games totaling over 12,000.

The Dundas Dukes have won 5 Class B State Titles, in 1982, 1988, 1998, 1999 and 2015, and has been runner-up 8 times in years 1975, 1980, 1981, 1996, 2003, 2008, 2010 and 2019.

The Dukes are also looking for volunteers to help with the tournaments. If you are interested, please reach out to Mike Ludwig at 612-203-7463 or find more information at their website, www.dundasdukes.com



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CAR SHOW




Grain Belt
The Friendly Beer

AUGUST **6TH, 2022**

DENNISON DAYS CAR SHOW
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 2022
DENNISON, MINNESOTA
START TIME 8:00 AM - TROPHIES 1:00 PM
15 TROPHIES/PLAQUES AWARDED
email: kingpin1876@gmail.com for more information



19th Annual Dennison Days Truck and Tractor Pull



Saturday, August 6, 2022

Brought to you by: Clutchmen Car Club and Riverland Pullers
Weighing in starts at 7:30 AM • Classic Tractors starts at 8:30 AM
(Parking is limited this year at track, extra parking by Elevator downtown)

Tractors Classes:

Classic	3,500 to 11,000 LBS
Out of Field:	3,000 to 22,000 LBS
Hot Farm:	5,000 to 12,000 LBS
Super Farm:	9,500 LBS

~ Tractors All 1st Place Trophies ~

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Diesel:	8500 Stock Turbo and Non-Turbo 8500 Modified and 8500 Open Class
Street Mod:	5,200-5,800-6,200 LBS

~ Trucks All 1st Place Trophies and Cash Payout for Some Classes ~

For information call Larry E. 507-789-6692.



Clutchmen Inc.

Est. 1958

Making Connections for Lasting Partnerships



Tim Penny
So. MN Initiative Foundation

Throughout the month of June I had the pleasure of visiting with folks from across Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation's (SMIF) 20-county region during our Sprout events. These events, which were held in New Ulm, Dundas and Winona, were an opportunity to directly share SMIF's resources and stories so that more people can take advantage of the funding and support services that we offer to help communities in the region thrive.

Our staff are often out on the road meeting with clients, hosting trainings and visiting with partners. However, we do not get very many opportunities to bring people from all three of our program areas – Early Childhood,



Economic Development and Community Vitality – together. The Sprout events did just that. Similar to a Business After Hours, these events were primarily about networking, forging new connections and doing what we do best – collaborating for regional vitality.

Not only were people from all backgrounds able to come together in one location to make important connections, but we also had a

short program at each Sprout event during which several of our partners shared their stories of how working with SMIF has impacted their communities.

Betty Uehling, director of Early Childhood and Family Education programs at New Ulm Public Schools, was one of several Early Childhood professionals who shared how receiving free books has contributed to early literacy amongst young children in the district. She also shared how important it has been for her staff to attend trainings about building social emotional development skills for children which set them up for success in school and in life.

Our economic development partners spoke about the support they have received, and programs they have partnered with SMIF on, to support economic growth in the region. Fatima Said, executive director of Project FINE, a Winona-based nonprofit that helps new immigrants integrate into life in Minnesota, spoke about creating pathways to prosperity for entrepreneurs through support from SMIF.

We also heard how our partners are contributing to community vitality. SMIF sup-

ports 30 Community Foundations in the region, including the Wabasha Kellogg Area Community Foundation. Dr. Bob Mann, former chair of the Community Foundation, spoke about the many ways that they have been able to invest back into the community. Whether it's offering free pool passes to youth, raising funds for the local library to put in a children's addition, training a mental health professional that serves Wabasha, starting a tree garden to replace trees that have been lost to the Emerald Ash Borer or making the food shelf more accessible, the Community Foundation has partnered with SMIF on many initiatives that give back to their small town and surrounding area.

My hope is that everyone who attended these events walked away with some new information about how they can partner with SMIF to help their communities thrive. If you didn't get a chance to attend our Sprout events this year, you can watch the videos of our speakers and view photos of the events by visiting smifoundation.org/sprout.

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

Clutchmen Club

20 SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 22
DENNISON DAYS

BBQ CONTEST

CATEGORIES

CHICKEN • PORK RIBS

*Prizes for 1st and 2nd
and Each Category!*

People's Choice in Ribs!

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Wisconsin Utilities Delay Coal Plant Closures Due to Blackout Risks

Xcel Energy Should Follow Suit with Sherco



By Isaac Orr

Isaac Orr is a Policy Fellow at Center of the American Experiment.
isaac.orr@americanexperiment.org

Electric companies in Wisconsin have announced they will delay the closure of three coal plants in the Badger State due to a shortage of reliable power plant capacity on the regional electric grid, the Midcontinent Independent Systems Operator (MISO). The shortage of capacity is increasing the risk of rolling blackouts rolling blackouts this summer.

This is good news because the region's coal

plants are absolutely necessary for maintaining grid reliability.

The importance of these coal plants is why Xcel Energy should follow Wisconsin's lead by keeping its Sherburne County (Sherco) Units 1 and 2, two coal units with a combined capacity of 1,360 megawatts (MW), open past their current 2023 and 2026 retirement dates.

On, Wisconsin!

Wisconsin Public Radio reports that Alliant Energy had previously announced it would shut down its 400-megawatt Edgewater coal plant in Sheboygan by 2023 and its 1,100-megawatt coal plant in Columbia County by 2025. Now, the utility said Edgewater will continue to operate until mid-2025 while Columbia is now slated to retire by mid-2026.

