ENSON ENTERNAL PRIL, 2023

Postal Customer ECRWSS

Volume 16 • Issue 12

The Sugar Shack



Esther Ammon

By Cheri Roshon

Driving down Main Street in Kenyon, you may have noticed a new sandwich board advertising the newest business in Kenyon, The Sugar Shack & Collectibles.

(continued on page 5)

- - -

Announcements

• Hiawathaland Transit: Service hours are 7:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Call dispatch at 866-623-7505 Monday through Friday 6am-9pm and Saturday 7:00am-5:00pm. Visit threeriverscap.org for more information.

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Goodhue County Dairy Royalty Crowned

The 2023 Goodhue County Dairy Princess banquet was held on Saturday, April 1st at the Goodhue Lions Community Center in Goodhue. After a catered meal, the candidates each gave a short speech on dairy topics including the nutritional value of dairy products in a healthy diet. Earlier in the day the candidates went through formal interviews with judges and learned about topics related to successfully promoting the dairy industry. The young women will now have the opportunity to attend the Midwest Dairy Association's May Dairy Promotion and Leadership Event with a chance to run for the title of Minnesota's Princess Kay of the Milky Way.

The 2023 Goodhue County Dairy Royalty crowned were as follows:

Natalie Clementson, daughter or Brian and Tiffany Clemenson of Zumbrota

(continued on page 4)



The 2023 Goodhue County Dairy Royalty - Kelsey Holst, Caryn Miklas, Evelyn Scheffler, & Natalie Clemenson. Missing, Emma Eggenberger (stuck in South Dakota due to the snowstorm).



Dr. Brent Born

Our Patients Are Our Purpose

By Cheri Roshon

*

Dr. Brent Born, one of the veterinarians at Kenyon Vet Clinic, will be celebrating 25 years in business in Kenyon this May.

Dr. Born jumped into his practice right after graduation, literally! "I graduated from Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine on Saturday, moved to Kenyon on Sunday, and was at work at the Kenyon Vet Clinic on Monday," states Dr. Born.

After completing his undergraduate work at Buena Vista College with a degree in Biology, he went to Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine. He completed internships at several different vet clinics that had openings during his last year of veterinary school. The Kenyon Veterinary Clinic stood out as a progressive practice and a community which his family would fit in well! Now he has given 25 years of service to this community. "We have an excellent medical care team", says Born. "Dr. Brad Prestemon and Dr. Mike Bierk are excellent providers to assist me with the case load, along with the rest of our very capable staff of technicians, technician assistants, customer service reps and a business manager".

(continued on page 4)



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Religion

Proverbs: "Wisdom for Life"



By Pastor Colin Rueter, **New Life Church** (colin@nlcwanamingo.org)

Proverbs: [/prah-vurbz/] noun --- a short saying that expresses a universal truth for practical, righteous living. From the Hebrew root word meaning "to be like".

The Book of Proverbs main author is King Solomon. Solomon's name appears in 1:1, 10:1, and 25:1. We may also presume Solomon collected and edited proverbs other than his own. The final two chapters identify Agur (30:1) and King Lemuel (31:1) as their authors, though the identities of these men remain mysterious in history. Solomon's proverbs were written prior to his death in 931 B.C. During his reign as king, the nation of Israel reached its pinnacle spiritually, politically, culturally, and economically. As indicated by the beginning of chapter 25, the text stayed in the southern kingdom of Judah and

Hezekiah's men compiled more of Solomon's proverbs to completion prior to the end of Hezekiah's reign in 631 B.C.

OVERVIEW:

It is difficult to give an overview for the Book of Proverbs. Unlike many other books of Scripture, there is no particular plot or storyline found in its pages; likewise, there are no principal characters in the book. It is wisdom that takes center stage—a grand, divine wisdom that transcends the whole of history, peoples, and cultures. In this book, the mind of God is revealed in matters high and lofty and in matters common and ordinary. No topic is outside the reach of godly wisdom. Matters pertaining to personal conduct, sexual relations, business, wealth, charity, ambition, discipline, debt, raising children, character, alcohol, politics, revenge, and godliness are all covered within the pages of this text, unlike other books of the bible.

If we wanted to get a main theme from this book, it is from chapter 1, verse 7: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom... The desire to be wise, that is right knowledge with right action, begins with a respect, awe, and worship of the Triune God of the Bible [Father, Son, Holy Spirit]. Our fear of the Lord's wrath and justice is what drives us to Christ, who is the embodiment of God's wisdom as expressed in His glorious plan of redemption for mankind. In Christ, "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3), we find the answer to our search for wisdom, the remedy for our fear of God, and the "righteousness, holiness and redemption" that we so desperately need (1 Corinthians 1:30). The wisdom that is found only in Christ is in contrast to the foolishness of the world which encourages us to be wise in our own eyes. Proverbs tells us that the world's way is not God's way (Proverbs 3:7) and the world's ways lead only to death (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25). When we reach the end of the text, we can see wisdom involves appropriating a measure of humility, first before God and then before

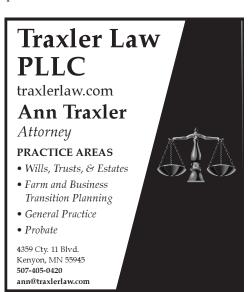
SO WHAT?

