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AUGUST, 2023

Volume 5 • Issue 5

Faith in Action

Faith in Action is recognizing and celebrating one of our faithful volunteers, Barb Maplethorpe. Barb's Faith in Action story follows.

"I became interested in Faith in Action after visiting their booth at the 2019 Dodge County Expo. Even though I shared on my application that I was rather particular as to which chores I cared to do, they still accepted me.

(continued on page 2)

Concord Locker Provides Custom Meat Processing

By Cheri Roshon

When you think about what makes a community successful, what comes to mind? I would venture a guess that most people would answer that question with "Successful businesses that are important to the local economy." After all, a small town needs businesses to take care of the needs of the local inhabitants. So, food, gasoline and housing are a few necessities that come to mind. Then you may have thought of where you get your hair cut, your animals groomed, and the local restaurants that feed you when you don't want to do the cooking. Not having to travel to utilize these necessities is important when the economy is uncertain, therefore the term "shop local" becomes important.

South east Minnesota has long been known for its agricultural endeavors. Both dairy and meat animals are raised here. Corn and grains to feed the animals and raise them for market is a big part of the economy. Today we are going to focus on the importance of local butchering, and why this is important to the animal and the consumer.

Raising animals for market is a big business in southern Minnesota. The closer to home we can process the livestock, the less carbon footprint we create, and the less trauma to the animals. In many cases, butchering is now done onsite for the safety and cleanliness of the end product.

(continued on page 27)



Announcements

• **Grief support group beginning Sunday, August 27 at Anchor of Hope Church, 203 East Main Street, Dodge Center, MN.** Under the auspices of GriefShare, the group meets for 13 weeks from 4 to 6 pm each Sunday, offering help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. Suggested registration is \$15. Participants may join at any session. For further information, contact Pastor Dale Rood at 720-382-4655, or leave a message at Anchor of Hope Church, 507-374-6755, or email the church at <dcsdbchurch@gmail.com>

• **The United Methodist Church of Dodge Center at 20 First Street NE offers a dine in and carry out meal from 5:00-6:00pm the third Wednesday of each month.**

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com



Local Eco-Farm Hosts Bicycle Rider Traveling from San Fran to Maine

Story by A. McGuire-Campbell

"Dude, that's a logging road!" I say to him, looking at the photo on his smart phone.

"I know, right?!" laughs Sam. It's Sam's third day here. He rode his bike from San Francisco.

We are pruning my husband's Grandmother's Mock Orange tree. It has grown wild and untended for the last 20-plus years and now we must bring it into alignment.

On a busy homestead and working farm this tree is a low priority. Today, I'm taking advantage of the extra hands that are always needed around here.

Sam carefully sorts the stems that have blossomed and works around them with the clippers. He watches what I do. He wants me to be happy with his work.

"Then, I got sick. Could have been bad water." Based on what Sam is telling me between clipping vines, I think I might know. "Maybe dehydration or sunstroke." I suggest, helpfully. "Maybe."

(continued on page 8)

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The Idols in our Life

By Pastor Norman C. Hoffeld
Bible Lutheran Church

Elizabeth Elliot makes a point in one of her books that God desires us to grow in our lives for Him and that means God wants to break

Faith in Action

(continued from page 1)

Happy day! Soon I was trusted with sending birthday cards to the fine folks associated with Faith in Action. This sort of task is right up my alley – paperwork (which I love) and a sit-down job (which I really love) and I do love sending cards; I already mail hundreds to family and friends each year. These past couple years I have stretched myself to help serve ice cream at the Kasson Festival in the Park and at Marigold Days. Last fall I was even trusted to be around all of those delicious pies at the Soup and Pie Dinner!

And although I feel my contribution to Faith in Action is limited, all of the FIA folks I have dealt with have been so nice and very appreciative of my efforts.”

Thanks to Barb for giving FIA a try! Does this type of volunteering speak to you? If you are interested in putting your “faith in action,” you will find a volunteer application to print and complete on our website fiadodge-county.org under forms on the menu. If you are aware of someone who could benefit from the services of Faith In Action, a Care Recipient application can be printed off the website also. If you do not have internet access, please call 507-634-3654 for either application.

down the idols of our life – one by one. That point forces us to deal with the question— What is an idol? If we are called to eliminate them, we have to understand what they are.

An idol is anything that is more important to you than God. Idols are not just statues made of gold, silver or stone. An idol is often a good thing in our life like children, grandchildren, having money, a good position, a good education, a beautiful car, a college degree, your wife or husband, your family or your career. Many of these things are good to have, but when we value them more than God, we make them into an idol. It is probably safe to say that all of us have, at one time or another, had idols in our lives. There are things (sometimes sins) that overwhelm us. They occupy all our thinking and our time. Politics can become our idol. Sex can become our idol. A possession can become our idol. Revenge can become our idol when it takes over our life by causing us to think constantly about how someone has hurt us, or wounded us. Our time is consumed because our thoughts are controlled by how can we retaliate and make them hurt as much as we are hurt. One of the ways of determining your idol is to examine how you spend your money. If you are spending too much money on something, it has probably become your idol.

One of the lessons in the story of Abraham and Isaac concerns the threat of idolatry. When Abraham was told by God to take his

son Isaac and sacrifice him on the altar, he faced the question: “Is this son, who you waited for many years, first in your life, or is the Lord God first in your life?” Remember that Abraham was a very old man when his wife Sarah gave birth to Isaac. The child he had waited for could easily become central in his life. If the Lord God was going to use Abraham in his life to be the father of a nation, he would have to put God first in his life. Idolatry comes into our life when we value something more than God. For most of us, that can easily happen. C. S. Lewis puts it this way in his writing on *The Four Loves*:

“We must pray that this gift should be given us. But the question whether we are loving God or the earthly beloved more is not, so far as concerns our Christian duty, a question about the comparative intensity of

two feelings. The real question is, which (when the alternative comes) do you serve, or choose, or put first? To which claim does your will, in the last resort, yield?”

The process of replacing idols with devotion to the true God is an ongoing struggle. The only way of dealing with idolatry is to always remind ourselves that everything we have in life is a gift of God. It does not belong to us. Many of the idols in our life are things we get involved in every day. If it is a material thing, then when we die, it goes to someone else. There is a time when we all have to say to our Lord: “Lord, everything I have belongs to you.” The only way to eliminate idols in our lives is to worship the true God – the God who revealed himself in Jesus Christ, the God who sent his only son to the cross to pay for our sins. Jesus Christ has to become the center of our life. Only then will our idols cease.

All are welcomed to a free Christian Book Study via Zoom on “You Are Never Alone” by Max Lucado, offered by Pastor Chad Christensen and Trinity Lutheran Church, West Concord.

Second Thursday of each month, beginning August 10th and into the fall, at 6:00pm (one hour).

Call or text Pastor Christensen at (507) 517-4160 with your email address to enroll.

This study is particularly for those who are unable to get out on a regular basis or are homebound. But the study is open for all to participate.



DO YOU HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Area Church Directory

The Lord Provides

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram. . . . He . . . took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. — Genesis 22:13

Abraham’s faith is tested with the ultimate challenge: Is he willing to give up his most precious treasure to God? And at the last possible moment, God intervenes, telling Abraham to stop. So Isaac is spared, delivered from a death sentence. And God provides a substitute, a sacrificial ram to be offered instead. The place is then called “The Lord Will Provide.”

Abraham could not have known that about 2,000 years later an even greater sacrifice would be made. God would again provide a substitute, who actually became “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29). That substitute was Jesus, God’s only Son, who gave up his own life to pay for all our sin so that all who believe in him may have eternal life (John 3:16).

God’s judgment against sin fell on his own Son. Jesus, the sacrificial Lamb, stepped in and took our place. On that day, through Jesus’ death on a cross outside Jerusalem, a sufficient sacrifice was provided. (see Mark 15:33-39).

Abraham could not have known all this, but by the grace of God he had received the gift of faith and could trust that God would somehow keep his promises.

Lamb of God, thank you for being our substitute and dying in our place, opening the way for us to be saved. Give us faith to believe in you and to serve you every day. Amen.

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Pastor Jessica Bakken Busch • 507-374-2174
Traditional Worship 8a.m.; Fellowship 9a.m.
Christian Education 9:15a.m.
Contemporary Worship 10a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

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

Praise Fellowship Church

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

Dodge Center Methodist Church

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

St. John Baptist De La Salle

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

Living Water Assembly Church

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

Dodge Center SDA Church

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

Anchor of Hope Church, a 7th Day Baptist Congregation

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

Bible Lutheran Church

(American Assoc. of Lutheran Churches)
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(weekly sermons available on YouTube and on website)

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Gary Paul Norstad

Gary Paul Norstad, age 81 of Cannon Falls and formerly of Dodge Center, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.



Gary was born at home in Leon Township, MN, on October 6, 1941, the third of nine children to Orlando and Edna (Paul)

Norstad. He grew up in Skunk Hollow and started his strong faith as a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Wanamingo.

He married Mary Pettis on November 30, 1963 at the Farmington Lutheran Church, where they were members for many years. Gary worked in the glass container industry, starting out in Rosemount, MN. He moved their family to Farmington, and while continuing to work full-time, he started a 40-acre hobby farm on the side, running it until 1985. His career caused the family to move to different states, until retiring. They moved back to Minnesota, to Dodge Center, where he picked up on his farming instincts. He enjoyed his vegetable farm and tractor restoring days. He and Mary moved to Cannon

Falls in 2021 and have enjoyed being closer to family.

Gary loved his family and church, and socializing was a big part of his life. His passions were farmers market gardening, restoring Ford tractors, and being an avid Minnesota Vikings fan.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 60 years, Mary; his sons, Tim (Pastor Diane) of Turtle Lake, WI and Jim (Michele) of Skaneateles, NY; grandchildren, Alex (Mitch) Lilienthal, Kyle, Luke and Faith Norstad; great-grandchildren, Holden and Lewis Lilienthal; siblings, Jim (Bonnie) of Rushford, Steve (Linda) and Jarle (Debra), all of Cannon Falls, Kristi Fuller of Portland, OR, and Deb (Gregg Ramstrom) of Cannon Falls; sisters-in-law, Kathy Norstad of Waite Park and Martha Norstad of Cannon Falls; brother-in-law, Jake Lindsey of Ocean Shores, WA; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, RoseAnn Lindsey; and brothers, Orlando, Jr. and Bob.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, July 12 at 2:00 pm, with visitation from 1-2 pm, at St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church, 7459 Hwy 19 Blvd, Cannon Falls.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given in Gary's memory to St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church.

Kelly Marie Brannick

Kelly Marie Brannick, 58, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Thursday, July 27, 2023, surrounded by her loved ones at Mayo Clinic Methodist Campus in Rochester, MN.



She battled fiercely against cancer, but after 8 years of fighting, God called her

home. Kelly was a Christian and walked close with God.

Kelly Ketchum was born to Bill and Marian (Bjork) Ketchum in Rochester, MN on November 28, 1964. Kelly fell in love with her soulmate, Ronny Brannick. He was her softball coach, it was love at first sight and they never looked away from each other since then. We all strive to experience the type of love they have for each other. They got married in 1989 in Rochester, MN and went on to have 6 children: Amy (Kevin) Brannick of Logansport, IN, Natasha (Jacob) Schirm of Royal Center, IN, Lacey (Andy) Brannick of Rochester, MN, Jill (Brent) Brannick of Braham, MN, Michelle (Dylan) Brannick of Farmington, MN, and Morgan (Mikiah) Brannick of Dodge Center, MN. They have 6 amazing grandchildren, Blake, Brock, Kaiden, Hazel, Theodore, and soon to be expected, Baby Steffen, to whom Kelly was an amazing grandma who was adored by all of them. She is also survived by her father, Bill Ketchum; sisters, Kim Bowe and Kari Fate; brother, Matt Ketchum; cousins, nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Marian Ketchum.

There was nothing Kelly loved more than her husband, children, family, and God. She would do anything for them. She changed so many lives and still continues to do so. She has the purest heart anyone could have ever met. Not a day goes by that she is not going to be thought of and missed.

Kelly had a deep passion for crafts, she is well known for making the best custom gnomes for anyone who wanted them. She also had her signature tie blankets she loved making. She had an amazing variety of creations that she enjoyed selling on her Etsy page, Kelron Krafting. Not a day went by where she wasn't crafting something.

If there was anything Kelly would want people to do for her, it would be to be happy and lean on God. Kelly is in Heaven with her mother, awaiting the rest of her family's ar-

rival one day. She found comfort in knowing that because of our merciful and glorious God, she would live eternity with them in Heaven.

The family wishes to extend a thank you to all the nurses, doctors, and all of the other caring staff who have helped Kelly in the past and during her stay at Mayo Clinic and Hospice. They would also like to thank the Dodge Center Ambulance Service for all the times they responded in such a kind and prompt manner.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

Barbara Jane Jensen

Barbara Jane Jensen, 88, of Dodge Center, MN passed away on Monday, July 31, 2023, at Mayo Clinic Hospital Methodist Campus.

Barbara was born on August 5, 1934, in Kasson-Man-torville, MN to Samuel and Margaret (Hopkins) Bartel. She married

Donald Jensen on December 19, 1952.

Barbara enjoyed playing Bingo and watching the Minnesota Twins. Barb adored her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Barbara is survived by her children, Debra (Charles) Johnson, Julie (Robert) Bowman, Bonnie Jensen, David Jensen, Korina (Jay) Osborn, Dale (Tamera) Jensen, Darrin Jensen, Dallas (Barbara) Jensen, and Dennis (Naomi) Jensen; 33 grandchildren; 56, great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren and counting; brothers, Milton (Marcia) Bartel and Phil Bartel.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald Jensen; daughter, Linda Bowman; son-in-law, John Bowman; son, Daniel Jensen; grandson, Isaac Monson; great-grandsons, Matt and Brock Jensen; and son-in-law, Charles Jensen.

A private family service will be held. To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplowski Family Funeral Homes, 25 South St SW Dodge Center, MN 55927 (507)374-2155. Blessed be her memory.

Tomatoes



By Shauna Burslem, D.C.

I was recently surfing the web for tidbits of information that I could include in my monthly health tip when I came across a great article on tomatoes. It turns out that tomatoes were not even eaten in the US until the early 1800s, when an eccentric New Jersey gentleman, Colonel Robert Gibbon Johnson, brought them back from a trip overseas. It seems Gibbon was a bit of a showman. He announced that an amazing display of courage would take place on September 26, 1820. He shocked his hometown of Salem by consuming an entire basket of tomatoes in front of a crowd of spectators, who were expecting him to keel over at any second. Obviously, he didn't and since then tomatoes have been a staple of the American diet. And with good reason! Tomatoes are high in Vitamin C and provide 40% of the RDA. The most important part of the tomato is the lycopene. Lycopene is a powerful antioxidant that gives the tomato its red color. Lycopene may be twice as powerful as the anti-oxidant Beta-Carotene. Research studies have shown consuming tomatoes to be helpful in the

fight against prostate, stomach, endometrial and lung cancer. Lycopene has also been linked to increased activity levels in senior citizens. The brighter the red in the tomato the higher the lycopene. In an unusual turn, about as far with cooking vegetables goes, eating most vegetables raw is the way to go. But cooking tomatoes actually releases even more lycopene. Olive oil with tomatoes increases the lycopene absorption in the body. While nothing beats a fresh, ripe tomato, studies also show that canned and jarred tomato and tomato sauce pack the same nutritional benefit. Personally, a large thick slice of a Beefsteak tomato with a little cracked black pepper, sea salt and a drizzling of olive oil in between two slices of toast, spread with a smattering of mayo and a slice of bacon is a little bit of heaven on earth! Luckily, tomato season is just around the corner.

