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Volume 5 • Issue 2

New Interim Administrator in West Concord

Joel Dhein started his new position as interim administrator for the city of West Concord this week. He is replacing Mike Plante, who left to take the role as county administrator for Wabasha County.



Joel Dhein

Plante had served in Wabasha County as assistant county attorney and county administrator for eight years prior to serving as city manager in Prior Lake before taking the job in West Concord last January.

Dhein grew up in St. Cloud, Minnesota and served as city administrator for the city of Mora before retiring three years ago. He most recently was employed as an interim administrator for the city of Harmony in 2020. He will be in West Concord on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week. He will take over duties here while the city council searches for a new full-time city administrator.

Joel lives with his wife in Mora and has a daughter in college. He enjoys traveling, camping, reading and working on family history in his spare time.



Triton FFA Steak Feed a Success

Our drive through steak feed was an overwhelming success. We ran out of our original order of 500 steaks by 6 pm and had to purchase more from Sunshine Foods and HyVee. We got enough to cover the amount of people waiting at 6:30 pm (a few pictures of that crowd was sent), and we had to shut down early due to running out of steaks. And we had to turn away a few customers due to this fact. Which of course a person never likes to do and we never anticipated having a record crowd of 584 meals. We had an excellent night and we greatly appreciate all of the donors and public that came for the meal and worked with us in this learning experience of our first drive through steak feed dinner.

(additional pictures on pages 10 & 11)



Local Veteran receives Certificate of Continuous Membership

Jim Buehler, a local retired farmer and US Army veteran was recently recognized for his 60 years of continuous membership in the West Concord American Legion Langemo Post 295.

Presenting the certificate was Dan Lulf, Sgt At Arms, with Jim's wife Phyllis and a few others in attendance at his country home.

Triton FFA Member wins Star Farmer

By Kenya Narveson



The National FFA organization, formerly known as Future Farmers of America, serves students interested in farming production and other career paths like chemists, government officials, bankers, and veterinarians. The commitment of the organization is to provide individual students a path to achievement in leadership roles, personal growth, and career success through agriculture education.

Triton senior Anna Ridenour is a phenomenal young lady who has blended her passion of raising livestock and serving the community by being an active member of FFA.

(continued on page 7)



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Because He Lives

By Peter Moen
Concord Church of Christ

Spring is in the air...again. That is how it goes in the Upper Midwest, isn't it? We have already had moments where the sun bursts forth and its rays hit everything in its sight. Snow melts to reveal long-covered ground, green leaves of perennials burst forth from the ground, the robin announces that spring is soon here.

Then it happens.

The same old feeling of inevitability washes over us as a dreaded spring storm covers the ground with a bunch of wet, heavy white stuff (this time 7-8" worth). Roads are snarled, spring cleaning plans are delayed, outdoor activities are put on hold, the melting cycle of soft, muddy ground clogs our footwear...again. "Won't this winter ever end?" we find ourselves seemingly asking every year.

And yet, we sit here in expectation that the snow will soon be gone for good. In three words: We have hope. Hope sees us through the winter. Hope sees us through those early spring snow storms. Hope looks

forward to basking in the sunlight as we work the garden, shooting hoops in the driveway, heading to the pool for an afternoon swim. Hope is what we hold onto when, in our Covid-19 winter of discontent, we find ourselves apart from friends & family, working from home instead of enjoying the camaraderie of the workplace, limited in our options for leisure.

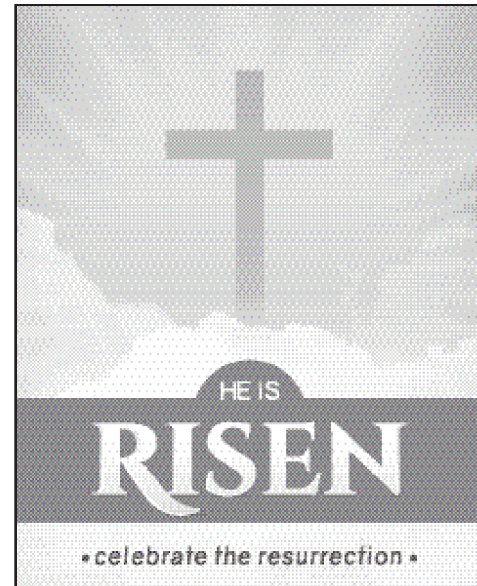
All this hope that we have is rooted in the one true Hope. Our looking forward to spring or to the end of Covid-19 restrictions is based on the hope that we find through our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. Our will to live. Our will to thrive. Our will to take one step after another finds its source in the hope of our salvation and that this life is not all there is to look forward to.

During this time of year as we turn to look toward new life in springtime and freedom it is appropriate even more so to turn and


look toward the cross. The cross is where death was defeated and we were freed from the clutches of sin. The cross is where true life and true freedom reside.

In I Thessalonians 1:3 Paul is in the midst of encouraging the people of Thessalonica and says, "We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." Our work, our labor, our endurance is inspired by our HOPE in Jesus who died on the cross but then conquered the grave by rising from the dead.

As the Gaither hymn goes,
*And because He lives, I can face tomorrow
Because He lives, all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth a living just because
He lives*



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Faith Community Church
305 State Street, West Concord • 527-2245
Pastor David Breederland
Sunday 9:30a.m. Worship; 10:45a.m. Sunday School
fccwestconcord.org

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 9:30a.m. Worship in building and live streamed on Facebook.
Tuesday Men's Bible Study, 7:00a.m. at church and via Zoom
Call church for more information on ministries and events.

United Methodist
2nd & Main, West Concord • 507-475-1157
Pastor Mark Schlasner
Sunday 9:30a.m. Worship

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

Area Church Directory
Make a Name for Ourselves

Scripture Reading — Genesis 11:1-9
"Let us . . . make a name for ourselves . . . [and not] be scattered over the face of the whole earth." - Genesis 11:4

God created people so that they would increase in numbers and populate the earth. At the time of the tower of Babel, everyone had the same language, and the people said they wanted to make a name for themselves and not be scattered across the earth. But God ultimately scattered them.

Why did they build a tower? They said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens. . . ." From ancient civilizations we have learned that the top of a tower was seen as a holy place where gods lived. But instead of having a holy place that would honor God, the people at Babel wanted this to be a place where they made a name for themselves. They wanted to honor themselves instead of God. In doing so, they banished God from their lives and disobeyed his command to "fill the earth and subdue it" (Genesis 1:28). Because of this rebellion, God confused their language and scattered them.

Imagine how God felt as he confused the people's language. They couldn't understand each other. They couldn't work together anymore. They stopped building, and they moved away from each other.

In the end, people who drive out God cannot do well. They cannot understand each other, and they cannot work together to build a community that honors God.

Prayer
O God, be the Lord and King of our hearts. Let us be concerned about honoring your name, not ours. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

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Sunday 11:30am-9pm



Minnesota Restaurant Association

Restaurant of the Year Award

Audrey Gillard

Audrey Gillard, 92, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center, MN.



Audrey was born on July 2, 1928, in Ironwood, Michigan to Nils A. Wiberg and Alberta (Stensrud) Wiberg.

She graduated in 1945 from Luther L. Wright High School. She attended the University of Minnesota for two years.

In 1947, she married Bruce B. Gillard in Minneapolis, MN. They lived on a farm near Claremont, MN for 45 years. They moved to Dodge Center, MN in 1993, after retiring.

Audrey graduated from Rochester Community College in 1973 in nursing and worked at St. Mary's Hospital for 19 years as an RN and worked for a few years for Mayo Hospice.

She was a board member of Dodge County United Way for 15 years and also belonged to the Fairview Care Center Auxiliary. She was a member of Peace Lutheran Church in Claremont, MN, from 1948 - 2014, where she taught Sunday School and served her Lord in many other ministries.

Audrey is survived by her children, Robert (Kris) Gillard, Plano, TX; John (Gail) Gillard, Hutchinson, MN; James (Diane) Gillard; Hastings, MN; David Gillard, Castle Rock, CO; family friend, Gail Gillard. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, 3 sister-in-laws, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bruce, sons Richard Gillard and Thomas Gillard, granddaughter Marit Gillard, sister Ruth Constantini, brother Art Wiberg, and parents.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021 at Grace Lutheran Church, 404 Central Ave N Dodge Center, MN. Reverend Bruce Stam officiated. Visitation was held one hour prior to the service at the church.

