



Goodhue-Bellechester Messenger

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Bellechester Lighted Parade Continues to be a Hit

By Beth Brekke

The second annual Bellechester Lion's Club lighted Christmas parade was bigger, better and warmer than in 2021. Entries ranged from those walking in costume to large flatbed trailers with some promoting businesses or organizations and others just there for the fun.



3-month-old Bridget Dankers, daughter of Brett and Brittany Dankers, has her first visit with Santa.

photos by Beth Brekke

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J Hill Promotions Offers One-Stop Shop

By Beth Brekke

"From business to personal, we have you covered", that's the J Hill promise. When you are looking for a way to promote your company, reward your employees, commemorate an event, or just want a unique, personal item for yourself or to give as a gift, JoAnn Hilleshiem can help. She is operating one of the town's newest businesses, J Hill Promotions Showroom and Gifts, out of the former Lodermeier offices at 211 Broadway in Goodhue.

JoAnn opened in the downtown space in July after working out of her home for four years. As she grew her promotional com-

pany so did the array of samples that she had on hand and they started to take over her space. Customers can now stop in to the store to see and feel the different items and discuss ideas with JoAnn. She has access to a huge variety of items that can be customized.

After a year and a half of debating and researching, JoAnn, along with her husband, Pat, decided to move the business forward and purchase a laser machine. The machine allows them to engrave on, or cut shapes from, wood,

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Pat and JoAnn Hilleshiem opened J-Hill Promotions Showroom and Gifts out of the former Lodermeier offices at 211 Broadway in Goodhue in July 2022.

Christkindlmarkt Returned December 3rd



The center tent was beautifully decorated and invited folks to come in and enjoy a meal of German foods. photos by Beth Brekke

By Beth Brekke

Second Avenue in Goodhue was lined with vendor booths on December 3rd for the second annual German Christmas Market event. In spite of cold weather, a good crowd gathered when the Christkindlmarkt opened at noon. Among the vendors were those selling home-made craft items, care products for people and pets, and Girl Scout and 4-H club fundraisers. Shoppers were greeted with Christmas music playing through speakers on the North end of the street and a karaoke booth on the South end with German food and fire barrels for warm socializing in between.

The Third Place was another popular spot to warm up while viewing the display of Nativity scenes from around the world.

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Announcements

- **Belvidere Happy-Go-Luckies 4-H Club** (usually) meets the first Monday of each month at 7p.m. at St. Peter's Church, rural Goodhue. New members are always welcome! Contact club leader Michelle Benrud at 651-923-5247 for more information.
- **The Goodhue Area Historical Society Museum** is open June thru August Thursday and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.. For after hours appointment call 651-923-4302 or 651-301-5731.

Do you have an announcement?

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Is Peace Possible?



By Pastor Colleen Hoeft

Amidst all the craziness of the season, is peace possible? In our world where nations continue to fight against nations; is peace possible? In the culture around us that is bent on arguing and fighting; is peace possible?

Jesus said in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Jesus said, I am giving you peace- but not the kind you find out in the world. Peace is the sum and substance of human well-being. That's what everyone desperately wants. It's what you want; you might really want political peace; a peace between people and the government or a peace between governments and countries. You may long for psychological, or emotional peace. A peace that keeps those voices in our head in harmony. A peace that keeps healthy in body and in our minds. Most of all you and I want peace of conscience and peace of heart and that only comes from peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who guides us out of our lostness in the chaos of spiritual darkness to the way of light and peace. Peace with God is the only means of peace with each other. Without that peace, the world lies in the hands of the wicked one, in darkness, chaos, and fear. This was the ultimate purpose of Christ's mission; "through him (Jesus) to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross." Jesus was sent to bring peace of heart and spirit to

all mankind.

Before we know Jesus, before we accept Him as our Savior- we are just walking around in the dark- with fear and death around each corner. We have no peace of mind or spirit- peace illudes us because in the dark and in the chaos peace is absent. Peace can overcome chaos and darkness- but it must be accepted. For you and me to truly experience peace we first, have to be at peace with ourselves.

I. Are You at Peace with Yourself? In other words, are you comfortable with your actions? Can you live with your decisions? Are you happy because of your choices?

Albert Einstein said "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, but expecting different results".

One of the largest obstacles that causes people to fail to change is that some of the problems, some of the troubles, some of the difficulties, some of the habits, some of the addictions are so big that you cannot just stop "cold turkey." We need to take the first step- and often they will be baby steps.

Are you at peace with yourself? What changes do you need to make in your life beginning today? What baby steps do you need to take to be at peace with yourself? Secondly-

II. Are You at Peace with Others? I recently heard a person say, "I love Christmas, but when the in-laws and the out-laws come is when I lose my peace." The word "Peace" appears some 429 times in the bible. It has about eight different variations of meaning

in the Old Testament and about seven different variations of meaning in the New Testament.

The bible says in Acts 5:29 "We must obey God rather than human being!" And in Romans 12:18 "As much as it is possible, as far as it lies within you, live at peace with everyone."

God is the one that we will all have to stand before and give an account of our actions and decisions. Peace is not merely the absence of conflict. Peace is also an action word. We need to take steps toward social justice. And steps toward equality and freedom, and actively work to ease poverty for those that have fallen on difficult times. We must be taking steps toward helping the lost find God. Our Mission is to make disciples so that Christ can transform people's lives.

Matthew 7:2 says, "For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." The church, the body of believers, is instructed in the bible to not gossip or spread rumors; we aren't to slander, or whisper behind someone's back, and we are not to insult or judge someone. Instead, we are to practice hospitality. The bible says, "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you." Romans 15:7 Are you at peace with yourself? Are you at peace with others? One final step.

III. Are You at Peace with God? The meaning of the word Peace in the bible implies quietness and rest. Another meaning of

peace is a type of "reset or fresh start."

Peace is not something you reach out and touch with your physical hands. Peace is not something that is visible with the eye. If I asked you to draw me a picture of peace we would get many different variations of images. If I asked you to describe peace we would get many expressions of feeling as answers. But this one thing I know for sure, every step you take toward being at peace with your self is a step you take toward being at peace with God. Every step you take toward being at peace with yourself, every step you take at being at peace with others is a step you take at becoming at peace with Jesus the Prince of Peace.

