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Volume 20 • Issue I2

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Vang Church Annual Lutefisk and Norwegian Meatball Supper

The annual Vang Church Lutefisk and Meatball Supper will be held Wednesday, October 11th. Meal includes: Lutefisk with melted butter, Norwegian meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, cole slaw, fruit soup, lefse and Norwegian baking's. Tickets are \$20.00. (see ad on page 4)

Announcements

Wednesday Wear, Nerstrand United Methodist Church hours are Wednesdays 1 - 5 and Saturdays 9 - 12. Women's, men's and children's clothing, shoes, accessories, linens, toys and books. All things are free with donations accepted. Come and see what we have!

• Dennison Lions Club meets monthly. During COVID-19, meeting times may vary. • Dennison City Council meetings are held

the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. • The Nerstrand City Council meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7p.m. at the Nerstrand City Hall. Office hours are:

Monday 8:30-11:00; Tuesday by appointment; Wednesday 8:30-11:00; Thursday 5:00-7:00; Friday by appointment. 507-332-8000. • Warsaw Township Meeting is held the 2nd Monday of each month at the Warsaw

Township Hall. Meeting time is 6:00p.m. • The Wheeling Township meeting will be held on the second Monday of each month at 8:00p.m. at the Wheeling Township Hall. Contact Rebecca Vergin, Township Clerk.

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

Apple Orchard in the Valley

Fall is a time for apples and the place to go is Sogn Valley Orchard just outside of Dennison. They have 1,400 trees on the farm producing over 25 different varieties of apples for you to enjoy. Apples are picked and packaged for you to pick up at their store where they also have fresh pressed apple cider for sale as well

John Zimmer bought the 20 acre orchard in 2007 and has been improving it ever since. He has maximized his apple production using a trellis system to support the tree branches and uses integrated pest management to minimize using chemicals.

(continued on page 8)



Tractor Supply Comes to Dundas

The Tractor Supply Company has selected a Dundas location for a new store. The 600 Schilling Drive address has construction starting now with plans to have the roof on before snowfall and opening intended to be in time for spring 2024.

TSC stared as a mail order business in 1938 providing farmers with quality tractor parts at fair prices. (continued on page 6)



Harvest Fiber Festival Showcases Fiber Arts and Life on the Farm in Dennison September 30 & October 1

Where has the time gone, now in its third year the Harvest Fiber Festival brings fiber front and center in a fun and engaging way

Sheep will be grazing on their pastures, llamas will be walking on paths, fiber enthusiasts will be drooling, squeezing and touching all sorts of fiber and fiber arts from 20 vendors from various places around the Midwest and one from Texas!.

(continued on page 5)

Rice County Dairy Princess Wins Princess Kay of the **Milky Way Title**

Emma Kuball of Waterville, Minnesota was crowned the 70th Princess Kay of the Milky Way on August 23rd. Emma is the 19 year-old daughter of Nate and Shannon Kuball, dairy farmers in Rice County, Minnesota.

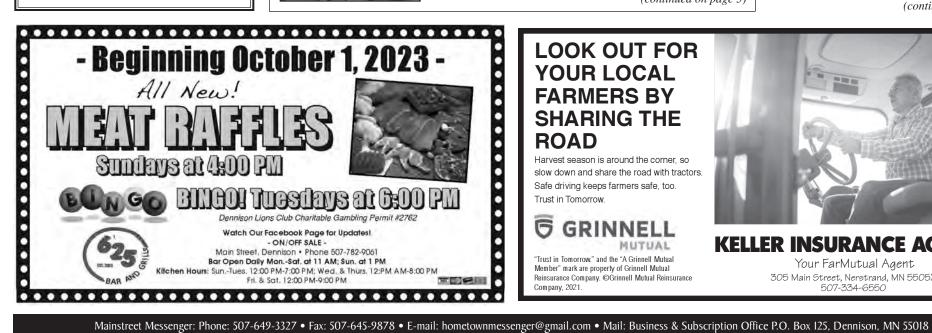


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Big Woods Run

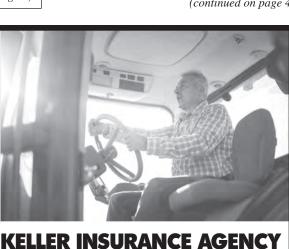
An organized run through the Big Woods State Park is happening again this year! St John's United Church of Christ is once again planning the Big Woods Run, a race that takes runners through one of the best hardwood forests in southern Minnesota.

(continued on page 4)



LOOK OUT FOR **YOUR LOCAL FARMERS BY** SHARING THE ROAD Harvest season is around the corner, so slow down and share the road with tractors. Safe driving keeps farmers safe, too Trust in Tomorrow

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Religion

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Do You Need a New Attitude?

Page 2

Murder... that seems to be what good mysteries and drama are made of. Why are we so fascinated by this terrible sin of violence? I have to admit that my favorite books genre for pleasure reading are murder mysteries as well. I like to figure out the puzzle and have justice meted out at the end. Why do people kill another human being? Sadly, this has been a part of human history since the beginning of time.

J. Warner Wallace, a veteran homicide detective and co-founder of the Torrance, California, Police Department's cold case unit, who has been featured on Dateline, says that all homicides spring from financial greed, lust, or the pursuit of power.

When we read the book of Genesis in the Bible, we can better understand sin and it's affect on humankind throughout the rest of the Bible. There are vital clues, in chapter 4, the murder of Abel, to what is at the root of the destruction of all relationships between human beings.

We aren't told the exact reasons that God look on Cain's offering favorably- only that He wasn't happy with it. And Cain's response was one of anger and sulking. And God asked Cain, why are you angry and downcast? God is checking the attitude of Cain- and possibly it was his attitude towards giving his tithe- that was the real problem in the first place. God always looks at the heart- when we give with a bad attitude or are jealous of others- God knows.

God can't fully bless disobedient people. It's like when I ask someone to do something- my own child or even my spouse; if the response is groaning and anger, I'll just blow it off and do it myself. I'd rather work alone than with someone complaining the entire time. The same goes with someone giving excuses for why they made the decision they did; especially if they blame someone else. It is so easy to justify our sinful actions, or our choices to disobey God and His word.

Negative Attitudes cause us to turn away from God. God is not only interested in what we do and don't do, but also why we do or don't do. Everything is ignored while our motive is considered, then blessed is the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Defiance is a major bad attitude that needs to be cut out of our lives. This is one that Cain noticeable brought to his relationship with God and with his brother Able. If you can't stand to be told what to do. If your blood pressure gets high when someone tells you NO. If you see red when someone gives you an order, you might be defiant. Everyone has a natural will to oppose. Everyone wants to be right. We think we have all the answers. Everything would be better if people would listen to us. Defiance isn't always open and on display. We might seem perfectly pleasant and agreeable on the outside; while inwardly we plot and scheme to get our own way and do exactly as we please. If you won't hear advice, won't accept help, and have all the answers already – you might have a defiant attitude. This sabotages our victory. It undermines our triumph.

Defiance proves immaturity. Like children, defiant people want the center of attention, and want to have all their needs met immediately or else! Defiant people become angry and resentful when others don't act like they want. Defiant people will blame everyone else for their every problem. Defiant people will spend lots of energy trying to get others to change.

How can we change our stinking thinking? Change our attitude!

• Become aware of needs and deficiencies. "Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid." Proverbs 13:18, "Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

• Commit your will/strength to fix. "Commit yourself to instruction; listen carefully to words of knowledge." Proverbs 23:12.

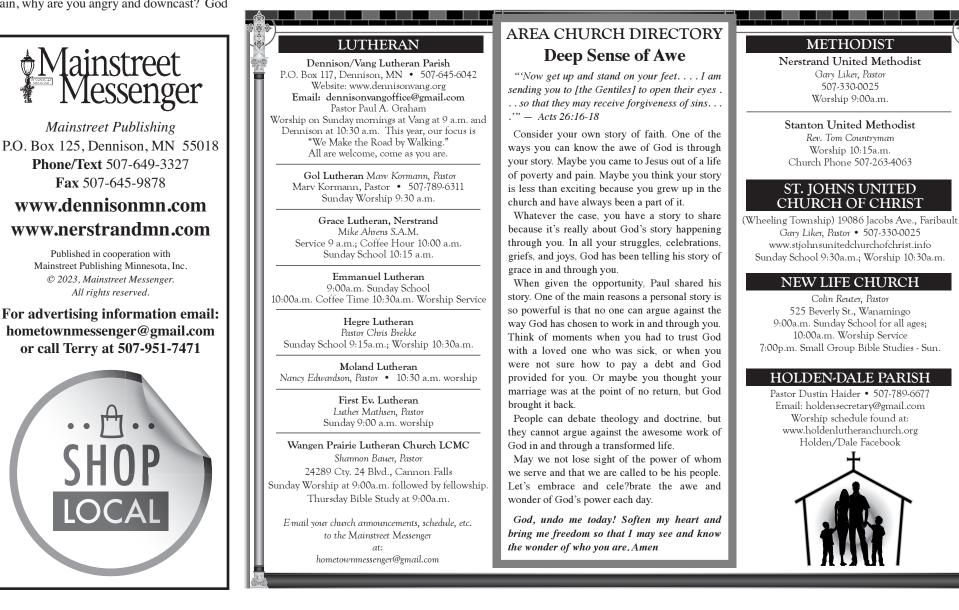
• Act against the wrong and for the right! "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly[a] with your God." Micah 6:8

Do you have an excuse sloshing around in your mind? What lie are you telling yourself

today? The Holy Spirit is speaking to again. We all need to become more aware of ourselves – we do this by becoming more aware of the Lord. We allow Him to do what He has already done.

I am not ashamed to admit my faults and failures because I know that God's Grace is as strong as ever. "being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6. You and I can claim victory over sin! His Holy Spirit is at work within us so that we do not have to sinbut to live a new life of victory in Him. Imagine how different chapter 4 would have been if Cain had heeded God's correction. God told him that sin was crouching at his door- but he didn't have to give in to it. Cain did not have to kill his brother. Cain could have changed his attitude. Cain could have been victorious.

Jesus, is our example, He took responsibility to the point of dying for the sins of the whole of humanity. He redeemed the relationship between people and God and between people with other people. Jesus' life reflected all that we can be in Him. Jesus demonstrated the difference the Holy Spirit can do in every life that chooses to follow Him by faith. When He denied himself, paying the price for you and me, He showed us the best way to live life; Jesus showed us that by dying to ourselves is when we truly can live! Are you ready to change your attitude?



