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Historic County Seat Coffeehouse Stays the Same; Adds New Items

Staff Writer

The Historic County Seat Coffee House located on Highway 57 in downtown Mantorville, is a 50-seat coffee house that offers a hometown atmosphere for locals and visitors.

(continued on page 4)

Santa Came to Dodge Center

By Kenya Narveson

Many families look forward to enjoying and sharing Christmas cheer within their community. Whether it's driving through neighborhoods to see the lights or grabbing a mug of hot chocolate; families want to create memories that last! The Dodge Center Chamber of Commerce hosted Santa's Coming event with activities that included horse drawn wagon-ride, decorating cookies with Girl Scouts, visiting with Santa, writing letters to Santa, Green Shack activity for Kids, and many more activities.

As I'm walking inside City Hall, I see a young boy diligently decorating his cookie with frosting and precision, adults chatting near the hot cocoa station, and a bunny station on the other side of the room. I scurried

over to the cookie decorating table sponsored by the local Girl Scouts. I shove a boot shaped cookie in my mouth and walk over to the bunny station provided by The Green Shack. The owner Brittany Wilcox brought in bunny rabbits to educate and inspire children. The children were thrilled to sit and hold the bunny rabbits. Check out The Green Shack at thegreenshack.net. Then I stopped at the Huckleberry Floral Design and Gift raffle table and filled out a ticket for a floral prize.

Then I saw that same young boy who caught my attention earlier, finally eating his precisely decorated cookie. Then his family gets his attention to take a picture with Santa. His Mom carefully ensures there's no evidence of cookies or frosting on his face. They



all walk towards another room where Mr. and Mrs. Claus were waiting. Cooper Fate, Rory Fate and Baby Berkley all take a picture with Santa. Baby Berkley was so excited to meet Santa for the first time.

City Hall was bustling with children and adults enjoying all the activities provided. Triton FCCLA members volunteers Cinthia Felix, Brooklyn Mechtel, and Ruby Kellogg helped out at the Letters to Santa table. Their bright smiles brought me to their table. They were so gracious in helping other children write their letters to Santa. Those girls were so convincing that I wrote a Letter to Santa and put it in the North Pole mailbox that was provided. I hope Santa receives it.

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Announcements

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

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

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Memories of Old Time Christmas



Each year we interview a few of our seasoned citizens who recall the Christmas memories of their childhood. Here are three stories to enjoy this holiday.

Marjorie was born near Eyota, Minnesota and moved to Illinois when she was four years old, where her father worked as a carpenter. They later moved back to Eyota and her dad built many pole barns in the area. She remembers school pageants as a child and was especially fond of singing in these Christmas musicals. Some of the songs she recalls singing are the Lord's Prayer and the Indian Love Call.

They would spend Christmas at her grandmother's farm and the years that she lived in Illinois, they would receive a package by mail with gifts from her grandma. A kewpie doll was one present that she remembered getting for Christmas.

Christmas Day was always a time for good food at her grandma's farm. Both her grandmother and her mother were very good cooks.

(continued on page 5)

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Getting Unstuck



By Keith Mosier
Pastor of the First Congregational Church in Dodge Center

This is the time of year when people tend to start worrying about driving in bad weather. No one wants to get stranded in the ditch on the side of an icy road in the middle of a snow storm. I have gone into the ditch myself and I've also pushed or pulled multiple people out of the ditch when they were stranded. I still remember when I was a Child my parents packing the car with an emergency kit including warm clothes, blankets, matches and a candle; just in case we might get stranded on the way to grandma's house two hours away.

I know many young people who are willing to go out in just about any weather conditions. Their confidence seems boundless and busting through drifts or driving in whiteout conditions simply seems like an adventure to tell about. I still remember when I was in college, packing three or four of my friends into my car with skis and snowboards, and driving through a snow storm to get to the local ski

resort. We figured as long as we could get there we should be some of the first ones to carve through the fresh powder!

As people get older their perspective often changes. They weigh the risks differently and what once would have seemed like an adventure now seems dangerous and foolish. It may seem better to stay home than to risk being hit by another car or sliding into the ditch and getting stuck. When you get stuck you lose your freedom and you can't move! And as your freedom disappears often times your joy disappears as well, and frustration takes its place.

I recently experienced getting stuck as I attempted to bring home a load of firewood to heat our home. I had already cut down a large dead oak that had been standing in the middle of a plowed field, and now the task at hand was to cut it up and take it home.

I left home two and a half hours before sunrise and soon I was bucking the limbs into stove length by the light of my headlamp. The snow was falling heavily and the wind blew sawdust into my face. The dust caught on my beard and made my eyes sting. Some of the larger pieces must have been over forty inches through and were too heavy for me to load alone. But with a brand new chain and a twenty-five inch bar I was able to get a lot of wood cut in just a few hours. The snow had stopped falling when I began to load up the truck and I wondered if I would have any trouble backing out of the field. I had recently purchased this pickup from one of the friendly car dealers in Dodge Center, and what had fit into my budget was NOT a 4-wheel drive!

Perhaps the tires were warm and had melted

the snow and dirt beneath them. My back tires spun like crazy, but the truck wouldn't move an inch. I began digging with my axe in front of and behind the tires, but still the truck wouldn't move. I stopped to say a prayer and continued digging. Finally I managed to get a few inches forward and I began to lay down pieces of bark behind my tires for traction. My tires caught and I started backing out of the field not stopping to turn around! I had about 400 feet of field to drive over to get to the gravel road and with my limited steering ability, I bounced out of the smooth trail into some rough plowed ground.

Just as I got to the field drive some large logs bounced out behind the truck and one of them lodged itself under my axle! Now that I was high centered my back left tire spun, barely touching the snow beneath it. I tried banging it out and failed. I got under the truck with my chain saw and started making some progress. But as soon as I got to the place with the highest pressure, the chain got pinched. It was an awkward angle and I couldn't free it with my axe! But I was able to remove the bolts from my chainsaw and wrench the bar free. I installed my other chain and soon I was cutting again. This time I cut more carefully but soon the vehicle shifted again and this chain was also held fast. The cuts had loosened the log enough that I was able to knock it loose with my splitting maul, and after reloading the wood I was able to drive out onto the road.

Relief flooded over me as I realized I would soon be home. My exhausting ordeal made me begin to think about how easily we can get stuck in other areas of life. We have

projects, that we can never seem to get around to doing; people we can't seem to get along with; and goals that may never be realized unless we can get unstuck.

Many people feel stuck in their own frustration and feelings of despair. Others are spiritually stuck—they haven't been to church in months or even years, they tried to read the Bible but never got very far. Perhaps they feel caught in a web of guilt or addiction and just don't know where to turn!

Anything worth doing takes some effort. Sometimes the hardest part seems to be knowing where to start. And the good news is there is One who wants to guide you each step of the way. He can lift you out of your depression and He can heal your broken relationships. Your job is to ask for his help and let him take control. James 1:5 says you can ask God for wisdom and he will give it to you. Once you know that first step ask Him for strength to follow through. Isaiah 40:29 promises strength to those who need it. Perhaps you need to pick up that Good book again and find some promises. If your tires are spinning and you don't know where to find God's promises, then do a google search and look for promises that apply to your situation! Maybe God wants you make the effort to go to church. Reconnect with other pilgrims on their way to heaven. Read the story of the shepherds in Luke chapter two and let the joy of Christmas be rekindled in your own heart. With a prayer and a little effort, we can all be on the road to a better place.

Area Church Directory

The Family Table

"All peoples on earth will be blessed through you." — Genesis 12:3

Many years ago a man received a message from God, and God basically adopted this man. Later God gave him the name Abraham, which means "father of many." And yet Abraham had no children. Then God promised to bless Abraham with many children, and somehow, in some way, through Abraham's family, God would bless all the peoples of the earth.

God stayed true to his promises to bless the world's peoples through Abraham, even though Abraham's descendants were quite dysfunctional. And God surprised everyone by keeping his promises through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, a descendant of Abraham. It turns out that Jesus was the Savior not only for God's adopted people but also for all other peoples as well. And by faith, by trusting in Jesus, people from all nations, tribes, and languages can be adopted into God's family.

So when we come to the Lord's table, it is a family table. Just as we do not get to choose our families and all our relatives, there may well be people in our church family whom we might not have chosen. But God chose them—and us—to be a part of his family together. So we belong to God but also to each other. And at this family table there is grace.

Father, thank you for accepting us into your family. Just as you have received us in grace, help us do the same for one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Faith Lutheran Church
308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center
Pastor Jessica Bakken Busch • 507-374-2174
Traditional Worship 8 a.m.; Fellowship 9 a.m.
Christian Education 9:15 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 10 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
404 Central Avenue N, Dodge Center
Rev. Elliott Malm • 507-633-2253
https://gracedc.church
Worship 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Praise Fellowship Church
602 Central Avenue S, Dodge Center
Roger Langworthy • 507-374-6400
Kid: Church 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Dodge Center Methodist Church
201 1st St. SE, Dodge Center
Rev. Chad Christensen • 507-374-6885
Sunday Morning Worship at 8:15 a.m.,
Fellowship Time Following

St. John Baptist De La Salle
20 2nd St. NE, Dodge Center • 507-374-6830
Mass Saturday 5 p.m.

Living Water Assembly Church
104 1st St. NW, Dodge Center
Roy Andrews • 507-374-6561
Sunday 10 a.m.

Dodge Center SDA Church
410 3rd Ave. SW
Dodge Center • 507-374-6895
Sabbath School 9:15 a.m.; Saturday Worship 11 a.m.

**Anchor of Hope Church,
a 7th Day Baptist Congregation**
205 E. Main St., Dodge Center
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Saturday 10 a.m. Worship; 11:45 a.m. Sabbath School

Bible Lutheran Church
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www.biblelc.org • 612-803-1212
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.
(weekly sermons available on YouTube and on website)

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Keith Mosier, Pastor

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Kenneth Ralph Howard



Kenneth Ralph Howard, 81, of Dodge Center, MN, formerly of West Concord, MN passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2022, at Mayo Clinic Methodist Hospital in Rochester, MN.

Kenneth was born on February 9, 1941, in West Concord, MN to Earl and Gladys (Jorgenson) Howard. He graduated from West Concord High School in 1959. After graduating, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and served for 8 years. He met Norma Bell while he was in the Air Force, they were married on January 19, 1962, in Rantoul, IL. They have been married for 60 years. After his service, they settled in West Concord, MN.

Kenneth worked for McNeilus Steel for many years. He was a member of the West Concord American Legion for over 50 years. He was a fan of the MN Twins, enjoyed going to the casinos and spending time with his family and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Norma Howard of Dodge Center, MN; children, Kenneth "Buddy" (Lisa) Howard of Lake City, MN, Barb (Tim) Robinson of Dodge Center, MN, Scott (Darla) Howard of Kasson, MN, and Doug Howard of St. Charles, IA; 8 grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren; sisters, Nancy Wendler of Kasson, MN and Lynn (Robert) Schwering of West Concord, MN; and many extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Myron Howard; sister, Shirley Brugman; and brother, Wesley Howard.