The "So what?" for this book is straight forward. Read it, then live it. Read it, then act upon its applications. This book shows us that God cares about the monumental moments in our lives, but more importantly, the ordinary, day-to-day moments as well. From rising in the morning to walking through each day, we start by fearing the LORD and then walking according to His word. Most of the proverbs are pithy statements overflowing over with imagery from the real world.

Keep Up With Your Hometown News at www.kenyonmn.net This approach allows us to see very clearly how particular proverbs might be applied to any number of daily situations we encounter. Allow Proverbs to grab your attention on all the hidden moments of your life, the "small" circumstances that go unnoticed, and follow the LORD faithfully through them. Do you long to be wise, my friends? Read God's word, fear Him, and live accordingly.

Next month, we will learn about the Book of Ecclesiastes, reflections about life from "the old Preacher." May God bless you and keep you until then!

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







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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Most Incredible Peace

The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

— Philippians 4:7

During this month in our reflections on peace, we have dug into the Scriptures and human history, dived into our memories, and revisited some of life's most challenging experiences. We have prayed and contemplated. In this world filled with wars, violence, and pain, we have sought to find God's shalom.

Today let's look again at some verses from Philippians 4. Paul wrote this letter from a jail in Rome, where he was awaiting a verdict from the imperial court. Despite the sad circumstances of Paul's imprisonment for Jesus' sake, this letter is often called his epistle of thanks and joy.

In our verses today Paul calls his readers first of all to "rejoice in the Lord." It's a command that he repeats: "Rejoice!" The reason for this unyielding joy is simple. the Lord is with us. In the person of Jesus Christ and through his Holy Spirit, the loving God is never far away from his children. Paul also reminds us to be gentle and caring 'toward others. That's how we reflect Christ to them. And he encourages us not to be anxious about anything but to trust in the Lord completely, presenting our requests with thanks.

When we live with joy, gentleness, thanks, and trust in the Lord, the incredible peace of God fills us. It "guards [our] hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Have you found his incredible peace?

Merciful God, thank you for being near. Teach us to rely on you. Lead us to live with joy, gentleness, and trust in

increance peace? Merciful God, thank you for being near. Teach us to rely on you. Lead us to live with joy, gentleness, and trust in you, and fill us with your incredible peace. Amen.



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Obituaries

Loretta Beatrice Bjorngaard Broas

Loretta Beatrice Bjorngaard Broas, 103,



died December 24, 2022, at Zumbrota Health Services with family by her side.

She was born to Ned and Minnie (Grove) Bjorngaard on August 16, 1919 in rural Wanamingo. She grew up on the family farm. Loretta was baptized and

confirmed at Lands Lutheran Church. When she was 18 she moved to California and had many careers in the service industry, her favorite was retail.

She married Edward Broas April 20th, 1945. They made their home in Long Beach, California. They were together for over 50 years and had 2 daughters, Adele and Susan. She moved back to Zumbrota after Ed's pass-

Loretta loved helping people and was involved with several non-profit groups such as Girl Scouts, Fleet Reserve Auxiliary, VFW and various church groups. She loved being a mother, grandmother, gardening and read-

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, April 28, 2023, at 11 a.m. at Lands Lutheran Church in Zumbrota with Pastor David Krinke officiating. Visitation will be at Lands Lutheran Church from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 27th and one hour prior to the service at the church.

She is survived by her daughter, Susan (Tim) Hazen; grandchildren, Christopher and Allison Trent, Courtney, Brett (Jen), Tim Jr, and Robert (Jill) Hazen, Jamie Tierce-Trent; great-grandchildren Ethan, Nolan, Alex, Emily, and Natalie Hazen; sisters, Rose Durhman and Sharon Bjorngaard; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Ed; daughter, Adele; her siblings Joel, Thelma, Norman and Vernon Bjorn-

Memorials are preferred to Lands Lutheran Church or the donors choice.

The family wants to thank Zumbrota Health Service and Mayo Hospice Services for their care and support.

Mardell Helen Held

Mardell Helen Held, 94, of Kenyon, died



Saturday, April 1, 2023 at Zumbrota Health Services Cen-

She was born January 10, 1929 in Kenyon, Minnesota the daughter of Albin and Genevieve (Voxwas baptized and

confirmed at Holden Lutheran Church in Kenyon. She graduated from Kenyon High School in 1947 and was the St. Paul Fire Oueen that same year.

On September 22, 1947 she married the love of her life Howard Held at Holden Lutheran Church and the couple was blessed with three children, Susan, Julie, and Jon.

Howard and Mardell owned and operated Held Chevrolet and Held Bus Service in Kenyon.