Is peace possible? Peace is possible when we come to Jesus and say yes- I want your peace, I want the gift of salvation you offer- we will receive that peace that goes far beyond what is happening in the world around us- the peace that passes all understanding. Jesus said, "my peace I give you. I do not let you to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." He gives us peace deep inside our spirits- it won't matter what the day brings, it won't matter how our crazy and messed up our lives or family are- when we receive His peace we are full- and we need never to be troubled or afraid. We only have to trust in Him! What do you need to take that first step toward peace in your life? Are you at peace with yourself? Are you at peace with others? Are you at peace with God?

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Father Thomas McCabe • www.holytrinitygoodhue.org
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Parish Office Hours, Mon.: 9:00AM - 2:00PM
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Sat.: 4:45PM - 5:20PM Confession, 5:30PM Holy Mass (Sunday vigil)
Tues.: 8:00AM Holy Mass
Wed.: 8:00AM Holy Mass, 9:00AM - 2:00PM Eucharistic Adoration
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Mon.: 8:00AM Holy Mass, 6:30PM - 9:00PM Eucharistic Adoration
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Thurs.: 8:00AM Eucharistic Adoration/Confession, 9:00AM Holy Mass
Rosary said 25 minutes before Holy Mass
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GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)

Pastor Martin Weigand
39774 Co. 4 Blvd., Goodhue • 651-923-4624
gracelutheranchurch@gmail.com • www.gracestpeters.org
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30a.m. with communion on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.
Sunday School at 9:30a.m., Sunday Bible Study at 9:45a.m., Confirmation Class 5:45 on Wednesday at St Peter's.
8:30a.m. Quilting and Bible Study on Wednesday at St Peter's, and 10:30a.m. Midweek Bible Study on Thursday at St Peter's.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY Chosen

He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will. — Ephesians 1:5

My daughter and son-in-law are in the process of choosing a therapy dog for one of our grandsons. They have been discussing and studying about which breed is best and which size is right. During this time, their other son has been helping to walk the neighbor's dog to get a sense of how this addition to the family will work. The family is invested together to make a good choice.

Even more important is understanding that God has decided that he wants us to join his family. Does it inspire you that God has been pleased to create us for fellowship with him? God knew that through the sacrifice of Jesus we would become sons and daughters of God. His plan for our lives is to include us in his story. It wasn't enough that God created us and made us his imagebearers; he also loves us and wants to live in relationship with us.

When our lives reflect the realization of all this, we display God's glory and his love, and something changes in us. We carry ourselves with the knowledge that we belong and are part of God's family.

What does it mean to be part of this family? It means we are responsible for one another. Because of the love God has given us, we have the ability to live in unity together, sharing in the story that God has indeed chosen us.

Thank you, Father, that you have created us and have chosen us. Help us to see what it means to be in your family and to treat others with the same love you have shown us. Amen.

ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN (WELS)

Pastor Randall Kuznicki
Minneola Twp. Co. Rd. 7, rural Zumbrota
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Communion 3rd Sunday
Sunday School and Bible Studies (Adult & Teen) 11:00a.m.

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, MISSOURI SYNOD

Pastor Steven Frentz
28961 365th St., Goodhue
651-923-4438
Email: stpeter@sleepyeyetel.net
9:30a.m. Sunday School
10:30a.m. Worship

Email your church announcements, schedule to the Messenger at: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

MINNEOLA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Hannah Bergstrom de Leon
www.minneolalutheranchurch.com
13628 Cty. 50 Blvd., Goodhue • 824-2685
10:30a.m. Sunday Worship
(Communion 2nd and 4th Sundays)

ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)

Pastor Robbin Robbert
36620 Co. 4 Blvd., Goodhue • 651-923-4773
Sunday 9:00am Worship
Communion offered on the 2nd & 4th Sundays.

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Pastor Eric Hanson
PO Box 276, 308 1st Ave., Goodhue
Email: office@stlukegoodhue.org • 651-923-4695
Sunday 9:30a.m.
Wednesday Worship at 6:45p.m.
*Check our website for changes: www.stlukegoodhue.org

ST. PETER'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)

Pastor Martin Weigand
702 West Third Ave., Goodhue, MN • 715-441-5086
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45a.m. with communion on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.
Sunday School at 9:30a.m. at Grace.
Sunday Bible Study at 9:30a.m., Confirmation Class 5:45p.m. on Wednesday, 8:30a.m. Quilting and Bible Study on Wednesday, and 10:30a.m. Midweek Bible Class on Thursday.



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Richard "Dick" William Majerus

Richard "Dick" William Majerus, 73, passed away Tuesday, December 27, 2022, at home surrounded by his family. Dick was diagnosed with CMS lymphoma of the brain on December 20, 2022. Dick was born January 22,

1949, in Red Wing, MN to Raymond and Irma (Spillman) Majerus. He graduated from Goodhue High School and attended 2 years of vocational school in Red Wing after returning home from Vietnam. Dick was united in marriage to Jule Klein on July 29, 1972, at St. Mary's Church in Bellechester.

Dick was a machinist for many years. He learned his trade at Di-Acro in Lake City until it closed and then took his skills to MacTech. Dick was the second employee hired at the upstart of D.L. Ricci Corporation in Red Wing where he managed the traveling machining part of the company and additionally managed the shop where the equipment was built. He also traveled for his job throughout the United States and to Taiwan

working in nuclear plants, paper mills, refineries, etc.

Dick was very proud of his country and his service in the Army, and part of his army career was in the tanker division in Germany where he learned to fix and drive the tanks. He also served 1 year in Viet Nam.

Dick loved playing cards and liars dice with his friends and family. He enjoyed driving his demo derby cars that his brother Bob and friend Gene helped build. Dick also relished snowmobiling with friends and family in the winter, while in the summer, he loved fishing and riding in his side-by-side. He was also an active member for more than 50 years in the Bellechester American Legion Post 598. Dick's best achievement in life was his unconditional love and caring for his family and friends. He was an all-around fun-loving great person that saw the good in everyone and everything. He loved to joke around and have fun with whoever he was with or had just met. Dick was a genuinely good person and will be so missed by family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jule (Klein) Majerus; children, Teresa Majerus (Mark Gjertson) and Carl (Jamie) Majerus; grandchildren, Tanner Wichmann, Marie Johnson (Joe Hanenberger), Alexander Johnson (Kat Walsh), Paul Johnson, Sidney and Aidan Majerus; great grandchildren, Thressa, Carlana, and Isabella Hanenberger;

siblings, Dean (Zelda) Majerus, Annette Cordes, Clare (Alan) Brinkman, Gayle (Don) Strauss, Mary (Tom) Oswell, Kevin (Teresa) Majerus; sisters-in-law, Alice Majerus and Shelia Majerus; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Dan, Robert, Helen, and Neil "Butch" Majerus; brother-in-law, Chuck Cordes; niece, Candice Majerus; grandnephew, Benjamin Cordes.