A celebration of life was held from 2:00-6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 25, 2022, at Czaplowski Family Funeral Homes, 25 South Street SW Dodge Center, MN. Burial will be held at a later date in Concord Cemetery in Concord, MN with military honors by the West Concord American Legion.

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

Shannon William Hendrickson



Shannon William Hendrickson, 43, of Claremont, MN passed away on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at Mayo Clinic St. Mary's Campus in Rochester, MN.

Shannon was born on December 7, 1978, in Owatonna, MN to Mark Hendrickson and Denice Grems. He graduated Triton High School in 2000. After high school he worked at Daniels Restaurant in Kasson, MN and Opportunity Services. He enjoyed watching movies and looking at different flags.

Shannon is survived by his parents, Mark Hendrickson and Denice (John) Baier; sister, Jessica Hendrickson; step sister, Amy Morrissey; one nephew, three nieces, three step nephews; one step niece.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Christopher Hendrickson; stepsister, Jennifer Coffee; stepbrother, David Baier; maternal and paternal grandparents

A memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 23, 2022, at Praise Fellowship Church, 602 Central Ave S in Dodge Center, MN. Reverend Roger Langworthy officiated. Visitation was held from 12:00 p.m. until the time of the service at the church. Burial will be held at a later date in Hillside Cemetery in Claremont, MN.

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

Ruth T. Hanson



Ruth T. Hanson, 87, of Dodge Center, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 9, at Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center.

She was born March 7, 1935, in Liberia, West Africa, to Robert and Elizabeth Dickerson while her father was

doing mission work there. She grew up in several cities in the U.S., and graduated from Clinton High School in Clinton, Iowa. She attended Iowa State University, where she was in the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, and graduated with a bachelor's degree. There, she met her future husband, David. They were married on June 16, 1957, in Clinton. The couple moved in 1966 to Dodge Center, where David was a University of Minnesota Extension director. They moved in 1971 to a small farm outside Dodge Center, later named Hanson Apple Acres. David continues to live there amid apple orchards.

The couple had five children. Ruth worked as a Head Start teacher and a newspaper reporter and photographer. She worked at the Byron Review newspaper for 29 years, through age 82. She won a number of contest awards, and was inducted into the Byron High School Sports Hall of Fame for her journalistic work. She and David also were inducted into the Triton High School Sports Hall of Fame for their support of teams going back to the 1960s. She taught piano lessons over several decades.

Ruth was involved at St. Peter's Church in Kasson from the 1960s until she moved to the

care center in 2019. She was the organist at St. Peter's for more than 35 years.

Ruth deeply grieved the death of her oldest child, Cindy, to cancer in 2014. At her room at Fairview Care Center, she kept a portrait of Cindy above the head of her bed.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Margaret; a daughter, Cindy; and a granddaughter, Britta. She is survived by her husband; a sister, Elizabeth Wolter (Jack), of Prescott, Ariz.; brother-in-law George Ellison (Elizabeth), of San Diego; her children, Ken, of Rochester; Bob (Wendy), of Hudson, Wis.; Jim (Barb), of Lake Elmo; and Deb Achenbach (Rodney), of Maple Grove; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 19 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 101 First St. NE, Kasson. Rev. Alice Mae Applequist officiated. Visitation was from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, November 18 at the church, and one hour before the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Fairview Care Center, Dodge Center, MN. The family wishes to thank the staffs of the care center and St. Croix Hospice for their compassionate care for Ruth.

Santa Came to Dodge Center



(continued from page 1)

If you still need more ways to get into the holly jolly spirit, try adding a few new Christmas traditions to your schedule and watch the memory-making moments start rolling in. Whatever you do, don't forget to take a few minutes to appreciate this holiday season.



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Historic County Seat Coffeehouse Stays the Same; Adds New Items

(continued from page 1)

Husband and Wife Owners Michelle and Wa took over in 2019 and while keeping all the favorites, have added a few new twists.

Keeping the standard fare was important to them and they want all their customers to know the menu and recipes have stayed the same, however they did bring in a few new favorites.

The County Seat serves breakfast all day, including the usual fare of eggs, sausage, ham, bacon, toast, hash browns, pancakes, or French Toast for around \$6-\$8 on average.

They offer a nice assortment of omelets, including the Southwest and Stuffed Hash Brown type served with toast at \$8-\$9.

Try the Webster's Baked Oatmeal (\$5.25) and fresh fruit (\$2.99)

Specialty or Gourmet coffee, teas and Espressos can be made Hot, Iced or Blended to be enjoyed In-house or To-Go.

The Chai Tea Latte, The Breve, and The Miel are on the menu, along with the usual Cappuccinos, Lattes and Americanos plus, Steamers and an impressive list of blended drinks, and smoothies. Check out the Pepsi products, water and 2 kinds of milk, plus root beer floats are on tap and they're offering special seasonal flavored drinks. I've had several of the coffees; they are quite good.

For the Lunch crowd they offer House Specialty Paninis, priced between \$8.50 and \$9.75 such as:

The oven roasted chicken with Gouda, bacon and special sauce on grilled sourdough with served with a big, crunchy dill pickle, fresh fruit and kettle chips (\$9.25)

The Ham and Cheese Panini on marble rye with sides sounds yummy. (\$9)

The Hawaiian has double smoked ham, grilled pineapple, teriyaki sauce and Swiss on grilled sourdough and served with kettle chips, fresh fruit and dill pickle.

The Avocado Supreme Panini is avocado slices with feta cheese, red onion, tomato, spinach and Swiss on grilled sourdough.

The House Specialty Sandwiches, Wraps,

Salads and Soups are freshly made, with beautiful, fresh ingredients, and nicely presented by the friendly staff. (\$9-\$10.25)

I like the Southwest Chipotle Wrap and Asian Chopped Salad if I am looking to switch it up a little. The list of soups, salads, chili, sandwiches and combos is always new and comforting.

Michelle, the very busy, friendly, gal you see bringing out plates of delicious food is originally from Massachusetts and husband, Wa hails from nearby Rochester.

The couple have 3 children and have been in the food and service industries for 29 years, including, in the past, owning China Express.

The favorite part for Michelle is that, while the schedule can be demanding, there is plenty of free cappuccino for her while she's working. She loves seeing her regular customers because they are awesome. The family enjoys travelling, but at this time is fully occupied with running the coffeehouse.

They brought in Pad Thai (which I love and am experienced in). This is one of my favorites; crisp veggies, thinner noodles and lots of Cilantro, it has a bright flavor. I am addicted to the stuff. And its amazing to have it so conveniently located; I don't have to trek to Rochester or Owatonna for some anymore.

They added Lo Mein and Fried Rice, too. Their very popular Beef Pho Soup (pronounced FUH) is authentic and healthy.

The Ramen Noodle featuring dumpling, marinated meat, spinach, egg and green onions in a delicious broth is both popular and gorgeous.

Spring rolls and eggs rolls may sometimes be had, depending upon supply.

The bakery case is full of cookies, mini loaves, scones, seasonal pies, along with some grab and go canned sodas.

Some items can be made gluten free by request and they have a kids menu, for those up to 12 years of age.

Michelle says the staff is amazing and have a really great work ethic.

Indeed, whenever we are there, we are treated politely, promptly and the food has been consistent and prepared perfectly, every

time.

We spent a few hours there having meals, and sipped coffee in the big comfy armchairs while using the Free WIFI. There are some craft items to buy in one corner of the café.

I found it to be comfortable, pleasant, clean, safe, and conveniently located. I highly recommend it. I go 2 - 3 times per week whenever possible.

They are Open: Mon - Fri from 7am-3pm and Sat 8 am - 2 pm. They are closed on Sundays.

You can place an order at (507) 635-5507 or visit County Seat Coffeehouse on Facebook for additional information.

Check out their ad in the Diner's Guide of the Golden Link in the center of this newspaper.



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Memories of Old Time Christmas

(continued from page 1)

They raised cattle, hogs, turkeys and chickens on the farm and had a great supply of canned vegetables from the garden. Her grandma canned sausage and beef and her basement was well stocked with preserved foods. Many years later when they cleaned out the old farmhouse they found a jar of food that had been canned in 1921.

Christmas Day was a time when family gathered to be together and she would play outside with her brother and sister in the snow during the day.

Marjorie was born during the depression, and even though there was always plenty of food, some years the Christmas presents were quite sparse. Her brother would often receive cowboy things while Marjorie and her sister would get dolls and homemade clothing items.

The tree would magically appear and she surprised her father cut it from the woods nearby. It would be decorated with antique ornaments and holiday adornments they made in school. One she remembers was made out of construction paper with her picture in the middle of it.

Summer and winter the kids helped out with

chores on the farm. The girls helped mom in the kitchen and Marjorie could prepare a meal by herself by the age of twelve. They walked two miles each way to the country schoolhouse and she recalls one day she didn't want to go to school. Marjorie walked into the ditch on the way and got her clothes all wet and went back home. Her grandma was not fooled by her shenanigans and dressed her in dry clothes and sent her back to school.

There was a pond near the farm and sometimes in the winter she remembers going skating there with her parents. They would bring hot chocolate with marshmallows to the skating party.

Dale grew up on a farm in the Wasioja area. His parents raised crops, cattle, sheep, hogs and chickens, His two brothers and one sister helped out with chores and he learned to milk cows by hand by the age of ten.

A week before Christmas his dad would cut a tree from the woods on the farm and they would decorate it with ornaments, tinsel and strings of popcorn. They never had lights on the tree. One of his favorite memories was Christmas shopping with his family.

The family always went to church on Christmas eve and then celebrated with a big meal on Christmas Day with lots of family and relatives for company. The meal was usually chicken, potatoes and gravy. For dessert they would hand churn homemade ice cream to enjoy with homemade candy like taffy, fudge and divinity. They would open their gifts on Christmas Day and they received practical gifts like clothes. His favorite was a Farmall toy tractor. The kids



always had a small gift to give their parents.

The kids played outside all the time. They would get in snowball fights and go sledding. One year he made a couple pegs with a nail in the end and they would propel the sled along on the ice the frozen river.

They went to the country school in Wasioja with grades 1-4 on the lower level and grades 5-8 upstairs. Dale says they learned more in those eight grades than kids do now in twelve. The teachers were local farm wives. There was always a Christmas program at school and he remembers the kids playing angels and shepherds.

Carole grew up in town, but would spend

Christmas at her grandparent's farm. On Christmas eve they would open presents, usually inexpensive handmade items. The family would have lutefisk and then attend Christmas eve service at church and then have lefse afterwards. She loved being in the Christmas programs at school and at church.