Obituaries

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

September, 2023

Glen Kispert



Glen Kispert, age 94 of Northfield, passed away peacefully on Monday evening, September 4, 2023. Glen LeRoy Kispert was born June 5, 1929, in Kenyon, Minnesota, to Roy and Gertrude (Hildebrandt) Kispert. He

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graduated from Kenyon High School in 1947 and joined the U.S. Army, serving at Fort Riley, Kansas, and Fort Hood, Texas. Glen met Marlene Boyd while roller skating at the Nerstrand roller rink. They were married on February 23, 1952 at Salem Evangelical United Brethren Church in Farmington. After marriage they made their home in Kenyon and Dodge Center before moving to Northfield in 1969. Glen worked at Kenyon Municipal Power for 8 years and Northern States Power for over 28 years. He retired in 1992. Glen was a faith-filled member of the Northfield United Methodist Church, the Northfield Masonic Lodge and other community groups.

Glen had many hobbies that kept him busy. He loved woodworking and building things for other people. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, golfer and enjoyed traveling with Marlene. Every summer their prosperous garden provided vegetables for many friends and family members. Glen was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was always available to lend a hand, watch grandchildren's activities or just go out to eat.

Survivors include his children Gary (Sandy) of Finlayson, Cheryl (Tom) Kranz of Eagan, Scott (Karin) of Burnsville; his grandchildren Hannah Kranz, Emma Kranz, Alison (Garth) Askegaard and Kyle Kispert; his sisters-inlaw, Donna Paulsen, Beverly Boyd, LaDonna Boyd; and his beloved sisters, Marlene (Norve) Floren and Gloria Pettipiece.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 70 years Marlene; parents, Roy and Gertrude; brothers-in-law, Harley Pettipiece, Rod Boyd,

Roger Paulsen and Donnie Boyd.

Funeral Services were held at 11:00AM on Wednesday, September 13, at Northfield United Methodist Church. Visitation began at 10:00AM. A reception will followed. Interment took place in Nerstrand Evangelical Cemetery.

Glen's family wishes to extend a special 'thank you' to Home Instead for their wonderful comfort and care.

Memorials preferred to Nerstrand Evangelical Cemetery.

Amanda Rose Donkers

Amanda Rose Donkers, age 26, of Ner-



FDIC

strand, MN, passed away September 23, 2023, surrounded by her family at the Methodist Hospital in Rochester, MN, after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Amanda Rose was born on December

20, 1996, in Minneapolis, MN, to Christopher Donkers and Kristine Paukert. She graduated from Northfield High School with the class of 2015. Amanda worked in accounting with Taylor Truckline, where she continued to work through her illness. She also was highly involved in helping her father run their family farm. Amanda loved life on the farm, her horses, the cows and especially her dogs, Sophie and Walter. She liked her trucks big and

loud, and everything had to have cow print. She also enjoyed crafting with her son Bryson, reading books on the front porch, shopping for most anything, riding motorcycles with friends, horseback riding, and time up north at the lake. Amanda had a great sense of humor and was a very determined person, always persevering to get what she wanted.

She is survived by her son, Bryson James Donkers-Rezac; father and stepmother, Chris and Anne Donkers; mother, Kristine Paukert; siblings, Alex Donkers, and Christina Kuether (Tyler); grandparents, Thomas and Susan Paukert; best friend, Sophia Amy; her beloved dogs, Sophie and Walter; and many loved family members.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Will and Shelly Donkers; and her uncle, Steve Donkers.

A Celebration of Amanda's life will be on Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 9:00 -11:00 a.m. at the Parker Kohl Funeral Home, 1725 Lyndale Ave. N., Faribault. A brief service and time for sharing will take place at 11:00 a.m. followed by a reception. Per Amanda's request, everyone is encouraged to dress in casual wear (jeans, boots, all things western).

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Sarcoma Foundation of America, or to the donor's choice in memory of Amanda.

For online tributes and further information, please visit ParkerKohlFH.com

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- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

September, 2023



(continued from page 1)

Saturday, September 30, 2023 is the date to pull on your running shoes and enjoy this scenic trek. The Big Woods should be in prime color for the runners and spectators.

The schedule of events includes a half marathon, 10k and 5k. The half marathon will take runners through beautiful wooded scenery with challenging hills. The 10k and 5k runners will enjoy a fairly flat wooded trail course. The half marathon and 10k begin at 9:00am at St John's UCC, 19086 Jacobs Avenue, Faribault, MN. 5k runners will take a shuttle bus from the church to the starting line in the middle of the park. 5k runners must be on the bus no later than 8:40am.

Runners can register online at www.final stretch.com Race day registration is 7:15-8:45am at the church.

Proceeds from the Big Woods Run are donated to local charities. Over \$150,000 has been donated in the 25 years of the event.

Vang Lutheran Church ANNUAL LUTEFISK AND NORWEGIAN MEATBALL SUPPER

Vang Lutheran Church 2060 Ctv. 49 Blvd. Dennison, MN 55018

Wednesday, October 11th Tickets are \$20.00



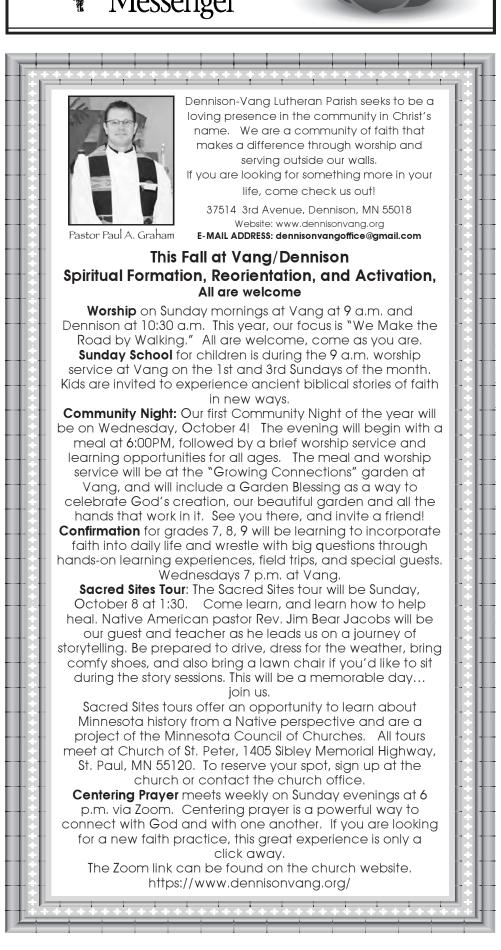
Meal Includes: Lutefisk with melted butter, Norwegian Meatballs with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Cole Slaw, Fruit Soup, Lefse and Norwegian Baking's

We have our traditional meal packaged to deliver or pick up and enjoy at work or home.

Home or business delivery and curbside pick up 11:00-2:00pm/4:00-7:00pm Pre-orders required with credit card by 10/6/23.

> Call or email for reservations 507-789-5186 vanglutefisk@gmail.com





September, 2023

Community

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Harvest Fiber Festival

(continued from page 1)

There also will a food truck, bake shop, and pie for the people to graze, games and crafts for kids to do and learn about fiber and life on the farm.

All this free, family fun will take place at the Harvest Hill Acres farm (7477 400th Street, Dennison MN, 55018) near Cannon Falls. Dean and Diana Treangen are the owners of this farm.

Event Details:

Dates: September 30 & October 1, 2023 (rain or shine)

Times: Saturday, 9/30: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 10/1: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Activities:

• 20 fiber arts and other vendors from Minnesota (many local), Wisconsin, Iowa and even Texas.

- Free games and crafts for kids
- Live animal viewing
- Fiber Craft Demos
- Walk the Llamas (\$5.00 fee)
- Food Truck
- Farmers Market on SUNDAY

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the Treangens to pivot. In 2020, they both lost their jobs. At that point, Dean chose to retire and dedicate his time to tending to the farm fulltime. Diana redirected her efforts to turn a fiber hobby into a sustainable agriculture



business opportunity.

The craft room connected to the barn became a yarn store. The fiber from their sheep and llamas are used in the products produced on the farm. Vendors are friends and local producers in the area. Each year, the festival becomes a community event for two groups. The local communities and their children, fun, and free and learning about agriculture with sheep as their teachers. The fiber community, continues to thrive in Minnesota and many of the volunteers at this event are people, that come to this farm during the year just to knit. The Harvest Fiber Festival now in its third year.

For more info and daily updates, check out the Harvest Hill Acres Facebook page. Or their website www.harvesthillacres.com







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If we missed your name, please accept our apology. Your support is appreciated.

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

NH+C Consolidates Clinic Services

Northfield Hospital + Clinics is consolidating its Lonsdale Clinic practice with the Northfield and Lakeville clinics.

The Lonsdale Clinic will relocate services in November. November 17 will be the last clinic day. Patients can continue to see their same providers in NH+C's Northfield or Lakeville clinics.

This does not affect other clinic operations at NH+C.

Patients are being notified directly. If you are a patient of the clinic and you have questions, call Nicole Strusz-Mueller, Director of Clinics, at 507-646-1003.

"We're confident that we can serve the Lonsdale community well with our Northfield and Lakeville clinics, our two Urgent Cares, and all hospital services," says NH+C President & CEO Steve Underdahl. "We're committed to making this a smooth transition for patients."

Primary care provider Gregory Randall, MD will see patients in the Lakeville Clinic.

OB/GYN specialist Deb Suppes, MD will see patients in the Women's Health Center on the Northfield Hospital campus. Dr. Suppes continues to perform surgeries at Northfield Hospital, and deliver babies at the Birth Center. Jane Carlson, APRN, CNP will see patients in the Lakeville Clinic.

NH+C plans to sell the building at 103 15th Avenue Southeast in Lonsdale.

The consolidation is part of an overall review of services at NH+C to ensure the organization can serve the community for generations to come. NH+C – like healthcare organizations across the state – faces significant challenges. NH+C lost several million dollars in 2022 as expenses significantly outpaced revenue from services.

This is one step to address the gap between revenue and expenses. NH+C Administrators and Board expect to complete their review of service lines and take any further actions by yearend. No other adjustments to clinic services are planned.

NH+C's Administration and Board consider several criteria as they analyze service lines: finances, mission, and commitment to serving local communities.

Healthcare organizations across the U.S. are under serious pressure from four converging trends: worker shortages; increased costs; flat payments; imbalance of government and private payors. Similar actions are occurring across the state and around the country.

"An organization can't sustain ongoing heavy losses and continue to operate effectively," Underdahl says. "We do need to make sound business decisions so we can continue to thrive into the next generation." NH+C opened its Lonsdale Clinic in 2005.