We Energies announced Thursday that will delay the closure of its coal-fired units at the South Oak Creek coal plant in Milwaukee County by a year. Two units will now retire two by May 2024 and the last two units by late 2025.

Save Our Sherco

MISO currently has a capacity shortfall of 1,200 MW, which is roughly the amount of power plant capacity needed to power half the homes in Minnesota on an average hour. Next year, however, the shortfall is projected

to grow to 2,600 MW.

Unfortunately, Xcel Energy will be contributing to this growing capacity shortfall if it follows through with its planned retirement of Sherco 2, which measures 680 MW, next year.

The good news is that extending the life of Sherco 2 would be easy because the original retirement date of the plant was not until the 2030s. This means there is plenty of life left on the plant to help stem the rising risk of rolling blackouts.

It is unclear, however, if Xcel will attempt to keep the plant open.

Where do we go from here?

We are in a reliability hole, and the first thing we need to do is stop digging.

State lawmakers need to make reliability the top priority for our electric system. This means Minnesota should keep all of its existing coal, natural gas, and nuclear power plants online for the foreseeable future.

We should also do common-sense things that will shore up grid reliability while also allowing for the cleaner operation of our power plants. This includes allowing coal plants to install pollution control equipment and legalizing the construction of new nuclear power plants, which can provide reliable and emissions-free electricity at every hour of the day.

Wisconsin companies appear to understand that reliability comes first. Hopefully Xcel Energy will follow suit.

Pet Cremation services now available in Northfield

Courtesy of KYMN Radio

Bierman Funeral Home & Crematory is now offering pet memorial and cremation services under the program name Homeward Bound.

Bierman's new pet crematory has been open for several weeks now. Unlike some other pet cremation services, only individual cremations are performed in order to "offer a more dignified service," said Funeral Director Bryce Beckstrand.

This is the first service of its kind in Northfield and for Funeral Director Preston Eidschink, providing that local and more personal service can make a big difference to families. Bierman offers free transportation to retrieve a pet's body from local veterinary clinics. And for a transportation fee, pets can also be retrieved from the owner's home or other locations.

Beckstrand added that Bierman also provides a prompter service than other non-local pet crematories, and that families can expect to receive their pet's ashes in just 24 hours.

Cremation is not the only service available for pet-owners. Pet-owners can post an obituary for their pet online or receive a keepsake like a lock of their pet's fur or a clay paw print to help memorialize their pet.

To find more information, visit homewardboundpetcremation.com.

Share Your Good News with the Community!

Submit your engagement, wedding or birth announcement

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

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Deeann, Kathy, and Jackie

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Wednesdays through September 3:00-7:00 PM
October 4:00-7:00 PM

Info: 952-412-0669

Corner of 3rd Avenue and Broadway, downtown Goodhue

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! Cassandra 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.

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 Cassandra's light on anyone who reads



Cassandra O'Reilly

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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Garden Bite Herbicide Drift



Teri Knight

Herbicide drift, it's not a dance move but that would sure be more fun!

Herbicide drift could be coming from you or from your neighbors who are trying to kill broadleaf weeds. Either way it can affect your fruits, vegetables and other plants. University of Minnesota Extension Educator, Annie Klodd, says she sees symptoms of herbicide damage on her peppers, grapevines and tomatoes nearly every year in late June.

The leaves grow in strange shapes, curl inward, and are smaller than normal.

She does not use herbicides in her lawn but her garden still has damage every year due to the neighbor. The mentioned plants are the

most affected by 2,4-d, dicamba, and other growth regulator herbicides.

The damage usually takes a couple of weeks to appear so you might not realize what's going on. As long as your plants were not directly hit by the herbicide, they have a chance of outgrowing it but their growth will take longer. Once hit by herbicide drift there's nothing you can do but wait it out. Just make sure they continue to have enough water so they're not further stressed.

To prevent the drift yourself, avoid spraying your lawn for broadleaf weeds but if you DO, definitely avoid spraying during very hot and/or windy weather.

Preventing your neighbor's drift will be more difficult but you can start with having a conversation with them. If that fails, you can report them. This link is to the Minnesota DNR. Check with your own local Dept. of Natural Resources.

These types of herbicides can vaporize in hours or days after application, and move through the air. This is called volatilization



Apple tree branch with glyphosate injury. Photo: Melanie Ivey, The Ohio State University

and it's worse in hot/dry/windy weather.

Teri Knight became a Master Gardener with Dakota County, Minnesota in 2003. She currently produces her website, www.gardenbite.com. Teri's been involved in community

projects which include a Junior Master Gardener program for 8 to 12 year olds, designing and planting a garden for a women's center and various other organizations!

Chicken Barbecue Street Dance

54th ANNUAL



Randolph/Hampton Fire District

Chicken, Baked Beans, Sweet Corn, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Coffee and Pop

Saturday August 20, 2022

Randolph, Minnesota

Serving from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tickets available for drawing for prizes of donated merchandise from area merchants.