Celebration of Life service was at 11:00 a.m. Monday, January 2, 2023, at the Mazeppa Community Center. American Legion Chaplain Kelly Adelsman officiated. Final resting place was at the Mazeppa Cemetery immediately following the service. Luncheon followed the service at the Community Center.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like memorials sent to the Bellechester American Legion Post 598 Building Fund or the Fisher House (5045 East 54th street, Minneapolis, MN 55417). Families of veterans stay there for free while their loved one is in the hospital. Arrangements by Mahn Family Funeral Home.

Michael "Mike" Buck

Michael "Mike" Buck, 56, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, December 22, 2022.

Michael David Buck was born on March 11, 1966 in Rochester, Minnesota to Harold "Bucky" Buck and JoAnn "Jo" (Romo) Buck. He grew up on the family farm

in Goodhue and graduated from Goodhue High School. Mike always seemed to be with his dad while farming, with his blanket and pillow he often took a nap in the cab of the tractor. Mike started farming after high school and soon found that his passion and purpose in life was to work in agriculture. He farmed for many years with his brother Rick. Mike liked to collect toy tractors and really enjoyed giving rides to his nieces and nephews on his real tractor. He enjoyed documentaries, watching the news, ignoring politics, reading about World War I and World War II and was an avid Vikings and Twins fan.

Mike is survived by his mother JoAnn; siblings, Rick (Donna) Buck of Goodhue, Bill (Emily) Buck of Rochester, Leean (Kevin) Dulitz of Albert Lea, Mari (Matt) Dillon of Apex, NC; 10 nieces and nephews and numerous cousins. Mike was preceded in death by his father, Harold and sister, Lori and his Grandparents Gust Romo and Eva Hanson

Romo Hoven and Harry and Ester Buck.

A Celebration of Mike's life will take place at a later date. Online condolences are welcome and may be shared at mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Helen Richardson

Helen Richardson 95 of Lake City passed away Sunday January 8, 2023 at The Bluffs of Lake City. Helen was born October 7, 1927 in Chester Township, Wabasha County to Mathias and Leona (Arendt) Miller.

Helen married Louis "Louie" Richardson in Bellechester on October 7th, 1947. They made their home in Lake City where she worked at Schmauss Grocery Store. In 1953 they moved to Mazeppa they later moved back to Lake City in 1974 and she then worked at Huettl's for many years. Helen was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church. She was always active in her church in Lake City and in Mazeppa. Helen enjoyed gardening, quilting, cooking and baking, and most of all spending time with her family and friends.

Helen is survived by her; children: Roberta Truman of Lake City, Fred (Jeanette) Richardson of Mazeppa, Becky (Rich) Arendt of Bellechester, Keith (Kim Baldwin) Richardson of Lake City; daughter-in-law, Cindy Richardson of Lake City; twenty three grandchildren, Larry Sanderson, Mark Andri, Josh Richardson, Bill Richardson, Steph Richardson, Nate Richardson, Nick Richardson, Emily Klapperich, Tanya Walsh, Abbey O'Connor, Michael Richardson, Jason, Jamie and Jeff Arendt, Nina Deck, Erin Berlin, Hali Richardson, Shavon Anderson, Kyle Richardson, Danielle Richardson, Louis Richardson, Tony and Allen Richardson; 29 great-grandchildren; 5 step-great-grandchildren, brother Albert (Betty) Miller of Mazeppa, sister Justine Schei of Rochester and sister-in-law Sherry Miller of Mazeppa.

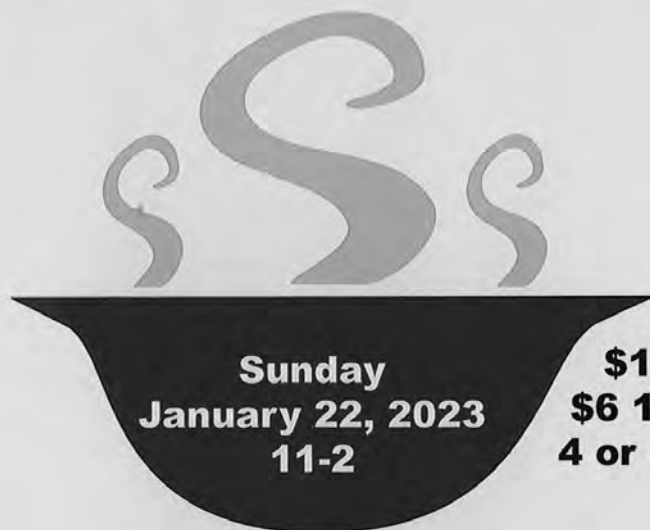
She was preceded in death by her husband, Louie, two son, Tom and Joe; parents; sister Lorraine Glander; brothers, Lawrence, Mathias, Elmer, Henry, Ronald and Joseph Miller. Mass of Christian Burial was at 2:00 pm Thursday, January 12, 2023 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lake City. Father Matt Fasnacht officiated. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation was one hour prior to service at the church. Mahn Family Funeral Home, Anderson-Peterson Chapel in Lake City is handling the arrangements. Online condolences can be sent at www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 2:00 pm Thursday, January 12, 2023 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lake City. Father Matt Fasnacht officiated. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation was one hour prior to service at the church. Mahn Family Funeral Home, Anderson-Peterson Chapel in Lake City is handling the arrangements. Online condolences can be sent at www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 2:00 pm Thursday, January 12, 2023 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lake City. Father Matt Fasnacht officiated. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation was one hour prior to service at the church. Mahn Family Funeral Home, Anderson-Peterson Chapel in Lake City is handling the arrangements. Online condolences can be sent at www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com.



Soup & Chili Feed



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Bellechester Lighted Parade Continues to be a Hit

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The event was held the evening of December 10th.

Winning first place and 4 Timberwolves game tickets and prize basket was Nick and Kim Keller's Snoopy's Doghouse float. Nick and Kim are members of the Bellechester Lion's Club and were happy to promote and participate in the event. Their ATV pulled Snoopy asleep on top of his house while Charlie Brown looked on. The doghouse was made of pallets covered in a red tablecloth and the characters were created from scrap pieces of sheetrock they had on hand. They said it took three people about four hours to create the float and would likely display it in their yard in Bellechester for the season.

