

Esther: "God's Faithfulness For Our Good and His Glory"



By Pastor Colin Rueter,
New Life Church
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Esther: [/eh-str/] noun --- A Persian name meaning "the star." Her Hebrew name is Hadassah which means "myrtle," like an evergreen; myrtle symbolizes peace, joy, generosity, and justice.

The Book of Esther does not specifically name its author. The most popular traditions are Ezra or Nehemiah (who would have been familiar with Persian customs). The Book of

Esther was likely written between 460 and 400 B.C., during the reign of Xerxes' son Artaxerxes.

OVERVIEW:

The book of Esther was written to display the providence of God, especially regarding His chosen people, Israel. The Book of Esther records the institution of the Feast of Purim and the obligation of its perpetual observation. The Book of Esther was read at the Feast of Purim to commemorate the great deliverance of the Jewish nation brought about by God through Esther.

The Book of Esther can be divided into three main sections. Chapters 1:1-2:18 - Esther replaces Vashti; 2:19-7:10 - Mordecai overcomes Haman; 8:1-10:3 - Israel survives Haman's attempt to destroy them. The noble Esther risked her own death as she realized what was at stake. She willingly did what could have been a deadly maneuver and took on the second-in-command of her husband's kingdom, Haman. She proved a wise and most worthy opponent, all the while remaining humble and respectful of the position of her husband-king. The hand of God is evident, in that what appears to be a bad situation is indeed very much under the control of the Almighty God, who ultimately has the good of the people at heart. At the center of this story is the ongoing division between the Jews and the Amalekites, which was recorded to have begun in the Book of Exodus. Haman's goal is the final effort recorded in the Old Testament period of the complete

eradication of the Jews. His plans eventually end up with his own demise, and the elevation of his enemy Mordecai to his own position, as well as the salvation of the Jews.

Feasting is a major theme of this book: there are seven recorded banquets (Esther 1:3; 2:18; 5:4-5; 7:1-2; 8:17; and 9:17-22), and many of the events were planned, plotted, or exposed at these banquets. Although the name of God is never mentioned in this book, it is apparent that the Jews of Susa sought His intervention when they fasted for three days (Esther 4:16). Although the law allowing their destruction was written according to the laws of the Medes and Persians, rendering it unchangeable, the way was cleared for their prayers to be answered. Esther risked her life by going not once uninvited before the king but twice, (Esther 5:1-2; 8:3). She was not content with the destruction of Haman; she was intent on saving her people. The institution of the Feast of Purim is written and preserved for all to see and is still observed today. God's chosen people, without any direct mention of His name, were granted a stay of execution through the wisdom and humility of Esther.

SO WHAT?

Life can be hard. Difficult times happen, and pain cannot be avoided. When life does not make sense, do you turn to God or away from Him? Let the book of Esther encourage you that God is always present. The Book of Esther shows the choice we make between

seeing the hand of God in our circumstances in life and seeing things as merely coincidence. God is the sovereign Ruler of the universe and we can be assured that His plans will not be moved by the actions of mere evil men. Although His name is not mentioned in the book, His providential care for His people, both individuals and the nation, is evident throughout. Through the example of Mordecai and Esther, the silent love language our Father often uses to communicate directly to our spirits is shown in this book. Jesus called us "friends" (John 15:15), and the Spirit is our "Helper" (John 14:26). Trust and obey, as Esther did. And watch God silently weave all events for His glory and for our good as His people.

Next month, we will look at the book of Job. This text displays and helps us to understand the following: Satan cannot bring financial and physical destruction upon us unless it is by God's permission. God has power over what Satan can and cannot do. It is beyond our human ability to understand the "why's" behind all the suffering in the world. The wicked will receive their just dues. Suffering may sometimes be allowed in our lives to purify, test, teach, or strengthen the soul. God remains enough, and He deserves and requests our love and praise in all circumstances of life.

I would love to hear from you, pray for you, and encourage you. Reach out to me via email: Colin@nlcwanamingo.org or by phone: 507-824-3019.



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Chosen

He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will. — Ephesians 1:5

My daughter and son-in-law are in the process of choosing a therapy dog for one of our grandsons. They have been discussing and studying about which breed is best and which size is right. During this time, their other son has been helping to walk the neighbor's dog to get a sense of how this addition to the family will work. The family is invested together to make a good choice.

Even more important is understanding that God has decided that he wants us to join his family. Does it inspire you that God has been pleased to create us for fellowship with him? God knew that through the sacrifice of Jesus we would become sons and daughters of God. His plan for our lives is to include us in his story. It wasn't enough that God created us and made us his imagebearers; he also loves us and wants to live in relationship with us.

When our lives reflect the realization of all this, we display God's glory and his love, and something changes in us. We carry ourselves with the knowledge that we belong and are part of God's family.

What does it mean to be part of this family? It means we are responsible for one another. Because of the love God has given us, we have the ability to live in unity together, sharing in the story that God has indeed chosen us.

Thank you, Father, that you have created us and have chosen us. Help us to see what it means to be in your family and to treat others with the same love you have shown us. Amen.

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Duane Lester Berg, "Dewey"

Duane Lester Berg, "Dewey", 88, of Wanamingo, passed on December 13, 2022, at Traditions II of Owatonna.



Dewey was born January 6, 1934, in Pine Island Township to Melvin and Luella (Hjortaa) Berg. After Dewey graduated from high school, he met and was united in marriage to the love of his

life, Alice Kispert on October 15, 1955, and raised four children in Wanamingo, MN.

Dewey was very involved in his community, whether it was serving with the Wanamingo Fire Department, the Lions Club or teaching firearm safety at the Wanamingo Sportsman's Club. He also organized the annual Fourth of July parade for over 30 years. Dewey was an avid golfer and had a love for all Norwegian

food. He spent his career in the lumber and home construction business, first as the manager at the Wanamingo Lumber yard and then with UBC for 23 years before he retired in 2006. He had a passion for woodworking, making squirrel feeders, wishing wells and plaques with Jesus on them. Dewey not only worked on small projects but also could be found helping family and others with their construction or remodeling. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Wanamingo and was a faithful servant of Christ. Dewey enjoyed watching all the Minnesota professional teams, but nothing could hold a candle to the pride he felt when he watched all the activities of his grandchildren. Family was the most important thing in Dewey's life and his wife, Alice was his companion for life. Dewey and Alice were known at the local Dairy Queen as "2 spoons", as they would always share their favorite treat. Dewey was known for his patience, his hugs and his big smile. He will be missed.

Dewey is survived by his children, Beverly

(Steve) Wolf, Jill (Reed) Kvittum, James (Debra) Berg; grandchildren, Nicole Donlon, Michelle Winter, Tara Hogy, Taylor Kvittum, Brett Kvittum, AmandaJo Edell, Tia Minter, Ashley Urevig, Bailey Berg, Alivia Berg; 13 great-grandchildren; brother, Larry (Sue) Berg; sisters, Eileen Anderson, Lila (Wally) Johnson, Donna (Ron) Amundson and Judy (Craig) Gruden and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice; son, Bruce; son-in-law, Tom Johnson; brothers, Marlin, Vernon and Rueben and by his sister, Yvonne.