Thought for the Week: "External, material objects are never the cause of disease, merely agents waiting to cause specific symptoms in susceptible hosts."

----- Andrew Weil, M.D.

(What did he say? He said, things like germs do not cause disease, people with weak immune systems allow germs to overtake their body, and then they become sick.

----Dr. Shauna)

Chiropractic Thought for the Week: "A spinal adjustment from your chiropractor may not make your symptoms go away, but it is not meant to. A spinal adjustment opens up the life channels of your body (nerve flow) and improves your overall health and it does that every time in every-body.

---- Reggie Gold, D.C.

Dodge Center street reconstruction detours

Dodge Center First Street NE from Fourth Avenue to First Avenue will be closed for street reconstruction starting on August 14th. Main Street will also be closed from 4th to 1st Avenue NE and detoured until November when the project is anticipated to be finished. Underground utilities will be upgraded and new curb and gutter poured before the aggregate is packed and pavement laid.

Street Parking will be unavailable while the contractor is actively working near your home, residents are asked to park vehicles on side streets during this work. Access to your driveway will be restored at the end of each workday. Temporary mailboxes are located along Main St. E at the intersection of Main St E and 4th Ave. (12 4th Ave. NE) Trash pick-up – please bring your trash cans to the end of your driveway. The contractor will collect the cans, bring them to a common collection point and then bring them back. If you have any questions, please contact Daren Meier – Project Engineer (507) 206-2148.

Vintage Tractor and Quilt Show

By Cheri Roshon

The Historical Society of Dodge County held its 2nd Vintage Tractor and Quilt Show on July 30th as their 3rd summer fundraiser. Approximately 70 vintage tractors and some interesting farm equipment showed up to be displayed, and 115 handmade quilts adorned the gardens on the property. Volunteers for the Society served Sloppy Joes and sides to the attendees, and many vendors showed up to sell their handcrafted wares. D & C Piano Movers had a miniature horse drawn carriage on the premises, and tractor rides were available on a vintage tractor. A hay wagon pulled by another tractor transported folks to the historic buildings that were open to the public for the show. A blacksmith was demonstrating the art of being a "Smithy" in the old days. Music and a clogging demonstration by the Onion Creek Cloggers was held at the old creamery on the property. Young and old wandered through the gardens, admiring the quilts and tractors on a day that turned out to be weather friendly!

David Chicos of Dodge Center had what could possibly be the only 5 foot long chain saw attached to a Farmall tractor, built in neighboring Claremont, Mn. The Von Ruden PTO driven chainsaw was built in the late

1940's and early 1950's. He powered it up to cut into a very large tree trunk to demonstrate how well it worked. He gave me a brief history of the 1 of a kind machine.

An excerpt from Raymond E. Von Ruden's patent application for "Mounting Means for Chain Saws and the like" reads: The primary object of my invention is the provision of novel means for converting a chain type saw to a tractor, whereby the saw may readily be adjustably set in any one of a number of given positions varying from the horizontal to the vertical."

I asked David about the brief manufacturing period. "While it was a great idea for cutting through large logs, the tractor had to be moved after each cut and repositioned for the next cut. So while it was the fastest way to slice through the bigger pieces, it was an inefficient use of the tractor." In any case, I thought it was quite the creative invention, and a tribute to the history of farm equipment! For more history on the immigration to the farms in the area, and more of the inventions of those times, be sure to visit the Historical Center in Mantorville. It is located in the limestone church building at 615 N. Main Street in Mantorville, and is open Thursday through Sunday from 1 to 4 pm through October. Closed Sunday September 10th for Marigold Days.

I spoke with several vendors and visitors about the event, and everyone had positive things to say about the event. "It was very well attended" was one I heard several times.

(continued on page 5)



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Vintage Tractor and Quilt Show

(continued from page 4)

"Really interesting history", to "The food was really good, and at a reasonable price," was another one. "I learned a lot about the history of farming," was a common comment.

Thanks to Jean Bartel, president of the Historical Society for hosting the event on her beautiful acreage. Be sure to stop in to the DCHS to learn more about our area's past!





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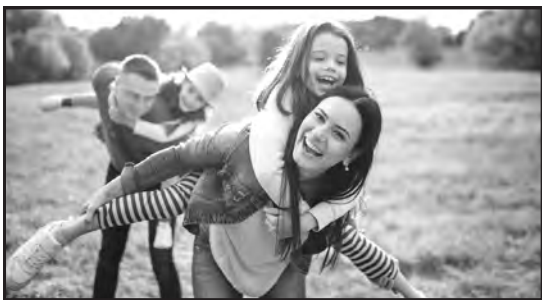
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Dodge Co. Fair



Project displays of what students did throughout the school year. Triton and Hayfield FFA members and students entered all of the projects shown.



Tristan Nelson of Triton FFA with the champion large construction/mechanic project at the 2023 Dodge County Fair FFA Project Displays Show.



Elyssa Robinson of Triton FFA waiting in the holding pen with her pig waiting for champion consideration. Elyssa had both the Grand Champion Breeding Swine and Supreme Champion Market Hog.



Dasmine Marquardt (left) and Stella Streich (right) of Triton FFA exhibited goats at the fair. Stella had Grand Champion Dairy Goat and Dasmine had Grand Champion Meat Breeding Doe.



Dasmine Marquardt (left) and Stella Streich (right) of Triton FFA setting up their goats for evaluation.

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Dodge Co. Fair

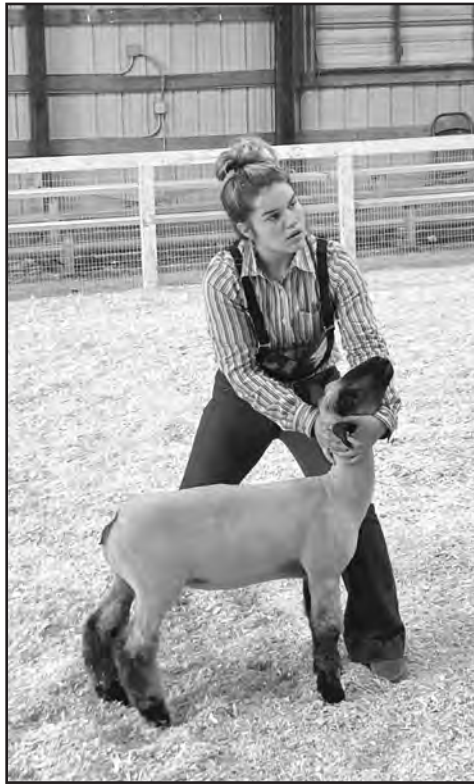
August, 2023

- DODGE CENTER MESSENGER -

Page 7



John Moenning of Triton FFA moving his pig so the judge can have a better view of it.



Cadence Spearman of Triton FFA setting up her sheep for the judge to evaluate.



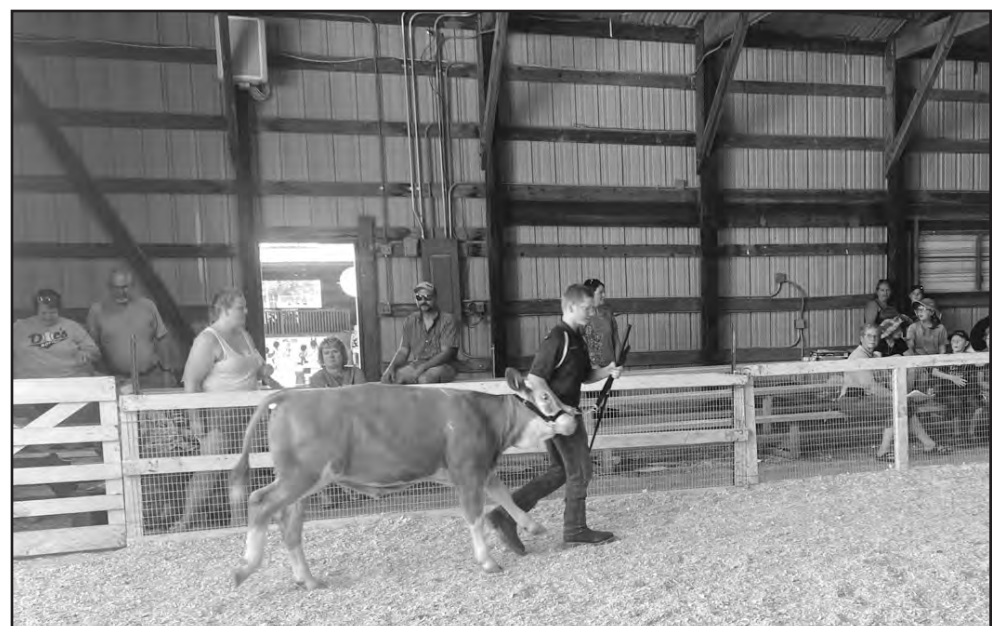
Noah Kasper of Triton FFA with his Reserve Supreme Champion Beef Female. Other members that exhibited were Elyssa Robinson and Jason Wolf.



Cadence Spearman of Triton FFA with the Supreme Champion Dairy animal at the fair.



Other members that exhibited are Elyssa Robinson and John Moenning



Jason Wolf of Triton FFA leading his dairy steer in the arena for the judge to evaluate.



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Local Eco-Farm Hosts Bicycle Rider Traveling from San Fran to Maine

(continued from page 1)

Sam explains - while riding the first leg of his 3600-mile bike trek - during the 2200-foot ascent of Grants Pass, Oregon, he simply had to stop.

Abandoned his 100-pound bicycle at the side of the road and crawled, dragging his backpack 50 yards to the tree line. He erected his tent between bouts of vomiting. Spent three days there, huddled inside the tent burning up with high fever and sweating chills that rattled his teeth. Eventually, it passed.

He's more careful now about clean water and taking rest breaks. After that, he rode at night to avoid the Mediterranean style climate that grows Oregon's gorgeous apricots and nectarines but was (possibly) (probably) detrimental to bike riders.

More Similar Than Different

Grants Pass, Oregon was originally established as a stagecoach stop in the 1860s. Named for the famous General's success at Vicksburg, the apostrophe was jettisoned as dead weight somewhere along the way with

no fanfare, just abandoned. Then became a railhead in 1884 when the (now) Southern Pacific Railroad was completed. Originally populated by Hudson Bay Trappers, from whom I am descended, later Gold was discovered in the area. It's safe to say Grants Pass has never been the easy route.

Been There Done That

Now, I have a little bit of experience with Grants Pass, Oregon as I traversed the Rogue River back when I was a young Adventurer. So, as Sam talks about his travels, I have reactions. We camped as a family at Crater Lake National Park in the 1970's. I skied the Cascade Mountains in the 80's and 90's. I was waylaid at a Best Western Hotel in 1991 while the Siskiyou Pass was cleared of heavy, wet snow. I found a tire shop willing to put snow chains on my tiny Mazda sports car and still, Troopers did not allow me to proceed for another 72 hours.

I am well-acquainted with the terrain Sam is describing. During my short stays in the area, I realize the entire town population is part of the SAR Community; Search and Rescue being a full-time endeavor for residents. First Responders (most volunteers) outnumber visitors. Her Sister City is Rubtsovsk, Russia; I feel like that says a lot. Today, Grants Pass is most attractive to hikers, runners, cyclists, wilderness aficionados, climbers, rafters, cavers, jet boat and extreme sports enthusiasts. And bears. Lots of bears.

Jesus Arrives

I know Sam only a little bit from his Reviews, a few emails and because he has arrived at our farm on a bicycle. He called

from St. Paul; said his ride would be 76 miles. Exactly. He would see us soon. Frankly, I just shook my head and kept working. I expected to get another phone call at about Vermillion, or perhaps even Cannon Falls, asking for a pick-up, but none came. Eventually, around 8 p.m. a helmeted, neon clad figure road into the yard.

Sam departed his home in wealthy Yacht Harbor, San Francisco, where he normally spends summers teaching youngsters how to ocean sail, a few weeks ago. He's tall, well over 6 feet tall. He has longish hair and a beard. He favors natural fabrics and sandals. He may or may not wear an earring. He looks like a modern-day Jesus. Sam is the well born son of a UK Diplomat.

"I like to average about 100 miles per day on the bike" He tells me. He takes the train when no suitable bike route exists. He stays on Organic Farms, Homesteads, and Sustainable Collectives along the way. He helps around the farm in exchange for room and board, working half the day and the other half day he spends exploring the area.

Sam is enroute to his buddy's wedding in Portland, Maine. Then, he's heading to Quebec. On the bike. He plans to visit friends in Chicago and has a Farm in Wisconsin lined up, also.

When Sam told the soon-to-be-married Groom he would to ride to the event, the Groom simply sighed and said, "Of course you will". Sam could easily have bought a first-class ticket to his friend's wedding. He consciously chose this method of travel. He wants to make a smaller carbon footprint. I

feel it wasn't the first time the friend heard this kind of news. He looks fully recovered and today, Grant's Pass is just a cool story to tell new friends.

Wwoofers, Not Hippies

The organization that brought my family and Sam together is an online platform called World-Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms or WWOOF-USA. Every free country on the planet is represented on the Wwoof website.

Back in the day, the late 1980's and early 1990's for me, this type of organization was called a Work Away stay. Made into a type of Pop Culture by youth of the 60's and 70's who dropped out to travel, to find themselves and out of necessity, participate in working vacations.

Instead of going to college, you could take a gap year between High School and your two-year degree. But you had to carry the (heavy) (thick) paperback travel guide with you and try to telephone the farm (often while out of country) ahead of your arrival.

The farms were often remote, difficult to get to locations. Sometimes inexperienced people arrived, and the time involved in showing the young adults how to do the work, and making sure it was finished ended up being a negative for the grower. Some-time workers who committed failed to show. Some of the listings were out of date. The process had varying degrees of success, as expected.

(continued on page 9)

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952.445.7361 | RenaissanceFest.com

Local Eco-Farm Hosts Bicycle Rider Traveling from San Fran to Maine

(continued from page 8)

Now, all the information one needs to become a Wwoofer is conveniently located on an easily accessed, low-cost website.

The Host Farm and the Wwoofer – as they are known in the community - are united via memberships on the website. Using self-written descriptions, photos and profiles participants may be matched up according to location, farming practices, dietary restrictions, or skills. No money is exchanged between the Farm and the Visitor. A Wwoofer may not replace a paid worker in any circumstance. I think about our current situation. No worries. The only people working here are owners.

In exchange for help, the Host Farm is expected to provide a meaningful but casual educational exchange of ecologically sound farming practices and share daily life with

their visitor.

Make no mistake, this is not cheap labor. While in our case Sam craved hard physical work, that is not always the case. A Host may be required to think on their feet if a Wwoofer arrives with less ability than originally promised. There are loads of jobs on a farm that do not require much expertise, just a strong back and knees, so we are good to go.