Her father drove the snowplow truck and the seven kids would stay at the grandparent's farm. Sometimes the roads were very bad in the winter. She recalled one year when the roads were so bad that they went into the ditch and they were fortunate that they didn't end up in the river.

Warmest Wishes
at
Christmastime

May the joy and warmth of the holiday season stay with you throughout the year.

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Darryl Worley

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 16 West Main Street, Dodge Center

Westley Gorham Receives High Distinction Rating



Westley Gorham

Chase by Martha Mier. He has been taking piano lessons for three and a half years.

Westley Gorham, student of Nadine's Piano Studio, Dodge Center, recently received a High Distinction rating in Level One of the Comprehensive Piano Exam, one of the many events Minnesota Music Teachers Association (MMTA) offers throughout the year. Westley's score was 98/100.

The requirements of this level in the Piano Exam program are to know and play major and minor pentascales, in both parallel and contrary motion, with legato and staccato touch; perform three pieces from the official repertoire list by memory; identify such elements as rhythm, intervals, note reading and performing a short piece on sight as accurately as possible.

The pieces Westley chose and performed were Gazelle Prancing by Jon George, Dance by Cornelius Gurlitt and Hamster Chase by Martha Mier. He has been taking piano lessons for three and a half years.

Can Dogs Get Seasonal Affective Disorder?

For dogs and humans, winter brings the fun of snowball fights and sports like skijoring, but it also means fewer hours of daylight. And in people, that can lead to the winter blues or seasonal affective disorder (SAD), which is a type of depression with a seasonal pattern. Have you noticed your dog's behavior change during the winter months?

As dogs share similar moods and brain chemistry with humans, it's reasonable to think they might suffer from seasonal affective disorder, too. Read on to learn if the winter is getting your dog down and what you can do to prevent it.

Do Dogs Experience Seasonal Affective Disorder?

In humans, it's thought that SAD results from the decreased amount of sunlight in the fall and winter. This can disrupt a person's internal clock, lower our levels of serotonin (a brain chemical that regulates mood), and increase melatonin (a brain chemical released by the pineal gland that affects sleep). A study of sled dogs showed that the dogs' melatonin levels were higher in the winter than in the summer, so perhaps dogs are susceptible to SAD, too.

However, there has yet to be a single study looking specifically at seasonal affective disorder in dogs. Dr. Jerry Klein, Chief Veterinary Officer for the AKC, explains, "At this time, there is no scientific evidence that dogs get seasonal affective disorder (SAD) as described in humans, though dogs also have pineal glands in their brain. The pineal gland produces melatonin, a serotonin-derived hormone that modulates sleep patterns. In humans, some people produce higher amounts of melatonin than usual in winter months, so it may be conceivable that dogs have some changes in mood. But there is no way to objectively measure or diagnose this condition in dogs."

Dr. Klein also expects that if dogs do suffer from SAD, it would be more common in northern climates with shorter days. "In humans, SAD is described more for people living in northern parts of the world rather than sunnier, warmer climates," he says. "One would therefore think that dogs living in the far northern climates, such as the sled working dogs would be the most affected, but no known reports or study confirms this. Perhaps because they are physically active and mentally involved."

What Could Cause a Dog to Get the Winter Blues?

Although there has been a lack of extensive research in this area, a survey carried out in the United Kingdom by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals found that many owners felt their pets become more depressed during the darker winter months. The dogs seemed to sleep more and were less active. Dr. Klein points out, "Like all surveys, it was subjective and relied on the owner's perceptions of their pets. So, it was anecdotal rather than scientific."

Of course, there are many explanations for the survey results. People could be projecting their own winter blues onto their pets. A recent study showed that dogs can recognize their owner's moods and distinguish between positive and negative emotions. So, if their owner is feeling down or experiencing SAD, it's not a stretch to imagine that could impact the dog's own emotional state. Or perhaps owners provide their pets with less mental stimulation and physical exercise in the winter.

It's hard to know if your dog is responding to your mood, reacting to your actions, or suffering from their own emotional problems. There could even be an underlying issue with their physical health. Therefore, Dr. Klein suggests you don't diagnose your dog with SAD on your own. "There is no scientific evidence that dogs suffer from seasonal affective disorder. If a dog seems lethargic or off their feed, it is best to have them checked by a veterinarian to make sure there is not an underlying medical issue."

Ways to Keep Your Dog Happy and Healthy in the Winter

It's important to provide for all your dog's physical and emotional needs all year long. For example, take daily walks, play games together, or provide puzzle toys that will challenge your dog's brain. Consider activities you can do inside on freezing cold days, such as scent work or a homemade agility course. Dr. Klein suggests, "Get outside with your dog and get some sunlight when possible. Find ways to stimulate your dog mentally as well as physically. And open the shades and get sunlight inside."

Although there are treatments for humans such as light therapy and vitamin D or omega-3 supplements, don't try these on your dog without your vet's say-so. In fact, vitamin D can be harmful. According to Dr. Klein, "A dog being fed a well-balanced diet already receives the proper minerals and vitamins needed and should not need any supplements or additives. In fact, giving excessive vitamin D can be toxic to dogs, potentially causing fatal kidney damage as well as other medical problems. Omega-3 fatty acids have been reported to increase cognitive function but should be given on the advice of a veterinarian."

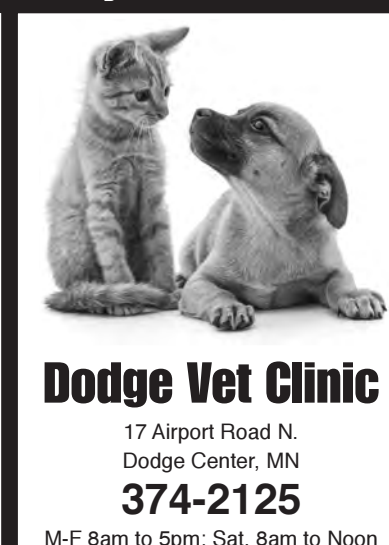
The easiest way to keep your dog happy through the winter is to be the best owner you can be. And that goes for the summer too. As Dr. Klein says, "There is no scientific evidence that dogs suffer from seasonal affective disorder at this time. It is better to enrich our dogs' lives through good husbandry, proper, well-balanced nutrition, adequate exercise, and mental stimulation: not just during the winter months but all year long."

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374-2125
 M-F 8am to 5pm; Sat. 8am to Noon



Season's Greetings

From Everyone
at
MBT Bank

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the season,
we'd like to take a moment to wish all
of our customers and friends a very merry season
and a prosperous new year.

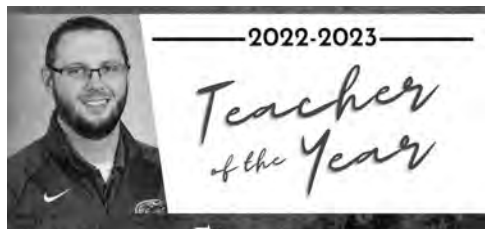


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2022-2023 Teacher of the Year



By Shelly Bungum

Patrick Floryance is Triton's 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year. Patrick is a middle school math teacher and Technovation Coach. Patrick is in his 10th year of teaching at Triton, all 10 years being in the Middle school. Teaching math runs in the Floryance family. Patrick's sister Kristen Tischer, teaches high school math at Triton and was the 2021-2022 Triton Teacher of the Year.

Patrick graduated from Century High School in 2008. He received a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and a Master's degree in Mathematics Instruction, both from the University of Minnesota. Patrick graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2012. He immediately entered the post-grad teaching program that summer and finished in the Spring of 2013. In 2018 he went back to complete his Master's degree which was awarded in 2019. He started off primarily teaching 7th grade math but transitioned to 8th grade Algebra. He also works with 6th graders doing tiered math classes.

Over Patrick's 10 years at Triton, he also has been involved with the school's technology department for about 8 years supporting teaching and learning, a Professional Learning Community (PLC) leader for 4 years and a member of the District Achievement Team.

In addition to teaching, he was the head soccer coach for one year and has spent the last 7 years being the coach of the Technovation team. Patrick said, "I am extremely proud of the work we have done with Technovation in inspiring young girls to explore the possibilities of computer science and entrepreneurship. Last year the team was top in the State." He also has done work with the football team running cameras at the varsity Football games as well as announcing and running the scoring for gymnastics.

When asked, "Why did you become a teacher," Patrick said, "I first started being interested in teaching when I was in high school. I loved to learn new things and be a part of the culture of the school. I was involved in various activities that enriched my life and helped shape the person I became today. I wanted to continue being part of what makes schools such a wonderful place for kids, so I chose to be an educator. I wanted to connect with the next generation and guide them as they figure out who they want to be." Patrick also said, "I always enjoyed mathematics and learning how it connects with the world around us. There are so many math applications we encounter every day. I learn something new or come up with new questions that mathematics can help solve. It is just so cool! I want my students to be able to have that same passion as well."

As part of the nomination process for Teacher of the Year, colleagues write a brief explanation of who they are nominating, his colleagues wrote; Patrick Floryance is a consummate professional as a colleague and a fantastic educator for our Middle School stu-



Patrick Floryance

dents. Not only does he do great work as a member of the math department, but his support in the tech department is also critical for the middle school. Furthermore, his work with the Technovation team is sometimes overlooked, and he does great things with those female students interested in technology. Put simply, he is a complete educator and someone his colleagues look up to.

Patrick is always there to help with tech needs, big or small. He's also there to help students who are struggling with math. He teaches in a way that students "get it". He's also patient with those who struggle and good at finding another way to get the concept across.

(continued on page 10)

Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

As a superintendent it is important to analyze and evaluate data. Looking at trends and developing projections of what lies ahead in the future are an important part of looking out for the district. I enjoy gathering and putting together data to create a visual representation of the past in order to prepare for the future. Two of the latest

spreadsheets that I put together looked at our enrollment over the past 12 years as well as an analysis of the class sizes at our elementary over the past 15 years.

When looking at the enrollment data, it is clear that we have fewer students than we have had in the past. We have seen a trend of fewer kindergarten students over the past few years and fewer births in our district. This is part of a nationwide trend, and not just impacting us at Triton. Even though we have had a number of new homes built in the district over the past 10 to 15 years, families are having fewer children and smaller in size. With fewer students it is important to evaluate areas that we can reduce spending to keep things in-line with the incoming revenue. It would be helpful if the state fully funded the special education cross-subsidy, as well as the inflationary increases that impact our budget. With a 17.6 billion dollar surplus, it seems as though the state could do a little evaluation and analysis of their own! We will just have to focus on controlling the things we can control and doing our best to provide a great educational experience for our students with the

resources we have.