A memorial service was held 11:00 AM Wednesday, December 28, 2022, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 301 2nd Ave. Wanamingo, MN 55983. Visitation was held 4:00-7:00 PM Tuesday, December 27, 2022, at Mahn Family Funeral Home Larson Chapel 1475 Jefferson Dr., Zumbrota and one hour prior to the service at the church. The Rev. Kris Ferkin will be officiated with burial at Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Alzheimer's Association, 3224 6th Ave NE A, Rochester, MN 55906. To share a special memory or condolence, please visit www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com

Kenneth A. Trosin

Kenneth A. Trosin, age 70, of Kenyon, MN passed away unexpectedly on Friday, December 9, 2022 at his home.



Kenneth Allen, the son of Martin and Vivian (Brown) Trosin, was born on July 7, 1952 in Lakefield, MN. Kenneth attended Sherburn

High School and graduated with the Class of 1971. He worked as a care giver for various group homes. While he wasn't working, Ken enjoyed painting, listening to music, going for golf cart rides, spending time with his dog, Joy, and spending time with his family, especially his grandson.

Ken is survived by his children, Tiffany Trosin and Tyler Trosin; grandson, Roman Johnson; siblings, Gary (Diane) Trosin, Larry (Pam) Trosin, Janet (Dick) Erdmann, Linda (Gene) Takkunen, Butch (Ruth) Trosin, and Carol Bretzman; nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Travis Trosin; and dog, OG.

Burial took place at Kenyon Cemetery on Friday, December 16, 2022 at 11:00 A.M.

Funeral arrangements are being completed by the Parker Kohl Funeral Home & Crematory of Faribault.

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Mary Haugen

The Memorial Service for Mary Haugen, was at Noon, Saturday, January 7th, 2023, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Wanamingo. Inurnment was in the church cemetery. She passed away on December 15th at the age of 95 years and 10 months. Visitation was at the church one hour before the Memorial Service.

Mary Ann Doerr Haugen was born January 23, 1927, to Otto and Anna (Proehl) Doerr at Stewart, Minnesota. She grew up on the family farm and attended grade school and high school at Stewart, Minnesota and then attended St. Olaf College, graduating in 1948. On June 26, 1948, she was married to Vernon Haugen. After their marriage they lived in Minneapolis and she was a teacher at the Minnesota School of Business. In 1950, they moved to Wanamingo when Vern joined his brothers Milton and Anthony in the Hatchery and Feed Business.

Mary was employed as church secretary at Trinity Lutheran Church, Wanamingo from 1955-1959. Martin B. Thompson was the Pastor. Then she was a full-time homemaker for nine years returning to the position of church secretary in 1968. Pastors at Trinity during that time were Jerry Stroud, Sherman Coltvet, Nancy Monke, Gary Lundberg, Paul Reppe, and Byron Meline. She retired in 1998.

She enjoyed gardening, working in the yard and tending flowers in the summer. She took an active part in her church, teaching Sunday School and Bible School, being involved in Circle, WELCA and the quilting group and serving on the Altar Guild. After being in the Bethel Bible training class for two years (Pastor Jerry Stroud as teacher) she was a teacher of one of the classes at Trinity Church. She also enjoyed reading, playing duplicate bridge with Vern as her partner, being with her family and friends and hosting family dinners for birthdays and holidays. For a number of years she and Vern delivered Meals on Wheels and they cherished the new friendships that were made. Mary and Vern enjoyed traveling together— in the U. S. and abroad. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend to many.

She was preceded in death by an infant son, her loving husband of 62 years, Vern Haugen and brother Nestor Doerr. She is survived by son, Tom and wife Sue, Zumbrota; son, John, Minneapolis; daughter, Anne Gerl, Madison, WI.; seven grandchildren, Aaron Haugen (Kristi), Emily Haugen, Samuel Haugen (Brittany), Hailey Doyle (Ryan) Jordan Gerl, (Tsim Vang), Kelsey Gerl, Max Gerl; eight great-grandchildren, Elizabetha Haugen, Evianna Haugen, Luke Haugen, Jack Beougher, Lane Haugen, Rhen Haugen, Liam Gerl, Hunter Doyle; sister, Jane Friedrichs (Jim); and many very special nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers memorials preferred. Memorials will be directed by the family unless otherwise designated. Suggested memorials: Trinity Lutheran Church; Zumbrota Area Emergency Food Shelf, Salvation Army,

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society or donor's choice.

Arrangements made by Mahn Family Funeral Home, Larson Chapel.

Duane Richard Hanson

Duane Richard Hanson, age 86, of Zumbrota, died at Mayo Clinic Hospital, Methodist Campus in Rochester on January 3, 2023. He was born September 26, 1936, in Milton Township in Dodge County to Melvin &



Ora (nee Romo) Hanson.

Duane graduated from Pine Island High School in 1954. After that he attended and graduated from the University of Minnesota Ag School. Duane also served in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1961. On April 28, 1962, he married Charlene Schiesser at Zwingli Church of Christ in Berne.

He started farming in 1962 and in 1968 he & Charlene purchased a farm between Zumbrota and Wanamingo. They operated a successful dairy farm there for over 30 years. The couple continued to raise cattle and farm the land until 2013. Duane was a great steward of the land, having been a past recipient of the Goodhue County Outstanding Conservation Farmer Award and was involved in numerous farm organizations and agricultural cooperatives.

Duane was an active member of Stordahl Lutheran Church where he served in various capacities. He was a member of the Wanamingo Lions Club for many years serving in many roles. For the southeastern Minnesota Lions District, he was a past recipient of the Lions 5M Hearing Research Fellowship Award and of the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellow Award for dedicated humanitarian services. Duane was an active member of the Wanamingo Veterans Honor Guard and could be found in numerous local parades or honoring veterans at grave side services. Duane also served as a transportation volunteer for HART until 2020.

He enjoyed spending time with friends over coffee and played in the neighborhood card club for over 40 years. Duane loved attending his grandchildren's many activities. From concerts to sporting events, he was a devoted grandpa.

He is survived by sons Eric (Maria) Hanson of New Hope, MN, Judd (Amy) Hanson of La Crosse, WI and grandchildren Kaylee and Alyssa Hanson, Josie & Ben Hanson.

Duane was preceded in death by his parents, wife Charlene, and brother James.