Douglas "Duke" Kracht

Douglas "Duke" Kracht, 68, a lifelong resident of Mantorville, MN passed away on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at his home surrounded by his family.



Duke was born on July 16, 1952 in Rochester, MN to Harold and Norma (Kramer) Kracht.

Duke was truly one of a kind. Anyone who knew him, knew he had a heart made of gold. That smile of his could light up the entire universe. Rarely does a person ever come across someone with as much loyalty, longevity, talent, compassion, and dedication that Duke had. He truly treasured all of his friends and family. He always looked forward to chatting with them or keeping in touch with an email.

Duke was a man of many trades. He was a generous man and always a thinker and a tinkerer. He was a quick learner and self-taught man. Someone whom friends and family looked up to and respected. He built his own pontoon, along with hundreds of other projects he completed in life. He always saw the value in everything and could not stand to see something thrown out. He was also very strong willed, confident, intriguing, and sometimes mysterious. He absolutely loved the small town of Mantorville, he served the community in his work at the Hubbell House for 52 years and served 18 years in the Mantorville Fire Department. Duke began his working career in 1969 at the Hubbell House in Mantorville, MN and continued to be employed there until the time of his death. Over his career there, he performed just about every position in the restaurant. In recent years he reduced his hours there so he could spend time with his fiancé, Becky, or just relaxing on his comfortable porch overlooking the action at the Hubbell House. He also enjoyed spending time with Becky's children and grandchildren, whom he loved and cared for like his own. They were his joy and always brought that magical smile to his face. They fulfilled his life and what a blessing they were to him.

Duke would want to be remembered for his many years of hard work, dedication, generous personality, and his loyalty to his

family and friends.

We will all miss his strong presence and his words of wisdom. Doug, you were so IMPRESSIVE, we will all love you forever!

Duke is survived by his siblings, Bennett (Judy) Kracht, Jeffrey (Barbara) Kracht, Marilyn (Lynn) Musolf, and Kevin Kracht; nieces and nephews; fiancé, Becky Schletty of Mantorville, MN; Becky's children, Ashley (Matt) Hodgman, Emily Johnson, and Chase Johnson; 11 grandchildren, Noah, Kennedy, Preslee, Patience, Tristan, Rylan, Paeden, Talon, Titan, Kyler and Lowen.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Norma Kracht; two sisters, Linda and Carole; Becky's daughter, Sara Johnson; and Cory Cassidy.

A celebration of life was held from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021 at the Hubbell House, 502 North Main Street Mantorville, MN. Due to COVID-19 health concerns, masks and social distancing measures were required. A private family burial will take place in Maple Grove Cemetery in Kasson, MN at a later date.

To share a special memory or condolence, please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com.

Duane Flikke

Duane Flikke, age 73, of Elk River. Passed away on February 20, 2021.

Duane was born on July 20, 1947 in Mantorville, Minnesota to parents, Leonard and Leona (Henry) Flikke. He graduated from West Concord

High School in 1965. He enrolled in Winona University but left college and joined the armed forces and served in Vietnam from October 1968 to October 1969. During his tour in Vietnam, he was wounded four different times and received four Purple Hearts and three Bronze Stars of Valor.

He and Marlys (Olson) were married in Dovray, Minnesota on August 28, 1971. They lived in Crystal for 29 years and upon retirement from Wells Fargo Bank, they moved to Elk River, Minnesota.

Duane enjoyed spending time with his family, fishing, hunting, playing cards, traveling and helping others.

He is survived by his wife, Marlys of Elk River; two sons: Chad (Pam) and children, Zach & Ben of Maple Grove, and Jason (Korrie) and children, Kendall and Christian of Maple Grove; sister, Darlene Flikke of West Concord, Minnesota; brother, Leonard (Sue) Flikke of Brook Park, Minnesota; nieces, Heather (Mark) Griffith of Babbitt, Minnesota and Sheila (Jayme) Benson and children, Luke & Nick of Apple Valley, Minnesota. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Lois (Dan) Masters of Cambridge, Ohio and brother-in-law, Bob Olson of Dovray, Minnesota.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, LaVonne.

Funeral service was Friday, February 26, 2021 at 11:30AM at Dare's Funeral Home,

805 Main St, Elk River, with visitation starting at 11:00AM.

Interment Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Duane L. Flikke, please visit our floral store.

Adrienne Jane Zeller Borass Nordland

Adrienne Jane Zeller Boraas Nodland, 91, of Zumbrota, passed away at Zumbrota Care Center on March 5th, 2021. The funeral for Adrienne was 11 a.m. Friday, March 12, at United Redeemer Lutheran Church in Zumbrota, MN.



Rev. Dr. Margaret J. Pleiss-Sippola officiated. There was a public visitation one hour prior to the service, at the church. Due to COVID, the service was a private family service. Interment was at Zumbrota cemetery immediately following the service.

Adrienne was born in Old Concord, MN on March 19, 1929 to Kenneth and Edna (Peterson) Zeller. She graduated from Wanamingo High School. Adrienne married Byron "PeeWee" Boraas Sr. in 1947, they made their home in Zumbrota. Together they had four children. Byron passed away in 1982. She then married Virgil Nodland in 1986, they made their home near Wanamingo on the Nodland family farm. Adrienne enjoyed traveling, particularly to Arizona in the winter. She also took pleasure in gardening, playing cards, socializing, dancing, fishing and numerous other outdoor activities. Adrienne loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. The little ones brought particular joy to her in her later years.

Adrienne is survived by her children and one stepdaughter: Byron "PeeWee" (Barb) Boraas of Zumbrota; Larry (Gayle) Boraas of Red Wing; Keith (Jody) Boraas of Westby WI; Kay (Mark) Spavin of Zumbro Falls and Becky (Mark) Brakke of Rock Dell; thirteen grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren; brother Roland Zeller, Fridley.

She is preceded in death by her husbands, Byron and Virgil; her parents; brother Bill Zeller and sister Arlene Fredrickson.

The funeral was live streamed, a link can be found at the Mahn Family Funeral Home Facebook page. Online condolences are welcome and may be shared at mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Adrienne Jane Nodland, please visit our floral store.

Rochelle Kasper

Rochelle Kasper, 64, of West Concord, MN passed away on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at Mayo Clinic Saint Mary's Campus in Rochester, MN.

Arrangements are pending with Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes in Kasson, MN.

Brian Weber
Melanie Leth
Timothy Woessner

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David Hammel

As per his wishes, no services will be held for David Hammel. He died Friday February 26, 2021, surrounded by his family at Mayo Clinic Hospital St. Mary's campus in Rochester at the age of 61.



David Gordon Hammel was born October 16, 1959 to Gordon and Jean Hammel. In addition to being an avid outdoorsman, he also loved spending time with his grandchildren. He worked in telecommunications for 35 years.

Those left to cherish the memory of him include his wife, Diane Hammel of Wanamingo; a daughter, Hannah (Adian) Dingfelder of West Concord; a son, Bradley (Savannah) Hammel of Zumbrota; six grandchildren; his mother, Jean Schmoll and her husband Sonny; sisters, Karen (Bob) Smith, Cindy Hammel, JoAnne (Keith) Burke; brothers, Dan Hammel, Jimmy Hammel, Blaine Austad; and a brother-in-law, Dewey Wondrasch.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gordon Hammel; a son, Wesley Hammel; and a sister, Sue Wondrasch.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of David Gordon Hammel, please visit our floral store.

Sandra Mavis (Dessner) Harmon

Sandra Mavis (Dessner) Harmon, age 61, passed away March 11th, 2021 at Abbott Northwestern Medical Center.



Sandra was born to Richard and Mavis Dessner December 15th, 1959 in Dodge Center MN. Sandra attended West Concord High School but then graduated from Kasson High School. She married Clark Horsman with whom she had her two children Curtis Harmon and Sarah Fate. They were later divorced.

Sandra then married Butch Harmon on May 9th, 1984 in Grantsburg, WI. Butch then adopted her children Curtis and Sarah.