Placing second was the Belvidere Happy-Go-Lucky 4-H club who received \$120 for their efforts decorating a hay rack. Third place went to Jason Zemke who earned \$80 for pushing a snowman with his pickup truck plow and pulling a shivering inflatable inside



Jody Gordon walked the parade route in a lighted elf costume that she made herself.

a skid loader on a flatbed trailer that also carried a large, lighted Christmas tree.

When the parade floats finished cruising the town of Bellechester, the crowd was welcomed to more events inside the FabTech building. Santa was on hand to hear kids' requests. They could then participate in a number of games and cookie decorating. Free hotdogs and treats were available and food shelf items and toys were collected for area charities. Visit the Bellechester Lions Club Facebook page for more photos, information and to learn of upcoming events.



The winning entry in the 2nd annual Bellechester lighted parade was Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and his doghouse created by Nick and Kim Keller from scrap materials.



The Belvidere Happy-Go-Lucky 4-H kids had fun creating their lighted parade entry and received 2nd place for their efforts.



Jason Zemke pushed a troublesome snowman out of the way while cruising Bellechester with his float that carried a lighted tree and a skidloader with a shivering inflatable "driver". The entry won third place.



Visitors to the Bellechester event helped spread Christmas cheer by donating items to the local food-shelf and Toys For Tots.



Jason Zemke pushed a troublesome snowman out of the way while cruising Bellechester with his float that carried a lighted tree and a skidloader with a shivering inflatable "driver". The entry won third place. *(additional pictures at www.goodhuemn.com)*

Christkindlmarkt Returned December 3rd

(continued from page 1)

The scenes were on loan from several area residents and ranged from miniature to near life-size from places like Alaska, Aruba and Kenya. An interesting note explained that the first Nativity scene was created over 800 years ago to help children understand the true meaning of Christmas. During the event, children could participate in the “reindeer games” set up outside behind The Third Place.

Visitors of all ages enjoyed horse-drawn wagon rides and the 25-foot Christmas tree that was brought into The Depot lot for the season. The museum was open during the event as were local businesses, some of which offered special promotions.



Among the new sights at the festival was this 25-foot Christmas tree that was brought in to welcome visitors to the annual celebration.



Nativity scenes from around the world were on display inside The Third Place. These carved wood sets were among many different types displayed on tables and the near life-size set was produced in 1957.



A make-shift stable with a donkey and miniature horse was set up on the South end of 2nd Avenue during the 2nd annual Christkindlmarkt on December 3rd. Pastor Robbin Robbert of St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Goodhue, encouraged anyone who wanted to sing Christmas carols karaoke style and offered treats to those who participated.

J Hill Promotions Offers One-Stop Shop

(continued from page 1)



JoAnn and Pat Hilleshiem own J-Hill Promotions, your one-stop shop for designing, creating and printing unique items.

acrylic, glass, leather and much more. Pat and JoAnn created several personalized Christmas ornaments in addition to many unique custom gift items. Engraved cake pans, cutting boards with family recipes and photos of loved ones and fur babies have been popular this year. The laser is so versatile, they even used it to create wooden hanging light fixtures.

JoAnn's previous work experience in publications and sales has prepared her well for this venture. She likes helping people see their visions come to life. Although she does work with large companies, she says, "I like to help the little guy". If you need a fund-raiser, T-shirts or fun item for a family reunion or other group event, she's got you covered. Get ideas at www.jhillpromotions.com or follow them on Facebook.

J Hill Promotions Showroom & Gifts is a one-stop shop for creating a design and printing it on business cards, letterhead, T-shirts,



The J-Hill showroom welcomes customers with adorable displays of ready-made items available for purchase. Stop in to discuss your need for any personalized item for yourself or your business.

tumblers, and many other items. You can also purchase ready-made items of all kinds in the shop. "We just want to help people with their needs." Whatever your needs are,

stop in the shop any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday between 11 AM and 5:30 PM or give

JoAnn a call at 651-380-4816 to set up an appointment.

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135+/- In Concord Township, Dodge County, MN. Prime Class A Crop Land, Large Hog Finishing Bar, 2 Country Building Sites
Thursday, January 19, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.
FOR ONLINE BIDDING AND DETAILS GO TO www.maringauction.com

PARCEL 4
31.79 Acres of Prime Class A Crop Land, Dodge Co., MN
*** PID# R10.011.0500, Taxes For 2022 \$1,654.00
*** 30+/- Tillable Acres
*** Crop Productivity Index: 95.3 Weighted Average
*** Part Of The SW 1/4 Of SW 1/4 Sec. 11, Concord TWP, Dodge Co. MN
*** Lays Very Nice With Drain Tile In Place
*** Address: 2006X 540th St., West Concord, MN
*** To Be Sold 31.79 x Dollar Amount Bid
*** Area: 31.79+/- Acres Bare Land

PARCEL 5
15 Acre Country Building Site, Rambler Style Home, Dodge Co., MN
*** 1981 Rambler Style House With Oversized 2 Car Attached Garage, 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,526 Square Feet Finished Living Area, Deck, Cased Well
*** Non-Conforming Septic System, New Buyer Shall Be Responsible For Bring Septic System Up To Conforming Status With Dodge County
*** Address: 19490 540th Street, West Concord, MN 55985
*** PID# R10.015.0900, Taxes For 2022 \$2,362.00
*** To Be Sold By The Gross Dollar Amount Bid
*** Nice Machine Shed And Livestock Shed

PARCEL 1
74+/- Acres of Prime Class A Crop Land, Dodge Co., MN
*** PID# R10.010.0601, Taxes For 2022 \$2,312.00
*** Part Of The N1/2 Of SE 1/4 Sec. 10 Concord TWP, Dodge Co. MN
*** Crop Productivity Index: 97.5 Weighted Average
*** Address: 536XX 200th Ave., West Concord, MN
*** Lays Very Nice With Drain Tile In Place
*** 72.41 Tillable Acres
*** Area: 74+/- Acres Bare Land (To Be Surveyed Prior To Closing Date)
*** To Be Sold 74 x Dollar Amount Bid

PARCEL 2
6+/- Acre Building Site, Dodge Co., MN
*** Address: 53663 200th Ave., West Concord, MN
*** Good Well
*** PID R10.010.0601, Taxes For 2022 \$2,312.00
*** Septic System Selling In Non-Conforming Condition, New Buyer Shall Be Responsible For All Septic System Upgrades To Bring System To Conforming Status
*** Older 1 1/2 Story Home, Attached 2 Car Garage, House Needs Work
*** To Be Sold By The Gross Dollar
*** Several Sheds & Outbuildings, Grain Bins