The memorial service was at 11:00 a.m. Monday, January 9, 2023 at Stordahl Lutheran Church. Pastor Kathleen Lowery officiated. Visitation was from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, January 8 at Mahn Family Funeral Home-Larson Chapel in Zumbrota, and one hour prior to the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Stordahl Lutheran Church Cemetery Association or the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center. Online condolences are welcome and may be shared at mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Irene Katherine Swenson

Irene Katherine Swenson, 86, of Zumbrota, passed away on Tuesday, December 27, 2022, at Cannon Rivers Senior Living in Cannon Falls. She was born in Red Wing on October 16, 1936, to Henry and Lydia (Hinsch) Borgschatz. She attended school in



Wanamingo. Upon graduation, she attended the University of Minnesota, Mankato and received a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She taught for many years in various places, including Cottage Grove, OR, Madelia, MN, Owatonna, Pine Island, Wanamingo, and Zumbrota. Following retirement, she worked at Herberger's in Rochester. On August 12, 1961, Irene was united in marriage to Dennis Swenson at Christ Lutheran Church in Zumbrota. They were blessed with four children, Terry, Scott, Patty, and Tammy. Dennis died on August 15, 2017. Irene was a member of United Redeemer Lutheran Church. She was a very loving, caring, and nurturing person, and volunteered for many different organizations over the years. She was an avid bridge player, enjoyed hardanger embroidery, reading books, completing puzzle books, and spending time with her family.

She is survived by her four children, Terry (Janelle) Swenson, Scott (Cynthia) Swenson, Patty (Mike) Adams, and Tammy (Troy) Opsahl; ten grandchildren, Kristin (Brian) Nelson, Nick Swenson, Steffon (Jack) Trimble, Megan Swenson, Cameron Swenson, Hannah Adams, Hope Adams, Rachel (David) Danhauer, Sam Opsahl, and Abby Opsahl; four great-grandchildren, Ethan and Violet Nelson and Logan and Henry Trimble; brother, Lyle (Jean) Borgschatz; sisters-in-law, Judy and Marcy Borgschatz; and brother-in-law, John Augustine.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dennis; and siblings, Ardelle, David, Kathy, and Ralph.

Memorial service was at 11 a.m. on Friday, December 30, 2022 at United Redeemer Lutheran Church. Reverend Dr. Marggi Pleiss-Sippola officiated. Visitation was one hour prior to the service. Burial will be at the Zumbrota Cemetery at a later date. Memorials are preferred to the Zumbrota Library.

Arrangements made by the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Larson Chapel.

Carl O Finesgaard

Carl O Finesgaard age 87 of Kenyon passed away at home on January 3, 2023.



Carl was born on October 28, 1935 at St. Lucas Hospital Faribault, MN. He attended 8 years of country school before graduating from Kenyon High School. During this time he

caught baseball for the high school team and also the Kenyon town team and Faribault legion team. Carl attended Augsburg College in Minneapolis for 2 years and was a catcher for their baseball team. During this time he also worked nights at the 7-Up Bottling Company. He was a catcher for the Benson baseball team the summer between his college years.

In November of 1955 Carl volunteered his number for the draft. He served 21 months, 19 of which were in the 2nd infantry division line company in Alaska. Upon release from active duty he served in the army reserves until his honorable discharge on October 31, 1961 having achieved the rank of Sargent infantry.

Carl started farming in 1957 and married Doreen Bless on June 28, 1959. In November of 1960 they moved to the farm where they would live together for the next 63 years. Doreen taught school and Carl farmed. He was a Holden Highlights 4-H club softball coach for 9 years coaching his own children.



In his retirement years he enjoyed his family and grandchildren, traveling, reunions of all kinds, especially with his army buddies, and golfing.

Carl is survived by his wife Doreen Finesgaard; daughter Caryn and Mark Erickson; daughter-in-law Carol Finesgaard; grandchildren Pearl Ouveerson and Peder Erickson; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Carl was preceded in death by his parents Wilhelm (Bill) and Grace (Ronningen) Finesgaard and his son Dale Finesgaard.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

(obituaries continued on page 5)

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Margaret Ann (Ahrens) Ellingson

Margaret Ann (Ahrens) Ellingson died December 30th, 2022 at Benedictine Living Community in Northfield, Minnesota, surrounded by family, following a courageous battle with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. She was 84.



Margaret was born on March 19th, 1938, to Harold and Ruth (Tellin) Ahrens in Washington, Iowa, in the family home on West Madison Street. The Ahrens family soon moved to a farm just north of town where her parents raised three children and built a life together. She attended country school through second grade before going to school in town. Margaret looked up to her sister, Reta, who even as a senior made a point of including her freshman sister, and she cared for and cherished her little brother, Phil.

Washington High School's Homecoming Queen moved to Cedar Falls in the fall of 1956 and earned her two-year teaching degree at Iowa State Teachers College. She began a life-long career as a teacher at Milford Township School with a combined kindergarten-first grade classroom. She was married in 1958 to Roger Kleese, and became mother to Greg and Doug in Ames, Iowa, before moving to the suburbs of St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1962. She quickly became an active member of Presbyterian Church of the Way, teaching Sunday school and leading youth groups on canoe trips in the Boundary Waters. Unsuspecting teens quickly learned she could out-paddle and out-portage the best of them with a smile on her face.

When Tom began first grade, Margaret went back to school to earn her bachelor's degree and eventually re-enter the classroom. She holds the distinction as Macalester College's first returning adult student. For the next fifteen years she taught in Minnesota and Iowa, from kindergarten to upper elementary, shifting to meet her family's needs. With each new assignment she brought an energy and commitment to instill the joy of learning in her students' lives. She is fondly remembered by many former students as a favorite, who encouraged but didn't coddle. When a disappointed kindergartener tugged on her blouse

to tell her, "I don't like what we're having for a snack," she responded in a loving but firm manner, "Maybe you'll like what we're having tomorrow." Margaret's passion for education made her an obvious choice for the Kenyon School Board in 1982, where she led the charge for a merger with Wanamingo that respected both communities.

Looking for a new challenge after teaching, Margaret embarked on a career as an administrative aide at St. Olaf College for ten years until her retirement. The fact that a Norwegian liberal arts college on a hill was now her home made perfect sense to a German-Czech farm girl from the rich soil of Washington County. The St. Olaf Christmas Festival was an annual highlight and point of pride for Margaret, and she meticulously kept notes in her calendar to ensure she had tickets as soon as they went on sale.

Margaret married Bernhard "Pete" Ellingson on January 10th, 1997, and the happy couple enjoyed the good life together in Northfield, Denison and Red Wing before moving into their new apartment at Benedictine in August 2021. Margaret and Pete set out on many journeys, following her meticulous route plans on their way to some warmer climate, then choosing to meander on the way home without any agenda. Summers were spent at Pete's cabin in Ontario and vacations to Alaska and Norway added to their adventures.

Margaret's amazing organizational skills served her well not only in her professional life, but in researching and assembling family history albums and in creating a numbered, color-coded spreadsheet presented to her sons containing all her possessions with notes of attribution -twenty years before her death.