Tractor Supply Comes to Dundas

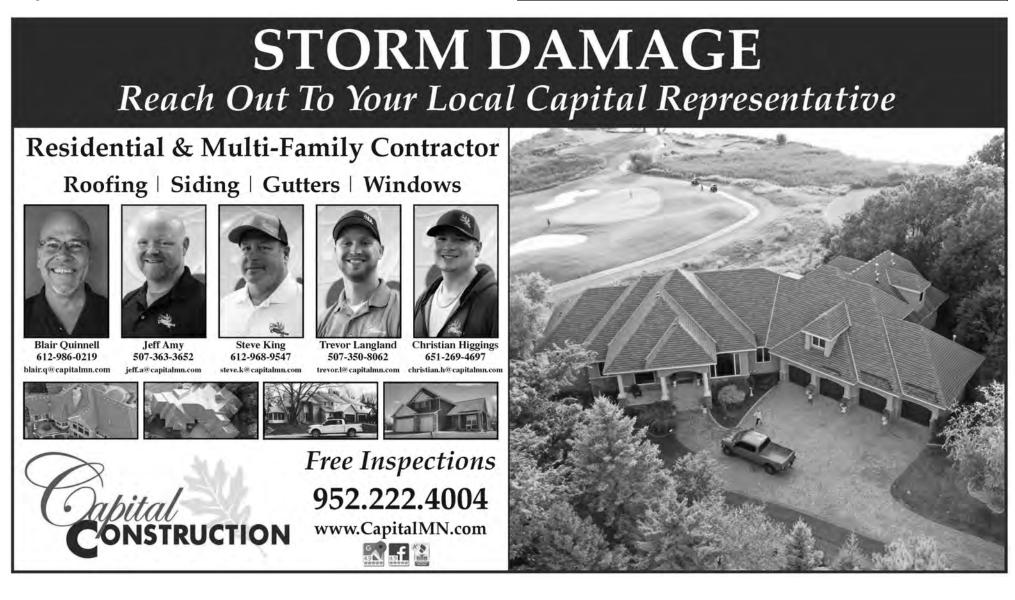
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The business was operated from the founder's home in Chicago before opening the first store in Minot, North Dakota in 1940. This location was selected because it was halfway between customers in Saskatchewan, Canada and Texas. By 2011 there were 1,000 Tractor Supply stores and the number has swelled to 2,000 ten years later. The average TSC store covers 20,000 sq. ft.

Tractor Supply stores provide a one-stop shop for the community, serving farmers, livestock and pet owners, ranchers, part-time and hobby farmers, gardeners, homeowners and others. Tractor Supply customers can access a wide range of products including pet supplies, animal feed, propane tanks, fencing, tools and outdoor power equipment, apparel, gifts and decor and more. The stores carry top brands, such as Purina, Carhartt, Blue Buffalo, Makita and Hobart, as well as products exclusive to Tractor Supply. As part of the company's ongoing evolution to continually meet customer needs, select Tractor Supply stores around the country feature a garden center that includes live goods and seasonal items for everyone from novice gardeners to professional landscapers.

Tractor Supply actively participates in their communities by supporting local animal shelters, area 4-H clubs, FFA chapters and more.

TSC is known for staffing helpful and knowledgeable employees at their stores and will be hiring in the area. Wages start at \$28,000.



September, 2023

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER

Rice County Dairy Princess Wins Princess Kay of the Milky Way Title

September, 2023

(continued from page 1)

Emma is the sixth generation to live and work on the family dairy farm 120 years ago.

Emma related that she didn't remember hearing her name called during the coronation ceremony and didn't realize that she had won until she felt Rachel (last year's Princess Kay) place the crown on her head. Her next two days were full of media interviews and the customary posing for the Princess Kay butter sculpture at the state fair dairy building. She will be representing the state dairy industry for the next year including the 1,850 dairy farmers, like her family, who produce milk and dairy products used nationwide. There will be up to ninety appearances through out the state like school visits, in-



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Northwood Pines residents have access to an array of campus amenities, including:

- Spiritual care and Chapel services
- Fitness facilities and exercise classes
- Media center including local newspapers
- Salon for hair and nail services
- Movie theater with scheduled showings



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for availability and to schedule a campus visit.
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dustry events and breakfasts on the farm. Emma also intends to be back home on the weekends, when possible, to help with the work on the farm and stay connected with her family.

The Kuball family has enjoyed a couple other princesses in the family as her sister Kelsey was a finalist in 2021 and her aunt was a finalist in 2002.

Wisconsin - River Falls where she will graduate in 2026 to pursue a career in agriculture education. Her plans are to be a high school ag teacher.

As for the 90-pound block of butter carved in her likeness, Emma plans to hold a sweet corn feed next year and share the butter with all the guests present. Her brother Keegan raises sweet corn and is planning a special crop for the event.

Emma is a sophomore at the University of

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Apple Orchard in the Valley



(continued from page 1)

You can stop by the orchard and visit from noon to 6pm everyday through November 3rd. They are located at 37750 41st Avenue Way just ³/₄ mile east of highway 56 on Goodhue County Road 9.





- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Inc. 48th Annual Tractor Show

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Special Golf Event to Support Domestic Violence Awareness Month

LAKE CITY, MN – The Jewel Golf Club in Lake City is hosting a special golf event to raise awareness about domestic violence and thank first responders for their service to the public on Friday, October 13, 2023. This is a 4-player scramble with a 10 AM shotgun start. Entry fee is \$100 per player (\$75 for Jewel members) and includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, range balls, on-course contests with prizes and donation to HOPE Coalition. The public is invited and proceeds benefit HOPE Coalition's domestic violence office in Wabasha County. Reservations are available through the Jewel Golf Club. A large community bake sale is part of the event.

The golf tournament is specifically in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. According to the National Institute of Health, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men are victims of domestic violence. The event aims to shed light on the traumatic effects of domestic violence, which can have generational repercussions. The golf event is also expressing gratitude to first responders for their unwavering dedication to the public. In 2022, 23 people in Minnesota lost their lives from domestic violence according to Violence Free Minnesota. Sergeant Bill Weist of the Lake City MN Police Department shares, "We have experienced first-hand the profound impact of domestic violence with the loss of Officer Shawn Schneider in 2011. His loss was devastating to his family."

The tournament will have live on-course scoring using the Golf Genius App. Brett Bergschneider, representative from The Jewel shares, "We are honored to host this golf fundraiser in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Together we can raise awareness, foster change and build a safer community." Reservations can be made directly through the Jewel Golf Club, 651-345-2672, Ext. 3. https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/94160431 86951848804

HOPE Coalition is an advocacy organization helping people in crisis rebuild their lives from domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, or lack of basic needs. HOPE serves people in Goodhue and Wabasha Counties, plus western Pierce County, WI. The Wabasha outreach office is at 251 W. Main St., and is available at 651-565-4112. HOPE has a 24-hour crisis line for those experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault at 800-369-5214.

The Jewel Golf Club in Lake City offers a unique golf experience. The course winds throughout 800 acres of the picturesque Mississippi River Valley, overlooking the river town of Lake City. The tournament date in October offers spectacular fall foliage of the river bluffs and valley. The Jewel features a three-stage practice facility, golf shop and full service restaurant and bar.

The Rice County Steam and Gas Engines, Inc. is a non-profit organization

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Keep our farms safe with these important and helpful safety tips.

- Make yourself easy for drivers to see by using your lights and flashers;
- Remember that it is Minnesota law to use slow-moving vehicle emblems on equipment traveling less than 30 miles per hour; and
- Consider using a following vehicle when moving large equipment on roadways, especially at night.
- Get Some Sleep Make sure to get enough sleep and rest to refresh the mind and body. If you are spending long hours in a combine or tractor, be sure to take short breaks often.
- Don't Rush It may take an extra moment or two to walk down every step or double-check a piece of equipment. But that extra time may be a lifesaver. Don't cut corners when it comes to safety.
- Identify hazardous areas on equipment and make sure you stay away from moving parts. Beware of pinch points, shear points, wrap points, pull-in areas, thrown objects, crush points, stored energy hazards and freewheeling parts.
- Shut down equipment, turn off the engine, remove key and wait for moving parts to stop before dismounting equipment.
- Lock entrances to grain handling areas.
- Install ladders inside bins.
- Do not enter grain bins that are being loaded or unloaded. Flowing grain can trap and suffocate you in seconds.
- If it is necessary to enter a bin, shut off and lockout power before entering. Use a safety harness and safety line. Have several people available outside the bin to lift entrant out in case of an emergency.
- Wear proper dust-filtering respirators when working in and around grain handling areas. High amounts of dust and molds could be present and could be very dangerous.

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Additional Species Added to Minnesota Noxious Weed Lists



By Kourtney Spitzack, District Technician

If you own property, you have probably battled weeds or some kind of invasive species at one point. There have been new species added to Minnesota's Noxious Weed List at the start of 2023. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Noxious & Invasive Weed Program's goal is "to protect Minnesota's citizens, economy, and agricultural and natural resources from the negative impacts of invasive plants and noxious weeds" (MDA, 2023).

Through the State of Minnesota's Noxious Weed Law, the MDA maintains four categories, which include prohibited eradicate, prohibited control, restricted noxious weeds, and specially regulated plants. There is also a Federal Noxious Weed list and some counties have designated noxious weeds that are prohibited within the listed counties. With the MDA list update in 2023, the only category that did not have any new additions was the prohibited control list. Please keep in mind that the species listed on these lists cannot be sold, transported or imported into the state, except as allowed by permit under Minnesota Statute §18.82.

Species on the Prohibited Eradicate Noxious Weeds list must be eradicated where ever they are found in the State of Minnesota. They must not be sold or propagated in the state and all above and below ground parts of these plants must be destroyed. These plants are categorized as not widely established throughout the state yet or have not yet been found. The new species added to the Prohibited Eradicate list includes Johnsongrass (Sorghum halepense L.), Pale swallow-wort (Cyanchum rossicum Kleopow) and Red hailstone (Thladiantha dubia Bunge).

Restricted Noxious Weeds are plants that are already widely found throughout the state, where it would not be feasible to eradicate or control them using current practices. These plants cannot be sold, imported or transported illegally within the state. Additions to this list include Amur silvergrass (Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Maxim.) Franch.), Lesser celandine (Ficaria verna L.) and Saltcedar (Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb.). Amur corktree (Phellodendron amurense





From left to right: Johnsongrass (Sorghum halepense L.) by Barry Rice, sarracenia.com, Bugwood.org, Pale swallow-wort (Cyanchum rossicum Kleopow) by Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org, and Red hailstone (Thladiantha dubia Bunge) by Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Rupr.), Callery pear (Pyrus calleryana Decne.) and Tatarian maple (Acer tataricum L.) are all new species that were added to the Specially Regulated Plants list. This list includes noxious weeds that may be nonnative or native species. They might have demonstrated economic value, but also carry the potential to cause harm in environments where they have not been controlled. These plants should be eradicated, controlled or handled according to specific regulations listed on MDA's website. Overall, it is important to stay up-to-date with these lists yearly to see if there have been any revisions. Visit https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list to learn information on the background, description, habitat, means of spread and distribution, impact, prevention and management, toxicity and other miscellaneous information on all of the listed species.

