



Serving the Triton Area

The Messenger

Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

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MARCH 20, 2024

Volume 5 • Issue 6

Volunteers make the Local Fire Departments Work



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Announcements

- **Red Cross Blood Drive - Monday, April 8, 2024 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm at Faith Community Church, 305 State Street North, West Concord.** Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter West Concord to schedule an appointment.
- **GriefShare support group meets Sundays, 3-5 pm at Anchor Of Hope Church, 203 East Main Street, Dodge Center, MN.** Contact Dale E Rood at 507-633-2772 for more information. Registration is available on the GriefShare website or by calling Pastor Rood. This is for anyone experiencing the loss of a loved one, friend, or other significant person in their lives.
- **The United Methodist Church of Dodge Center at 20 First Street NE offers a dine in and carry out meal from 5:00-6:00pm the third Wednesday of each month.**

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

25 Years of "Shop Local"

By Cheri Roshon

This year marks the 25th year of Dodge County's Annual Business Expo. Gerry Fahning, founder of Fahning and Associates, has been at every single expo, because it was his brainchild, and something he truly believes in. Along with Wells Fargo Bank of Dodge Center's Marsha Rash, who was the bank president at that time, they came up with the idea of showcasing local businesses with emphasis on "Shop Local".

Gerry wanted the residents of Dodge Center to know that they didn't need to leave town to get the supplies and services they needed. He began talking with the Economic Development members and small business owners in town. "At first they were skeptical", Gerry mused, remembering the humble

beginnings. "They didn't know if it would go over, or be a success". Well, obviously, 25 years and 25 shows later, he was right!

The first year had 20 vendors, all from Dodge Center. The event was a hit, both for the businesses and attendees. The word spread, and business owners from Kasson, Mantorville and other towns nearby started asking about being involved in the next expo. After some careful consideration, Gerry's team decided to branch out, but only to Dodge County residents, to really keep the focus on the local economy.

The team began reaching out to other communities in Dodge County, and they were well received. And so it became the Dodge County Business Expo.

The location of the first expo was at Triton's



school gymnasium, so they decided to continue to hold the rest of them there as well. The event grew "Expo-entially", and now includes ambassadors from every community in Dodge County. It is exclusive to Dodge County because of Gerry's idea to promote the "shop local" aspect of businesses.

(continued on page 8)

West Concord Raffle Supports St. Jude Children's Hospital



Holly and Jeff Burow with the Cook brothers and the check for St. Jude's Children's Hospital

Dustin and Drew Cook of West Concord are preparing to enter the 26th annual Dick Hiley St. Jude Classic held at Wabasha on the weekend of May 3rd – 5th. The two brothers took second place in the fund raiser/bass tournament last year. As a way to generate more funds for the benefit they organized a raffle this spring. 750 tickets were sold and raised a total of \$15,000. \$6,000 was given out in cash to winners and \$1,000 was donated to the WCHS for administering the raffle.

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Dodge Center Fire Department Spaghetti Supper



The Dodge Center Fire Department held a fundraising supper last weekend.

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McMartin Electric Inc.

507-528-2578

64005 130th Ave.
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**Industrial Trenching
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Thursday, March 21st
Open Mic 7:00-10:00p.m.

Friday, March 22nd
Live Music! Jaggedease 7:00-10:00p.m.

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Pastors Corner

By Pastor Dave Breederland
Faith Community Church

“The story of God’s self-sacrifice...is the story with a cross at its center but not at its end: its plot moves toward the upsetting of all things, the Great Reversal in which the dead Jesus was raised from the tomb, and along with him our hope that death be swallowed up by life eternal.”

Those words by Donald McCullough in The Wisdom of Pelicans remind us once again as we approach Easter, that it was the great reversal. One might dare to even characterize it as “The World’s Greatest Upset.” Certainly, Satan and his host of demons experienced it as such. The grave could not contain the crucified Christ for long.

Easter is a yearly reminder that God’s plans cannot be thwarted. What God wills he will accomplish; despite all of the contraindications we may perceive. We should be reminded of God’s resurrection power, not just annually on Easter Sunday, but weekly, “on the first day of the week.” Each Sunday when we gather for worship, we gather because of the accomplishment of the Great Reversal, that those who were formerly sinners, alienated from God, now can come as a beloved child of God. This is all because of the saving work of Jesus Christ. His resurrection from the grave secures our salvation.

The resurrection of our Lord Jesus is our hope of a great reversal against the sickness, decay and death in this present world. The Apostle Peter writes: Praise be to the God

and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you. (1 Peter 1:3-4 NIV).

The Apostle Paul instructs us about the importance and impact of Jesus’ resurrection in chapter in 1 Corinthians 15. It will be well worth your effort to read through this great chapter. In his letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul comforts us with the reality of a resurrected intercessor – Jesus (Romans 8:34).

As we embrace the Christ of the Great Reversal, we undergo our own upsets too. The Bible tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:15: And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. (NIV)

This Easter season, amidst the abundance of secular ‘rabbit trails’ in the marketplace, let us rejoice in the power of God demonstrated through the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. The fact that we serve a risen Savior is a claim that sets Christianity apart from other religions. As you read through Dr. Luke’s Acts in the New Testament, one of the great themes of the apostles’ preaching was that Jesus died and rose from the grave (see Acts 2:24; 3:15; 4:10; 5:30; 10:40-41; 13:30, 34, 37; 17:3, 31; 26:23).

Therefore, let us take the opportunities that God brings before us to testify that our lives have been changed through the risen Jesus. May we gain a deeper appreciation for Jesus’ resurrection and its results in the lives of His followers this year.

OBITUARY

Adeline D. Schletty

Adeline Doris Schletty, 83, of West Concord, passed away peacefully as the result of complications from a stroke on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at St. Marys Hospital in Rochester.



She was born April 14, 1940, the daughter of Wilhelm and Theresa (Napp) Dohrmann. She attended country school in the communities of West Concord and Pine Island. She graduated from West Concord High School, Class of 1958. Following her high school graduation, she began working in the labs at St. Marys Hospital.

On June 28, 1959, she married Rollie, “that Schletty boy” she was warned to stay away from. They made their home in the West Concord area where they raised five children. While busy raising an active family, Adeline held down several different jobs

including: childcare, waitressing, bar tending and housekeeping all while fostering her passions of cooking, sewing and bringing help to others. Adeline was an active member of Concord Church of Christ participating in many committees, assisting with VBS, serving on the board and tending to the needs of others as she always did. In addition to all this, Adeline served her community actively participating in Concord Cemetery Board, Historical Society, Boy Scouts, 4-H, county fairs, the American Legion, bowling and camping.

She is survived by her children, Tamera Laqua of Dodge Center, Zane (and Darla) Schletty of West Concord, Kimber Schletty of Rochester, Brett Schletty of Nebraska and Erika (and Leroy) Wohlfiel of Mantorville; 9 grandchildren, Travis Schletty, Trenton Laqua, Courtney Schletty, Cody Schletty, Gareth Tlougan, Logon Onken, Taryn Wohlfiel, Drew Wohlfiel and Jace Wohlfiel; lovely great grandchildren; sister, Phyllis Schutz of Pine Island and sisters-in-law, Donna Dohrmann of Kasson and Carol Mundy of Dodge Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Wilhelm and Theresa; husband, Rollie Schletty (2013); sisters, Gladys and June; brothers, William, Robert and Royce; granddaughter, Tricia Laqua and grandson, Dallas Laqua.

A Memorial Service will be held at 10:30 AM Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Concord Church of Christ in Concord, MN, followed by burial in Concord Cemetery and a visitation/celebration of life at the American Legion in West Concord from 12:00-3:00 PM.

Memorials preferred to Concord Church of Christ or West Concord American Legion Auxiliary Post #295.

Area Church Directory

Jesus Recreates Us

If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! — 2 Corinthians 5:17

God loves, reasons, and creates. So do his children, made in his image and likeness. But instead of honoring the good, doing the right, and creating the lovely, we fell into sin (Genesis 3). As a result, we despise, pervert, and destroy our world and our relationships. Though we are still able to do some good (by the grace of God), it is painfully obvious that we do not live up to our created potential. We willfully do wrong, hurt others, and destroy.

It is hard to imagine the disappointment and heartbreak God must have felt when we first turned against him. God might well have destroyed humanity and started over. And in a way he did make a new start. God sent his Son, Jesus, to bear his image without falling into sin; Jesus was fully human, like us in every way (see John 1:14; 3:16-18; Hebrews 2:17; 4:15). He loves and thinks and creates as a human made in God’s image should. He hit the restart button on human nature.

The miracle of salvation through Jesus is that we can become part of the new creation and the new world he creates. We can become part of God’s family again. With the new life he makes possible for us, Jesus saves!

Dear Jesus, thank you for being the first responder for all of creation. You have given us a new start. Help us to live faithfully in your name. Amen.

CLAREMONT

1st Presbyterian Church

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

St. John Lutheran Church

4532 SE 84th Avenue, Claremont • 528-2404
Pastor Alan Broadwell
Sunday Service at 10:30a.m.

DODGE CENTER

Faith Lutheran Church

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

Grace Lutheran Church

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

Praise Fellowship Church

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

Dodge Center Methodist Church

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

St. John Baptist De La Salle

20 2nd St. NE, Dodge Center • 507-374-6830
Mass Saturday 5p.m.

Living Water Assembly Church

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

Dodge Center SDA Church

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

Anchor of Hope Church, a 7th Day Baptist Congregation

203 E. Main St., Dodge Center • 507-374-6755
Saturday 10a.m. Worship; 11:45a.m. Sabbath School

Bible Lutheran Church

(American Assoc. of Lutheran Churches)
11 1st Ave. N.E., Dodge Center
www.biblelc.org • 612-803-1212
Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.
(weekly sermons available on YouTube and on website)

First Congregational Church

12 Second Street NW
Dodge Center, MN 55927 • 507-633-6873
www.congregationalchurchdc.com
Keith Mosier, Pastor

WEST CONCORD

Faith Community Church

305 State Street N, West Concord • 507-527-2244
Pastor David Breederland
Sunday 9:30a.m. Worship; 10:45a.m. Sunday School
www.fcwc.org
Facebook: WC Faith Community Church

Hegre Lutheran, ELCA

51939 Highway 56 Blvd., Kenyon • 507-527-2353
Sunday: 9:15a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship

Trinity Lutheran, ELCA

301 Highland St., West Concord • 507-527-2778
Pastor Chad Christensen • trinitychurchwc.net
Sunday worship video is posted on Facebook:
Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcordmn
Sundays 9:45a.m. Worship in building and live streamed on Facebook
Sunday School 10:30a.m.
Tuesday Men’s Bible Study, 7:00a.m.
at church and via Zoom
Call church for more information on ministries and events.

Church of Christ

55087 200th Ave., West Concord • 507-527-2723
Pastor Peter Moen
9:00a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship
concordchurchmn.com

Zwingli United Church of Christ

“The Berne Church”
23148 Co. Hwy. 24, West Concord • 507-356-4340
Pastor Karen Larson
Sunday 10:00a.m. Worship; Find us on Facebook

Email your church announcements,
schedule, etc. to the The Messenger at:
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Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

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For advertising information call
Terry at 507-951-7417

or email:

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Keep It
Local

Jimmy Jo Adamec

Jimmy Jo Adamec passed peacefully into the hands of our Lord at home on March 7th, 2024 with his life partner, Jack, of 24 years at his side.

He was born to his parents, Bennie Joseph Adamec and Florence E l l a (Wheeler) Adamec, on May 10, 1951 in Iowa City, Iowa. He was preceded in death by his parents, his identical twin brother, Jerry, and three sisters, Patricia, Betty and Linda.

Jimmy was a lifelong learner, an avid reader with a deep sense of curiosity and was especially interested in Science and Math, Sci Fi, the Universe and how it works and last but not least, he had a deep passion for vintage Ford Mustangs, especially the 1973 convertible.

He attended Grammar School at Excelsior Elementary School in Excelsior, Minnesota, Central High School in Dallas, Texas, Lee College in Baytown, Texas where he received a degree in Liberal Arts. He completed a welding, drafting and blueprints degree at Federal Trade School in El Reno, Oklahoma.

He was in the USMC with a Rank E-4 where he earned the title and badge of Rifle Expert.

Jimmy was also a certified PADI Scuba Diver as well as participating in competition weight lifting events while in Florida.

Jimmy's career was long and fruitful. During the late 1970's he worked at a large cattle ranch in New Mexico as a Vaquero. In 1980 he was employed as a fitter-welder service rep for J&R Manufacturing in Mesquite, Texas and worked there 3 years. In 1983 he moved to Houston Texas and worked as a welder for Gardner-Denver corp. In 1988 he moved to Tampa, Florida where he worked as a Labor Foreman for Heavy Equipment Operator. In 1991 he moved to Venice Florida where he was an operations and maintenance manager mechanic for McCullough Environmental Services Inc. at a large golf course.

In 1991 he left Florida just before Hurricane Andrew stuck, and moved to Rochester, Minnesota to help care for his mother who was very ill. He went to work at Crenlo in Rochester, Mn. welding various cabs for machinery. In 1993 he went to work at the McNeilus Co. in Dodge Center, Mn. as an expert welder and remained there until he retired due to health in 2005.

He had a wonderful sense of humor and would give you the shirt off his back without asking why. He was very outgoing and loved being with family and friends, taking vacations, the outdoors and driving his Mustang convertible with the top down which embodied the true spirit of being free. Jimmy sometimes had a "tough guy" exterior but beneath it all, he was a very loving, devoted and caring person and partner.

It was in 2000 that he met his life partner in Rochester, Minnesota and they married August 19, 2016. He is greatly loved and will be missed more than words can express.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held 11:00 A.M. , Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at Peace United Church of Christ, 1503 2nd Ave.



NE, Rochester, Mn. A Light lunch will be served following the celebration. Burial will be in Mandan Union Cemetery in Mandan, North Dakota.

Barbara Ann Meyer

Barbara Ann Meyer, 85, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center, MN.

Barbara was born on July 26, 1938, in Hayfield, MN to Bert and Violet (Hegna) Beaver. She graduated from Kasson-Mantorville high school in 1956. She worked as a Dietary Aid at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN and later at Waters Instruments in Rochester, MN. She married Eugene Meyer on March 4, 1967. They were married for almost 50 years. She loved volunteering and playing bingo. She was a member of the Red Hat Club and the American Legion Auxiliary. She was also a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Kasson, MN. She will be deeply missed.

Barbara is survived by her sister, Judy (David) Bollum of Rochester, MN; brother, Darrell (Jean) Beaver of Ellendale, MN, also many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Eugene Meyer.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, March 16, 2024, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 301 8th Ave NW in Kasson, MN. Pastor Kristen Schlauderaff officiated. Visitation was from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Friday, March 15, 2024, at Czaplowski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE in Kasson and one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment was in Maple Grove Cemetery in Kasson, MN.

To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplowskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplowski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE Kasson, MN 55944 (507)634-6510. Blessed be her memory.

Richard "Dick" Neitzel

Richard "Dick" Neitzel, 86, of Dodge Center, MN, passed away on Monday, March 4, 2024, at the Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center, where he had resided for the last two years.

Richard Clarence Neitzel was born on November 7, 1937, in Owatonna, to Clarence and Ruth (Barker) Neitzel. He graduated from Owatonna High School in 1951. He married Grace Gillard, they had 3 children and later divorced. On November 15, 1980, he married Arvella Viker and was married to her until she passed away on April 28, 2018.