When Harold told Ruth, "Mother, it's time to move to town before one of us has to," Margaret made frequent trips to Washington, supporting and loving her parents through the changes in their lives. She inherited her love of nature from her mother, spending glorious days out in the garden and watching for familiar and unfamiliar types of birds. She preferred planting and nurturing wildflowers which enhanced the beauty of the landscape.

Music was an essential part of her life, and Margaret played the piano daily until her condition would not allow. She brought her love of music into the classroom, teaching private piano lessons, playing for United

Methodist in Nerstrand and directing the Christmas pageant at First Lutheran in Kenyon.

Margaret's faith gave her strength, and it was an honest and personal faith to which she turned in both times of abundance and of struggle. Starting in 2007, she collected favorite passages of Scripture, notes from friends, and words to live by in her "Grow Old Gratefully" journal which she turned to everyday. Margaret chose a life of gratitude that was obvious to family, friends and those who cared for her as her health deteriorated. She faced her diagnosis clear-eyed and with dignity, and her mind remained sharp.

Margaret often shared that being a good mother and grandmother were her proudest accomplishments.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents, sister Reta and brother-in-law Earnie Beemblossom. She is survived by husband Bernhard (Pete), brother Phillip (JoAnne) Ahrens of Grand Haven, Michigan, her three sons Greg (Anngie) Kleese of Northfield, Doug (Mary) Kleese of Kenyon, and Tom (Hilary) Kleese of Verona, Wisconsin, nine grandchildren (Isaac, Katie, Hannah, Roger, Emma, Samantha, Benjamin, Jackson and Joseph) and six great-grandchildren.

Margaret is now surely seated with a very upright posture, joyfully playing the piano and expecting others to soon join her in song - because that's what you do when Margaret plays. The most-cherished words of praise she would ever hear as a child from her Daddy can now be said about her life: "You done good."

A thank you goes out to the caregivers at Benedictine Living In Northfield and the Alina Hospice team. You truly made a difference for Margaret and her family over her final months.

A visitation at Michaelson Funeral Home in Kenyon will be held on Friday, January 20th from 4:00-7:00 p.m. A memorial service at First Evangelical Lutheran in Kenyon will be at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 21st, with visitation at the church starting at 10:00 a.m. There will be a private family graveside ceremony immediately after the service, with lunch and fellowship at the church to follow.

Memorials may be directed to Kenyon/Wanamingo school district general fund and to Cure PSP www.psp.org

William L. Foss, Sr

William L. Foss, Sr age 73 of Kenyon, died on Tuesday, December 21, 2022, at his home.



William LeRoy Foss Sr., the son of LeRoy and Shirley (Holmes) Foss was born on June 28, 1949, in Faribault.

He grew up in Kenyon, graduating from Kenyon High School in 1967. He enlisted in the US Navy and served for a short time before returning to Kenyon. He then attended vocational school. William married Candace Verthein and had two children. They moved from Kenyon in the early 70's to Cannon Falls, where he managed the Curt's Cannon Ball truck stop. He later married Sharon Martenson and had two more children. William then went to work for Metropolitan Airports Commission in maintenance. In the late 1980's he moved back to Kenyon where he lived until he retired. He then moved to Fifty Lakes, Minnesota. He lived there for about 6 years before returning to Kenyon in the spring of 2020. Bill served on the Kenyon Color Guard. In his younger years he was an avid water skier and enjoyed boating. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting and collecting antiques and Red Wing Pottery. He was a meticulous gardener and liked to take care of his flowers and yard.

He is survived by his children Kjersti (and Mark) Anderson of Lewiston, Kollin Foss of Winona, William Foss, Jr. of Cannon Falls, Cody (and Annette) Foss of Burnsville; grandchildren Brady (and Laura) Rinn-Foss, Jacob Anderson, Zach Anderson, Lauren Foss, Bella Foss, Hailey Foss; siblings Christine Foss of Red Wing, Mariana (and Mike) McDonald of Kenyon, Julie (and Bob) Miller of Bloomington, Theron Homeier-Foss of Kenyon, and Ramona (and Ken) Djernes of Clearbrook. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, aunts and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers Eric, Paul and Ted. Memorials to the donor's choice are preferred.

Family and friends gathered for a visitation on Tuesday, December 27, 2022, from 4:00 PM until 6:30 PM, with a prayer service at 6:30 PM at Michaelson Funeral Home in Kenyon. Interment was in the Kenyon Cemetery on Wednesday, December 28th at 10:00 AM.

(obituaries continued on page 6)



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Libby Jo Denny

Libby Jo Denny, age 60 of Claremont, died on Monday, December 26, 2022, at her home.



Libby Jo Denny, the daughter of Robert and Viola (Phelps) Eggert, was born on November 6, 1962, in Hayfield, Minnesota. She grew up in Kenyon before moving to Kasson. Following school she stayed home to raise her children and also managed a few service related businesses. In the early 2000's she worked at the Kasson School as a custodian and lunch assistant. Later she left the school and was a supervisor at Dairy Queen for five years until her health began to fail. Libby enjoyed trips to the casino, antiquing, and attending sporting events. She also liked to sing Karaoke and going to concerts. Libby enjoyed the outdoors through camping and riding her motorcycle. She had two dogs that were very special to her.

Libby is survived by her significant other Adam Horsman of Claremont; sons Billy (and Kjerstin) Denny of Rochester, Robert Denny of Byron, Anthony (and Rebecca) Denny of Rochester; grandchildren Kali Denny, Damon Denny, Kadence Denny, Waylon McConnell, Gage Denny and Rosalee Denny. She is also survived by her siblings Rick (and Angela) Eggert of Brownsdale, Les (and Angie) Eggert of Kenyon, Randy (and Debbie) Eggert of Kenyon, Cindy (and Mike) Fandel of Plymouth, Vicki (and Bruce) Dietz of Owatonna and Mary (Chris Elhard) Schumacher of Stacy and step-father Robert Haller of Avon Park, Florida. She was preceded in death by her parents, and her brother Ron Haller.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, January 5, 2023 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Kasson. Visitation was from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM on Wednesday, January 4th at Michaelson Funeral Home in Kenyon.

Steven Edward Kunde

Steven Edward Kunde, 54, of Kenyon, died unexpectedly on Sunday, December 11th, 2022.



Steve was born on July 29th, 1968 in Zumbrota, the youngest child of Lloyd and Evelyn Kunde. He was baptized and confirmed at Holden Lutheran Church. Steve graduated from Kenyon High School in 1986 and after high school he attended refrigeration school at Red Wing Vo-Tech and worked for Althoff Hardware and Medivators in Cannon Falls. He spent the last 25 years working for Malt-O-Meal in Northfield.

He was united in marriage to Francine Rogers on July 9th, 2018 and they made their home in Kenyon.

Steve enjoyed snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, golfing, and spending time with family, friends and his beloved dog, Billy.