(continued on page 11)



well as team building followed by a picnic dinner!

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September, 2023

September, 2023

Community

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Additional Species Added to Minnesota **Noxious Weed Lists**

(continued from page 10)

If you ever find one of these species on your property, please remember to report it on the "Report-a-Pest" website at https://www.mda.state.mn.us/reportapest.

They rely on Minnesotans to act as volunteers to help report potential threats that may impact Minnesota's crops, forests, and prairie land. You can also learn about Rice County's invasive species on our website at http://www.riceswcd.org/invasive-speciesand-noxious-weeds/.

Kourtney Spitzack is a District Technician with the Rice Soil & Water Conservation District. She assists landowners with buffer implementation and with the district's cover crop and custom interseeding programs. Contact Kourtney with your questions at 507-332-5408.

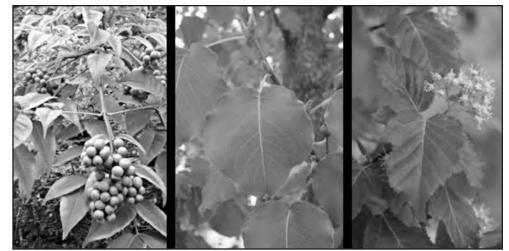
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From left to right: Amur silvergrass (Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Maxim.) Franch.) by Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org, Lesser celandine (Ficaria verna L.) by Richard Gardner, Bugwood.org and Saltcedar (Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb.) by Eric Coombs, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org.



From left to right: Amur corktree (Phellodendron amurense Rupr.) by Ansel Oommen, Bugwood.org, Callery pear (Pyrus calleryana Decne.) by Chuck Bargeron, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org, and Tatarian maple (Acer tataricum L.) by Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org.

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66



Tools, Lawn & Garden Tools Husky 15 Drawer Toolbox with Lift Top: Craftsman 16 Draw Top, Middle & Bottom Toolbox: Campbell Hausfeld Mig/Flux-Corr Welder 120AMP: Lincoln AC-225 Welder: Excalibur: 3 Ton Engine Hoist ** Craftsman 19.2Volt Lithium Drills, Drivers. Impact, Grinder; Porter Cable 20V Lithium Drill & Impact; Craftsman 14, 378 & 1/2 Socket Sets. Standard & Metric, Ratchets. Extensions & Braker Bars; Impact Grinders & Die Grinders; Alemite 12 Volt Grease Gun; Hussyama 450 Chain Saw; Stall BR800C Backpack Blower; Leaf Blowers & Weed Whips; Titan Advantage 200 Paint Sprayer: Excell1 3 Gal. 2HP Air Compressor; Milwaukee Sawzall; Craftsman 7: Circle Saw; Wood Clamps



Page II

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

September, 2023











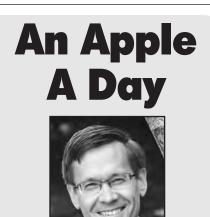
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Community

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS Licensed Nutritionist

In last month's article, I presented a solution to the increasing health challenge of Metabolic Syndrome. In that article, eight specific steps were recommended for beginning the process of reversing Metabolic Syndrome. The final step listed was "Eat an apple each day."

Share Your Good News with the Community! Submit your engagement, wedding or birth announcement Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com You probably have heard the rhyme, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." But what does an apple really do for you? Does any apple work, or only certain kinds? Let's dig a little deeper.

Medications - A 2015 study published in JAMA Internal Medicine by Davis et al observed that those who consumed one apple a day required less prescription drugs. Those who eat one apple a day probably make other healthy choices as well that contribute to this positive association between apples and reduced drugs.

Heart Disease - A 2017 study published in Molecular Nutrition Food Research by Bondonno et al compared apples high in flavonoids, which are found in the apple skin, with apples low in flavonoids and observed improved blood flow through the brachial arteries when the high flavonoid apples were eaten. In other words, these apples improved the blood flow through the body. The apples with high flavonoid content will typically be darker red apples that are not too sweet.

Cholesterol - The healthy control of cholesterol has also been improved with an apple a day. A 2017 study in the Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture by GC Tenore compared modern apples with the Annurca apple and observed that two small Annurca apples a day significantly lowered the bad cholesterol and increased the good cholesterol. The Annurca apple is known for its higher flavonoid content. Older, heritage apples typically have high flavonoid and polyphenol content. Blood Sugar – Those individuals who had a daily intake of apple polyphenols, which are from the skin of the apple, had an improved ability to manage blood sugar compared to individuals who did not consume the polyphenols. This observation was reported in a 2017 study published in Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice by Shoji et al. One possible reason for this improved sugar control is the polyphenols seem to reduce the sugar absorption ability of the intestines by closing the primary "door" that sugar uses to pass through the intestines, according to Schulze et al in their 2014 published study in Molecular Nutrition and Food Research.

Colon Health – The ability of the polyphenols of apples to "close the door" on sugar transport to cells is one of the pathways to stop the growth of cancer cells in the colon, as observed in a 2016 study by Lin et al in the Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry. A cancer cell has many more "doors" to bring in sugar to accelerate growth, so polyphenols help to close these doors and inhibit the growth of cancer cells. The peeling of the apple contains the highest content of effective polyphenols with antioxidant activity, anti-bacterial activity, and anti-cancer activity, which was documented in a 2016 study by Lin et al in the Journal of Food Science.

The older apple varieties that have high polyphenol content include – Braeburn, Jonathan, McIntosh, Gravenstein, and Annurca. Avoid the newer varieties that have been bred for increased sugar content and

d size.

An apple a day is the eighth guideline followed in the Metabolic Balance Program®, a program developed 20 years ago in Germany. This program provides a personalized meal plan based on your unique blood chemistry. Those who have followed their personal Metabolic Balance Plan have observed blood sugar levels become controlled, cholesterol levels improve, inflammation decreased, acid reflux disappear, and the body shifts to a healthy weight.

If you would like to learn more about the foods that help you thrive, join me for a LIVE event series planned for September 11, 18, and 25. I will be presenting "PRIORITY FOODS: Protein, Fats, and Carbohydrates" at FiftyNorth in Northfield at 6:30 pm each Monday evening. You can register by calling the Front Desk at (507) 664-3700.

In this seminar series, we will talk about:

- What proteins are the efficient proteins and how much you need

- What fats are good fats and what fats are bad fats

- What Carbohydrates (sugar) is good for you and what to avoid

- How much of each category should you consume

- What foods will bring real satisfaction in a meal

If you would prefer to meet for a personal consultation, you can contact me at nutritionproportion@gmail.com, or check out my website at www.nutritionproportion.net





"The Little Store with More!"

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Talking Fall and Winter **Allergies** with U of M

By University of Minnesota

As the crisp autumn air ushers in a new season, many people look forward to the beauty of changing leaves and the cozy comforts of fall and winter. However, for those prone to allergies, seasonal changes can bring a different set of challenges.

John Moore, MD, with the University of Minnesota Medical School and M Health Fairview, shares an introduction to fall and winter allergies, including their causes, common symptoms and effective management strategies.

Q: Can you explain the difference between fall and winter allergies? What are the common triggers for each season?

Dr. Moore: In the fall, the typical allergens are weeds and mold. The most common weed is called ragweed. This usually starts in August and peaks in September. and sticks around until it gets really cold, usually in November or December. The amount of mold in the air can change depending on the weather. If it's rainy, humid or windy, the mold levels can go up. Even thunderstorms can make it worse.

In the winter, when everything outside is frozen, we tend to have allergies to things inside our homes. This includes pets — like cats or dogs - dust mites and cockroaches. Not everyone has to worry about cockroachesit depends on where you live, though some apartment buildings or schools may have them regardless of your location.

Q: What is the connection between fall and winter allergies and other respiratory condi-

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tions, such as asthma? How do these conditions interact and affect each other?

Dr. Moore: The connection between allergies and asthma is called the "one airway hypothesis." This means when the nose is inflamed from allergies, it can also inflame the lungs, which can then trigger asthma symptoms. These symptoms might include coughing, feeling out of breath or wheezing. In general, exposure to more allergens makes asthma symptoms worse.

In my work, I aim to manage both allergies and asthma symptoms. If we only address one and not the other, it can still trigger asthma, which is why it's important to acknowledge the connection between them. About 40% or more of allergy patients also have asthma. When people come in for a diagnosis, we often ask about both conditions because they're often linked.

Q: How can you tell the difference between allergies, colds and COVID?

Dr. Moore: To start, allergies usually bring about itchy eyes, a runny nose, congestion and sometimes a cough. They shouldn't cause a fever. If you have a fever, it's more likely a sign of a viral illness like COVID or a cold. The extreme tiredness that can come with COVID or the flu is uncommon with allergies. While allergies can make you feel a bit tired, it's not the same overwhelming exhaustion you get from viruses. Muscle pains and aches are another sign more associated with viral illnesses like COVID, colds or the flu.

Loss of taste and smell is not something typically seen with allergies. Allergy symptoms also stick around for months if you're consistently exposed, whereas most viral illnesses usually last a week or two before getting better.

Q: What are some strategies for preventing or treating fall and winter allergies? Are there any lifestyle changes or precautions individuals can take?

Dr. Moore: Dealing with fall allergies can be challenging, especially concerning pollen.

For advertising information call Terry at

507-951-7417 or email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com In the allergy clinic, we suggest using air conditioning instead of opening windows at home and keeping car windows up. If you spend a lot of time outdoors during the fall, it's a good idea to rinse off in the shower before bed to wash away any pollen you might have picked up.

As for winter allergies, they mainly come from indoor irritants. If you're allergic to dust mites, there are unique covers for mattresses and pillows that can help keep them away. Lowering humidity can also make a difference, as dust mites thrive in humid conditions. Regular cleaning, like vacuuming and using air filters - especially if you're allergic to dust mites or pets - can be beneficial.

There are medications available, many of which you can get over the counter. For example, antihistamines, nasal steroids and eye drops can provide relief. For a more longterm solution, there's allergy immunotherapy - like allergy shots - which work on the root of the problem rather than just easing the symptoms.