They later adopted McKenzie. Sandra lived in Grantsburg WI most of her adult life. Sandra was very involved with her work at Burnett Medical Center where she worked as an activity's director among other duties. She loved helping with the youth group at church, counseling at the Bible camps in the summer, singing and spending time with her grandkids and friends. Sandra loved all her gardens and making them look remarkably interesting even if half of the flowers were fake.

Sandra is preceded in death by her husband, Butch Harmon; and her father Richard Dessner.

Sandra is survived by her mother, Mavis Dessner; children, Curtis Harmon, and Sarah (Dayton) Fate; stepchildren, Elizabeth Meyer, Rod Harmon; grandchildren, McKenzie, Kamrin, Autumn, Carter

Harmon, Olivia, Andrew, Paisley Fate, Amanda, Trent, Tadd Meyer, Kiley, and Grant Harmon; great granddaughter, Scarlet; siblings, Randy (Mary) Dessner, Susan (Raymond) Northway, June (Jim) Barnick, Barb (Patrick) Fitzgerald, Linda (Lester) Wohlfel, and Bill (Missy) Dessner; brother-in-law, Arvid (Debbie) Harmon; sisters-in-law, Lucille (Terry) Berger, and Marilyn (Ray) Metz; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

A memorial Service honoring the life of Sandra will be conducted on Saturday, March 27th, 2021 at 2pm (visitation 1pm to 2pm) at Grace Baptist Church in Grantsburg, with Pastor George officiating. Interment will be held at a later date in West Concord, MN at the Concord Cemetery.

Memorials to the family prefer to be sent to Grace Baptist Church in Grantsburg Wisconsin. Cards can also be sent to Swedberg-Taylor Funeral Home, in Webster.

Arrangements were entrusted to Swedberg-Taylor Funeral Home, Grantsburg.

Online condolences can be made at www.swedberg-taylor.com.

Robert James "Jim" Buehler

Robert James "Jim" Buehler Sr., 92, of West Concord, died Thursday, March 11, 2021, at the Mayo Clinic Hospital, St. Marys Campus in Rochester surrounded by his loving family.



He was born August 10,

1928, in Milton Township, Dodge County, the son of Walter and Ruth (Lehnerr) Buehler. Jim graduated from West Concord High school in 1945. He was a Korean War Veteran serving in the Army from 1953-1955. On July 30, 1955, he married Phyllis Weis. Jim was a lifelong farmer and a long-time Democrat, serving as the Dodge County D.F.L. Chairman for 10 years. He was a local pioneer in no-till planting and fall strip tillage. Jim was recognized in 1990 as the outstanding conservation farmer in Dodge County. He served on the board of the Farmers Home Administration of Dodge and Olmsted Counties from 1978-1981. Jim was a 60-year member of the Masonic Lodge and a 60-year member of the American Legion. He served as president of the Farmers Union for 2 years and was a Board of Director for the West Concord Historical Society for many years. Jim had a passion for work, farming, welding and staying busy. He enjoyed reading, watching the news and staying current on local events. He also enjoyed swing dancing and traveling throughout the United States and overseas. Jim was known for his quick wit and sense of humor and occasionally being a character. He loved his family, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, they often brought out the best in him.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Phyllis Buehler of Dodge Center; children, Gregory (Julie) Buehler of Dodge Center, Joy Duellman (friend, K.C. Reed) of

Winona, Jeffrey (Cindy) Buehler of Dodge Center, Robert (Sandy) J. Buehler, Jr. of Rochester; grandchildren, Amy Buehler, William "Billy" Buehler, Jonathan Duellman, Drew Buehler, Allison Schley, Abigail Buehler, Aaron Buehler, Marcus Buehler and Andrea Stawarski; great-grandchildren, Natalie, Ben and Charlotte Schley, Nicci, Lana and Edison James Buehler, Landen, Haley and Nolan Stawarski.

He was preceded in death by his sisters and brothers-in-law, Jeanne (Paul) Matti and Janice (Howard) Sathrum; and son-in-law, Richard Duellman.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, March 20, 2021, at 11:30 AM at the West Concord Historical Society with a visitation one hour prior to the service. Memorials are preferred to the West Concord Historical Society.

Helen Ruth Eubank

Helen Ruth Eubank, 91, of Rochester, MN, died Friday, February 26, 2021 at Methodist Hospital in Rochester.



Helen was born September 9, 1929 to Daniel Edward and Lydia Ione Sturdivant near Madrid, Iowa. She had an older sister,

Thelma Jean and a younger sister, Wanda Lee.

Helen's first two years of school were in a little white, one room schoolhouse. After her father bought a farm near Cambridge, Iowa, she attended Shipley School where she graduated in 1947.

On October 28, 1948, Helen married Darrell Dwight Eubank, best known as Dwight. They had a son, Craig, in October of 1949 and a daughter, Joyce, in February of 1954. Helen and Dwight were dairy farmers and bought a farm in West Concord, Minnesota where they raised their two children.

After selling their farm in West Concord they both went into real estate. Together they bought a building in Byron, MN that they remodeled and had their real estate offices for 17 years. After a massive heart attack, Dwight was forced to retire and Helen started working at the Rochester

Community College. They traveled around Minnesota on weekends in their transvan, often with another couple who had the same identical transvan. When Helen retired, they purchased a mobile home in Texas where they spent their winters and enjoyed many wonderful friends. After 58 years of marriage, her husband passed away at age 84.

Helen was gifted artistically and enjoyed many different crafts. She attended ceramic classes for several years and made beautiful ceramic pieces that family and friends still enjoy. She also crocheted afghans she gave to family and friends as well as beaded jewelry.

Helen joined the Senior Center in the old Armory building where she made many new friends. One very special friend she met was Robert J. Higgins. In 2009 Helen nearly lost her life in a serious bus accident. Her new friend, Bob, was by her side through every step of the way, following her accident, and played a major role in her will to recover.

When Helen was able to travel, she and Bob traveled south together for the winters. They enjoyed four winters in Texas and three in Arizona. They shared 11 special years together.

She is survived by her daughter, Joyce (Tom) Eubank Frid; granddaughter, Katherine Frid; grandson, Joshua Mason Eubank; daughter-in-law, Ardis Eubank; grandson, David (Barb) Miller; granddaughter, Dianna (Bob) Lyng; sister, Wanda Lee; niece, Rebecca (Mike) Hand; and nephew, Daniel (Tammy) Krock; and her best friend, Robert J. Higgins.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Thelma Jean; husband, Darrell Dwight; and son, Craig Laurence.

Helen and her loved ones want to thank the Mayo Clinic Hospice Team for the outstanding care she and her loved ones received. The team's knowledge, compassion, and care far exceeded their expectations and their hearts are filled with gratitude.

The memorial service for Helen will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 20, 2021 in the River Park Chapel at Macken Funeral Home. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Helen will be laid to rest at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis with her husband, Dwight and son, Craig.

In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to Mayo Clinic Hospice.

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Adrift in New York Coming to the Triton Stage

The spring show this year is the entertaining melodrama *Adrift in New York*, and it will be coming to the Triton High School stage April 7-10. The show is under the direction of Anne Schreiber, with music direction by Aimee Hampton and technical assistance by John Schreiber. All involved, from the directors to the cast and crew, are excited for performances. There will be a senior citizen matinee on Thursday, April 7th at 1:00, followed by the general admission performances at 7:00 on April 8, 9, and 10. Due to Covid concerns, no food will be provided at the performances, but the laughs in the show will more than compensate for that.

Typically, each spring at Triton means a big Broadway-style musical, but due to concerns about safety, the directors deemed a smaller show a better option. "For musicals, we usually get over 60 students auditioning," said director Anne Schreiber, "and it just didn't seem wise to have that many students backstage or in a scene together. *Adrift in New York* gives us the best of both worlds: we have an entertaining plot and we've been able to add some songs in throughout." Indeed, some audience members might recognize some of the songs,

such as "Heart of My Heart," "Hello, My Baby," and "Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nelly."

Despite a smaller play, though, the cast and crew are really enjoying the rehearsal process. Maddie Jarrett, who plays Martha, the sister of the heroine, commented, "I've enjoyed working with different people, and I've loved watching how everything is coming together." Weston Haugen, who plays the hero, added, "I have enjoyed the multiple fight scenes." As she eagerly anticipates performances, Julianne Auer, who plays Danielle Fogerty, stated, "Everything is so stressful and overwhelming right now, even if quarantine and restrictions are calming down. We could all use a good laugh, and this amazing melodrama is the perfect opportunity for that!"

