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CITY OF CLAREMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023 7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Claremont, Minnesota was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Claremont City Hall.

Members present: Mayor Tasha Dahl, City Council Members Deb Ellis, Jacob Klejeski, Hunter McGovern, and Krystal Sultze. Council Members absent: None.

City staff and others present: Clerk/Treasurer Elizabeth Sorg, First Chief Casey Dahl, City Attorney Mark Rahrnick, and via Zoom Interim City Administrator Jim Brimeyer.

AGENDA

Motion by McGovern to approve the agenda with the addition of Resolution No. 23-07: Resolution Expressing Acceptance of and Appreciation of Donation, second by Klejeski. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the Minutes of the January 3, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting and Minutes of the January 23, 2023, Special City Council Meeting. Motion by Klejeski to approve the Consent Agenda, second by McGovern. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Motion by Klejeski to approve Resolution No. 23-06: A Resolution Relating to the Hiring of Deb Ellis as a Part-Time Employee, second by Sultze. Ayes: Klejeski, Sultze, McGovern, and Dahl. Nay: None. Abstain: Ellis. Motion carried.

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Small Town Restaurant with Big Flavor

By Kenya Narveson

“One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.” The downtown community is welcoming new life in the beloved restaurant space that holds great memories. Center Family Restaurant is now open. Owned and operated by Prparim Alimi also known as Pete and his father Mike who are professional chefs. Their mission is to provide delicious food, create memories and favorable experiences for Dodge Center and neighboring communities.

Pete and Mike were looking for a quaint place to own and operate a restaurant. He and his parents did the research that led them to the beloved downtown real estate. He and his family currently reside in a neighboring town, however; in the future he wants to live

in the same community that he serves. “We are so happy that we came here because the community supports us. We would like to bring more of our family here and add to the community.”

Pete and his father are professional cooks. After working for others they decided to open a restaurant for themselves. The menu consists of breakfast items such as omelets, skillets, pancakes and waffles. And several lunch food items such as appetizers, pastas, burgers, steak and seafood. There are many other food items to choose from. They have built a thriving operation that has given them a valuable perspective and respect for hard work. They are in need of friendly servers that can provide great customer service.

(continued on page 5)



Resale Store on Main Street

By Kenya Narveson

An original thrift store, formerly known as Helping Hands Thrift Store, is now Dano's Consignment Store.

It's located on Main Street in Dodge Center selling: Bibles, Christian self-help books, musical instruments, vinyl records, video games, toys, electronics, CD's, DVD's and household items. There is also Minnesota Twins, Minnesota Vikings and other sportswear available. His whole mission is to help the community.

He approaches his business with an open heart.

(continued on page 4)

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Benefit for Earl Eisenor Family Sunday, March 26th 11:00 am-2:00 pm

at Trinity Lutheran Church, Wanamingo

Earl Eisenor was born into this world at 22 weeks, 14 weeks earlier than planned. He spent the first 16 months of his life in the NICU at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, and came home the day before Christmas this year. His family fondly refers to him as Fritz, which means Little Soldier.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Wanamingo is holding a benefit for little Fritz on March 26th.

There will be a BBQ luncheon and silent auction from 11 am to 2 pm.

Donations for the auction and volunteers for the event are needed. Please call Liz Burt at 507-319-6348 if you want to donate an item for the auction, or volunteer to help out at the benefit.



Honoring the Church's Women

By Rev. Chad L. Christensen
Dodge Center United Methodist Church

As International Women's Day was on March 8th, I'd like to take this space to honor women whose lives have been a fine witness to the Christian faith over the years and have touched so many with their lives. Everyone of faith knows a story and a person who is or was a strong faithful witness and who handed down faith in Jesus Christ to them.

For me, such a witness was Viola "Vi" Vick, a Sunday school teacher in a very small Presbyterian church in which I grew up in Westbrook, Minnesota. Vi knew her Bible, and

more than that, she desired to share her deep knowledge of scripture through stories. She particularly liked the great stories of the Old Testament. I was her 4th grade student, and there were no other students in my class nor in the 3rd and 5th grades. It was just Vi and me during those hours on Sunday mornings. I had her knowledge all to myself. She also, in her quiet way, taught me to be patient, to be of devotion (she never missed a class and was always prepared with her lesson), and she possessed a kind demeanor. Vi's impact on who I am, especially as a pastor, rings strongly today.

For all of you who go about common, dedicated ministry each day, whether in lay service or professionally, remember that your devotion and actions and witness do count. Vi, Beulah, Marilyn, Dolly, and my mother led the Sunday school in my primary years in

that small church. They did so to the glory of God. I saw in them that ministry was work—it didn't just happen. I saw that there were lay people who also prayed out loud and showed their love of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, besides just seeing this from the pastor.

There is a long lineage and witness of women sharing their faith down through the ages that we read about in the scriptures: From Hannah and Miriam who spoke God's truths to a people direly in need of hearing them, to Esther and Rahab (yes, Rahab!) who became unexpected heroes of the faith in the Old Testament. During Jesus's time, Mary and Martha of Bethany showed the strength of listening to and serving Jesus, and Mary Magdalene was the first witness to share that the tomb was empty and that Jesus had been resurrected from the dead. All of

these women were powerful in their own roles. And certainly, last but not least, Mary the mother of Jesus was obedient to her son, our Lord, and was faithful in her meekness, humility and patience, and prayerful in aiding Jesus's disciples. She readily consented to God to be the mother of our Lord, even as it confused and challenged her.

To me, women seem to be the backbone of so many of our churches today. If you have been influenced by the loving hand of a woman of faith, take some time to send them a note to express your gladness that they had such an impact upon you, your values, and your faith. Though Vi is now gone from this life and with her Lord, I am going to write and thank other education leaders who influenced me in childhood. Even the practice of giving thanks first came from them.

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Area Church Directory

The Peace of God

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." — Matthew 5:9

In A.D. 989 the once powerful Carolingian Empire lay in ruins. The collapse of central authority had led to increased violence. Bloody feuds and local wars broke out in much of the area where France is today. That's when local church ministers proclaimed "Pax Dei" ("The Peace of God"), granting shelter from violence for people who could not defend themselves—peasants, clergy, and many women and children. Pax Dei prohibited nobles and their guards from invading churches, burning houses, beating people, and so on. If anyone broke those rules, they could be excommunicated from the church.

From a humble beginning, this church-led movement spread through Western Europe, surviving in some form for about 200 years. Today it is considered one of the first mass peace movements.

Nearly a thousand years before Pax Dei, Jesus preached "Blessed are the peacemakers" to the shock and disbelief of his listeners. In those days many of his fellow Jews dreamed of rebelling against the ruthless occupation of the Roman Empire.

The call to make peace was difficult in Jesus' day and in the Middle Ages, and it is still difficult today. Yet Jesus inspires his faithful followers to seek peace, for that is God's way of restoring us to himself and making us his children.

Heavenly Father, thank you for making us your sons and daughters. Inspire us to become your peacemakers. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

1st Presbyterian Church
200 East Street, Claremont
528-2320
Pastor Doug Walters
Sunday Worship at 10:00a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church
4532 SE 84th Avenue, Claremont
528-2404
Pastor Alan Broadwell
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Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

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Mary Jo Pfeiffer

Mary Jo Pfeiffer of Owatonna died Saturday, March 11, 2023, surrounded by her loving family. Mary Jo was born August 10, 1947, at the Owatonna City Hospital to Leonard and Mary (Goehring) Henslin. She was baptized by her grandfather, the Rev. Joseph Goehring and confirmed at the age of 14.

She attended grade school in Claremont and Dodge Center, and as a child enjoyed ice skating and spent many hours with friends on the ice rink behind their home in Dodge Center. Her family moved to Claremont when she was a sophomore and graduated in 1965 from Claremont High School. It was during that time that she met David Pfeiffer who became the love of her life. During her high school years, she was active in many school activi-

ties including the school newspaper, chorus, and band where she was the drum majorette and was honored as the class Homecoming Queen. Upon graduation, she went to work for the Security State Bank of Claremont.

On June 18, 1966, she and David were married at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church of Claremont by Fr. William Brandell and Rev. Daniel Reed. Early in their marriage they lived in Claremont and Blooming Prairie. They were blessed with two sons Shawn and Jason, and in 1970 the young family made their home in Owatonna and became members of the Associated Church.

Mary Jo was a stay-at-home mom who loved raising her sons. She was active in their sport and school activities, enjoying being a room mother and teaching Sunday School. As the boys grew older, she worked part-time at Fairlane's Bowling, running the nursery for children so that the parents could bowl. Her love of children was admired by many, as she was able to dry the tears and turn them into smiles. Mary Jo also worked at Owa-

tonna Mutual Insurance.

The greatest joy in her life were her grandchildren; Ethan, Blake, Griffin, Gabrielle, and Sam. She was so proud of each of them and became a hockey, soccer, basketball, lacrosse, swimming, gymnastics, and dance grandma. She took pride in the fact that they loved coming to Grandma's house to bake cookies, dye Easter eggs and she took them on adventures at Oxbow Park and numerous shopping trips to the Mall of America. As they grew older, they enjoyed their annual family vacations at Arrowwood Resort and Grandview Lodge. Mary Jo loved to entertain for special events and the holidays and had a passion for decorating and shopping for Christmas.