Besides looking at the number of students in our district, I also look at the number of students that are open enrolling into our district as well as the number of students that are opting to enroll in another district. I was very pleased to see the trend upward in students that are enrolling into our district and the trend downward of students that are open enrolled out of our district. I believe that is a good indicator that people realize the great things that are happening in our district. The positive feedback I hear from parents regarding the number of concurrent offerings we provide is just one example of that positive feedback.

Another positive trend in our district has been the ability to continue offering smaller class sizes in our elementary. I believe this philosophy is paying dividends as I have seen the improvements that are happening in our elementary. I am pleased with the overall growth that we are seeing with our students. We continue to see promising trends with our test scores when you look at the growth of students. Being able to offer smaller class

sizes ensures that we are meeting the needs of ALL of our students.

We are constantly assessing and adjusting the resources we need to maximize the use of the tax dollars we have. I appreciate the hard work that people do to fund our educational system and programs and never take that for granted. By continuing to look at data, it helps to make sound decisions for our district that will help keep our district in great shape for the future.

Please reach out to me with any questions that you may have regarding our school district. You can email me at schlich@triton.k12.mn.us or you can call me at 507-418-7530 to reach me at the district office. I would be happy to set up a time to meet with you or your organization. I believe that communication is an important aspect of my job responsibility, and I welcome the opportunity to learn from your perspective. GO COBRAS!

#WeAreTriton

2022-2023 Teacher of the Year

(continued from page 9)

He juggles several hats, and he does it well, showing leadership to both students and fellow teachers in the building.

In addition to being Triton Teacher of the Year, Patrick will become a candidate for Minnesota Teacher of the Year. The Minnesota Teacher of the Year program has rec-

ognized excellence in teaching in Minnesota for 59 years. The program selects one teacher to represent the state's thousands of excellent educators.

Congratulations Patrick Floryance and thank you for serving the Triton Community.

Thank you!



Triton would like to thank McNeilus Steel/McNeilus Steel Charitable Giving Fund for their generous donation to the winter wear program and Cobra Kindness fund for lunch accounts.

The middle school was fortunate to receive donations of boots/hats/coats from the Gosse family, and the Knights of Columbus donated coats to all the schools.

Principal's Corner



Kevin Krenz



Luke Lutterman



Shane Van Beek

Triton Public Schools is committed to providing the best learning experiences possible for all students. We are continuing to explore and look for ways to refine our practices to match our Profile of a Graduate and our School District Mission and Vision. When reviewing our Mission and Vision you will notice that our most prominent core value is based on a positive learning environment that makes sure everyone is welcomed and has a sense of belonging. We want our individual and collective behaviors to match this belief. Therefore, we have made a consistent effort to prioritize Restorative Practices within our Behavior Management System.

Behavior management is and will continue to be a very important piece of teaching and learning. Although overall we feel the students and staff continue to do a great job, breakdowns will happen, and students will make mistakes. Every student has a right to learn, and academic, social, and emotional growth is a responsibility that we take very seriously. We are trying to move past the approach of thinking a simple consequence to a very complex negative behavior will lead to growth and improvement. We want to make sure that learning is the priority and that is emphasized through all areas of our school district. The key is that learning takes place through challenges and breakdowns in behavior. We want students to develop the skills and mindset to do what is right because that is what is best for them, and the collective group as opposed to complying to avoid a negative consequence or receiving a reward.

We do not want anyone to take restorative practices out of context. Traditional school consequences such as detentions, in school suspension, and out of school suspension are all still a very prominent part of our school behavior management approach. What we are trying to do is offer learning experiences through discipline and making sure students leave the discipline process better in hopes that the negative behaviors do not continue. This work is based on moving past simple compliance to engagement. Engagement requires compliance as a baseline expectation and adds personal commitment to the established learning norms and relationship expectations. Our overall goal is to continue to improve the conditions for learning for all students by making sure accountability is defined by understanding the effects of negative actions and having an opportunity to repair the harm. In summary, we want to make sure all are accountable for respecting one another and the learning environment. When mistakes are made, we will move past the traditional consequence approach and make sure students learn and can repair the damage created.

The visual offers a little more information on the differences between a more traditional behavior management approach Vs. restorative-based practices.

We thank you for taking a minute to read through this information and for your continued support and engagement.

Kevin Krenz

Luke Lutterman

Shane Van Beek

Walk the Halls



Get the exercise you need while staying warm and safe inside the school. Children must be supervised at all times.

Monday-Friday
6-7:15am & 3:30-7:45pm

Triton Times

Craig J. Schlichting – Superintendent

Triton Public Schools

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TRITON CLASS OF 2023



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Tanner Green is a senior at Triton High School.

His parents are Mike and Laurine Green and he has one brother, Logan.

Tanner is involved in Football and Track & Field.

He enjoys hanging out with friends and family.

His favorite movie is Cars. After graduation he plans to pursue an electrical apprenticeship.



TANNER GREEN

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TRADITIONAL VS. RESTORATIVE BASED MANAGEMENT

Traditional Approach

- School rules are violated
- Justice focused on establishing guilt
- Accountability is defined as punishment.
- Justice is directed at the offender
- Rules and intent outweigh outcome
- No opportunity for offender to express remorse or make amends

Restorative Approach

- People + relationships are violated
- Justice identifies needs + obligations
- Accountability is defined as understanding the effects of the offense and repairing harm
- The offender, victim, and school all have direct roles in the justice process.
- Offenders are held responsible for their behavior, repairing any harm they've caused and working toward a positive outcome.
- Opportunities are offered for offenders to express remorse or make amends.

Triple A and ExCEL Award Winners



ExCEL award winners Dani Hallaway and Logan Tuft



Triple A award winners MacKenzie Geers and Jude Gosse

Triton Football Banquet

The 2022 Cobra Football team celebrated the season with a banquet in November. This fall the Cobras were led by a strong senior class that were great examples of what a student-athlete should be and provided the framework for our underclassmen to emulate in the future. Highlights from the season included come from behind victories over La Crescent and St. Charles. As well as defeating Lewiston-Altura on homecoming a game where the offensive line paved the way for Owen Garness to have 254 yards rushing, which is the 2nd most in Triton High School history. The Cobras ended the regular season in impressive fashion by upsetting the Eagles of Dover-Eyota 14-7. This helped the Cobras obtain the #3 seed in the playoffs and a home playoff game. Unfortunately for the Cobras they would lose that playoff game to St. Charles 19-14. Overall, it was a season with many positives and laid the groundwork for the Cobras to build on in the coming years.



Team Award Winners include: (L to R) Pierce Petersohn (Scout Team Player of the Year), Owen Garness (Most Valuable Player), Carson Koenig (Defensive Player of the Year), Isaac Gonzalez (Offensive Player of the Year), Boe Munnikhuisen (Offensive Player of the Year), Jayce Leonardo (Most Improved), Austan Adreon (Scout Team Player of the Year)



All District Winners include: (L to R) Owen Garness (All District), Liam Schlichting (All District – Honorable Mention), Carson Koenig (All District), Francis Price (All District – Honorable Mention), Jayce Leonardo (All District – Honorable Mention), Isaac Madison (All District – Honorable Mention), Boe Munnikhuisen (All District), Matt Roussopoulos (All District), Isaac Gonzalez (All District)

Dodge Center, MN - Two distinguished awards have been developed by the MSHSL in order to recognize students who participate in extracurricular activities, as well as serve their community. Through the ExCEL Award and the Triple 'A' award the MSHSL recognizes students across the state who put in extra time and effort to develop their skills and abilities.

The ExCEL Award recognizes students who show excellences in their community, their education, and their leadership skills.

Dani Hallaway and Logan Tuft have been nominated by Triton High School for the MSHSL ExCEL award for this school year. Dani Hallaway is a member of the volleyball team, and also manages the girls basketball team. Dani is an avid member of the Triton High School Band, as she is a member of the pep band, jazz band, and the marching band. Additionally, Dani is a member of the student council, AFS, BPA, Link Crew, Leadership Council, and the Prom Committee.

Logan Tuft is the second nominee for the ExCEL award. Logan is involved in many activities at Triton High School, including the

Fall Play, and Honor Band, in which he received a Superior rating. Logan also is a member of the Student Council, Minnesota Honor Society, Link Crew, BPA, SADD, and the Prom Committee.

The MSHSL Triple 'A' Award recognizes students who are seniors in high school, and demonstrate excellence in academics, the arts, and athletics. Triton High School has nominated MacKenzie Geers and Jude Gosse for the award this school year.

Jude Gosse is a three sport athlete, participating in football, basketball, and golf while also participating in a leading role in the school musical. Jude has been recognized by the Gopher Conference Honor Band, and has also received a Superior rating for his efforts in choir.

MacKenzie Geers participates in Volleyball, Dance, as well as Track and Field. MacKenzie is a conference champion in the 400m dash. Additionally, MacKenzie is part of the Gopher Conference Honor Band, and has received Superior Ratings in the Solo and Ensemble Contest each year she has competed.

Triton MHS Induction



L to R: Row 1, Jozey Boe, Poe Broskoff, Casper Connor, Ameryn Dostal, Nancy Fernandez, Tyler Gnagey, Danielle Hallaway, Elizabeth Hukee

L to R: Row 2, Lauryn Nauman, Mallory Olson, Max Olson, Litany Peterson, Katherine Ross, Logan Tuft, Jessica Willette.

Congratulations to the following students on being inducted into the Triton chapter of the Minnesota Honor Society. These students have demonstrated the four qualities that serve as standards for the Society: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Please congratulate these students on a tremendous accomplishment.

Triton Honors Profile of a Graduate Award Winners!


Congratulations to the latest Profile of a Graduate Award Winners! These students continue to be leaders and role models. They have excelled in the profile area of Critical Thinking.














The Triton Profile of a Graduate is our locally developed approach to what it means to be a graduate of Triton High School. We have incorporated many principles and competencies designed to help all students develop the skills necessary for success in college, in a career, and most importantly in life.

The Profile of a Graduate is designed around a community-engaged process to create a beacon for future educational strategic planning. It presents a clear visualization of priority goals for teaching and learning that can be easily communicated to students, parents, and staff to align collective efforts. Our Profile articulates the Triton community's aspirations for all students and will serve as a North Star for future system transformation.