Steve is survived by his wife, Francine; stepsons, Maxwell and Calvin; parents, Lloyd and Evelyn Kunde; brothers, David (Darcy) and Mark, and sister, Kathy Kunde, all of Kenyon; nephew, Brian Bartel; nieces, Jennifer Kunde of Rochester and Sage Kunde of Kenyon; great-niece, Shontell Murdock of Austin; great-nephews, Joe Murdock and Jaxson Smidt of Rochester.

Steve was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Edward and Hilda Kunde

and maternal grandparents Henry and Helen Nelson.

A celebration of life visitation was held on Monday, December 19th, 2022, from 10AM-12PM. A time of sharing immediately followed at the Michaelson Funeral Home in Kenyon. Interment was at Holden Lutheran Cemetery following the remembrance ceremony.

Carol Jean Erickson

Carol Jean Erickson, 86, of Zumbrota, died peacefully on Saturday, January 7, 2023, at Elysian Senior Homes of Lake City. She was born in Zumbrota on March 26, 1936, to Melvin and Ida (Fenne) Timbeross. She graduated from Zumbrota High School in 1954. She was united in marriage to Gerald "Jerry" Erickson on September 28, 1956, at Minneola Lutheran Church. They made their home in Zumbrota and were blessed with three children, Gregg, Mark, and Michelle. Carol was a bookkeeper for Munson Trucking and Zumbrota Livestock for many years. After she became sick, she enjoyed hauling livestock with Jerry for over 20 years. Carol was a member of Lands Lutheran Church and the Zumbrota VFW Post 5727 Stary-Yerka Auxiliary. She loved to go camping for many summers with Jerry and enjoyed dancing and bowling. She was a wonderful cook and enjoyed hosting her family and spending time with them.



She is survived by her three children, Gregg (Deb) Erickson of Wanamingo, Mark (Missy) Erickson of Zumbrota, and Michelle (Jeff) Bremer of Lake City; eight grandchil-

dren, Korey (Greg) Mort, Parker (Erin) Erickson, Megan (Kenny) Jacobson, Kaleigh (Brian) Agrimson, Noah (Hannah) Erickson, Travis (Becky) Bremer, Jordan (Brooke) Bremer and Easton Bremer; special grand-puppies, Ruby and Lucy; eight great-grandchildren, Brooklyn, Lukas, Marlee, Johnny, Adeline, Jack, Josephine, and Eden; one brother, Donald (Virginia) Timbeross; sister-in-law, LaVonne Timbeross; and brother-in-law, Roger (Kathy) Erickson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jerry; and two brothers, Rob (Evelyn) and Jim Timbeross.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at Lands Lutheran Church with Reverend David Krinke officiating. Visitation will be from 5 until 7 p.m. on Friday, January 27, 2023, and one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be at the Lands Lutheran Church Cemetery. Arrangements made by the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Larson Chapel.

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KW Noble Knights of the Week for December 21, 2022

Front Row: Haddie Schwering, KG, Ms. Madison Andrist; Reese Allen, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Julian Ramirez, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Aftyn Meyers, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Oakley Benbrooks, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Brinley Murdick, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Hudson Schwering, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Jackson Adams, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Scarlett Eggert, Gr. 4, Mrs. Chloe Gohman; Adlee Lunde, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing

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PARCEL 1
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*** Part Of The N1/2 Of SE 1/4 Sec. 10 Concord TWP, Dodge Co. MN
*** Address: 536XX 200th Ave., West Concord, MN
*** 72.41 Tillable Acres
*** Area: 74+/- Acres Bare Land (To Be Surveyed Prior To Closing Date)
*** Crop Productivity Index: 97.5 Weighted Average
*** Lays Very Nice With Drain Tile In Place
*** To Be Sold 74 x Dollar Amount Bid

PARCEL 2
6+/- Acre Building Site, Dodge Co., MN
*** Address: 53663 200th Ave., West Concord, MN
*** PID R10.010.0601, Taxes For 2022 \$2,312.00
*** Older 1 1/2 Story Home, Attached 2 Car Garage, House Needs Work
*** Several Sheds & Outbuildings, Grain Bins
*** Good Well
*** Septic System Selling In Non-Conforming Condition, New Buyer Shall Be Responsible For All Septic System Upgrades To Bring System To Conforming Status
*** To Be Sold By The Gross Dollar

PARCEL 3
8+/- Acres With Hog Finishing Barn, Dodge Co., MN
*** PID# R10.011.0500, Taxes For 2022 \$1,654.00
*** Address: 20062 540th St., West Concord, MN
*** Hot Barn Built In 2002
*** Manure Pit Is 8' Deep
*** To Be Sold By The Gross Dollar

PARCEL 4
31.79 Acres of Prime Class A Crop Land, Dodge Co., MN
*** PID# R10.011.0500, Taxes For 2022 \$1,654.00
*** Part Of The SW 1/4 Of SW 1/4 Sec. 11, Concord TWP, Dodge Co. MN
*** Address: 2006X 540th St., West Concord, MN
*** Area: 31.79+/- Acres Bare Land
*** 30+/- Tillable Acres
*** Crop Productivity Index: 95.3 Weighted Average
*** Lays Very Nice With Drain Tile In Place
*** To Be Sold 31.79 x Dollar Amount Bid

PARCEL 5
15 Acre Country Building Site, Rambler Style Home, Dodge Co., MN
*** 1981 Rambler Style House With Oversized 2 Car Attached Garage, 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,526 Square Feet Finished Living Area, Deck, Cased Well
*** Non-Conforming Septic System, New Buyer Shall Be Responsible For Bringing Septic System Up To Conforming Status With Dodge County
*** To Be Sold By The Gross Dollar Amount Bid
*** Address: 19490 540th Street, West Concord, MN 55985
*** PID# R10.015.0900, Taxes For 2022 \$2,362.00
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AUCTION CALENDAR

January 19, 2023 10:00 AM
Kenyon, MN
VIRTUAL ONLINE AUCTION 135 ACRES IN DODGE CO. MN - LENDER OWNED
135 Acres in Concord Township, Dodge Co. MN Selling at Virtual Online Auction. 5 Different Parcels. 107 Acres Of Cropland, 8 Acre Modern Hog Finishing Barn, 15 & 5 Acre Building Sites.

February 5, 2023
Bidding Begins: Jan. 28, 2023
Starts Closing Feb. 5, 2023
Kenyon, MN
ONLINE ONLY LARGE TRIPLE ESTATE AUCTION
Antiques, Collectibles, Silver Coins, Red Wing Stoneware, Modern & Antique Furniture, Firearms, Audio, Power & Hand Tools, Display Cases, Coca-Cola Collectibles; Much More.