CHAD JOHNSON & THE MINNESOTA TRANSPLANTS

CHICKEN
BBQ
&
STREET
DANCE



8.20.22
8PM-12AM

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Southern Minnesota Golden Link

A weekly advertising supplement to these Southern Minnesota publications:

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- DODGE CENTER MESSENGER • • DUNDAS MESSENGER • GOODHUE-BELLECHESTER MESSENGER • KENYON MESSENGER •
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Thursday, July 28 10:00am – 6:00pm
Friday, July 29 9:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, July 30 9:00am – 2:00pm

NEW Lazyboy recliner rocker • NEW swivel recliner w/footstool • NEW loveseat • 2 NEW swivel gliders w/footstools • lighted curio • coffee table w/lift top • 2 bench seats w/storage • occasional tables • end tables • TV cabinet • rugs • Samsung flat screen TV • Pioneer flat screen plasma TV • dressers • lamps • NEW queen pillow top mattress & frame • sewing rocker • sm bookcase • Gulbransen console piano • 2 kitchen tables w/4 chairs • area rugs • wall décor • 2 100 yr. old wooden chairs • antique dresser w/hanky drawers • antique trunks • antique file cabinet • office chairs • desk • Sentry lock boxes • wood file cabinets • Dell monitor & keyboard • computer desk • paper shredder • office supplies • copper boiler • stained glass items • 2 gal RW crocks • wooden skis • advertising items • washboards • Native American tapestries & beadwork • 2 custom-made fish spears • vintage & custom-made jewelry • jackknives • Pogo books • pottery pieces • knickknacks • baskets • craft supplies • books • linens • bedding • pillows • sleeping bags • NIB record player • LPs • CDs • sheet music • games • holiday décor • Panasonic microwave • sm appliances • kitchenware • canning supplies • Hoover vacuum • mobility walker • totes • shelving units • stackable storage units • storage baskets • bushel baskets • milk crates • coolers • patio table w/4 chairs • lawn chairs • chaise loungers • garden bench • folding tables • door mats • step ladders • fishing poles • live trap • electric heater • shop vacs • appliance dolly • saw horses • tarps • power tools • pipe clamps • lawn spreader • Eagle plow • hardware • tools • 4 wheeler sprayer tank • garden & garage items

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AUG 17
10:00 AM

AUCTION LOCATION: GOOD SHOT GOLF & SPORTING CLAYS
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See Website for Terms - AUCTION #2338 HONSEY FAMILY FARM

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JENSEN AUCTIONS

JENSEN AUCTIONS

Jensen Auctions Summer and Fall Schedule

July Auctions

- D. Schuler Estate Online (second of two sales): Starts July 15th, Ends July 22nd

August Auctions

- Merlen Gekeler Estate Auction Live ONLY August 6th and 7th
- Don & Betty Kramer Farm Retirement Auction Live & Online: August 28th

September Auctions

- Dennis & Deloris Perkins Estate Farm Auction Live & Online: September 11th

View our auctions at auctiongos.com or on facebook

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	2018 FORD ESCAPE SE		2019 FORD EXPLORER XLT		2020 FORD EDGE SEL		2020 FORD ECO SPORT SE
Blue metallic, eco boost 1.5L turbocharged, 37,615 miles #22032U	SALE \$24,599	Black metallic, 37,976 miles, 4WD, 3.5L V-6 #22055U	SALE \$37,484	Blue metallic, 21,107 miles, 2L ecoboost turbocharged #22057U	SALE \$35,999	4WD, black, 2.0L, automatic, 31,944 miles #22052U	SALE \$23,999
	2019 FORD F150 XLT		2021 FORD RANGER LARIAT 4WD	GET READY FOR SUMMER DRIVING!			
Super crew cab, blue metallic, 35,981 miles, 3.5L V-6 #22072U	SALE \$42,999	Super crew, 5' box, eco boost 2.3L turbocharged, 4,768 miles, black #22076U	SALE \$45,999	<p>At Milo Peterson Ford Co., our highly qualified technicians are here to provide exceptional service in a timely manner.</p> <p>From oil changes to transmission replacements, we are dedicated to maintaining top tier customer service, for both new and pre-owned car buyers! Allow our staff to demonstrate our commitment to excellence. Call our service department to schedule your maintenance needs. Open Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 5pm.</p>			



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DENNISON DAYS



DAYS

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SATURDAY
FOOD STANDS
OPEN AT 11AM!

August 5 & 6, 2022

BE IN THE PARADE

SATURDAY at 1:30 p.m.!

A Kiddie Parade
Leads Off Main Parade
(Ages 12 & under)

Sign up at 12:00 p.m. South Mainstreet

\$100.00 Prize for Best Parade Entry!

Contact Diane Ruddle
mobile at 612-532-0268

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5 KICK OFF
Street Dance in Front of MarLeas
DJ JUSTIN
8:00pm
MarLeas
BAR & GRILL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
Capital Construction presents
DRIVER FIVE
www.driverfive.com
7:00p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
BBQ CONTEST
PRIZES FOR 1st & 2nd
and EACH CATEGORY!

Contact:
kingpin1876@gmail.com
or 612-968-9547 to register
or for more information