Tickets for the show may be purchased at the high school office, although no ticket is needed for the senior citizen matinee. For the matinee, no walk-ins will be permitted, so please call Triton Community Ed at (507) 418-7550 to reserve a spot on the list. For general admission tickets, you will want to get yours early because, as per the current guidance, only 100 people can be seated in the auditorium for each night. Once 100 tickets are sold for a certain night's performance, it will be "sold out" and no tickets can be sold at the door. You are encouraged to check with the high school office at (507) 418-7520 for the latest updates. No matter the size of the audience, though, the cast and crew are hoping audience members are ready to "boo,"



Picture 1: (L to R) Damion Radke, August Kozisek, Talia Kelley, Weston Haugen, and Amya Radke

"hiss," "cheer" loudly.

On April 7-10, return to a simpler time where laughs come often, the villains are

booed and the heroes are cheered, and good always triumphs in the end.



(L to R) Front row: Wyatt Haugen, Litany Peterson, Mary Zill, Elizabeth Hukee, and Jessica Willette; back row: Amya Radke and Damion Radke

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what a
cad!"

April 8-10, 2021

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Triton Students Shine in Regional Business Association Competition

By Kenya Narveson

The Business Professional program at Triton High School is congratulating all 12 of their students for winning the BPA Regional Competition and becoming eligible to compete at state level. "I am blown away by the talent, flexibility, and professionalism of these students," said Triton BPA Advisor, Rebecca Goossens. "Having literally every student who competed win a trip to State is a massive accomplishment and one that very few schools ever obtain. I am so, so proud."

Students compete individually or with a team in a variety of categories such as web design, information technology and health-care administration.

Business Professionals of America is the leading Career and Technical Student Organization for students pursuing careers in business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields. Nationally, BPA has 43,000 members in over 2,300 chapters in 23 states. In Minnesota we have over 1,100 members in eight regions.

BPA's mission is to develop and empower



student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service. BPA provides members with opportunities for growth through education, competition, community service and personal development.

There are different ways for students to

qualify to compete. They may have had to take a multiple choice test or have a production component. For example; a web design student would have to create a website that would reflect certain requirements. The judges consist of industry leaders with experience in the category of each project.

Triton BPA program offers students the opportunity to get hands-on experience in career paths, fundraising and leadership conferences. The Business Day with local colleges allows BPA students the opportunity to tour local colleges and explore the possibilities in their career path. The Business Club Day with companies allows students to see the inner workings of each department in the business and have a panel dis-

ussion with the executives. In the past students have toured major companies such as; Minnesota Timberwolves at Target Center, 3M, and Pearson Publishing to name a few. BPA's proud charity partner is the Special Olympics. In past years, the students have had walks or food drives to raise funds.

Covid restrictions affected a small portion of the program, but these 12 Triton students are determined to compete at BPA State Competition and win. They are as follows: Kailey Ellingson, Mariel Faber, Natalie Robinson, Noah Kleinwort, Talia Kelley, Kaitlyn Krupa, Lydia Stanton, Chloe Staub, Wyatt Bendickson, August Kozisek, Angel Taylor, and Makena Jensen. Let's congratulate them!



Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

It is hard to believe that we have been dealing with the pandemic for over a year. A great deal has changed at school and the way we continue to deal with the guidelines for how we operate. We have been under executive orders in that time as well. I look forward to the day that those executive orders will be rescinded and we can go back to having local control. Many of the decisions that we have had to make have been based on these executive orders. I am hopeful that with the decrease in case numbers and the number of people that have been vaccinated that the end of those orders will be sooner rather than later. I do see some positives that have come out of this for us as educators. It has really created an opportunity to the way we educate students differently and to look at those changes that have worked moving forward. I believe that it has also shown us that there is a real benefit to the face to face contact

that students have with their teachers. It has also shown us that there is a time and a place for the use of technology to benefit students that can't be in the building. Technology by itself is no magic solution, but used appropriately it can play an important role in educating students.

The renovation project is moving along with the planning stages. All of the projects have been bid on and the those bids have been accepted. They are now working on the flow of the work that we will have done. The biggest concern is the timing of the roofing project with the parking lot project. We want to make sure that those are scheduled in a way as to not interfere with one another when they are doing the work. The work on the parking lot will be extensive as they are going to remove the asphalt that we currently have in the North and West lots to replace the base to prevent future issues and also improve the drainage. The current roof has as great deal of rock that is used to hold down the waterproof membrane. The rock will all need to be removed in order to put down the new Tremco style roof. This type of roofing does not require the rock and the roofing will be adhered to the surface. They are looking at the locations they start the work to prevent getting in the way of each other. The HVAC project will include ionization for the entire building. This system creates negative ions using electricity and they discharges them into the air. Those negative ions then attach to positively charged particles in the room. This creates a system in which dust, bacteria, pollen and other allergens are removed from the air that is in the building. This will help with situations like COVID, but also help those that struggle

with allergies to create a better learning environment.

We were able to complete the lighting project this past fall. We have replaced all of the lights in the building with LED and the cost of that will eventually be offset by the savings that we will see from the reduced expense on electricity usage in our district. We were able to get this done before the December deadline and will qualify for a sizable rebate that we will be able to put back into our general fund. I believe that we have amazing facilities that are in great shape, and this will take care of our largest areas of concern for a long time. We have a great situation at Triton where our facilities are also large enough to han-

dle that current capacity and we have room for growth. I feel fortunate to be in a district that has such a great situation with our facilities.

Please reach out to me with any questions that you may have regarding our school district. You can email me at schlich@triton.k12.mn.us or you can call me at 507-418-7530 to reach me at the district office. I would be happy to set up a time to meet with you or your organization. I believe that communication is an important aspect of my job responsibility, and I welcome the opportunity to learn from your perspective. GO COBRAS!

#WeAreTriton

Triton FFA Member wins Star Farmer

(continued from page 1)

Anna joined the FFA program in the 6th grade to show livestock at competitions. She is involved on the chapter, regional, state, and national level of Future Farmers of America. She's currently serving as the Regional Officer, coordinating events throughout Southeast Minnesota.

Anna won the Region 8 Star Farmer competition. The competition required two twenty-page applications and a profile including financial data, overall agriculture experience and skills acquired from 6th grade to now. She is excited to be competing at the state level among other students that are involved in the agricultural processes. Anna is Triton's first state officer candidate. The position would promote her leadership role to serve the whole state of Minnesota through FFA. After High School, Anna plans to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities studying animal science. She also plans to take courses focused on international agriculture and wildlife handling.

Anna's affection for agriculture began with her family's goat and sheep business, Northern Exposure Livestock in Dodge Center. She enjoys helping customers, educating youth about care and nutrition and showmanship training of sheep and goats at workshops hosted by Northern Exposure Livestock. "Agriculture draws in a lot of people and my family is invested in educating the community" she commented.

Anna and the other students appreciate the Triton FFA Advisors, Robert Ickler, Ashley



Zimmerman and Robert Olson. Triton FFA program utilizes the stockyard sales farm located in Zumbrota for their students who sell goats. Students learn how to raise goats with tender care to prepare the goat for families that will use it for sacred ceremonies in the community.

Anna is the busiest she's been in her involvement in FFA at Triton High School. She is committed to taking every opportunity that the Triton FFA Program offers to better her leadership and career development skills to excel. To learn more about this fascinating world of goat and sheep competitions, visit Northern Exposure Livestock's FaceBook Page.

TRITON CLASS OF 2021

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Joseph Corley is a senior at Triton High School. His parents are Robert and Heidi Corley and he is the brother to Alyvea. He is active in basketball at Triton. His hobby is photography and one of his enjoyments is spicy food. After graduation Joseph plans to attend Moorhead State for film studies.

JOSEPH CORLEY

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West Concord Fire Department and Ambulance Members Participate in Brainerd Polar Plunge



Team West Concord Fire Dept. and Amb. did the Polar Plunge on March 6th in Brainerd. Their team consisted of 8 Plungers. Chad Finne, Tracy Coshenet, Matt Coy, Morgan Coy, Rick Braithwaite, Bill Johnson, Ben Thatcher, and Tanya Thatcher. Raising \$907 for Special Olympics.