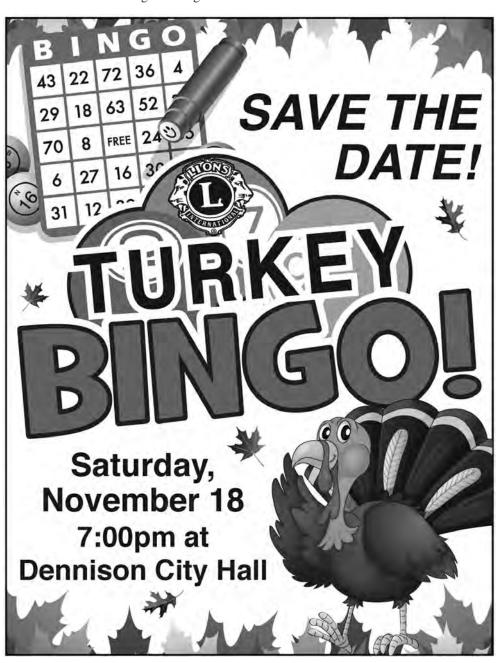
Q: What do you find most fulfilling about your role as a doctor and a University of Minnesota faculty member, and how does it contribute to improving your outpatient outcomes?

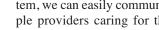
Dr. Moore: One of the great things about

working at M Physicians is the fantastic teamwork among healthcare providers. Thanks to our electronic medical record system, we can easily communicate with multiple providers caring for the same patient. This is especially beneficial for patients with overlapping health issues, as we can tap into the expertise of various specialists. I've been fortunate to receive responses to my messages on the same day, allowing me to make immediate adjustments to their care.

The collaborative effort among specialists, general practitioners and internal medicine providers is truly valuable. Being able to update them on any unexpected findings or changes in a patient's condition helps ensure smooth ongoing care. It can be quite challenging when you're not within the same system, but having a messaging system that allows timely responses has been highly beneficial and rewarding.

Dr. John Moore is an allergy and immunology physician at the University of Minnesota Medical School and M Health Fairview. His clinical interests include asthma, atopic dermatitis and eczema, cough, drug allergy, environmental allergies, food allergies, hives and urticaria and chronic sinusitis.





September, 2023

SMIF

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

Creating a Sense of Belonging



Tim Penny So. MN Initiative Foundation

Creating a sense of belonging in rural Minnesota can enhance the overall quality of life for everyone who lives there. By embracing different perspectives, cultures and ideas, rural Minnesota can build stronger, more thriving communities. At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), we offer several grant opportunities to support inclusive initiatives in the communities of our 20county region to help make everyone feel welcome.

Several years ago, SMIF became a member of Welcoming America, joining many other organizations and communities in our region which are dedicated to making southern Minnesota a welcoming place for all. We were excited to see many of our partners in our region celebrating the nationwide Welcoming Week in early September. One of the organizations that was very active during this time was B.E. Welcoming based out of Blue Earth. SMIF has supported the organization with two Small Town Grants. They organized a number of programs throughout the week, including a community bonfire, a story walk and inclusive yard signs to celebrate the people who make Blue Earth what it is.

Many of the inclusive programs that SMIF supports are focused on children in our region. SMIF's Early Care and Education Grant, which is currently open, helps fund early care and education services for children birth to age five, including initiatives which support underserved and diverse populations. During the previous grant round, Healthy Community Initiatives in Northfield used their grant for community outreach to promote local programming that helps low-income and BIPOC families prepare young children for kindergarten. The Rochester Montessori School used their grant to design weekly lessons for small groups using culturally relevant stories and activities for diverse classrooms. To learn more about this grant, visit smifoundation.org/earlycaregrant and apply by October 2.

We are also excited to open up a special round of SMIF's Inclusive and Equitable Communities Grant in late October. This grant supports initiatives which will build inclusive, welcoming entrepreneurial environ-

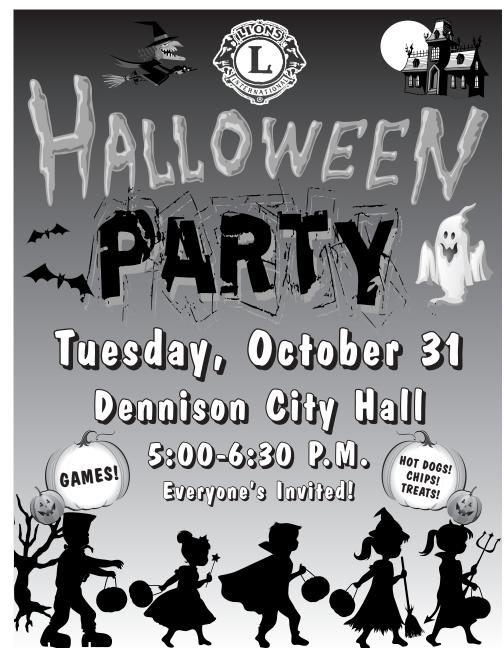


ments and opportunities, especially for BIPOC individuals and/or immigrants or refugees. Earlier this year, the Council of Churches Refugee Services in Mankato was awarded an IEC Grant to support small business leadership skills and engage in crosscultural learning. The Owatonna Public Schools is using their IEC Grant to provide immigrants and BIPOC adults the opportunity to learn more about how to successfully

launch a small business. Look for details about this grant on our website in a few weeks at smifoundation.org/inclusive.

Belonging begins with us. We can all help make southern Minnesota a welcoming place for all.

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



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- MAINSTREET MESSENGER-

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By Shauna Burshem, D.C.

Snoring (hated by wives around the world & some husbands, LOL) is a common sign of sleep apnea. Sleep apnea is when your body stops breathing for a short amount of time, while sleeping. Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is the typical form. OSA comes from the airway being blocked during sleep. Untreated OSA is linked to heart disease and neurological brain function complications as well as an increased risk of early death. Untreated sleep apnea also increases your risk of diabetes, high blood pressure, irregular heart beat and stroke. A medical study found that 1 in 5 people with sleep apnea had OSA, but only 3.5% of the participants were ever treated for it. 37.2% had severe snoring and 14.6% also had excessive daytime sleepiness. Non-surgical treatments include Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP), positional therapy, use of oral appliances, nasal resistors, oropharyngeal exercises, and

behavioral measures, including weight loss when indicated, frequent physical exercise, avoidance of alcohol and sedative medication before bedtime. Chiropractors that are trained in the use of Nasal Release Technique can check the nasal passages for obstruction and restore proper nasal pathways.

Vaping has been marketed as healthier alternative to cigarette smoking and a way to help people quit smoking. Sadly, the e-cigarette marketing has misled thousands of people that vaping is a healthier option. Chemical analysis has found that e-cigarettes contain liquids, aerosols, cartridges and heating coils that contain many toxic and carcinogenic ingredients. The chemical polonium-210 is one of the reasons that tobacco causes cancer. Polonium-210 is also found in e-cigarettes and can cause lung cancer as well. E-cigs also contain toxic metals like lead, aluminum, arsenic, cobalt and tin. In addition, when the chemicals in e-cigs are heated they produce toxic formaldehyde as well as other toxic aldehydes.

One of the most common childhood surgeries is tonsillectomy. Tonsils used to be thought of as useless tissue, but in reality they are integral to the development of the immune system. The surgery is recommended for treatment of reoccurring, chronic or severe tonsillitis. There are risks associated with the surgery which include increased risk of childhood asthma, frequent flu infections and chances of pneumonia. An alternative to tonsillectomy is a partial removal. Partial removal reduces post operative bleeding and pain. Leaving a portion of

the tonsils may help to prevent chronic respiratory conditions.

An estimated 40 million Americans, about 18% of the population struggle with anxiety. While many factors contribute to anxiety, recent research suggests that anxiety is inherited from your parents. Animal research shows that two brain regions involved in processing fear and anxiety can be passed down to your children. Another factor in the increase of anxiety is the rise in chronic microwave radiation exposure from wireless technology. Research shows that exposure to this type of radiation from cell phones, Ipads, laptops and video gaming and other blue tooth technology can have a direct influence on your mental health.

90% of sea salt sold worldwide contains plastic. This makes perfect sense as our oceans are full of plastic from garbage dumping, storms and run-off from streets. Researchers feel that most people consume 2,000 particles of plastic in sea salt per year. This fact coincides with a recent study that I reported on stating that plastic was found in 100% of human stool samples of people tested. Your best option is to avoid regular sea salt and only use "real" Himalayan sea salt. Himalayan sea salt was created long before the environment was polluted by plastics and chemical toxins.



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September, 2023

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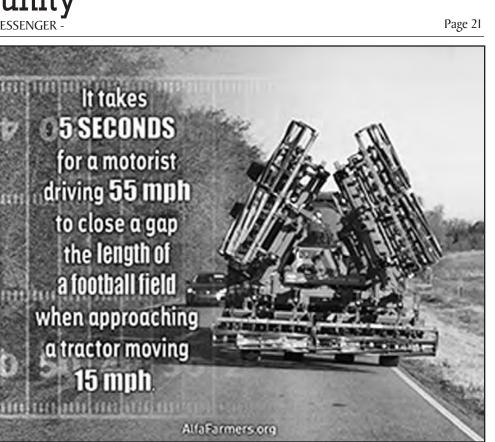


Fall is in the air and with the cooler weather comes changing leaves, shorter days and harvest season. It's a busy time of year on the road with more farm equipment and the hustle and bustle of students returning to school and afterschool activities. It can be easy to become distracted when juggling work and kids, but it is important to stay alert behind the wheel to be sure that everyone makes it home safely.

Motorists:

Slow down and use caution when approaching farm equipment. Don't assume the





equipment operator can see you. Watch for debris dropped by farm equipment.

Wait for a safe place to pass. Drive with headlights on.

Farm equipment operators:

Use lights and flashers to make equipment more visible

Use slow-moving vehicle emblems on equipment traveling less than 30 mph.

Avoid encouraging or signaling motorists to pass. Pull over when safe and let traffic pass. Consider using a follow vehicle when moving equipment, especially at night.

Pick up any debris left on the highway by the equipment.

Please remember to watch for slow-moving farm equipment. Be patient, be kind and share the road. Together, we can drive Minnesota toward zero deaths.



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Neighbors

Fire Guts Hastings Creamery

Courtesy of Bruce Karnick bruce@hastingsjournal.news

The Hastings community received a collective blow to the midsection Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 10:34 p.m. The call came in reporting an 11-alarm fire at the now-closed Hastings Creamery at 1701 Vermillion Street. By the time crews arrived on the scene, large plumes of black smoke could be seen emanating from the building. By 11 p.m. when the Journal arrived on the scene, the flames had enveloped the entire middle of the property and multiple agencies set up to play defense until the fire was brought under control. They did not gain control until around 2 a.m.

The fire at the manufacturing plant comes as part of a long, drama-filled end of 2022 and all of 2023 for the creamery and its owners, 3D LLC. Wastewater problems began to surface late in 2022 according to a 34-page report filed by the Met Council back in June of 2023. Those problems carried into this year and ultimately led to the disconnection of the creamery from the city sewer lines on June 4.