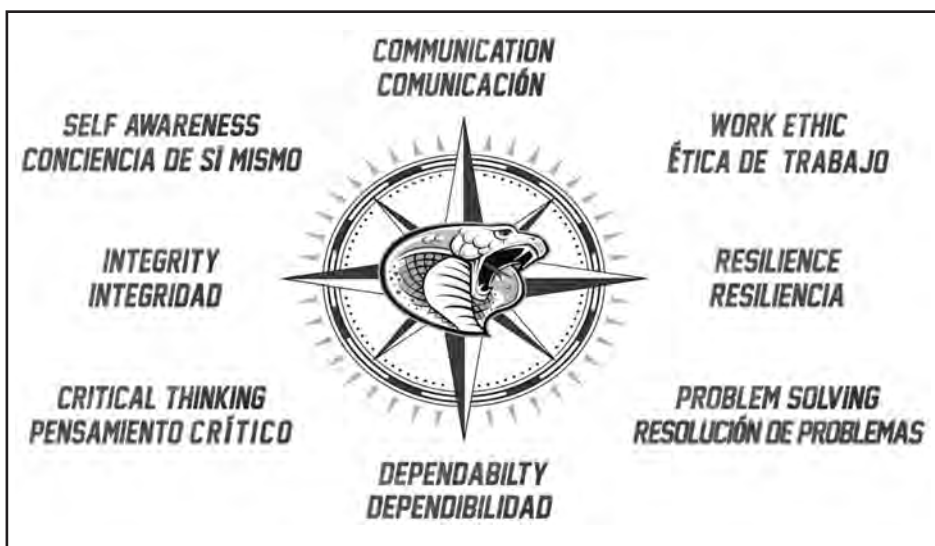
TRITON PROFILE OF A GRADUATE

DEMONSTRATING EXCELLENCE IN CRITICAL THINKING



						
Kingston Wutschke Kindergarten	Jaelyn Evjen First Grade	Ellie Ryg Second Grade	William Dowd Third Grade	Wyatt Wilson Fourth Grade	Abigail Henslin Fifth Grade	
						
Rory Ginder Sixth Grade	Abrielle Emanuel Seventh Grade	Gavin Young Eighth Grade	Dora Chable Ninth Grade	Olivia Weber Tenth Grade	Tyler Gnagey Eleventh Grade	Yahaira Mercado Twelfth Grade

Counselor/Social Worker Corner



Several years ago, Triton Public Schools and our community members established qualities that we would like every Triton student to embody in their everyday lives, ones that would continue well past graduation. Named the Triton Profile of a Graduate or the Cobra Compass, it is made up of eight traits of: self-awareness, integrity, critical thinking, dependability, problem solving, resilience, work ethic and communication. As a school counseling and social work team, we'd like to explain how each of these traits relates to mental health and social emotional learning. Each month students are learning about a specific trait and to implement it into their everyday life.

December's Profile of a Graduate is dependability. Dependability has the very simple meaning of being trustworthy and reliable. As parents, we try to instill in our children the importance of being a dependable person, someone who others can trust and be reliant on. We all know what that means but do we ever pause to think about what that looks like. We have all heard the saying about integrity and doing the right thing even when no one is looking, but what about showing that we are dependable? Ways to show that we are dependable include being on time, following through with commitments, being accountable and being consistent.

After the Profile of a Graduate lesson this month, we are hopeful that students will learn that dependability is a lifelong trait that will impact everything in their lives and hopefully they will understand the impact that being dependable has not only on their lives but on those around them.

Ashlee Koll, TES Counselor
Tricia Johnson, TMS Social Worker
Christi Runnells, THS Counselor
Diane Meyer, TPS K-12 Counselor

ESL Students Write About Day of the Dead Traditions



Students in the ESL Department wrote stories about Day of the Dead traditions as well as traditions for remembering the dead in countries around the world. Day of the Dead or Dia de los Muertos is celebrated by many Latin Americans on Nov. 2 each year.



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TRITON COMMUNITY ED YOUTH ENRICHMENT
507-418-7550

Thank You

To these sponsors who have been monumental in the startup of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Dodge County.

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Kasson Lions Club	Mike & Kathy Wilmes
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Kasson American Legion	William Kinney
Mayo Foundation	Ellingson
Madery Construction	Dodge Center Lions
Mantorville Restoration Association	Ruth Donaldson
In Loving Memory of Scott Hodgman	Energy Economics, Inc.
Maria Coffman	Dan and Kim Marquardt

And thank you to the individuals on the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Committee who worked hard to bring this program to our community:
Jalissa Tauscher, Rachel Wiste, Kayla Gannon, Amanda Madery, Kristy Faber, Jenny Carrier & Katie Schroden




Tech Academy Classes



Hacking Java Games
Tech Academy On-Line Courses
Grades 4-8

Hack into the code of classic games! Students will learn Java coding skills while modifying games. Coding beginners and more experienced students will love this class. This fun class is our staff and student's favorite coding class. We will be editing text files. No experience is necessary, but familiarity with common tasks using a computer operating system (text-editing and understanding directory structures) and good key-boarding skills is required.

Additional Technical Requirements:

1. PC needed, will not work on Chromebook, tablets, or phones
2. BlueJay—free download, Java development Environment, will provide download instructions before class

Cost: \$53
Saturday, February 25
9AM-Noon

An email will be sent a few days prior to class with links and information to participate

Game Coding: Mario Kart
Grades 3-7

In this class, we introduce student's programming concept using Scratch. Scratch is a drag-and-drop creative coding platform developed by MIT. Students will be instructed to make a Mario Kart-style game. Then pick custom characters and a track to customize their games. Basic computer skills are needed (basic key-boarding and using a mouse).



Additional Technical Requirements:

- PC needed, will not work on Chromebook, tablets, or phones

Cost: \$29
Thursday, March 16
6-7:30PM

An email will be sent a few days prior to class with links and information to participate

Canvas Art Painting with Sunshine and Roses!

Join Sunshine and Roses Traveling Art Studio to paint and create your own beautiful masterpiece! These courses are so much fun--and no experience is needed! Step-by-step instructions will be given by our teaching artist. All supplies including an 11x14 canvas are provided to participants. Moms, dads, grandmas, and grandpas want to join in the fun? Adults are invited to register as well for an amazing bonding experience with their student! Please come dressed in clothes that can get paint on. This course is taught by the staff of Sunshine and Roses Canvas Traveling Art Studio.

Shimmery Snowmen.....
Grade K-5

Join Sunshine and Roses traveling art studio by painting a Shimmery snowman scene. You can dress up the scene with a Valentine's theme or put your own spin on things. Yes! Everyone can do this...even if they cannot draw a stick figure or do not have any Art experience. Everyone's painting will look different and that is what makes these classes so fun!

Cost: \$26
February 3
3:10-4:10PM
TES Art Room



Going on a Bear Hunt.....
Grades K-5

We will be creating your own cuddly bear. Personalize him however you'd like! . Yes! Everyone can do this...even if they cannot draw a stick figure or do not have any Art experience. Everyone's painting will look different and that is what makes these classes so fun!

Cost: \$26
February 3
4:15-5:15PM
TES Art Room



Register for both classes for a camp special price of \$45 or take one class a la carte for \$26.

Canvas Art Painting with Sunshine and Roses!

Join Sunshine and Roses Traveling Art Studio to paint and create your own beautiful masterpiece! These courses are so much fun--and no experience is needed! Step-by-step instructions will be given by our teaching artist. All supplies including an 11x14 canvas are provided to participants. Moms, dads, grandmas, and grandpas want to join in the fun? Adults are invited to register as well for an amazing bonding experience with their student! Please come dressed in clothes that can get paint on. This course is taught by the staff of Sunshine and Roses Canvas Traveling Art Studio.

HOP into Spring
Grade K-5

Join Sunshine and Roses traveling art studio by painting a springtime bunny... Hop to it and create your own masterpiece! Yes! Everyone can do this...even if they cannot draw a stick figure or do not have any Art experience. Everyone's painting will look different and that is what makes these classes so fun!

Cost: \$26
April 5
3:10-4:10PM
TES Art Room



Cutie Cupcakes
Grades K-5

Cupcakes are the cutest treat, and you'll have a great time designing your own. Let your creativity takeover and paint your very own sweet piece of art! Everyone can do this...even if they cannot draw a stick figure or do not have any Art experience. Everyone's painting will look different and that is what makes these classes so fun!

Cost: \$26
April 5
4:15-5:15PM
TES Art Room



Register for both classes for a camp special price of \$45 or take one class a la carte for \$26.

TRITON COMMUNITY ED YOUTH ENRICHMENT

507-418-7550

CRAZY COMMERCIALS

Andy Velishek, Child's Play Theatre

Ages 8+

Students will create their own 2-3 minute "informercial" about a product or service they are selling while developing acting and creative thinking skills. Students may need to provide or create some props needed for their commercial. All commercials will be edited and shared to families for students to download and share with others.

Cost: \$36

March 6, 7, 8, 9

3-5 PM each day

TES Media Center



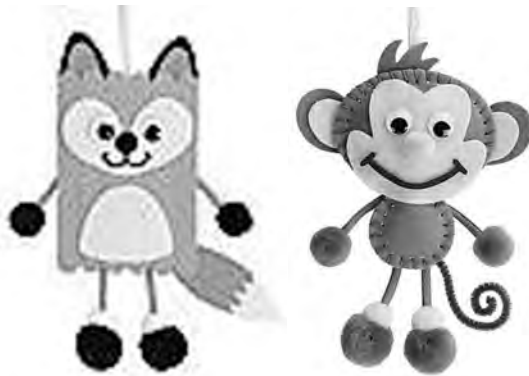
Amazing Animal Activity Kits

Grades K-5

This take-home kit contains 2 Creativity Street brand animal inspired craft projects plus other activities and goodies. Projects will include felt hand sewing, foam crafts and pom-poms and paper. See examples on page. Some activities will be designed for the child to do own their own at home, but others may require some help from an older sibling or family member. The kits will be delivered to the student's classroom to take home. If your child is not a Triton student, we will notify you when the kit is ready to pick up. Limit 24 kits available, first come first served.

Cost: \$14/kit

Kit orders deadline is January 9, Kits will be distributed the week of January 16



Biddy Basketball 2023

Ages 4- Grade 2

Biddy Basketball is a program designed to introduce young children to the game of basketball. The emphasis of the program is to teach children basic skills, teamwork and fun. Triton student athletes will coach all teams!

Cost: \$24 (includes a t-shirt)

Dates:

Saturdays:

February 4, 11, 18, and 25



Grades 1-2

9:00-9:50am Boys East Gym Girls West Gym

Age 4-Kind.

10:00-10:50am Boys East Gym Girls West Gym

All families should enter through the ACTIVITIES Entrance, located on the North side of the school.

Registration Deadline for T-Shirt:

January 10- no guarantee of shirt after this date!

***Please include t-shirt size on the registration form

Triton Community Ed & Prairie Fire Theatre Presents.....

Everyone Ages 7 and up!

One of our most popular programs of the year.....Triton Community Ed has been providing Prairie Fire Theatre Productions for Triton's youth for 20 years! It's a wonderful experience for children, as they grow in confidence and work with their peers to put together a fantastic show. Prairie Fire Theatre provides two professional actors who work with the children to bring out their talents and strengths. Up to 70 children

(and adults if applicable) are needed to play the roles of JACK, HIS FELLOW VILLAGERS, THE CARNIVAL PERFORMERS, THE PEOPLE OF ORCHESTRANIA, THE INHABITANTS OF FEATHERVILLE, AND THE TROLLS.