Mary Jo was an active member of the Associated Church and volunteered her time with the Women's Ministry and the church's newsletter. She especially enjoyed decorating the large flower urns that would greet worshipers. She enjoyed aerobics classes, cross-country skiing, and the several walks that she took throughout the day. As a member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum her love of nature and flowers was evident in her gardens and urns at home. She and David enjoyed exploring and experiencing the grounds at the arboretum and it served as a place of solace. She enjoyed traveling coast to coast, but her favorite vacation spot was Door County Wisconsin where the White Gull Inn became their home away from home.

Mary Jo was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers-in-law, Robert Vavrichek and Willis Pfeiffer. She is survived by her husband David; son Shawn (Julie) Pfeiffer and grandchildren Ethan (Elisabeth), Blake and Samuel; son Jason and grandchildren Griffin and Gabrielle and their mother Julie; siblings Nancee Vavrichek, Lennis (Gerald) Fleming, Fred (Sherry) Henslin; brother-in-law Richard (Shirley) Pfeiffer; sister-in-law Barbara Pfeiffer and many nieces and nephews.

The family would especially like to thank Dr. Yadav and Jenna Hoppenworth APRN and the amazing teams at the Rochester Mayo Cancer Care Unit.

Celebration of Life is set for 11:30 AM Friday March 24, 2023, at the Associated Church, Owatonna. Friends may greet the family one and a half hours prior to the service starting at 10:00 AM.

Memorials are preferred to the Associated

Church, American Cancer Society, and the Owatonna Alina Hospice.

Duane Mussman

Duane Mussman, 93, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Monday, March 13, 2023, at Birchwood Cottages in Owatonna, MN.

Duane was born on September 15, 1929, in Claremont, MN to Leo and Alice (Meitzner) Mussman. He married

MaryLou Banta on September 7, 1950, at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Owatonna, MN. He worked for Owatonna Canning Company, and at Jostens for many years. He later decided to get into farming in Medford, MN and eventually moving to Dodge Center, MN to farm. Duane enjoyed dancing, playing cards, bowling, golfing, and fishing. He will be deeply missed.

Duane is survived by his wife of 72 years, MaryLou Mussman; sons, Gary (Bette) Mussman of Dodge Center, MN, Craig (Vicki) Mussman of Dodge Center, MN, and Brian (Jodi) Mussman of Rochester, MN; 8 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; brothers, Don (Pat) Mussman of Stewartville, MN, Dale (Nancy) Mussman of Claremont, MN; sisters, Ila Wagner of Rochester, MN and Sharon Tuerk of Owatonna, MN; brother-in-law, Donnie Kramer of Hayfield, MN; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Donna Kramer; brother-in-laws, Louis Wagner and John Tuerk; 3 nephews and 2 nieces.

A celebration of life was held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 20, 2023, at Faith Lutheran Church, 308 2nd St NW in Dodge Center, MN. Reverend Jessica Bakken Busch officiated. Visitation was held one hour prior to the service at the church. Inurnment will be held at a later date in Riverside Cemetery in Dodge Center, MN.


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




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Resale Store on Main Street

(continued from page 1)

His favorite Bible Verse that he uses as a guide is Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Most of the items in the store are priced at \$10 or less. "I want our community to have a nice, clean place to shop that won't

hurt their wallet" owner Daniel McKittrick explained. There's a huge sale March 25-29th. It's 50% off of items priced at \$49.99 and under. Also 25% off of items priced at \$50 and over.

Consignment shops generally have a significant impact on the local economy, and the most well known stores are often a staple of the community. Not to state the obvious, but the higher the demand and quality of the item you're selling, the higher the profit for both retailer and seller. There has been a rise in e-commerce-based consignment shops over the past several years. Dano's Consignment Store is on trend by selling items on eBay as well as in the store. Right now his storefront is filled; however if you have an item that you

want sold he can place it on his eBay store. Dano's Consignment Store doesn't ask for donations but there are times when people have donated items. The community still remembers that Daniel operated a thrift store. The operation of the store is focused on foot traffic looking to buy items or sell high value items on eBay. If you're not sure how much your prized possessions are worth; take it to Dano's and they will give you an estimate.

Anyone doubting the widespread acceptance and popularity of shopping for treasures in Dodge Center need to look no further than Dano's Consignment Store. Established since 2011; the operation of gently used

items has stood the test of times. Consignment stores can adjust prices according to the need and what is fair. There are few businesses where everyone feels like they are winning.

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The Farm Store

By Cheri Roshon

On the Main Street of West Concord, two blocks from the bowling alley, something is afoot. April 1st is the Grand Opening of the Farm Store. The Gochnauers are working hard to welcome you to their new endeavor, and it's pretty exciting!

Megan and Jacob are no strangers to the area. Both are from West Concord, and although they moved to Dodge Center for awhile, they're back and living their dream. With Ryder (2) and Graysen (1) by their sides, they are building a family business on the

farm.

With a herd of 30 dairy cows, a couple horses, a few barn cats, and many sheep and goats along with one lovely potbelly pig, there are plenty of critters running around. They got licensed to sell beef on the farm last year to supplement their livestock transportation business, and dairy farming endeavors. Both Megan and Jacob drive any type of livestock to the auctions, the market, or another farm location. "What we're doing right now is kind of our hobby", says Megan. "A big hobby!"

The plan is to have not only beef and pork products this year, but also vegetables in season, flower and vegetable seedlings, hanging baskets, pumpkins, and seasonal decor at the farm store. There will be farm antiques and decor for sale as well. Megan acquired a cottage food license, allowing her to make and sell products such as jams and jellies, canned



Jacob and Megan Gochnauer

Small Town Restaurant with Big Flavor

(continued from page 1)

Center Family Restaurant has 5 star reviews on Facebook. "New Restaurant in town. Amazing food and service. Great for large groups. If you live in the area or passing by stop and check it out. you won't be disappointed." Another satisfied customer wrote, "I visited the restaurant this morning for the first time. The service was great, and the waitress was prompt and friendly. My meal arrived quickly and was cooked perfectly. They have a large menu with reasonable prices. Can't wait to go back. Great addition to Dodge Center." Another happy customer wrote, "Great

new addition to Dodge Center!! Beautiful restaurant, delicious food and fast service. I would highly recommend it to anyone."

Center Family Restaurant builds on familiar offerings including sandwiches, soups and salads, and elevates them into something extraordinary. Everything is rooted in the superb techniques and combinations that have stood the test of time. Pete and Mike have a proud tradition of cooking in great restaurants over many years. This long standing excellence is evident in everything that is served.

vegetables, pickles and beef broth. Baked goods will also be on the agenda.

This summer they have two Day Camps planned that will feature machinery, livestock, and farm safety as well as education of where your food comes from. They also travel to birthday parties with some of their

animals, and once even surprised a 5 year old girl's birthday party with a unicorn! True story! They can do hay rides too! Some of you may have even been to the farm for their events, or seen their traveling petting zoo out and about. Be sure to stop in and wish them well as they begin their newest adventure!

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Grants support early literacy and community beautification



Tim Penny
So. MN Initiative Foundation

This year at Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), we will reach a milestone of investing more than \$50 million in our communities through grantmaking since our start in 1986. While these grants support a wide range of projects – from providing books to young children to supporting small town growth – they each have had transformative and long-term impact on the future of southern Minnesota. I'm excited to share about two opportunities that are open this Spring, as well as highlight some impacts of recent projects that SMIF has funded.

We are currently accepting applications for our Early Literacy Grant program. Nearly 100,000 children have been impacted by this grant which aims to enhance school readiness for children from birth to age eight by providing books to families. Schools, libraries and other early childhood-focused organizations have received this grant in the past which has been essential for building children's confidence as readers throughout the region. The program receives books through partnerships with publishing companies, Capstone and ABDO, which helps ensure a diverse selection of books are available for families to read to their children. Applications are due March 15, 2023. Contact Heidi Coulter at heidic@smifoundation.org with questions.

I always look forward to the Paint the Town Grant cycle which opened in early March. As

I drive around the region I can see firsthand the impact that this grant has had on our communities. Last summer I was fortunate to attend the unveiling of a new mural in Spring Valley that depicts the trail system and trout fishing – both of which bring tourism to the area. Giants of the Earth Heritage Center in Spring Grove was able to use the grant to update the interior of their building, making it fresh and more welcoming for visitors. By making this grant specific to towns under 10,000, SMIF can help small communities access resources that are sometimes limited. This program, which partners with Ace Hardware stores and Arrow Hardware & Paint stores, will open in early March with an application deadline of April 17, 2023. Contact Jennifer Heien jenniferh@smifoundation.org with questions.

SMIF recently concluded its Inclusive and Equitable Communities Grant cycle which is focused on creating more welcoming communities. I look forward to seeing how these projects unfold – from an initiative to encourage more Somali youth in Faribault to experience the outdoors, to a project in Blue Earth that will foster a sense of belonging in the schools. These grants are an exciting way to support organizations as they work toward more equitable communities.

Finally, we also recently awarded the Early Care and Education Grant recipients which supports services for children birth to age five. The Chatfield Public Schools will use the funding to strengthen and support social emotional learning in early childhood classrooms, child care settings and homes in the area. In the New Ulm Schools they will use their award to focus on kindergarten readiness for children and their families. We have heard from many Early Childhood professionals that these grants make a huge difference in the services they are able to provide to children and families in the region.

Over the past 37 years, SMIF's grants have been able to move the needle on school readiness, economic development and community vitality. To see the full range of grants that SMIF offers throughout the year, visit smifoundation.org/grants.