Saturday Schedule of Events

- 7a.m. **Annual BBQ Contest Begins. Prizes for 1st & 2nd and Each Category!** Hosted by Clutchmen Car Club. Contact Steve at kingpin1876@gmail.com or 612-968-9547
- 8-11a.m. **All You Can Eat Dad's Waffle Breakfast** Sponsored by Polka Dot Dairy, Parkside General Store, Dennison Community Church \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 & under, 3 & under FREE. Includes waffles, sausage, coffee, juice, milk. Under Mainstreet Tent.
- 7:30 a.m. **Sign Up for Clutchmen Truck & Tractor Pull at Pull Site** Truck Pull Jeff at 651-380-3118 • Tractor Pull Dave 507-649-0710
- 8a.m. **Citywide Garage Sales**
5K Run Begins at Paul's Plumbing Building, North of Dennison Depot. For more information text Barbie at 507-581-1021 or e-mail: dennisonvangoffice@gmail.com
Classic Car Show on Mainstreet Presented by Clutchmen Car Club. Trophies at 1:00p.m. Contact Steve King 612-968-9547 or email: kingpin1876@gmail.com
- 8:30a.m. **Euchure at Fireside Lounge** For information, contact Jen Eggum 507-649-0602
- 9a.m. **Truck & Tractor Pull Begins on the Hill**, sign up begins at 7:30a.m.
- 10a.m. **Cow Milking Contest** Main Street, hosted by David Flom Dairy
- 11a.m. **Food Stands Open**
Joel Stenhaug & Jim Tracy Memorial Horseshoe Tournament in City Park Presented by the Dennison Lions
Kids Bingo Under the tent. Presented by Dennison Lions. Ages 3-11.
MarLeas Bean Bag Tournament Sign Up at MarLeas
- 1-3p.m. **Kids Carnival** Presented by Darwin & Lori Amy and Randolph FFA students
- 1:30p.m. **Parade Downtown - A Kiddie Parade Leads Off Main Parade** (Ages 12 & Under)
\$100.00 Prize for Best Parade Entry! Sign up at 12:00 p.m. South Mainstreet. Contact Diane at 612-532-0268
- 2:30p.m. **Purse & Power Tool Bingo Under Mainstreet Tent** Presented by Dennison Lions & Fireside Lounge
- 5:00p.m. **Minute To Win It Game Show Under the Big Tent** Presented by Dennison Lions. Contact Jen Eggum 507-649-0602
- 7p.m.-12a.m. **Live Music from "Driver Five" on Mainstreet Stage** 18+ event. No Cover Charge. 21 to drink. Presented by Capital Construction and Fireside Lounge & Supper Club



SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
CLASSIC CAR SHOW 8AM
Trophies at 1PM
TRUCK & TRACTOR PULL 9AM

All You Can Eat DAD'S WAFFLE BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
8:00a.m. to 11:00a.m.

Dennison Lions Club DENNISON DAYS RAFFLE

1st Prize: \$500 Cash
2nd Prize: \$200 Cash
3rd Prize: \$100 Cash
4th Prize: \$50 Cash

Drawing held at 9:00p.m. at the Fireside Lounge

Need not be present to win.

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River Country Coop
Security State Bank Kenyon
Sevens Appraisal
Specialized Floor Coverings | Strese Tree Service
Sviggum Insurance
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Taylor Truck Lines
Three Links Care Center
Wheeling Electric
Wood Doc Construction - Emery Maher |
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AUCTION CALENDAR

Saturday, July 30, 2022 9 am
Duane & Jean Valek, Faribault, MN
Hobby Farm Equipment

Saturday, August 6, 2022 9 am
Riley Estate, South Lakeville
Hobby Farm Equipment, Motor Home - Trailer -, Tools

Saturday, August 13, 2022 9 am
Mackenzie Estate, Northfield, MN
Guns, Army Knives, Neon Lights, J.D. B Tractor, Antiques

Saturday, August 27, 2022 9 am
Joe Horejsi Estate, Webster, MN
I-H 4386 4x4 Tractor, I-H 1460 Combine, Semi Tractor & Trailers, Fall Line of I-H Equipment



Valek Auctions
Northfield, MN
612-978-6901

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HOLLAND AUCTION

Farmers Machinery Consignment

Live & Online Bidding

Saturday, AUGUST 27, 2022 - 9:30 A.M.

LOCATION: East of Beaver Lake, Ellendale MN


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

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


Delivery of Consignments will be on Aug. 21, 22, 23, 24, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. **NO Consignments on August 25th and 26th!**

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

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www.maringauction.com AUCTION CALENDAR

July 24, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...July 16, 2022
Starts Closing: ...July 24, 2022
Vernon Center, MN
ONLINE ONLY REPAIR SERVICE
SHOP AUCTION FOR THE HERMAN SPECK ESTATE
John Deere 2010 Tractor, Large Metal Lathe, Wire Feed Welders, Milling & Drilling Machine, Ellis Power Metal Saw, Punches & Hammers, Drill Press, New Stock Iron Flat, Tube, Angle Round, Power & Hand Tools, Tool Boxes, Repair Supplies

July 29, 20229:30 AM CDT
West Concord, MN
LARGE COUNTRY ESTATE AUCTION FOR THE MINOR "CORKY" BUCKINGHAM ESTATE
John Deere 3020 W/ loader, Massey Ferguson 1130, Oliver Super 88 w/ Loader, tillage Machinery, (2) Chevy Pickups, Trailers, ATV, Gator, Arctic Cat Snowmobile, Power & Hand Tools, Firearms, Excellent Household, Very Large Auction

July 31, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...July 23, 2022
Starts Closing: ...July 31, 2022
Pine Island, MN
LARGE TRIPLE ESTATE AUCTION FOR THE PETERMAN, GOPLEN & RUEBER ESTATES
(2) Oliver 1650 Tractors, John Deere 2010 & 50, Vintage John Deere & Arctic Cat Snowmobiles, JD X520 & G3345 Mowers, Vintage Mini Bikes, Power & Hand Tools, Woodworking Tools, Antique Farm Machinery, Farm Primitives, Project Cars, Antiques, Collectibles, Household and More;

August 7, 2022
Bidding Begins: ...July 27, 2022
Starts Closing: ... August 7, 2022
Nerstrand, MN
TIMED ONLINE ONLY FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FOR LARRY & JANEL PETERSMEYER
Farnall Super MTA, 656 Utility w/ Loader, 656 Row Crop, 656 NF, 544 Row Crop, 544 Utility Tractors, Farnall & IHC tractor Parts, John Deere Buck Alv, Old Wrenches, Toy Tractors, 20' Car Trailer, Farm Primitives, Antiques, Household, Antique Oak Furniture