Two professional actor/directors from the staff of Prairie Fire

Children's Theatre will direct the production and play the roles of THE STORY-TELLER and THE GIANT.

Cost \$40 per child

Week of February 6-11, 2023

AUDITIONS: Monday, February 6 at 3:15. Meet in the Main Cafeteria, we will go to the Performing Arts Center together. Auditions will take a full 2 hours on Monday from 3:15-5:15PM. The directors will hand out a practice schedule for the rest of the week according to the part each child is given. There will be a 2 hour rehearsal held after auditions that will require only a portion of the cast. Please check in with your child at 5:15 to find out whether or not he/she must stay after auditions. A sack lunch is not necessary this day except for a small snack before auditions.

Practices:

Tuesday, February 7: 3:15-7:30 PM (group rehearsal times will vary this day, please refer to the schedule brought home after auditions).

Wednesday, February 8: 3:15-7:30 PM

Thursday, February 9: 3:15- 7:30 PM

Friday, February 10: Dress Rehearsal after school, followed by the evening performance, see schedule below.

Please pack a snack or meal for your child each day as we will make time for supper breaks. If you choose to drop a meal off during rehearsal time, please label the container with you child's name and leave it on the round white table located in the Elementary Entrance. Do not disturb rehearsal with flagging down your child to give them their meals.

Always drop off/pick up your child at the Main Elementary Entrance located on the East side of the school.

Performances:

Friday, February 10 at 7PM and Saturday, February 11 at 2PM: both shows are in the THS Performing Arts Center

Cost for admission to each show is \$5/adult and \$2/child.



Advisory Council

Meetings are open to the public. If you are interested, please join us. We are always looking for community input and participation.

Paul Blaisdell
Lisa Chicos
Diana Eipers
Rebecca Knutson
Dale Rood
Jill Roussopoulos
Tom Lilledahl
Jim Jensen

The Community Education Advisory

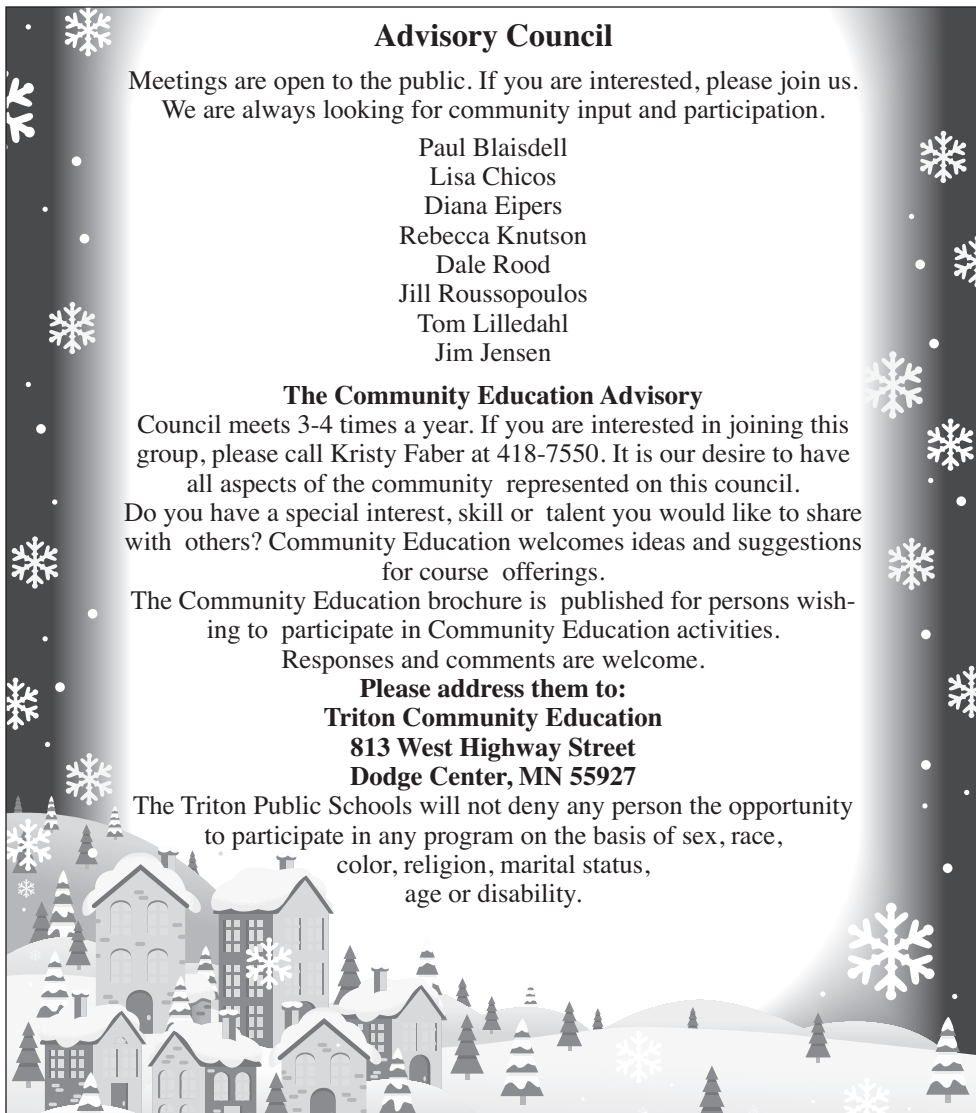
Council meets 3-4 times a year. If you are interested in joining this group, please call Kristy Faber at 418-7550. It is our desire to have all aspects of the community represented on this council.

Do you have a special interest, skill or talent you would like to share with others? Community Education welcomes ideas and suggestions for course offerings.

The Community Education brochure is published for persons wishing to participate in Community Education activities. Responses and comments are welcome.

**Please address them to:
Triton Community Education
813 West Highway Street
Dodge Center, MN 55927**

The Triton Public Schools will not deny any person the opportunity to participate in any program on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, marital status, age or disability.



TRITON COMMUNITY ED ADULT ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550

Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Sidekick Theatre at the MN Masonic Heritage Museum
Leader: Kristy Faber, Triton Community Ed

Take a trip back to 1973 with the Irish Catholic O'Shea family in the uproarious INCIDENT AT OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP. This boisterous and moving and memorable new play introduces us to young Linda, as she recalls a week she'll never forget. When Linda's mother instructs her to tell her sister about the birds and the bees, things quickly snowball into a potential crisis after the conversation is overheard by the parish priest. Secrets are unintentionally revealed, and a quick-witted group of women realize what really matters as they work to protect their family reputation and each other. This wild and tender comedy explores the foolishness of first love, and ultimately the power of family.

Lunch will be served at the theatre, in the MN Masonic Heritage Theatre dining room.

Menu: Creamy Chicken Breast, served with Roasted Red Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Coleslaw, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Dessert, Coffee, Hot Tea, Water.

You must register for this trip through Triton Community Ed. Call 507-418-7550 for assistance.

April 26, 2023

Cost: \$82, includes coach bus ride, lunch including gratuity and ticket to the show.



<u>Bus</u>	<u>Departs</u>	<u>Approx Returns</u>
Byron Middle School Lot (West side)	8:45 AM	6PM
Kasson KMTelecom Football Field Lot	9AM	5:45PM
Dodge Center Triton Activities Entrance	9:15AM	5:30PM

Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People

Craig Coffman, Cords Are Key Instructor

In just a few hours, you can learn enough secrets of the trade to give you years of musical enjoyment. Learn to play piano the way professionals do-using chords. Since this class is being held on-line with ZOOM you will be able to sit at your piano or keyboard at home and take this course with no pressure at all. And since this course includes an online book and online follow up video lessons, you will be able to continue your practice and study on your own. An optional periodic on-line question and answer session is also included. A recording of the class is included as well. The course is partly lecture/demonstration and partly hands on instruction.



Topics include:

- How chords work in a song
- How to get more out of sheet music by reading less of it
- How to form the three main types of chords
- How to handle different keys and time signatures
- How to avoid "counting"
- How to simplify over 12,000 complex chords

Cost: \$59

March 27

6:30-9:30PM

Via Zoom, you will be sent a link prior to class

Adult ESL Class

This class provides help for non-English and limited English-speaking adults who want to learn English as their second language. Classes are free. Classes run in 12 class sections, but students are welcome at any time.

****NO COST****

Please call 418-7550 for more information.

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 6-8 PM

Instructors: Mayra Monarrez & Diana Eipers



Triton Adult GED Class

☐Instructor: Traci Gray

Exciting opportunities to get your GED!

Triton Community Ed now offers classroom Adult GED instruction combined with distance learning sessions!

Call Triton Community Ed at 507-418-7550 so Traci can help you get started. Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday nights.

****NO COST****

Call the Triton Community Ed Office at 418-7550 to get started!!!

Safe Driving Class

Jim Jensen

In the Safe Driving Class, you will learn driving strategies that can keep you safer on the road. You will learn updates to traffic laws, how to reduce distractions to driving and how to navigate different intersections. Driver's aged 55 years old and older who successfully complete the Safe Driver Class will qualify for reductions in their automobile insurance premiums. Please remember to bring your driver's license with you to class. It's important to pre-register so that Jim can assure accommodations for all.



8-Hour Initial Course (for those that have never taken these classes)

March 11

Cost: \$20

8-4 PM at Byron High School, in the Multipurpose Room.

Park by the flag poles and enter through the high school's main entrance

Call Byron Community Ed at 507-775-2336

Or on-line at:

https://byron.cr3.schooltoday.com/public/getclass/category_id/47/program_id/7

4-Hour Refresher Course (for those that have taken the 8-Hour before)

Call Triton Community Ed at 507-418-7550 to register for these options

Cost: \$20, checks should be made to Jim Jensen

February 9, at 5-9PM in the THS Media Center

Or May 25, at 5-9 PM in the THS Media Center

The Prom

Chanhassen Dinner Theatre

Leader: Kristy Faber, Triton Community Ed

Four fabulous fading Broadway stars are in desperate need of a new stage. When they hear that trouble is brewing around a small-town Indiana prom- and the press is involved- they know that it's time to put a spotlight on the issue.... and themselves. The town's parents want to keep the dance on the straight and narrow, but when Emma just wants to bring her girlfriend to the prom, the entire town has a date with destiny. Now, Broadway's brassiest are coming to join the fight and they are ready to kick-ball-change the world! We will eat lunch at the theatre, you will order off their menu. You must sign up for this trip through Triton Community Ed, call us at 507-418-7550.



March 15, 2023

Cost: \$98, includes coach bus ride, ticket to the show and lunch including gratuity.