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



By Jim Miller

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Getting Paid as a Family Caregiver

Dear Savvy Senior,
I have been taking care of my elderly father for over a year and it's taking a toll on my finances because I can only work part-time. Are there any resources you know about that can help family caregivers get paid?
--Seeking Support

Dear Seeking, Caring for an elder parent can be challenging in many ways, but it can be especially difficult financially if you have to miss work to provide care. Fortunately, there are a number of government programs and other tips that may be able to help you monetarily while you care for your dad. Here are some options to explore.

Medicaid Assistance

All 50 states and the District of Columbia offer self-directed Medicaid services for long-term care. These programs let states grant waivers that allow income-qualified individuals to manage their own long-term home-care services. In some states, that can include hiring a family member to provide care.

Benefits, coverage, eligibility and rules differ from state to state. Program names also vary. What's called "consumer directed care" in one state, may be called "participant-directed services," "in-home supportive services" or "cash and counseling" in another. Contact your state Medicaid program to ask about its options or to start the sign-up process.

Veterans Benefits

If your dad is a military veteran, there are several different VA programs he may be eligible for that provide financial assistance to family caregivers, including:

Veteran-Directed Care: Available in most states, this program provides a needs-based monthly budget for long-term care services. (VA.gov/geriatrics/pages/Veteran-Directed_Care.asp)

Aid & Attendance or Housebound benefits: These programs provide a monthly payment to veterans and survivors who receive a VA pension and who either need assistance with activities of daily living (i.e., bathing, dressing, going to the bathroom), or are housebound. (VA.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound)

Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers: This provides a monthly stipend to family members who serve as caregivers for veterans who need assistance with daily living activities because of an injury or illness sustained in the line of duty. (Caregiver.va.gov/support/support_benefits.asp)

Other Options

If your dad has some savings or other assets, discuss the possibility of him paying you for the care you provide, or talk to your siblings to see if they can chip in.

If they agree, consider drafting a short-written contract that details the terms of your work and payment arrangements, so everyone involved knows what to expect. A contract will also help avoid potential problems should your dad ever need to apply for Medicaid for nursing home care.

Also, check to see if your dad has any long-term care insurance that covers in-home care. If he does, in some cases those benefits may be used to pay you.

Tax Breaks

There are also tax credits and deductions you may be eligible for as your dad's caregiver that can help.

For example, if your dad lives with you and you're paying at least half of his living expenses, and his gross income was less than \$4,400 (in 2022) not counting his Social Security, you can claim him as a dependent on your taxes and get a \$500 tax credit.

If you can't claim him as a dependent, you may still be able to get a tax deduction if you're paying more than half his living expenses including medical and long-term care costs, and they exceed 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income. You can include your own medical expenses in calculating the total. To see which medical expenses you can deduct, see IRS Publication 502 at IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p502.pdf.

Or, if you're paying for in-home care or adult day care for your dad so you can work, you might qualify for the Dependent Care Tax Credit which can be worth as much as \$1,050. To claim this credit, you'll need to fill out IRS Form 2441 (IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f2441.pdf) when you file your federal return.

1st THURSDAY EVERY MONTH - 1st THURSDAY EVERY MONTH

Lady's Thursday, April 6
4:30-6:40 PM
Happy Hour

Wine/Champagne/Beer/Hors D'oeuvres Specials

THE Annadine

Live at the Piano - Dan Rengstorf

16 West Main, Dodge Center
507-273-9530

DNR Reminds Landowners to Plan Ahead for Spring Burning Restrictions

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources encourages Minnesotans who intend to burn vegetative debris – such as brush, grass, leaves, and untreated lumber – during spring clean-up to start planning now. The best time to burn vegetative debris is when there is ample snow on the ground, rather

than later in the spring when wildfire risk is high due to brown grass and low humidity.

Every spring, burning permit restrictions are put in place after the snow melts. Restrictions remain in place until vegetation begins to “green up” and fire risk declines.

“Vegetative debris burn piles are the number one cause of wildfires in Minnesota,” said Karen Harrison, DNR statewide wildfire prevention specialist. “Chipping and composting are the best options and are encouraged as an alternative to burning whenever possible.”

If vegetative debris is burned, all fires must be supervised and put out by drowning with plenty of water or snow, stirring and repeating until out cold.

If a fire does rekindle or escape, the person

who set it is liable for any damages and wildfire suppression costs. It is illegal to burn garbage, including chemically treated or painted lumber, tires, and plastics.

Visit the DNR’s guide on composting for woodland owners for more information on alternatives to burning vegetative debris. For information and daily updates on current fire risk and open burning restrictions, visit the statewide fire danger and burning restrictions page of the DNR website.



What to Look For When Choosing a Dog Crate

When you’re feeling stressed, you probably head off to your couch or bedroom to decompress, and a dog’s crate serves the same purpose for pups. The crate provides dogs with a safe space to go when they need to relax or take a nap.

Because it’s sure to become a beloved sanctuary for your dog, choosing the best crate for your canine’s unique needs is vital. Let’s examine what to look for when choosing the perfect crate for your pup.

Not only will the right crate give your dog a spot to de-stress, but crate training can also help with potty training. That’s because dogs treat the crate as their den so they won’t soil within this space, says Los Angeles dog trainer Kevin Ryan of SuperbDog.com.

When you put your dog in the crate, you won’t typically have to worry about accidents. Plus, it helps teach puppies how to stay calm when they’re alone. That makes it both a wonderful training aid and a safe getaway for your dog.

To get started with training right away, consider the Diggs Revol Dog Crate that sets up in minutes with its unique collapsible design and comes in a variety of sizes.

Size is the most important feature of your dog’s crate. You’ll need a crate that has enough space for your dog to stand up, turn around, and lay down comfortably, recommends Dr. Georgina Ushi Phillips, a veterinarian with the Not a Bully website.

While you may think that bigger is better, lots of extra space could encourage your pup to soil within the crate if there’s enough room to sit away from the mess. “In order to prevent potty breaks from happening in the crate, you want a crate that grows with your puppy instead of a crate that your puppy grows into,” says Ushi Phillips.

The Diggs Revol Dog Crate is perfect for potty training puppies because it has a removable divider that you can adjust as your little one grows. This way, you can invest in a high-quality adult-sized crate like the Revol while your dog is still a puppy. Plus, Diggs can help you find your dog’s ideal crate size.

While most dogs are pretty chill when spending time in the crate, others may become a little destructive. For this reason, you’ll want a sturdy crate that will stand the test of time. One with well-ventilated wire mesh sides works best because this way you can monitor your dog easily from any angle in the room, says Ryan.

Diggs created the Revol Dog Crate with your dog’s safety in mind. It’s made from strong, non-toxic materials that won’t rust. Plus, it features rounded corners and a single-piece, sturdy, diamond-mesh frame that helps prevent injuries to paws and jaws.

Dog trainer Jesse Sternberg of Toronto, Canada recommends choosing a crate with multiple access points. “The multi-door option lets you find the perfect corner of your living room to angle it in,” he says.

Multiple doors also provide your dog with easy access to the crate at all times, which is especially good for older dogs with mobility issues. And a top door is best for small dogs and young puppies because you can easily reach in and scoop them up when you need to clean out their crate, says Dr. Ushi Phillips.

The Diggs Revol Dog Crate has a ceiling hatch on top to easily drop in treats, a front door, and a garage-style door on the side. These doors provide an open-concept feel and easy access for senior pups.

Crates can get dirty pretty quickly, especially during potty training when accidents are more likely, so you’ll want to make the cleaning process as easy as possible. Dr. Ushi Phillips recommends crates made from metal and plastic that are the simplest to keep clean. And Ryan says that collapsible wire crates with a pull-out tray minimize cleaning time.

Products like the Diggs Revol Dog Crate feature aluminum and steel construction with a cleaning-friendly plastic coating. Best of all, there’s a convenient pull-out tray at the base that slides out for easy washing.

Not only are portable crates with wheels great for traveling with your dog, you can also move them from room to room so that your dog is always by your side. “Wheels can be helpful if you need to move your crate around the house but they can be especially useful on travel crates,” says Dr. Ushi Phillips.

The Diggs Revol Dog Crate easily collapses down in a snap and folds back up in minutes. Plus, it’s simple enough to transport with the attached handle and wheels that let you roll it along the ground, even on carpet.

After you’ve chosen the perfect crate for your pup, it’s time to make it fun for your dog. Ryan recommends leaving a durable chew toy or puzzle toy in the crate to keep your dog busy during the day.

Another way engage your pup’s attention is with the Diggs Groov Crate Training Aid that attaches securely to the inside of any wire crate, including the Diggs Revol Dog Crate. The Diggs Groov Crate Training Aid is made from BPA-free plastic and you can cover it with your dog’s favorite treat, like peanut butter or cream cheese, to encourage licking. You can even freeze it and make a delicious pupsicle for your furry buddy to enjoy.

Licking is calming for dogs and the aid makes spending time within the crate pleasant so that your pup will want to return again and again.

Make your dog’s crate as inviting as possible with a comfy blanket and cushioned bed inside to help your dog relax.

A bed like the Diggs Snooz Crate Pad features cozy memory foam to support your dog’s joints as your pup slumbers or naps. Best of all, the cushion itself is waterproof and the cover is machine washable for easy cleaning.

No matter what crate you choose, your dog is sure to love it, especially if you’ve decked it out with cozy bedding and tasty snacks. Pretty soon, you’ll find your pup enjoying quality time within that wonderful new sanctuary with no prompting from you.