PARCEL 3
8+/- Acres With Hog Finishing Barn, Dodge Co., MN
*** PID# R10.011.0500, Taxes For 2022 \$1,654.00
*** 398' x 42' Curtained Hog Finishing Barn, Slated Manure Pit, (2) Loadout Chutes, (2) Hog Slat Bulk Feed Bins, 400 AMP Electrical Service, 2 Driveways, Air Systems Ventilation System, Manure Pit Is Approx. 3/4 Full
*** Address: 20062 540th St., West Concord, MN
*** Hot Barn Built In 2002
*** Manure Pit Is 8' Deep
*** To Be Sold By The Gross Dollar

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Terms: \$30,000 earnest money for parcel 1, 3 & 4 and \$15,000 earnest money for parcel 2 & 5 down the day of the auction; which is non-refundable if buyer fails to close on said property. The balance is due and payable to the sellers on April 5, 2023 at which time the buyer(s) shall receive a clear and marketable title and possession. All real estate taxes due and payable in the year of 2023 shall be paid by the buyer(s). All real estate is selling in as-is condition with no warranties or guarantees expressed or implied by the sellers or any of their agents. All bidders and buyers must conduct their own due diligence. All bidders and buyers must have their finances in order prior to auction date. For registering bidders must supply auction co. with a pre-approval letter from a lending institution. The previous owner of all parcels has by Minnesota law a 65 day from date of auction; first right of refusal. If the previous owner exercises their first right of refusal, all high bidders of the auction shall receive all earnest monies paid. No buyers premium.
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14. Old 1960-1970's Hot Wheel Cars
15. Old Pocket Watches
16. Jadeite Glassware
17. 1920-1940's Paper Items for Advertising
18. Old Town Tokens
19. Old Advertising Items from Jordan, Belle Plaine
20. Old Barn Lanterns
21. Old cast Iron Pans - Griswold, Wagner
22. Old Tin or Cast Iron Toys - Motorcycles, Cars
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24. Old Guitars or Banjos
25. Old Flag Items

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AUCTION CALENDAR

January 19, 2023 10:00 AM
Kenyon, MN
VIRTUAL ONLINE AUCTION 135 ACRES IN DODGE CO. MN - LENDER OWNED
135 Acres in Concord Township, Dodge Co. MN Selling at Vitrol Online Auction. 5 Different Parcels, 107 Acres Of Cropland, 8 Acre Modern Hog Finishing Barn, 15 & 5 Acre Building Sites.

February 5, 2023
Bidding Begins: ... Jan. 28, 2023
Starts Closing: Feb. 5, 2023
Kenyon, MN
ONLINE ONLY LARGE TRIPLE ESTATE AUCTION
Antiques, Collectibles, Silver Coins, Red Wing Stoneware, Modern & Antique Furniture, Firearms, Ammo, Power & Hand Tools, Display Cases, Coca-Cola Collectibles; Much More.

February 12, 2023
Bidding Begins: Feb. 4, 2023
Starts Closing: Feb. 12, 2023
Kenyon, MN
800+ LOTS OF COLLECTOR FARM TOYS & CONSTRUCTION TOYS FROM TWO ESTATES
800+ Lots of Very Nice Collector Farm Toys and Construction Toys.
500+ Lots of Very Nice Original Farm Toys. Most Like New In Box. 200+ Lots Exceptional Tonka, Buddy L, Wyandotte, Structo Press Steel Toys.

February 19, 2023
Bidding Begins: ... Feb. 11, 2023
Starts Closing: Feb. 19, 2023
New Richland, MN
ONLINE ONLY ESTATE AUCTION FOR LYLE SCHAAK ESTATE
John Deere 4240 with Loader, JD 317 Skid Loader, Dump Trailer, Flatbed & Cargo Trailers, Wire Feed Welders, Hot Water Pressure Washer, Power & Hand Tools, Shop Cabinets, Log Chains & Binders, and More.

March 5, 2023 9:00 AM
Kenyon, MN
SPRING AREA FARMERS CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
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NEXT ONLINE AUCTION JANUARY 11

Contact Tina Mittelsteadt 507-351-4608
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Kerosene Heater



Pallet Racking

NEXT AUCTION JANUARY 11

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Come see our complete listing at https://waseekersonlineauction.com
Or in person at 1372 South State Street, Waseca, 507-833-SEEK(7335) Stores hours: W-T-F 10 a.m.-6p.m., Sat 9 a.m. - noon



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Karli Z. Signs to Play Softball at St. Mary's



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	<p>2019 RANGER LARIAT</p>		<p>2021 F-150 XLT</p>	<h3>Cold Weather Car Care</h3> <p>At Milo Peterson Ford Co., our highly qualified technicians are here to provide exceptional service in a timely manner.</p> <p>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="float: right; border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Call our service department to schedule your maintenance needs. Open Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 5pm.</p> </div>			
<p>4WD, super crew cab, 5' box, ecoboost 2.3" turbocharged, shadow black #22134U</p>	<p>Now \$36,885</p>	<p>4WD, super crew cab, 4 door, 5.5' box, 13,093 miles, ecoboost 2.7L V-6, gray metallic #22074U</p>	<p>Now \$49,975</p>				

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Less Wrinkles and Healthy Skin



By Shauna Burslem, D.C.

Are you worried about getting wrinkles or sagging skin? Are your joints achy and sore? If so, it's time to look into collagen. Collagen is the body's most abundant protein. Its job is to hold together tissues in the body and allow them to stretch and spring back and forth. Collagen is found in the connective

tissues of the body such as muscles, bones and tendons. Collagen is also in our blood vessels and digestive systems. Collagen contains an ingredient that plays a role in skin health and repair. Collagen has been shown to increase skin suppleness and prevent wrinkles. A systematic review of 11 peer-reviewed collagen studies found that oral collagen supplements were beneficial for the skin and wound healing. Other benefits of collagen were reducing joint pain and stiffness, improving blood pressure and cardiovascular damage, strengthening bones and improving osteoporosis and lastly, helping with glucose (sugar) tolerance which is a benefit to type II diabetics.