<u>Bus</u>	<u>Leaves</u>	<u>Approx. Returns</u>
Byron Middle School Lot (West Side of Lot)	8:15AM	6PM

Kasson KMTelecom Football Field Lot	8:30AM	5:45PM
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Triton Activities Entrance	8:45AM	5:30PM
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TRITON COMMUNITY ED NEWS

507-418-7550

Instant Guitar for Hopelessly Busy People

Craig Coffman, Chords Are Key Instructor

Have you ever wanted to learn the guitar but simply find it difficult to find the time? In just a few hours you can learn enough about playing the guitar to give you years of musical enjoyment, and you won't have to take private lessons to do it. This crash course will teach you some basic chords and get you playing along with your favorite songs right away. Since this class is being held online with ZOOM, you will be able to sit at home with your guitar and take this class without any pressure at all. And since the class includes an online book and online follow-up video lessons, you will be able to continue your practice and study on your own. An optional periodic online question and answer session is also included. A recording of the class is included as well. Class limited to 15 students. For ages 13+.



Topics include:

- How chords work in a song
- How to form the three main types of chords
- How to tune your guitar
- Basic strumming patterns
- How to buy a good guitar (things to avoid)
- How to play along with simple tunes

Cost: \$59

March 28

6:30-9:30PM

Via Zoom, you will be sent a link prior to class

Triton Community Ed Registration

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Here's How to Register...

Complete the registration form on the following pages and mail or drop off with payment to:

Mailing Address

**Triton Community Ed
813 West Highway Street
Dodge Center, MN 55927**

On-Line Registration and Credit Card Payment:

Go to www.triton.k12.mn.us, and click on the Community Ed Class Registration/Calendars under the Quick Links Section.

UCARE/South Country Insurance discounts MAY apply. If you have this insurance, please include a copy of the card with the registration — UNLESS it is already on file with Community Ed.

Registration is not complete without insurance information

Call 507-418-7550 with questions-Thank you!

NEW! Dance Classes with Victor...

Instructor Victor Albrecht

Join Victor and pick up a new and fun-filled skill! Victor has been teaching dance for Community Ed Programs for many years and is excited to meet our Triton Community. These classes can be for couples, singles or kids aged middle school and above (if accompanied by an adult). Couples will dance together each class; Singles will switch partners every 2 dances. Please wear comfortable clothes, and shoes/western boots—no sandals. Bring water. Each class is 1-hour long.

Session 1:

Saturday, January 21st in the Triton Main Cafeteria, enter through the Main Elementary Doors #5 on East Side

- 1.Line Dancing-10AM
- 2.Ballroom Dancing– Beginners 11 AM
- 3.Country 2 step Dancing— Beginners 12PM

Classes ala cart \$13 each

Sign up for all 3 for \$35 each date

Session 2:

Saturday, February 11th in the Triton Main Cafeteria, enter through the Main Elementary Doors #5 on East Side

- 1.Line Dancing — Intermediate (those have some familiarity with line dancing) 10AM
- 2.Country 2 Step Dancing— 11AM
- 3.Singles Lessons— Variety of dances 12PM

Classes ala cart \$13 each

Sign up for all 3 for \$35 each date

Session 3:

Saturday, March 4 in the Triton Main Cafeteria, enter through the Main Elementary Doors #5 on East Side

- 1.Line Dancing— Beginners through Advanced— 10AM
- 2.Ballroom Dancing Level 2 (those that have familiarity with Ballroom dancing or took the Beginners class on January 21 — 11AM
- 3.Ballroom Wedding Dance Lessons– 12PM

Classes ala cart \$13 each

Sign up for all 3 for \$35 each date

Adult Offerings	Cost	Name
Dancing Lessons Session One:		
Line Dancing	\$13	
Ballroom Dancing	\$13	
Country 2-step	\$13	
All 3 classes	\$35	
Dancing Lessons Session Two:		
Line Dancing	\$13	
Country 2-step	\$13	
Singles Lessons	\$13	
All 3 classes	\$35	
Dancing Lessons Session Three:		
Line Dancing	\$13	
Ballroom Dancing Level 2	\$13	
Ballroom Wedding Dances	\$13	
All 3 classes	\$35	
Instant Guitar for Busy People	\$59	
Instant Piano for Busy People	\$59	
The Prom at Chanhassen Dinner Theatre	\$98	
Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$82	
Youth Offerings		
Amazing Animal Activity Kits	\$14	
Crazy Commercials	\$36	
Prairie Fire Theatre: Jack and the Beanstalk	\$40	
Sunshine & Roses Canvas Painting:		
Shimmery Snowman	\$26	
Going on a Bear Hunt	\$26	
Both classes as a camp	\$45	
Hop Into Spring	\$26	
Cutie Cupcakes	\$26	
Both classes as a camp	\$45	
Hacking Java Games	\$53	
Game Coding Mario Kart	\$29	
Biddy Basketball	\$24	

Size: XS YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL

Southern Minnesota

Golden Link

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December 18, 2022
Bidding Begins: .. Dec. 10, 2022
Starts Closing..... Dec. 18, 2022
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EZ-Haul 16' Enclosed Contractors Cargo Trailer, 2021 20' Flatbed Trailer, Scaffolding, Planks, Air Compressors, Cordless Tools, Power Tools, Hand Tools, Nailers, Hardware, Snowmobile, Sporting Goods

December 18, 2022
Bidding Begins: .. Dec. 10, 2022
Starts Closing..... Dec. 18, 2022
Kenyon, MN
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Mike 507-461-4474
Jim 507-327-6430

LIVE LAND AUCTION 148.83 ACRES +/- FREEBORN COUNTY, MN

AUCTION LOCATION:
Geneva Bar & Grill
101 W Main Street, Geneva, MN 56035


DECEMBER 14 10:00 AM

MEDD FAMILY FARM
See Website for Terms - AUCTION #2417

LANDPROZ Section 10 of Riceland TWP in Freeborn County, MN
Deeded acres: 148.83 +/- • Tillable acres: 143.03 +/-
ONLINE BIDDING AT WWW.LANDPROZ.COM

LandProz is pleased to present the Medd Family Farm in Freeborn County, MN. This tillable land will be offered to the public to bid their price via LandProz AuctionCast at landproz.com and on site at the Geneva Bar & Grill. The auction will be broadcast live on December 14, 2022 at 10:00am online at landproz.com. For more information and details about this tillable cropland offering, please visit landproz.com or contact Auction Manager Greg Jensen at 507-383-1067 or gregjensen@landproz.com.


SONNY JENSEN
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sonnyjensen@landproz.com
 507-402-9445


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See Website for Terms

ONLINE BIDDING @ LANDPROZ.COM

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Buildable lot on 4.5 acres of land. Building permit is already in place and the septic system has already been approved. This property is east of West Concord, only minutes from Mantorville, Kasson, Dodge Center, Wanamingo, and Pine Island. It's also just a short drive to Rochester. Contact **Tim Gangl, REALTOR®** at tim@farmlandsales.com, 507.254.1976.

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Auction Location: 930 Red Wing Ave., Kenyon, MN 55946
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COMPLETE DETAILS & BIDDING AT www.maringauction.com

PREVIEW DATE:
Friday, December 16, From 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Enclosed Contractors Trailer, 20' & 40' Shipping Containers
EZ-Hauler Enclosed Cargo Contractors Trailer, 16', Tandem Axle, V-Nose, Ladder Rack, Inside Lights & Outlets, Storage, Ramp Door; 20' 20' Flatbed Trailer, Tandem Axle, 7,000lbs Axles, Tilt Bed, Like New; 20' & 40' Shipping Containers, End Cargo Doors, Watertight, Buyer Has 6 Months To Remove; 11'x6' Shop Built Man Basket, Fork Pockets

Terms: Cash, check credit card. All items sell as-is, all sales final. 10% Buyers premium on all items. Handling fee on credit cards. Shipping available on small items.

Contractors Tools, Scaffolding, Planks, Ladders, Snowblower, Snowmobile and More

(14) Sections Of Scaffolding With Legs, Rollers, Brackets; (8) Werner 6' Aluminum Planks; (10) Aluminum 16' to 25' Planks; (20) Fiberglass & Aluminum Step and Extension Ladders; DeWalt DWE7480 Portable Table Saw; Raimondi Sipper 130 Wet Tile Saw; Hitachi C10FSH Miter Saw; Graco Paint Sprayer; Milwaukee, DeWalt & Porter Cable Cordless Tools; (40) Hitachi, Paslode, Senco & Bostitch Air Nailers & Staplers; Felker Tile Master Saw; 10' Aluminum Sliding Break; Floor Fans; (3) Rol-Air Portable Air Compressors; Delta V120 30"x6" Planner; Bosch Router & Table; John Deere 1028E Snowblower, Electric Start, 14.5HP; Stihl MS440 & MS192 Chain Saws; Stihl Weed Whip & Edger; Portable Icehouse; Power Clay Pigeon Thrower; Fimco 20 Gallon ATV Sprayer; Extension Cords; Safety Equipment; Medium Duty Pallet Racking, 6' Tall; Wheel Barrels; New Hardware & Supplies; Large Amount of Hand Tools, Garden Tools, Bars, Scrappers, Clamps; Polaris XCF440 Snowmobile

PAYMENT & PICK UP DATES:
Monday, December 19, From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 20, From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Christopher Fink Estate

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1955 Ford Fairlane One Owner, 1995 Ford Thunderbird
1955 Ford Fairlane 4 Door Sedan, One Owner, 20,769 Original Miles, 272 Y-Block Engine, Power Pack Option, Very Good Original Car; 1995 Ford Thunderbird LX 2 Door Car, 55,489 Miles, Auto, 4.6L, One Owner, Clean

Gold & Silver Coins
1885 Gold S Liberty \$20 Coin; 1880 Gold Liberty \$5 Coin; (6) Morgan Dollars; Wheat Pennies; Quarters, Dimes & Nickels, Sacagawea Dollars

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John Deere Snowblower, Power & Hand Tools
John Deere 1028 Snowblower, 28"; Radial Arm Saw; Toro Push Mower; TrimRight Lawn Edger; CP Pancake Air Compressor; Bench Grinder; Wrenches, Hammers, Drivers, Hand Tools; Tool Boxes; Garden Tools; Floor Jack; Jack Stands; Milwaukee Sander, Sawzall & Drill; Bottle Jacks

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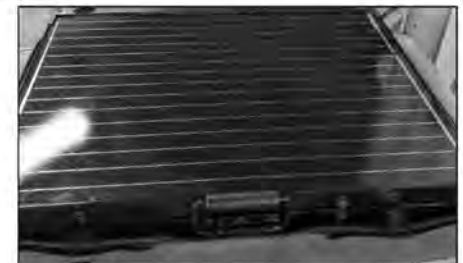
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By Jim Miller

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Dear Savvy Senior, I would like to get my personal, legal and financial information organized so my kids will know what's going on when I'm no longer around. Can you offer any ideas on the best way to do this?
– Procrastinating Paul

Dear Paul, Organizing your important papers and getting your personal and financial affairs in order is a smart idea and wonderful gift to your loved ones. Here are some tips to get you started.