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CARRIAGE HOUSE
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

915 N. Mantorville Ave., Kasson
634-6781
M-W-F 8am-5pm; Tues-Thurs 8am-7pm;
Sat. 8am-Noon

Dodge Vet Clinic

17 Airport Road N.
Dodge Center, MN
374-2125
M-F 8am to 5pm; Sat. 8am to Noon

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The Plus in MBT's GoPlus Checking account means you get a higher interest rate and other great benefits to grow your balance!

2.75% ^{*APY}

when qualifications are met

0.10% *APY on balances over \$15,000.

0.01% *APY if qualifications are not met.

Monthly qualifications to earn higher interest rate:

- 10 debit card transactions posted to account monthly
- 1 ACH deposit or ACH auto-debit per month




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*2.75% Annual Percentage Yield (APY) paid on balances between \$.01 and \$15,000 and 0.10% APY paid on all amounts above \$15,000 each cycle when the minimum qualifications are met. If you do not meet the qualifications per cycle, your account will earn 0.01% APY. When account balance is greater than \$15,000 the yield printed on the statement will be a blended yield of the 0.10% and the 2.75% reflecting the combination of the two yields earned on all qualifying balances. Rates effective 11/30/2022. We reserve the right to change the interest rate and APY at any time after the account is opened. Available to individuals only. Fees may reduce earnings. Contact an employee about fees and terms of the account.



Guys and Dolls coming to the THS stage!

Triton High School's spring musical, *Guys and Dolls*, will be coming to the THS stage Thursday, March 30th, Friday, March 31st, and Saturday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m. All are encouraged to attend! Additionally, the free senior citizen matinee will be on Wednesday, March 29th at 1:00 p.m.

The production, under the direction of Anne Schreiber, promises to be a crowd-pleaser. Also involved are Andrew Wotherspoon as music director and pianist and John Schreiber as technical director. Ticket prices are \$5 for students and \$7 for adults, and they may be purchased in advance at the high school office. It will be important to get your tickets early for the show. Only 400 tickets will be sold for each performance, and once 400 are gone, the musical will be "sold out." Provided tickets are still available, they may be purchased at the door.

The musical *Guys and Dolls* has a long tradition on Broadway and in movies, and the story has been updated and performed many times since its 1950 debut. The 1955 movie version featured the talents of Frank Sinatra

and Marlon Brando. "I chose *Guys and Dolls* for several reasons," Schreiber says, "but one of the main reasons is because there are so many different parts in the musical that it really allows our students' talents to shine." She adds, "We had 55 students audition for the musical, so we wanted to try to get as many involved with the show as possible."

The story's plot revolves around four main characters. Nathan Detroit, played by Liam Dostal, is trying to organize a "floating crap game" in 1950s New York City, but unfortunately, "the heat is on" from the cops, as well as his long-suffering fiancée Adelaide, played by Talia Kelley. Detroit then decides to make a bet with famous gambler Sky Masterson, played by Weston Haugen, that he cannot take a doll to Havana with him. This doll happens to be the Save-a-Soul Mission leader, Sarah Brown, played by Maddie Jarrett. The engaging storyline continues through such hit songs as "Luck Be a Lady," "Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat," and "Bushel and a Peck."

The talented cast and crew are busy putting



the final touches on the show, mastering songs, lines, choreography, and getting ready for the first performance on March 29th. Junior Jairo Solano, who plays Joey Biltmore, states, "I love the gambler scenes!" Jenna Kenworthy, a fellow junior who plays one of Adelaide's dancers, comments, "I like the

uniqueness of the dancing and how fun and lighthearted it is." And senior Ismael Viesca-Ramirez, a newcomer to the Triton stage, adds, "I like trying new things, and I'm glad I'm a part of the musical!"

(continued on page 10)

Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

Our winter sports teams recently completed their seasons, for me personally, it has a different feeling than it has in the past. This year marks the end of the winter activities for my own kids. I have been fortunate to have all four of my boys participate in ac-

tivities here at Triton. I have been attending games and matches for close to twenty years, and as suddenly as it seems, it is coming to an end. We still have the spring activities ahead of us, but it has caused me to reflect on all of the experiences and life skills that have been learned throughout the course of those years. My boys have participated in a variety of activities here at Triton from sports in all three seasons to BPA and FFA. I am so thankful for the great coaches and advisors that they have had the opportunity to work with. Our staff at Triton in my opinion are truly amazing. The life skills that they have learned will serve them well into the future.

Often when we think about competition, we think about the success that we have seen. But, sometimes, we also have to talk about the failures and set-backs that occur. The lessons that are learned from adversity and set-backs are an important part of competing. If everything was easy, there would never be a sense of accomplishment. Learning to overcome these barriers is one of the most impor-

tant parts of being a true competitor. Having four boys has also come with its fair share of medical bills which included four different knee surgeries. We are so fortunate to have such a quality certified trainer with Justin Streiff. He has been a live saver when it comes to getting the necessary medical care when it has been needed and supported the boys when they needed rehabilitation. He does a great job for our district and does an excellent job of communicating with our families when they need his help.

The Dr. Suess quote, "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened" is really hitting home. I am so grateful for the Triton School District that has provided them with a great education as well as their extra-curricular events. Not every season was filled with success and winning seasons. I know that at some level, it is the goal of competition to win games and to have personal successes that one can use as a measurement of success. The life lessons that my children have learned will always be with them, and I am so grate-

ful that they had such great experiences here at Triton Public Schools. Their participation in these activities will have long-lasting benefits beyond their time in school. They have learned the important skills of leadership, communication and time management that can be applied to their future endeavors, whether in college, the workforce or their personal lives.

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

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SATURDAY

MARCH 25 • 8AM-2PM

TRITON HIGH SCHOOL

DODGE CENTER

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Guys and Dolls coming to the THS stage!



(continued from page 9)

All involved, from the directors to the cast and crew, hope people come to see the show. Senior Gabby Kirya, playing another dancer, encourages people to see the show, saying, "We have a lot of dancing, if you like dancing,

and we've worked very hard!" Maddie Jarrett (Sarah Brown) decisively concludes, "It's going to be good!"

Contact the high school office at (507) 418-7520 for more information.

Guys and Dolls ticket information:



- May be purchased at the high school office starting March 16th. They may be purchased from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- We will have separate tickets available for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; purchase for

whichever night(s) you plan on attending.

- Once 400 tickets are sold for a performance night, then we are "sold out."

- Provided there are tickets still available, you may purchase your ticket at the door.

Triton FCCLA to Host Kids Carnival

Triton FCCLA will be hosting a kids carnival on April 1st in the middle school gym from 10-2pm. Join us for fun, games, prizes, silent auction, storytime, and more!!

If you or your business is interested in sponsoring a silent auction item please contact lmcmahan@triton.k12.mn.us.

TRITON FCCLA KIDS CARNIVAL

CARNIVAL

APRIL 1ST

FOOD - GAMES - PRIZES - FUN
SILENT AUCTION

10 - 2 PM APRIL 1ST

STORYTIME AT 11 & 1

ADDRESS:
TRITON MIDDLE SCHOOL GYM
813 WEST HWY ST, DODGE CENTER, MN

Get Involved with Triton Track and Field

The track and field season is upon us, and as we gear up to host a number of track and field meets, we'd like to invite you to help us continue to run quality meets at Triton! If you are interested in getting up close to the action by measuring jumps, moving hurdles, or spotting throws, we have an opportunity for you! Please reach out to coach Kim Swanson (kswanson@triton.k12.mn.us) with questions or to sign up!

Jobs are easy - and we're happy to give you a bit of training to get you started!!

This year's dates are listed below. THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING!!

- Thursday, April 6 (varsity - 4 teams) - 4:30pm start
- Friday, April 14 (varsity - 6 teams) - 4:30pm start
- Monday, April 17 (JH - 4-5 teams) - 4:30pm start
- Tuesday, May 9 (VARSITY TRUE TEAM SECTION - 16 teams!) - 1:00pm start
- Tuesday, May 16 (Gopher Conference JH meet - 10 teams) - 4:30pm start
- Friday, May 19 (varsity - 10 teams) - 4:30pm start

Pancake Breakfast!

\$7 for Adults
\$5 for Seniors and kids

March 26th
8-11am

At Dodge Center City Hall
All money will go to "Relay for Life"
Hosted by Triton Student Council

Triton Elementary TEAM Parent Group to Sponsor FUNdraiser

Triton Elementary TEAM Parent Group is sponsoring a week long FUNdraiser. Donations will be put towards an adaptive playground at Triton Elementary and towards general TEAM funds. Triton Elementary Special Education Teacher Adam Anderson approached TEAM members about an adaptive playground for students at the school. He asked if TEAM could help in the planning, funding, and revision of the current playground in order to make it inclusive and accessible for all Triton students. TEAM stands for Together Everyone Achieves More, and is a group designed to facilitate parent involvement and enhance the student's experience at school. Some of the activities funded by TEAM are Teacher Appreciation Week, Book Fair Bingo, the end of year event to Air Insanity, and other great events that support students and staff.

In previous years, TEAM raised funds

through donations from Cobra Cash for Kids. For the first time ever TEAM will attempt to replace their Cobra Cash for Kids fundraiser and attempt to raise money through Boosterthon. The fundraiser officially kicks off on March 22nd with registration currently being open. Registration to sign up to get pledges is voluntary. Students will learn character building traits through daily announcements, and get donations from family and friends, culminating in the main event "Cobra FUNd Run " on March 31st. This high energy event is an indoor GLO Run that all students will get to participate in for 45 mins with their classmates during the school day.