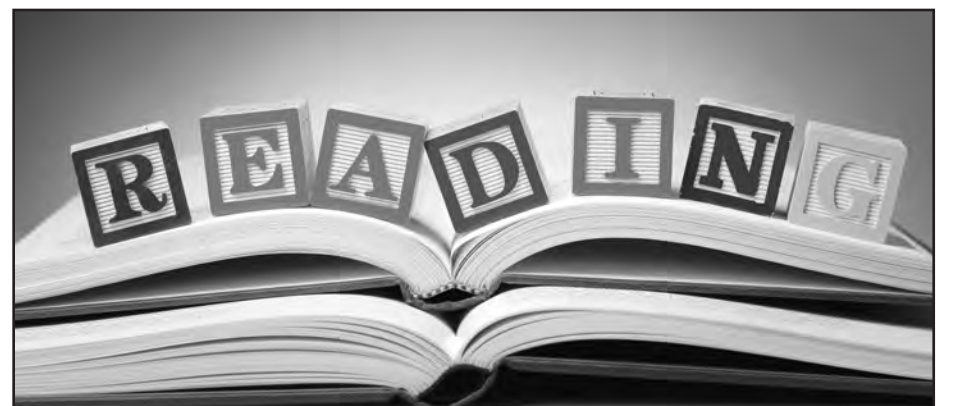
Team WCFD will be taking the Plunge on March 20th in Rochester. Team WCFD consists of 10 plungers. Rebekah Stoudt, Jake and Coy Froyum, Dylan Woodcock, Kayla Woodard, Stacy Newman, Ryan Newman, Kaylie Stalker, Ethan Otterbein, and Kyla Eggert.



West Concord Public Library

This month there are some interesting facts and statistics to share about our library. We have 560 registered users and 15,151 total physical materials in our collection. In 2020, even though the library was closed for 10 weeks due to Covid 19 restrictions, the library's total circulation of materials was 7,491. Through the Interlibrary Loan Service provided by SELCO, our library loaned 3,171 materials to other libraries, and borrowed 1,797 materials from other libraries in 2020.

Last year we provided outdoor story time at Lion's Park Tuesday mornings at 10 am, weather permitting. We plan to start this as soon as weather permits this year. We will again provide a to-go craft at story time as well. Check the West Concord Public Library facebook page, or call 527-2031 for updates.



April Drink of the Month Big Ginger \$3.50

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Special City Council Meeting Minutes Police Chief Finalists Interviews March 4, 2021 5:00pm

(These minutes are unofficial until approved by the City Council at the next meeting)

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeffrey McCool at 5:00PM; everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Mayor Jeffrey McCool; Council Members Karen Peterson, Sam Schollmeier, and Collin Ripley.

City Employees: Administrator Mike Plante, Maintenance, Librarian Nancy Schollmeier, and Assistant Librarian Donna Klapperich.

Interviews

The Citizen and Staff interview panel first interviewed Candidate Chris Lee. After that interview, Mr. Lee interviewed with the full council.

The Citizen and Staff interview panel then interviewed Candidate Shannon Boerner. After that interview, Mr. Boerner interviewed with the full council.

After receiving Citizen and Staff feedback, a majority of which was in favor of candidate Boerner, the Council deliberated about the two candidates. Ultimately the Council felt that Mr. Boerner's experience as a law enforcement officer, including many years as the current part-time police chief, as well as his stated dedication to be in the position for a significant period of time, the Council was in unanimous agreement to offer the position to Mr. Boerner.

Motion made by Council Member Schollmeier, seconded by Councilmember Peterson to offer the position of full-time Police Chief to Shannon Boerner and to have Administrator Plante negotiate terms for the position. **4 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried**

Motion by Mayor McCool, seconded by Council Member Schollmeier upon seeing no other business to adjourn the meeting of the West Concord City Council. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried.

Attest:

Jeffrey McCool, Mayor

Mike Plante, City Administrator

City Council Meeting February 18, 2021 7:00pm

(These minutes are unofficial until approved by the City Council at the next meeting)

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeffrey McCool at 7:00PM; everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Mayor Jeffrey McCool; Council Members Karen Peterson, Collin Ripley and Jeff Burse

City Employees: Administrator Mike Plante, Maintenance Supervisor Keith Clammer, and Librarian Nancy Schollmeier.

Additions to the Agenda:

None

Consent Calendar was presented as follows:

- Approval of Special City Council Meeting Minutes for January 20, 2020
- Approval of Incidental Bills Paid
- Review of City Financial Reports

Motion by Councilmember Burse, seconded by Councilmember Peterson to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Public Comment

None

City Business:

Public Hearing, Small Cities Development Program Application – DuCharme, SEMMCHRA

The funding, if the City is a successful applicant, would be for residential rehabilitation within the City. Funds are granted to local units of government, which, in turn, lend funds for the purpose of rehabilitating local housing stock. Loans may be used for owner-occupied, rental, single-family or multiple-family housing rehabilitation. Loan agreements may allow for deferred payments or immediate monthly payments. Interest rates may vary, and loan repayments are retained by grantees for the purpose of making additional rehabilitation loans. In all cases,

housing funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons. No citizen feedback was provided.

Approve Application for Small Cities Development Program –Plante, City Administrator
Motion by Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Ripley to approve the Small Cities Development Program application. **5 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried.**

Mathias Subdivision 616 6th Street Lot Offer – Plante, Administrator

The City recently received two offers on its 616 6th Street Lot. One offer was for the \$6,000 asking price and the other was for \$4,000. The two offers were considered comparable in all other aspects.

Motion by Council Member Burse, seconded by Council Member Ripley to approve the sale of the 616 6th Street lot for \$6,000 to Ray and Lisa Kesler. **5 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried.**

Approval of Purchases for Bobcat – Clammer, Maintenance Supervisor

These upgrades have already been acquired but are coming for council approval. For background, recently we had a staff member who has been feeling the physical effects of not having a shock absorbing seat in the Bobcat for snow removal events and for other times we use the equipment. A quote was received for the seat and also a backup camera for some added safety.

Motion by Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Burse to approve the purchases. **5 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried.**

Approval No Parking Designation for a Portion of Eugene Street – Clammer, Maintenance

Jess Harris runs a business near the old school on Eugene Street. While it hasn't been an issue in the past, recently vehicles have started parking on both sides of the street near his business entrance/exit. That parking arrangement has made it difficult for him to get his large equipment and vehicles in and out of the area. Mr. Harris is requesting that a portion of Eugene Street be designated as "No Parking." City Staff have reviewed the situation and feel that a no parking area is warranted on one side of the street.

Motion by Council Member Peterson, seconded by Council Member Ripley to approve a portion of Eugene Street being deemed as "No Parking". **5 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried.**

Discussion Regarding Police Chief Interviews– Plante, Administrator

Input was sought as to how Council would like to move forward with the Police Chief process. At this point the City has two applicants. The Council determined to interview the candidates while also having some staff and a handful of citizens included as well.

Discussion Regarding Remote City Meetings and Business – Plante, Administrator

Since the time of the emergency proclamation the City has received questions as to when the City will resume normal in person meetings. The Council, after deliberation, determined that City Meetings will remain virtual for citizen input, but that staff can be present to present information. Commissions and Boards will also be able to meet in person, but a virtual option should be provided.

Administrator Updates: Mike Plante, City Administrator

Plante provided updates on various City topics including the City audit. Mr. Plante also advised the Council that he has accepted a position with another organization and has provided his 30 day notice to the Mayor. The Council discussed the process of searching for a new administrator and desired to see an interim in place while that process is completed.

Department Report Review

The Council received the reports that were provided by the Library, Maintenance, People's Services, and Police Department.

Motion by Mayor McCool, seconded by Council Member Burse upon seeing no other business to adjourn the meeting of the West Concord City Council. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays, Carried.