The Wwoof website requires Hosts and Guests to participate in several hours of ZOOM-type seminars in order to be verified. A peer-to-peer review system (much like Airbnb) allows Host and Guest to 'rate' and 'review' their experience when it's over, just to keep everyone honest.

During the ZOOM Meeting the Instructor tells us "Well, you're dealing with people. Just try to form good relationships. Not everyone is always going to be a great fit. Just be kind. Be honest. Communicate. And let us know if you have any real problems."

As the Host, I was required to provide clean, dry, safe housing for Sam and make sure he had enough food for three meals a day. We were delighted to learn Sam was not a Vegan, and in fact, quickly ate all that was placed in front of him.

Sam worked hard and ate hard, developing a hollow leg every day right around 5 pm. My husband found this comforting in a way; it harkened back to the days when the Wran-

glers would sit down to dinner with the family.

I think initially my husband imagined we'd be hosting surly young kids, with unusual hair styles and pierced eyebrows, unaccustomed to hard work, and always on their phone. Sam blew that idea out of the water in one meal. We never even saw his phone unless it was to show photos to illustrate an interesting tale.

Finding Yourself

One old-timer quipped, "They work four whole hours a day? All by themselves? For two weeks? Yep, that's a vacation." His friends at the counter laughed.

As a Gen Y or Millennial, Sam finds himself living in a world he had no hand in creating and it's frustrating for him. He eschews Cable News and Syndicated Newspapers, as he knows they have incentives to build hype into a story. Sam just needs the facts. He can make up his own mind. For news, he uses Twitter. He keenly follows the weather.

He is a digital native; one who uses the Internet, mobile devices, and social media, exclusively. He can work from anywhere with a fast WIFI connection.

Sam has never lived in a world where he was not digitally tracked 24/7. Not for security reasons. But because where he is and what he does may indicate what his next purchase may be. As his phone caught up to his travels, he was bombarded with ads the Algorithm thought he might appreciate.

"Water purification tablets" He holds his phone up so I can see the ad.

"Bit late" I say. We laugh at his phone.

"Privacy? I don't think I've ever had pri-

vacy, not really." He does not remember a world without TSA, and consciously decides whether he really needs books with paper pages. He does not know where he was when the 2nd Tower was hit on 9/11. Sam was born in 1995. He is a year older than my daughter. I suspect Sam's mom knows where he was that day, too.

He knows current farming practices are unsustainable; he just doesn't know what to do about it. He decided to approach it in a "boots on the ground" kind of way. He wants to see it for himself. Close up. Make his own determinations.

Sam's Gen is more civic-minded than we give them credit for; they have a real desire to connect locally and globally. They are seeking transparency above all, and experiences. Their currency is not money or houses; they're not interested in acquiring material items like us; The Boomers and Gen Xers. Which is good, because wealth and security is hardly accessible to those of us who have worked a lifetime, already.

They want Freedom. It's all about flexibility with these guys. Freedom to go, to stay, when to work, when not to work. Work/Life Balance. For them, there is no reason to work until the day you tip over, never enjoying the fruits of your labor. They're taking retirement early. I can't really fault them; I know folks who did their time, and two weeks after the Retirement Party, discovered they had a terminal illness.

A recent text from Sam says he is leaving Quebec and headed for Vermont. He plans to spend Labor Day with friends, relaxing.

For more info contact: www.wwoof.org



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Follow these important rules on the school bus for your safety and the safety of your fellow passengers.

- Arrive at your bus stop at least five minutes early. Running to catch the bus is very dangerous.
- Stand at least three giant steps away from the curb when you see the bus approaching your bus stop.
- Stay put until the bus stops, the door opens and the driver tells you it's okay to enter the bus.
- Always use the handrails when entering and exiting the bus.
- Never walk behind the bus. If you must cross the street, cross in front of the bus. Walk on the sidewalk alongside the bus at least five giant steps before crossing in front of it, making sure you and the driver can see one another.
- Stay seated and wear your seatbelt the entire time the bus is moving. Avoid yelling or loud talking that could distract the driver.

**FIRST DAY
OF SCHOOL**
 Wednesday, Sept. 6
 Grades 6-12
 Thursday, Sept. 7
 Grades K-5


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Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!

We appreciate you taking the time to read through this edition of the Triton Times and for your continued engagement and support. We hope you find this information helpful as we want to be prepared to maximize the opportunities this school year will present.

We have a few important dates to remember as we prepare for the school year. Please reference the list below and plan accordingly.

First Day of School, Orientation Day for Sixth and Ninth Grade

Students in sixth and ninth grade will be the only students that attend school on Tuesday, September 5. On this day we will have orientation experiences. Transportation will run as scheduled on this day. Then all students in grades 6-12 will attend school as normal on

Wednesday, September 6. We have implemented this change as we feel orientation experiences are very important and when scheduled in the summer families have many events and activities taking place. This first day is considered a school day for students in sixth and ninth grade and we are hoping for 100% attendance.

Middle School and High School Open House - Thursday, August 31 (3:00 - 6:00 PM)

We encourage all students and families to attend the Open House. Students will pick up important forms for the school year, receive their schedules, set up their lockers, pick up their Chromebooks, and have an opportunity to ask questions. *(continued on page 16)*



Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

As the summer months draw to a close, I'm eagerly anticipating the return of students to our school building. Our fall sports kick-off event on August 9th was a great success featuring an inspiring guest speaker. It's truly rewarding to have speakers who reinforce the values that we instill here at Triton. We're excited to have more guest speakers throughout the school year, as they play a vital role in promoting positive decision-making among our students.

Over the summer, an important change occurred with the City of Dodge Center's commitment to supporting our School Resource Officer (SRO) Program. While we've had an SRO for many years, we are now fortunate to have a dedicated officer working full-time within our district. One of the significant advantages of this change is the opportunity for the SRO to build strong relationships with our students. This includes teaching the DARE program to our fifth graders, fostering positive connection between law enforcement and our students. Throughout my years at Triton, I have witnessed firsthand the positive outcomes that arise from these relationships.

The upcoming school year promises to bring various changes due to recent legislative updates. In my three decades of educa-

tion, I can confidently say that this is the most extensive wave of new legislation affecting our schools that I have ever seen. Embracing change is essential when it benefits our students and enhances the learning environment. I'm optimistic that these changes will indeed have the desired impact on our students. At Triton, we are already implementing many best practices to support our students, and I believe these new initiatives will further elevate their educational experience.

Another significant change this year is the introduction of the MN-FSM (Minnesota Free School Meals) program. This program ensures that every student receives a free breakfast and lunch each school day.

It's noteworthy that Minnesota is now the fourth state to adopt such a program. While

the MN-FSM program covers regular meals, a la carte items will require separate payment as they have in the past. Additionally, if any wishes to purchase an extra meal, they will need to pay the adult price for that meal.

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



JOIN US FOR TMS-THS

Open House

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

3:00-6:00 PM

CHECK-IN AT THE ACTIVITIES ENTRANCE. MEET WITH TEACHERS, PICK UP CHROMEBOOKS, SCHEDULES, SET UP LOCKERS.

WE WILL ALSO HAVE FOOD TRUCKS AT THE ACTIVITIES ENTRANCE. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND STAY FOR THE COBRA FOOTBALL GAME!

SAVE THE DATE

TMS & THS Open House

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2023

3:00-6:00 PM

Join us to celebrate the new school year!

Food Trucks will be available.

6th Grade Family Information Night

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2023

5:30-6:00 PM Performing Arts Center

6th Grade WEB Orientation and 9th Grade Link Crew Orientation

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for 6th Grade and 9th Grade ONLY

(All other TMS & THS Students will start Wednesday, Sept. 6)



Triton Families and Students, Starting School Year 2023-2024 meals are free for all students.

We are still encouraging ALL families to fill out the educational benefit form (formerly Free & Reduced Lunch form). This form goes far beyond the original Free and reduced lunch eligibility for families. It could also qualify families for reduced athletic/activity fees, funding for internet access and technology and AP Testing support. For the school district it brings in additional compensatory funding from the State of MN that can be used for a multitude of things to benefit the kids and our schools.

Parents/guardians: you are responsible for any negative balance that your student's account may have. These accounts need to be paid and brought up to date. If you need help with doing that, please reach out to me as we still have some funds left in our Cobra Kindne\$\$ account. This account allows families WITH A CURRENT NEGATIVE BALANCE the opportunity to receive matching funds to get the account taken care of. You must communicate with Misty/Taher to qualify and receive this donation/funds.

For the 2023-2024 school year here are some things parents/guardians need to know for your student to make a "meal" that qualifies for the free lunch or breakfast. They must have 3 out of the 5 components listed below, for both Breakfast and Lunch.

Components

- Meat/Meat alternative
- Grain
- Fruit
- Vegetable
- Milk

Breakfast-

- Main meal on tray (meat/meat alternative)
- Fruit or Vegetable (must have ½ cup of one or the other. Do not need both but can take both.

- Milk

Lunch- (main line & Diner area)

- Main meal (meat/meat alternative)
- Grain
- Fruit or Vegetable (must have ½ cup of one or the other. Do not need both but can take both.

- Milk

****MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS & STUDENTS- PLEASE READ****

There is an "ala carte only" option when charging to accounts. This option is not covered as FREE! These specialty items must be charged on an account or paid for with cash. Ala Carte is open to Middle & High Students (grades 6th-12th).

Please have a conversation with your student about the Ala Carte option and what their boundaries are when using it. The Taher staff is unable to monitor every student that comes through when it comes to allergies or limits. This is up to individual families.

One thing we can do, if requested by the parent/guardian, is:

- Blocking your student. If you want your student blocked from ala carte options, you will need to contact myself (Misty) or Kelly by phone at 507-418-7531 or email at mlangley@triton.k12.mn.us, kjohnson@triton.k12.mn.us When emailing please put the name of student(s) that you want blocked in the subject line.

PLEASE NOTE: Students are still able to use cash to purchase ala carte. (Using cash does not affect their account)

- Students MUST have a positive balance in their account, or pay cash day of purchase, for any ala carte purchases. Any student with a negative balance will NOT be allowed extras or ala carte items. THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO GET THE REGULAR MEAL. Please speak with your students about this. If you have any questions, please reach out.

Ala carte items include.

- cookie, ice cream, smoothies, chips, juices, pickles, fruit snacks, extra diner sandwich, extra pizza slice, extra fries, extra milks, or a second meal, etc)

****Ala carte has nothing to do with the regular student meals that are free****

Sack lunches from home- If your student brings lunch from home and wants a milk; it is an extra charge of \$.70. Milk is only free with school breakfast & lunch. Please make sure you have funds in your student's account.

3 options for applying money to your student's account:

- Pay online through infinite campus (if you need assistance please contact: Elementary, Middle or High School office).
- Check- Send with student to school or drop off in any office. Make check payable to Triton and put your students name on the memo line.
- Cash- Send cash with your student to school or drop off to any office- please make sure to have it in an envelope with the student's first and last name.

Any questions or concerns please contact:

EMAIL: mlangley@triton.k12.mn.us or kjohnson@triton.k12.mn.us

Direct Line: 507-418-7531

Familias y estudiantes de Triton, Comenzando el año escolar 2023-2024 las comidas son GRATIS para todos los estudiantes.

Todavía estamos alentando a TODAS las familias a completar el formulario de beneficios educativos (anteriormente formulario de almuerzo gratis o reducción). Este formulario va mucho más allá de la elegibilidad original para el almuerzo gratis o a precio reducido para las familias. También podría calificar a las familias para una tarifa reducida de Atlético/ actividad, financiamiento para acceso a Internet y tecnología y apoyo para los exámenes de AP. Para el distrito escolar trae fondos compensatorios adicionales del estado de MN que pueden usarse para muchas cosas en beneficio de los niños y nuestras escuelas.

Padres/tutores: Usted es responsable de cualquier saldo negativo que la cuenta de su hijo(a) pueda tener. Estas cuentas deben pagarse y actualizarse. Si necesitan ayuda para hacerlo, comuníquese conmigo ya que todavía tenemos algunos fondos en nuestra cuenta de cobra kinde\$\$\$. Esta cuenta permite a las familias con un saldo negativo actual la oportunidad de recibir fondos equivalentes para que la cuenta sea atendida. Debe comunicarse con Misty o Taher para calificar y recibir esta donación/fondos.

Para el año escolar 2023-2024 aquí hay algunas cosas que los padres/tutores deben saber para que su hijo(a) haga una "comida" que califique para el almuerzo o desayuno gratis. Deben tener 3 de los 5 componentes listados a continuación, tanto para el desayuno como para el almuerzo.

Componentes

- Carne/ carne alternative
- Grano
- Fruta
- Vegetales
- Lenche

Desayuno

- Plato principal en la bandeja (carne/ carne alternative)
- Fruta o vegetales (debe tener ½ taza de uno u otro. No necesita ambos pero puede tomar ambos)

- Leche

Almuerzo (línea principal y área de comedor)

- plato principal en la bandeja (carne/ carne alternative)
- Grano
- Fruta o vegetales (debe tener ½ taza de uno u otro. No necesita ambos pero puede tomar ambos)

- Leche

****Padres y estudiantes de Secundaria/ Preparatoria por favor lean****

Hay un opción "solo Ala carte" al cargar a cuentas. !Esta opción no está cubierta como Gratuita! Estos artículos especiales deben cargarse en una cuenta o pagarse en efectivo. Ala carte está abierto a estudiantes de Secundaria y Preparatoria (grados de 6 a 12).

Tenga una conversación con su hijo(a) sobre la opción Ala carte y cuáles son sus límites al usarla. El personal de Taher no puede monitorear a cada estudiante que llega cuando se trata de alergias o límites. Esto depende de las familias individuales.

Una cosa que podemos hacer, si lo solicita el padre/tutor es:

- Bloqueando a su hijo(a): Si desea que su hijo(a) sea bloqueado de las opciones Ala carte, deberá comunicarse conmigo (Misty) o con Kelly por teléfono al 507-418-7531 o correo electrónico a mlangley@triton.k12.mn.us, kjohnson@triton.k12.mn.us cuando envíe un correo electrónico, escriba el nombre del estudiante(s) que desea bloquear en la línea de asunto.

Tenga en cuenta: Los estudiantes aún pueden usar efectivo para comprar Ala carte. (Usar efectivo no afecta su cuenta).

- Los estudiantes deben tener un saldo positivo en su cuenta, o pagar en efectivo el día de la compra, para cualquier compra Ala carte. A cualquier estudiante con un saldo negativo NO se le permitirán extras o artículos Ala carte. Se les permitirá obtener la comida regular. Por favor hable con sus hijos sobre esto. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con nosotros.

Los artículos Ala carte incluyen:

- Galletas, helados, batidos, papas fritas, jugos, pepinillos, fruit snacks, extra sandwich, extra rabanada de pizza, extra paps fritas, extra leches o una segunda comida, etc.

****Ala carte no tiene nada que ver con las comidas regulares de los estudiantes que son Gratis****

Almuerzos de casa- Si su hijo(a) trae almuerzo de casa y quiere leche es un cargo extra de \$.70. La leche solo es gratis con el desayuno y el almuerzo escolar. Por favor asegúrese de tener fondos en la cuenta de su hijo(a).