Collagen is a compound of essential amino acids and cannot be produced by the body. The only way to get collagen in the body is through diet. In the old days, traditional diets of chicken and beef bone broth provided collagen to our daily diet. Making your own bone broth from the bones of organic grass fed or pastured animals is one of the best and inexpensive ways to get healthy collagen into your diet. If you've ever made homemade

bone broth, you'll find it forms a layer of gelatin at the top when it cools. That's the collagen from the bones and cartilage that has turned into gelatin, a formidable superfood. The other way to get collagen in your daily diet is through organic collagen supplements. "Tests of collagen supplements that were non-organic revealed the presence of contaminants that included: antibiotics, drugs and endocrine disruptors that will affect hormone function and increase your cancer risk." So, to avoid contaminants, you'd be wise to read labels thoroughly to make sure that what you choose is 100% organic.

Hyaluronic acid, an important compound for collagen in the skin and can be found in bone broth, organ meats and root vegetables, or taken as a supplement. Hyaluronic acid has been shown to improve skin moisture and suppleness and reduce wrinkles when added to the diet. In addition to alleviating joint discomfort, hyaluronic acid supplement is essential for maintaining moisture which bene-

fits the skin, eyes, and mucosal tissue. Provide support for joint lubrication and bone strength for optimal comfort.

Chiropractic Thought for the Month: Pain relief? Yes. More mobility? Yes. Enhanced performance? Yes. Improved health? Yes. Increased quality of life? Yes. This is what chiropractic care can do for you. Not sure about the how or the why? Here it is. Spinal adjustments realign your spinal joints, balancing your neck and back musculature. This increases mobility and relieves aches and discomforts. Most importantly, spinal adjustments improve nerve flow to all of your body's internal systems and organs. Doing this improves the function of your body's insides, thus enhancing health. The outcome of less pain, more mobility and improved health leads to a greater quality of life for you!



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MISSY'S MESSAGE



A NEW YEAR IS HERE!

Here we are again! The beginning of a new year. February 3, 2021 was my last day of work at Mayo Clinic. I HAD some great habits set in STONE for myself throughout the years I worked at Mayo Clinic. I was up at 4:45 AM, was at the gym to work out at 5:30AM, shower and breakfast before beginning work at 7:30 and on my days off I walked 3 miles outside. I had no problem getting in 10,000 steps a day.

I am struggling to get up at 6AM some days now. I have my walking partner Jenny, when weather cooperates and my treadmill. I also have my alternative walking partner, Monty's dog Maisy. She loves going for walks. I started trying some online exercise classes that start at 6AM. Consistency is the key, and not trying to change too many things at once. I try to make a plan for the day, and if I don't get my exercise in the morning, I try to fit in a little at night after work, even if it is just an extra 10 minutes on the treadmill. I also try to drink 8 glasses of water a day.

Over time, I've found it is too easy for me to slip out of routines and form new bad habits. So how to I transform into instilling some new habits for myself? Just keep at it, sneaking in more steps each day, each week. Tuesdays, I've been participating in an online Zumba class and I walk to the post office each day. Keep moving forward and trying new things.

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Missy and her husband Mike own MotoProz in Mazeppa.

Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2022 @ 6:00PM

Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jody Gordon at 6:03 p.m.

Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Jody Gordon, Council people Rich Majerus, Jered Buxengard as well as City Clerk Lisa Redepening, Treasurer Kyle McKeown, and City Engineer Matt Mohs were also present.

Minutes of October 19, 2022 regular meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Kyle Blattner with a second by Rich Majerus to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed and a motion by Rich

Majerus with a second by Mark Gerken to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Public Hearing was opened at 6:08. 2nd reading of Engine Braking Ordinance. Mayor Gordon read the proposed ordinance and asked for public input. We will inquire with Sherriff about fines. With no residents present, the public hearing was closed at 6:14. Tabled until December meeting.

City council meeting was reopened at 6:14.

Old Business:

• **Sewer Project Update** – Matt presented to the city a donation for a raffle to be used. It will be displayed at the Tavern. We received approval from the small city assist program grant. Agreement will be forthcoming to sign to receive the funds. We will need to approve some additional policies and environment review needs to be done in order to receive the grant monies, which is required by the state. Sewer lining project plans are in place and being reviewed and will move forward. Sewer easements were distributed, and we have a notary can come to residents for this. Rochester Plumbing was in town over the weekend. Matt explained why they were in town. They were getting preliminary information only. Matt distributed to council an estimate for Water Meter Pre-Installation Inspections Rochester Plumbing was able to obtain to move forward with this project. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to approve the Rochester Plumbing and Heating to do the preliminary inspection for our sewer. Motion carried.

Noise ordinance was distributed by Matt as

reference for council for future discussion.

New business:

• **Canvas November 8th Election Results** – Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard to canvass and approve the results from Goodhue and Wabasha County for the 2022 election. Motion carried.

• **Approve Ordinance #35 Engine Braking Ordinance.** Ordinance was tabled until we verify fines for violations.

• **2023 Final Levy - discuss/change/approve.** Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to set the final levy at \$70,000 raising it \$10,000. Motion carried.

• **2023 Special Assessments – approve list for submittal to County** – Anderson, Hansen, and K. Poncelet, will be assessed to county. Motion was made by Jered Buxengard with a 2nd by Rich Majerus to approve these accounts to be certified to the county for 2023 assessments. Motion carried.

• **Agreement for State Building Code Administration with Goodhue County** – discuss and approve. Motion was made by Mark Gerken with 2nd by Jered Buxengard to approve the agreement with Goodhue County for the Building code administration for 2023. Motion carried.

• **Snow Plowing for 2022-2023 Season – discuss and approve.** Jason Zemke and Kevin Merkens sealed bid was opened for snowplowing with their prices. Jody read the

proposal to council. Special accommodations and instructions as well as insurance certificate will be discussed with vendor approved. Motion was made by Kyle Blattner with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard accept the Zemke/Merkens proposal to perform these services for the city for the upcoming season. Motion carried.

• **Engineer Report** – see above.

• **Clerk Report – Municipal Impact** – (website) sent notice that our yearly rates will be increasing from \$565.95 to \$605.

• **Treasurer Report** – past due list was discussed with special assessments above.

• **Water/Wastewater/Facility Report** – discharge is done for year as well as quarterly samples.

• **Mayor Concerns:** 2 residents in town received duplicate ballots and will be addressed with county. The Lions have a lighted Christmas event on December 10th. Swing at the park will be fixed in the spring and dog fence for aluminum cans will be addressed by the Lions.

• **Council Concerns:** None

Adjourn

Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Kyle Blattner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm. Next meeting is November 16 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepening – City Clerk

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The Goodhue School is seeking a highly motivated individual to take on the responsibility of a full-time evening custodian. Desired qualities for this position includes a strong work ethic, current skills - or the willingness to develop skills - in maintenance and cleaning, the ability to work as a positive member of a team, leadership/management skills, and a desire to support the primary mission of the school which is student learning.