Attest:

Jeffrey McCool, Mayor

Mike Plante, City Administrator

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<p>2017 FORD FUSION SE</p> <p>#20028D 1.5 ecoboost, 6 speed automatic, blue, 18,978 miles</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Now \$16,340</p>	<p>2020 FORD EXPLORER</p> <p>#20295U 2.3L ecoboost, 14 GTDI, DOHC turbocharged VCT, 10 speed automatic, blue, 17,790 miles</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Now \$37,999</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Cold Weather Car Care</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">At Milo Peterson Ford Co., our highly qualified technicians are here to provide exceptional service in a timely manner.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">From oil changes to transmission replacements, we are dedicated to maintaining top tier customer service, for both new and pre-owned car buyers! Allow our staff to demonstrate our commitment to excellence.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Call our service department to schedule your maintenance needs. Open Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 5pm.</p> </div> </div>	

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Parvovirus is Everywhere, Vaccinate Your Dog



Parvovirus, commonly known as “parvo,” is a contagious virus that can be very serious and even fatal in dogs. Dr. Jennifer Reinhart, a small animal internal medicine specialist at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana, explains that parvo is a problem that can be seen in dogs of any age.

“Although there is a window of highest risk between 8 and 16 weeks, adult dogs that are not correctly vaccinated may contract this virus as well,” says Dr. Reinhart.

Patients that are diagnosed with parvovirus usually present with vomiting, diarrhea, lack of energy, and poor appetite. Parvovirus targets the gut cells of the dog. That is why patients have vomiting and diarrhea, which may lead to dehydration or starvation, due to a lack of nutrition staying in the body. The virus also attacks bone marrow cells, which causes problems in the immune system.

“When the virus attacks the immune cells in the bone marrow, the patient becomes more susceptible to secondary infections,” Dr. Reinhart explains.

Parvovirus is found in the environment and can be contracted by a susceptible dog in various ways. The cycle begins when the virus is shed in the feces of an infected dog. Another dog may contract the virus by coming into contact with infected feces or dirt that contains the particles of the virus. Even if the infected feces were promptly picked up, infective virus remains on the ground.

“Parvo is a very hardy virus. It can persist for weeks to months in the environment,” says Dr. Reinhart.

The virus will be present in feces even before the infected dog shows clinical signs of the disease. What’s more, a dog that had parvovirus can continue to shed the virus in feces for up to 8 weeks after getting better. Some infected dogs never develop clinical signs but do continually shed the virus.

“Parvovirus is everywhere and you cannot 100% prevent exposure,” warns Dr. Reinhart. “The best thing to do is to make sure that your puppy is properly vaccinated.”

Although the vaccine series cannot guarantee absolute protection against the disease, it offers the best chance at avoiding parvo. An animal that is appropriately vaccinated has a much lower chance of contracting the virus.

Dr. Reinhart stressed that the vaccine series isn’t complete after the initial 16-week series of shots. “The boosters are what actually complete the vaccination series,” she says. “A booster given at one year, and then every three years after that. Only then is a dog considered appropriately vaccinated.”

Another important preventive measure is avoiding exposure to dogs that might have parvo.

“During the period when puppies are most susceptible to the virus—between 8 and 16 weeks of age—puppies should not be interacting with other dogs. It is the best way to keep them safe,” says Dr. Reinhart.

Although parvovirus can be a very scary thing, it is definitely something that can be cured. Dr. Reinhart says that a patient with parvovirus that is treated properly has a very good chance of surviving.

“If the disease is caught early enough, and the animal is able to receive aggressive supportive care, its chance of survival is actually really good,” she says.

Supportive care includes aggressive fluid therapy and antibiotics. In some cases, a feeding tube is placed.

“The antibiotics are for protecting the patient from secondary infections, and the feeding tube is sometimes placed in order to give the nutrients the patient needs if it isn’t eating on its own,” says Dr. Reinhart. The antibiotics are crucial because the virus attacks the immune cells in the bone marrow, suppressing the immune system of the patient.

“In a big picture sense, it is very easy to prevent your dog from getting parvovirus,” says Dr. Reinhart. “It’s important to keep your pet up to date on vaccinations and do your best to avoid exposure to infected dogs.”

If you have any questions about parvovirus or believe your dog is due for vaccinations, contact your veterinarian.

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That's the Latest



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.

I didn't realize that speed limit signs like the one you see pictured on this page existed anymore. Photographer Glen Holtz posted this picture a few months ago on a Facebook group called 'Nebraska through the Lens' that I've referred to in previous columns. This group started as a site for hunting pictures which it still features but has extended to any scenic pictures across the state. If you've ever driven Interstate 80 from Omaha to Colorado you get the feeling that Nebraska is not scenic but once you get off the interstate you'll find it to be in fact quite picturesque. Now the speed limit sign picture itself is not the most scenic but

it did conjure up memories for me.

Growing up two miles north of West Concord just off highway 56, I would pass a similar sign many times going home from town. This would be in the early to mid-1960's when the speed limit on the highway was 65 daytime and 55 at night. Coming home after spending a Friday night when the stores and banks in town were open until 9 o'clock we would have to go the night time speed limit. The sign was posted just across the highway from George Flicek's place. Going south out of West Concord had a similar sign but I don't remember the exact location. It might have been close to the Fred Stone place which is now where Ellingson Companies is located.

I remember in particular seeing the sign across from Fliceks one Sunday afternoon. It was seared into my memory after I was in shock after making one of the wildest U-turns I've ever been in. There was an afternoon event going on at Hegre Lutheran church which is located on the Goodhue/Dodge County line on highway 56. The year was 1964 and the younger crowd in attendance like me would have much rather been elsewhere. Lowell Erickson of Skyburg was there and had just gotten his driver's license. He was 16 and I was 10. He got to drive his dad Lester's old Ford pickup. As I recall the pickup would have been a late 40's model. It was a classic already in 64 and today would be hard to find one still road worthy. Lowell asked me if I wanted to go for a ride. He just wanted to drive somewhere, anywhere

for that matter. And I wanted to ride somewhere, anywhere. So we headed south on 56 towards West Concord. It was a beautiful day for a Sunday drive. But what happened next scared the bejeebers out of me.

We're driving along and suddenly right by Flicek's lumber, out of nowhere, Lowell decides to do a U-turn right in the middle of the highway at about 30 miles an hour. Now mind you there were no safety features in this Ford. There were no seatbelts, no airbags, nothing like that. It did have leather seats or at least naugahyde that smelled so good in the summer heat. I'm just glad the latch on the passenger's side door held. We made the most perfect U-turn at a high rate of speed. I'm sure Lester had to buy new tires shortly after this as most of the rubber was left on the highway in a perfect U pattern. As we completed the turn and I realized that I did not die, I looked out the window and the first thing I saw was that very speed limit sign that said the limit was 65 daytime and 55 at night. The next thing I do is look over at Lowell and he turns to me and says and I quote 'Don't tell your old man about this!'

The memory of this was like it happened yesterday. And I never did tell my old man about it, nor did I tell my mom, siblings or anybody. I remember that for days after the exhibitionist driving stunt, I would be riding from town to home and I would spot the aforementioned 'U' formation made from rubber. My mom mentioned on one of those trips home that somebody really squealed their tires. Being the stoic



This photo, taken in Hall County, Nebraska by Glen Holtz, is a speed limit sign that was used on many highways across the Midwest including some just outside West Concord many years ago.

Norwegian that I am, I sat in silence. I didn't dare ask if Lester bought new tires for his pickup yet. And if anyone would have asked me if I knew anything about the letter writing on the highway, I would have done my best Sergeant Schultz impersonation. You might remember the rather large German soldier played by John Banner from Hogan's Heroes who would always say "I Know Nothing".

Well as years went on, I come to find out that Lowell came about his driving skills from his mom Myrtle. My mom always said she was a fast driver. And in Myrtle's later years, she had a Ford Mustang that helped her get from point A to point B in a hurry. At least that's what I was told. I just hope she never tried an Erickson type U-turn on highway 56 with that Ford.

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Museum Musings

Talking About an Addition - Already?

(Part 2 in a series of 3)

By Colleen Sathrum Hayne

In 1902 West Concord proudly opened its much needed new brick schoolhouse. It cost the taxpayers \$13209 completely finished. If the new school had not been approved and built, West Concord would have lost its State Aid and remained only a graded school without high school accreditation.