August 13, 2022 ...8:30 AM CDT
Kenyon, MN
AREA FARMERS PRE-HARVEST CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
Live and Online Area Farmers Consignment Auction, Tractors, Combines, Semis, Trailers, Construction Equipment, Planters & Tillage Equipment, Livestock Equipment, Pickups, Cars, ATVs and Farm Support Items

August 15, 2022, 10:00 AM CDT
Kenyon, MN
161.11 ACRES OF PRIME FARM LAND GOODHUE CO. MN FOR ANGELA MORKEN
161.11 Acres of Prime Farm Land in SW 1/4 of Section 4, Cherry Grove Township, Goodhue Co. MN. 137 Tillable Acres, 97.4 CPI, Some Drain Tile in Place, The Former "Jacobson Farm"

August 17, 2022, 10:00 AM CDT
Kenyon, MN
154.71 ACRES PRIME CLASS A CROP LAND STEELE CO. MN FOR LYOD "PAT" KERN ESTATE
134.71 Acres of Prime Class A Crop Land in Section 10 & 11 of Mertont Township, Steele County MN, Selling in 2 Separate Parcels, 80 Acres in Sec. 10 with 93.4 CPI, 74.71 Acres in Sec. 11 with 92.7 CPI, Drain Tile in Place

August 20, 2022 ...9:00 AM CDT
West Concord, MN
LIVE & ONLINE LARGE FARM ESTATE FOR THE STAN ZELINSKE TRUST
International & Case Tractor, Combines, Heads, Planting & Tillage Equipment, Haying & Forage Equipment, Trucks, Grain Handling, Livestock Equipment, Power & Hand Tools

August 22, 2022
Bidding Begins: .. Aug. 13, 2022
Starts Closing: ... Aug. 22, 2022
Utica, MN
NO RESERVE ONLINE ONLY 115,000 BUSHEL GRAIN STORAGE FACILITY & REAL ESTATE IN UTICA, MN
No Reserve Selling Absolute 115,000 Bushel Grain Bin Site in Utica, MN for Ag Partners Co-Op, Ready To Use in 2022 After Closing, 8 Total Bins, Next To Railroad, Excellent Opportunity

August 23, 2022
Bidding Begins: .. Aug. 16, 2022
Starts Closing: ... Aug. 23, 2022
Farmington, MN
ONLINE ONLY FORAGE AND LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT FROM DEVENSHIRE FARMS
Case IH 7210, New Holland FP230 Chopper, (2) H&S HD Twin Auger 18" Boxes, (2) Meyer 3750 Dry Box Spreaders, Haying Equipment, Skid Loader Attachments, Conveyors, (4) VD Silo Unloaders, Bins, Trailers, Squeeze Shoot, Highline Bale Buster, Roller Mill, Augers

August 26, 2022, 10:00 AM CDT
New Richland, MN
EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN LIVE & ONLINE FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FOR RICK ARNOLD
John Deere 8230 MFWD 2400 Hours, John Deere 5058M W/ loader MFWD, Freightliner Day Cab, Timpte Grain Trailer, Tillage & Spraying Equipment, Grain Bins, Grain Augers, Clean Ford F600 Truck

August 30, 2022, 10:00 AM CDT
Kenyon, MN
171 ACRES CROP LAND IN RICE CO. MN FOR THE MATEJCEK FAMILY LFD PARTNERSHIP
Live and Online Bidding for 171 Acres of Crop Land in Section 10 & 15 of Wacotot township, Rice Co. MN, Selling in 2 Separate Parcels, 80 Acres in Sec. 10 With 86.7 CPI, 91.40 Acres in Sec. 15 With 75.5 CPI, Drain Tile in Place.



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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 four-minute 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.

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Grant Money to Help Farmers Implement Climate Smart Conservation Measures

McKnight Foundation Awards \$100,000 to the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has received a \$100,000 grant from the McKnight Foundation to help farmers develop climate-smart farming practices that can mitigate climate change, build farm resiliency, and may provide them with a new income stream. The money will be used for the new Climate Smart Farms Project, part of the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP).

“Because of our changing climate, farmers are experiencing more frequent bouts of drought, heavier rain events, extreme temperature swings, and more invasive pests and

plants,” said MDA Commissioner Thom Petersen. “Through this new Climate Smart Farms Project and the Minnesota Agriculture Water Quality Certification Program, farmers can implement proven practices that build soil health, protect water resources, and increase farm profitability. Farmers are at the frontlines of climate change impact and can play a pivotal role in combatting those impacts. We’re grateful to McKnight Foundation for this grant.”

The Climate Smart Farms Project supports farmers who are currently enrolled in MAWQCP and would like to seek, or already have, a Climate Smart Endorsement for their operation. They can receive a minimum of \$1,000 a year for up to five years to assess and apply climate-focused conservation practices to their operation. Examples of practices include managing nitrogen fertilizer and manure to minimize greenhouse gas emissions or minimizing tillage, grazing livestock, and planting perennial crops to sequester carbon.

Options to enroll in new carbon market programs have been multiplying in the agricultural community. In response, the MDA created the Climate Smart Farms Project, centering farmers’ needs and their leadership on science-based farming practices. The unique project provides growers one-to-one technical assistance to assess their operations and develop climate-smart management options that will best align with private market tools or voluntary public programs. The annual financial assistance serves as a bridge payment for growers while they develop their

climate-smart systems and learn how to scale climate-smart practices.