Dick served in the United States Navy for 3 years, serving on the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier. Dick worked for IBM in Rochester



for 38 years. After retiring, he got his CDL and worked for McNeilus in Dodge Center, delivering trucks. He also worked for a local farmer driving tractors until his later 70's.

Dick loved fishing, gambling, pretty much anything to do with motor sports, especially sprint cars and Nascar. He was part owner of a stock car and worked in the pits. He drove in numerous demolition derbies and was beside himself when his grandson, Nick drove and won many derbies.

Dick was an avid hunter, mostly "wabbits" under the deck as they were eating the tulips. Every person who met Dick loved him. He had a wicked sense of humor. He got sober in the 70's and helped many others in their journey of recovery.

Dick is survived by his children, Barb Hayes of Post Falls, ID, Sherrie (Scott) Franko of Dodge Center, Richard "Rick" (Lisa) Neitzel of Jordan, MN; step children, Terry (Robin) Viker of Dodge Center, and Todd Viker of West Concord, MN; his grandchildren, Melissa (Ron) Henrichs of Northfield, MN, Bobbi Jo (Chris) Powers of St. Charles, MN, Mindy Hayes of Spokane, WA, Brandon (Katie) Neitzel of Lawton, OK, Nick (LeAnne) Viker of Dodge Center, MN, Ashley (Jake) Lentz of Chaska, MN, Garrett (Fiancé Jessi) Franko of Hot Springs, AR, and Shelby Franko of Dodge Center, MN. He is further survived by his 9 great grandchildren, with number 10 due in May 2024.

He was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents; 2 sisters; and his wife, Arvella in 2018.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the family.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 9, 2024, at Czaplowski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE in Kasson, MN. Pastor Roger Langworthy officiated. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Inurnment was in Riverside Cemetery in Dodge Center, MN with military honors provided by the Dodge Center American Legion Post 384.

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

Bruce Melvin Schmoll

Bruce Melvin Schmoll, 70, a lifelong resident of Dodge County, MN passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on March 16, 2024. Bruce was born on August 19, 1953, in Owatonna, MN to Melvin and Myrna (Filley) Schmoll. He attended Claremont High School and graduated in 1971. He then went on to attend Winona State University and studied Industrial Arts and Coaching. Bruce met the love of his life, Tarrie Pedersen, on a blind date. They were married in Winona, MN in September of 1979, and enjoyed 44 years of marriage. They were blessed with two sons, Eric and Adam. Bruce loved the outdoors, espe-



cially hunting and fishing. He enjoyed taking his children up to Canada on Canoeing trips to the Boundary Waters. Bruce was always happy to share the experience of enjoying the outdoors with others. He played in softball leagues for many years and also enjoyed volleyball. He also made wine and raised pheasants at his home over the years. Bruce was involved in many organizations and boards during his life. He was active in boy/cub scouts, Dodge County Pheasants Forever, USMEF (United States Meat Export Federation), an officer of the MN Soybean Board, Zoning board for Claremont, MN and the Ripley Township Board. Bruce made many friendships and connections from serving in the many organizations he joined. Bruce and Tarrie were able to travel to many destinations while he served on these boards, including trips to China and other locations. He was a lifelong member of Grace Lutheran Church in Dodge Center, MN. Bruce was known for being able to make conversation with anyone and often would find some common ground, with topics such as agriculture and many others. He was a friend to everyone he met over his life. Most important to Bruce was his family, especially his two granddaughters, Ella and Ava.


He was preceded in death by his father, Melvin Schmoll.

Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Tarrie Schmoll; sons, Eric (Cassie) Schmoll of East Bethel, MN and Adam (Katie) Schmoll of Long Lake, MN; granddaughters, Ella and Ava; mother, Myrna Schmoll; siblings, Debra (Doug) Stangl of Estherville, IA, Becky (Dave) Overholser of Eagle Lake, MN, Brian (Heidi) Schmoll of Dundas, MN, and honorary brother, David (Heidi) Foy of Corcoran, MN; as well as many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, March 22, 2024, at Grace Lutheran Church, 404 Central Ave N, Dodge Center, MN. Visitation will be from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at Czaplowski Family Funeral Homes, 25 South St SW Dodge Center, MN and one hour prior to the service at church on Friday.

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

Celebration of Life
for
Al Gilbert



Sunday, April 1 at 1:00pm
Bell Tower Event Center
West Concord

That's the Latest Skyberg



By Emery Kleven

Emery is now a retired farm broadcaster after starting at KDHL in Faribault in 1987. He's a 1971 graduate of West Concord High School. You can view past columns at his website RoadFarming.com. You can email him at emery@roadfarming.com.

To quote philosopher Steven Wright: 'Whenever I think about the past, it brings up so many memories.' OK, so he wasn't a philosopher but he was spot on with that line. My radio career took me to Sioux City, Iowa and then onto Nebraska where I lived for 14 years. When people would ask me where I grew up, I would say West Concord. They would then ask; 'Where in Wisconsin?' Then I would articulate clearly WEST Concord, Minnesota. Of course the next question would be; 'Where's that?' Well it's in Dodge County north of Wasioja, south of Skyberg, east of Moland and of course west of Concord, hence the name.

Now if you are reading this you say, yup, that's where it is alright. They would ask if there were any bigger towns around and I would say there's Bombay but that's east of Kenyon and Oslo is down by Hayfield and Havana is closer to Claremont, so no, there's no big towns around.

I have an affinity to Skyberg as my mom, Mayme Ryg Kleven, grew up on a farm to the west of town. As a young kid, I would go to the Skyberg picnic that was an annual event for many years. My mom would tell me how



1894 plat map of Skyberg

Courtesy of Goodhue County Historical Society

it was once a thriving community. It started out in 1879 as a post office. Simon Skyberg, who had 80 acres just north of where the town grew, ran the general store. Later, the town grew with 3 stores, a blacksmith shop, a train depot, a bank, a cattle yard for moving cattle, coal sheds and a lumber yard. It's interesting to note that the train depot had in big letters SKYBURG. But Simon's last name had an 'E' and not a 'U'. The 1894 Plat Book lists it as Skyberg which was before the train depot was built so Skyberg is the correct spelling but it will answer to both.

A creamery and grain elevator were built near the railroad tracks to enhance the farming community. At the West Concord Historical Society (WCHS) museum, I came across an interview of my Godfather Gale Callister. Mary Gillard did the interview in



Skyberg train depot and grain elevator

Courtesy of Goodhue County Historical Society

1999. Gale got talking about highway 56 which used to run right by his farm until about 1937 when the road today became the new highway. When 56 went by the Callister farm, it went west along the county line past Hegre Church to a T and then went north to Kenyon. The 'new 56' ran along the railroad that was built before the highway ran parallel to it.

The entire interview, which I had not seen until a couple weeks ago, is fascinating. Gale

got talking about different subjects; Fairpoint, which wasn't far from his farm, playing basketball in West Concord where the Municipal liquor store is now, electricity coming to the farms, among other stories. Gale's first car was a 1938 FM Camelot that he bought in 1942. His first tractor was a 02236 International. The museum has a few of these interviews if you ever want to read them. You see, Steven Wright was correct, when you talk about the past, it does bring up so many memories.

OBITUARY

Larry Raymond Burtis

Larry Raymond Burtis, 82, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center, MN.



Larry was born on March 27, 1941, in Fort Dodge, IA to Cecil and Mary Jane (Rohn) Burtis. He attended school in Algona, IA. He married Carole Smith on November 24, 1961, at the Methodist Church in West Bend, IA. After working in lumber yards and a dairy processing plant, the couple moved to Mountain Lake, MN where they resided from 1966-1969. They eventually settled in Dodge Center, MN in September 1969. He worked for Niemann Farm Systems for 30 years, retiring in 1999. After retiring he worked several years at Cybex in Owatonna until fully retiring in 2011.

Larry found peace and tranquility in the great outdoors, where he enjoyed hunting and his true passion of fishing. He was a member of Zumbro Valley Bass Masters Club for 20 years. Most of all he loved spending time with his family.

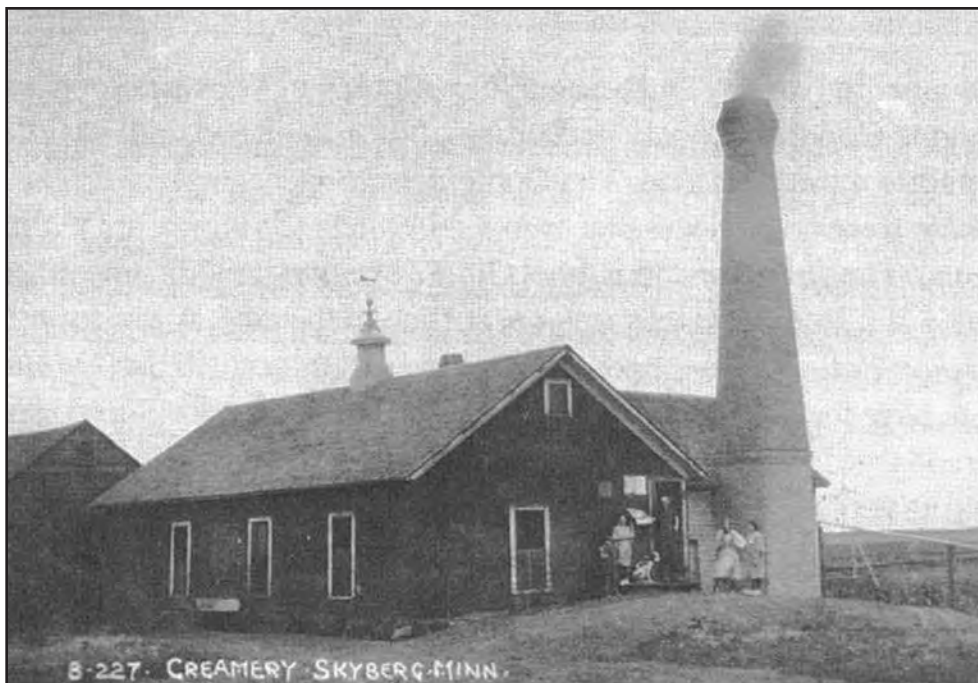
Larry is survived by his wife, Carole Burtis of Dodge Center, MN; children, Raymond Burtis of Kasson, MN, Rhonda (Mark) Mittelstaedt of Kernersville, NC, Ralph B. (Michelle) Burtis of Kasson, MN, and Robin (Gary) Stolin of West Concord, MN; grandchildren, Tim (Danya) Burtis, Carley (Janson) Baldus, April Mittelstaedt, Danny Mittelstaedt, and Mikaela (Tyler) Smith; great-grandchild, Dylan Korth; brothers, Sam (Marjorie) Burtis, Ivan Burtis, Tom (Carol) Burtis, Ralph E. Burtis, and Jeff (Carolyn) Burtis; sister-in-law, Mary Kay Burtis; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Mary Jane; brothers, John Burtis and Bob Burtis; and sister-in-law, Marie Burtis.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE in Kasson, MN, with Pastor Chad Christensen officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. A luncheon will follow his service. A private family burial will be held at a later date.

A special thanks to the Fairview Care Center and the St. Croix Hospice teams for their care and dedicated service.

To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE Kasson, MN 55944 (507)634-6510. Blessed be his memory.



Skyberg Creamery in the 1920's.

Courtesy of Goodhue County Historical Society

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Museum Musings



Yesterday's Support Groups

By Colleen Sathrum Hayne

It was a day in the 1950's and my mother seemed preoccupied. As she worked, she was memorizing something and kept reciting the words all around the house. After supper she did something truly extraordinary. She put on a floor-length white dress (we'd never seen her in a long dress before) and said she was going to "Lodge" and my sister and I were going with her. Once we arrived in West Concord, our mother led us to the Speckeen's store (now part of Heritage Bank) and showed us stairs leading up to the second floor above Speckeen's. She told us she'd be going upstairs, but what she would be doing was secret, and we would need to wait on the staircase. This was beyond intriguing to my sister and me. What we heard next captivated us. People were marching and chanting behind those closed doors and we just couldn't fathom what was going on. I now understand our mother was participating in a ritual of the Order of Eastern Star, established in 1850 for women closely related to a Mason, i.e. daughter, spouse, sister, or mother.

The Masonic Hall above Speckeen's, as well as the Odd Fellows Hall on the North side of Main Street, were busy places through the years. In 1897 there were no less than 8 secret societies meeting regularly in West Concord. Their meeting times were listed every week in the Enterprise. In 1908 there were 7 secret societies still regularly meeting in West Concord, but by 1925 only two remained active. By the 1950's the Eastern Star may have been the only functioning Secret Society in West Concord.

Why were there so many secret societies in the early years of West Concord and across the U.S.? For the most part, these societies were formed as mutual aid societies who looked after the sick and needy of their membership and provided services at the burials of members, along with helping to provide for the welfare of family survivors of the deceased. The lodges also served as friendly community centers where social fellowship took place.

Which lodges were active in West Concord in its early days? The Masons of the Washington Lodge met two Saturday evenings a month at the Masonic Hall. The Lodge was named after George Washington who was one of 15 U.S. presidents to be a Free-mason. The Eastern Star, Concord Chapter, met in the Masonic Hall two Tuesday evenings a month at 7:30.

One of the most fascinating and progressive of these societies was the AOOW, the Ancient Order of United Workmen. At the Museum we have a wonderful picture of West Concord's AOOW group in full regalia, with musician and music store owner, David Quackenbush, front and center. If any of you had Marian Monical as a teacher, David was her grandfather. We are fortunate to have his violin at the Museum. The AOOW met the first and third Saturdays of the month and invited members in good standing from other lodges to join them. AOOW was established to serve men in the mechanical trades, but very quickly opened up membership to other occupations. A hallmark of AOOW is that it introduced fraternal life insurance benefits to its members. If a member of AOOW passed away, a death benefit was provided to the family. Then members contributed a dollar amount to rebuild the death benefit fund. AOOW lodges were totally dissolved nationwide in 1952 and are only a memory today.

A similar fraternal society was the Modern Woodmen of America who met every second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month in West Concord. Inspired by pioneer woodmen who cleared the land to provide for their families, M.W.A. was established for social fellowship and to provide for families when the breadwinner passed away. Local Chapters of M.W.A. were known as camps, West Concord's being Camp #2207. Men of certain professions were excluded from membership, including railway workers, miners, gunpowder factory employees, saloon keepers, liquor wholesalers, balloon pilots, sailors and professional baseball players. (I understand the risk in all those professions, except baseball). A man had to be young to join—between the ages of 18 and 45—another way to lower risk. They also had to reside in one of the 12 healthiest states of the U.S, deemed to be all midwestern states, including Minnesota. Unlike Ancient Order of United Workmen which no longer exists, M.W.A. is listed by Forbes magazine as one of the World's Best Life Insurance companies in 2023, still serving its members well.

The Woman's Relief Corps (WRC), chartered in 1883 as an auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), met two Saturday afternoons a month in the Masonic Hall.

They remained active until the American Legion was founded in 1919 after World War I.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) and their auxiliary, Daughters of Rebekah, had their own hall in West Concord. The men met every Wednesday night and the women two Friday nights a month.