3 opciones para poner dinero a la cuenta de su hijo(a):

- Pague en línea a través del infinito campus (si necesita ayuda, comuníquese con: la oficina de la escuela Primaria, Intermedia o Secundaria)
- Cheque- envíe con su hijo(a) a la escuela o dejelo en cualquier oficina escolar. Haga el cheque a nombre de Triton y ponga el nombre de sus hijos en la línea de notas.
- Efectivo: Envíe efectivo con su hijo(a) a la escuela o dejelo en cualquier oficina escolar; asegúrese de tenerlo en su sobre con el nombre y apellido de su hijo(a).

Cualquier pregunta o inquietud por favor comuníquese con;

Correo electrónico: mlangley@triton.k12.mn.us o kjohnson@triton.k12.mn.us

Línea directa: 507-418-7531



TRITON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ISD #2125 | 813 West Highway Street | Dodge Center, MN 55927

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Developing Lifelong Learners

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our school offers healthy meals each day. Starting school year 2023-24, we are joining Minnesota's Free School Meals Program. All students can get one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school. Although no application is required to receive this free meal benefit, filling out the Application for Educational Benefits is still important! Your child(ren) may qualify for other benefits like reduced fees at school. Your application may also help the school qualify for education funds, discounts, and other meal programs.

To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits and return it to:

Triton Public Schools

813 West Highway Street Dodge Center, MN 55927

Who should complete this application? Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and foster, homeless, migrant and runaway children qualify without reporting household income. Alternatively, children can qualify if their household income is within the maximum income shown for their household size on the instructions.

COMMON QUESTIONS:

I get WIC or Medical Assistance. Can my children qualify? Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify. Children may be eligible depending on other household financial information. Please fill out an application.

Who should I include as household members? Include yourself and all other people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends).

May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens for you to complete an application.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get overtime only sometimes. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.

Will the income information or case number I give be checked? It may be. We may also ask you to send written proof.

How will the information be kept? Information you provide on the form, and your child's approval, will be protected as private data. For more information, see the back page of the Application for Educational Benefits.

If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. Please complete an application at any time if your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR benefits.

If you have other questions or need help, call 507-418-7530.

Sincerely,

Craig Schlichting, Superintendent

DISTRICT OFFICE (507) 418-7530 | ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (507) 418-7500

MIDDLE SCHOOL (507) 418-7510 | HIGH SCHOOL (507) 418-7520

#WEARETRITON

How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits

Complete the Application for Educational Benefits form for school year 2023-24 if any of the following applies to your household:

- Any household member currently participates in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or
- The household includes one or more foster children (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child) or
- The total income of household members is within the guidelines shown below (gross earnings before deductions, not take home pay). Do not include as income: foster care payments, federal education benefits, MFIP payments, or value of assistance

received from SNAP, WIC, or FDPIR. Military: Do not include combat pay or assistance from the Military Privatized Housing Initiative. The income guidelines are effective from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Household size	Maximum Total Income				
	\$ Per Year	\$ Per Month	\$ Twice Per Month	\$ Per 2 Weeks	\$ Per Week
1	26,973	2,248	1,124	1,038	519
2	36,482	3,041	1,521	1,404	702
3	45,991	3,833	1,917	1,769	885
4	55,500	4,625	2,313	2,135	1,068
5	65,009	5,418	2,709	2,501	1,251
6	74,518	6,210	3,105	2,867	1,434
7	84,027	7,003	3,502	3,232	1,616
8	93,536	7,795	3,898	3,598	1,799
Add for each additional person	9,509	793	397	366	183

Step 1: Children

List all infants and children in the household, their school and grade if applicable, and birthdate. Attach an additional page if needed to list all children. Check the box if a child is in foster care (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child).

Step 2: Case Number

If any household member currently participates in SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR, write in the case number and then go to Step 4. If you do not participate in any of these programs, leave Step 2 blank and continue on to Step 3.

Step 3: Adult and Child Incomes/ Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number

- Social Security Number/Total Household Members. An adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security number or check the box if they do not have a Social Security number. Report the total number of household members and ensure all household members are listed individually on the application in the child or adult section as applicable.

- Child Income. If any children in the household have regular income, such as SSI or part-time jobs, list the total amount of regular incomes received by all children, and check the box for the frequency: weekly, bi-weekly, twice a month, or monthly. Do not include occasional earnings like babysitting or lawn mowing.

- Adult income. Report the names of adult household members and income earned in this section.

- List all adults living in the household not listed in Step 1, whether related or not, such as grandparents, relatives, or friends.

- Gross Earnings from Work. This is usually the money received from working at jobs where a paycheck is received. For each income, check the box to show how often the income is received: weekly, bi-weekly, twice per month, or monthly.

- List gross incomes before deductions, not take-home pay. Do not list an hourly wage rate. For adults with no income to report, enter a '0' or leave the section blank. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income.

- Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer? List the net income per month or year after business expenses. Do not list the same income twice on the application. A loss from farm or self-employment must be listed as 0 income and does not reduce other income.

- Any Other Gross Income. List gross incomes before deductions from all other sources, such as SSI, unemployment, child support, public assistance, social security, rental income or annuities.

Step 4: Signature and Contact Information An adult household member must sign the form. If you do not want your information to be shared with Minnesota Health Care Programs, check the "Don't share" box in Step 4.

Optional: Please provide the information on ethnicity and race that is requested on the second page of the form. This information is not required and does not affect approval for school meal benefits. The information helps to ensure we are meeting civil rights requirements and fully serving our community.

APPLICATION ON NEXT PAGE

Triton Elementary School

We hope that all our students had a fantastic summer break! It is hard to believe that the first days of the school year are right around the corner. Thank you for taking a few moments to read through some start of the year information. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns leading up to, or during, this school year.



Meet the Teacher Days

September 5th and September 6th will be "Meet the Teacher" days. These are designed for all our pre-K through 5th grade students to have an opportunity to prepare for a successful school year. Students may bring their supplies into their classrooms and will participate in a few quick educational screeners. Families will receive an opportunity to register via Sign Up Genius later in August.

First Day of School

The first full day of school will be Thursday, September 7th.

Picture Day

Elementary students will have their picture day on Friday, September 8th.

Bus Pick Up / Drop Off Times

Families will receive information on exact pick-up times and locations later in August. We do wait to allow any additional students to be accounted for. If you have questions on transportation, you can always call the elementary office.

Communication Home

We will communicate on a regular basis with our families through a SMORE newsletter. If you are not receiving the newsletters electronically, please reach out to the elementary office and we can add you to the distribution list.

Shane Van Beek Elementary Principal
svanbeek@triton.k12.mn.us
507.418.7500 – Elementary Office



Triton Times

Craig J. Schlichting – Superintendent

Triton Public Schools
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Dodge Center, MN 55927
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P.O. Box 1
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E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com
Tel: 507-645-9877



2023-24 Application for Educational Benefits

Complete one application per household for all children. Please use pen (not a pencil). Mail or return completed form to: Triton Public Schools, 813 W. Hwy St., Dodge Center, MN 55927

STEP 1: List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper).

Definition: A Household Member is "Anyone living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related." Read *How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits* for more information. Adults over grade 12 living in the same household should be reported in Step 3. If your children attend different districts or charter/nonpublic schools, return an application at each one.

Child's First Name (list all children in household)	MI	Child's Last Name	School	Grade	Birthdate	Foster Child (v)
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 2: Do Any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, MFIP or FDIPIR? Medical assistance does not qualify. If NO -> Go to STEP 3. If YES -> Enter SNAP, MFIP or FDIPIR Case Number (between 4-9 digits, do not report EBT card number) _____ then go to STEP 4 (Do not complete STEP 3)

STEP 3: Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered 'Yes' to STEP 2)

A. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Household Member: XXX-XX- Or Check if Adult has No SSN: Total Number of All Household Members (Children + Adults)

B. Child Income. Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income, such as from a part time job or SSI. Please include the TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1. Do not include income received by adults in the box to the right.

Total Income Received by All Children	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. All Adult Household Members (including yourself). For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income only. If they do not receive income from any source, write '0' or leave any fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. Not sure what income to include here? Flip the page and review "Sources of Income" for information. "Sources of Income" will help you with the Child Income section and All Adult Household Members section.

Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last)	Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs				Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents).	Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?		Any Other Gross Income				
	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly		Monthly	Yearly	Net income from Farm or Self-Employment. Do not duplicate elsewhere.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly
List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SSi, Unemployment, Public Assistance, Child Support, and others on Page 2
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$

STEP 4: Contact information and adult signature. "I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

I have checked this box if I do not want my information shared with Minnesota Health Care Program as allowed by state law.

Printed name of adult signing form _____ Daytime Phone _____

Address (if available) _____ Apt# _____ City _____ Zip _____

SIGN HERE: Signature of Household Adult _____ Date _____

Do Not Fill Out: For School Office Use Conversions to Annualize All Income:	X52	X16	X24	X12	X1	<input type="checkbox"/> Verified? Attach Tracker	No change <input type="checkbox"/>	Free After Verified <input type="checkbox"/>	Reduced After Verified <input type="checkbox"/>	Denied After Verified <input type="checkbox"/>
All Total Income (include child and adult income)	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Annualize	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determining Official Signature:						Date:				
Confirming Official Signature:						Date:				

See Page 2 for Additional Information. Return completed form to the school at the address listed at the top of the form. Do not mail to the Minnesota Department of Education or United States Department of Agriculture.

OPTIONAL: Children's Racial and Ethnic Identities

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility. Respond to both Step One, *Ethnicity* and Step Two, *Race*.

Step One: Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Step Two: Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children		Sources of Income for Adults		
Sources of Child Income	Examples	Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	All Other Income
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earnings from work Social Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disability Payments b. Survivor's Benefits Income from person outside the household Income from any other source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security A Parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes) Net income from self-employment (farm or business) If you are in the U.S. Military: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances) b. Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash Assistance from State or local government Supplemental Security Income Unemployment benefits Worker's compensation Alimony payments Child support payments Veteran's benefits Strike benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Security Disability benefits Regular income from trusts or estates Annuities Investment income Rental income Regular cash payments from outside household

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number is not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

At public school districts, each student's school meal status also is recorded on a statewide computer system used to report student data to MDE as required by state law. MDE uses this information to: (1) Administer state & federal programs, (2) Calculate compensatory revenue for public schools, and (3) Judge the quality of the state's educational program.

Nondiscrimination statement: In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



TRITON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ISD #2125 | 813 West Highway Street | Dodge Center, MN 55927

Proudly serving the communities of Claremont, Dodge Center, and West Concord

Developing Lifelong Learners

Estimado padre/tutor:

Nuestra escuela ofrece comidas saludables todos los días. A partir del año escolar 2023-24, nos uniremos al Programa de Comidas Escolares Gratuitas de Minnesota. Todos los estudiantes pueden recibir un desayuno y un almuerzo gratis cada día en la escuela. Aunque no se requiere una solicitud para recibir este beneficio de comidas gratuitas, ¡completar la solicitud de beneficios educativos sigue siendo importante! Su(s) niño(s) puede(n) tener derecho a otros beneficios como la reducción de cuotas en la escuela. Su solicitud también puede ayudar a la escuela a calificar para fondos educativos, descuentos y otros programas de comidas.

Para presentar la solicitud, complete la solicitud de Beneficios Educativos que se encuentra adjunta y envíela a:

**Triton Public Schools,
813 W. Highway Street, Dodge Center, MN 55927**

¿Quién debe completar esta solicitud? Los niños de hogares que participan en el Programa Suplementario de Asistencia Nutricional (SNAP, por sus siglas en inglés), el Programa de Inversión Familiar de Minnesota (MFIP, por sus siglas en inglés) o el Programa de Distribución de Alimentos en Reservaciones Indígenas (FDPIR, por sus siglas en inglés), y los niños en hogares de crianza, sin hogar, migrantes y fugitivos califican sin reportar los ingresos del hogar. Alternativamente, los niños pueden calificar si su ingreso familiar está dentro del ingreso máximo indicado para el tamaño de su hogar en las instrucciones.

Preguntas Frecuentes:

Recibo WIC o asistencia médica. ¿Mis niños pueden recibir la ayuda? Los niños de hogares que participan en el programa WIC o en la asistencia médica no cumplen automáticamente los requisitos. Los niños pueden ser elegibles dependiendo de otra información financiera del hogar. Por favor, complete una solicitud.

¿A quién debo incluir como integrante de la familia? Debe incluirse a sí mismo y a todas las demás personas que vivan en el hogar, parientes o no (como abuelos, otros parientes o amigos).

¿Puedo solicitar la ayuda si alguien de mi familia no es ciudadano de los Estados Unidos? Sí. Ni usted ni sus niños tienen que ser ciudadanos estadounidenses para que usted pueda completar una solicitud.

¿Qué ocurre si mis ingresos no son siempre los mismos? Si normalmente cobra horas extras, inclúyalas, pero no si sólo las cobra a veces. En caso de trabajo de temporada, escriba el total de ingresos anuales.

¿Se comprobará la información sobre los ingresos o el número de caso que proporcione? Es posible. También podemos pedirle que nos envíe un justificante por escrito.

¿Cómo se conservará la información? La información que usted presente en el formulario y la aprobación de su niño se protegerán como datos privados. Para más información, consulte la página trasera de la solicitud de beneficios educativos.

Si no cumplo los requisitos ahora, ¿puedo presentar la solicitud más tarde? Sí. Complete una solicitud en cualquier momento si disminuyen sus ingresos, aumenta el tamaño de su unidad familiar o empieza a recibir Beneficios SNAP, MFIP o FDPIR.

Si tiene otras preguntas o necesita ayuda, llame al 507-418-7530.

Atentamente,

Craig Schlichting, Superintendent

Cómo completar la solicitud de Beneficios Educativos

Complete el formulario de Solicitud de Beneficios Educativos para el año escolar 2023-24 si alguna de las siguientes situaciones aplica a su hogar:

Algún integrante de la unidad familiar participa actualmente en el Programa de Inversión Familiar de Minnesota (MFIP), en el Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Complementaria (SNAP) o en el Programa de Distribución de Alimentos en Reservas Indígenas (FDPIR) o

El hogar incluye uno o más niños en acogida (una agencia de asistencia social o un tribunal tiene la responsabilidad legal del niño) o

Los ingresos totales de los integrantes de la unidad familiar están dentro de los límites indicados a continuación (ingresos brutos antes de deducciones, no salario neto). No incluya como ingresos: los pagos por acogimiento familiar, las prestaciones educativas federales, los pagos del MFIP ni el valor de la ayuda recibida de SNAP, WIC o FDPIR.

Militares: No incluya la paga de combate ni la ayuda de la Iniciativa Militar de Vivienda

Privatizada. Las pautas de ingresos están vigentes desde el 1 de julio de 2023 hasta el 30 de junio de 2024.

Ingreso máximo total

Número de integrantes de la familia	\$ Por año	\$ Por mes	\$ Dos veces por mes	\$ Por 2 semanas	\$ Por semana
1	26,973	2,248	1,124	1,038	519
2	36,482	3,041	1,521	1,404	702
3	45,991	3,833	1,917	1,769	885
4	55,500	4,625	2,313	2,135	1,068
5	65,009	5,418	2,709	2,501	1,251
6	74,518	6,210	3,105	2,867	1,434
7	84,027	7,003	3,502	3,232	1,616
8	93,536	7,795	3,898	3,598	1,799
Añadir por cada persona adicional	9,509	793	397	366	183

Paso 1: Niños

Indique a todos los bebés y niños del hogar, su colegio y curso, si procede, y fecha de nacimiento. Adjunte una página adicional si es necesario para indicar todos los niños. Marque la casilla si un niño está en acogida temporal (una agencia de asistencia social o un tribunal tiene la responsabilidad legal del niño).