“Farmers in Minnesota are digging in and taking the lead on agricultural climate solutions,” said Tenzin Dolkar, McKnight Foundation Midwest Climate & Energy Program Officer. “The Climate Smart Farms Project will allow more farmers to adopt and be recognized for proven practices that benefit their operation, the environment, and the climate.”

The MAWQCP has a proven track record of putting farmers in touch with local conservation district experts to identify and mitigate any risks their farm poses to water quality. Producers going through the certification process have priority access to financial assistance. After being certified, each farm is deemed in compliance with new water quality laws and regulations for 10 years.

The new Climate Smart Endorsement is now one of five endorsements available to MAWQCP producers. The other four certifications are soil health, integrated pest management, wildlife, and irrigation. These endorsements celebrate those who are going above and beyond to implement conservation efforts on their land.

There are now more than 1,225 producers and 855,000 acres enrolled in MAWQCP. Governor Tim Walz has announced a goal of enrolling one million acres by the end of 2022.

To date, Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality certified farms have added over 2,460 new conservation practices. Those new

practices have kept over 42,000 tons of sediment out of Minnesota rivers while saving approximately 124,000 tons of soil and 54,000 pounds of phosphorous on farms each year. The conservation practices have also reduced nitrogen loss up to 49% and cut greenhouse gas emissions by more than 47,000 metric tons per year.

Farmers and landowners interested in the Climate Smart Farms Project or becoming water quality certified can contact their local Soil and Water Conservation District or visit MyLandMyLegacy.com.

About the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program is a voluntary opportunity for farmers and agricultural landowners to take the lead in implementing conservation practices that protect our water. Those who implement and maintain approved farm management practices will be certified and in turn obtain regulatory certainty for a period of ten years. The program is available to farmers and landowners statewide.

About McKnight Foundation

The McKnight Foundation Midwest Climate and Energy Program focuses bold climate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, at scale, as quickly as possible in the Midwest. McKnight’s working lands strategy centers on farmers as the leaders of climate solutions in creating climate-resilient and just food systems.



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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 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 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 Therelight 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 Therelight 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.



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City of Randolph Regular Council Meeting June 8, 2022

The regular Randolph City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert Appelgren.

Roll Call

Present were Mayor Robert Appelgren, Council Members Sarah Podritz, Jacob Friedrich and Todd Carlock, Treasurer Sandy Nicolai and Clerk Mary Haro.

Public Comments

A citizen noted that there are potholes on Highway 88. It was noted to him that Hwy 88 is a county road which Dakota County maintains. Sarah indicated she would contact the County but it was noted that Todd already has.

Minutes

A motion to approve the May 11, 2022 regular council meeting minutes and special closed meeting minutes and the May 25, 2022 special meeting minutes was made by Friedrich, seconded by Podritz. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Approval of Treasurer Report

We took in \$12,000 in water income. Sandy with check with Bryce regarding installing more water meters.

Todd asked what the balance of the \$1.5 million bond is still available. Clerk Haro will send him a copy of the statement.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Friedrich, seconded by Podritz. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Approval to Pay Bills

Ekstrom Consulting sent us an invoice for assistance with the website and the domain and membership fees which are currently set up to auto renew with her credit card and she would like to have that be switched to the city's credit card so she will not have to invoice us in the future.

Motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Podritz, and seconded by Carlock. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Old Business

Feasibility Report by Bolton & Menk

Matt gave a recap of last month's meeting indicating that the \$13,000,000 that we received from the state will not be enough money to do the entire project. So Bolton & Menk came up with possible options (1) trim the scope of the project which eliminates doing the Cordell Court and Hereford Hills areas (anticipating doing them at a later date in the future) or (2) we bond for the extra / overage amount.

The citizens in Cordell Court has had their septic systems installed for about 20 years and the average life of a septic system is about 30 years so if we decide to eliminate this area we should plan in the future to do that area first. It was asked what the cost for Cordell Court would be and it was noted that it would be about \$800,000 - \$900,000 for that area.

Matt has asked for approval of the feasibility report and the direction on the funding whether we want to do all of it or scope it back. We are over budget to do the entire project.

It was noted that the city's water pipes are plastic. They will only be replaced if they are hit or need to be relocated. They will make notations of where the water lines are when they are working on this project so that an as-built water line map can be created.

It was noted that we did send a survey to the residents in Cordell Court and Hereford Hills asking if they were interested in getting hooked up to the system. We received nine responses, two in favor of including their area and seven were not so therefore we based our decision on the responses we received from the residents who replied.

Mayor Appelgren made a motion to accept the Feasibility Report and go with Option 1 and adjust the scope of the project to meet state funds, seconded by Podritz. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

It was asked about the land and Matt indicated he will come to next month's meeting with a motion and a decision for that. The Feasibility Report needs to be approved before we can move toward the land.

New Business

Dakota County Deputy

Officer Posterick came to our meeting to introduce himself and asked if we have anything to be brought to their attention. They indicated that catalytic converters continue to be stolen off of vehicles.

We asked if he knew what happened to the boat that was Dickman Avenue as we noticed it was gone. He did not know but we are happy that it is no longer there.

It was asked how old the kids have to be to ride dirt bikes up and down the street. Dirt bikes are illegal to be driven on city roads. It was noted that as long as 4 wheelers have license they are legal to be on the city streets.

Bolton & Menk Engineering Services

Matt discussed that the original scope and proposal for the project from over a year and half ago is done which was for the feasibility study. He has presented a scope amendment that extends their contract for the final design. He discussed what this all includes. The first contract was for \$369,000. This amendment is up through the bidding process. The next time they will extend the contract will be after it is bid which will include the construction.