Skimming through the Museum's book of obituaries from the early 1900's, I found many notations like these:

"The Odd Fellows of this place had charge of the funeral."

"The remains were taken to Concord Cemetery, followed by the bereaved ones and a large number of sympathizing friends, where the Odd Fellows paid the last sad rites to their brother."

"The sisters of the Rebekah Lodge, of which she was a member, attended in a body."

"Interment was made in Evergreen Cemetery beside the body of his wife, who preceded him in the Great Beyond just 18 months ago, the Masonic Order having charge of the services."

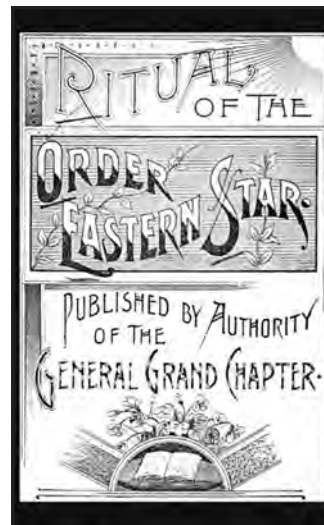
Fraternal organizations in West Concord in the late 19th and early 20th centuries flourished both as mutual aid societies and social outlets. As people became more mobile, insurance became more common, and Social Security programs were instituted, membership in Secret Societies declined.

The IOOF still has Lodges throughout the U.S. Their mission statement reinforces why lodges were successful in West Concord and far beyond. It is "to promote good will and harmony amongst peoples and nations through the principle of universal fraternity, holding the belief that all men and women regardless of race, nationality, religion, social status, gender, rank and station are brothers and sisters." A worthy mission, to be sure.

Please stop by the Museum to see some of our memorabilia from the heydays of lodges in West Concord. You'll find them interesting.



Ancient Order of United Workmen (AOOW)
George Wheeler back row right, Frank Wheeler front row right, David Quackenbush front center, two Moshers front row ?



(additional picture at www.westconcordmn.net)

SECRET SOCIETIES	
A. F. & A. M. —WASHINGTON LODGE, No. 38. Meets in their hall on the second and fourth Saturday evenings of each month. D. C. Smith, W. M.; G. N. Bird, Sec.	
B. of A. V. West Concord Lodge No. 658. Meets Second and Fourth Saturday evenings of each month. Visiting members in good standing are cordially invited. L. N. Stevens, Foreman; F. L. Stevens, Cor.	
D. OF H. —ARBUTUS LODGE No. 16. Meets first and third Saturday evenings of each month at Masonic Hall. Anna Parkin, C. of H.; Lillie M. Bullis, Recorder.	
D. OF R. —HYACINTH LODGE, No. 93—Meets every first and third Friday evening of each month in Odd Fellows Hall. Annie Cain, N. G.; Della Fairbank, Recording Secretary.	
I. O. F. —CRESCENT LODGE No. 110. Meets every Wednesday evening in Odd Fellows Hall. Visiting brethren in good standing are cordially invited. F. F. Clifford, N. G.; Chas. Wheeler, Rec. Sec.; J. T. McCarthy, Per. Secretary.	
W. R. C. —Joseph Orontt Corps. No. 24. Meets first and third Saturday of each month, in Masonic Hall, at 2 o'clock. Alida Morris, Pres.; Ina George, Sec.	
A. O. U. W. —WEST CONCORD LODGE No. 91. Meets First and Third Saturday evenings of each month. Members in good standing from other lodges cordially invited. E. Weckerling, M. W.; G. W. Tibbets, Recorder; O. R. Bolon, Financier.	



Eden Progressive Gophers 4-H Club Pancake Breakfast



The Eden Progressive Gophers 4-H club held a pancake breakfast Sunday at the West Concord American Legion. They served pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, milk, juice and coffee with desert treats from 8am to 12:30pm. About 150 were served. A donation was made to the Legion for the recently remodeled kitchen.

Legion Kitchen Remodel



Removing old floor
Kitchen prep-area remodel
2024



Installing floor joists
Kitchen prep-area remodel
2024

Happy Easter



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6:30pm

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Find more events in the region here!








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www.westconcordmn.com



Join us for Book Group at the West Concord Library
Saturday, April 6 from 9-10am
or Wednesday, April 10 from 4-5pm
The Bandit Queens by Parini Shroff


Geeta's no-good husband disappeared five years ago. She didn't kill him, but everyone thinks she did--no matter how much she protests.

But she soon discovers that being known as a "self-made" widow has some surprising perks. No one messes with her, no one threatens her, and no one tries to control (ahem, marry) her. It's even been good for her business; no one wants to risk getting on her bad side by not buying her jewelry.

Freedom must look good on Geeta, because other women in the village have started asking for her help to get rid of their own no-good husbands...but not all of them are asking nicely.

Now that Geeta's fearsome reputation has become a double-edged sword, she must decide how far to go to protect it, along with the life she's built. Because even the best-laid plans of would-be widows tend to go awry.

342 pages, Hardcover, First published January 3, 2023



2024 West Concord Events

- Saturday, March 23rd - Expo (8:00am-2:00pm)
- Saturday, March 30th - Easter Egg Hunt (10:00am) 
- Saturday, April 20th or 27th - Tree Planting
- Saturday, May 11th (8-11am) - Community Clean-up/3rd Annual Spring Fling Event (4-7pm)
- June 19th - Juneteenth - Open Swim
- **Thursday-Sunday, July 25th-28th, 39th Annual Survival Days Weekend**
- Tuesday, August 6th - National Night Out (6-9pm)
- Saturday, September 21st - 3rd Annual Oktoberfest Event (3-7:30pm) 
- October Membership Drive, Date/Time to be determined
- Saturday, December 7th - 18th Annual WC Community Christmas 



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This program is free and open to the public.

March 23, 2024 10:15am
West Concord Public Library 180 Main St West Concord, MN 55985
 (507) 527-2668



Find more events in the region here!



The Hunt Is On!

A Surprise May "Hop" On By

Saturday, March 30th, 2024
10:00 am
West Concord Lions Park

Rain or Snow or Sunshine! 

First Come First Serve, No Slotted Times for Different Ages. When They Are Gone They are Gone!

You Keep the Eggs

*Please Limit Each Child to six (6) Eggs So There Are Enough For All

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 Cardinal Club of WC
 City of WC
 WC Historical Society



25 Years of "Shop Local"

(continued from page 1)

Other counties have tried to be a part of this show, but Gerry held fast to his vision. Here is one place to meet over 100 of your neighbors who work hard to make a living in your own backyard.

A few of the businesses have participated in every expo held these past 25 years. Fahning and Associates, the various art guilds, such as the Mantorville Theater, and Hardware Hank in Kasson are a few who have stayed the course and never regretted their decision.

Every expo has been well attended, even the year a blizzard hit with no time to cancel. People still showed up, and the show was a success. Now they can boast over 1500 attendees per show. Yep, I'd call that a success!

The businesses in all the participating communities come up with new ideas every year. Each town sponsors a basket full of goodies to raffle off. You just fill out a registration form when you come through the door. Many of the vendors also have gift drawings and give aways at their booths, so be sure to check them all out!

The expo committee members work with the schools to have help on set up and tear down, serving food, and entertaining the people who come out to meet the business owners. Some schools do things like having

a dance performance or other entertainment. This year for the first time, there will be 5 food vendors serving up their specialties, and live music for your enjoyment. The qualifier for the Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby will be held in the gym this year, as well as the first time ever Dodge County Mullet Contest! Everyone is welcome to enter that one!

This is a non profit event, so the proceeds from the vendor fees go to advertise the event, and any incidentals incurred in putting on the show. Any money left over will be earmarked for scholarships for local project needs as they arise.

Gerry is the Committee Member Emeritus, and he can tell you so many facts and stories about previous shows. Most of all, he wishes to thank the hardworking committee members who do a year's worth of planning to make this event such a hit with the locals. So a great big thank you goes out to Dan Rabe, president, and Kristie Faber, Lynnette Nash, David Evans, Tom Monahan, Larry Dobson, Bob Soland, Jen Galloway and Chris Pluto.

Now that you know the history of this awesome event, come on out to Triton Gymnasium on March 23rd from 8 am to 2 pm, and enjoy the show!

University of Wyoming Fall Semester Dean's and Dean's Freshman Honor Rolls: Minnesota

The University of Wyoming lists the following students from Minnesota on the 2023 fall semester academic Dean's and Dean's Freshman Honor Rolls.

The honor rolls consist of regularly enrolled undergraduates above freshman standing who earned a 3.4 or better grade-point average, and freshmen who have earned a 3.25 or better grade-point average.

To be eligible, students must have been enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours taken for letter grades.

The University of Wyoming provides quality undergraduate and graduate programs to 10,913 students from all 50 states and 74 countries. Established in 1886, UW is a nationally recognized research institution with accomplished faculty and world-class facilities. Offering 200 areas of study, UW provides an environment for success. A low student/faculty ratio allows for individual instruction and attention, and undergraduates often participate in cutting-edge research projects.

For more information about the University of Wyoming, view the webpage at www.uwyo.edu.

Students include:

- West Concord
- Austin J. Schlichting

Dodge Center Citizen of the Year Nominations

Dodge Center Lions are seeking nominations for Citizen of the Year. Community members may nominate someone for the honor. If you are aware of an active community volunteer, please submit a letter of nomination stating the reasons you believe that person is a good candidate to be named Dodge Center Citizen of the Year. Active couples in Dodge Center may be nominated together. Nominations must be submitted to Dodge Center Lions Club, P.O. Box 364, Dodge Center, MN 55927 by May 1, 2024.



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TRITON CLASS OF 2024



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Aiden Radke is a senior at Triton High School. His parents are Raelene and Travis Radke. He has three brothers, Tavan, Damion and Tristan. He is active in the Super Mileage Club at Triton. Outside of school he can be found working. His hobbies are reading, playing video games, and driving. He enjoys American Civil War movies, actor Ryan Reynolds and country and rock music. After graduation he plans to move across the country and work operating heavy machinery.



AIDEN RADKE

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Volunteers make the Local Fire Departments Work

(continued from page 1)

The Messenger had a few minutes to talk to Jake Hesse, the Training Captain for both Claremont and Dodge Center Fire Departments.

Here's what we found out: Jake lives a bit east of Claremont. He's originally from a small town called Denver, just north of Waterloo, Iowa. He attended Wartburg College in 2002 and the University of Northern Iowa in 2007. He is currently an Operations Manager for Olmsted Medical Center in Rochester.

He and his wife live on 10 acres with their daughter, 1 dog (Kenai), 3 outside cats (Simba, Cougar, and Goose) chickens and a couple of goats.

His hobbies include hunting, camping, kayaking, gardening, and spending time with his family. They run Hesse's Haunted Trail in October on their property. He also volunteering for local Fire Departments and instructing fire courses at Riverland Community College.

His first job was rouging tall corn stalks out of fields at the age of 14, making just \$3.15 per hour!

He dislikes cantaloupe, honeydew, clams,

sardines, Braun Schweiger and pickled pig's feet.

The last song he listened to was "Save Me" by Jelly Roll.

His father, Glenn, was the most influential person in my life. He taught Jake to be brave, work hard, never quit, and to love deeply.

Jake hopes to retire out west and live in a log cabin in the mountains, someday.

Jake's been on Claremont Fire Department since Jan. of 2020 and Dodge Center since August of 2017.

CFD is a volunteer department, so both Casey Dahl and Jake Klejewski are his bosses, as they are the Chief and Assistant Chief, respectively.

As the Training Captain, Jake oversees identifying the needs of the Department and implementing the training plan each month.

They train for a few reasons: First, firefighting is dangerous; needing to ensure that each of them are competent, capable, and confident in not only their skills, but also their brothers and sisters who are going into those dangerous situations with them.

They also train to ensure that they're able to assist the members of the community as quickly and safely as possible. Each of the residents could count on them to help in an emergency.

On average CFD trains around 2-3 times per month. Sometimes more! They also try to train with other members of other fire departments as often as possible.

Primarily, he trains at CFD station, however, they train sometimes at other departments and even in Rochester at the Regional Training space.

Currently CFD has 19 members on the roster. DCFD has 24.

Firefighters must complete the state required Fire I education and it is highly suggested to complete the Fire II and Hazmat Training as well. Firefighters must complete an additional 72 hours of training every 3 years.

As a Level I Officer and Instructor Level I, Jake must also complete an additional 108 hours every 3 years to maintain his certifications.

CFD and DCFD are both volunteer departments.

"Unlike Owatonna, we don't have any full-time members, so we are all volunteer." He said in a recent interview. CFD does offer some compensation for tasks each year, but he admits it is becoming more and more difficult to find people interested in volunteering. The department covers nearly all costs of training and gear.

"It can be difficult sometimes to drop what you're doing and respond to an incident. Many employers are very understanding about it being bigger than they are. The duty to the community is all our duties and is supported by nearly all employers."

The local FDs are looking for honest, hard-working members who are ready to give back to their community. There is a lot of time invested, so it is imperative families are not only aware, but fully on board. The departments are very family friendly, but the job requires time away from home.

Regarding Emergency Medical, CFD has a separate first responders' group that is a stand-alone group. They all must complete the EMR certification. Some are EMT's like Jake and Chief Dahl.

The EMT certification is a national certification that requires a 3-4-month long course and 40 hours of continuing education.

Many departments have a physical agility test that is completed annually to ensure members are physically capable of doing the work safely.

When we asked Jake what motivates members, he said:

1. Members wanting to give back
2. Wanting to be a part of something larger than themselves.

3. Wanting to look cool, going into a burning building to fight fires and possibly save lives (who wouldn't want that?)

Jake wants us, as a community, to continue to support our fire departments.

Jake hopes interested parties will reach out to any of the members in the department to discuss the process of joining up. All members are open to answering questions about what it means to be a firefighter.

"If you have questions or concerns about buildings, your home or a building or home you own has unexpected or unknown hazards, it's great for us to know. Don't be afraid to reach out."

Jake's Tips to help keep your family safe: Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!

Talk to your family members about fire safety, have an escape plan.

Wear your seatbelt, wear a helmet, and please don't text and drive.

Jake encourages community members to stop by if they have questions or just want a tour.

Dodge Center has a Father's Day Weekend event: Friday June 14th from 4-8pm. They'll have burgers, brats, hotdogs, chips and root beer floats.

Also, say Hi to the CFD during Hog Fest.

The funds raised at events like this help replace old or worn-out equipment.

"The equipment we use is to keep the community safe. We want people to be supportive and feel like we are involved in their lives. Stop by, say hi, get involved however you can."

Interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter or EMR? Stop by on a Wednesday night at the Fire Hall or you can also contact City Hall at 528-2137.

TRITON CLASS OF 2024

2024



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Hunter Stark is a senior at Triton High School. His parents are Josh and Jen Stark. He has one sister, Hannah. He is active in Triton football and trap. Outside of school he enjoys hunting and fishing and having fun with friends. After graduation he plans to become an electrician.



HUNTER STARK

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Down on the Farm/ Up at the Cabin How to Make Friends in a New Community: Being Helpful

By Monica & Claudia Vanderborght

When all is said and done, it still takes time for a home purchase to close. Monica finally had a purchase agreement on a small farm: 20 acres with rolling topography and some fenced pasture, a barely nice four-bedroom home with attached garage, and a huge 40' x 90' pole barn. And still some summer remained to make local friends before her teaching job began in September.