So . . . with a brand new school, it was more than surprising that the March 21st, 1912 West Concord Enterprise, only 10 years later, featured an article entitled, "Our High School Problem." New laws, like the 1909 Putnam and the 1911 Benson-Lee Acts mandated state aid for high schools who provided instruction in agriculture, manual training, and home economics. The new view was that education should be directed toward "real life"—not the ivory tower. This meant more space was needed, especially as instruction was not to be given in basements or attics. More teachers and more equipment were also part of the equation. In the words of the School Board, the 1902 school was built to "accommodate only the old-style academic high school." Fifteen citizens and the School Board met on a Friday night to discuss the situation. Their biggest fear was that the West Concord School would be dropped from the state's High School list.

An August 1912 Enterprise article complained that having one uniform list of requirements to which all schools in the state must conform was unfair. The writer pointed out that the needs and the funds of large city schools were far different from those of rural areas. How could small schools be compelled to have one teacher for Agriculture and another for Manual Training when there were only six students in each class?

By March 1913 matters were getting serious. The State High School inspector, George B. Aiton, told the School Board that \$2750 of the school district's annual state aid was in jeopardy, as well as their accreditation as a high school unless they built a four room addition and updated the original school. A second recommendation was to consolidate with some of the nearby country schools to accomplish the same goal.

In April a petition signed by 20 property-owning citizens of West Concord was presented to the School Board, asking them to call for a special election to bond the School District to the tune of \$11,900 to meet the high school requirements. This election would be followed by another vote of the interested rural school districts to see if they indeed wanted to proceed with consolidation. As the voting date grew closer, some important questions were answered. Yes, women would be allowed to vote on school district issues even though universal women's suffrage had not yet been achieved. The School Board would only issue bonds if consolidation was approved.

On Tuesday, April 22nd, 1913, 197 votes were cast—149 in favor of issuing bonds for the high school, and 48, opposed. This was a preliminary vote to test the waters of voter sentiment without the dollars and cents attached. The Enterprise noted that women were "outspokenly" in favor of the high school bond proposal.

A special election was called on Tuesday, November 4th to vote on bonding the school district for a total of \$19,000. \$7000 would be used to pay up the district's present debt and \$12000 would be for a four room addition, as well as modernization of plumbing, heating, and ventilation. Although a disappointing number of votes was cast, the bond easily passed: 117 in favor and 21 against. The Enterprise stated one of the reasons for low voter turnout may have been the complaining in town about the local teachers spending too much time "dancing and card playing." Teachers were not supposed to have a life?

By February 1914 H. Edward Walker, Minneapolis architect, had drawn up the plans for the addition and bids were being taken for the building, plumbing, ventilation, and heating contracts. In 1910 the Minnesota Board of Health had mandated standards for ventilation and light in classrooms. All ceilings were required to be no less than 12 feet from the floor. The window glass was required to total 1/5 of the floor area of the school room and be placed so the top of the windows were close to the ceiling. Mr. Walker designed the Boyd, Brewster, and Lindstrom, Minnesota schools around this time. He also was busy designing homes and even farm buildings for poultry and machinery around Lake Harriet in Minneapolis. That's hard to imagine, thinking of the very urban Minneapolis Lakes area of today.

When school opened on September 7th, 1914 the addition was nearing completion with enough rooms finished to allow the year to begin. The high school staff now included the superintendent, the principal, an agriculture teacher, a home economics teacher, a manual training teacher and the Normal Training teacher. In the school year 1911-12 there were over 80 Minnesota high schools with a Normal Department whose job was to train high school students to be teachers in the rural schools. It was a popular course of study. State aid of \$1000 paid for the Normal teacher and all expenses.

By October the finishing touches were being put on the second floor classrooms and on December 18th the town was invited to an Open House at the school to see the new addition and other improvements.

Refreshments were served by the Home Economics students and a short debate was conducted for guests by two trios of Juniors and Seniors on this question: "resolved that the telegraph and telephone lines should be owned and operated by the federal government."

As the Enterprise noted, "It is hoped that all will attend to see what splendid educational opportunities the school board and the district have provided for the children of the community." The community now had a school of which they were very proud.

Stay tuned until next time to see how 1935 brought monumental changes to the school.



To view the 1914 addition, look to the left hand side of the picture and see how the brickwork is different from the rest of the building. Note that the addition's foundation is constructed differently from the stone foundation of the 1902 building. You can clearly see how all the windows in the building originally were much larger than they are today.

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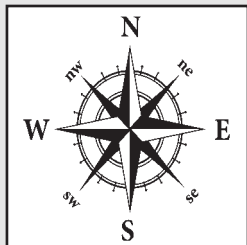
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes The "S" Word



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.

That four-letter word everyone uses so casually in Minnesota is not accepted in Tennessee. If one says it the men will look at the ground and the women reach for their smelling salts. It has such a chilling effect on the natives. Strikes fear into their hearts at the mere mention of it.

We are talking snow. And I don't mean blizzard snow or snow storm or even enough to send the snowplows out in Minnesota. Just white flakes from the sky and people go nuts. The mention of snow on the news and local folk race to the Piggly Wiggly and buy up milk, bread and eggs. I guess French Toast is winter survival food down here.

So, after three winters down here we finally got hit. The in-famous February "snow-mageddon" of 2021 that slammed across the nation delivered an icy treat to Tennessee. We were hammered with an astounding two inches of snow. Life shrieked to a halt. Businesses were closed, cafes shuttered, school cancelled, no postal delivery and the radio broadcast winter survival tips. They had to repeatedly warn folks not to walk out on the lake because a quarter inch of ice cannot support a person.

My neighbor has two four-wheel drive trucks and his wife will not leave the house if it snows. Roads don't get plowed like they do in Minnesota. I think the county here has one snowplow truck and it looks like a one-ton pickup with a blade on front. So, the snow just stays on the roads and waits for the sunshine. They have a philosophy here that God put it there and He will take it away when He is ready. But the young guys with four-wheelers and UTV's love it. I see them flying down the snow-covered roads like they were on the salt flats. So, not to keep you in suspense, a couple days later the temperatures were in the 50's and the sun melted all the evidence.

We had a couple spending their Valentine's Day weekend honeymoon at our rental cabin down by Big Sandy River and they were snowed in. Not really snowed in, but just unwilling to drive with snow on the road. We gave them an extra day free stay so they didn't have to brave the snowy roads back to Clarkesville right away. It will give them a good story to tell for the rest of their life.

A Minnesotan in the North: False Spring



By RosaLin Alcoser

The worst part of warm weeks in mid February is that it gives one false hope of an early spring... this will most likely not be the case.

The reason why the false hope is so bad this year is the weather being in the 30s is because it came right after being between 0 and -22 degrees. Naturally this has made the 30s feel a lot warmer than it really is.

Native Minnesotans are calling this warm snap the start of sweatshirt weather. Personally all I have done is wear a less heavy coat and left it unbuttoned unless I am going to be outside for a long period of time. But then again we all know that I do not take being cold as well as those of you who have always lived in Minnesota.

Either way the snow is getting shorter early this year which is nice. However, its all fun and games until it gets cold again. After all there are still four more weeks of winter or is it five?

Honestly I am not so sure anymore about how many more weeks it is till spring at this point. But I am sure that it will come along at some point in April or May just like it does every year.

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By Jim Miller

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Financial Help for Retirees Affected by COVID

Dear Savvy Senior:

Are there any financial assistance programs you can refer me to? The coronavirus pandemic has cost me my part[1]time retirement job and depleted my savings account.

Needy Retiree

Dear Needy:

In addition to the \$1,400 federal coronavirus stimulus check that was distributed recently, there are many other financial-assistance programs (both public and private) that can help struggling retirees, as well as give relief to family members who help provide financial support for their loved ones. To find out what types of assistance you may be eligible for, your best options is to visit BenefitsCheckUp.org, a free, confidential Web tool designed for adults 55 and older and their families. It will help you locate federal, state and private benefits programs that can assist with paying for food, medications, utilities, health care, housing and other needs. This site – created by the National Council on Aging – contains more than 2,500 programs across the country. To identify benefits, you'll first need to fill out an online questionnaire that asks a series of questions like your date of birth, ZIP code, expenses, income, assets, veteran status, the medications you take and a few other factors. It takes about 15 minutes. Once completed, you'll get a report detailing all the programs and services you may qualify for, along with detailed information on how to apply. Some programs can be applied for online; some have downloadable application forms that you can print and mail in; and some require that you contact the program's administrative office directly (they provide the necessary contact information).