She is survived by her children Susan (Steve) Goldammer of Zumbrota, Julie Dyrdahl of Kenyon, Jon (Mary) Held of Kenyon; grandchildren, Sara (Mark) Mangan, Jesse (Krystle) Jensen, Angela (Mike Temple) Anderson, Jay (Natalie) Anderson, Sally (Louise) Grove, Billy Dyrdahl, Joseph (Bri) Jensen, Jana (Ethan) Eggert, and Andrew (Tanya) Dyrdahl; 17 great-grandchildren; and brother Roger (Anita) Kindseth.

She was preceded in death by her husband Jay "Howard" Held; parents Albin and Genevieve Kindseth; brother Allan "Bud" Kindseth; and sister Audrey Nesseth.

Visitation was at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kenyon on Friday, April 7th, 2023 from 1PM to 2PM. Funeral services followed the visitation at 2PM. Pastor Julie Rogness land) Kindseth. She officiated. Interment was in the Kenyon Cemetery in Kenyon.

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Community

Our Patients Are Our Purpose

(continued from page 1)

I asked Dr. Born about the importance of spring care for the animals he sees on a regular basis. I learned that KVC care begins with an initial evaluation of the furry patients health, and addresses any concerns you may have about your pet. Upon arriving, a complete exam includes assessing the health of the animal, running any pertinent diagnostics, a consult on weight management, and any concerns on preventative care or special needs.

Our pets are exposed to a variety of issues on a daily basis in the outdoor environment. Heartworms, tape worms, round and whip-

worms, fleas and ticks are the routine things they check for. KVC is here to help us to learn about the risks and measures we can take to protect our pets from these dangers. They offer tests and diagnostics as well as a full line of preventatives for the internal and external parasite protection as needed.

Vaccines are also important tools used for our pets as protection from pathogens when risks are involved, and will be specifically tailored to each pet's individual needs. This is not a "one size fits all" vaccination protocol. For example, a pet who has been up North where ticks are prolific can be protected with a Lyme's Disease shot. Or if the animal frequents a dog park where it could be exposed to respiratory pathogens, a different approach is used. "We want our patients to be protected at the level of their true exposure to risks", concludes Dr. Born.

Kenyon is lucky to have such integrated care in place for it's furry friends. Let's all say Thank You for 25 years of service to our community!

Goodhue County Dairy Royalty Crowned

(continued from page 1)

Emma Eggenberger, daughter of Erica Cordes and Robert Eggenberger of Red Wing **Kelsey Holst**, daughter of Shane and Casey Holst of Zumbrota

Caryn Miklas, daughter of Amy Bearbower and Mike Chamberlain of Zumbrota

Evelyn Scheffler, daughter of Tony and Maizie Scheffler of Zumbrota

Locally, the Dairy Royalty will be good-will ambassadors for Goodhue County dairy farmers and the dairy industry throughout the upcoming year. They will be participating in dairy promotions, parades, educational school visits, the Goodhue County Fair, and other dairy related events to promote the dairy industry, its products, and producers.



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By Susan Hinrichsen

I have been on a search for "better health" through a healthy diet and great food choices and I want to share what I have learned not through formal education, but through experience. I have found value in my experience and what I have learned is Wellness is more than just good food choices, it is all aspects of your body, mind, and soul.

Hello, my name is Susan. I am a Certified Life Coach in the Goodhue Area. I work with people who are struggling to fill a void in their life, people who feel that something is missing, and they just can't put their finger on it. People who are looking to find their Life Purpose, I even help empty nesters find their purpose again. As a Life Coach, I am looking to inspire you to con-

tinue to grow and expand yourself and take care of you so you can be of service to others, and yourself, at the same time. You can achieve everything you want and more, and that is where I come in.

Life is busy with the everyday pulls of balancing a job, kids, meal planning, cleaning, and laundry just to name a few and believe me the list can be endless. Then there are the expectations put upon you by friends, family, and the world not to mention paying bills, getting out of debt, or having to repair your car which can be expensive. So, how does one find a glimmer of hope to find time to even figure out how to find yourself in all this chaos? How on earth could you find time to figure out what your needs are!

Good question!

Before all of this "life" happened, I'm sure that most of you had some sort of dream of what your life would be, or what you wanted it to be. In our quest for survival, paying bills, career choices, we may have ended up in a job that is not satisfying at all to our inner spirit. You go there every day as a responsibility to your creditors, paying for your rent, raising children, putting food on the table, making money to survive. There is more to life than survival, yes you need to survive, but I want you to enjoy your life and thrive. I want you to be happy and joyous! If this sounds true to you and you find you have a desire to be more, do more, and have more; this is where a Life Coach can be beneficial.

Take a moment and ask yourself, "what makes me happy?" Make a list of what those things could or would be. Maybe there are things that you satisfy only for them to return unfulfilled a few weeks or months later. Those are the things that should be high on your list

Sit back and read your list and pick one item and ask yourself "how or what can I do to improve that one thing?" or "What is it that something that I want to change?" Search yourself, read, research what it would take or what you need to get you there. Maybe, you are even at the point of just finding the time in your schedule to even have a moment to think about this. Try to make that time something that is yours and then try to make that time more consistent. Use that time to grow your understanding of what you need to create the happiness you want in your life.