Monica's daughter was grown with a family of her own – it's difficult to make friends when your kids are adults. But church would be a key to meeting some local folks and maybe some farmer friends. (Farming sounded like fun, but Monica realized that she knew nothing and would have a lot to learn.)

Monica settled into a local community church. Although the congregation was small, it was welcoming. With instant friends: there were two female veterans, a single middle-aged teacher, and a few families who farmed. Having time on her hands before house closing and school starting, Monica offered to help her new friends with whatever was needed. One family invited her to help trim grape vines in their vineyard; it was hot, sweaty work, standing on a steep

hillside -- but Monica liked being outdoors and loved learning new skills.

One Sunday, Monica listened to the teacher exclaiming frustration about her basement renter: the gal was behind on rent, causing problems, and refusing to leave. Monica had heard many stories from her dad about how difficult it was to evict tenants, usually costing thousands of dollars and causing months of frustration. Monica is a problem solver, had experience with renters, and loves to help others; she offered her new friend help in evicting the tenant.

"Let's make this official," Monica suggested. "Write up a lease and I will pay you \$1 in rent to make the contract legally binding."

Contract in hand, Monica packed a few clothes, her cooler and grill, the air mattress, a few miscellaneous essentials, and moved into the other basement bedroom. The difficult tenant had gone away for the weekend, so while she was gone Monica helped pack her belongings.

Anything that might be used as a weapon (knives, tools) were stored at the bottom of the box, clothes and dishes on top. Two days later, the delinquent renter returned and discovered Monica -- her new, helpful roommate.

The shouting and cursing began, including pleas like, "Where I am supposed to go? I have nowhere to live! How am I supposed to move? I have nowhere to go..."

After pointing out that this was not the homeowner's or Monica's problem, Monica ignored her. The homeowner simply repeated her requests for rent owed.

Knowing that possession is nine-tenths of

the law, Monica was careful not to leave the apartment. When dinner time came and she wanted to use the grill, Monica simply locked the bedroom door and climbed in and out of the window!

The tenant was – of course – furious and threatened to call the police. Both the homeowner and Monica agreed that was a wonderful idea (much to the chagrin of the apartment squatter). A very nice officer came to the home, understood the dilemma, and asked to speak with each person individually.

When it was her turn, Monica presented her driver's license and military identification (knowing that many officers had served in the military).

"I have my own home," Monica explained, "but I am just trying to help my friend, the

homeowner."

"You know this isn't the normal way of doing things," the officer said.

To which Monica completely agreed. So the officer phoned the chief for advice on the legalities of the situation.

"Good news and bad news," the officer told the young lady. "No, the homeowner cannot force you to move out. You have a legal right to stay and make the homeowner go through the normal eviction process. The bad news is that Monica, having a legitimate lease, also has a legal right to stay."

Within 24 hours, still shouting and cursing, the delinquent renter packed up the rest of her belongings and moved out. Monica left a day or so later.

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TRITON CLASS OF 2024



MAX OLSON-RAMER

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Max Olson-Ramer is a senior at Triton High School.

His grandparents are Tony and Candy Mulhdland.

He has one sister Mallory Olson-Ramer.

He is on the Honor Society and BPA.

His hobbies are programming, video games and bowling.

His favorite artists are Post Malone, actor Jeremy Allen White and he enjoys pop music.

After graduation he plans to attend NDSU and major in CyberSecurity.



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West Concord Raffle Supports St. Jude Children's Hospital

(continued from page 1)

The net amount of the check for St. Jude's Children's Hospital was \$7,116. Tickets were

sold at the Concord Locker, Wescon Lanes, West Concord Municipal Liquor Store, HJB Tax Service and by WCHS members. The drawing was held on March 7th at Wescon Lanes. They would like to thank the community for their support in this cause.

The \$1,000 winner was Steve Ray. There were six \$500 winners; Kelsy Schumacher, Cory Volk, Gail Freerksen, Nicole Guerton, Jesse Phelps and Steve Lurken. There were six \$250 winners; Deb Steenhard, Bruce Williams, Shirley Stumo, Richard Dessner, Judy Miller and Zach Starkson. There were five \$100 winners; Brett Dutton, Deb Paquin, Jake Bratten, Jenn So and Perry Wingen.


Kenyon Area Internship Soup Cookoff and Cake Auction



Golden Crockpot

April 7th at Gol Church
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Keep Your Dog's Heart Healthy

Spring is a good time to review how you keep your dog fit. Keeping them in good condition is critical to ensure your dogs have long, healthy lives. Dogs, just like humans, need good nutrition, exercise, and regular checkups to give them the best chance at good health.

A dog owner can keep their pet in good shape with an active lifestyle and participation in several dog sports. Here are some tips to keep your dog in their best health for a long and happy life.

- Limit table scraps, adhering to a lower-sodium diet (no deli or cured meats). No shellfish or foods with salts or seasonings.
- Staying physically active keeps the heart muscle strong and reduces blood pressure.
- Keep dogs' weight in check. Obesity in dogs is very common now and many owners don't know how to recognize it in their dogs:
 - Ensure your dog has a waist.
 - You should easily feel your dog's ribs when you place your thumbs on the backbone and spread fingers across the rib cage.
 - If your puppy's ribs, lumbar vertebrae, and pelvic bones are visible from a distance, your puppy may be underweight.
- Annual exams to early detect a heart murmur, irregular heartbeat. Dogs can hide heart disease, so it's important to schedule regular veterinary checkups.
- Heart problems are often congenital abnormalities, and some breeds are more at risk than others. Know your breed and the recommended tests published by the parent club. Almost every AKC breed parent club requires heart screenings in order for dog to obtain a Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) number.
- Talk with your vet about supplements, such as Coenzyme Q, which can slow the progress of heart disease and omega-3 fatty acids. Both L-carnitine and taurine are amino acids that are good for your dog's heart.
- Weight management for puppies – a puppy being fed a "complete and balanced" diet should not need additional supplements.

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New Restaurant in Zumbrota

By Cheri Roshon

When you look at a glass, is it half full, or half empty? If you are Jacob or Megan Gochnauer, it's most likely overflowing!!! Yes, they have opened a new restaurant...in Zumbrota! Whaaaat, you ask? Must be all that youthful energy they have a market on!

Megan used to work at the Cattleman's Corner LLC restaurant at the stockyard back in 2018 to 2020, and she always enjoyed being there. I mean, there are cows there! And she loved seeing everyone come in for food and camaraderie. When the chance came to run the place, Jacob and Megan decided to "Go For" it!

The restaurant, located in Central Live-



stock at 44326 County 6 Blvd (the livestock sale barn) will be open Mondays from 7:30



to 4, and Tuesdays from 7:30 to noon, with an occasional Thursday when there is a sale at the barn. Serving up their own beef for burgers will give the public a chance to taste test the quality of their "other business", too! The menu is full breakfasts, burgers, soup and a daily special each day. They will also offer ready made meals to pick up and take home, or grab them frozen to cook up at a later date. Very convenient, and healthy!

So far, the take out meals are flying off the counters. Starting on Wednesday, you can go to their website and see the meals being offered for the week. There will be 7 different entrees, 4 breakfast choices and some desserts, too. You have until Saturday to get

your order in. You fill out the Google form, send it in, and your meals will be ready to pick up either at the restaurant, the Farm Store in West Concord, or you may choose to have them delivered. You will have locally grown, preservative free meals, fresh or frozen, to make your meals as easy as popping it in your oven. For questions, you can email Megan at goforholsteins@gmail.com. or give her a call at (507) 696-6972. It is indeed a healthy option.

So, check out the website or stop in during business hours to see what's going on, and to wish them luck on their newest adventure! And yeah, tell them Cheri sent you!

Dodge Center Fire Department Spaghetti Supper



(continued from page 1)

The all you can eat Spaghetti supper included garlic bread, green beans, cookies and a variety of beverages. About two hundred

turned out to support the local fire department and enjoyed the meal and the company of their friends and neighbors. The local girl scouts were also on hand to sell cookies.



Triton Business Professionals of America Crowns State Champions

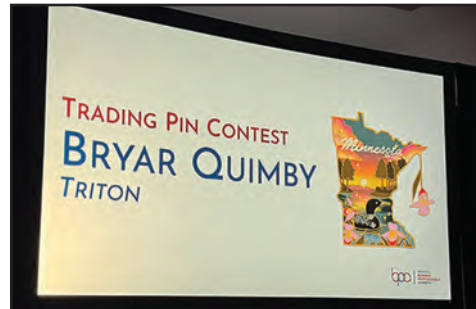
Dodge Center, MN – 34 students from Triton’s Business Professionals of America (BPA) chapter participated in the annual State Leadership Conference held March 14-16, 2024 in Minneapolis, where over 1,400 students competed. Triton crowned two State Champions, 7 National Trip Winners, 22 Top 10 Finishers, and was recognized as a Gold Chapter for Membership Excellence.

“I can’t reiterate enough how proud I am of all of our kids,” said Advisor Rebecca Goossens. “This is the most students Triton has ever had qualify for State, which is a huge achievement in and of itself, and they are all such amazing and talented individuals.”

(continued on page 14)



Corey Lilledahl is State Champion



The Video Production Team of Noah Kleinwort, Quinn Short, and Alex Ortiz show off their 3rd Place, National Trip winning trophy



The Visual Design Team of Bryar Quimby and Ashley Romero show off their designs before presenting



Camilla Medina, Anna Anderson, and Ben Crofton serve as Voting Delegates in the State Officer Elections



Diego Ibarra-Castillo, Litany Peterson, and Jessica Willette prepare for News Broadcast



Hector Ibarra is interviewed on the red carpet



Jade Scovill and RoseLyn Liudahl place 2nd in Website Design Team



The Small Business Management Team of Danielle Hallaway, Logan Tufte, Tyler Gnagey, and Corey Lilledahl show off their Top 10 Finalist medals



Jairo Solano, Joaquin Lundi, and Max Olson-Ramer finished 7th for Podcast Team



Logan Skjeveland, Frankie Gann, and Miley Dostal show off their Visual Design storyboard

Triton Business Professionals of America Crowns State Champions

(continued from page 13)

Bringing home the championship trophies and earning trips to Nationals were juniors Corey Lilledahl for Presentation Individual and Bryar Quimby for the MN Trading Pin Design Contest, while the sophomore Website Design Team of RoséLyn Liudahl and Jade Scovill snapped up a second-place finish, and the Video Production Team of seniors Noah Kleinwort, Alex Ortiz, and Quinn Short took the podium in third place. Also gracing the stage at the Grand Awards Ceremony was junior Camila Medina for placing fourth in Graphic Design, senior Danielle Hallaway for placing fifth in Health Research, and sixth-place finishers junior Katya Wheeler in Computer Modeling and the Broadcast News Team of sophomore Diego Ibarra-Castillo and juniors Litany Peterson and Jessica Willette. The Podcast Team of seniors Joaquin Lundi, Max Olson-Ramer and Jairo Solano and the Small Business Management Team of Tyler Gnagey, Hallaway, Lilledahl, and Logan Tufte nabbed a

spot in the Top 10 by finishing seventh, while junior Axel Reiser placed eighth in Desktop Publishing, as did the Visual Design Team of Quimby and Ashley Romero. Rounding out the Top 10 Finalists were Kleinwort for Web Design and sophomore Frankie Gann for Digital Media Production.

"We compete against schools at State whose chapters have around 150-175 members. That's almost two-thirds the size of our entire high school, so the fact that we continue to succeed and at such a high level is no small feat. It's a huge testament to how awesome our students truly are," said Goossens.

During the school year, over 1,800 Minnesota BPA student members took part in the organization's competitive events program, allowing them to compete in nearly 70 events focused in the areas of business administration, finance & accounting, information technology, video production, human resources, computer programming, graphic design, small business & entrepreneurship, and health services. The competitions are designed to prepare students to succeed and assess real-world business skills and problem solving abilities. After qualifying earlier this year, regional winners put their talents to the test during the State Leadership Conference.

This May, Lilledahl, Quimby, Kleinwort, Ortiz, Short, Liudahl and Scovill will travel to Chicago, IL to compete with thousands of top students from across the United States at the 59th Annual National Leadership Conference – the pinnacle of BPA competition.



Top Finalists MN STATE COMPETITION

SEVENTH PLACE
Podcast Team- Joaquin Lundi, Max Olson-Ramer, Jairo Solano
Small Business Management Team- Tyler Gnagey, Dani Hallaway, Corey Lilledahl + Logan Tufte

EIGHTH PLACE
Fundamental Desktop Publishing- Axel Reiser
Visual Design Team- Bryar Quimby + Ashley Romero

NINTH PLACE
Web Design- Noah Kleinwort

TENTH PLACE
Digital Media Production- Frankie Gann

PARTICIPATION
Computer Security- Max Olson-Ramer
Digital Media Production- Miley Dostal
Ethics & Professionalism- Anna Anderson
Extemporaneous Speech- Sydney Naze
Financial Math Concepts- Ben Croftan
Fundamental Spreadsheet- Hector Ibarra
Interview Skills- Ollie Akkerman
Podcast Team- Ava Cummings, Nancy Fernandez + Lauryn Nauman
Prepared Speech- Camila Medina
Prepared Speech- Alan Ortiz
Presentation- Diego Ibarra-Castillo
Visual Design Team- Miley Dostal, Frankie Gann + Logan Skjeveland
Visual Design Team- Anyely Dominguez + Alisson Velasco

***STATE CHAMPION**
MN Trading Pin Design- Bryar Quimby
Presentation- Corey Lilledahl

***SECOND PLACE**
Website Design Team- Roselyn Liudahl + Jade Scovill

***THIRD PLACE**
Video Production Team- Noah Kleinwort, Alex Ortiz + Quinn Short

FOURTH PLACE
Graphic Design- Camila Medina

FIFTH PLACE
Health Research- Dani Hallaway

SIXTH PLACE
Broadcast News Team- Diego Ibarra-Castillo, Litany Peterson + Jessica Willette
Computer Modeling- Katya Wheeler

*National Trip Winners

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TRITON CLASS OF 2024

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



JAIRO SOLANO

Jairo Solano is a senior at Triton High School. His parents are Manuel and Antelma Solano. He has one brother, Emanuel. He is active in BPA and choir. His pastimes are video games, working on cars and bike rides. His favorite movie is Penguins of Madagascar, and he likes actors Matt Mercer and Adam Sandler and music of Post Malone. After graduation he plans to attend Mankato State University.



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How to Get 'Extra Help' Paying for Prescriptions

Does Medicare offer any financial assistance programs to help seniors with their medication costs? I recently enrolled in a Medicare drug plan, but I take some expensive medications that have high out-of-pocket costs and need some help.

--Living on a Shoestring

Dear Living, Yes, there's a low-income subsidy program called 'Extra Help' that assists Medicare beneficiaries on a tight budget by paying for their monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and co-payments related to their Medicare (Part D) prescription drug coverage.

And, thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act that was passed by Congress and signed into law in late 2022, this program has expanded and gotten easier to qualify for in 2024. Even if you've applied and didn't qualify before, you may be eligible now.

The Extra Help benefit is estimated to be worth about \$5,300 per year. Currently over 13 million people are receiving this subsidy, but there's around 3 million more who may qualify for it but don't realize it.