Paso 2: Número de caso

Si algún integrante de la unidad familiar participa actualmente en SNAP, MFIP o FDPIR, escriba el número de caso y vaya al paso 4. Si no participa en ninguno de estos programas, deje el paso 2 en blanco y continúe con el paso 3.

Paso 3: Ingresos de adultos y niños / Los últimos 4 dígitos del número de seguro social Número de la Seguridad Social/Total de integrantes de la unidad familiar. Un integrante adulto del hogar debe presentar los últimos cuatro dígitos de su número de seguro social o marcar la casilla si no tiene número de seguro social. Indique el número total de integrantes de la unidad familiar y asegúrese de que todos los integrantes de la unidad familiar figuran individualmente en la solicitud en la sección de niños o adultos, según proceda.

Ingresos de los adultos Si alguno de los niños de la unidad familiar tiene ingresos regulares, como SSI o trabajos a tiempo parcial, indique el importe total de los ingresos regulares percibidos por todos los niños y marque la casilla correspondiente a la frecuencia: semanal, quincenal, quincenal o mensual. No incluya ingresos ocasionales como cuidar niños o cortar el césped.

Ingresos de los adultos. Indique en este apartado los nombres de los integrantes adultos de la unidad familiar y los ingresos obtenidos.

Indique todos los adultos que viven en el hogar y que no se hayan incluido en el paso 1, ya sean parientes o no, como abuelos, parientes o amigos.

Ingresos brutos del trabajo. Suele tratarse del dinero recibido por trabajar en empleos en los que se recibe un sueldo. Para cada ingreso, marque la casilla que indique la frecuencia con la que se recibe el ingreso: semanal, quincenal, dos veces al mes o mensual.

Indique los ingresos brutos antes de las deducciones, no el sueldo neto. No indique el salario por hora. Para los adultos sin ingresos que declarar, escriba un "0" o deje el apartado en blanco. En caso de trabajo de temporada, escriba el total de ingresos anuales.

¿Es usted trabajador por cuenta propia o agricultor? Indique los ingresos netos mensuales o anuales después de los gastos de la empresa. No indique los mismos ingresos dos veces en la solicitud. Las pérdidas procedentes de la agricultura o del trabajo por cuenta propia deben indicarse como ingresos nulos y no reducen los demás ingresos.

Otros ingresos brutos. Indique los ingresos brutos antes de las deducciones de todas las demás fuentes, como SSI, desempleo, ayuda a los niños, asistencia pública, seguro social, ingresos por alquileres o rentas vitalicias.

Paso 4: Firma e información de contacto Un integrante adulto del hogar debe firmar el formulario. Si no desea que su información se comparta con los programas de asistencia médica de Minnesota, marque la casilla "No compartir" en el paso 4.

Opcional: Proporcione la información sobre etnicidad y raza que se solicita en la segunda página del formulario. Esta información no es obligatoria y no afecta la aprobación de los beneficios de comidas escolares. La información ayuda a garantizar que cumplamos con los requisitos de derechos civiles y sirvamos plenamente a nuestra comunidad.

APPLICATION ON NEXT PAGE

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!

(continued from page 11)

Food trucks will be available outside the Activities Entrance.

Sixth grade families and students should plan to meet in the PAC for Family Information Night at 5:30 PM.

Thursday, August 31, is also the night of the first home football game. We hope you will attend Open House and stay to cheer on the Cobras!

Middle and High School Chromebook Distribution

Students in middle and high school will be issued a Chromebook. Students will have numerous opportunities to pick up their device before school starts. It is our goal to have 100 percent device distribution before the first day of school. Please contact the Middle School or High School office if you are not able to attend the open house and pick up your Chromebook. We will work together to find a time that works best for you. Please note that this year there is a \$40 technology fee. This fee can be paid at the time of pick up or in advance via the Infinite Campus parent portal.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Tricia Johnson, TMS Dean of Students
tjohnson@triton.k12.mn.us
(507) 418-7510

Luke Lutterman, TMS-THS Principal
llutterman@triton.k12.mn.us
(507) 418-7520



2023-24 Solicitud de Beneficios Educativos

Complete una solicitud por hogar para todos los niños. Utilice bolígrafo (no lápiz). Envíe por correo o devuelva el formulario completado a: Triton Public Schools, 813 W Highway Street, Dodge Center, MN 55927.

Paso 1: Indique Todos los integrantes del hogar que sean bebés, niños y estudiantes hasta el grado 12 inclusive (si se necesitan más espacios para nombres adicionales, adjunte otra hoja de papel).

Definición: Un integrante del Hogar es "Cualquier persona que viva con usted y comparta ingresos y gastos, aunque no sea pariente." Para más información, lea *Cómo completar la solicitud de Beneficios Educativos*. Los adultos mayores de 12 años que vivan en el mismo hogar deben indicarse en el paso 3. Si sus niños asisten a diferentes distritos o colegios charter/no públicos, devuelva una solicitud para cada uno de ellos.

Nombre del niño (indique todos los niños del hogar)	IM	Apellidos del niño	Escuela	Grado	Fecha de nacimiento	Hijo adoptivo (v)
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Paso 2: ¿Alguno de los integrantes del hogar (incluido usted) participa actualmente en uno o más de los siguientes programas de asistencia: SNAP, MFIP o FDIPIR? La asistencia médica no cumple los requisitos. Si es NO > Vaya al Paso 3. Si es SI > Introduzca el número de caso de SNAP, MFIP o FDIPIR (entre 4 y 9 dígitos, no indique el número de la tarjeta EBT) _____ y luego vaya al Paso 4 (No complete el Paso 3)

Paso 3: Repórte los ingresos de todos los integrantes del hogar (Omita este paso si contestó "SI" al Paso 2)

A. Cuatro últimos dígitos del número de seguro social (SSN) del integrante adulto del hogar: XXX-XX-_____. O marque si el adulto No tiene SSN: Total de todos los integrantes del hogar (niños + adultos)

B. Ingresos de los niños.
A veces los niños del hogar ganan o reciben ingresos, tales como de un trabajo de medio tiempo o SSI. Por favor, incluya el total de los ingresos recibidos por todos los niños indicados en el Paso 1. No incluya los ingresos recibidos por los adultos en la casilla a la derecha.

Total de ingresos recibidos por todos los niños	Semanal	Quincenal	2 por mes	Mensual
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. Todos los integrantes adultos del hogar (incluido usted). Por cada integrante del hogar indicado, si reciben ingresos, indique únicamente los ingresos brutos totales. Si no reciben ingresos de ninguna fuente, escriba "0" o deje algún campo en blanco. Está certificando (prometiendo) que no hay ingresos que declarar. ¿No está seguro de qué ingresos debe incluir aquí? Dé la vuelta a la página y consulte la sección "Fuentes de ingresos" para obtener más información. La sección "Fuentes de ingresos" le ayudará a rellenar los apartados "Ingresos de los niños" y "Todos los integrantes adultos de la unidad familiar".

Nombres de todos los adultos del hogar (nombre y apellidos)	Ingresos brutos del trabajo				Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents).	¿Es usted trabajador independiente o agricultor?		Otros ingresos brutos						
	Semanal	Quincenal	2 por mes	Mensual		Mensual	Annual	Semanal	Quincenal	2 por mes	Mensual			
List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Paso 4: Información de contacto y firma de un adulto. "Certifico (prometo) que toda la información en esta solicitud es verdadera y que todos los ingresos están declarados. Entiendo que esta información se da en relación con la obtención de fondos federales, y que los funcionarios de la escuela pueden verificar (comprobar) la información. Soy consciente de que si doy información falsa a propósito, mis niños pueden perder los beneficios de comidas, y puedo ser procesado bajo las leyes estatales y federales aplicables."
 He marcado esta casilla si no deseo que mi información se comparta con el programa de asistencia médica de Minnesota según lo permite la ley estatal.

Nombre impreso del adulto que firma la solicitud _____ Teléfono de día _____

Dirección (si está disponible) _____ Apto# _____ Ciudad _____ CP _____

FIRME AQUÍ: Firma del adulto del hogar _____ Fecha _____

Do Not Fill Out: For School Office Use Conversions to Annualize All Income:	X52	X36	X24	X12	X1	Verified? Attach Tracker	No change	Free After Verified	Reduced After Verified	Denied After Verified
	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2X Month	Monthly	Annualize					
All Total Income (Include child and adult income)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Household Size:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Categorical Eligibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determining Official Signature:						Date:				
Confirming Official Signature:						Date:				

Consulte la página 2 para obtener información adicional. Devuelva la solicitud completada a la escuela a la dirección indicada en la parte superior del formulario. No lo envíe al Departamento de Educación de Minnesota ni al Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos.

OPCIONAL: Identidad racial y origen étnico de los niños

Tenemos la obligación de pedir información sobre la raza y el origen étnico de sus hijos. Esta información es importante y ayuda a asegurar que estamos sirviendo plenamente a nuestra comunidad. Responder a esta sección es opcional y no afecta la elegibilidad de sus hijos. Responda al paso uno, *Origen étnico* y al paso dos, *Raza*.

Paso uno: Origen étnico (marque una): Hispano o Latino No Hispano o Latino

Paso dos: Raza (marque una o más): Indio americano o nativo de Alaska Asiático Negro o afroamericano Nativo de Hawai u otras islas del Pacífico Blanco

INSTRUCCIONES: Fuentes de ingresos

Fuentes de ingresos de los niños

Fuentes de ingresos de los niños	Ejemplos
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ingresos del trabajo Seguro social <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pagos por discapacidad b. Beneficios de sobreviviente Ingresos procedentes de una persona fuera del hogar Ingresos procedentes de cualquier otra fuente 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Un niño tiene un trabajo regular de tiempo completo o parcial en el que recibe un sueldo o salario Un niño es ciego o tiene una discapacidad y recibe el seguro social Un padre o madre tiene una discapacidad, está jubilado o ha fallecido y su hijo recibe Beneficios de la Seguridad Social Un amigo o un miembro de la familia le da regularmente dinero para gastos al niño. Un niño recibe ingresos regulares de un fondo de pensiones privado, anualidad o fideicomiso

Fuentes de ingresos de los adultos

Ingresos del trabajo	Asistencia pública / Pensión alimenticia	Otros ingresos
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sueldo, salario, bonificaciones en efectivo (antes de deducciones o impuestos) Ingresos netos del trabajo por cuenta propia (agricultura o negocio) Si pertenece a las Fuerzas Armadas de EE.UU. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sueldo base y bonificaciones en efectivo (NO incluya la paga de combate, la FSSA ni los subsidios de vivienda privatizados) b. Subsidios para vivienda, comida y ropa fuera de la base 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ayudas en efectivo del gobierno estatal o local Ingreso Suplementario del Seguro Beneficios por desempleo Indemnización laboral Pensiones alimenticias Pagos de manutención de niños Beneficios para veteranos Beneficios de huelga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seguro social Beneficios por incapacidad Ingresos regulares procedentes de fideicomisos o herencias Anualidades Ingresos por inversiones Ingresos por alquiler Pagos regulares en efectivo procedentes de fuera del hogar

La Ley Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares Richard B. Russell requiere la información de esta solicitud. Usted no tiene que dar la información, pero si no lo hace, no podemos aprobar a su niño para comidas gratis o a precio reducido. Debe incluir los últimos cuatro dígitos del número de seguro social del miembro adulto del hogar que firma la solicitud. Los cuatro últimos dígitos del número de la seguridad social no son necesarios si presenta la solicitud en nombre de un niño en un hogar sustituto o si indica un número de caso del Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP), del Programa de Asistencia Temporal para Familias Necesitadas (TANF) o del Programa de Distribución de Alimentos en Reservas Indígenas (FDPIR) u otro identificador FDIPIR para su niño, o si indica que el miembro adulto del hogar que firma la solicitud no tiene número de la seguridad social. Utilizaremos su información para determinar si su niño reúne los requisitos para recibir comidas gratuitas o a precio reducido, y para la administración y aplicación de los programas de almuerzo y desayuno. PODRÍAMOS compartir su información de elegibilidad con programas de educación, salud y nutrición para ayudarles a evaluar, financiar o determinar los beneficios de sus programas, auditores para revisiones de programas y funcionarios encargados de hacer cumplir la ley para ayudarles a investigar violaciones de las reglas del programa.

En los distritos escolares públicos, la declaración de comidas escolares de cada estudiante también se registra en un sistema informático estatal que se utiliza para informar de los datos de los estudiantes al MDE, tal y como exige la ley estatal. El MDE utiliza esta información para: (1) Administrar programas estatales y federales, (2) Calcular los ingresos de compensación para las escuelas públicas, y (3) Juzgar la calidad del programa educativo del estado.

Declaración de no discriminación: De acuerdo con la ley federal de derechos civiles y las normas y políticas de derechos civiles del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos (USDA), esta institución tiene prohibido discriminar por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo (incluidas la identidad de género y la orientación sexual), discapacidad, edad o represalias por actividades previas relacionadas con los derechos civiles.

La información del programa puede estar disponible en idiomas distintos del inglés. Las personas con discapacidades que necesiten medios de comunicación alternativos para obtener información sobre el programa (por ejemplo, Braille, letra grande, cinta de audio, lenguaje de signos americano), deben ponerse en contacto con la agencia estatal o local responsable que administra el programa o con el Centro TARGET del USDA en el (202) 720-2600 (voz y TTY) o ponerse en contacto con el USDA a través del Servicio Federal de Retransmisión en el (800) 877-8339.