A member of the TEAM Elementary group reached out to me to tell me about what is happening this month with their big TEAM Boosterthon fundraiser. I asked her what the goal was. "We are raising funds to support

Cobra Cove, an adaptive playground that will be inclusive for all elementary students. Right now, the playground is covered in wood chips. We plan to approach a revision of the current playground in a few phases. Our first step will be to put down some type of composite surface around the playground, and then move on to the next phase of adding adaptive equipment. We are also fundraising for our general TEAM funds so that we can continue to enhance all student's learning experience and support our great elementary staff. Boosterthon reached out to us and wanted to collaborate and support our fundraising goals, and we went for it."

To register your student for Cobra FUNd Run Boosterthon Fundraiser please visit: www.mybooster.com

TEAM is a 501 non profit organization, so donations are tax deductible.

For more information on what TEAM does, contact team@triton.k12.mn.us or Katie Henslin katiehens27@gmail.com , current President of TEAM Elementary.



Triton Middle School kicked off a TEAM program this year as well. To learn more about Middle School TEAM please contact Keri Ginder.

To learn more about Booster Fundraiser company please visit www.choosebooster.com

TEAM wants to thank you all in advance for your support!

HEY FAMILIES! THIS IS YOUR MYBOOSTER.COM FUNDRAISING GUIDE!

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL IN 3 EASY STEPS:

- 1 REGISTER**
your student
- 2 SHARE**
with friends, family, and businesses
- 3 GIVE**
online

Scan code to get started
MYBOOSTER.COM

BOOSTER

Triton Public Schools www.triton.k12.mn.us

What is TEAM?

TEAM helps to facilitate parent involvement in the school. We organize fundraising events, and host various activities within the school while supporting our teachers and students!

What does TEAM do?

- Funds and supports elementary activities during Homecoming
- Hosts Drive-In Movie Night
- Serves meals during fall and spring conferences
- Hosts Bookfair BINGO
- Funds and provides Teacher Appreciation activities throughout the year
- Funds and supports end of year event for students (Air Insanity)
- Helps fund various classroom needs, school activities, and MORE!

*With your help we can do more!
Email: team@triton.k12.mn.us
with questions, ways to get involved,
and to volunteer!*

Email:
team@triton.k12.mn.us

Hygiene Drive Organized by Jessica Willette

Triton FCCLA member Jessica Willette organized a hygiene drive that took place in January. On 3/7 representatives from the MACV and the Dodge Co. VSO were presented with 284 items that were collected. MACV currently has 529 homeless veterans in MN with 47 of them being in our southern region. Thank you to all who donated!!

Minnesota Area Council for Veterans
Housing representative : Justin Larson
Housing Case Manager: Courtney Hotovec
Dodge County Veteran Service Office : Brandon Servantez



Mr. Johnson is now a part of the Southeast Minnesota's Top Driving School and he's bringing it to Triton!

The Enhanced Driving Institute is proud to offer the most comprehensive driver's education program available, and we are extremely excited to be bringing our program to Triton High School with a teacher the students know and trust! Our next class will run June 5th – 16th and we will offer another class again in November. Class will be from 9:00 a.m.- noon and will be held in the Triton MS Media Center.

All students over 14 years old are legally eligible for class, though we recommend waiting until students are 15 or nearly 15. Our Complete Package (\$415) includes 30 hours of classroom instruction AND the 6 hours of Behind the Wheel Training with a licensed instructor that is required by the state of MN. All behind the wheel lessons

will begin and end at our Rochester campus location. The Complete Package is subject to a one year program agreement which requires all 3 behind the wheel lessons to be completed 10 months after the first day of class. Students who will not turn 15 for a bit, could also register for the Classroom Only Package (\$240). The Classroom Only Package is not subject to a program agreement. These students would receive their Blue Card when they enroll in BTW training (\$240).

All registration is done completely online through our website: <https://www.enhanced-drivinginstitute-mn.com/triton>

If you want to know more about our program e-mail Mr. Johnson: jjohnson@trion.k12.mn.us

TRITON CLASS OF 2023



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Kyla Smith is a senior at Triton High School. Her parents are Ryan and Karla Smith and she has one brother Stanley.

She is on the Minnesota Honor Society and is active in Triton volleyball and Southern Minnesota Volleyball.

She enjoys working when not in school.

Her hobbies are being outside and spending time with family and friends.

After graduation she plans to attend Viterbo University.

KYLA SMITH

SPONSORED BY



Congratulations to Poe Broskoff and Caleb Chilson for earning a FFA Official Blue Jacket Scholarship



Congratulations to Poe Broskoff and Caleb Chilson for earning a FFA Official Blue Jacket Scholarship from the MN FFA Foundation.

The scholarship covers the purchase of a jacket and a tie. Students complete a streamlined application to apply for the scholarship of \$85. Over 500 students in Minnesota received a jacket through this program. Since 2012 a total of 45 FFA members from Triton have earned this scholarship.



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 areas of Resilience and Problem Solving.

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

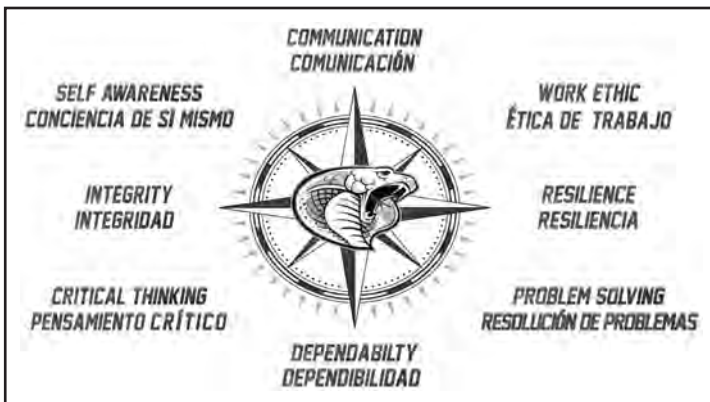
DEMONSTRATING EXCELLENCE IN RESILIENCE + PROBLEM SOLVING



						
Rebecca Marquardt Kindergarten	Porter Marquardt First Grade	Sujexling Matey Second Grade	Mason Henslin Third Grade	Nicole Angie Felix Fourth Grade	Rebekah Henslin Fifth Grade	
						
Colby Vermilyea Sixth Grade	Elijah Okeefe Seventh Grade	Claire Stevenson Eighth Grade	Chris Zaragoza Ninth Grade	Madison Bishop Tenth Grade	Poe Broskoff Eleventh Grade	Cassie McMurdo Twelfth Grade

Triton Counselor's Corner

In the last several years, Triton Public Schools and our community members determined 8 qualities that we want every Triton student to embody in their everyday lives and especially upon graduation. The Triton Profile of a Graduate consists 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 a little more about each of these traits and how they can relate to mental health and/or social emotional learning.



March's Profile of a Graduate focus is work ethic. After our monthly lessons, we hope that students will be able to recognize how valuable it is to have a strong work ethic. Our work ethic is an important part of our everyday life which leads to success. As adults we know that our work ethic is tied to our livelihood. Instilling a strong work ethic in our children now will certainly help them be successful as adults. It's also crucial to help children and young adults learn how to find a balance between responsibilities and leisure activities.

Creating an after school routine with your child is one step you can take to foster a strong work ethic. First, identify what age appropriate responsibilities you'd like your child to accomplish. Next, determine a set amount of time necessary to complete homework. And last, but not least, identify leisure activities that your child can engage in for stress free enjoyment. Then sit down with your child and create a schedule that includes those three areas and works with your family schedule. That's the easy part, now the hard part is to help your child stick to that routine! Provide positive praise when they accomplish their tasks and have conversations with them when they do not. As we know, there are often obstacles that come up that prevent us from following through on responsibilities, so help them identify the obstacles they encounter and brainstorm ways to overcome them. Establishing an after school routine will certainly take some time, practice, and a lot of patience, however, you will be helping your child develop habits which lead to a strong work ethic that will benefit them for their entire life.

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

Upcoming Testing Information and Academic Achievement



Luke Lutterman



Shane Van Beek



Tricia Johnson

This is a very busy and exciting time of the school year. We are pleased to report that our students continue to do a great job! A lot of the attention during this phase of the school year goes into planning and executing successful testing experiences (MCAs, ACCESS, ACTs, Pre-ACTS, and the list goes on). Although accountability measures for public schools continue to change, the mandate of using standardized testing remains as well as other measures to improve educational opportunity and collective student outcomes. We also know there are a lot of different opinions on these high stakes tests. We view these tests as opportunities for students to demonstrate what they know and how hard they have worked. Regardless of the situations our students face, we want them to be prepared to do their absolute best.

Results from high stakes testing and, in our case, the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) are the most known and public measure of student achievement. We will never deny these results are important and we will continue to use these results as an indicator of school success. Educational best practices call for engagement, differentiation, innovation, and creativity. Although we all want to see great achievement gains, it is also important to remember that the practices that lead to achievement will continue to be what we focus on.

Standardized testing and traditional school evaluation tend to focus on a one size fits all approach. That is why we are excited to expand on this by measuring student career and college readiness through Redefining Ready. If you have read previous articles, you may recall that Redefining Ready has many additional research-based indicators that determine if students are college, career, and life ready. Some of these indicators are (GPA, AP courses, Algebra II passing rates, concurrent college credits, industry credentials, attendance, community service hours, and participation in extra/co-curriculars).