The amount of financial assistance you would receive depends on your income and assets. If you qualify, you'll pay no premium or deductible (unless receiving a partial subsidy), and no more than \$4.50 for each generic drug or \$11.20 for each brand-name drug your plan covers in 2024.

To get the subsidy, your resources must be limited to \$17,220 or \$34,360 for married couples living together. Bank accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds and IRAs count as assets, but your home, vehicle, personal belongings, life insurance and burial plots do not.

Also, your annual income must be limited to \$22,590 for an individual or \$30,660 for married couples. If you support a family member who lives with you, or you live in Alaska or Hawaii, your income can be higher. In addition, the government won't count any money if you receive help for household expenses like food, rent, mortgage payments, utilities and property taxes.

How to Apply

There are three ways to see if you qualify and apply for Extra Help: online at [SSA.gov/medicare/part-d-extra-help](https://ssa.gov/medicare/part-d-extra-help); by calling Social Security at 800-772-1213; or by visiting your local Social Security office.

The application form is easy to complete, but you will need your Social Security number and information about your bank balances, pensions and investments. Social Security will review your application and send you a letter within a few weeks letting you know whether you qualify.

If you don't qualify for Extra Help, you may still be able to get help from a state pharmacy assistance program or a patient assistance program. Visit [NeedyMeds.org](https://www.NeedyMeds.org) to search for these programs.

Other Medicare Assistance

If you're eligible for Extra Help, you may also qualify for help with your other Medicare expenses through your state's Medicare Savings Program.

State Medicaid programs partner with the federal government, so income and asset qualifications vary depending on where you live. Medicare Savings Programs will pay your entire Medicare Part B premium each month. And in some cases, they may also pay your Medicare deductibles, coinsurance and copayments, depending on your income level. To find out if you qualify, contact your state Medicaid office.

You can also get help through your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), which provides free Medicare counseling in person or over the phone. Visit ShipHelp.org or call 877-839-2675 to locate a counselor in your area.

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KABA KASH NOTICE

The Kenyon Commercial Club is disbanding, thus discontinuing the KABA KASH program. Any outstanding KABA KASH will **ONLY** be redeemed for cash by bringing directly to Security State Bank of Kenyon. **DEADLINE** for cash refund of KABA KASH is **5/1/2024**.

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TAYLOR KRAEMER

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Taylor Kraemer is a senior at Triton High School.

Her parents are Richard and Jennifer Kraemer.

She has one brother, Jackson and two sisters, Kylie and Mikayla.

She is active in link crew and SADD.

Taylor is also the captain of the varsity cheer team and plays Triton volleyball.

She enjoys hanging out with friends and family, visiting family in Mankato, going to the mall, spending time at the lake and going out to eat.

She enjoys country music, the movie Princess and the Frog and actor Adam Sandler.

After graduation she plans to attend RCTC and pursue a career as a pre-school or Kindergarten teacher.



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35,000 Die from Antibiotic Overuse, Helium Shortage



By Shauna Burshem, D.C.

An estimated 35,000 Americans die each year from antibiotic resistant infections. Worldwide, the number rises to 4.95 million. Antibiotics are extremely overused in medical practice. Antibiotics are only useful for bacterial infections, they are useless for viral infections such as colds and flu. As far as childhood ear infections goes, 70% of ear infections clear up in 3 days without treatment and 80% clear up in 10 days without treatment. In addition to risks of developing an-

tibiotic resistant germs in your body, the floxacillin variety of antibiotics (the drug names that end in with the word floxacillin), can increase your risk of aortic rupture and have been linked to kidney stones, colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel disease. Most antibiotics end up in our bodies not from medical prescription but from animal meat consumption. Animal meat that is not antibiotic free becomes contaminated and a source of antibiotic resistant infections. This is just one of many reasons to only eat organic chicken, beef, pork and fresh fish that is not farm raised. If you have minor bacterial infections, there are natural antimicrobials that do not cause drug resistance. Garlic, ginger, echinacea, goldenseal, oregano oil, olive leaf extract and liposomal vitamin C to name a few. Antibiotic medical prescriptions are needed to save lives in an extreme bacterial situation and are one of the most important drugs ever discovered. Taking these drugs unnecessarily and frequently will lead to a situation that when you actually need an antibiotic for a bacterial germ, the antibiotic will not work for you.

Sauna use four to seven times per week decreased the risk of dementia by 66% and 65% for Alzheimer's disease. Sauna use appears to boost brain health by lowering inflammation and blood pressure and

improving vascular function.

Did you know that the gas helium used to fill up our balloons is mined from 3000 feet underground in a natural geologic formation called the helium reservoir? The Cliffside Gas Plant in Amarillo, Texas produces up to 30% of the nation's helium supply and 9% of the global supply. Helium is now in short supply which has the healthcare industry worried. Helium is the coldest element on Earth and is used to keep MRI machines cool. Without helium, MRI machines will not work. Three out of the five U.S. helium suppliers are now rationing helium so that MRI machines take priority over parade and party balloons. It sounds like this is the time to start blowing up balloons the old fashioned way, with our breath.

It appears that the "conspiracy theory" that Covid-19 coronavirus was developed in a lab in China is not a theory any longer. Evidence gathered through the Right to Know Act shows that the ECOHealth Alliance in 2018 proposed gain of function research (this is the type of research used to develop vaccines) on bat coronaviruses. Documents show that American scientists planned to work with China's Wuhan Institute of Virology to engineer coronaviruses with SARS_CoV-2 features the year before the virus emerged from the city. In his new

book, Senator Rand Paul states that the COVID-19 pandemic was the result of Anthony Fauci's decision to fund the bat coronavirus gain of function research in China. This research was banned in the U.S. at the time. Paul goes on to say that Fauci profited from the Covid-19 pandemic disaster in the amount of 5 million dollars. In an interview on the Tucker Carlson show, Paul states that the pandemic killed millions of people and Fauci should serve prison time.

Vitamin D3, sometimes known as the "sunshine vitamin", is more than just one of the many supplements on the shelf—it's a powerful player in our overall health. Vitamin D is essential for the health of our bones, but did you know that Vitamin D3 also plays a crucial role in strengthening our immune system? This is why there are less cases of colds and flu in the summertime when more people are exposed to sunshine. Then there's the topic of cancer prevention. While we don't have all the answers, research suggests that Vitamin D3 might help out again by putting up a fight against certain types of cancer cells including colorectal cancer. So, please consider how Vitamin D3 supplementation could be a simple, yet effective addition to your daily routine. It's all about giving your body a bit of extra support so that it can take care of you better.



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TRITON CLASS OF 2024

2024

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



ANDREW EDGE

Andrew Edge is a senior at Triton High School. His parents are Angela and Joshua Edge. He has one brother, Maurice Edge and one sister Chyanne Markham. He is active in Drama, choir and Super Mileage. His hobbies are wood working, video games, hiking, gardening and bowling. He enjoys country and rock music and the movie Beekeeper. After graduation he plans to attend NDSU for Electrical Engineering.



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CITY OF CLAREMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024 7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Claremont, Minnesota was held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Claremont City Hall.

Members present: Mayor Tasha Dahl, City Council Members Jacob Klejeski, Deb Ellis, and Krystal Sultze. Council Members absent: None. There is 1 vacant seat.

City staff and others present: Administrator Elizabeth Sorg, Maintenance Director Casey Dahl, City Attorney Mark Rahrnick, City Engineer Derek Olinger, People Service Operator Nick Viker, Deputy Purdue, Ryan Hedberg, and Donna Gregory.

AGENDA

Motion by Ellis to approve the agenda, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of: Minutes of the January 2, 2024 City Council Meeting, Minutes of the January 8, 2024 Special City Council Meeting, Resolution No. 24-05: Resolution Expressing Acceptance of and Appreciation of Donations, Resolution No. 24-06: Resolution Expressing Acceptance of and Appreciation of Donation, Resolution No. 24-08: Resolution Expressing Acceptance of and Appreciation of Donation, and Renew CD for 12 months. Motion by Sultze to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS PERSONNEL

COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Dodge County Ambulance have been meeting with cities, townships and emergency personnel regarding funding and staffing issues. At the last meeting, the Ambulance wanted to know if the city would consider a taxing district or a joint powers agreement, and if so which one they preferred. After discussion, the council prefers a taxing district. The council hasn't heard what other cities and townships would like.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

EDA

Nothing at this time.

MAINTENANCE

DEPARTMENT

Nothing at this time.

PARKS COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

PEOPLESERVICE

Their monthly reports were in the packet. There is a broken valve under the ground at the wastewater plant that needs to be repaired. Council asked PeopleService and Engineer Olinger and get a list of what needs repairs and in the order that they should be repaired.

CITY ENGINEER

There are repairs needed at 2 lift stations. The Hayes Street lift station has had milky oil for the past 3 years, indicating a bad seal or other potential issues with a pump.

Other than the oil issue the pump appears to be working at the same flow rate as the other pump. Both pumps are about 20 years old and have reached the end of their expected service life. Quotes were received from MN Pump Works and Quality Flow Systems. Three options were in the quotes: to repair one pump, replace the one pump, or replace both pumps. Due to the price to replace 1 or 2 pumps (approximately over \$24,000 per pump), the recommendation is to repair the pump. It is uncertain how much more life there would be by repairing the pump or even if they repair the pump that more problems might be detected. Despite the risks, the short-term savings would allow for more expensive repairs on the Oak Street lift station. Motion by Ellis to move forward with Quality Flow Systems repairing the pump at approximately \$4,800, second by Klejeski. Motion carried unanimously.

The Oak Street lift station pumps are about 35 years old and there are various wiring issues with the current control panel. Based on the age and condition of the setup, replacements or repairs are no longer an option and a complete rehab of the station is needed. There is no risk of immediate failure and may run for another year or so but based on the unsafe electrical conditions and the fact that there would be no substantial advantage to wait another year, the work will be done this year. MN Pump Works estimates \$52,500 and Electric Pump estimated \$55,000 to rehab the lift station. The funds will need to be taken from sewer reserves. General standards for lift stations now are to have a generator recep-

tacle in case the electricity goes out. The generator receptacle is \$4,160, which is included in the \$52,500 quote. Motion by Mayor Dahl to approve MN Pump Works quote for the Oak Street life station rehab with the work being paid with sewer reserves, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Local Board of Appeals and Equalization will be April 22 at 2 p.m.

The audit was January 11 and 12 and it went well.

Maintenance Director Dahl has been busy painting the inside of City Hall.

CITY ATTORNEY

Nothing other than what is on the agenda later.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Hunter McGovern turned in his resignation effective January 31 due to an unexpected move out of town. Motion by Ellis to approve Resolution No. 24-09: A Resolution Accepting Resignation and Declaring a Vacancy to the City Council, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously. The council will take applications for the open seat until March 11 and at that council meeting, they will appoint someone. Council asked Administrator Sorg to post the vacancy on the city's website, City Hall window, Post Of-

fice and Facebook. Motion by Ellis to approve Resolution No. 24-10: Resolution Relating to Procedures for Appointing a Person to Fill the Vacant Council Position, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Klejeski to approve Resolution No. 24-07: Resolution Appointing Election Judges and Rate of Pay. The head judge will receive \$14 per hour and regular judges will receive \$13 per hour, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sultze to approve the 2024 Assessment Agreement Between Dodge County and the City of Claremont for \$3300, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Claremont Hogfest Committee requested to have a foam party on Front Street for Hogfest and Dodge County has approved the use of Front Street for Hogfest. They have requested the use of the ballfields and also requested having the garden tractor pulls on East Street as they have in the past. Included in the request was a mention of a softball tournament. The council said Henning Park ballfield will not be there anymore and Claremont Field the council can't approve at this time because they don't know if it will be ready and usable at that time.

Administrator Sorg will inform them the foam party and the use of East Street for the

garden pulls as they have in the past is fine, but the ballfields are unknown at this time.

The council will have Sorg's annual performance review March 11 at the end of the regular city council meeting.

Administrator Sorg summarized Ellis' Annual Performance Appraisal. Ellis has worked for the city for 1 year and works on average 1 day/week. Ellis "met expectations."

Motion by Ellis to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m., second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Sorg,
Administrator
Tasha Dahl, Mayor

CITY OF CLAREMONT EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024 6:30 P.M.

An emergency meeting of the City Council of the City of Claremont, Minnesota was held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Claremont City Hall.

Members present: Mayor Tasha Dahl, City Council Members Jacob Klejeski, Deb Ellis, and Krystal Sultze. Members absent: None. There is 1 vacant city council seat.

(continued on page 21)

Important Information Regarding Assessment and Classification of Property

This may affect your 2025 property taxes.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal and Equalization of the City of West Concord shall meet:

Date/Time: April 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and also to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the local board of appeal and equalization. The board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your local board of appeal and equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to your county board of appeal and equalization.

Given under my hand this 20 day of March, 2024

Brenda Borders
Administrator of the City of West Concord

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CLAREMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

(continued from page 20)

City staff and others present: Administrator Elizabeth Sorg, Fire Chief Casey Dahl, and Avery Dahl.

For a while now, the fire department has been looking at pumper trucks to upgrade their 1990 Spartan. They have found a 2003 pumper truck that is listed on an on-line auction starting at \$30,000. Bidding ends Friday morning. They have funds in their savings account to pay for it and also have talked to the townships about it, which the townships support getting a newer truck. If they get this truck, the 1990 truck will be sold and the money put back into the savings account. Two members of the fire department went to Elko and looked at the vehicle and talked to the city that owned it. If it doesn't sell at the auction, Elko will give the fire department first chance at it. At the fire department meeting later tonight, members will vote

on whether they want to bid on it or not. Motion by Sultze to approve the purchase of the 2003 pumper up to \$40,000 plus the auction fees and the money will come out of their savings account, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ellis to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m., second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.
ATTEST:

Elizabeth Sorg,
Administrator
Tasha Dahl, Mayor

TRITON ISD NO. 2125 – SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024 – 6:00 P.M. TRITON HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER – DODGE CENTER, MN & ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

-Meeting Proceedings-

Chair Kenworthy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Those members present: Lloyd Henslin, Jr., Duane Bartel, Wendy Kenworthy, Dale Jensen, Jim Jensen, Rebecca Knutson, and Brian Ginder; absent: none. Also present: Superintendent Craig Schlichting, Principal Luke Lutterman, Principal Shane Van Beek, Dean of Students Tricia Johnson, A.D. Corey Black, Student Council Representative Corey Lilledahl, Tina Kozisek, 6 visitors and 3 visitors present via ZOOM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Bartel/D. Jensen motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Eleanor Kasper, Piper Evans, Spencer Eckhoff, Eva Eipers, Adam Gardner, Izabella Ortiz, Alexis Randall, Layla Schley, Preston Erler, Grace-lyn Schwering, Autumn Froyum, Brylee Reniker, Guadalupe Mendoza, and Maguire Keller were recognized and congratulated as the Cobra Pride honorees this month.