Pay is commensurate with licensure (boiler specialist, boiler first and/or second class, or chief boiler), experience, and qualifications between \$14.42-\$19.78.

The position is year-round and full-time and qualifies for benefits.

**If you have any questions in regard to this position,
please contact the head custodian and grounds
keeper, Karyn Edelbach, at 651-923-4447
or by email at edelbach@goodhue.k12.mn.us**

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

Letter to the Editor

Review Your Broadband Map to Improve Border-to-Border Access

By Bree Maki
Executive Director
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's Office of Broadband Development

Recently, Governor Tim Walz announced that internet providers will receive nearly \$100 million in funding to expand broadband coverage to more Minnesotans. This largest-ever grant round is estimated to extend new high-speed internet connections to more than 33,000 Minnesota homes and businesses in 48 counties.

At the Department of Employment and Economic Development's Office of Broadband Development, we're working hard to get broadband to more Minnesotans who need it. Now, we need your help to make that a reality.

As part of the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, \$65 billion in funding is available to states for broadband. We're excited to implement the bill's programs, but much of our funding relies on a new mapping project from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to show where broadband is and is not available.

The FCC is accepting challenges to their new map right now, and we encourage all Minnesotans to review the map to see if the broadband speeds shown to be available at their address are correct. Local review of the broadband maps is important, as residents know best if the mapping information is accurate. Minnesotans can go to broadbandmap.fcc.gov to review their map and provide feedback.

To review the map, type in your address. Your home should appear on the map along with a list of services that providers claim to have available for purchase at your location. If your location is missing or inaccurately reflected on the map, you can submit a location challenge to correct it. If the information about the service provided is incorrect, you can file an availability challenge. Detailed video instructions on how to file a challenge can be found at fcc.gov/BroadbandData/consumers.

Our goal is border-to-border broadband coverage across Minnesota. Future federal funding will be allotted based on the number of locations in Minnesota that do not have broadband services available right now. To ensure valid challenges are incorporated into the map before federal funding allocations are made, Minnesotans have until Jan. 13, 2023 to submit feedback.

This year, between 240,000 and 291,000 households in Minnesota lacked access to high-speed broadband. So much of what we do happens online, which is why we want to ensure all Minnesotans have access to high-speed internet.

All Minnesotans deserve equal access to high-speed broadband.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Office of Broadband at 651-259-7610 or deed.broadband@state.mn.us

Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes 2022 Was the Year for New Appliances



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.

It started out with the big stainless steel refrigerator in the farm house in Minnesota this summer. It was huge and over ten years old. I remember I had to remove the doors to get it in the house. Not just the handles, but both doors. The front door of the house came off the hinges and the refrigerator and freezer doors came off to make it in the house. The refrigerator had started making a clicking sound. More like a whap. Every ten seconds. "Whap". I knew what it was. There is a gear that opens the little door which brings cold air from the freezer to the refrigerator. It would open the door and then it would snap back shut. I explained it to my wife in technical terms. That didn't help. I related what a massive job it had been to get it in the house. It would be the same amount of work to take it out. That didn't help either. So, we compromised and I agreed on a smaller unit. I promised we would get a new one soon.

Then one morning the washer didn't spin the water out of the clothes on the last cycle. It had been acting up as well. My wife would say there was a helicopter going over the house quite low. I again had the technical answer ready. "No dear, it is the washer in the basement doing the spin cycle dance." So, a trip to the appliance store one Sunday afternoon took a \$2,500 hole out of the check-book and we had a new fridge and washer. But I forgot one thing. Washers and dryers mate for life. One week later the dryer quite

drying. So, a matching Amana dryer came back home from the appliance store as well.

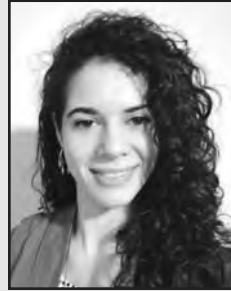
In late September I headed back down to Tennessee. I had to finish the lake house by fall so we could move in when we returned for the winter. I was prepared. We made a trip to Lowes in Owatonna and I had my wife pick out the kitchen appliances. Brand, size style, color, every option was decided on. I had the model number for each written down and I would go to the local Lowes in Tennessee and order the whole kitchen in one visit. No confusion or decision on my part. The matching fridge, range, dishwasher and rangehood microwave would be ordered and delivered right to our kitchen when ready.

The people who bought our old house in Tennessee didn't want our washer and dryer set. The appliances were only a few years old, and I would rather not move them. We had already moved four bedrooms of furniture into a storage unit since the new house was not finished. I was done with moving furniture. I had a house to finish. But since the plumbing and the ceramic tile floor in the new laundry room was already finished, I loaded them up and hauled them too. Well at least I wouldn't have to buy a washer and dryer, I told myself.

So, a week before I had the kitchen complete, I went to Lowes and presented the list to the young man there. Four appliances in one sale. No shopping, no discussion, just write it up, take my money and deliver them on time. The big Lowes truck would bring them to the front door and the strong young men would carry them into the house and life was good.

I had been working on the new house for a couple weeks and had laundry to do. So, I fired up the washer and threw in my work clothes. When I returned to put them in the dryer I discovered a load of wet, soggy heavy laundry. I ran them through again only to get the same result. The final spin cycle was not working. Irritated I chucked them in the dryer. When I opened the dryer to check on them, the machine kept on running. The switch on the door was broke. I was mad. Why did I move a washer/dryer set only to have both malfunction. I did the only logical thing left. I took the hand cart, wheeled the offending pair out the door and onto the trailer for their last trip to the scrap yard. Then I went back to Lowes and ordered a new Amana washer and dryer set. It arrived with the rest of the kitchen appliances.

A Minnesotan: New Years



By RosaLin Alcoser

When my sister and I were young children our parents use to do that thing parents do where they tell the kids it's New Years and put you to bed before midnight, but it's really just New Year's in New York not where you are.

We would stay up late and watch the ball drop at midnight in Times Square on the TV. Yell 'YAY! It's New Year's!' then promptly be taken off to bed; which we were already ready for.

In reality we only stayed up till about 11 PM. Don't get me wrong, 11 PM is still

pretty late when you're a little kid or if you're like me and choose to get up at 5 AM on a daily basis.

This worked for them until my sister was 9 years old and I was 4 years old.

The reason it worked for my parents that long is because my sister never bothered to look at the clock in the house to see that it was not midnight where we were. She was too caught up in the excitement of what was happening on the TV.