What followed for the creamery reportedly caused a financial strain that could not be overcome. The plant was forced to pump all of its waste into large temporary tanks on site and those tanks were pumped empty and hauled to an offsite location. That process cost the creamery roughly \$7,000 per day according to former president Justin Malone. In total, Malone said that they had spent nearly \$750,000 to gain compliance with Met Council's wishes. Those efforts failed and on August 18, 2023, the 113-year-old business shut its doors. The same fate hit the newly constructed Dairy Store.

The closure brought with it a plethora of action on site for the next few weeks. The wastewater pumps and tanks were removed from the exterior, and it looked like many of the supplies and processing machines were removed from inside the plant with several semis loaded and hauled away. The action looked to last around a week or so and seemed to have wrapped up over a week before the fire.

Fast forward to the night of Sept. 13 when the call came into Hastings Fire Department (HFD) about a fire at the creamery. It did not take long for the fire to fully engulf the building in flames resulting in the mutual aid call going out to several departments in the area. There was also a concern about potential chemicals being in the plant, primarily ammonia.

A Dakota County Sheriff Officer (DCSO) on the scene suggested everyone stay back and definitely stay out of the path of the smoke that was low-hanging band blowing directly across the street down 17th Street West. He then mentioned that there was talk of a shelter in place order going out to residents west of Vermillion Street in the affected area.

The smoke covered both the Dairy Store and Kwik Trip and ultimately forced the closure of Kwik Trip for the night. Because of the smoke crossing Vermillion Street and the need to keep the street open for emergency vehicles, Vermillion Street was closed at County Road 47 to the south and 15th Street to the north, a nearly half-mile stretch of road.

The shelter-in-place order that was issued shortly after the discussion with DCSO and Fire Marshal Al Storlie. The order was issued for neighborhoods within a five-block radius because of the chemical content of the smoke. That was extended to one mile after reports of smoke had come from residents in homes behind Cub Foods. The shelter in place order was initially communicated through the City of Hastings notification system via the Everbridge app with subsequent reports going out via local media's social media channels, including the Facebook live videos via the Hastings Journal's page.

"We did have some ammonia releasing when we got here," explained Chief John Townsend at a press conference. "We notified the Dakota County Special Operations Team for their hazmat capabilities. They



This loading dock was primarily used by trucks returning to the creamery with empty crates when the creamery was in operation. As you can see from the image, there are piles and piles of cardboard boxes on the docks that added to the fuel for the fire. Photo by Bruce Karnick



The fire raged at the Hastings Creamery. One major concern for onlookers was the embers floating in the air reaching neighboring properties including the barn at the LeDuc Mansion. Photo by Bruce Karnick



An overhead shot of the most severely damaged portion of the Hastings Creamery. The roof collapsed in this area as it was one of the hottest spots in the fire. This is where a good portion of the production was done at the plant. For reference, the photo through the side door is through the closed door on the upper portion of this image.

came out, did some monitoring, isolated some valves and stopped any release that we had. Then they also went around to the neighborhoods, checked some neighboring businesses and checked for levels of ammonia and other contaminants and they didn't find anything. Certainly, the residents on the west side of 61 had some smoke smells and things like that. They were advised to shelter in place, you know, shut off their air conditioners, shut their windows and doors, those types of things. Stay as they tolerated, if they couldn't tolerate it, they were asked to move on. Fortunately, the hazmat team was able to mitigate and make sure that those things were safe."

At one point, the fire was raging through the midsection of the creamery when something inside popped, followed by a very distinctive hiss which caused the flames to billow a solid 20-30 feet above the roof. Shortly after that, crews were able to gain Photo provided by Mike Bremer of HCTV.

some ground on the fire, but they maintained a defensive mode well into the morning.

"Because of the potential for collapse and eventual collapse of the ceiling, we were in a defensive mode. It may have looked to someone watching as offensive because we are very busy doing that, but what we would call defensive mode, which means we're not putting anybody inside the structure. We were using master streams from ladders and larger streams through the different access ways and try and get a handle on it that way to keep our staff safe," added Townsend.

Around 1a.m. the fire was being visibly knocked back and becoming smaller. By 2 a.m. the flames were no longer visible from the ground level, but crews stayed overnight with many of the First Responders working in shifts to get brief naps in so they could get back to the fight including crews from the multiple agencies that responded to the mutual aid call. (continued on page 23)

September, 2023

Neighbors & Local Government

Fire Guts Hastings Creamery

(continued from page 22)

"They were here all night long, worked through a number of shifts and did a lot of great work for this community. They helped us out as we would do for them if they called us. We are pretty fortunate to have that. We had a large number of agencies at this event. We are thankful for all of them," said Townsend.

Thankfully, with a total of 11 fire departments, two ambulance teams, four law enforcement groups and Xcel Energy responding to the event, not one person was injured. In the early morning, Kwik Trip brought the entire group breakfast sandwiches and beverages to help keep them hydrated, including sports drinks.

Chief Townsend spoke around 10:45 a.m. and near the end of the press conference, he gave a rundown of the rest of the day for his team.

"Right now, investigators are looking at some spots in the scene, then we will start working on making sure all the hotspots are out, and we'll do what we need to do to do that. Then from there, it's just a matter of making the space safe while the building owner and owners of the place work through getting it taken care of," he said.

Making it safe meant calling in the DCSO Drone Team to use their thermal camera to look for additional hot spots and then using an excavator to knock down some walls to access the hot spots. The concern was the unique construction in a building that has been around for over 110 years and the materials used in the last century to upgrade and expand the building.

It is uncommon in this kind of situation for a fire to rekindle or reignite after the initial fire is out, but it does happen, especially when the combination of old materials, unique combinations of small spaces that are covered up due to expansions and the inability to access those nooks and crannies due to the massive amount of debris in the way.

The crews did a great job of working the building to prevent the chance of a rekindle, but the combination of the above perfect conditions happened and there was a rekindle Saturday afternoon. Around 3:45 p.m., the Journal was notified of the rekindle as there was more smoke seen coming from the creamery which resulted in another trip to the building for the fire department. They placed a mutual aid call to Cottage Grove just in case things grew quickly, but they were able to extinguish everything much quicker than the first blaze. By 4:30 p.m., the situation was under control.

The Thursday morning investigation did lead firefighters to the spot where they believe the fire started but it did not lead them to a cause yet and no official report has been given on either because both are still under investigation. The cause may never be

City of Nerstrand Budget Meeting August 22, 2023 PRESENT: Mayor Evavold, Councilors Harris, Pfleger, Gernandt ALSO PRESENT: Public Works Superintendent Steve McDowell, Interim City Clerk Sandra Borders **ABSENT:** Councilor Kevin O'Brien PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Councilor Gernandt requested that Resolutions 2023-07 and 2023-08, and resignation of Fire Fighter Jake Rahman that were approved/accepted at the August 9th meeting be acted on as separate motions. Resolution 2023-07 Resignation of Dana Jans. MOTION: Motion was made by Gernandt, seconded by Harris to approve Resolution 2023-07 as presented. Ayes: Evavold, Harris, Pfleger, Gernandt Nays: None Resolution 2023-08 Donation from Dennison Lions Club for the Fire Department. MOTION: Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Pfleger to approve Resolution 2023-08 as presented. Nays: None Ayes: Evavold, Harris, Pfleger, Gernandt Approval of resignation of fire fighter Jake Rahman. MOTION: Motion was made by Gernandt, seconded by Harris to approve resignation of fire fighter Jake Rahman as presented. Ayes: Gernandt, Evavold, Harris, Pfleger Nays: None Approval of Water Tank Inspection: McDowell presented a letter from KLM for them to do a water tank inspection. The cost of the inspection would be \$3500.00. MOTION: Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Gernandt to approve the invoice from KLM for the water tank inspection. Ayes: Evavold, Harris, Pfleger, Gernandt Navs: None Payment of Claims of August 22, 2023 in the amount of \$6,026.51 MOTION: Motion was made by Gernandt, seconded by Harris to approve the payment of claims as presented. Ayes: Evavold, Harris, Pfleger, Gernandt Navs: None Discussion of Proposed 2024 Budget: The council discussed the line items in the general fund 2023 budget and made changes as needed. Both revenues and expenditures were discussed. The next budget meeting will be held on August 29, at 6:30 pm. The sewer and water budgets will be discussed at that time. Updated reports will be presented at that time including the fire department budget. Respectfully Submitted Sandra Borders, Interim City Clerk Mayor Todd Evavold



Saturday afternoon there was a rekindling of the fire. Hastings and Cottage Grove were on the scene quickly to extinguish it within an hour of the initial call. *Photo courtesy of Stephen King*

known given the extent of the damage and debris inside the building. Late Thursday afternoon, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms joined the investigation.

As of press time Tuesday morning, no additional information was available from officials, but the city has asked that the emergency notification information be shared. If you are not currently on the emergency list with the city, you can join via this link by downloading the Everbridge app on your phone and then search for the 55033 zip code.

Here is the list of the multiple agencies and companies that assisted with the event.

Fire/EMS Hastings Fire Department Prescott Fire Department Cottage Grove Fire Department

Saint Paul Park Fire Department Newport Fire Department Randolph-Hampton Fire Department Miesville Fire Department Inver Grove Heights Fire Department Rosemount Fire Department Apple Valley Fire Department Farmington Fire Department Law Enforcement Hastings Police Department Dakota County Sheriff Minnesota State Patrol Dakota County Special Operations Team **Emergency Medical Services** Allina Health EMS River Falls MHealth Fairview EMS **Businesses** Kwik Trip XCEL Energy

Come See the Movies the Media Are Not Promoting

September 28:

"The Unseen Crisis: Vaccine Stories You Were Never Told" True story of those who trusted taking the vaccine with devastating consequences. When they asked for help, they were shunned, silenced instead of being heard. Join us as we bring their stories out of the shadows.

October 26: "Nefarious"

An eye-opening movie about evil and how it can become normal or accepted for our convenience. Is evil accepted in our normal day? *November 30: "The Shadow State"*

Who is really in control of our food, fuel, money, even freedom of speech? This documentary is about ESG, Environmental Social and Governance, that may soon affect our everyday life. This movie reveals the driving force of the global alliance and the multitrillion-dollar ESG industry that unites government and corporations.

Movies will be shown at the Cannon Falls Sportsman's Club, intersection of County 24 and Oxford Mill Road

Time : Doors open at 6:30 Movie starts at 7 pm

Admission: Donations accepted to cover cost of promotion & venue.

These movies are not suitable for children.

As Concerned Citizens, we feel as a community we need to learn and discuss the cultural issues that are headlines. Come watch these documentaries and movies. We would love to hear your thoughts. lack Schlichting 612-325-5528 or iackschlichting@gmail.com

Local Government

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

City of Dennison Regular Council Meeting July 13, 2023

The July Dennison City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeff Flaten on Thursday, July 13 2023 at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilors Heidi Cooke, Kaylyn Nygaard, Nichole Schloesser and Diane Ruddle, and clerk Jessica Page.