We have seen improvements in some standardized test scores. Although improvements are nice to see, we want to prioritize instructional practices that lead to long-term success. Our district aims, goals, and Profile of a Graduate set the foundation for helping students develop the skills needed to be successful lifelong learners. We want to continue to help students develop the academic skills necessary, but to also make sure students have the life and human being skills needed to apply this knowledge appropriately.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article and for your continued support.
 Luke Lutterman
 Shane Van Beek
 Tricia Johnson

Donkey Ball

By Cheri Roshon

Triton Future Farmers of America held a Donkey Basketball Tournament on March 4th at 7 pm in the Triton gym. The donkeys put on their athletic shoes (really!) and hit the court. Jockeying the donkeys were student and alumni FFA members, Triton teachers and staff, and Dodge Center area Firefighters and EMS volunteers. Two games were held, and then a Championship game, which was won by the Triton School Staff! It was hilarious fun for the family, and very well attended.

FFA stands for Future Farmers of America, and was started in 1928. The goal of FFA is to teach agricultural skills and promote leadership among our young people. Their motto is Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live and Living to Earn.

I asked a 7th grade member, Nolan Hodgman, about his experience in FFA. "A nice clean community is important to us as a group", says Hodgman. "We do fundraisers and have monthly meetings. Once we bought food from Sunshine Foods and gave it to the Food Shelf. I do animal identification as my

project. I think it is really fun. I plan to be a member all through High School."

FFA membership encourages students not only to learn about livestock and farming, but also how to be a productive member of a community. It teaches values as well as instruction in living a good life by being a valuable member of society. They offer scholarships to their students, too.

And about these donkeys! This company, Dairyland Donkey Ball, started in 1934 in Wisconsin by a family who loves donkeys. The donkeys are trained to be funny, kind of like the Harlem Globetrotters! They are well cared for, and follow strict rules for the animals which are adhered to at home and on the road. You can learn more about this company and their ethics at info@dairylanddonkeyball.com.

There were 28 local sponsors for this event. The gym was full, and the crowd couldn't quit laughing. The school nurse literally rode the crap out of one donkey, and the game had to be interrupted for the clean up crew, which was also pretty funny. Many riders had a hard time staying on their donkeys, and Jake Hesse took a graceful tumble over the head of his steed, actually more than once! But he wasn't the only one!! Getting on



a moving donkey without a saddle isn't as easy as you might think. Staying on a bucking donkey is impossible!

The rules for the game are, you may get off your donkey to get the basketball, but you may not throw the ball to your teammates or into the basket unless you are seated on your donkey. Imagine trying to get on your ride with a basketball in your hands. And while racing down the court to make that basket,

sometimes the donkeys have a different idea. Did you know you can't make a donkey do anything it doesn't want to do? And just so you know, dragging a donkey with rubber shoes on across a gymnasium floor truly is also impossible!

I'm sure attendees will be talking about this unique event for a long time, and I for one can't wait to see another game!

Al-Corn Clean Fuel Hosts Triton High School Students



Claremont, March 17 - Twelve students from Triton High School's agricultural economics class visited Al-Corn Clean Fuel on March 15 to get a better understanding of renewable energy production.

"We were pleased to welcome and share our story with students from Triton High School. By sharing our knowledge, we have the opportunity to showcase clean, renewable energy being produced right here in Claremont which lowers our greenhouse gas emissions, reduces prices at the pump, promotes energy independence and strengthens rural economies," said Thomas Harwood, CEO of Al-Corn Clean Fuel.

During their 45-minute visit, the students learned about the various stages of ethanol production such as incoming grain grading, grain handling, fermentation, grain storage, ethanol storage and shipment and dried distillers grains production and storage.

The students that participated in the tour were from grades 11 to 12.

The tour was organized by the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association (MN Bio-Fuels). Al-Corn Clean Fuel is a member of MN Bio-Fuels.

Robert Ickler, agriscience instructor at Triton High School, accompanied his students for the tour.

"My students had the opportunity to see for themselves an end-user of corn and its many byproducts," he said.

TRITON COMMUNITY ED YOUTH ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550

YEL Flag Football

Grades 2-5

Get ready to dash to the end zone with our high-octane, inclusive (everyone plays) Flag Football course. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in non-contact flag football games. SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized! Those unable to behave respectfully towards the instructor or the other players will be dismissed from the program, with no refund. We focus on basic skills development in passing, catching, defending, and teamwork. Sign up before the two-minute warning! Min 8/Max 16.

Cost: \$69

6 Fridays

4/14, 21,28

5/5,12,19

3:20-4:20 PM, parents are required to have their children picked up on-time, if child is not picked up on time, the child will no longer be able to participate, and no refund will be given.

Meet each day after school at the grassy field by the Elementary Playground



Community Ed. Track & Field

Boys and Girls grades 2-6

Once again, this spring the Triton Track and Field program will be sponsoring the second through sixth grade community education track and field program. The participants will get a t-shirt with their timely registration and payment. The deadline to register and receive a shirt is March 20. There is no guarantee of a shirt after this deadline.

Participants will learn and work on skill development in the high jump, long jump, shot put, hurdles, block starts and relays.

Cost: \$29, include a t-shirt if registered by the deadline of March 20.

Practices will be on Wednesdays, from 3:30 – 4:30PM

We will meet in the Small Elementary Cafeteria each practice and walk to the Track together.

Parents should pick their child up at the track field after each practice.

Practice dates are: April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17

****Practices and/or meets cancelled due to inclement weather will not be made up. All cancellations and communications will be done by email. You will be required to check email regularly regarding these types of communications. We will also be hosting two Saturday morning meets that all are invited to participate in on April 22, May 20. More information will come home prior to each meet.

Have a Little One Between the Ages of Birth-5? Here is what you need to know and do....

Birth to 5 years old - Make sure we have your child on the school census.

Ages 18 months to 5 years - join an ECFE class and enjoy "you & child" time. Meet other parents and we clean up the mess. Joining an ECFE class allows you to register for Preschool early, which will be the week April 3, 2023.

Ages 3-4 - Call for an appointment for Early Childhood Screening. The next screening date will be February 6, 2023. Other dates may be available if needed. Call Triton CE at: 507-418-7550 to schedule.

Ages 3-5 - Register for Preschool. Registration for children NOT currently in preschool will start the week of April 11, 2023. Don't delay, we fill classes quickly.

Ages 4-5 - Children turning 5 by September 1 can register for kindergarten. Registration materials available February 2023.

Have other questions or concerns? Please call Triton Community Ed at 507-418-7550. Let us answer your questions before you miss something important.

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

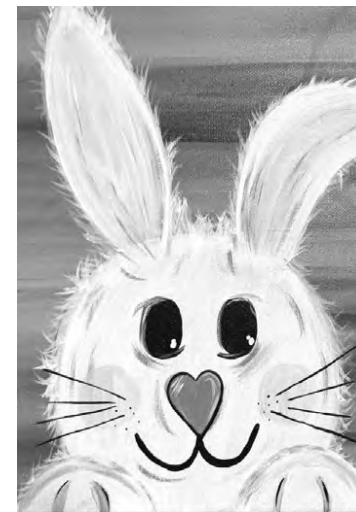
Join Sunshine and Roses traveling art studio by painting a springtime bunny... Hop to it and create your own masterpiece! Yes! Everyone can do this...even if they cannot draw a stick figure or do not have any Art experience. Everyone's painting will look different and that is what makes these classes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

Preschool Registration for Fall 2023

IMPORTANT - ALL Preschool Registration will take place ONLINE this year!

Links to register will be available through Triton's Community Education Office. More information will be sent through the Triton Community Education Facebook Page. Current ECFE/Preschool participating families will receive the link to register the week of April 3, 2023.

General public families not currently attending ECFE classes or Preschool classes.

will be able to register with a link starting April 11, 2023.

This link will be found on the Community Ed section of Triton's Main website, starting the 11th.

Class will fill fast, so do not delay. Currently attending ECFE classes, Preschool or Early Childhood screening DOES NOT automatically enroll your child in the 2023-24 Preschool Program.

Everyone must register via the on-line link.

Call the Triton Community Ed Office at 507-418-7550 for more information or assistance.



TRITON COMMUNITY ED ADULT ENRICHMENT 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

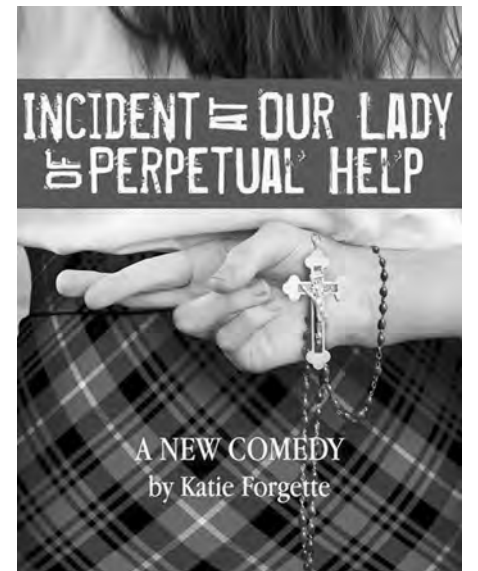
Via Zoom, you will be sent a link prior to class

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

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.