If you don't have Internet access, you can also get help in-person at any of the 84 Benefit Enrollment Centers located throughout the U.S. Call 888-268-6706 or visit NCOA.org/centerforbenefits/becs to locate a center in your area. Some centers also offer assistance over the phone.

Types of Benefits

Depending on your income level and where you live, here are some benefits you may be eligible for:

Food assistance:

Programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) can help pay for groceries. The average SNAP benefit for 60-and-older households is around \$125 per month.

Other programs that may be available include the Emergency Food Assistance Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Healthcare:

Medicaid and Medicare Savings Programs can help or completely pay for out-of-pocket health care costs. And, there are special Medicaid waiver programs that provide in-home care and assistance too.

Prescription drugs:

There are hundreds of programs offered through pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and charitable organizations that help lower or eliminate prescription drug costs, including the federal Low-Income Subsidy known as "Extra Help" that pays premiums, deductibles and prescription copayments for Medicare Part D beneficiaries.

Utility assistance:

There's the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), as well as local utility companies and charitable organizations that provide assistance in lowering home heating and cooling costs.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI):

Administered by the Social Security Administration, SSI provides monthly payments to very low-income seniors, age 65 and older, as well as to those who are blind and disabled. In 2020, SSI pays up to \$783 per month for a single person and up to \$1,175 for couples. In addition to these programs, there are numerous other benefits they can help you locate such as HUD housing, home weatherization assistance, tax relief, veteran's benefits, senior transportation, respite care, free legal assistance, job training and employment and debt counseling.

CROSSWORD

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ANON	ANON	ANON	ANON	ANON	ANON	ANON	ANON	ANON
GLER	GLER	GLER	GLER	GLER	GLER	GLER	GLER	GLER
SHAH	SHAH	SHAH	SHAH	SHAH	SHAH	SHAH	SHAH	SHAH
TAU	TAU	TAU	TAU	TAU	TAU	TAU	TAU	TAU

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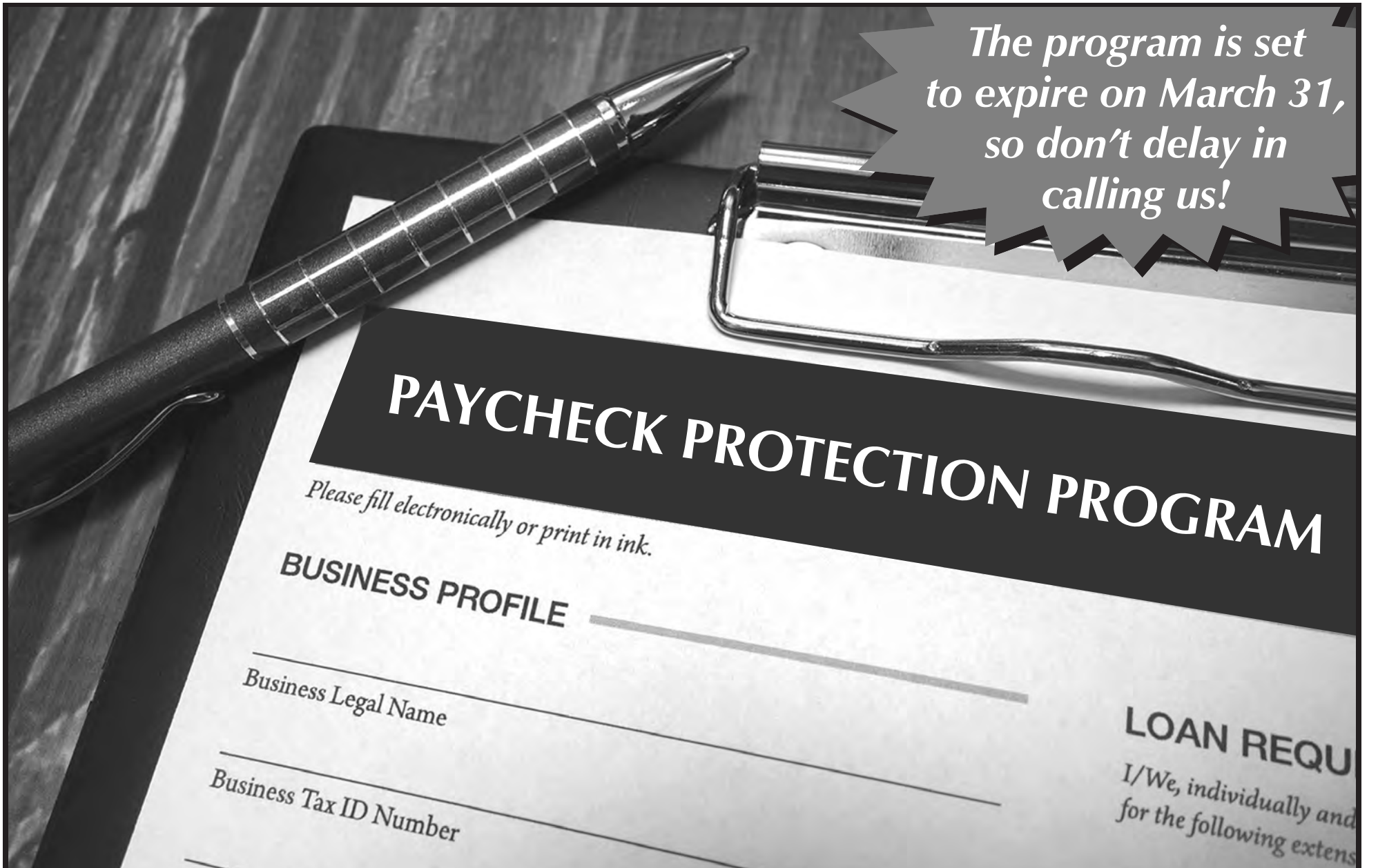
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

- THEME: MARCH MADNESS
- ACROSS**
1. Theories
 5. T in Greek
 8. Tarzan's mom, e.g.
 11. Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, e.g.
 12. Ingredient in talcum powder
 13. Spectator
 15. 5,280 feet
 16. Tiny river
 17. Note taker
 18. *Last NCAA basketball winner
 20. Any day now
 21. Antiquarian's concern, pl.
 22. Diana Ross and Michael Jackson movie, with The
 23. Saw a nightmare
 26. Caribbean rattles
 30. Witch's spell
 31. Flocked-to destinations
 34. Goo or slime
 35. Plural of ostium
 37. Leo mo.
 38. Eurasian goat-like antelope
 39. Showing signs of use
 40. "Yo, ___!"
 42. *Nothing but it
 43. Wrap a baby
 45. * ___-elimination
 47. Outrage
 48. Fraternity K
 50. One of the Bridges
 52. * ___ 1 schools only
 55. ___less but pennywise
 56. Decanter
 57. In a frenzy
 59. Threesome
 60. Turkish monetary unit, plural
 61. Dumpy establishment
 62. Common conjunction
 63. New York time
 64. Male deer
- Down**
1. Singular of #1 Across
 2. Rikers Island weapon
 3. Burkina Faso neighbor
 4. Himalayan mountaineer
 5. Tarnish
 6. " ___ fair in love and war"
 7. *School with most NCAA basketball titles
 8. Choir member
 9. Hammer part
 10. Blunder
 12. Sad, to mademoiselle
 13. Radio studio sign
 14. *Mid-major school that's become major powerhouse
 19. Kind of ray
 22. Is no longer
 23. Arabian sailing vessels
 24. Restart from seed
 25. Uncredited actor
 26. The Wise Men
 27. Acting as a prompter
 28. Snow impression
 29. Eric Heiden's "shoe"
 32. *Oklahoma State's super freshman ___ Cunningham
 33. Mixed breed puppy
 36. *2021 NCAA Tournament location
 38. What Edward Scissorhands does
 40. Stout relative
 41. Dream big
 44. Ancient Celtic priest
 46. Water nymphs
 48. Fuzzy fruit, pl.
 49. Deflect
 50. Sanders' campaign slogan "Feel the ___"
 51. "National Velvet" author Bagnold
 52. Expunge
 53. Fail to mention
 54. Scotia predecessor
 55. School-related org.
 58. Liquor store pony



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