This is where coaching can be helpful. Coaches can help you to get past the barriers that keep you stuck on the proverbial hamster-wheel doing the same things over and over and getting the same results. Coaching can be so rewarding and amazing. I would be honored to help you to breakthrough your barriers, help you find what lights you up, and Explore Your Next Best Chapter in your life!

You can contact me at susiecoaches@gmail.com for a complimentary Explore Your Next Chapter session.

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April, 2023 - KENYON MESSENGER -Page 5

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The Sugar Shack

(continued from page 1)

Owned and operated by Esther Ammon, this business will be a part of the building that will house Angie's Cafe and a few other new businesses to be announced soon. She's making Kenyon a sweeter place!

Esther is originally from Monument, Colorado. For 27 years she owned and operated a clinic called Lighthouse Counselling, for people with addictions. She also owned a consignment shop in Castle Rock, Colorado called My Sister's Closet and upstairs housed My Brother's Attic. As you can see, she is an entrepreneur from way back! "Retail sales are something new to me," says Esther. But she jumped right in to her new adventure, and is looking forward to procuring sweets and



birthday, wedding, anniversary or birth announcement

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treats for her patrons. Specializing in chocolates, she will also carrying old fashion candy, and if there is a certain memory of your childhood treats, she is willing to see if she can find it for you!

Inside the candy store will also be a gift shop, with local crafters taking the stage. All handmade and looking to grace your space, you will find all kinds of beautiful items to choose from

I asked Ester what brought her from Colorado to Kenyon, and she said she met a man from Kenyon that piqued her interest, and they started sharing ideas. Long story short, he visited her in Colorado, she visited him in Minnesota, and they decided to move closer to each other, and Kenyon was the place. Ester moved here almost a year ago and is enjoying Kenyon's small town charm. She is definitely a seasoned entrepreneur, and not afraid to take a risk. She and her significant other, Jim, are even restoring a 125 year old home in town!

Her other interests include being a long time member of Toastmasters International, and is currently in the Northfield chapter. A member of the Kenyon country club, she is looking forward to playing on the ladies golf league this season.

When asked about her hours, she says they will change with the seasons. Currently she is open M-F from 11:30am-5pm. As the weather gets better, the hours will get longer, and possibly include Saturdays.

Be watching for specials as we move into spring, and come on down and fill those easter baskets with special delights! If you are interested in consigning your crafts, call Ester at 480-479-0901 with any questions, or stop in and welcome her to the community.

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Education

KW Noble Knights of the Week



KW Noble Knights of the Week for March 24, 2023

Front Row: Haddie Schwering, KG, Ms. Madison Andrist; Scarlett Bauer, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Hudson Prondzinski, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Kiley Hedeen, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Lily Knott, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Korbin Flotterud, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Sophia Nokes, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Macey Fitcher, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Talon Berge, Gr. 4, Ms. Chloe Gohman; Lidia Jandro, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing



KW Noble Knights of the Week for March 31, 2023

Front Row: Tobias Edwards, KG, Ms. Madison Andrist; Cecelia Jandro, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Reese Allen, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Jaxson Rueger, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Mira McNeal, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers. Back Row: Isabelle Hanson, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Bree Helgeson, Gr. 2, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Ella Amundson, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Thorn Wolf, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Logan Schmitz, Gr. 4, Mrs. Chloe Gohman



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Payment & Pickup Dates; Friday, April 21, 2023, 9:00AM – 4:00PM Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 8:00AM – 1:00PM

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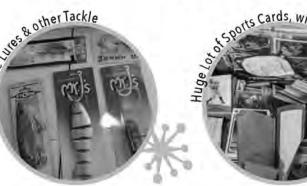
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Abounding Hope Counseling is here to Help

By Cheri Roshon



Heidi Smith

Tucked away in the back office of Olmsted Medical Group on Street Main Wanamingo, I met a very special lady, Heidi Smith. She is a licensed professional clinical counselor. specializing in Christian based grief counseling, and

business name is Abounding Hope. She opened her Wanamingo location last April, and has been working here ever since.

Heidi has been married to her husband Dirk for 36 years, and they have 3 children and 3 grandchildren, and have lived in the Pine Island area for the past 18 years. Originally a city girl, she says she loves being in a rural setting now, and loves walking her dogs, water-skiing and being with friends.

Heidi grew up in Iowa knowing she wanted to be able to help people in crisis. This became very apparent when her brother in law died in his sleep at age 37, leaving behind a wife and 5 children. As she worked through the grief of losing a loved one, she began to think about grief counseling to help people in crisis deal with the pain of loss.

As she was working in both inner-city and rural church youth groups, she started hearing kids talking about struggles with suicide, self-harm and depression, and wanted to equip herself to come alongside youth and help them out of the dark places they seemed to be going into. She started taking classes at

Liberty University in Virginia on line and completed her counseling degree in 2014.

After graduating she did an internship Gerard Residential Treatment Center in Austin, MN, which is a residential home for kids aged 6 to 18 who are in transition due to various scenarios and behavioral issues. She had previously completed a practicum at Seasons Hospice in the Center for Grief Education and Support, and after her time at Gerard, interviewed to be the director of the Season's Grief Center, at the encouragement of her mentor and supervisor. She accepted the position and worked there for over 6 years.