February 12, 2023
Bidding Begins: Feb. 4, 2023
Starts Closing Feb. 12, 2023
Kenyon, MN
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February 19, 2023
Bidding Begins: Feb. 11, 2023
Starts Closing Feb. 19, 2023
New Richland, MN
ONLINE ONLY ESTATE AUCTION FOR LYLE SCHLAACK ESTATE
John Deere 4240 with Loader, JD 317 Skid Loader, Dump Trailer, Flatbed & Cargo Trailers, Wire Feed Welders, Hot Water Pressure Washer, Power & Hand Tools, Shop Cabinets, Log Chains & Binders, and More.

March 5, 2023 9:00 AM
Kenyon, MN
SPRING AREA FARMERS' CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
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HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM WASEEKERS

ONLINE AUCTIONS WEDNESDAYS at 8 p.m.

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NEXT ONLINE AUCTION JANUARY 11

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Snap On Cart



Boat Motor Mercury 2 1/2hp outboard 4 stroke, stored in basement since 2016



Kerosene Heater



Pallet Racking

NEXT AUCTION JANUARY 11

Bring in all that stuff you don't use anymore to WaSeekers! No wait time. Items brought in will go on WaSeekers next auction. Please write a description and bring your items in!!

Come see our complete listing at <https://waseekersonlineauction.com>
Or in person at 1372 South State Street, Waseca, 507-833-SEEK(7335) Stores hours: W-T-F 10 a.m.-6p.m., Sat 9 a.m. - noon

Twenty Years of Coffee and So Much More

By Cheri Roshon

Driving through Wanamingo, you have to really pay attention to the buildings on Main Street, or you may miss something. Some businesses have been there for awhile, and

some are newer, but they're all quite unique. One of my favorites is celebrating 20 years of serving the folks in our community this month.

Area 57 is a soup and sandwich style small cafe with desserts that keep you coming back for more! Area 57 is a name with a play on words. Just like Area 51 in Nevada is in a location that you may not see as you drive by, finding a "Minnesota Best" cafe in a town with only 1100 people is rare.

Owned and operated by Karen Masters and the Holmes family, it's a place that makes you

feel like you are also a part of the family!

Seating about 50 patrons, most meal times will find you hoping for an open table. The first time I went in for a bite to eat, it was so full that I started up a conversation with 3 local women. I asked, "Must be pretty good food here?". They chuckled and one replied "Always eat where the locals eat". Hmmm, Could that be the slogan for this charming cafe?

Well, the ladies were correct. The food was excellent! And then I tried a dessert...Oh MY! I can see putting on twenty pounds with the dessert alone!

Twenty years ago, Ryan Holmes was doing a job for his employer, Nelson Electronics, when he fell off a roof and broke both legs. He spent 6 months sitting at his desk, looking across the street at the old Wanamingo Cafe. It had been closed for about 18 months, and aside from Ringo's Bar, it was the only place to eat in town. So Ryan had the idea to purchase the building and open a restaurant. He talked to his wife Nicole, and they decided to look into it. Nicole's mom, Karen Masters just happened to be a realtor at the time, and she negotiated a contract. The rest, as they say, is history!

(continued on page 12)

Pediatric provider Niki Feran joins NH+C's Northfield Clinic

(continued from page 1)

Niki takes a collaborative approach with her patients – and their parents. "I believe providers and families should work together equally to create the best possible outcome for the children," she says. That includes getting to know the family's cultural, religious, and personal beliefs: "I treat my patients with the same care and respect that I would want my family and friends to be treated."

The best part about being a pediatric provider? "I get to see my patients grow from birth into early adulthood," Niki smiles.

Niki brings 22 years' of experience caring for kids at a specialty pediatric hospital and clinic. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner from Maryville University. Niki is board-certified by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.

Special Interests:

- Immunizations
- Plagiocephaly (infants' head shape)
- Preventative care/well child visits
- Sports physicals
- Evening appointments available.
- Call to schedule: 507-646-1494.

Hair Care event at All the Buzz

(continued from page 1)

Her wealth of knowledge comes from years of trying new ideas, and sifting through products, trying them first, and deciding which products fit with what she offers.

Jamie began her career when Harriet Peterson owned the salon. Over the years as they worked together, Harriet decided to step down a bit and work less hours, but remain a big part of the salon. Jamie decided to purchase the business. When the old mortuary building became available, Jamie and Nate bought it, tore it down and built a unique hair

salon that includes waxing, Esthetician work, massage and Lot of products to keep you looking your best.

Her goal has been that if you go somewhere to get something done, she wants to be able to offer it right here at All the Buzz! Believe me, they are staying busy in the small town Wanamingo! Hours are from 10:00-3:00, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:00-7:00 Wednesday, and 9:00-Noon Saturday. Just call (507) 824-2381 for an appointment today, and don't forget to stop in for her Customer Appreciation Event Jan. 18th Noon-3:00 pm



Flake Out Festival & Winter Parade

Dennison, MN

Saturday, February 4, 2023

SAVE THE DATE! WATCH FOR SCHEDULE UPDATES!

9:00 AM **Euchre at Fireside on the Patio, 100% Payout**
Bring partner if possible, not required. \$20 team entry. Questions contact Jen at 507-649-0602

FIRST ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF CONTEST	
11:00 AM	Bring entry to City Hall (Chili)
11:30 AM-12:30 PM	Tasting/Voting
1:00 PM	Cookoff Winner Announced (1st & 2nd Place Payout)

1:30 PM **Keg Toss on the Grassy Knoll** - \$2 per throw or 3 throws for \$5
Cash prizes for farthest throws

3:00 PM **Designer Purse & Gift Card Bingo at City Hall**
\$30/packet, 10 games, designer purses and \$150 gift cards

6:30 PM **9th Annual Denni Dazzle Parade**
\$150.00 Prize for Best Float!
Hosted by the Dennison Lions. Call or text Diane at 612-532-0268

8:00 PM **LIVE MUSIC AT THE FIRESIDE**

9:00 PM **Raffle Winners Announced at Fireside**

Flake Out Festival Raffle Saturday, February 4

Buy a Raffle Ticket from any Lions Member, Fireside Lounge, Dennison Depot Gas Station or Heritage Bank in Dennison for \$5.00 for your chance to win!

Grand Prize - \$500.00 Cash

2nd Prize - \$250 Cash 3rd Prize - \$100 Cash

Plus Many Additional Prizes from Local Area Businesses

Raffle Drawing held at 9p.m. at the Fireside Lounge. Need not be present to win. Winner is responsible for any taxes or fees. Complete list of additional prizes available upon request.

SPONSORED BY DENNISON LIONS CLUB CHARITABLE GAMBLING PERMIT #2762. MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.



1st Prize

\$500!



Proceeds Benefit Local Lions Club Activities!

Dennison Lions Flake Out Festival Raffle

Saturday, February 4

Buy a Raffle Ticket from any Lions Member, Fireside Lounge, Dennison Depot Gas Station or Heritage Bank in Dennison for \$5.00 for your chance to win!

Grand Prize \$500.00 Cash!