J. Jensen/Henslin motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented including the January 8, 2024 regular meeting minutes and

January 31, 2024 study session minutes; budget update; claims and bills; treasurer's report; donations, nonresident/open enrollment agreements #021224A, #021224B, #021224C, #021224D, #021224E, #021224F, #021224G, #021224H, #021224I, #021224J, and #021224K; contracts for Stephanie Terwilliger as Special Education Paraprofessional, Joe Giesler as Assistant Building, Grounds, and Transportation Supervisor, Sue Torgerson as Adult GED Teacher, Corey Black as Activities Director, and Vanessa Schmidt as Title 1 Paraprofessional; long-term substitute agreement for Kari Fields as TMS Special Education Teacher; extra-curricular contracts for Anne Wotherspoon as Musical Director, Andrew Wotherspoon as Assistant Musical Director, Jaime Geers as Choreographer, Christine Deetz as Tech Director, and Caitlyn Sowieja as Junior High Softball Coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Knutson/Ginder motioned to approve students to attend the BPA overnight trip to the State Leadership Conference in Minneapolis March 14-16, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Jensen/D. Jensen motioned to approve the Resolution Directing the Administration to Make Recommendations for

Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Therefor. Motion carried unanimously. (Attachment A)

Bartel/Knutson motioned to approve Comparable Worth Pay Equity Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss/Approve Legal Newspaper. Still waiting on the opinion of the attorney at this time. Item tabled until next meeting.

Knutson/J. Jensen motioned to approve the Safe Learning Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Jensen/Henslin motioned to approve the Triton School Calendar for 2024-2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Henslin/Knutson motioned to approve the 6th Grade Overnight Stay to Eagle Bluff April 22-24, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Enrollment figures were discussed for first semester.

Student Council Representative Corey Lilledahl reported on Snow Week activities and the food drive.

Henslin gave a ZED update. Next meeting is scheduled for 2/15/24. ZED Writing Contest had a total of 322 entries and 98 were from Triton.

A.D. Black reported on the

dance team finishing their season; One Act Play Sub-Sections were held 1/27/24, Triton finished third; 1/27/24 Athletic Hall of Fame induction; winter sports are wrapping up, and 4/12/24 softball will host a double header in West Concord.

TES Principal Van Beek reported on I Love to Read Month, visiting authors, school wide incentive program, MnDOT Bridge in a Bag, donations from Dan & Sue Welsh and TES TEAM Parent Group.

TMS Dean of Students Tricia Johnson reported on the upcoming ski trip.

THS Principal Lutterman reported on National Counselors Week, transition to second semester, snow week, and EMT/EMR program planning.

Superintendent Schlichting thanked School Board members for what they do. He also reported on EMT Classes, next steps for the Superintendent position, Pre-K updates, READ Act training, Spanish Immersion survey, and March staffing.

Chair Kenworthy adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

School District Clerk

Concord Township Residents

Chloride application forms and stakes will be available at the town hall starting April 15, 2024. Forms and payment must be returned by May 10th to:

Gregory Hayne
21746 570th St.

Dodge Center, MN 55927

Chloride application date will be dependent on weather and rock spreading.

DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, February 26, 2024

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the February 26, 2024 Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Bill Ketchum, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Lee Mattson, Mark Barwald, AJ Gengler, Jeremy Dostal, Deputy Josiah Rehmann, Tim Woessner and Melanie Leth, City Attorney's, Larry VanHout, P.E., Widseth, Jennifer Svennes, P.E., Nero Engineering and Kathy Freeman

Absent: Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen

The City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda to include: February 12, 2024 City Council Minutes, January 9, 2024 HRA Minutes; Payment of Bills, 2023 Airport Report; Garbage Hauler License Renewals; 2024 Assessment Agreement with Dodge County; Appointment of Wade Fugleberg to HRA Board; Jarrett Settlement Agreement and Release; Pool Manager Hire; Triton High School Council Community Center Request;

- Resolution 2024-010 – A Resolution Adopting Facility Plan for Wastewater System;
- Prepared response to MPCA;
- Disposal of Class A/B Foam through Olmsted County;
- Fire Department grant application for replacing air packs;
- Match the Aquatic Center wages approved by the City of Kasson;
- Ambulance Service contract between the City of Dodge Center and Dodge County Youth Hockey over March 1, 2 and 3, 2024;
- Free swim day on Saturday, June 15, 2024 during Dodger Days;
- Donation to Dodger Days Committee for advertising, insurance, etc.;
- Grant application for two EFG Heart Monitors for Ambulance Services;
- Hiring of DeCook Excavating to finish off sidewalk at 6 1/2 Ave.
Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

LEGAL NOTICE

City of West Concord Notice of Public Hearing Small Cities Development Program Grant

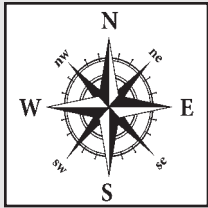
Notice is hereby given that the City of West Concord will conduct a public hearing on April 18, 2024, at approximately 6:30 p.m. at the West Concord Bell Tower Center, 401 Main Street West Concord, MN 55985. The City of West Concord was awarded a Small Cities Development Program Grant for housing and rental rehabilitation. The public hearing is an opportunity for property owners to provide feedback on the original Citizen Participation Plan and any substantial amendments to it, or to the activities for which SCDP funds are used. A representative from Southeastern Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Rehabilitation Authority will be in attendance. For more information about the program guidelines, or to apply, contact Grant Administrator Sara Fuher at SEMMCHRA at 651-565-2638, ext. 221.

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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Self-Checkouts and the "Pig"



By Terry Campbell

This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell.

Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when it's warm here and Tennessee when it's cold here.



I do not care for self-checkouts. I never wanted to be a cashier at Dollar General. When I go to a store I expect to be waited on. I stop at the Piggly Wiggly in town. The "Pig" was the first self-service grocery store in the country. It started in

1916 in Tennessee, and no one knows why the name. But down here everyone loves them and refers to them as the "Pig". Originally no one shopped for groceries. You gave your list to the clerk, who filled your order. The Piggly Wiggly changed all that.

There are always a couple smiling faces from the clerks standing at the checkout lines. They are genuinely friendly and talkative. Southern kids seem more respectful and courteous. They check the egg carton for cracked eggs. The other night the young girl went to ring up my groceries and she noticed a rip in the brown sugar bag. I never saw it, but she ran off to get another one off the shelf before finishing up my purchase. They have carry-out kids as well. They put the bags in the cart and start for the door. You just walk behind them and point them to your vehicle. They ask about your day, talk about the weather, inquire about your plans for the weekend. It is refreshing to have a pleasant visit. I usually have my old black lab in the back seat of my pickup and they say hello to my dog and tell me about their pet, while stacking the bags in the front seat. I don't ever expect Piggly Wiggly will have self-checkouts.

One evening I had to drive to Clarkesville to get dog food. I feed NutriSource dog food. It is a high-quality food and that was the closest store that sells it. It's a forty-five minute drive to J-M Petland. I take State Hwy 79 into Clarkesville and turn on Charlemagne which intersects Fort Campbell Boulevard. Charlemagne Blvd is where the tornado hit Clarkesville in December of 2023. Over ninety homes were destroyed along that road.

I don't go up Fort Campbell Blvd very far. It will take you right into the Army base. I tried going to Fort Campbell one time to get an item my wife bought off marketplace. I had to stop at the guard shack to get per-

mission to enter the base. They asked for driver's license, proof of insurance and vehicle registration. There was a very grumpy guard on duty. My insurance card had my name, address, vehicle information and VIN. He asked where my vehicle registration was and I said the info was on my insurance card. He wouldn't even look at it. He just looked at me and barked back that shouldn't even show up without the proper documentation, I was told to leave immediately and "Next". I left feeling fortunate I wasn't shot over this infraction.

On my way back from the pet store I stopped at the Dollar General outside of Woodlawn. I recall a red Mustang convertible leaving as I pulled in. I went in to get some plastic flowers for a window box on our house. We don't plant real flowers so we don't have to water them. I selected my red, blue and yellow flowers and looked for a clerk. No one was to be found. I went to the self-check out and rang up my order, paid with my card and looked around before leaving. It was after 9pm and no one in the store. I walked out to my pick-up and then noticed there wasn't another vehicle in the parking lot. I had just shopped at a non-staffed store. Maybe the girl in the red Mustang was the employee and just decided to go home early for the night.

As I drove home, I pondered this experience. There are big cities where people loot stores and shoplift merchandise at will. Some stores have to lock up items to keep them from walking out with light fingered shoppers. I am so happy to live in a place in Tennessee where people have integrity and be part of a community where the honor system works because the people there can be trusted. Nationwide the trend for self-checkout seems to be reversing. Todd Vasos, Dollar General CEO just announced that a number of stores opened in the last year with self-checkout only, will be converted back to conventional clerk checkout shortly. It seems that shrinkage at these un-manned stores is more than double the national average. I stopped by at the local DG the other day to buy an electric shaver. After I completed my task as a checkout clerk, I headed out. I hadn't been trained on how to deactivate the magnetic tab on the box. That is where the alarm went off. I had tripped the theft alarm at the front door with my shaver purchase. I wasn't paid to be part of the loss prevention team so I just walked to my car with the alarm bell ringing in my ear.

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A Minnesotan: Easter Bunnies



By RosaLin Alcoser

There are many things to be said about Easter Sunday. From egg hunts to new Easter hats to funny Easter morning sermons that we've all heard at church. All of which I could go on and on about.

One of the things that has always been my favorite since I learned about chocolate has been Chocolate Easter Bunnies. But my love for them is nothing compared to the love my father has for chocolate bunnies. He loves them so much that I have seen him sing about them as he does a little dance. What he especially loves to do is to bite their ears off.

About two Easters ago my father, the pastor, was given multiple chocolate Easter bunnies by members of his churches. He was probably given about

four or five bunnies that year from church members plus the one that we had already gotten for him.

The fact that he had multiple bunnies excited him to no end and that afternoon he felt he needed to bite the ears off of each chocolate bunny in succession. So we stood with the camera ready to watch him do just that, because one of those church members who had given him a bunny asked to get a photo when he went to bite the one she gave him.

So, he went down the line biting into the ear of each chocolate bunny and then he got to that last one that we had been asked to take the photo of. And when he bit into it, it wasn't chocolate, but instead was hollow plastic. It looked so much like it was real chocolate he didn't even suspect that it wasn't real. After that he started to shake it and take it apart in hopes that there would be candy inside of the plastic bunny.

However, it was much like the tomb when he opened it up there was nothing there. The disappointment painted across his face when it dawned on him that he had been tricked was like no other. It was also the exact reason we were asked to photograph the moment.



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Once Upon a Mattress Coming Soon to the Triton Stage

The Once Upon a Mattress cast, crew, and directors are getting ready for performances! If you missed the update in last month's Triton Times, the musical is once again under the direction of Anne (Schreiber) Wotherpoon, with music direction and accompani-

Triton Teams Excel at Academic Triathlon



6th Grade 1st Place

On March 1, Triton had 4 teams (18 students) compete at the regional competition in Byron for the Academic Triathlon. The academic challenges that the students faced were certainly the hardest they have been all season, but our students did amazing.

We had two teams bring home some hardware. Our 6th grade team took home 1st place! They created quite a gap in between them and the 2nd place team. Unfortunately,

this year there is no state meet. Otherwise, this team would be state bound!!!

Our 8th grade team took 2nd place! They tied for 1st place based on rankings but lost the tie breaker due to the raw scores of the events. This is the 3rd time this team has placed 2nd or above this season.

Please congratulate these students as you see them around!

(additional pictures on page 28)



ment by Andrew Wotherpoon, tech direction by Christine Deetz, and choreography by Jaime Geers.

The musical is new to the Triton stage, al-

though the story – and show – are not. The story is based on the fairy tale The Princess and the Pea, although every fairy tale stereotype is flipped.

(continued on page 30)

Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

In the last article I outlined some of the great things that are happening at the elementary school. Since the feedback that I received was so impressive on that article, I decided to follow up with an article about the middle school this month and then in April I will have an article about some of the awesome things about our high school.

Triton has the ability to have all of our grade levels under one roof, yet maintain the integrity and separation of the elementary, middle and high schools. This has been a great benefit for our middle school students. Middle school students are unique because they are going through so many life changes during 6th to 8th grade. It is the only time in your life that you go through as many social, emotional, physical and intellectual changes other than the time as an infant. Having this space for our

middle school students we are able to support the growth and development of each child that attends Triton Middle School. The middle school is a time for students to explore their learning interests. At Triton Middle School we have a number of these types of learning opportunities outside of the classroom. The clubs and organizations at Triton Middle School include Technovation, Academic Triathlon, Math Masters, Chess Club and Student Council. It is also a great time to explore a variety of different physical activities. Along with our robust physical education curriculum our middle school students have the opportunity to learn to ski at Welch Village in 7th grade, as well as participate in a great variety of extra-curricular sports.

One of the areas that our middle school does an exceptional job is in the area of team building and building productive social skills. This starts in the 6th Grade where students are introduced to the middle school concept and the differences that come with moving out of the elementary school. Changing classes and having a schedule are all things that are covered in our WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) Transitional Program

for incoming 6th grade students. This program partners 6th grade students into groups that are lead by 8th grade mentors. These mentors are people that students meet with throughout the year for guidance and support. The middle school also supports students with social emotional learning with weekly lessons as well as a common homeroom time that focuses on community building and social connections between grade levels. These homerooms are then grouped into one of four social houses that also promote teamwork and belonging. The house groups work together on a variety of activities and challenges throughout the school year that help promote the goals of the profile of a graduate.

The academic focus at the middle school is very strong. The middle school has extended learning time in the areas of math and language arts. This focus on math and reading continues to be evident when looking at student growth in statewide assessments when compared to other schools. The middle school is also dedicated to helping students with homework. There is a homework link on the website that shares what students are working on in the classroom each day, which

includes any homework assignments. There are also weekly emails that are sent to parents each Tuesday that list any missing assignments that students might have missed, and on Wednesday after school there is a homework club for students with a teacher to support students with any help they may need.

Triton Middle School has a great middle school that is modeled after what an exemplary middle school can be for the unique middle school students. We are fortunate to have such a great system in place for our middle school students. Please reach out to me with any questions that you may have regarding our school district. You can email me at schlich@triton.k12.mn.us or you can call me at 507-418-7530 to reach me at the district office. I would be happy to set up a time to meet with you or your organization. Communication is an important aspect of my job responsibility, and I welcome the opportunity to gain experience from your perspective. GO COBRAS!

#WeAreTriton

Expanded Preschool Options

We are so excited to offer expanded preschool options this year. We will have options for 2, 3, 4 & 5 class days. Our registration opens on March 15th for new families. The registration link will be on the Community Ed section of the Triton website, and on our Triton Community Education Facebook page. If you have any questions, or need help with registration, please call the Community Ed office at 507-418-7550, or email Mindy at mknutson@triton.k12.mn.us. We are happy to help you! The preschool team is looking forward to another great year of preschool!

Stay Up-to-date with Triton News!

Visit Our Website

www.triton.k12.mn.us

#WeAreTriton #SomosTriton



Triton Times

Craig J. Schlichting – Superintendent

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P.O. Box 1, West Concord, MN 55985

E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Phone/Text: 507-649-3327 • Fax: 507-645-9878

EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATOR

MRS. KNUTSON



ABOUT ME:

After 21 years of teaching preschool, I will be moving to an early childhood coordinator position. I will be your first contact for scholarships, transportation, billing, etc. I am excited to support our families and teachers in this new position!

MEET THE TEACHER MRS. VERMILYEA



ABOUT ME:

Hello Preschool Families! Next year will be my 10th year teaching at Triton. Most of those years were in kindergarten, but it will be my second year in preschool. I have 4 kids (Cami, Cooper, Casey, and Colby) and 4 dogs. We have lived in Dodge Center for 15 years. My kids are involved in lots of sports so I am often in a hockey rink or a gym. I am looking forward to another great school year!