Friedrich made a motion to approve the proposal for professional engineering services at \$377,764.00, seconded by Appelgren. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Randolph/Hampton Fire District Joint Powers Agreement

We held a discussion regarding some issues that may have had a conflict of interest with one of the firemen. Upon review by our city attorney, it was determined that there was no conflict.

If everything is working we can keep things as they are but we need to review the joint powers agreement. First order of business should be to have a joint meeting to discuss the agreement or create a committee to meet with them. We will invite the Hampton City Council, the Fire Department Executive Committee and our attorney.

Friedrich advised the council that he investigated things and found there is a problem in Hampton and Randolph for response time. It sounds like it has to do with moral. He wants the entire department invited to the meeting. We are not talking about discipline just want to discuss the issues.

It was noted that they are not following the bylaws. We need to meet with them and express our concerns. There need to be some changes. We should discuss this before our next meeting and ask Korine if we should have a joint meeting with Hampton.

We will hold a special meeting on Wednes-

day, June 29th and invite the Hampton City Council and the Randolph/Hampton Fire Department Executive Committee to discuss the agreement. This will be a fact finding mission. It was also asked that they bring the last six months of service call logs for both Hampton and Randolph emergency calls.

Election Judges

Motion to appoint the Election Judges of Colleen Taubman as head judge, Heather Siebenaler, Michelle Splichal, Mary Haro and Lisa Price for the Primary Election set for August 9th made by Podritz, seconded by Appelgren. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 4:0. Haro abstained from the vote.

Mowing Contract

We received notice that Ace Mowing will be closing their business due to the passing of Randy Thompson so we need to find someone to do the mowing for the city. It was noted that Dave Blank has been mowing around the water tower in which we thanked him for doing that.

We will add this to our special meeting scheduled on June 29th. Mayor Appelgren will mow before we make a decision. Our building inspector gave us a name of someone to check with to see if he is interested. Mayor Appelgren will contact him. If he is interested and has the insurance we should hire him temporarily. Randy charged \$600 a month. Otte Excavating indicated they will mow inside the holding pond once a month.

Motion by Friedrich to hire the temporary person if he is interested and has the insurance needed. Mayor will mow until a decision is made. Friedrich will do the land in Hereford Hills.

We would like to have at least 3 bids by the

special meeting and until then Friedrich and Carlock will mow the water tower area and Appelgren will do the rest.

Recodification

Clerk Haro is having some trouble with getting someone to contact her to purchase the model basic code from MN League of MN Cities for \$880. This will be tabled until next month until Clerk Haro hears back from someone to get the model basic code purchased.

Bolton & Menk Sewer Update

Nothing further to discuss at this time.

Miscellaneous

Clerk Haro noted we have a new email address of cityofrandolphmn@midconet-work.com. She will forward this to Friedrich to post on our website. It was noted that we could get an email address through Google and is \$5.00 per user per month. This is an option if needed. We need to have the website ownership changed from Melissa to a city email address and set up a city credit card for the renewals. Melissa indicated she can attend a meeting if needed. Clerk Haro will work with her to get this accomplished.

Cannon Computers will assist with the city to transfer the emails and also to talk about IT services.

It was noted that land by the holding pond fence was being dug into by kids to create jumps. We will contact Otte Excavating to put some rocks to fill in the hole.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Podritz, seconded by Appelgren, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Haro

Enter by e-mail for a chance to win a \$50 golf gift certificate to Zumbro Falls Golf Club this month!

Zumbro Falls Golf Club is a beautiful nine hole gold course with rolling hills, four ponds and a vineyard.

They have a dining room overlooking the course and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner with a special Friday Night Fish Fry from 5 to 8:30pm

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Winner will be notified by e-mail on August 5th.

Hampton City Council

The Hampton City Council met on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at the Hampton City Hall for the regular scheduled meeting. Present were Mayor John Knetter; Council Members Cindy Flodeen, David Luhning, and Nick Russell. Also present was Marlin Reinardy, Water/Sewer Superintendent; Brad Fisher with Bolton and Menk; Bryan Skillestad and Ed Gergen.

Regular Meeting called to Order - Mayor Knetter called the Regular Scheduled Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Disclosure of Interest – None

Approval of the May 10, 2022 Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes – Motion by Luhning seconded by Flodeen to approve the May 10, 2022 regular scheduled meeting minutes. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 4:0.

Approval of Disbursements – Motion by Flodeen seconded by Russell to approve the June disbursements. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 4:0.

Public Comment – None.

Petitions, Requests, and Communications:

Dakota County Community Focused Sampling Program – Mayor Knetter reviewed briefly and stated that there was good information in the correspondence provided.

Delinquent Water/Sewer Accounts – Mayor Knetter mentioned that an updated list had been provided for the meeting and asked Council their opinions on how to proceed. Councilor Luhning mentioned that there are currently no hardship restrictions preventing the City from turning off the water of residents who do not pay their water/sewer bills.