2nd Prize - \$250 Cash

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Twenty Years of Coffee and So Much More

(continued from page 11)

Area 57 employs 25 locals, from high school students to Grandma Cora, who is 88

years young. This fact makes it one of the larger employers in town. They have been awarded the Minnesota Best award for the second year in a row. This contest is sponsored by the Star and Tribune in Minneapolis. A restaurant will be nominated, and must place in certain categories to be voted on by it's customers. Area 57 placed in 9 categories this year!

You can tell you are in a special place when you walk in the door. Nicole decorates the

whole cafe for each season, and her goal is to make it feel like home. A Norwegian word to describe her style is Hygge cozy, comfortable and warming to the soul, and believe me, you will feel it!

They also cater outside events and after hours parties at the cafe. One special event coming up is Valentine's Day. There will be a special menu and you can dress up fancy if you like, but more so, be comfortable. There

will be two separate seatings, one at 5 pm and one at 6:30 pm. Please call ahead for your reservations.

Ryan and Nicole love this community and want to thank their customers and friends for their continued support. Congratulations, Area 57 for 20 wonderful years of serving your community!!!



Ryan and Nicole Holmes of Area 57 Coffee Café

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Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 16th day of November 2022. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henke.

The following members were present: Mayor Doug Henke, Council Members Dan Rehtzigel, Mary Bailey, Molly Ryan, and Kim Helgeson

Also present: Engineer Derek Olinger, Attorney Scott Riggs, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom, Police Officer Mitch Taylor, Lee Sjolander, and KW 7-12 Principal Matt Ryan

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Matt Ryan, Kenyon-Wanamingo 7-12 Principal, updated the Council on the happenings at the Middle/High School in Kenyon.

ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Bailey, second by Ryan to approve the agenda.

Motion carried 5-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Rehtzigel, second by Henke to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers 74217 through 74310; 4258E through 4307E and the Fire Department appointments.

Motion carried 5-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ RECOGNITIONS/PROLAMATIONS ENGINEERING

Pearl Creek Sanitary Sewer Improvements

City Engineer Olinger stated that the additional survey work for the Pearl Creek sanitary sewer project has been completed. The project layout and determination of rough construction limits will be finalized in late November or early December.

2023 Street Improvements Project Scope

City Engineer Olinger stated that the proposal for the design of the 2023 street project will be completed immediately after the Pearl Creek project. More information will

be coming next month.

North Street Drainage Improvements

City Engineer Olinger stated that DeCook has completed the North Street Drainage Project.

Approve of Pay Application #2

Motion by Ryan second by Bailey to approve pay application No. 2 to DeCook Drainage in the amount of \$1052.35. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Downtown/Hwy 60 Parking

City Engineer Olinger updated the Council on the angled parking request from Barney Nesseth. After a meeting with MnDOT, they submitted a possible option of adding angled parking to one side of one block along with the possible side effects this would cause. The EDA Committee discussed the parking situation at their November meeting. They would like to see off-street parking looked at as the first option including parking in the alleys behind commercial buildings. This will be discussed further at the December Council meeting.

LEGAL

Nuisance Property Violation – 1 Langford Avenue Update

Attorney Riggs updated the Council on the 1 Langford Avenue cleanup. Riggs stated that a different approach will be used to get this property into compliance. Some things have been moved, but it is happening too slowly. The owner has had plenty of time to get this taken care of.

OLD BUSINESS NEW BUSINESS

Canvass 2022 Election Returns and Declare Results

The Council met as the Canvassing Board to canvass the results of November 8, 2022 General Election.

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Ryan to approve and declare all 2022 canvassed election results.

Motion carried 5-0-0.

2023 Proposed Agreement for Continuation of our City-County Joint-Powers “Agreement for State Building Code Administration”

Attorney Riggs stated that Goodhue County requires the City of Kenyon to approve a yearly agreement to conduct residential and commercial building inspections. The County has done an excellent job conducting inspections for the City. The term of the contract would be for one year starting January

1, 2023.

Motion by Ryan seconded by Bailey to approve the 2023 agreement with Goodhue County for State Building Code Administration. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Resolution 2022-21: Approving the Decertification of Tax Increment Financing District No. 4-4 (45) of the City of Kenyon

Attorney Riggs stated that Tax Increment Financing District No. 4-4 (45), which was originally created for the Sunset Home Assisted Living and clinic areas, is now completed. The city is required to decertify the district.

Motion by Henke second by Helgeson to adopt Resolution 2022-21 approving the decertification of Tax Increment Financing District No. 4-4 (45) of the City of Kenyon. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Resolution 2022-22: Adopting Assessment for Delinquent Utility Bills

Attorney Riggs stated that this resolution would authorize delinquent utility bill amounts to be certified on property taxes.

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Ryan to adopt Resolution 2022-22 adopting assessment for delinquent utility bills. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Resolution 2022-23: Designating Annual Polling Place

Attorney Riggs noted that State law requires that all City’s annually designate a polling place by resolution by December 31 and at least 90 days prior to an election. The Fire Hall will remain the polling place in 2023.

Motion by Bailey seconded by Helgeson to adopt Resolution 2022-23 designating the Fire Hall as the annual polling place for 2023. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, December 13 @ 5:30 p.m.

Township Fire Contract Meeting: Tuesday, December 6th @ 6 p.m.

2023 Budget & Levy Public Meeting: Tuesday, December 6th @ 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL COMMENTS

Attorney Riggs hoped everyone would have a nice holiday.


Council members Ryan, Bailey, and Rehtzigel and Mayor Henke congratulated the newly elected council members and mayor.

Council member Helgeson stated that Christmas in Kenyon will be Saturday, December 3.


Council member Bailey appreciated the work that Park and Rec put into the Trunk or Treat event. They are doing great work.

Motion by Ryan second by Henke to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0-0.
Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant
Douglas Henke, Mayor




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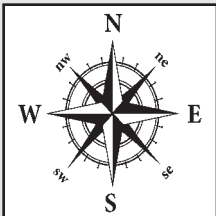
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes 2022 Was the Year for New Appliances



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.

It started out with the big stainless steel refrigerator in the farm house in Minnesota this summer. It was huge and over ten years old. I remember I had to remove the doors to get it in the house. Not just the handles, but both doors. The front door of the house came off the hinges and the refrigerator and freezer doors came off to make it in the house. The refrigerator had started making a clicking sound. More like a whap. Every ten seconds. "Whap". I knew what it was. There is a gear that opens the little door which brings cold air from the freezer to the refrigerator. It would open the door and then it would snap back shut. I explained it to my wife in technical terms. That didn't help. I related what a massive job it had been to get it in the house. It would be the same amount of work to take it out. That didn't help either. So, we compromised and I agreed on a smaller unit. I promised we would get a new one soon.