Para presentar una denuncia por discriminación en un programa, el denunciante debe completar el formulario AD-3027, USDA Programa de Formulario de Denuncia de Discriminación que se puede obtener en línea en: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, en cualquier oficina del USDA, llamando al (866) 632-9992, o escribiendo una carta dirigida al USDA. La carta debe contener el nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del denunciante, así como una descripción escrita de la supuesta acción discriminatoria lo suficientemente detallada como para informar al Subsecretario de Derechos Civiles (ASCR) sobre la causa y la fecha de una supuesta violación de los derechos civiles. El formulario AD-3027 completado o la carta deben enviarse al USDA por:

- correo postal: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
fax: (833) 256-1565 or (202) 690-7442; o
- correo electrónico: program_intake@usda.gov
- Esta institución ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

TRITON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST 2023-2024

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 plastic two pocket folder (Any color) • 1 notebook WideRuled or College Ruled (any color) • 4 boxes CRAYOLA Crayons • 2 boxes CRAYOLA markers • 4 black EXPO whiteboard markers • 8 glue sticks • 2 containers Clorox disinfecting wipes • <u>Last names starting with A-L:</u> 1 box of Gallon size ziploc bags • <u>Last names starting with M-Z:</u> 1 box of Quart size ziploc bags • Water bottle (to leave at school) • Kids scissors • 1 box of kleenex • Pencil Box • Headphones • 1 whiteboard eraser • Backpack • Non-marking shoes for gym to keep at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 box of 8 classic color Broad line Crayola markers • 1 container of disinfecting wipes • 1 large box of kleenex • 1 student scissor • 1 whiteboard eraser • 12 sharpened #2 pencils • 2 pink rectangle erasers • 2 spiral wide- ruled notebooks • 2 two-pocket folders. (Any color unless your child is in <u>Hegrenes & Olevson Classes</u> need 1 green two-pocket folder, 1 any color two-pocket folder) • 4 boxes of 24 crayola crayons • 6 glue sticks • 8 black dry erase markers • Wired headphones in a ziploc bag (labeled with first & last name) • One 5 x 8 plastic pencil box • Non-marking shoes for gym to keep at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wired Headphones • 24 #2 Sharpened pencils • 2 ink pens (any color) • 4 highlighters (any color) • 2 boxes of 24 crayons • 2 boxes of 8-10 markers • 8 glue sticks • 2 large erasers • 1 pair of scissors • 1 subject spiral notebook- Wide Ruled • 1 yellow plastic two-pocket folder • 2 additional two-pocket folders (any color) • 4 dry erase markers (any color) • 1 whiteboard eraser • 1 large box of kleenex • 2 containers of disinfecting wipes • Non-marking shoes for gym to keep at school
<p>THIRD GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 box of 24 crayons • 1 set of 12 colored pencils • 1 box of 8 markers • 3 dozen #2 pencils sharpened • 1 pink rectangular eraser • 2 glue sticks • 1 scissor • 8 dry erase markers • Small whiteboard • 1 whiteboard eraser • 2 wide ruled composition notebooks • 2 zipper pencil pouches • 2 two-pocket folders • 2 highlighters • Wired headphones • Non-marking shoes for gym to be left at school • 2 boxes of Kleenex • 1 container of disinfectant wipes <p>***No spiral notebooks</p>	<p>FOURTH GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 box of ten thin markers • 1 box of 24 colored pencils • 48 pencils (supply for school year) • 4 glue sticks • 8 black dry erase markers • 1 scissor (any size) • 2 spiral notebooks- WideRuled • 1" 3-ring binder • White board eraser • 2 highlighters (any color) • 1 box of kleenex • 1 container of disinfecting wipes • Non-marking shoes for gym to be left at school • Wired headphones 	<p>FIFTH GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 two-pocket folders (any color) • 1 three subject notebook • 2 one subject notebooks • 4 fine tipped dry erase markers • 1 whiteboard eraser • 48 #2 pencils (No mechanical) • Extra erasers (Pencil top or rectangle) • 4 highlighters (1- yellow, 1-orange, 1- blue, 1-green) • Scissors • 1 box 24 colored pencils • 4 glue sticks • Headphones or Earbuds • Non-marking shoes for gym to keep at school • Deodorant to keep at school • 2 containers of disinfection wipes • 1 large box of kleenex

Health Office Reminders

We hope you are having a summer full of fun, adventures, and relaxation! As the time for back to school quickly approaches, remember to keep these health office items in mind!

IMMUNIZATIONS: If your student is new to the district or going into kindergarten, 7th, 10th, or 12th grade the school is required by the state to have documentation of up-to-date immunizations to attend school. If your student updates their vaccines this summer don't forget to grab a copy of their immunization record for the school. If you need an exemption form for your student, send nurse Andrea an email and we can assist you with that process as well!

MEDICATIONS: If your student will be taking any prescription medications at school this year the health office will need an updated medication form with both the doctor and guardian's signature on it. The health office cannot administer medications without an updated form.

OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS: If you would like your student to have acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Advil), allergy medications (Claritin, Benadryl), lotions, etc. available during the school year, please add these to your back-to-school list. The new, unopened packages labeled with your child's name can be delivered to the health office. All medications must be stored in the health office and cannot be kept in classrooms/lockers/backpacks (emergency medications can be carried by responsible students IF the health office is aware and has an action plan for them). There is also a form for parents/guardians to sign so that we can give these medications during the school day.

ALLERGIES/ASTHMA/SEIZURE/DIABETES/TREATMENTS/FEEDINGS: Remember to reach out to your child's doctor for an updated action plan or care plan. The health office is required to have physician orders for any emergency medications (inhalers/epi-pens/glucose/anti-seizure meds) and an updated action plan signed by the doctor and parents. Physician orders or documentation are also required for any special bathroom needs, dietary needs, medical appliances, feeding needs, etc.

As always, the health office is happy to help with any questions or concerns! We love to hear from parents and get as much information as we can about our students. The more we know the better care we can provide here at school! Nurse Andrea will be checking email over the summer so feel free to reach out!

HAVE AN AMAZING SUMMER!

The health office team,

Nurse Andrea - aposseh1@triton.k12.mn.us

Health Office Assistant – Tessa togren@triton.k12.mn.us

ANNUAL PARENT NOTIFICATIONS

Minnesota Statute requires we provide annual notification to parents of Triton Public Schools students of the topics below. If you have any questions, please use the contact number found in the notice.

LEAD-IN-WATER ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

Minnesota Statute 121A.335 requires public school buildings serving kindergarten through grade 12 to test for lead in water every 5 years. This statute also requires school districts to make the results of the testing available to the public for review and to notify parents of the availability of the information. Notification may be accomplished by publishing a statement in the "Back to School" newsletter or publication that is available to staff, student, parents and the public.

Triton Public Schools is committed to providing a safe working and learning environment for employees and students. The district has developed a lead in water management plan and testing program that complies with Minnesota Statute 121A.335, as well as recommendations from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Lead Contamination Control Act (LCCA) of 1988 and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

For more information on Triton Public Schools lead reduction and testing program, please contact Dave Hagen at 507-418-7540.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Triton Public Schools has an indoor air quality management plan that outlines specific policies and procedures used in district to address indoor air quality issues. The District Health and Safety Committee chaired by Dave Hagen (507-418-7540) and the Institute for Environmental Assessment, the district's health and safety consultant, review the plan annually. If you have any questions concerning indoor air quality or would like to use the EPA's Tools for Schools checklists, please contact Dave Hagen.

AHERA ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

During the past school year and continuing into the 2023-2024 school year, the following asbestos management plan activities have been or are currently being completed. These activities are pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency 40 CFR Part 763- "Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools; Final Rule and Notice."

Two (2) Semi-Annual Periodic Surveillance Inspection
Notification of Asbestos Locations for Short-Term Workers (Electricians, Plumbers, etc.)
Training of District Personnel

Triton Public Schools has contracted with the Institute for Environmental Assessment to provide environmental consulting services.

The complete updated Asbestos Management Plan for Triton Public Schools can be found in the District office. The Management Plan can be viewed, without cost or restriction, during normal working hours. Copies can be obtained for a fee of \$.10 per page.

Any questions concerning this notice or an explanation of our Asbestos Management Plan can be directed to Dave Hagen, Triton Public Schools, at 507-418-7540.



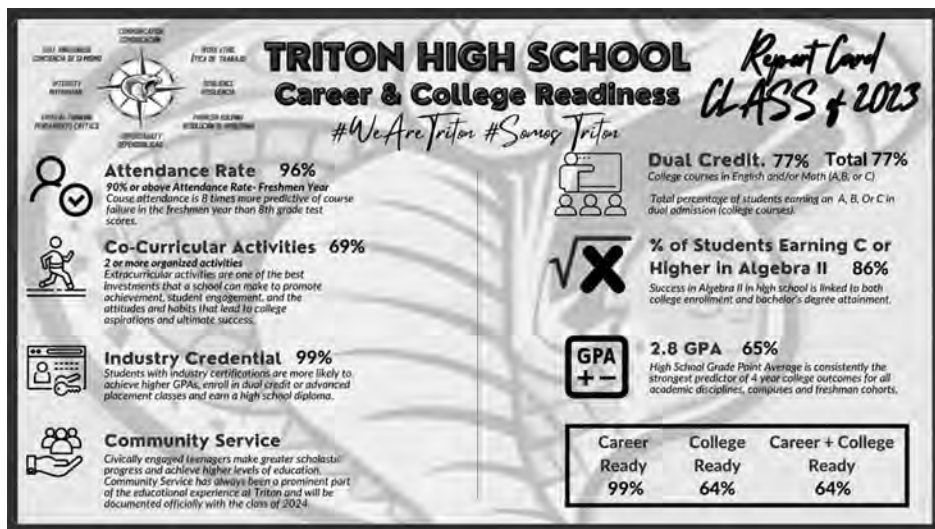
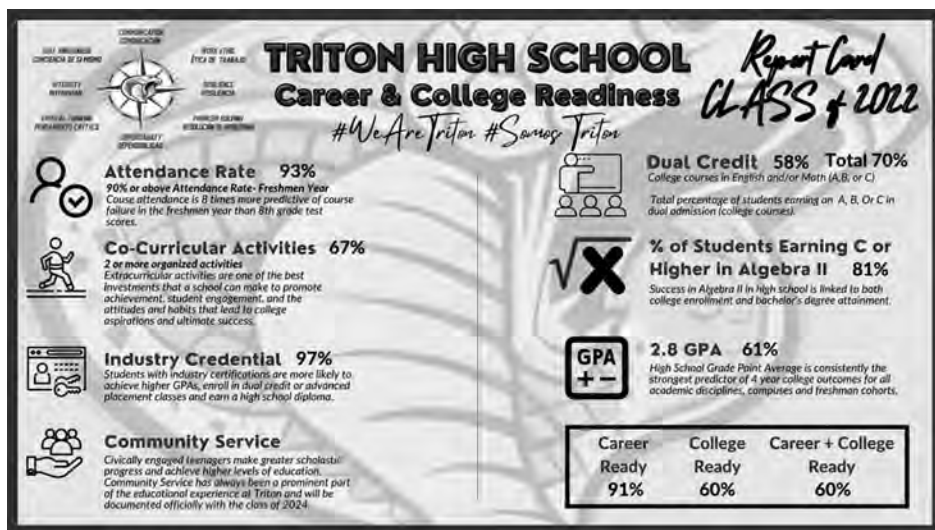
Redefining Ready

This past year we have been busy implementing the practices involved with being a member of the Southeastern MN Redefining Ready Cohort. Redefining Ready has many research based indicators that determine if students are college, career, and life ready. We know that student success is based on many factors and we are excited to be implementing numerous practices and measures to monitor progress and improvement.

By joining Redefining Ready, we are taking part in a national initiative that was launched by the AASA (The School Superintendent Association). We feel this updated measurement more accurately reflects the skills and knowledge needed to be successful regardless of the student's career choice or postsecondary education plans.

The Triton Redefining Ready Team has been working very hard to generate data in line with the indicator areas. Below you can view our Class of 2022 and Class of 2023 School Report Cards. These Report Cards clearly state how many of our students are college and career ready based on the research from the Redefining Ready Indicators. More importantly, we have the benefit of using a research-based framework to help us focus on making sure all students have the skills and knowledge to be successful after they leave our school.

We look forward to continuing to update the Triton Community on our Redefining Ready progress. As always, we thank you for your support, partnership, and engagement.



Driver's Training with Mr. Johnson and Enhanced Driving Institute

The Enhanced Driving Institute is proud to offer the most comprehensive driver's education program available, and we are extremely excited to be bringing our program to Triton High School with a teacher the students know and trust! Our next class will run October 23rd -November 3rd. Classes will be Monday-Friday from 3:30-6:30PM and will be held in the Triton High School Media Center.



All students over 14 years old are legally eligible for class, though we recommend waiting until students are 15 or nearly 15. Our Complete Package (\$415) includes 30 hours of classroom instruction AND the 6 hours of Behind the Wheel Training with a licensed instructor that is required by the state of MN. All behind the wheel lessons will begin and end at our Rochester campus location. The Complete Package is subject to a one year program agreement which requires all 3 behind the wheel lessons to be completed 10 months after the first day of class. Students who will not turn 15 for a bit, could also register for the Classroom Only Package (\$240). The Classroom Only Package is not subject to a program agreement. These students would receive their Blue Card when they enroll in BTW training (\$240).

All registration is done completely online through our website: <https://www.enhanceddrivinginstitute-mn.com/triton>

If you want to know more about our program e-mail Mr. Johnson: jjohnson@trion.k12.mn.us

TRITON MIDDLE-HIGH SUPPLY LISTS

Middle School

Notebooks - 1 Per Class

Folders - 1 Per Class

Number 2 Pencils

Pens - Black or Blue

1-1.5" Binders - 2

Loose Leaf Paper - 1

3 X 5 Note Cards

Comp. Notebook - 7th Gr

TI-30X IIS Calculator

Backpack

Deodorant and Gym Clothes

Optional - 1 Box of Kleenex, 1 Container of Clorox Wipes

High School

Notebooks - 1 Per Class

Folders - 1 Per Class

Pencils

Pens - Black or Blue

Calculator TI-30Xa

Planner/Agenda

Comp. Notebook

Acc Chem, Acc Bio, Ex Phys

2023-2024 Bus Information

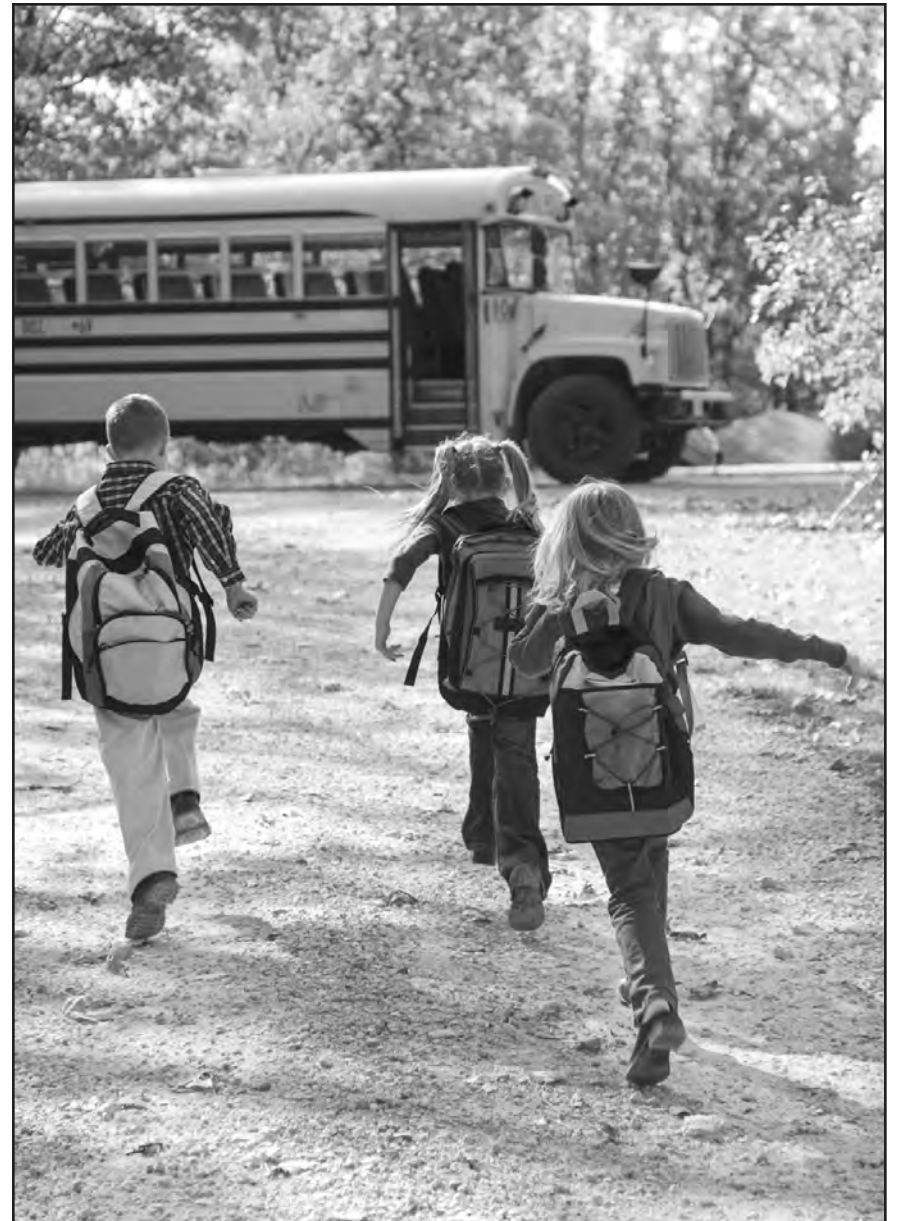
Please note the designated stops and times to determine which stop is nearest to your residence. The one that is nearest to your residence without crossing a major roadway will be your child's pick-up point and time.