At that point, Heidi was ready to open her own practice and chose Wanamingo as her place to be. She now works in Wanamingo on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and also sees clients on-line and in a Rochester office. You can check out information about Heidi www.Aboundinghopecc.com, or online at Psychology Today for Christian based grief counseling. Heidi was quick to point out that grief counseling is not all she does in her work. Depression and anxiety have risen over the past few years, and she feels like she wants to provide a listening ear for her clients to air their issues in a safe place and work through positive next steps. Judgement has

When she's not working in her office in

no place in Heidi's practice, and even though

she believes in a Christian approach, she wel-

comes all with open arms in her space.

Wanamingo, you will find her volunteering at Next Chapter Ministries in Rochester. This program supports people who have been incarcerated in starting a new life, and helps families impacted by crime find hope for the future. It is a non denominational ministry and currently has a men's home, along with programs for women and children, and they have plans to expand their services in the near fu-

In building her practice, she is offering an initial 30 minute consultation at no cost, to meet new prospective clients and see if they both feel like Abounding Hope is the right fit. And when the fit doesn't seem quite right, Heidi can refer clients to a number of other qualified counsellors in the area. Her undergraduate degree was in communication, so she is well equipped to deal with many issues that surface in her work.

When I asked her why she chose counseling as a career, she said, "I went into counseling not because I think I can fix things, but because people need to know that they are being heard. Their stories need to be heard, and they need to know that they are not alone. I am on their journey with them, and I offer them hope and support through knowing Jesus and His love."

If you or someone you know is struggling with what life has thrown at them, you can contact Heidi at (507) 626-2410. I think you'll be glad you did!

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God bless those who don't have a warm place to sleep tonight or any food to eat. -Rachel Nesseth

On Saturday, April 22 we would like to invite you to go for a walk in the park and drop off a non-perishable food item or a blanket in memory of Rachel.

The above prayer is one that she spoke at dinner every night from the time she was a toddler. In celebration of Rachel's birthday, we will collect food and blankets so that her Light will continue to shine in our community. We will distribute to local food shelves and shelters

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We would also like to thank everyone for the outpouring of love, kindness and messages of comfort these past months. Your many acts of support and sympathy continue to be a great comfort to us. We miss her every day, and we know that we will see her again through faith in Jesus Christ!

A special Thank You to the following groups and organizations:

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In Memory of Rachel Nesseth On her 19th Birthday



"God bless those who don't have a warm place to sleep tonight or any food to eat.

-Rachel Nesseth

Food and Blanket Drive



Saturday, April 22, 2023 10:00am - 2:00pm



We would like to invite you to go for a walk in the park in Zumbrota on Rachel's birthday. We will be collecting new blankets and food items to be donated to local food shelves and shelters. Items can be dropped off at the Trailhead Bldg. near City Hall, across from the Zumbrota

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*Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of The Messenger

Desperate Times Require Desperate Rhetoric

Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools

His name is William Theel...and I feel his pain. As a concerned resident in Wanamingo, he had the courage to ask the Kenyon-Wanamingo School Board a series of questions that fell on deaf ears. When you couple this with the fact that this same school board turned me into the Goodhue County Attorney for harassment because I told them "We are coming to hold you accountable for what you are doing to the school district," there should be little doubt that something is amiss with this group of seven. May I suggest that it starts with an L...and ends with a P...and stands for Leadership.

Let me begin with the premise that school districts who find themselves in dire straights leave signs in their wake.

While I would make the argument that being in statutory operating debt would be a primary identifier, when one couples this with low academic achievement and decreasing student enrollment...you are in trouble. And if that is not enough, when you add a broken strategic plan, on-going busing concerns, and years of ineffective leadership, it becomes a crises in the making. It is what you are currently looking at.

One of the things that I noted in a recent email to the school board was the fact that they are ignoring all of the warning signs.

While it is not the first time the school district has had budget problems, it is the first time that only 17.5% of our high school students are college ready; the first time that we have little hope of competing with school districts like Zumbrota-Mazeppa and Pine Island in student achievement, and the very first time that our student enrollment has fallen behind each of the surrounding school districts. Just recently, the Minnesota Department of Education reported the following numbers: Cannon Falls (1055), Goodhue (706), Hayfield (667), Medford (915), Pine Island (1541), Randolph (842), Triton (951), Zumbrota-Mazeppa (1249), and, yes, our very own Kenyon-Wanamingo (654). Just remember, student enrollment drives the budget.

As we look at where we find ourselves today, we need to keep in mind that the dynamics that brought the two communities together have not changed. However, the discussion that would eventually take us from the '89 Bulldogs and Vikings to the '94 Knights, is now witnessing an even greater demise in each of the critical areas. Are you aware of the fact that Kenyon High School could once make the claim that they had the second highest performing mathematics program in the entire State of Minnesota? (Frank Peterson, Attorney at Law)

In 1995, the Kenyon-Wanamingo School Board explored the option to create a single K-12 site in the Bombay area.