However, that year I had learned about how time works and went to check the clock; using the analog clock because it was 2001. I then proceeded to ruin everything for our parents by pointing out that it was not midnight where we were and that we were being tricked into thinking it was the next year when it wasn't. It was the next year somewhere else.

After that we got to stay up till midnight CST instead of being tricked into going to bed an hour before the new year.

Now that I'm an adult I understand why my parents did this. After all 2022 I stayed up till midnight then immediately went to bed at 12:01 AM. While I am writing this at the end of 2022 I feel this is also how I will see 2023 as well.



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 6. Baryshnikov's step
 9. Back wound
 13. Soft palate hanger
 14. *Any high mountain
 15. Tsar's edict
 16. Means
 17. Bishop of Rome's jurisdiction
 18. Female water-elf
 19. *Highest mountain
 21. *Sea that is also the largest lake
 23. A in MoMA
 24. *Small island
 25. Ignited
 28. Lamborghini model
 30. Extravagant
 35. 15th of March, May, July or October
 37. ___-a-Sketch
 39. Technology expert
 40. Novice
 41. Damage one's reputation
 43. Lil' Bow Wow's first name
 44. Bette Midler's movie "___ Pocus"
 46. "I'm ___ you!"
 47. Unit of pressure
 48. Denver breakfast choice
 50. Big rig
 52. ___ de Janeiro
 53. Excessively abundant
 55. Ensign, for short
 57. *Great ___ Reef
 61. *National Geographic ___
 65. Gibson garnish
 66. Arabic garment
 68. D-Day beach
 69. *Longest continental mountain range
 70. Nada
 71. Energy to motion converter
 72. Golf pegs
 73. Red Cross bed
 74. Follow as a consequence

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 4. Extremist
 5. Masters without t
 6. Ghost of Christmas ____
 7. Miller High Life, e.g.
 8. Four-eyes' gear
 9. Bypass
 10. Uber alternative
 11. *The largest continent
 12. Past participle of "be"
 15. Remove from political office
 20. Eyelid infections
 22. Opposite of nothing
 24. Burning aroma producer
 25. *___sphere, the solid earth
 26. "She is pulling my leg," e.g.
 27. 9 a.m. prayer
 29. *___sphere, air surrounding earth
 31. Sleeveless garment
 32. Blood of the gods, Greek mythology
 33. Harry Belafonte's daughter
 34. *___sphere, all water on earth
 36. Aretha Franklin's genre
 38. Type of crime
 42. Young Montague
 45. Brown and yellow finches
 49. Cravat or bola
 51. Financial gain
 54. 100 centimes
 56. "Barefoot in the Park" playwright
 57. Summer ride
 58. "Green Gables" protagonist
 59. Amusement park attraction
 60. Sturgeon ___ and salmon ___
 61. Table mineral
 62. Chow or grub
 63. Biblical pronoun
 64. Ready and eager
 67. ___sphere, all life on earth

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A New Year Brings Change



By Harvey Mackay

A new year often brings new beginnings. I was intrigued to discover how one company used a novel way to motivate employees to think about new ways of doing things.

Here is the approach practiced by Chiyoji Misawa, who founded the largest home builder in Japan, Misawa Homes, more than 50 years ago. He “died” at least once every decade to arrest the momentum of out-of-date assumptions and policies. He sent a memo to his company that formally announced “the death of your president.”

According to Robert H. Waterman, Jr. in his book, “The Renewal Factor,” this was Misawa’s way of forcing the whole company to rethink everything. When employees resist change because they are used to the old way of doing things, Misawa declared: “That was

the way things were done under Mr. Misawa. He is now dead. Now, how shall we proceed?”

I was particularly interested in this novel idea because so often the resistance to major changes starts at the top. As the saying goes, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.”

But that thinking doesn’t apply to improvements. Simply because things are sailing along, assuming that the winds won’t change is dangerous business. When I went into the envelope manufacturing business decades ago, the notion of email and the internet were science fiction. Yet it became one of the biggest challenges that an envelope manufacturer could face.

Being a great leader is not always about becoming an expert at everything – it’s really about knowing where to find knowledge and expertise when you need it. That’s where Misawa’s genius was most evident: knowing how to solicit input and gain perspective from his own connections.

In turn, he encouraged his work force to learn how others approach new markets, re-vamp processes and resolve problems. Giving his employees the opportunity to offer their suggestions served several purposes: acknowledging their value to the company, encouraging them to think ahead, and teaching them not to be afraid of change.

Change is inevitable, and those who embrace it are more likely to have staying power as each new year rings in.

New Year’s resolutions tend to focus on areas that we know need a change. Make those resolutions too general or too sweep-

ing, and chances are they will be your resolutions year after year. Alan C. Freitas, president of Priority Management, recommends that you write resolutions/goals that are SMART:

Specific – Precisely what you want to achieve, and by when.

Measurable – What a successful outcome looks like.

Attainable – Challenging, but achievable.

Relevant – Address areas of your work and life that are really important to you.

Trackable – How you’re going to gauge your progress.

Getting into the right mindset to make changes, large or small, takes some motivation.

Figure out why you want to achieve the goal. Make a list of all the ways you will benefit from achieving it. Whether it’s a personal goal, like finishing a degree, or a professional change, such as breaking into a new market, you need to understand why it will be worth it to make a change.

Then analyze exactly where you are now in reaching that goal: the strengths that will help you, the weaknesses that could hurt you, and the opportunities you can use to attain what you want.

Next, you must determine what you’ll need to invest to achieve your goal. Whether it’s time, money, or something else, know what reaching this goal could “cost” you. Is it worth it? If it’s important enough to you, sacrifices will pay off in the end. Just make sure that you have an end in sight!



Do your research. You may need to master new abilities to fulfill your resolution. Will you need to take classes to learn a new skill? What kind of information do you need access to? Are you willing to carve out the time it will require? You don’t want to start something that you are not committed to finishing.

Look for support from family, friends, co-workers, managers or organizations that can help you. The more people who you share your resolutions or goals with, the more likely you will be to follow through.

You will have more success if you set deadlines for achieving your goals and resolutions. List specific dates on which you want to complete the various steps of the plan.

Finally, resolve to make it a happy new year!

Mackay’s Moral: You don’t have to “die” like Misawa to bring your dreams to life.

Reprinted with permission from nationally syndicated columnist Harvey Mackay, author of the New York Times #1 bestseller "Swim With The Sharks Without Being Eaten Alive."

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