He mentioned that there has been no communication from the residents on the list, and that if they don't pay in full the City should initiate action to turn off their water. All Council members agreed.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees:

Engineer Report – Brad Fisher with Bolton & Menk began with an update on pavement maintenance considerations. At the May City Council meeting he was asked to further evaluate potential maintenance and/or repair needs for failing pavement on Hampton Avenue and Belmont Street. Areas of these streets have degradation beyond what can be repaired by spray patching. Fisher reviewed what would be involved with the various techniques for repair, and the cost of each. The first technique reviewed was a partial depth patch in which the top 2 inches of the 4 inches of pavement would be milled off and then patched. The second technique is a full depth patch. Fisher stated that this type of repair is similar to the repair of Main Street, south of Park Street, done in 2019. The third technique is a mill and overlay. The fourth technique is a reclamation, where the existing roadway is pulverized and then paved over. Fisher also listed the average life expectancies of each repair technique. Fisher stated that, for Hampton Avenue, he recommends focused patching and the rest of the repair be done via a mill and overlay. Mayor Knetter suggested that Council not decide on this today; that Council members should digest the information provided by Fisher and revisit the issue at the July meeting.

The second item reviewed by Fisher was

the Water Street Lift Station Backup Generator Project. At the May Council meeting Fisher was asked by Council to confirm the existence of a sanitary sewer easement in the area where the backup generator will be located. He was able to confirm that there is a sanitary sewer easement over the sanitary sewer on property west of Water Street. He stated that he still needs to determine the actual amount of right-of-way available from the roadway to the property line at the southeast corner of the Water St. and Sun Valley Lane intersection. He asked Council to confirm that this is the preferred location for the backup generator and LP tank so that the project can move to the next step, which is to begin the topographic survey and design. Motion by Knetter seconded by Luhning to approve placing the generator and LP tank at the location indicated by Fisher. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 4:0.

The third item reviewed by Fisher was the Water Tower Replacement Project. He reminded Council that KLM Engineering did an investigation in 2018 and determined deficiencies in the existing water tower. In reviewing options regarding repairing or replacing the water tower, it was determined that restoration of the existing water tower would be about two-thirds of the cost of replacing with a new tower. Because of cost comparisons of repairing versus replacing, and the fact that replacing the existing tower would improve water pressure and allow for increased capacity for future growth in the City, the best option is replacement of the water tower. Fisher had contacted Chris Meyer, City Treasurer, regarding financing options. Meyer reviewed the information provided by Fisher and determined that obtaining a loan from the revolving loan fund would be the best financing option. As far as the next steps in the process, Fisher stated that first will be the completion of any necessary studies that are to be done for the project, then engineering design, then the project will be put out for bids. Motion by Luhning seconded by Flodeen to proceed with the project, as indicated by Fisher. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 4:0.

Water / Sewer Report – Marlin Reinardy, Water/Sewer Superintendent, first reported that the Minnesota Department of Health conducted a water monitoring project and the City's contaminants levels were all below recommended levels with only one exception. The second water-related item to report was that the Well #1 control panel was installed and working well. Because the unit is smaller than the previous control panel, it will require additional trim to be installed. The last item reported on by Reinardy is that he has filled several swimming pools so far this year.

As far as sewer issues, Reinardy reported that the discharge is complete and all went well. As was mentioned by Reinardy at the April Council meeting, he hopes that the City can go to a maintenance mode of treating the sewer ponds versus the sludge reduction treatment that is currently being done. He provided copies of wastewater sample reports for three samples that contained volatile suspended solids to Cory Bienfang of Bolton & Menk for his review.

Reinardy asked Council if they would like

for him to renew his license. Mayor Knetter stated that he would support his decision either way. In order for Reinardy to renew his license, it would require him to receive continuing education credits, that the City would have to pay for. Consensus of Council is that it is a benefit to the City for Reinardy to renew his license for back-up purposes.

Mayor Knetter acknowledged a Dakota County Sheriff's Deputy in attendance and asked if he had anything to report – The Deputy stated that he didn't have anything to report, but wondered if Council had any questions for him. Reinardy said he had a question about whether or not there are any restrictions regarding toy electric cars that children ride in. The Deputy asked if they are being ridden on the streets and Reinardy said he has seen them on some City streets. A couple of Councilors said they have also seen them on the streets in certain areas. The Deputy asked that their office be called to report the incident and location and an officer would report to the location, mainly in an educational capacity. Discussion about the City possibly purchasing flags to place on the toys for better visibility. Mayor Knetter thanked the Deputy for his attendance, and for his service.

Park Report – Councilor Russell stated that the only thing to report at this time is that he would be getting new wood chips for the parks.

Street Report – Councilor Luhning stated that there was nothing to report. Councilor Flodeen asked who was in charge of sidewalk repairs and mentioned locations that need maintenance.

Ordinances and Resolutions: None

Unfinished Business:

City Residents Working on Vehicles on City Streets – This is an item that was discussed at the May Council meeting. Of particular concern recently has been a resident of an apartment building on Water Street who has been working on multiple vehicles at the same time and leaving them on the street for many days. Additionally, often these vehicles are left jacked up while parked on the street, which is a major safety concern, particularly for children. Councilor Luhning stated that, in the past, letters sent to residents referencing Ordinance § 92.20, Inoperable Motor Vehicles, have been effective.

New Business:

Proposal for Professional Engineering Services – Water Tower Replacement Project – Bolton & Menk – Approval of item covered under Engineer's Report.

Application for Separation of Platted Lots in a Tax Parcel – Bryan Skillestad – Mayor Knetter stated that this item has gone through the necessary steps for approval, with the final step being approval of the shared parking agreement by the City's attorney. The City received that approval today. Motion by Russell seconded by Luhning to approve the application for separation of platted lots in a tax parcel for Bryan Skillestad. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 4:0.

Adjournment – Motion by Luhning seconded by Russell to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 4:0. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy O'Brien

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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 it's 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 of 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 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.

A Minnesotan: Fireworks



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 fire-

works.

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 than 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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