While this "well thought out idea did not materialize," it does not change the fact that

the idea is still relevant today.

Beginning with a primary goal to provide an effective delivery system for our children, the Kenyon Leader reported that 'considerable savings would be reached by eliminating duplicate facilities.' Are you aware of the fact that our 1994-1995 K-12 student enrollment was 1089? Moreover, our 5 year projections were set at 1300 students. (The Kenyon Leader)

Every once in awhile something comes down the pike that cannot be ignored. This was why the consolidation movement in the late 1980s and early 1990s reduced the number of Minnesota school districts from 437 to 330 in less than ten years. It is also why places like Hayfield, Rushford-Peterson and Triton finally came to the realization that they could no longer afford to run a multiple site school district. Moreover, it is why the Medford School District built a K-12 program under one roof. Are you aware of the fact that school districts that spend funds on duplication are forced to spend less on classroom teachers and programs? (Zumbrota News Record)

As we look at neighboring school districts that have gone to a single site in recent years, the Zumbrota News Record reported that the Triton School District had a \$750,000.00 savings in the first two years and the Rushford-Peterson School District showed a \$10,000.00 shuttle bus savings, a decrease in overall staffing needs, and an enrollment increase of 104 students during the same time

period. And just recently, the Zumbrota-Mazeppa School District projected an annual savings of \$122,880.00 if they had decided on a single site. Are you aware of the fact that once student enrollment decreases, the deficit spending grows exponentially until the school board is forced to cut more positions than they originally needed to cut? (Zumbrota News Record)

Ladies and gentlemen, we are in serious...serious trouble at my old alma mater (Class of '63). While I could go on and on lamenting about what is going to happen if this school board does not come to its senses, after sending them over 20 emails and letters without any comments on how they plan to fix the problem, I hope you see the necessity that "your" children and "your" grandchildren are going to need "your" help to make the system work again.

Unless you start holding people accountable with your tax dollars and votes, you are going to get the same unacceptable results...going forward. Trust me!

So what is the point? For lack of a better vernacular, it is time to get off your "butts" and start exploring a way to make Kenyon-Wanamingo what it was intended to be...and once was. Under the current state of affairs, a single site, using the best facilities, is the only way to go. Start talking with your neighbors...NOW!

Dr. James Russell Lehman Kenyon, Minnesota

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April, 2023 - KENYON MESSENGER -Page 13

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 14th day of February 2023. The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Ryan.

The following members were present: Council Members Kim Helgeson, Lee Sjolander, and Molly Ryan

Via Zoom: Mayor Doug Henke (unable to vote on motions until later in meeting due to no voice connection)

Absent: Mary Bailey

Also, present: City Administrator Mark Vahlsing, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom, Engineer Derek Olinger, City Attorney Scott Riggs, Officer Brian Homeier, Linda Bean

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENT

None

ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Helgeson second by Sjolander to approve the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye, Helgeson - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Sjolander second by Ryan to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers, 74480 through 74577; 4416E through 4471E; 6E through 7E; and temporary pay increase for Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant.

Roll Call Vote: Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye, Helgeson - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS/ **PUBLIC HEARINGS/** RECOGNITIONS/PROLAMATIONS **School Bus Driver Appreciation Day Proclamation**

Acting Mayor Ryan read and signed the "School Bus Driver Appreciation Day" proclamation.

ENGINEERING General Project Update Pearl Creek Sanitary Sewer Improvements

Engineer Olinger stated that the construction plans for the Pearl Creek Sanitary Sewer improvements are complete. The original forcemain route has been modified due to capacity issues, but the change will not increase project costs. Currently, easements with property owners are being worked on.

2023 Street Improvements Summary

City Engineer Olinger reviewed the draft street reconstruction and overlay plan for 2023-2027. A public hearing relating to financing this project with general obligation street reconstruction bonds will need to be held.

Resolution 2023-04: Calling a Public **Hearing Relating to Street** Reconstruction Plan and the Issuance of Bonds Thereunder

Motion by Helgeson second by Sjolander to adopt Resolution 2023-04.

Roll Call Vote: Sjolander - Aye, Ryan -Aye, Helgeson - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

LEGAL Nuisance Property Violation -

1 Langford Ave. Update

Attorney Riggs updated the council on the 1 Langford Avenue nuisance. A citation was issued on January 10 to the property owner and arraignment is scheduled for February

OLD BUSINESS Continued discussion on Future of Depot Park

Administrator Vahlsing reviewed an estimate from L&M Construction for improvements to the depot park shelter. There would also need to be a few other improvements made to bring the total costs in the range of \$25,000. The Park Board recommended repairing the depot and seeking donations to assist with the cost.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2023-03: Establishing Procedures Relating to Compliance with Reimbursement Bond Regulations Under the Internal Revenue Code

Motion by Sjolander second by Ryan to approve Resolution 2023-03 establishing procedures relating to compliance reimbursement bond regulations under the internal revenue code.

Roll Call Vote: Sjolander - Aye, Ryan -Aye, Helgeson - Aye

Motion carried 3-0-0.