GET ORGANIZED

The first step in getting your affairs in order is to gather up all your important personal, financial and legal information so you can arrange it in a format that will benefit you now, and your loved ones later. Then you'll need to sit down and create various lists of important information and instructions of how you want certain things handled when you die or if you become incapacitated. Here's a checklist of areas you need to focus on.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Contacts:** Make a master list of names and phone numbers of close friends, doctors, and professional advisers such as your lawyer, accountant, broker and insurance agent.
- **Medical information:** Include a list of medications you take, along with any allergies and illnesses.
- **Personal documents:** Include such items as your birth certificate, Social Security card, marriage license, military discharge papers, etc.
- **Secured places:** List all the places you keep under lock and key such as safe deposit boxes, safe combination, security alarms, etc.
- **Digital assets:** Make a list of all your digital assets, including everything from social media accounts to online banking accounts to home utilities that you manage online. It should include usernames and passwords.
- **Pets:** If you have a pet, give instructions for the care of the animal.
- **End of life:** Indicate your wishes for organ and tissue donation and write out your funeral instructions. If you've made pre-arrangements with a funeral home include a copy of agreement, their contact information and whether you've prepaid or not.

LEGAL DOCUMENTS

- **Will, trust and estate plan:** Include the original copy of your will and other estate planning documents you've made.
- **Financial power of attorney:** This document names someone you trust to handle money matters if you're incapacitated.
- **Advance health care directives:** This includes a living will and medical power of attorney, which spell out your wishes regarding your end-of-life medical treatment when you can no longer make decisions for yourself.

FINANCIAL RECORDS

- **Financial accounts:** Make a list of all your bank accounts, brokerage and mutual fund accounts, and any other financial assets you have.
 - **Debts and liabilities:** Make a list of any loans, leases or debt you have – mortgages owed, car loans, student loans, medical bills, credit card debts. Also, make a list of all credit and charge cards, including the card numbers and contact information.
 - **Company benefits:** List any retirement plans, pensions or health benefits from your current or former employer including the contact information of the benefits administrator.
 - **Insurance:** List the insurance policies you have (life, long-term care, home, auto, Medicare, Medigap, prescription drug, etc.) including the policy numbers, agents, and phone numbers.
 - **Property:** List real estate, vehicles and other properties you own, rent or lease and include documents such as deeds, titles, and loan or lease agreements.
 - **Taxes:** Include the location of your tax records and your tax preparer's contact information. Keep all your organized information and files together in one convenient location, ideally in a fireproof filing cabinet or safe in your home.
- Also be sure to review and update it every year, and don't forget to tell your kids where they can find it. If you need help, consider getting a copy of "12 Critical Things Your Family Needs to Know." This is a 60-page workbook available at 12CriticalThings.com for \$15 or \$19 for the downloadable versions, or \$25 for a printed copy.

DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, November 28, 2022

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

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Bryce Lange, Tina Kozisek, Mark Barwald, Angie Jarrett, Deputy Clements, others.

- The City Council approved the following items:
- Agenda, consent agenda, minutes, and accounts payable as presented;
 - The Green Shack to have live bunnies inside the Community Center during the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Event December 3;
 - Use of Council Chambers by the Chamber of Commerce during the Christmas Event December 3;
 - Hiring Lyle McIntyre for the Maintenance Worker position at a Step 1 on the Maintenance Worker wage range;
 - Renewal of Dodge Center's Tree City USA status;
 - Adding an additional hour to the Maintenance Department's weekend call back hours;
 - 2023 Aquatic Center Rates;
 - Resolution 2022-038, A Resolution Fixing Rates and Charges for Municipal Utilities;
 - 2023 Dodge County Assessment Agreement;
 - Proposed RFQ to being the process of selecting an engineering consultant for the airport.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm

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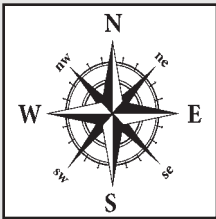
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

Steve Keel, the mystery



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.

I met Steve Keel when I was looking for an electrician to wire the meter box and the main service panel in my new house. I had been building the house for two years using a portable generator to run the power tools. But as the time approached to connect to the grid, I needed an electrician to do the required install. I asked at the local Hardware store and the owner Andy gave me Steve's number. Steve was a quiet and very likable guy and we became friends quickly.

As I was running behind schedule for my completion date, I ended up hiring Steve to help finish the interior wiring. I set boxes, pulled wire and located where all the switches, outlets, ceiling boxes and appliance hook-ups went. I had designed the house from the ground up and the blueprint was mostly in my head. We would work all morning and then drive up to Esha's Country Restaurant for lunch. It was enjoyable to discuss many topics as we worked together. We wrapped up the project by the end of July and

I headed back to Minnesota while Steve had a caribou hunt in Alaska planned for August.

Steve and his hunting partner flew in to Fairbanks, Alaska on August 20th and then drove five hundred miles north to Deadhorse where they planned to hunt. On August 27th, Steve left the campsite to retrieve some supplies where they stored the caribou meat. It was less than a mile hike, although the rough terrain took about an hour to cover the distance. He never returned, and a missing persons report was made. The two hunters had been in daily contact with their wives with a special satellite phone since there is no cell phone signal in the Alaskan wilderness. Steve was a lifelong outdoorsman with survival skills military experience and had no medical conditions that were known.

Steve's two adult sons, immediately flew up to the area to search for their father but with no luck. Four friends from Tennessee also formed a rescue team and flew up to Alaska to help look. They had military special forces and search and rescue experience, but after two weeks not a sign had been found. The family had requested that North Slope Search and Rescue unit deploy their RECCO device which is placed in a helicopter and can ping off a cell phone even if its battery is dead. Air support for two additional groups was requested because the terrain of the arctic steppe is a spongy one to four foot thick mat on top of the permafrost. Still not a sign of Steve anywhere was found.

During the short summer the Arctic tundra slopes are lush with vegetation supporting some of the largest herds of wild animals in the world. The caribou migrate there to bear their calves. Migratory fowl travel from Florida and Mexico for the summer as well. Wolves, polar bear and grizzly bear also hunt the land. But winter sets in by November and high winds with six or more feet of snow and temperatures down to 70 degrees below zero will be the norm until the end of March.



A Minnesotan: Christmas



By RosaLin Alcoser

Not all but many holidays over the course of my childhood are marked with some kind of minor disaster. Like the Thanksgiving table fire, or the Christmas Eve were my sister and I accidentally did a 360 on the highway in between the fifth and sixth Christmas Eve service of the night. No one ever gets hurt in these minor disasters but they make the holiday memorable and make for a good story. One that came to me this year was the Christmas that the dishwasher shorted out. It was the Christmas of 2004, I was eight-years-old that year. Honestly, I cannot for the life of me remember what I got for Christmas that year. What I can remember is the events of the day. It was a typical Christmas of my childhood. We got up had breakfast and did stockings before Dad went off to work to do Christmas day services at the Medical Center in Rochester. The family would be coming over that evening for dinner and

presents; in the meantime, we watched Christmas movies and worked on Christmas dinner.

I think it was a pretty normal Christmas that year... or at least it was until the dishwasher shorted out before dinner causing it to fill up with water. It was all going to be OK though because Grandpa, who had been a Navy Electrician, was going to fix it. All he needed to do was cut off the power to the dishwasher and take care of the problem.

Now the breaker box was in the garage, and I do not remember exactly how but the wrong breaker got turned off. So instead of turning off the power to the dishwasher the power to the oven got turned off instead. Which not only left Grandpa working on a live dishwasher, where thankfully nothing happened but stopped the oven.

The oven where the Christmas ham, that my mother had rubbed down with brown sugar and poured Coca-Cola over, had been baking. The oven that no one noticed was off until after the dishwasher had been taken care of.

I was eight that year so I don't rightly remember if we even ended up eating the ham that day once the power mixup was noticed. But I will never forget the Christmas dishwasher disaster of 2004.



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SUDOKU ANSWERS

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1. Result of too much pressure
 6. Stir-fry pan
 9. Steps to the river, in India
 13. Hindu sage
 14. Attorneys' org.
 15. *Christmas cookies emanation
 16. The Brady Bunch, e.g.
 17. Mourner's wish
 18. Mature, as in fruit
 19. *Santa's entryway
 21. *Holiday plum treat
 23. Foot the bill
 24. Hot alcoholic beverage
 25. Not transgender
 28. *Frosty's corn cob
 30. Attract
 35. Bad luck prediction
 37. Indian cuisine staple
 39. The whole amount
 40. "Keep this information" button
 41. *Coveted letter on a dreidel
 43. Dry as dust
 44. Opposite of digest
 46. Inconclusive
 47. Dirty air
 48. Diplomat
 50. Tallest volcano in Europe
 52. Like a fox
 53. Lion output
 55. Beholder's organ
 57. *Breaking holiday news
 61. *Not coal on Christmas
 65. Courtroom excuse
 66. Golf coach at a country club
 68. Very, in music
 69. Make a logical connection (2 words)
 70. Promissory letters
 71. Pine or long
 72. Chow down
 73. Hundredweight, acr.
 74. Ooze out

- DOWN**
1. Nile denizen, for short
 2. *Like Duke brothers in "Trading Places"
 3. *New Year's Eve option: ____ Spumante
 4. Title-holder
 5. Take for ransom
 6. On one's guard
 7. ____-Wan of "Star Wars"
 8. K, in Greek
 9. *Rose Bowl field, e.g.
 10. Kachina doll maker
 11. Answer from the flock
 12. Drink for John Glenn
 15. Fervent
 20. Giving the once-over
 22. *"Mele Kalikimaka" strings
 24. More sordid
 25. Trig function
 26. Insect in adult stage
 27. *Number of candles in Kwanzaa's kinara
 29. Sacrifice for gain
 31. Eighty-six
 32. List components
 33. *Holiday song offering
 34. Lament for the dead
 36. Scotland's famous loch
 38. Eagle's aerie
 42. Lid or lip embellishment
 45. Go to bed (2 words)
 49. *Yule tradition
 51. Pirate's "Yes!"
 54. Savory jelly dish
 56. English county
 57. London art museum
 58. Hipbones
 59. *It's sometimes ignored in face of holiday treats
 60. Wading bird
 61. Displeasure display
 62. Biblical birthright seller
 63. Backgammon predecessor
 64. Prong of a fork
 67. Column's partner

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