Then one morning the washer didn't spin the water out of the clothes on the last cycle. It had been acting up as well. My wife would say there was a helicopter going over the house quite low. I again had the technical answer ready. "No dear, it is the washer in the basement doing the spin cycle dance." So, a trip to the appliance store one Sunday afternoon took a \$2,500 hole out of the checkbook and we had a new fridge and washer. But I forgot one thing. Washers and dryers mate for life. One week later the dryer quite

drying. So, a matching Amana dryer came back home from the appliance store as well.

In late September I headed back down to Tennessee. I had to finish the lake house by fall so we could move in when we returned for the winter. I was prepared. We made a trip to Lowes in Owatonna and I had my wife pick out the kitchen appliances. Brand, size style, color, every option was decided on. I had the model number for each written down and I would go to the local Lowes in Tennessee and order the whole kitchen in one visit. No confusion or decision on my part. The matching fridge, range, dishwasher and rangehood microwave would be ordered and delivered right to our kitchen when ready.

The people who bought our old house in Tennessee didn't want our washer and dryer set. The appliances were only a few years old, and I would rather not move them. We had already moved four bedrooms of furniture into a storage unit since the new house was not finished. I was done with moving furniture. I had a house to finish. But since the plumbing and the ceramic tile floor in the new laundry room was already finished, I loaded them up and hauled them too. Well at least I wouldn't have to buy a washer and dryer, I told myself.

So, a week before I had the kitchen complete, I went to Lowes and presented the list to the young man there. Four appliances in one sale. No shopping, no discussion, just write it up, take my money and deliver them on time. The big Lowes truck would bring them to the front door and the strong young men would carry them into the house and life was good.

I had been working on the new house for a couple weeks and had laundry to do. So, I fired up the washer and threw in my work clothes. When I returned to put them in the dryer I discovered a load of wet, soggy heavy laundry. I ran them through again only to get the same result. The final spin cycle was not working. Irritated I chucked them in the dryer. When I opened the dryer to check on them, the machine kept on running. The switch on the door was broke. I was mad. Why did I move a washer/dryer set only to have both malfunction. I did the only logical thing left. I took the hand cart, wheeled the offending pair out the door and onto the trailer for their last trip to the scrap yard. Then I went back to Lowes and ordered a new Amana washer and dryer set. It arrived with the rest of the kitchen appliances.

A Minnesotan: New Years



By RosaLin Alcoser

When my sister and I were young children our parents use to do that thing parents do where they tell the kids it's New Years and put you to bed before midnight, but it's really just New Year's in New York not where you are.

We would stay up late and watch the ball drop at midnight in Times Square on the TV. Yell 'YAY! It's New Year's!' then promptly be taken off to bed; which we were already ready for.

In reality we only stayed up till about 11 PM. Don't get me wrong, 11 PM is still

pretty late when you're a little kid or if you're like me and choose to get up at 5 AM on a daily basis.

This worked for them until my sister was 9 years old and I was 4 years old.

The reason it worked for my parents that long is because my sister never bothered to look at the clock in the house to see that it was not midnight where we were. She was too caught up in the excitement of what was happening on the TV.

However, that year I had learned about how time works and went to check the clock; using the analog clock because it was 2001. I then proceeded to ruin everything for our parents by pointing out that it was not midnight where we were and that we were being tricked into thinking it was the next year when it wasn't. It was the next year somewhere else.

After that we got to stay up till midnight CST instead of being tricked into going to bed an hour before the new year.

Now that I'm an adult I understand why my parents did this. After all 2022 I stayed up till midnight then immediately went to bed at 12:01 AM. While I am writing this at the end of 2022 I feel this is also how I will see 2023 as well.



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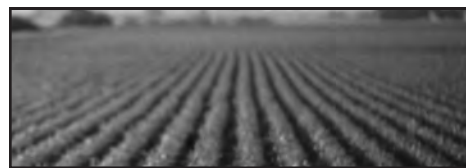
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 15. Tsar's edict
 16. Means
 17. Bishop of Rome's jurisdiction
 18. Female water-elf
 19. *Highest mountain
 21. *Sea that is also the largest lake
 23. A in MoMA
 24. *Small island
 25. Ignited
 28. Lamborghini model
 30. Extravagant
 35. 15th of March, May, July or October
 37. ___-a-Sketch
 39. Technology expert
 40. Novice
 41. Damage one's reputation
 43. Lil' Bow Wow's first name
 44. Bette Midler's movie "___ Pocus"
 46. "I'm ___ you!"
 47. Unit of pressure
 48. Denver breakfast choice
 50. Big rig
 52. ___ de Janeiro
 53. Excessively abundant
 55. Ensign, for short
 57. *Great ___ Reef
 61. *National Geographic ___
 65. Gibson garnish
 66. Arabic garment
 68. D-Day beach
 69. *Longest continental mountain range
 70. Nada
 71. Energy to motion converter
 72. Golf pegs
 73. Red Cross bed
 74. Follow as a consequence

- DOWN**
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 3. Ditty
 4. Extremist
 5. Masters without t
 6. Ghost of Christmas ___
 7. Miller High Life, e.g.
 8. Four-eyes' gear
 9. Bypass
 10. Uber alternative
 11. *The largest continent
 12. Past participle of "be"
 15. Remove from political office
 20. Eyelid infections
 22. Opposite of nothing
 24. Burning aroma producer
 25. *___sphere, the solid earth
 26. "She is pulling my leg," e.g.
 27. 9 a.m. prayer
 29. *___sphere, air surrounding earth
 31. Sleeveless garment
 32. Blood of the gods, Greek mythology
 33. Harry Belafonte's daughter
 34. *___sphere, all water on earth
 36. Aretha Franklin's genre
 38. Type of crime
 42. Young Montague
 45. Brown and yellow finches
 49. Cravat or bola
 51. Financial gain
 54. 100 centimes
 56. "Barefoot in the Park" playwright
 57. Summer ride
 58. "Green Gables" protagonist
 59. Amusement park attraction
 60. Sturgeon ___ and salmon ___
 61. Table mineral
 62. Chow or grub
 63. Biblical pronoun
 64. Ready and eager
 67. ___sphere, all life on earth

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Milo Peterson Ford Co.



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4WD, 16,809 miles,
2.0L,
blue metallic
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**2021
ESCAPE
SEL**

AWD, 39,683 miles,
white metallic,
ecoboost 2.0L
turbocharged
#22152U



**2020
EDGE
SEL**

AWD, 21,107 miles,
ecoboost 2.0L
turbocharged
#22057U



**2020
EXPLORER
XLT**

4WD, 2.3 ecoboost,
19,371 miles,
rapid red metallic
#22105U



**2019
RANGER
LARIAT**

4WD, super crew
cab, 5' box, ecoboost
2.3" turbocharged,
shadow black
#22134U



**2021
F-150
XLT**

4WD, super crew cab,
4 door, 5.5' box,
13,093 miles, ecoboost
2.7L V-6, gray metallic
#22074U



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