Bus	Departs	Approx Returns
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

Triton Times



Craig J. Schlichting – Superintendent

Triton Public Schools

813 West Highway Street, Dodge Center, MN 55927

Office – 507-418-7530 • Fax – 507-374-2447

schlich@triton.k12.mn.us

Produced and published for Triton School District by Mainstreet Publishing

P.O. Box 1 • West Concord, MN 55985

E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Tel: 507-645-9877

CE Class Offerings	Cost	Name
ADULT ENRICHMENT		
Learn to Play Guitar	\$59	
Safe Driving for 55+	\$20 Made to Jim Jensen	
Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$82	
YOUTH ENRICHMENT		
Track and Field	\$29 Shirt: YS YM YL AS AM AL	
Flag Football	\$69	
Sunshine and Roses: Hop into Spring Cutie Cupcakes	\$26 \$26 Both Classes for \$45	
TOTAL DUE:		

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Golden Link

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Live & Online Bidding
Saturday, APRIL 22, 2023 - 9:30 A.M.
 LOCATION: East of Beaver Lake, Ellendale MN

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

Call early to take full advantage of advertising.
Always a large auction, running two auction rings all day.
Limited Rack Items Accepted!
 Delivery of Consignments will be on April 16, 17, 18, 19, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
NO Consignments on April 20th and 21st!
 To consign, call: Holland Auction at (507) 684-2955 or Tracy Holland, 507-456-5128 (cell) or e-mail hollandauction@frontiernet.net

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MARING AUCTION LLC

In order to help settle the Estate of Otto Homburg, there will be a Public Auction

Auction Location: 8640 80th St W Lonsdale, MN 55046, From Main St in Lonsdale, MN Go South to the T, Right First Place

Saturday, April 1, 2023 • 9:00 a.m.
 COMPLETE DETAILS AND ONLINE BIDDING AT
www.marlingauction.com

PREVIEW DATES:
 Saturday, March 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Thursday, March 30, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Friday, March 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



(13) JD and IHC Farmall Tractors
 JD 4320 Diesel, 7359 Hrs., 20.8x38, Side Console, Cab, Sharp; JD 4020 Diesel, 1509 Hrs. Showing, PS, Front Weights, Very Sharp; JD 4000 Gas, 3942 Hrs., JD 158 Loader, 18.4x34, Side Console, New Style Step; JD 3020 Gas, 1516 Hrs. Showing, 16.9x34, WF, Rock Box, New Style Step; JD 7520 4x4, 6712 Hrs., 3 Pt., 3 Hyd., Quick Hitch, 18.4x38, AC/Heat, Sharp; JD 630 Gas, NF, 3 Pt., Fenders; JD 530 Gas, 1263 Hrs. Showing, 3 Pt., Fenders, 15.5x38; JD MC Crawler, Gas, 60" Dozer Blade, 11.5" Tracks, PTO; JD A Styled, 13.6x38, Rock Shaft, Electric Start; JD B Styled, Electric Start, 11.2x38; Farmall Super MTA Dsl, WF, Fenders, 15.5x38; Farmall Super H, Fenders, NF, Wheel Weights, 12.4x38; Farmall 450 Gas, NF, After Marker 3 Pt., Fenders, 15.5x38; Farmall Super C, WF, Fast Hitch, 11.2x36; Ford 2000 Gas, 1008 Hrs. Showing, One Armed Hyd. Loader, Wheel Weights, 3 Pt., 13.6x36; Farmall M, Fenders, Belt Pulley, 15.5x38, Wheel Weights; Misc. Tractor Chains; Tractor Front Weights


1940s Caterpillar D-6 Crawler
 1940's Caterpillar D-6 Crawler, 6 Cyl. Dsl, 18" Tracks, Converted to All Hyd., 540 PTO, 2 Hyd., 10' Blade

GMC 2500HD, Chevy Conversion Van, Chevy C10
 '04 GMC 2500HD, 12,680 Act. One Owner Miles, 6.0L Gas, 4 Door, 4x4, Auto, Leather, Loaded, Like New, Red; '80 Chevy C10, 4x4, Auto, 69,500 Miles, Ex. Condition, Western 7.5' Snowplow; '85 Chevy C20 Waldock Conversion Van, 5.0 V8, Auto, Clean, 90,500 Miles; '97 Cadillac Seville, Leather, 4.6L V8, 64,300 Miles; '86 Chevy 37' Mallard Motorhome, 47,850 Miles, V8 Gas, Auto, Tandem Real Duals, Awning Clean

JD 6620 Combine and Heads
 JD 6620 Combine, 3250 Hrs., Chopper/Spreader, 28x26, Hydro., Clean; JD 216 Bean Head, 3" Spacings; JD 643 Corn Head, 6R30"

Terms for Live and Online Auction: Cash, Check and All Major Credit Cards. All Sales Final. All Sales Selling As-Is Where Is with No Guarantees or Warranties Expressed by the Seller or Auction Company. All Items Must Be Paid For In Full. Buyer's Premium For Online Bidding. No Buyer's Fee for In Person Bidding

Case 1845C & 1835 Skid Loaders
 Case 1845C Dsl Skid Loader, 5221 Hrs., Aux. Hyd., Sims Enclosed Cab, Clean; Case 1835 Dsl Skid Loader, 2990 Hrs., Clean; Virmig 96" Material Bucket; Viking 72" Rock Bucket; Land Plane 72" Skid Loader Plate; Set of Skid Loader Pallet Forks



Haying & Forage Equip., Livestock Machinery, Grain Truck
 NH BR740A Round Baler, Twine or Net, Silage Special, 80" Pickup Monitor, 1874 Bales, Clean; JD 936 Moco, 11.6' Cut, 1000 PTO, Flail Conditioner, Clean; JD 640 Hay Rake, Tricycle Front; JD 717 Rotary Mower, 3 Pt., 540 PTO; Gehl 520 12 Wheel Rake, Hyd. Fold; JD 34 Manure Spreader, Single Axle; NH 165 Manure Spreader, Single Axle; Calico 6'x16' Livestock Td, Front Tack Cabinet, Center Gate; (2) PCM-500 Bale Feeders; Sioux Poly Mineral Feeder; Sioux Poly Lick Tubs; Wooden & Poly Feed Bunks; Vet Supplies; S1 14' Feeder Wagon; Raths 299RH Snowblower, 9', 3 Pt., Hyd. Spout; 3 Pt. Post Hole Auger, 12"; JD 300 42' Elevator; EZ-Flow 220 Gravity Box, 8T Running Gear; 550 Gal. Fuel Tank, Electric Pump; '79 Chevy C-60 Single Axle Grain Truck, 6 Cyl., 5x2 Trans., 27,830 Miles, 15' Box and Hoist

Land Pride Drill, JD Drill, Tillage Machinery
 Land Pride OS-1572 Overseed Drill, 3 Pt., Solid Stand, 540 PTO, 72" Grain & Grass Seed Box; JD 8300 Grain Drill, Grass Seeder, 13'x6"; DMI 527 Ripper, 5 Shank, Disc Levelers; Wilrich 32.5' FC, 3 Bar Harrow; IHC 710 Plow, 3x18's, Auto Reset; JD RWA Disc, 14.5'; Massey Ferguson 3 Pt. Digger, 14'

JD Lawn Tractors, Lawn & Garden Equip.
 (8) JD Garden Tractors: 110, 112, 140, 212, 214, 317, 318, Gear and Hydro Drive; JD Garden Tractor Attachments: Rear Tiller, Snowblower, Power Brooms, Bagger, Lawn Carts; Stihl Weed Whips & Leaf Blower; AgriFab Mow-N-Vac, Pull Type, 206 CC; AgriFab Fertilizer Spreaders; Murry 5hp 24" Snowblower; Rupp Roadster 2 Mini Bike, restored

LARGE ONLINE ONLY ESTATE TOOL AUCTION
 Bidding Opens: Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
 Bidding Starts Closing: Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

PAYMENT AND PICKUP DATES:
 Thursday, March 30, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Friday, March 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

300+ Lots of Like New Tools
 (3) Upright Air Compressors; Wire Feed and Stick Welders; Drill Press; (7) 200 Amp Battery Chargers; Parts Washer; Craftsman Tool Box; Hot Water Pressure Washer; Cold Water Pressure Washer; Floor Model Metal Band Saw; Cordless Drills; Many Cordless Tools; 40 Gallon Fuel Caddy; Tractor Parts and Filters; Welding Bench; Large Amount of Tools; Metal Shop Cabinets; Oil Cases; Log Chains and Binders; Ladders; Jacks; Jack Stands; Large Amount of New Never Used Products

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DEADLINE:
Friday

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UPCOMING 2023 AUCTIONS

Sat. April 22 • 9:30 A.M.
 If you have one item or a full line, give us a call early to take full advantage of advertising. Tractors, combines, haying & tillage equipment, planters, wagons, farm pickups and grain trucks, recreational items, construction equipment, all types of farm machinery. To consign, call Holland Auction at 507-684-2955 or Tracy Holland at 507-456-5128.
Live and Online Bidding LARGE MACHINERY AUCTION
 Ellendale, MN

Sunday June 4 • 9 A.M.
 Polaris Sportsman 550 ATV, 4x4 Guns - Case 1816 skidloader - 32" Anvil - Old gas pump - anvil collection - old machinery - antiques & collectibles
Joel & Kelly Langlie OWNERS
 Ellendale, MN

Tuesday June 27, • 9:30 A.M.
LARGE RETIREMENT AUCTION
 John Deere S670 Combine PRWD - Grain Heads
 2-Cat Challenger Tractors - White Planter - Tillage Equipment - Peterbuilt Grain Truck - Brent 678 Grain Cart - Seed Tender - Full line of Farm Equipment
Denny Hoehn - OWNER
 New Richland, MN

Sat. Aug. 12 • 9:30 A.M.
FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION
 Versatile 2375, 4WD, John Deere 4640 - J.D. 4430 - J.D. 4020 - J.D. 5055 - Riteway rock picker - 4-Crysteel 600 Bu. Wagons - Tillage + Haying Equip. - Misc. Outdoor Items
Dave & Kathy Guse OWNERS
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Claremont City Council

(continued from page 1)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Klejeski to approve the financial reports, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by McGovern to approve the amended list of bills to be paid, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Interim Administrator Brimeyer met with the fire chief and a couple members of the fire department and reviewed the Standard Operating Guidelines. The Public Health and Safety Committee will go through and identify any corrections or clarification needed and reach out to the fire chief to finalize the guidelines. The council plans to approve it at the March meeting.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

EDA

Mayor Dahl and CEDA Specialist Robert Harris meet and went over what he has been working on and some more goals for 2023.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Nothing at this time.