MRS. V TEACHES:

MWF am 4 year olds
T/Th am 3 year olds
Tues-Fri pm 4 & 5 year olds
ECFE classes

MEET THE TEACHER MRS. OLEVSON



ABOUT ME:

Hello preschool families! I have taught first grade at Triton for 12 years and I am excited to say that next year will be my first year in preschool! I live in Dodge Center with my husband and kids, Bode and Abrielle. I am super excited for my change and cannot wait for a great year in preschool!

MRS. OLEVSON TEACHES:

MWF am 4 year olds
T/Th am 3 year olds
M-F pm 4 & 5 year olds

Author Visits at Triton Elementary Library

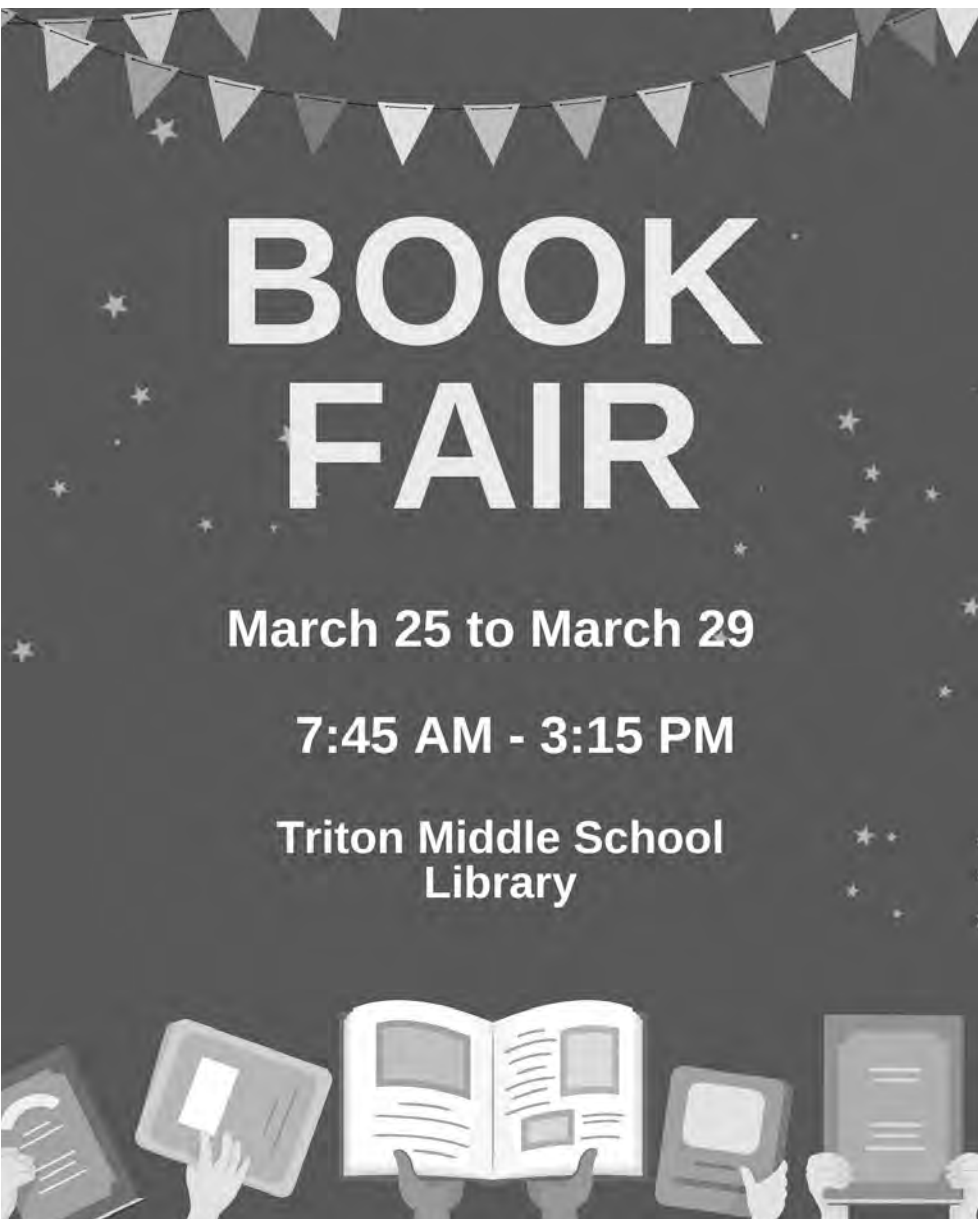
February is "I Love To Read" month and to celebrate, we brought in three authors to share a little bit about what it means to be an author.

Dr. Sara Klein met with our 4th and 5th grade students. Sara has written two children's books, *The Magic of Massa* and *Unsliming Astrow*. She started out her presentation casually asking what everyone likes to read. This immediately got everyone engaged. She shared how she came up with her book ideas and even her process for getting all of her ideas into a story. Our students asked great questions about publishing, future books and they even wanted to know how she came up with her character ideas.

Author Jenny Baertsch came to visit our 2nd and 3rd grade students. Jenny has written a book called *Junkyard Tough*. The story was

inspired by her own personal experiences with adopting an adorable kitten from the junkyard. Jenny shared how she liked to write stories when she was a kid and encouraged our students to think about their own stories that they could tell. She got everyone thinking about the animals they know and the silly things they do.

Author Enner Fjerstad was able to meet with our Kindergarten and 1st grade students. She has written the book, *Imagine If Birds Wore Underpants*. Enner read her story to the students and shared how she came up with the idea. She talked to the students about being creative and using their imaginations. Like the other authors, students wanted to know when Enner's next book was coming out.



7th Grade Ski Trip to Welch Village

The 7th graders took a trip to Welch Village on February 14th. They spent the morning learning how to ski from professional ski instructors and once they passed the 5 levels, they were able to enjoy the slopes. Big thanks to Mr. McCabe for organizing this fun day, everyone had a blast!



Triton Teams Excel at Academic Triathlon



8th Grade 2nd Place





2023-2024 Girls Basketball

The 2023-2024 season was a year to remember for the Triton Girls Basketball program. Throughout the season the 2023-2024 team broke eight program records, and one individual Triton High School record. First and foremost the total of 17 victories bested the previous record of 16 victories set by the 1999-2000 Triton Girls Basketball team. These victories were fueled by a new found confidence and belief in the team as a whole. It is easy to see that the records that were broken played a role in setting the single season record for victories.

The Cobras set a new single game record with 87 points scored on December 7th, 2024 against Lewiston-Altura. This broke the previous record of 81 points scored against Schaeffer Academy on November 26th, 2019.

On February 13th, 2024 the Cobras recorded 19 offensive rebounds against Cannon Falls, breaking the previous record of 17 offensive rebounds against JWP on January 28th, 2020.

Triton set a new single game record for assists on January 26th, 2024 with 28 assists against Medford. This broke the previous record of 26 assists against Schaeffer Academy on November 26th, 2019.

On January 27th, 2024 the Cobras set the single game record for steals with 25 steals against St. Charles. This broke the previous record of 24 steals against Bethlehem Academy on February 7th, 2023.

The Lady Cobras set the single season record for points scored with 1,641 total points. This broke the previous record of 1,521 points which was set during the 2019-2020 season.

In addition to points scored the Cobras set the single season record for 3 pointers made in a single season with 196 total makes. This broke the previous record of 172 3 pointers made in the 2021-2022 season.

The Cobras also set defensive records as they recorded 382 steals, breaking the previous record of 309 steals in a single season.

Triton freshman Reagan Essig also set the single season record with 61 3-pointers made, breaking the previous record of 56 3-pointers made set by Brylee Iverson during the 2021-2022 season.

Congratulations to the Girls Basketball program on a historic season! We look forward to the development of your culture and success in years to come!

Triton Cobra 7th Grade Boys Basketball Enjoys a Strong Season



The Cobra 7th grade basketball wrapped up their season in late February. The Cobras won an impressive 23 games, while losing just one. The basketball team employed an aggressive full-court press strategy that often left the opposing team searching for answers.

8th Grade Boys Basketball



Friday 2/25 concluded the 8th grade boys basketball season. The boys had two team season long goals.

- Work Hard
- Be a good human

Work Hard looked like putting in full effort during practice and in the classroom. Being a good human on the court is helping somebody up when they fall, displaying positive sportsmanship and cheering on their teammates. As their coach, I'm proud of their growth and accomplishments and I look forward to watching their success on the court in future as well. The 8th graders ended their season 16-5, winning their last 9 games in a row.

Once Upon a Mattress Coming Soon to the Triton Stage

(continued from page 25)

While you may be familiar with fairy tales, for this musical, you should expect the unexpected. Senior Jessica Willette, who plays Lady Larken, explains, "This musical has the effect of a Disney fairytale, to appeal to children, but a twist that makes it interesting to adults." However, everything is taken in a light-hearted, comedic way, with a minstrel (played by Nancy Fernandez) stepping into the narrator role. Senior Caleb Chilson plays Sir Harry, a somewhat dim-witted knight who learns some lessons in the show, and he states, "Once Upon a Mattress has a hilarious, light-hearted storyline that is sure to entertain."

The cast, crew, and directors are busy building the sets, learning their lines, songs, and choreography, and perfecting their characters. "This is a fun musical to direct," comments Anne Wotherspoon. "The students have been doing a great job diving in to the humor of the musical, as well as adding a lot of characterization." Senior Logan Tuftte, also known as Prince Dauntless the Drab, says, "I love the comedy involved and how we will be making the crowd laugh and stay involved."

Mark your calendars now for April 4, 5, and 6 at 7:00 p.m. And there will once again be a senior citizen matinee, although due to some scheduling conflicts, the matinee has been moved back to Wednesday, April 3rd at 1:00 p.m. You won't want to miss this fun show! When asked why people should attend, Senior Jenna Kenworthy cheekily replies, "As the queen, I demand it."



TRITON THEATER PRESENTS

Once Upon a Mattress

April 4, 5, & 6 @ 7:00 p.m.

A free senior citizen matinee:
Tuesday, April 2nd @ 1:00 p.m.



2024 FFA Senior Spotlight



Austan Adreon
Favorite CDE: Livestock Judging
Future Plan: Work Construction



Poe Broskoff
Favorite CDE: Poultry Judging
Future Plan: Attend the University of Wisconsin River Falls majoring in Horticulture and field biology.



Caleb Chilson
Favorite CDE: Crops
Future Plans: Attend Winona State University and major in business management.



John Moening
Favorite CDE: Meats Judging
Future Plans: Continue working on the family farm and go into Construction

Triton Student Council to Host Pancake Breakfast



Tristan Nelson
Favorite CDE: Ag mechanics
Future Plans: Start my own Welding Business



Stella Streich
Favorite CDE: Dairy Judging
Future Plan: Attend Mankato State University, study criminology, and participate in ROTC while continuing to grow my Dairy Goat herd



Cadence Spearman
Favorite CDE: Dairy Judging & Discussion Meet
Future Plan: Attend SDSU majoring in Animal Science- Production Management and a minor in Dairy Production



Savannah Peterson
Favorite CDE: Dairy Judging and Nursery Landscape
Future Plan: Attend University of Minnesota-Rochester for Sonography



Elyssa Robinson
Favorite CDE: Dairy Judging
Future Plan: to work for a year make money and then go off to college at River Falls and major in Dairy Science



Jenna Kenworthy
Favorite CDE: Nursery and Landscaping
Future Plan: Attend the University of Minnesota for Mortuary Science

THS Student Council is hosting...

Pancake Breakfast!

DODGE CENTER CITY HALL
9 am-12 pm | Sunday, April 7th
All proceeds go to Relay for Life!

"Lettuce" Plant Plans for Future Food Production



The lettuce with 1.5 weeks growth

As we approach the mid way point of the semester, 19 students enrolled in the Triton Concurrent Introduction to AFNR class (called Concurrent Plant Science class locally) have just harvested their first crop of hydroponically grown lettuce in 5 Fork Farm tower hydroponic units. The class is in partnership with Riverland Community College in Austin and the students will earn 3 college credits upon completion that transfers to any agricultural study program at a four year university in the upper midwest. To enhance learning about growing the traditional row crops we see in our countryside to growing vegetables, students are taking the production principles and applying it real time to grow lettuce.

After two weeks of being in a nursery setting, the lettuce seedlings that were started in rockwool were transferred to the tower units. After three weeks of adjusting the pH of the water by adding a specialized acid to lower the pH from 8.0 to 6.5-7.0 range and adding specifically formulated water soluble plant nutrients, the class harvested 15 pounds of lettuce on Feb 28 and 29th. Students enjoyed all they wanted from the first harvest and the rest was sold to the school food service. The week of March 4th students will see lettuce in their sandwiches and the kitchen staff plan on having a chicken caesar salad meal at some point during the week. Plans include harvesting one more crop in two weeks and then the lettuce will be at the end of its life-



Left is Brynja Cochran and right is Abby Wirkus. We got 15 pounds of lettuce from the units.

cycle. Students will be planting another set of lettuce to transplant the week of March 18th with the goal of getting two to three more harvests before school ends in late May.

The Plant Production Room where the Fork Farm (<https://www.forkfarms.com/flex-farm>) tower units are located was a janitorial closet at this time last school year. After a decade of planning and saving money to build a greenhouse to grow food in, upon research the past year and working with industry representatives, the decision was made to convert existing space into a plant room rather than build a structure. One of the benefits of this repurposing of space was to show students how they could take an older building on our town's main streets and possibly start growing food there for the community to purchase directly.

Funds to purchase the Fork Farms came from the members of the Triton FFA chapter. Members operated a 5 acre field plot for 5 years and used those funds along with money specifically earmarked for a plant building and funds from the 2023-2024 corn drive, members voted in September of this school year to purchase the flex farms. The total cost with shipping and handling was \$25,655. Additionally, the Dodge Center Foundation awarded a grant to the Agriscience program to purchase a self contained 10 Dutch Bucket hydroponic system for



Poe Broskoff on the left and Caleb Chilson on harvest day

\$1069. A Dutch bucket is 2.5 gallons large and you can grow taller crops such as tomatoes, peppers, or cucumbers. Students are planning to transplant cucumber seedlings to the buckets the week of March 11 and plan to harvest cucumbers at the end of May.

Looking ahead to next school year, we might experiment with other crops such as herbs or strawberries. There are so many dif-

ferent predictions about the amount of food we need for future generations to enjoy and we need to start getting creative on how we can achieve that goal. These hydroponic units give students the opportunity to visualize how to grow food in a very non-traditional way and hopefully inspire them to consider careers in plant science to help feed the world.