Councilor Ruddle move to approve the regular meeting minutes for June. Councilor Nygaard second. Motion passed 5:0. Councilor Schloesser move to approve the Treasurer's report. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

Old Business/Committee Reports/Building Permits: None

Todd Greseth: Mayor and Jess Greenwood working together to improve the intersection across 9 by Bank. Nothing decided at this point in time. Would bank put in a sidewalk on north side of Co Rd 9? JG suggested it might be in a 5 year plan.

Pay study done, some employees are being underpaid. So County will have to adjust pay scales, etc.

Administrative Issues:

1.Review estimates for street work. Dan Storlie, Bill Deutsch, Lenny Dohmen and Jeff met on 6-26 to look at catch basins, curbs and road dips. A map and list of areas emailed to the council. Received an estimate from Seykora Asphalt Maintenance & Paving to do crack sealing for \$18,842.00. Received a verbal estimate from Fahrner Asphalt for \$23,500 to do crack sealing. Would recommend crack sealing this summer or fall.

Lenny and Bill sent in estimates for these areas. Jeff wants to get numbers together for August meeting.

Diane move to approve asphalt crack sealing bid from seykora. Kaylyn 2nd. 5:0.

Matt Diane's friend who would be willing to work with the City to give the City some suggestions on what needs to be done, what can be put off, etc.

2.Catch basin on the corner of Goodhue Avenue and County Road 9, west side by Toby Kaiser's property, needs to be fixed. The asphalt road has collapsed by the catch basin. Bill Deutsch has proposed to fix the area. His estimate was forwarded to the council with pictures of the catch basin. Work area is not in the County Right-of-Way. Cost to fix would be \$1,220.

Councilor Ruddle move to have the catch basin fixed by Bill Deutsch. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion passed 5:0.

3.Rice County is offering another VSF sign (Vehicle Speed Feedback Sign) at no cost to the community. We would be required to erect and maintain the signage along their County Highway, and the liability associated with that. Rice County is waiving the work permit fee, too. Permit information forwarded to the council. The speed sign installed by Goodhue County a few years earlier, cost the City \$1,500. Goodhue County paid \$1,500. Mayor Flaten move to accept the VSF Sign for the City from Rice County and put it up. Councilor Nygaard second. Motion passed 5:0.

4.Property compliant updates: City attorney mailed out the letters with confirmation receipts received from all except Mark Weatherford. Waited almost a month before using the Sheriff's Dept. to serve the letter to Mr. Weatherford. Confirmed with Valley Autohaus in Northfield they will tow vehicles from private property.

Paul Nygaard Councilor Schloesser went to see. No tires left on property. All vehicles are licensed and registered. All debris is gone. Council felt that this complaint is satisfied.

Neal Wilson. His home is good. The house across from the locker still has stuff on the City easement. So the house complaint is satisfied, but he still needs to move some things around, and clean them up at the other house. City could mark the are that all items need to be behind. Letter to Neal about what he wants to do.

Bolstrom/Stanke Property. It has been confirmed that Chuck is out. Someone can look at the property for the weekend? Property has been cleaned up in the front. Still need to see what is in the back and what needs to be cleaned up. Heidi will go and see if anyone else is available.

Mark Weatherford. Sheriff to serve him the letter. No further action can be taken at this time.

5.Pete Lee building update: Mayor received a text message from Mr. Lee stating: "I have prepared space to move contents and have done some minimal repair. I am planning to tarp extensively and try to hold back more damage." How does the council want to proceed in the matter?

Need to document issues like rodents. Submit a complaint form. Ordinance 68, racoons going in. Say that tarping isn't going to cut it. Councilor Schloesser move to send Pete Lee a letter about the nuisance issues(Ord 68). Councilor Ruddle second. Motion passed 5:0

6.The Minnesota Department of Health is requiring all public water systems to develop a LSLI (Lead Service Line Inventory) by October 14, 2024. Mayor Flaten applied with the MDH for technical assistance in preparing the lead service line inventory. Talked with Corey Mathisen from the MDH on July 5th. He said since we are a small community with only 93 service lines presently, we would be ahead of bigger communities, when it comes to help and funding. He anticipates more grant application periods, depending on the needs. Minnesota Legislature would have to approve more funding, although. Since we don't have a City engineer, the state would assign us one. The state banned lead pipes/lead service lines in June of 1985. Probably will be hearing from the MDH on the application the end of July or early August.

Can we put on Facebook or in the newsletter to see if homeowners themselves know if they have lead service lines? Wait until August when we know more about what needs to be done/documented.

7.Email sent out regarding funding from the state when it comes to LGA, Public Safety Aid and DOT Small City Assistance. LGA will increase to \$19,115 (for 2024. 2023 amount is still \$13,594.) Public Safety Aid will be \$9,715 and DOT assistance will be \$17,152. Public Safety Aid is a one time grant. During the past legislative session, the Minnesota Legislature changed The Small City Assistance Program. It will be on-going and dedicated, so cities can eventually start budgeting for these funds. 8.Discussion regarding paying bills online. Jessica, Heidi and Diane met with a representative to discuss a new software system and how it would be implemented. Cost would be about \$309 monthly. They would take care of all billing. Current software has some online payment options that we can explore. Current Software was \$320 last fall, but will go up as we are now over 100 accounts. Online reviews, talk with other cities to see what they think of them.

Will look into how the late billings will affect the switchover. Will keep current software to ensure that all records are preserved for at least one year after the switchover.

9.New dead bolt installed on back door of City Hall. The key for the front door touch pad lock is still missing. Lock smith said the key for the front door is for emergency uses. It will wear out the core mechanism faster. The only reason to have the current front door lock was easy access for the medical cabinet for the firefighters/emergency personal. If the council wants the same key used on the front and back door of City Hall, would recommend changing the front door to a regular deadbolt lock. Council discussed and will keep it as is.

10.Extra key made for Jessica's office. Jeff and Jess know the combo

11.Estimate from Pat Anderson to replace all the windows (7) in the City Council's Chamber. Charlie Helcl is making a donation to the City to replace the windows.

An additional construction company had also been asked to complete a quote, but did-

n't come up with a bid after a year. Councilor Schloesser move to have Pat Anderson fix all the windows. Mayor Flaten second. Motion passed 5:0.

12.Propane pre-pay: Only one tank that could fit maybe another 100 gallons, otherwise all the tanks are full. \$1.59 pre pay price at 2500 gallons totals \$3,997.50. If the City uses the current credit, the amount goes down to \$3,055.87. Councilor Schloesser move to prepay 2500 gallons for lp. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

13.On June 21, Mayor Flaten went to a Nerstrand Fire Department. The Department bought a newer pumper truck (1996 model). It is not any longer than the current truck, so will fit in the shed without any problems. It can pumps more gallons per minute than the previous truck. Should be here by Dennison Days. Fire contract will likely go up by about 7% next year, which is and additional \$684.95.

14. There were three more stumps that were found that need to be ground up. Mike Kniefel is able to grind these up and finish the last stump where his PTO broke, but would like to get paid for the original ones first. Dan and Jeff removed the chips from the stump sites, it is currently being stored at Dan's house if anyone would like them. Jeff secured permission from Jirik's to use some of the dirt up on the hill to fill those areas. Jeff and Dan are planning on filling in the holes with dirt this fall and seeding the areas at that time. Councilor Schloesser move to pay the bill. Mayor Flaten second. Motion passed 5:0.

(continued on page 25)

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-09

City of Nerstrand, County of Rice, State of Minnesota

A RESOLUTION APPROVING 2024 PROPOSED PRELIMINARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, the City of Nerstrand is required by State law to approve a resolution setting forth an annual tax levy to the Rice County Auditor; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statues require approval of a preliminary property tax levy and preliminary budget on or before September 30th of each year,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Nerstrand that the Preliminary 2024 Property Tax Levy shall be as follows:

T TAX CAPACITY BASED			LEVY
	1:	General/Revenue	\$ 132,500.00
	2.	Debit/Bonds	\$ 17,500.00
	3.	Total New Tax Capacity Levies	\$150,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to transmit this information to the County Auditor of Rice County, Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Revenue, if applicable, in the format requested as required by law.

Passed by the City Council of Nerstrand, Minnesota this 12th day of September, 2023.

Motion to approve made by Gernandt, seconded by Pfleger to approve Resolution 23-2023. Ayes: Evavold, Gernandt, Pfleger, Harris Nays: None

Mayor Todd Evavold

Attest:

NE'

City Clerk

Local Government

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

September, 2023

Dennison City Council Minutes

(continued from page 24)

15.Approve engagement letter with the auditor Councilor Cooke move to approve the auditor. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion passed 5:0.

16.Approve Contractor application for Paul's Plumbing to do hookup work for new buildings. Councilor Nygaard move to approve Paul's Plumbing application to do the hookup work for the new buildings in town. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

17.Dennison Days events: Main street will be closed on Saturday. It will be closed from the Post Office to City Hall on Friday for the Beanbag Tournament and Saturday for the street dance at 625 Bar and Grill.

The flag is starting to look a little ragged. Should the City purchase a new flag for Dennison Days for the maintenance shed. Will look into pricing and size. Mayor Flaten noted that one of the firemen was willing to install a light for the flag. Joe A noted that there was a light at the end of the building that was to shine on the flagpole. Maybe needs a new bulb? Will double check to see if it's still together.

Citizens Issues:

5th Ave. Way Didn't get graded. Rock was put down. Hernke's brought in the Rock. Wasn't graded after the gravel was brought in, and only about half of the road was covered in new gravel and a resident felt that it was unsafe. Resident felt the rock was too

Warsaw Township Township Board Meeting Minutes August 14, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER Chair Maher called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members Present: Duwain Egland, Larry Madsen, Emery Maher, Diane McCorkell and Darla Frandrup Others Present: Bob Flom, Cliff Gergen, Kyle Aryes, Dina Fesler & Cynthia Bennett.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES Motion made by Larry to approve the minutes as read; Duwain seconded. All voted in favor; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS Cliff Gergen approached the Board with a building permit request to build a shed on his property located at 35865 Hwy 56 Blvd. Dennison. The drawing he presented did not have the setbacks accurately measured so Emery will do a site inspection to confirm setbacks are met.

Matthees propane contract for 2023-2024 will be \$1.40. Darla will send in the contract. Darla and Diane have spent hours going through files in the Hall. They have recorded the documents that have been destroyed by using the rules set forth by MAT (Minnesota Association of Townships). There is still organization to do, but the completion of this project will make files much easier to locate and reduce the amount of paperwork.