Kenyon PD Body Worn Camera Policy

Chief Sjoblom reviewed the proposed body worn camera policy. The police department is looking at options for the purchase of the

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Motion by Helgeson second by Sjolander to adopt Policy #234 for Kenyon Police Department Body Worn Cameras.

Roll Call Vote: Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye, Helgeson – Aye, Henke - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

Discuss Solid Waste Hauler Agreement

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the current agreement for solid waste hauling will expire June 30, 2023. The contract can either be extended or staff can be authorized to advertise for quotes. The council was in consensus to continue with the current hauler. Vahlsing will contact the current hauler concerning our desire to extend their contract.

Discuss Board of Adjustment Hearing

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the annual Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20 at 6:00 pm. The City of Kenyon no longer has any trained council members, so the County will conduct an open book meeting instead of this meeting being run by the city. In the future, the council may need to decide if they want to continue with the open book concept.

Jacobson Law office – Request for increase to fees for Criminal Prosecution contract.

Administrator Vahlsing stated that Prosecuting Attorney Jacobson requested a \$100 monthly increase to their contract effective January 1, 2023. The annual cost would increase from \$12,600 to \$13,800.

Motion by Sjolander second by Helgeson to approve a rate increase of \$100 per month for Jacobson Law effective January 1, 2023.

Roll Call Vote: Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye, Helgeson – Aye, Henke - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

KMU Meeting: Tuesday, February 21st @ 4:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 14th @ 7 p.m.

Board of Appeal & Equalization: Thursday, April 20th @ 5:00 p.m.

COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL **COMMENTS**

None

Motion by Helgeson second by Henke to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Sjolander -Aye, Ryan – Aye, Helgeson - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant





Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

St. Patrick's Day in Tennessee



By Terry Campbell

This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell.
Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when its warm here and Tennessee when it's cold here.

We live a short distance from Erin, Tennessee. This is a small town established in the mid 1800's by Irish immigrants. In the 1840's the Irish potato blight had destroyed the main food source on the Emerald Island and a quarter of the citizens of that country fled the starvation by getting on ships and sailing to America. One out of four perished on the four-week trip by sea, but it is estimated that upwards of two million Irish arrived in this country by the mid 1800's. Because the majority of the Irish had no money they were sold as indentured servants to finance the trip and treated as poorly as slaves. Many settled in eastern seacoast towns like Boston, while others traveled farther inland. They were not welcomed in the USA and met with a great deal of hostility where they settled. Poverty was rampant among the Irish immigrants as many businesses posting jobs would state "Irish need not apply."

In the 1850's a number of Irish had settled in Tennessee and named their town Erin, after a town in their homeland because the rivers and foggy hills reminded them of where they grew up. Most of them were railroad workers completing the line from Louisville, Kentucky to Memphis, Tennessee. The railroad was finished just two days before the Civil War began. Many Irish men joined the Confederate Army to fight against the Union forces. Their ill treatment by northerners made them sympathetic to the southern cause. Nathan Bedford's Third Cav-

alry was all Irish soldiers and the Second Tennessee Volunteer Infantry were called the Irish Regiment.

So, we jump forward a century and in 1963 the city of Erin held their first St. Patrick's Day celebration. There is a parade, a king and queen are crowned and lots of food is served along with a carnival on Main Street. The town swells by 10,000 people that weekend as people come to party. And March in Tennessee is fairly balmy compared to Minnesota.

My wife is Irish and she suggested we drive over for some authentic Irish food. I am always ready to eat and there was a live band playing on stage in the town square, so a great day was certain. There were forty food stands with something for everyone. We found a Boston themed food truck and I started with clam chowder. I wanted Lobster so my next entre was a buttered bun with Lobster. It looked like a Lobster hot dog. Imagine my surprise when the vendor told me it was \$28.00. That was the most expensive hot dog I have ever eaten.

Here is a little more history on St. Patrick's Day. Patrick was a British bloke born in England around 386 AD and kidnapped by pirates at the age of 16 and sold into slavery in Ireland. He escaped to France in 408 and became an ordained minister in 432. The Irish were a very violent, pagan people and Patrick felt led to return to the island as a missionary and convert them to Christianity. His work there continued until his death on March 17th of 461. So, the Irish patron saint, St. Patrick, is British and not Irish at all. Probably explains all the fightin' and drinkin' the Irish are known for.

We drove up to Nashville the next day to pick up a kitchen table and chairs for our house. On the way back we stopped at Outback for a steak. The hostess showed us to a table and my wife headed to the lady's room to freshen up. The waitress was Abby, a young and cheerful girl who showed up to take the drink order. I asked for ice water but told her I wasn't sure what my wife wanted as she was in the restroom but if Abby wanted, she could go and ask her. This is where my practical joke blew up in my face. Abby just walked through the door marked "Sheila's" and asked her. My wife came out and told me that the waitress showed up while she was washing her hands and asked what she wanted to drink. In retrospect it was kind of funny. And I had a steak and lobster with a baked potato and steamed broccoli for \$24.99. Sure beats a \$28.00 lobster

A Minnesotan: **Egg Hunt**



By RosaLin Alcoser

No matter when Easter Sunday falls in the year there is one constand that we here in Minnesota can nearly always rely on, and that is that there will probably be either snow or mud.