2023 Corn Drive Donors

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Robert & Barb Ickler | Steve Henslin | William Rohwer |
| Coffman Garlic and Apples | Wasi Farms | Charlie & Sue Rohwer |
| Chad & Kelly Amunrud | Southview Farms | Samuel Gochnauer |
| McMartin Electric | Powerlift Doors | Doug & Sandra Gochnauer |
| Skjeveland Enterprises | French's Repair | Michael & Charleen Louks |
| Dave & Wendy Kenworthy | Hyland Grain | John Carroll |
| Claremont Insurance | Hanson Trucking | Twin Creek Farms |
| Richard Hanson | Hometown Haulers | Kevin Rohwer |
| Sporty Acres | Wanamingo Meats | Shelly Meyer |
| Brad & Sheryl Dohrman | DC Hardware | Darrylin Franko |
| Energy Economics | Heritage Bank | Bernie Fuchs |
| Brandon Schmoll | Concord Locker | Jason & Shelly Gochnauer |
| Knightshift Express | Lowell's Auto Sales | Herrick LLP |
| Gabe & Amber Kasper | R&M Steel | Rich & Chris Scherger |
| Jane Chinn | Jason French | CFS Beans |
| Shane & Jaci Robinson | Harold's Club | Hodgman Drainage |
| Dana & Jody Sowieja | Nadine's Piano | Freeksen Oil |
| Jeff Franzen Trucking | Fahning & Associates | MBT Bank |
| Jeff & Jacob Gray | Kramer Insurance | Luminate Bank |
| Abrielle Robinson | Boe's Auto | Precision Lining |
| Wilber Ellis | Ronningen Farms | Kasper Plumbing |
| Rex Quam | Froyem Enterprise | Lisa Wolf |
| Ron & Kathy Meyer | Jorgenson | Clint & Janet Willette |
| Molitor Brothers | Apex Pro | Michael & Melanie Berg |
| Greenwood Tax | Bruce Schmoll | Paul & Sally Weber |
| Bernard & Joann Scherger | Kent Schmidt | Don & Bernice Kubat |
| Jim & Diana Orr | Lloyd Henslin | Staubs |
| Craig & Sharon Dahms | Roger & Rhonda Toquam | Wagner |
| Daniel & Tarra Boyum | Van Zuilen Farm | Kleinworts |
| Larry Erickson | Aaron Armstrong | Midwest Machinery |
| Bill Busby | Rick Van Zuilen | Gary D Mussman |
| Hollis Matti | Mary Gillard | McNeilus Steel |
| Maple Lane LLC | Dale Dohrmann | L&D Avery |
| Branden Gochnauer | Keiven Reider | Karen Von Ruden |
| Wilhelm Farms | Grant Erler | Welsh Equipment |
| Donald & Charlott Wilhelm | Bill Smith | |

State Convention Qualifiers

Dairy Handler

Elyssa Robinson, Cadence Spearman

Meats Evaluation CDE (2nd in Region)

John Moenning (2nd in Region),
Jacob Kasper (10th in Region),
Noah Kasper,
Jason Wolf,
Austan Adreon

Poultry

Poe Broskoff

Best Informed Greenhand

Brayden Munnikhuyzen,
Hunter Hamm,
Sydney Rysavy,
Autumn Froyum,
Emma Kruckeberg

State Degree Recipients

Poe Broskoff,
Caleb Chilson,
Jenna Kenworthy,
Tristan Nelson

Region 8 Star Farmer

John Moenning

Region 8 Star in Agriscience Placement

Cadence Spearman

Chapter Star in Agriculture Placement

Elyssa Robinson

Proficiency Awards

Cadence Spearman: Agriscience Research-
Plant Science, Dairy Production
Entrepreneurship



Triton High School Concurrent Classes

By Christi Runnells

Each issue of this school year's Triton Times, I'd like to highlight Triton High School's concurrent course offerings available to our students. A concurrent course is a class that upperclassmen can take to earn both high school and college credit—FREE and right at Triton. Concurrent courses are taught by our own Triton teachers to sections made of only Triton students. Depending on the class, students earn anywhere from 1-4 college credits per course. Teachers must have a master's degree and a minimum of 18 graduate credits in that field. This month we'll look at the agriculture offerings.

Mr. Robert Ickler

Mr. Robert Ickler teaches both of our con-

current agriculture courses: food science and plant science. Concurrent Food Science is the equivalent of Riverland Community College's FSCI 1000 Principles of Food Science class and Concurrent Plant Science is the equivalent of Riverland's AGSC 1010 Introduction to Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources class. Because these classes fall under "Career and Technical Education" (CTE), they are the only concurrent classes offered to sophomores, in addition to juniors and seniors. Sophomores-seniors who have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher are eligible to take these classes.

Food Science has been offered to Triton students since the fall of 2018. Students who successfully complete this class earn 4 college credits. Mr. Ickler enjoys teaching this class because of all the labs he gets to do with students and that "it's fun to see students figure out new food products." This class has been especially popular with our sophomores as a great introduction to taking concurrent courses at Triton High School.

Plant Science is a new offering this year and students taking it this semester are the very first ones at Triton! Students who successfully complete this class earn 3 college credits. Mr. Ickler enjoys learning about raising lettuce in the "Fork Farms Drip Irrigation hydroponic systems" right along with his students. Their first harvest took place on February 28th (pictured) and they will sell their lettuce to the Triton food service program so that all students can enjoy the class's hard work.

Mr. Ickler recommends these classes to anyone interested in raising, harvesting, processing, storing, researching, and eating food. He believes these classes offer a great opportunity for students to explore careers and competencies needed to be successful in the food science and plant systems pathways. These courses directly transfer to the University of Minnesota, South Dakota State University, North Dakota State University and University of Wisconsin-River Falls among others, along with many two-year schools. Students wanting to get a degree in agriculture, food



or natural resource pathways can earn a total of seven FREE college credits while in high school to get a jump start on their career.

Contact ahorejsi@triton.k12.mn.us for more information

Triton High School's

HYGIENE DRIVE

Sponsored by MHS

Donate from March 11th - March 28th

We accept:
(preferably full size)

- Body Wash
- Toilet Paper
- Brushes & Combs
- Soap Bars
- Paper Towels
- Laundry Soap
- Q-Tips
- Toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Feminine Products
- Toothpaste
- Conditioner

"HELP US HELP OTHERS!"

- Bins at each designated office -
- Donations towards our local Salvation Army -



Driver's Education!

Learn how to drive with Mr. Johnson! Enhanced Driving Institute will be holding driver's ed class at Triton from 9-noon this summer.

Week one: Tuesday June 4th- Friday June 7th

Week two: Monday June 10th-Saturday June 15th

The three Behind the Wheel lessons would be held at the Rochester location. If you have questions ask Mr. Johnson via email at jjohnson@triton.k12.mn.us or visit the website for more detailed information and to register at <https://www.enhanceddrivinginstitute-mn.com/triton>

Triton wants to say THANK YOU to all our bus drivers and the department that keeps everything "rolling" for our students!



It takes many people to make sure we have routes done, buses working, maintenance happening, safety checks being done, kids being safe and getting to and from school! Here is a picture of most of the crew enjoying a Bus Driver Appreciation Day breakfast!



Triton sent our BPA students off to the State Competition on Thursday, March 14.

DODGE COUNTY BUSINESS EXPO 2024

The 2024 Dodge County Business Expo will be held March 23, 2024, at Triton Public Schools in Dodge Center. **Over 100 vendors** from Dodge County are expected to participate in this annual event.

2024 will mark our 24th Dodge County Business Expo.

Planned **FREE Entertainment** Provided by:

- Rookie the Clown
- The Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby
- Music by The Hep Cats
- The 1st Annual Mullet Contest for all ages at 1:15PM!
- Juggling
- Mascot Characters
- A kid's scavenger hunt with prizes

NEW this year—
food sales and a dining area will be available during the expo!

A Taste of Dodge County Food Court!
 Come on down to the Expo and buy some lunch...

The 2024 Expo will feature area restaurants and food vendors in a food court style format where the public can purchase their food!

FEATURING:

- HammerQ
- Plaza Morena
- Wescon Lanes Pizza
- The Mantorville County Seat Coffee House
- Papa's Roast Coffee

SATURDAY

MARCH 23, 2024

**LOCATED IN THE
 TRITON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 ACTIVITIES AREA**

8 AM

2 PM

Planned FREE Entertainment:

NEW THIS YEAR

A Taste of Dodge County Food Court

Come on down to the Expo and grab some lunch. The 2024 Expo will feature area restaurants and food vendors in a food court style format where the public can purchase their food!

Featuring:



TRITON COMMUNITY ED YOUTH ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550

Evening Adventures

Children aged 2-5 and an adult

Join us this session with your pre-schooler, ages 2- 5 years (not yet in kindergarten). Mrs. Vermilyea will plan a special evening centered around a theme. You will participate in activities, games, explorative play, reading and art around the same topic. Mrs. V has also invited many experts from our community to join you and share their knowledge and resources to make these truly amazing experiences for all who participate. Snacks will be provided, so PLEASE alert us if your child has any allergies or sensitivities to food. Please pre-register for each of these classes, so that we can provide the appropriate number of materials and supplies needed.



Cost: \$8/class or \$20 per semester/family

Dates:

January 10, 24, February 7, 21 March 6, 20, April 10, 22, May 1

*** Topics that are being scheduled are focused on yoga, farming, experimenting with foods, music, construction, Earth Day, and May Day. We'd love to hear what interests you and your child have for future sessions. Feel free to email us at avermylea@triton.k12.mn.us with your ideas!

6-7:30PM

All classes will be in Mrs. Vermilyea's Room #315 in the Elementary School.

Interested in Preschool or Kindergarten?

Here is what you need to know and do....

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

Ages 2- to 5 years - Join an ECFE class and enjoy "you & child" time. Meet other parents and we clean up the mess. Joining an ECFE class allows you to register for Preschool early in April.

Ages 3-4 - Call for an appointment for Early Childhood Screening.

Ages 3-5 - Register for Preschool. Registration for the Fall 2024-25 is NOW Open.

Ages 4-5 - Children turning 5 by September 1 can register for kindergarten. Registration materials will be available through the Elementary Office.



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

Junior Soccer Youth Enrichment League Grades K-3

Get outside and get kickin' with our fast-paced, inclusive (everyone plays) Junior Soccer course! YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in introductory soccer games.

SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized! We focus on the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, trapping, and shooting. Sign up today! Min 8/Max 16.

Cost: \$70

Tuesdays: April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 14, 21 (no class May 7)

3:15-4:15PM

Grassy area by the Sport Court



Zumbro Valley League Boy's Baseball

SUMMER BASEBALL KICK-OFF NIGHT

Summer Traveling League
for Boys 9U-15U
co-sponsored by Triton
Community Ed and the
Triton Baseball Association

Players and parents should attend
to get the summer league info
and meet their coaches

**APRIL 3
7PM IN THE TES SOUTH GYM**

Flag Football Youth Enrichment League

Get ready to dash to the end zone with our high-octane, inclusive (everyone plays) Flag Football course. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in non-contact flag football games. SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized!

We focus on basic skills development in passing, catching, defending, and teamwork. Sign up before the two-minute warning! Min 8/Max 16 per group.

Cost: \$70

Mondays, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20

Grades K-2 3:15-4:15PM

Grades 3-5 4:20-5:20PM

Grassy field by the Sport Court



Kids and Crafting with the Green Shack

Brittany Wilcox, The Green Shack

Join Brittany and pick up some new hobbies! She will bring all the supplies needed. She will work with all levels of ability and help each child enjoy their experience. They will bring home their new creation to show off and be able to do similar projects at home.

Learn to Crochet

April 22-25 3:10-5PM

TES Media Center

Max 8

\$32 *****This can be for beginners, and those with experience will start trying more advanced projects.

Painted Stained Glass

April 30 3:10-4:30PM

TES Room 403

Max 8

\$34

TRITON COMMUNITY ED ADULT ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550

Adult Crafting with the Green Shack Brittany Wilcox, The Green Shack

Join Brittany and pick up some new hobbies! She'll provide all the supplies needed. She will work with all levels of ability and help everyone enjoy their experience. All of these classes are located at The Green Shack: 20658 County Hwy, Dodge Center, MN

Spring Wreath Making

April 9 6-8 PM \$48

Bob Ross Painting

April 10 6-8 PM \$48



Safe Driving Class

Jim Jensen

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



Please call Triton CE at 507-418-7550.

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

4-Hour Refresher Course

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

April 25

5-9PM in the THS Media Center

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, Chanhassen, MN

The soundtrack of a generation inspired this BROADWAY SMASH HIT! For six years, *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* thrilled Broadway audiences with the inspiring true story of Carole King's remarkable journey from teenage songwriter to Rock & Roll Hall of Fame music legend. As a woman in the music industry, King broke barriers and became one of the most prolific songwriters of our time! Carole King wrote hits for the biggest music acts from The Shirelles to The Righteous Brothers – then recorded her Grammy-winning masterpiece, *TAPESTRY*. The musical takes you on a joy-filled, emotional ride of a lifetime! Featuring over two dozen hits including "One Fine Day," "The Locomotion," "So Far Away," "Natural Woman," "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'," and "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," this Tony and Grammy Award-winning musical is filled with the songs you remember and a story you'll never forget. A huge cast of singers and dancers bring more than 24 of her greatest hits to life in a triumphant celebration!



Lunch is ordered off of the menu and served at your table. Water, Tea and coffee are included. Soda, alcohol and dessert is an extra that the individual is responsible for these costs.

May 1, 2024

Cost: \$98, includes coach bus, lunch and ticket to the show

Bus	Leaves	Approx. Return
Byron Community Ed Parking Lot	8:45AM	5:30PM
Kasson Football Field Lot	9AM	5:15PM
Dodge Center Triton Activities Door	9:15AM	5PM
Owatonna Target Parking Lot closest to the Hotel	9:45AM	4:30PM

Please call Triton Community Ed
at 507-418-7550 to register

We have added this 2nd Trip
due to Popular Demand!

TRITON COMMUNITY ED'S ANNUAL OUTDOOR CRAFT AND VENDOR MARKET

DODGER DAYS 2024!
Saturday, June 15
Noon-5PM
at the Dodge Center North Park

VENDORS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING SHOULD CONTACT

KRISTY FABER AT TRITON COMMUNITY ED:

KFABER@TRITON.K12.MN.US OR 507-418-7550

Questions: Call 418-7550
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-3:30 pm

Check Out Our Website:
www.triton.k12.mn.us and click on the Community Education tab

FAITH IN ACTION DODGE COUNTY, MN Friends helping friends



GIVE Back to YOUR Community

Become a **FAITH IN ACTION** volunteer

Provide services for SENIORS such as:

- Giving rides to appointments
- Providing light housekeeping service
- Making friendly visits
- Assisting yard work
- And more!

Totally **flexible** to your schedule

You choose services of interest to you

Applications available at: fidodgecounty.org or 507-634-3654

Registration

Walk in/Drop off at the Triton Community Ed Office, located in the Elementary Building.
Call us at 507-418-7550

Go On-line at: triton.k12.mn.us

Click on the Menu tab, and select Community Education under the Community Header, choose Class + Activity Online Registration.

Please note that for students the software does not automatically update their grade, teacher, or t-shirt size. Please update these pieces of information each year.

Mail the registration: see below.....

Mail form and payment to Triton Community Education:
813 West Highway St.
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Participant Information:

First/Last Name _____

Class Title _____

Grade if student: _____ Teacher: _____

First/Last Name _____

Class Title _____

Grade if student: _____ Teacher: _____

First/Last Name _____

Class Title _____

Grade if student: _____ Teacher: _____

Payment Information: Total Due: _____

T-shirt size if applicable: YXS YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL 2AXL

Participants assume the risk of injury in route to and from as well as during classes/events, activities and games, and by registering waive any suit due to injury. Parents/guardians must sign this permission slip before their child may participate in the program.

Adult Participant or Parent/Guardian Signature: _____