PARKS COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

PEOPLESERVICE

Their reports were in the packet. There is an underground line at the wastewater facility that is plugged or frozen but will be jetter cleaned tomorrow.

CITY ENGINEER

Nothing at this time.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Nothing at this time.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Rahrack and Ellis will sign the Affidavit pertaining to her performing the services of Assistant City Clerk after the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The Claremont Area Chamber donated \$15,000 for the new city sign, \$1,500 to the Fire Department, and \$1,500 to the First Responders. Motion by Ellis to approve Resolution No. 23-04: Resolution Expressing Acceptance of and Appreciation of Donations, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

The Hogfest Committee submitted a request to use Elm Street for the garden tractor pull for Hogfest. The council had some concerns such as blocking resident's driveways,

homes, and traffic. The county won't let them use County Road 1. A council member asked if they could use Elm Street from Front Street to the railroad tracks. They will be asked how much room they need and if Elm Street from Front Street to the railroad tracks would be long enough.

There was a city fee of \$150 added to the fee schedule for snow and ice removal off sidewalks. Motion by McGovern to approve Resolution No. 23-05: Resolution of 2023 Fees, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a suggestion of renting out the 5 acres that was donated to the city for a ball field for corn production. The rental agreement would state that the renter would need to leave 8 corn rows there for a snow fence and it is unsure if the park will be started this year. Council members denied the suggestion as they would like to get the ball field started as soon as possible and the property wasn't donated to the city to make money. Council will discuss putting up snow fencing in the fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Hedberg donated \$50 to the Fire Department. Motion by Sultze to approve Resolution No. 23-07: Resolution Expressing Acceptance of and Appreciation of Donation, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ellis to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m., second by McGovern. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:
Elizabeth Sorg, City Clerk/Treasurer
Tasha Dahl, Mayor

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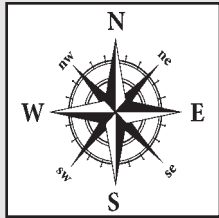
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Southern Express Band

Saturday, July 8
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Dyers Creek



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.

Dyers Creek. I drive past it quite often near our place in Tennessee. We have went kayaking up and down it numerous times. It is very quiet in the evenings and we enjoy the cranes that hunt for fish at the water's edge and the deer that come to the bank to get a drink as we slip silently by. Fish break the surface of the water around the kayak. I always thought it would be interesting to have one hop in the kayak. Much more manageable than a water snake.

We use the boat launch there to put the boat into the Cumberland River. The river is shallow and narrow and one must be careful not to run the prop into the mud right where it meets the mighty Cumberland. Like every place in Tennessee it has over two centuries of history to tell if you look and listen.

Stewart County was first settled by pioneers from North Carolina, who arrived around 1795. The military granted up to 1,500 acres to survivors if the Continental War from 1795 to 1805 and many took advantage of the offer. A party of surveyors arrived first to run the lines of land tracts. One night while the eight men were camped along what is now Dyers Creek, they were attacked by Indians and four of the group were killed. One of the surveyors, Thomas French, escaped the ambush but did return later to claim property. The settlers built two story log house-forts to help protect from the Indian attacks since most of the indigenous people there were very hostile. Up until 1812 the militia made patrols up and down the Tennessee River to protect the settlers from Indian raids.

Some of the locals relate that the name was

a result of the surveyors being left to die after the Indian attack. I soon learned that spelling and pronunciation is not a strong point with long-time Tennessee residents. Dyers Creek was named after Robert Henry Dyer who was a cavalry colonel in the War of 1812 and the 1818 Seminole War. He settled in the area and later became a Tennessee state senator.

Wildlife was available to feed the early settlers in the Tennessee woodlands and game of every description could be found in abundance. Judge James Scarborough lived along Dyers Creek and related a story that happened about 1807. The Judge and his sons left the farm to attend court while his wife, Mary remained at home to tend the livestock. The county seat was some distance and it was necessary to remain overnight. During the evening a large black bear was detected prowling around the place and got in amongst the pigs. The dogs were set on it and the bear climbed a tree by the house. By this time it was dark and Mrs. Scarborough could not distinguish the form of the bruin in the tree so she built a large fire under the tree and waited through the night in vigil. When the morning came, she took her husband's rifle and killed the bear and proceeded to skin it.

In the early days of the settlements there were very few stores in the area. Many supplies came from New Orleans and were brought up the river in Keel Boats powered by hand. They would bring dry goods up the rivers and exchange for furs, skins and other produce. It took a full six months to make a round trip.

In 1804 Mason Bennett opened a general merchandise store at his house and also sold whisky. Most of the early 1800 accounts of merchants were of men who opened a tavern at their house. Due to the extremely hilly terrain and plentiful rivers in Tennessee, most travel was by water and most settlements were along the river. As more settlers arrived and started businesses, many small towns sprang up throughout the state. The Dover Hotel was built on the banks of the Cumberland River in the mid 1850's and is still standing, thanks mostly because it was the location of the signing of the surrender between the Union General Grant and Confederate General Buckner after the Battle of Fort Donelson. It served as the General's headquarters and a hospital during the battle. After the war it continued as a hotel until the 1930's.



A Minnesotan: Second Winter



By RosaLin Alcoser

Seasons in Minnesota, and the rest of the Midwest, and wild. You've got Per-Witner, Winter, False Spring, Second Winter, maybe Spring, construction season- also known as Summer, and Fall.

False Spring came early to Minnesota this year, I think. If memory serves me correctly it normally does not get into the mid

40s during February. I feel like that is an early March thing most years.

Honestly having that nice of weather in February was excellent. We did not need our coats and could go outside and enjoy being there without freezing.

I fully realize that there are plenty of Minnesotans that enjoy going outside in the winter when it's cold to do things like ski, snow shoe, and snowmobile. I however am not one of those people. Between late November and early April I take to being an indoor person.

With the exception of false Spring. Then I am outside along with all of the rest of the Minnesotans to enjoy the short window of nice weather while we have it.

But alas like all false Springs it came and went in a matter of a week or two. Now we embark into the second Winter.

After all, we already had our first Winter. It's high time that we had a second Winter before we either get adult Spring or skip over the season completely and go straight to Summer.

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- THEME: COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
ACROSS
1. Matt Damon/Ben Affleck 1999 movie
 6. *Top seed
 9. *Player's target
 13. Earth Day month
 14. State V.I.P.
 15. ____ firma
 16. Rationalistic theology
 17. Former name of Tokyo
 18. Formed a curve
 19. *One-____-____ rule
 21. *Last year's NCAA men's tournament winner
 23. Lenin's wife
 24. E-mail command
 25. Bug spray brand
 28. "By ____ of" or "by means of"
 30. Like certain floss
 35. Life stories, for short
 37. Gulf War missile
 39. Dough
 40. Tiny purse or case
 41. Mandarin's headquarters
 43. Like an omelette
 44. Jaunty rhythms
 46. Derived from capable
 47. Party in Maui
 48. Trousers measurement
 50. L in SNL
 52. *Encouragement from coach
 53. Foretell
 55. Lt.'s subordinate
 57. *J in NJCAA
 60. *Gambling scheme
 64. Dick Van Dyke's "____" a Happy Face"
 65. Freudian topic
 67. Kind of ray
 68. Silly
 69. Mudbath site
 70. Artemis' companion
 71. Type of salmon
 72. College entrance exam
 73. Instagram videos

- DOWN**
1. Bit of baby talk
 2. Precedes sesame
 3. Power system
 4. Botch
 5. Marcona nut
 6. Curved molding
 7. Endorsement
 8. Call forth
 9. Not his
 10. Aquarium show star
 11. Mine deposits
 12. Water lily leaf
 15. One behind the other
 20. *Like crowd of fans?
 22. "____ the crowd goes wild!"
 24. Misstep
 25. Obelus, pl.
 26. Oddball's attempt? (2 words)
 27. *Each player gets 5 before disqualification
 29. *Org.
 31. Witty Coward
 32. Dress up or deck out (2 words)
 33. Blue-Green scum
 34. *Easiest shot?
 36. Location
 38. Hero shop
 42. Never say what?
 45. Abduction of the ____ Women, Roman myth
 49. Farm call
 51. Bewitch
 54. One step to success?
 56. Close call
 57. Elliot Page's 2007 role
 58. Home of Jazz
 59. Unacceptable, to a baby
 60. Gravy holder
 61. ACL location
 62. Short for "and elsewhere"
 63. Small amounts
 64. Selfie, e.g.
 66. *Qualifying ____, eligibility criterion

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