As a child I can recall many Easters and hunting for Easter eggs both inside and outside. Generally as a rule if there's snow on the ground all egg hunting is done indoors, however, I don't recall mud ever stopping an outdoor egg hunt.

What I really can remember is doing the Easter Egg Hunt at church but I also can only remember doing it one year. I do it more than one time, probably but I don't recall ever hunting eggs more than once at church as a kid. Mainly due to the fact that I am not counting the many times I have helped with the egg hunt as a teenager and as an adult.

The egg hunt that I remember happened when I was about 6 or 7 years old. It must

have been a late Easter that year or just unusually nice that year; because I remember it being fairly dry outside and little to no snow. Either that or I was young enough to not remember the snow and mud.

I can recall running around with other children looking for eggs, getting candy out of them at the end, and not being allowed to find the golden prize egg since I was the pastor's kid. I did find it first however I could not pick it up and tried to point it out to literally anyone else.

The thing that I really remember about the egg hunt actually happened before the hunt even began. What really sticks in my memory is how my older sister hid the eggs for the toddlers and per-schoolers.

She would have been about 11 or 12 years old at the time and had been sent to hide the super easy to find eggs.

I can recall watching my sister climb part way up the hill in the field by the church where she had been sent to hide the eggs and dump the whole basket full down the hill. Causing the plastic eggs to roll down the hill into the field.

Once the eggs stopped rolling she pronounced her task done and went back into the building. To this day I feel that this was the best way that I have ever seen Easter Eggs be hidden.





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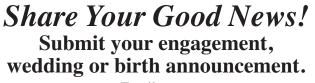
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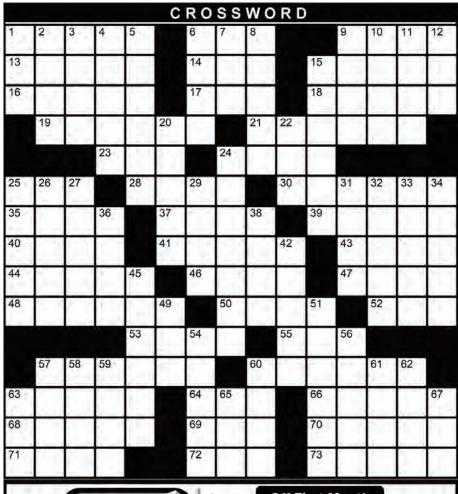




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THEME: COLORS ACROSS

Partner of pains
 "Raiders of the Lost

9. Opposite of flows13. Flesh of fish

14. Grazing area15. Soft palate hanger

16. Boatload

17. Wood-shaping tool

18. Old episode 19. *Alice of "Color Purple" fame

21. *Fruit and color

23. Long reef dweller 24. Sound of pain

25. Math class total

28. Excessively abundant 30. *"Royal" color 35. Arrival times, acr.

*Color quality

39. Shininess

40. White House "sub" 41. Spritelike

43. Cupid's counterpart 44. Serengeti grazer

46. *Feeling blue 47. Hokkaido native

*Color wheel inventor

50. Walk with a hitch

"Malcolm X" (1992) movie director

53. Stare open-mouthed

55. Napoleon of "Animal Farm," e.g.

57. *Between blue and violet ___phobia, intense fear of colors

63. Opposite of cathode 64. North American country

66. Run ____ of the law 68. Geography class book 66 Run

69. Local area network

70. It's firma

71. Has divine power 72. Banned insecticide, acr.

73. German surrealist Max

DOWN

"General Hospital" network
 Crop of a bird
 Zeus' sister and wife

4. Two under par on a golf hole5. Meat-cooking contraption

. Winglike . *Predominant color of Mars

8. Type of membranophone 9. Like never-losing Steven

10. Town 11. *Primary color

12. ___ Juan, Puerto Rico 15. 7th planet from the sun

20. Chosen few 22. Nicki Minaj's genre

. Not womenfolk . *Number of colors in a rainbow 25

Of service

27. Colorful parrot 29. *The LumiËre brothers' colorful creation

"Cheers" actress Perlman

Jeopardy

33. Sergio of Spaghetti Westerns fame 34. Follow as a consequence

36. Email folder 38. Cone-shaped quarters

42. Naiad or maenad

45. Motherless calves

49. Old horse

51. Long John Silver, e.g.

Modified "will"

56. Bottom-ranking employee

Opposite of "out of"

58. Hall of Fame Steelers' coach

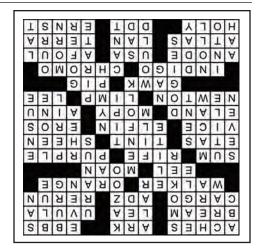
59. June 6, 1944 60. "____ Buy Me Love" 61. Between dawn and noon

62. Yours and mine

Expression of pleasure

65. Melancholy

67. Latissimus dorsi, for short



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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. Saturday, April 15th 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, sand 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 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!





Jacob and Megan Gochnauer