Darla sent the 2024 Levy Certification (\$240,000) that was voted and passed at the Annual Meeting to the County.

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has certified the 2024 amounts for Town Aid, Warsaw will receive \$4,587. Town Aid is a general-purpose aid that can be used for any lawful expenditure and is intended to provide property tax relief.

The 2023 legislature approved \$1.25 million to be allocated per year for expenses directly related to holding elections. We have two options for receiving the funds. We could directly receive \$43 annually and continue to be charged the annual license fees of \$480 for the DS200 and Omniballot. If Warsaw enters an agreement with the County, we would not be billed the annual license fees and the County would keep the \$43. Supervisor Egland moved to approve the agreement allowing the County to keep Warsaw's funds and not bill the Township for maintenance contracts; Supervisor Madsen seconded. All voted in favor; motion carried.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation announced a Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) for road funding assistance. Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) solicitation will open September 12, 2023. A total of \$102.967 million in LRIP funds are available for funding with 6 million going directly to Townships to assist with construction, reconstruction, or reconditioning projects for counties, state aid cities, non state aid cities, townships, and federally recognized Indian Tribes. The maximum award amount available is \$1.5 million for each project. Emery would like to inquire if these funds might help fund the replacement of a culvert on Warsaw Trail. Darla and Emery will join the webinar to gather more information.

Dina Fesler has been doing research on community engagement with a few residents of the Township. She found that the people she spoke with were not aware they could sign up for the Township mailing list at elections. Darla will make sure this is more visible at the 2024 elections. Dina feels that democracy is important and for people to be involved and feels the Township should do more community outreach. The supervisors and a few meeting attendees feel most residents would come to meetings if they were looking to be more involved and are satisfied with the current level of outreach. In response to Dina's request for more engagement the Township will begin mailing annual letters to residents and try to collect more email addresses and continue the monthly email with the agenda and any other important news. All of the agendas and minutes are posted on warsaw-township.com and getting word out about the website and collecting email addresses will be a priority on the annual mailing.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Larry to adjourn the meeting; Duwain seconded. All in favor; motion carried. Approved on September 11, 2023.

Emery Maher, Chairman Darla Frandrup, Clerk big for the road. The resident felt that the road has never been this bad in 13 years. Will see if there is an in-voice and what was ordered, and talk to Dan to see what he ordered. Need to have the road graded.

Farmer's Market: Can the street be blocked off from 5-8 on Wednesday? Just the single block for the car show. City is okay to have them blocked off. City doesn't own any barricades, so Seanat 625 Bar and Grill would have to have provide those. It would occur Wednesdays through Labor Day. Councilor Schloesser move to shut down street as minimally as possible on the block from the Farmer's Market through City Hall on Wednesdays from 5-8 until September 13th. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

Complaint Form was submitted regarding unlicensed vehicles, parked at a residence in town. Resident was in attendance, and was informed of the issues.

Mayors Issues:

Utilities:

1.Update from Nate. Pond storage is good for now. Pump is not working, still trying to get one that works. Sprayed the sidewalks around the city buildings. Ask Bob Flom to spray weeds in streets, water tower, fence, parking lot. Will do around the ponds later. Jeno's meter doesn't work. Koesters house still needs to be fixed. Can conduit be put around the wire. Call Lyle and have Faribault plumbing and heating come again? Still need the ending numbers for Jirik meters. Nate has pictures. We should read meters



every month when they aren't working, or people irrigating their lawns.

2.Nate received his C sewer certification paperwork after our last council meeting.

3.Fire hydrants flushed on 6-21. Nate and Nichole took care of it.

4.Kadrlik's water meter switched out on 6-21.

5.Larson's and Erickson's water meters switched out on 6-22.

6.Minnesota pump works did annual maintenance and calibration on Lift Station pumps on 6-28.

7.Light fixed outside of the shop. Floodlight for the flagpole? He was also going to look at the City Hall light also. See above. 8.Water meters read on 7-11.

9. The cost review on the phosphorus system was completed by Mayor and Clerk and submitted to the MPCA. After reviewing the costs, the increases in the sewer rates will maybe cover the additional costs, but they may not either. Last fall was not a normal fall with the construction and drought conditions. Will likely need to cut costs someway, or increase rates again.

10.Proposal from Travis Reichl to continue with the City as an employee.

Councilor Ruddle move to keep Travis on as an employee as we need him at \$50 hour. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion passed 5:0.

Mayor Flaten moved to close the meeting to discuss Nate and potential pay increase. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

Mayor Flaten move to open the meeting. Councilor Ruddle second. Motion passed 5:0.

Councilor Cooke move to raise pay to \$27.16. Councilor Ruddle second. Motion passed 5:0.

Councilor Schloesser move to pay the bills, including the one for Nate for \$327.50. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0. Hawkins check was held back as the pump is going to be returned.

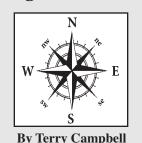
Councilor Cooke moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion was adjourned at 9:38 pm.

Next meeting: Regular meeting is Thursday August 3rd, 2023 at 7:00.

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Changes in Latitudes, **Changes in Attitudes**



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.

I found this Minneapolis Moline tractor replica at a garage sale I took my wife to. I don't intentionally do garage sales but occasionally an interesting item pops up. I am at that age where I do not try to accumulate anymore worldly treasures. Just seems like more junk to leave to someone to dispose of after they dispose of me. But this one just called out to me.

It really isn't much of a tractor replica, more of an abstract collection of parts and could be many things if not painted that iconic yellow/orange with the Minneapolis Moline logo on the side. It started out life as a Singer sewing machine and was repurposed for some nostalgic antique tractor buff.

When I was a very small kid, I remember my grandfather's Minneapolis Moline Z tractor. I do not believe it ever ran during my lifetime. Just sat in the grass on the north side of the hog barn. My sister and I used to climb up on it and pretend we were driving tractor when we were very young. There were lots of levers that moved back and forth with a satisfying clunk while we shifted gears and engaged the power on our imaginary adventures.

One day my activity aroused a bumble bee which had taken up residence under neath the metal cowling of the tractor. He proceeded to sting me on the arm and I ran to the house howling for my mom. She put salve on my wound and soothed my pain but told me not to play on it any more. That was her standard advice when I did something she felt could harm me. I climbed the silo. She told me not to. I went up in the hay loft, she told me not to. Eventually I learned to not tell her what I did. My dad just figured what didn't kill me, made me stronger. That is why young boys hang out with dad more often.

It had a great history on the farm though. I believe it was the first rubber-tired tractor that my grandfather owned. They were made between 1949 and 1953. The Z was rated at 36 horsepower on the belt and 32 horsepower at the drawbar. My neighbor Richard Matti told me once about how proud my grandfather was of it and they used it to power a threshing machine in the early years.

One story related to me was how one fall it was very cold when they were doing fall plowing and my grandfather would drive the farm pickup along-side the tractor in the field. The hired man would drop the plow in the ground and tie the steering wheel with a rope and then ride in the warmth of the pickup to the other end of the field. It went slow enough with a two-bottom plow that he could easily climb on and off while it was moving. He would climb aboard, untie the rope and raise the plow out of the ground at the end of the field in time to turn it around and then get back in the warm pickup as the tractor lumbered along turning over the soil. The kind of activity we all learned not to tell mom about until much later.

We live in the house where my grandparent's spent their final years. My wife suggested putting it in the room where my grandmother kept her sewing machine. One piece of history to remind me of both my grandparents. It seemed worth it to bring home this treasure. Although now I know the real treasure are the memories about two wonderful people that it brings back to me.

A Minnesotan: **Down at the Riverside**



By RosaLin Alcoser

Wade in the water, wade in the water children. Wade in the water, God's going to trouble the water. Well it's Labor Day and this marks the start of school and the end of summer activities. Which also means that churches that are going to hold outdoor Baptism have reached the end of being able to do so for this year.

After all there's no better way to end the summer then to go down to the river for a good old fashioned outdoor Baptism. Which if truth be told is a lot more exciting than the indoor ones done during the rest of the year. This is because normally even if your church normally does Baptism by sprinkling when it takes place at the river it will normally be done by immersion

Personally I was Baptized during outdoor Baptism back in 2004. Except it was done outside in a turned off hot tub. This was done mainly because the church was next to the Zumbro River in a place where the current was way too strong to safely hold a Baptism in. Great part to go tubing in not so much for safely dunking people in and out of the water.

My father is a pastor, who currently works for two little Methodists churches out in western Minnesota. Now the thing to know about my Belize pastor father is that while he might work for the Methodist he's an acuity Southern Baptist. Which is one of the denominations that baptize by immersion.

One of his churchs held an outdoor Baptism by the river the weekend before Labor Day this year. Their plan was to go out into the river, which water levels have been pretty low this year, and sprinkle just like they would do inside of the church building except while standing in the river. Practical but unexpecting right?

Which is what it would have been if anyone else except maybe my father had been the one doing all of this. Because the day of, he changed the plan and decided that he was going to baptize everyone who was getting baptized that day by immersion in the low creek levels.

My mother sent me a video about an hour after my father, wearing his fishing wader under his robe, lowered a parishioner into the water, bringing them back up and then both of them immediately falling back into the water. Which made the whole thing a lot more executing then the original plan.

Luckily for my father, I know him, and remind my mother to send him with a spare change of clothing. Because I knew somewhere in the back of my mind that baptism at the river would result in something existing enough to need a dry change of every.

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Proudly Serving You Since 1925

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -





Start a **Personal Checking Account** at Heritage Bank

- Debit Card
- Online Banking
- Free Mobile Banking
- No Monthly Fee for Minimum Daily Balance of \$300

DE 71: 3034495 **Start a Passbook Saving Account**

ATM Card • Online Banking • E-Statement • Free Mobile Banking Interest Bearing • No Monthly Fee for Minimum Daily Balance of \$100



At Heritage Bank, Our Mortgage Process is Convenient and Easy!

Have you found your dream home and are ready to buy? Are you hoping to start the search and want to get pre-qualified? Or are you refinancing your current home? We would love to be a part of your process!

Heritage Bank is locally owned, and family operated. So when you choose to take out your mortgage with us, you're more than just a number. We've been around since 1930, and we aren't going anywhere! We're community driven and live in the same place where you are planning to buy your new home.

Local decision-making is important to us because it is important to you! At Heritage, our goal is to provide the highest level of service at competitive rates.

Our Loan Officers are only a phone call away if you need help!

HERITAGE NK Δ

www.heritagebankmn.com

DENNISON: 37470 1st Ave. Ct. 507-645-5929 WEST CONCORD: 181 Main Street 507-527-2236 NORTHFIELD: 1520 Clinton Lane 507-645-6736