Remember, students should be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus comes, not any earlier. On the first day of school, the bus drivers ask that students come to their stop 10 minutes early.

***** Please have 1 primary stop*****

The pick-up points and approximate times are as follows:

Dodge Center		Bus Number	West Concord		Bus Number
7:32	Corner of 4th St SE & 6th Ave SE	19	7:14	Ellington St & Front St	20
7:34	Corner of 3rd St SE & 6th Ave SE	19	7:16	405 Front St	20
7:37	208 3rd St SE	19	7:17	Corner of Olive St & Front	20
			7:19	Corner of Olive & First St (Historical Building)	20
7:38	2nd St NW & Corner of 2nd Ave NW	20			
7:34	Corner of 2nd St NE & 9th Ave NE	11	7:24	2nd St & Ellington	2
7:35	Corner of 2nd St NE & Cty Rd 34	11	7:26	3rd St & Arnold	2
7:36	1st Ave NE & Cty Rd 34	11	7:28	Third St & Eugene	2
7:37	Valley View Trailer Park	11	7:30	1006 1st St	2
7:40	Corner of 5th Ave NW & Cty Rd 34	11			
			7:27	620 Main St	15
7:29	Corner of 1st St SW & 2nd Ave SW	1	7:29	Highland & Irvin	15
7:31	Corner of 2nd St SE and Central Ave	1	7:30	Corner of 6th St & Irvin	15
7:32	3rd St & Central Ave	1	7:31	Corner of South and 5th St	15
7:33	Corner of South St & Central Ave	1	7:32	Highland & South St	15
7:34	Corner of 2nd Ave & South St	1			
7:35	Corner of 11th St NW & 4th Ave NW	14			
7:36	Corner of 10th St NW & 6th Ave NW	14			
7:37	9th St NW & 6th Ave NW	14			
7:38	Corner of 9th St NW & 5th Ave NW	14			
7:39	Corner of 8th Ave & 5th St NW	14			
7:40	410 8th St NW	14			
7:41	304 8th St NW	14			
7:17	Corner of 1st Ave & North St	16			
7:23	814 East Main St	16			
7:25	East Main St & 6 1/2 Ave	16			
7:26	Corner 2nd St & 6 1/2 Ave NE	16			
7:27	Corner of 2nd St & 3rd Ave NE	16			
7:29	Main St & 2nd Ave	16			
7:36	Main St & 4th Ave NE	4			
7:38	Corner of Main St & 1st Ave (Library)	4			
7:39	Corner of Main St & 2nd Ave	4			
Claremont		Bus Number			
7:22	Front St by Post Office	13			
7:23	Front St & East St	13			
7:25	Church and Julia	13			
7:28	Church & McKinley	13			
7:18	533 2nd St	3			
7:19	413 2nd St	3			
7:20	2nd & Elm	3			
7:21	129 2nd St	3			
7:22	East St and Trailer Park	3			
7:23	3rd & Main	3			
7:24	505 3rd St	3			



Exploring Nature Collaboratively – The Nature Buddy Experience



Getting ready to embark on a scavenger hunt in the Triton nature area!



Making egg grow heads

For the second year in row, the high school Nature Studies class partnered with an elementary age group to teach them about nature on a weekly basis. This past school year, that collaboration was with the Cobra Care preschool classroom. Each week the high school students would come down to the Cobra Care wing and impart some knowledge to their 4 and 5 year old buddies encompassing the vast array of nature. Throughout the course of the semester, the buddies did numerous activities together.

These activities coincided with the weather events happening at the time. From collecting snow to make their very own snow ice cream (that almost all students, big and young alike, had never had before!) to tracking animals in the nature center, these buddies got to do and learn about a bit of everything!

As Tiffaney Lamoree, the Cobra Care supervisor stated, “We were so very lucky to have had the opportunity to join the Nature Studies’ Buddy Program.

(continued on page 21)



Making bird nests in the nature center



Celebrating winter through nature art!

Exploring Nature Collaboratively – The Nature Buddy Experience

(continued from page 20)

The preschoolers and our staff really enjoyed learning about nature. They were always so excited to see their nature buddies and could not wait to find out what project they were going to be working on that day!” There are many joys in being a K-12 school with the added bonus of a preschool daycare; this experience really cultivated the ability to work together and build meaningful relationships among age levels.

Freshman student, Bella Shake was a bit apprehensive about nature studies given that a portion of the class is devoted to doing taxidermy on road kill. However, when asked about her nature buddy experience, she was quick to say “Nature buddies was such an amazing experience to have! I would take nature studies again just to have that experience again!” Fellow classmate Autumn Dean echoed Shake’s sentiments. “I had the privilege of having two buddies and being with them was always the best part of my week.”

Mrs. Horejsi, the nature studies instructor, is looking forward to continuing to offer this program moving forward. As she stated, “It is an absolute joy to see the kids’ faces when we would come down each week. I am not just referring to little kids either! This was definitely a meaningful experience for all!”



Learning about the importance of making every day Earth Day



Making (and eating!) snow ice cream!

Triton Youth Football



Triton Football wrapped up our youth football camp last week. It was a great week with these kids. On Monday, we went over basic skills of the game. Tuesday, focused on offensive skill sets. On Wednesday, we shifted our focus to defense and worked on the various position groups. Thursday, we worked on the skills needed for special teams and ended with a punt, pass, and kick competition. All week the youth participants had positive attitudes and brought plenty of energy. The future of Cobra football is bright. Thanks to our varsity athletes in helping make it a great experience.



Congratulations to Jett, Max, Garrison, and Brooks on winning their respective age group in the Punt, Pass, & Kick Competition at the 2023 Cobra Youth Football Camp this week.

TRITON CLASS OF 2023



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Liam Schlichting is a 2023 Triton graduate.
 His parents are Craig and Jessica Schlichting.
 He has three brothers, Deacon, Brekken and Austin.
 Liam was active in Triton Cobra wrestling and football.
 Outside of school he enjoys weightlifting, and playing videogames.
 His favorite movies are action like Bullet Train.
 He likes music by Lady Gaga, Katy Perry, Resha and Pit Bull.
 His favorite actors are Adam Sandler, Brad Pitt and Ryan Reynolds.
 After graduation he plans to pursue a degree in Construction Management in Wyoming.



LIAM SCHLICHTING

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Friday

ONLINE AUCTION

HOUGHTON'S AUCTION SERVICE **SOLD** RED WING, MINNESOTA



LOCATION, Houghton's Auction Lot, 505 N Main St. Zumbrota, MN
MONDAY, AUGUST 21 2023
AUCTION STARTS CLOSING @ 6 PM
www.houghtonauctions.com to bid & buy
Bidding opens Monday, August 14th

SKID LOADERS, MINI EXCAVATORS & ATTACHMENTS & ASHLAND SCRAPER
2016 John Deere 326E, cab, 2,337 one owners Hrs. - 2021 Kubota SSV75, cab, 3,000 one owner Hrs - (8) New mini excavators - 2000 Ashland 1500SP, 15 Yd; Hyd scraper - (4) 40' Shipping containers - Large selection of new skid loader attachments; rotary mowers, posthole augers, land planes, Hyd grapples, Pallet forks, cement mixers - plus more

TRUCK & TRAILERS 2015 Volvo VNL300 day cab, 299,000 miles, D13, 12.8L 435 HP, 10 sp. - 2006 Freightliner Columbia semi - 2006 Int 4300 truck w/27' van body - 2023 Wilson 41' hopper bottom trailer, 67' sides, roll tarp, ag hoppers, air ride, HR 22.5 tires, very low miles - 2010 Cornhusker 42' hopper bottom trailer - 2010 Timpte 40' hopper bottom trailer - 2006 Wilson Pacesetter 42' hopper bottom trailer - 2003 Timpte 40' hopper bottom trailer - 1998 Wisco 30 ton detach trailer, tri axle - 2015 Chevy 2500HD, 4x4, 88,000 act miles - 2010 GMC Sierra 1500 Z71, 4x4 - 2023 Diamond C dump trailer 77' x 12', new w/warranty - 2023 Diamond C deck over 24' trailer, new - 2023 Diamond C 83' x 16' car trailer (2) 3500 LB axles, new - 2023 Floe Vera Max 146" Alum utility trailer - 2022 Forrest River 20' tandem Alum trailer, ramp gate - 2003 Iarnel 20' deck over trailer -

FARM MACHINERY Case IH 2206, 6R.com head - ID 635, 35' bean head - Int 610 dummy head - Head cart Tillage Eq - Haying & chopping Eq - Gravity boxes - Fetet 10' x 71' auger, swing hopper - Vehicles - Trailers - Boats - Riding mowers - Large Assrt of guard rail

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AUCTION CALENDAR

August 19, 2023 10:00 AM
Red Wing, MN

LIVE AND ONLINE FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FOR EMERY & GINNY FITSCHEN
John Deere 4960 MPWD, John Deere 4430, Kubota 6800 MPWD, (2) Parker Grain Carts, John Deere 1760 12R30", JD 714 Disc Chisel, JD 2210 Field Cultivator, Augers, Other Good Farm Machinery, Farm Support Items

August 23, 2023
Bidding Begins: .. Aug. 16, 2023
Starts Closing... August 23, 2023
Nerstrand, MN

ONLINE ONLY PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION FOR THE OLSON ESTATE
(3) 1936 Ford Pickups, Red Wing Stoneware, Scandinavian Rosmaling Items, Antique Furniture, Collectibles, Modern & Antique Furniture, Lawn & Garden Items, 160 Gallon Sprayer, Log Splitter, Fuel Tank, Hand & Power Tools and More

August 26, 2023 9:00 AM
Mantorville, MN

LIFETIME FARM COLLECTION AUCTION FOR PAT & LINDA OVEREND
Oliver Tractors, 2, 3 & 4 Digit, White American 60 Tractors, One Owner 1972 Ford F250 Highboy, Oliver Parts, Ford 555B Backhoe, 32' GN Trailer, Implements, Power Tools 7046 County Road 5 NW

August 28, 2023
Bidding Begins: .. Aug. 19, 2023
Starts Closing... August 28, 2023
Wells, MN

ONLINE ONLY FARM RETIREMENT AUCTION FOR CRAIG & JANEL SCHULTZ
John Deere 9670STS Combine, 891, 635, JD 8230 & 8100 MFWD, JD 2630 Display & Globes, JD 1770, JD 235, JD 3010, Brent 644 Wagon, I&M Cart, Wilrich 957 Ripper, Fast Sprayer, Farm Support Equipment

September 14, 2023 1:00 PM
Mapleton, MN

LIVE & ONLINE FARM MOVING AUCTION FOR ROBERT & KAREN SCHULL
JD 4720 MFD Tractor w/Loader, JD Z425, Z375R & 525E Mowers, Arctic Cat 550 & 650 ATVs, PJ 20' Trailer, Buhler Snowblower, Brush Mower, Firearms, Red Wing Stoneware, Antiques, Collectibles, Farm Primitives, Power & Hand Tools, And More.

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Kubota B3200 Compact tractor, 4x4, w/loader - 2008 - Dodge 1500 Pickup, 4x4 - Guns - Shop - Tools - Outdoor items
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12. Old U of M Items
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Bidding Opens: Monday August 14th, 2023, 8:00 a.m.
 BIDDING STARTS CLOSING:
Wednesday, August 23, • 4:00 p.m.
FOR COMPLETE CATALOG & INFO GO TO:
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PREVIEW DATE:
 Thursday, August 17, 2023, From 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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Concord Locker Provides Custom Meat Processing

(continued from page 1)

West Concord Store and Locker is our story today. Located in what is known as "Old Concord", it is owned and operated by Drew and Dustin Cook. The brothers are from Pine Island, and both learned the ropes, so to speak, from Owens Locker. They were friends with the past owner, and would work their winters helping out in Old Concord. When the owner decided to sell, the Cook brothers bought him out, and for over 2 1/2 years, they have been doing local and custom processing for the area. They have added specialty custom processing for both pork and beef, and are one of the local lockers where you can have your

deer processed as well.

Some of the custom meats they have in stock are 7 flavors of beef sticks, 4 flavors of jerky and 3 kinds of bacon. I purchased some of their bacon to try out, and it was thick sliced, very meaty, and delicious! They also do venison sticks, summer sausage, brats, and their famous marinated tri tip roasts. If you ask, they will even teach you how to properly cook it! From what I gathered, people come from all over to get their specialty meats from Drew and Dustin! One added bonus is their local honey from the Rice Lake area. Other meats they carry are frozen chicken breasts and walleye, purchased from a wholesaler, as well as certain cuts of meat for sale in their meat case. They have a smoker on site too!

There are 5 full time employees all year, with 2 extra workers in the winter. Some of the things they do to enhance the local economy besides hiring local are the generous contributions they make to raise money for

St. Jude's Foundation, supplying meat for the Oronoco Fire Department's meat for Gold Rush Days in Oronoco, and 2 meat raffles, one at Tilly's in Oronoco and one in West Concord at the liquor store. The money raised from the meat raffles go to support the efforts of the local communities. They also give donations to organizations to support kids and churches in the area. Their next contribution will go to a fishing tournament in Wabasha to help support the efforts of the St. Jude Foundation on October 7th and 8th.

As you can see, these guys are out to make an impact in the lives of the locals, and have a generous spirit. They love the work they do in the shop, and in the community. Instead of going to a traditional grocery store and not having a clue as to where your meat comes from, give the Locker a try, taste the difference, and support a local business!

Concord Store and Locker is located at 55217 201st st. West Concord MN 55985. Their hours are Monday through Friday from

7 am to 6 pm and Saturdays from 8 am to 12 pm. If you have questions, call (507) 527-2736, and tell them Cheri sent you!

Funding Available for Minnesota Clean Energy Projects

Applications are due October 10, 2023

How could a seed grant of \$5,000-\$10,000 support clean energy projects in your community? The Clean Energy Resource Teams want to help!

The Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) award seed grants for community-led energy efficiency and renewable energy projects throughout Minnesota. Applications will be considered for projects relating to the following types of clean energy: energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy, electric vehicles, and energy storage. Priority will be given to projects that help people learn about clean energy, build community, remove barriers to make clean energy more accessible to everyone, have the potential to be highly visible, and will inspire other communities to take action.

"Since 2006, CERTs has awarded more than \$1.6 million to over 467 projects," says Joel Haskard, Clean Energy Resource Teams Co-Director. "Those projects range from energy efficiency upgrades for a food shelf - to outreach materials for communities with high energy burden - to public EV chargers, and much more."

Examples of previously awarded projects from each region:

Central: St. Cloud – Community Grassroots Solutions conducted outreach and education to better understand opportunities and barriers related to clean energy careers.

Metro: Minneapolis – Just B Solar hosted a solar 101 camp for youth to understand how solar energy works and how they could benefit from it, while also creating their own mini solar panels.

Northeast: Sandstone – 40 Acre Cooperative installed five 100W solar panels on hoop houses to extend their growing season, sharing what they learned with farmers across the Midwest.

Northwest: Fertile – Aaron's Grocery upgraded coolers to energy efficient models, using his seed grant to cover labor expenses, ensuring his community access to fresh produce and meats that are otherwise unavailable near their town.

Southeast: Winona – Project FINE incorporated energy efficiency resources into their operations, including translated education materials and free energy bill clinics.

Southwest: Slayton – Shetek Lutheran Ministries upgraded to LED lights and used it as an example to help their community members understand how to make similar upgrades in their own homes.

West Central: Willmar – Willmar Municipal Utilities shared energy-saving kits and education materials to residents in manufactured homes to help lower their energy bills and better understand energy-saving habits.

Applications must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Learn more and apply at cleanenergyresourceteams.org/certs-seed-grants.



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New Event Center to Open

By Cheri Roshon

The wait is finally over, and south east Minnesota has a new venue for weddings, community gatherings and event for all. It is only 8 miles north of Rochester in the hidden gem of Oronoco. The address is 25 2nd street SE Oronoco, MN 55960.

Jessie and Jared Maes purchased the School House in the fall of 2018 from David Kemmer, a piano restoration expert who restored and tuned pianos in the area. At the time of purchase, there were over 20 pianos, organs and even an antique harpsichord, along with a square grand piano inside. The piano was built in 1870 for Reginald DeKoven, who later composed the famous wedding song, "Oh Promise Me" on this piano. Mr. Kemmer was a walking historian and shared many stories about the history of the School House and all of its glory. If interested in learning more about the history of the School House, it is not only on the front cover of the book,

Oronoco, Past and Present by Elsie Boutelle, but is documented throughout the book as well. The book gives the reader great insight into the history of the building.

Jessie and Jared began the renovations to restore the 150 year old building and bring back the historical quality for generations to enjoy for years to come. After tearing out all the outdated electrical and plumbing and bringing it up to code, most of the building is still as it was. The charming woodwork, and the spiral staircase stand is a magnificent tribute to the 1800's and will make a splendid backdrop for wedding photos, private events and other celebrations. The new deck that surrounds the building and is handicap accessible, looks over the Zumbro river, bringing a calm and peaceful ambience to the venue. An amphitheater for outdoor weddings completes the effect of elegant pageantry, with an arch to have flowers and greens accent the ceremony.

Amenities include a plush bridal suite for the bride and her entourage to get ready for the wedding, on site. There is a catering room to keep the food fresh, and 3 bathrooms for your guest's convenience. Central heating and air conditioning complete the comfort of the whole experience.

On the opposite side of the building, there is outdoor space for events and activities for

your guest's enjoyment. You will be able to rent the venue for weddings, private events, social gatherings and business meetings. They also look forward to hosting many community events. If you are looking to participate in, or host a future event at the school house, check out their website at www.schoolhouseevent.com. To contact Jessie with questions, call 507.718.0454 or email her at events@schoolhouseevent.com.

Jessie and Jared would like to thank the community of Oronoco for their ongoing support and guidance, the contractors, and friends and family who made it all come together.

The Grand Opening is set for the weekend of Gold Rush, August 18, 19 and 20. They hope to see you there to take a look around ask questions. The School House is now open for site tours and bookings for your special occasions. Everyone who stops in to view the venue during the Grand Opening will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win 50% off one



venue rental for your next personal event. Make sure to stop by and register! Life is an Event. Enjoy it!

Keeping Your Dog Cool In The Summer

Summer is finally upon us and it couldn't have come fast enough! While this gorgeous weather is great for beach parties and barbeques, too much exposure to the heat and sun could cause your dog to overheat, causing serious medical problems including death. Obviously, dogs with thicker coats are at a higher risk because their thick fur is designed to effectively trap heat in colder environs, but even smaller dogs with thin coats could be at risk if you don't take the proper precautions.

Also, dogs don't have sweat glands located throughout their body like humans do. Theirs are only located on their noses and the pads of their paws, which means that they rely on panting to remove excess body heat. In most circumstances, this method works just fine, but in extreme temperatures, they simply can't keep up. The result is heat exhaustion, severe damage to their brain and vital organs, and, eventually, death.

Here are a few tips to follow to keep your puppies cool and comfortable this summer.

Never Leave a Dog Unattended in a Vehicle

You would think that this is just plain common sense at this point, but you'd be wrong. Leaving any animal in a vehicle when temperatures are above 70 degrees – even for just a few minutes – can be fatal. A vehicle with closed windows is essentially a greenhouse. The seats, carpeting, and dash absorb the immense heat entering the vehicle, which then becomes trapped by the windows, creating a potentially lethal sauna in a matter of minutes.

Thankfully, since so many people continue to leave their dogs unattended in their cars, many states are now passing legislation aimed at keeping these animals safe and punishing those responsible for endangering them. Nineteen states have now enacted laws outlawing the dangerous practice and enforcing heavy fines and even jail time for those found guilty.

Additionally, many states have passed laws that allow concerned citizens to enter a vehicle that is not their own (even if that means breaking a window) in order to save a dog suffering from extreme temperatures. In Maine, for instance, you are allowed to do so if the "animal's safety, health or well-being appears to be in immediate danger from heat, cold or lack of adequate ventilation and the conditions could reasonably be expected to cause extreme suffering or death."

If you come across an animal in danger but live in a state without these animal protection laws contact the police or fire department immediately, and wait near the vehicle for help to arrive.

Hydration Station

Another key factor in maintaining a healthy body temperature for your dog on a hot day is giving them easy access to as much water as they need. Make sure that you keep a water bowl in a familiar place that is easy for the animal to find and use, and also make sure that the bowl is always more than half full. It's also wise to add ice to their water to maximize the effect. If you're outside playing on a hot day, why not get out the hose or the sprinkler for a fun way to play with your dog and keep them cool at the same time.

If you and your fur baby are outside on a hot day, it's also important to find a spot that offers ample shade. This gives the animal a chance to cool down whenever they're feeling overheated. A nice shade tree is preferable to a dog house, as these small, confined structures lack air flow and trap heat, making the situation even worse.

Limit Exercise

Summer days offer a great opportunity to get out there and get some good exercise with your animal, but in extreme heat, you should limit your dog's physical activity. Many dogs love to play so much that they will do so even at their own peril, not realizing that their bodies are reacting adversely until it is too late.

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How to Plan a Green Funeral

Dear Savvy Senior,

What can you tell me about green funeral options? At age 80, I would like to preplan my funeral and make it as natural as possible.

--Old Environmentalist

Dear Environmentalist,

Great question! Green funeral options are becoming increasingly popular in the United States as more and more Americans are looking for environmentally friendly alternatives to traditional funerals. Here's what you should know about "green burial" and "green cremation" options, along with some tips to help you locate services in your area.

Green Burial

If you wish to be buried, a green/natural burial will minimize the environmental impact by forgoing the embalming chemicals (which is not required by law), traditional casket and concrete vault. Instead, you'll be buried in either a biodegradable container or shroud with no vault, and you won't be embalmed. This allows the body to decompose naturally and become part of the earth.

If you want to temporarily preserve the body for viewing or a memorial service, instead of embalming, you can request dry ice or Techni ice, a refrigeration unit, or a nontoxic embalming agent.

You'll also be happy to know that green burials are much cheaper than traditional funerals, which average around \$8,000 in 2023. By scrapping the coffin, vault and embalming, which are expensive, you'll save yourself several thousand dollars on your funeral costs.

To find green burial services in your area, a good first step is to see if there's a certified green funeral home in your area and contact them. The Green Burial Council offers an online directory of providers and other resources at GreenBurialCouncil.org.

If there isn't one nearby, your next step is to contact several traditional funeral homes to see if they offer green funeral service options - many do.

You'll also need to find a green cemetery. There are nearly 100 green cemeteries throughout the U.S., along with more than 300 traditional (hybrid) cemeteries that offer green burials too. To find them, the New Hampshire Funeral Resources, Education and Advocacy website has a list at NHfuneral.org. Or, if you own rural property you may be able to have a home burial there, if your state and county allow it.

If, however, there are no green cemeteries nearby you can still make your burial more environmentally friendly by not being embalmed. And, if the cemetery allows, using a biodegradable casket or shroud and skipping the vault. If a vault is required, ask to have holes drilled in the bottom, or use a concrete grave box with an open bottom so the body can return to the earth.

Green Cremation

If you would rather be cremated, you have some green choices here too. While cremation has always been touted as being more eco-friendly than a typical burial, a traditional cremation, which uses high heat to incinerate the body, does emit greenhouse gases into the air.

A green cremation, however, uses water and potassium hydroxide to reduce a deceased body to its basic element of bone ash within a few hours. This green technique, which is known as alkaline hydrolysis, is a little more expensive than traditional cremation but, unfortunately, it's not legal in every state. Contact some local funeral providers to find out if this is available in your area, or Google "alkaline hydrolysis cremation" followed by your city and state.

Another green consideration is deciding what to do with the remains. Instead of scattering, which can be harmful to the environment, there are a wide variety of biodegradable urns that dissolve into the earth or water over time, and memorial urns that will grow a plant or tree in combination with your ashes.

SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, July 10, 2023

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the July 10, 2023 Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Lee Mattson, Jeremy Dostal, AJ Gengler, Sheriff Scott Rose, Deputy Darrell Clement, Tim Woessner and Kathy Freeman.

The City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda;
 - Support the funding, along with others, of a full-time School Resource Officer for Triton/Hayfield School Districts;
 - Commence order to have house at 609 SE 3rd St razed, allowing current owners 60 days to vacate the property;
 - A "Findings of Fact, Decision and Order to Abate Nuisance" at 16 NE 1st St;
 - Ordinance No. 158, Second Series – An Interim Ordinance Prohibiting the Establishment or Expansion of a Cannabis Business;
 - Funding of replacement window at Fire House;
 - Course of action taken by staff to repair Airport runway;
 - Applying for state technical assistance in researching local records on lead water service lines and the hiring of Widseth as consultant performing the research.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, July 24, 2023

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the July 24, 2023 Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.


Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Matt Maas, Lee Mattson, AJ Gengler, Sheriff Scott Rose, Triton School Superintendent Schlichting, Deputy Darrell Clement, David Kenworthy, Dallas Jensen and Kathy Freeman.

The City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda;
 - Support the funding of a full-time School Resource Officer at Triton High School for the 2023/2024 school year.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm



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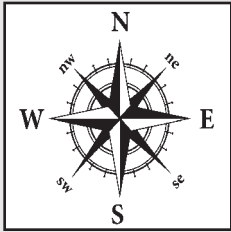


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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Millennials and My Tranquility, not a good mix



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.

Millennials, that group of people who were born during the 1990's through the early 2000's. I have fortunately not had to deal much with millennials since I am much older. Psychologist Jean Twenge, the author of the 2006 book *Generation Me*, considers millennials to be part of what she calls "Generation Me". Twenge attributes millennials with the traits of confidence but also describes a sense of entitlement and narcissism. Based on the fact that I am entering the age of a Grumpy Old Man, I can now transfer much of my irritation on a younger demographic. And this group has easily set themselves up for the blame. I usually like all people but my tolerance for stupid has worn a little thin with the years.

My birthday rolled around again this year, and in celebration of making it one more time through the calendar, my wife got tickets for the 50th anniversary tour of the rock group Kansas. What could go wrong? A classic rock concert whose fans are all in their 60' and 70's. My kind of folk. The State Theater in Minneapolis is a beautiful venue and we had seats in the fourth row from the stage slightly right of center.

We have a knack for attracting the worst concert goers ever though. We have a name for them. Drunk Dave. In honor of the guy at the Styx concert in Des Moines who thought he should dance in the aisle holding a beer and spilling it on anyone within the splash

zone. They are loud and obnoxious and always very drunk. Somehow, they end up in seats next to us.

So, as we took our seats that evening the young guy behind us tried to start up a conversation with us. He was barely into his twenties, but he was hammered. No one should be that inebriated at 6:30pm on a Friday. I just looked at Ashley and said, we got drunk Dave again." It was worse. Three young girls even more sloshed appeared and sat beside him. They talked loudly and kept getting up to buy more drinks. Each time climbing over the people already seated between them and the aisle. People who were their grandparent's age. One time falling over onto my wife and hugging her from behind. The ushers kept motioning to her but she was oblivious to their commands.

So, the show starts and the one young blonde starts talking over the music. "Oh yeah, this was a hair band back then." Rule # 1, don't go to a show of a band you don't know and act like you have something intelligent to say. She repeatedly shouted over the songs, argued with her boyfriend, cried, and kept leaving and returning with more drinks. At one point during her disruptive behavior she said, "The lead singer, he is pointing right at me." She was right. She was so disruptive he was trying to shame her by singling her out from the stage. If you talk during the performance of "Dust in the Wind" you are a special kind of Cretin.

The ushers were not prepared for this childish behavior as the three girls ran up and down the aisle during the show. They tried helplessly to reprimand them, but to no avail. At one point we saw two of them flip off an usher as they ran by. It was like some two-year olds misbehaving at a restaurant. The guests who were trying to enjoy the show were getting more perturbed by the minute. Finally, the blonde girl decided to head for the exit by walking between each guest and the seat in front of them, all the way across the theater. There she passed out at the feet of the two ushers standing at the exit.

It is called concert etiquette, and you may have seen the news footage of a Miranda Lambert concert lately, where she stopped the show mid-song and told four young women to sit back down. I have seen people of all ages acting like idiots, but these took the prize. I never thought I would sound like my dad, but here I am. And I understand now how he felt.

A Minnesotan: Out of State Visitors and the Mall of America



By RosaLin Alcoser

What do you do when family comes to visit you in Minnesota? As a transplant to Minnesota I get to live with the pleasure of family and friends from out of the state coming to visit me every now and again. Which is great. I love it when people come to visit me. Those of you who are also transplants or who have family that comes to visit from out of state will know that these visits mean that you get to show them around Minnesota. Then if you are like me you think of all the great things to take them to see. If you're me, that list mainly consists of museums, one of the state's many hiking trails, and finding the

best Scandinavian bakery in the area. Those are the kinds of things I come up with to take people to because who wouldn't want to go to the Minnesota Museum of Transportation or to Minnehaha Falls. However, the inevitable always happens and I end up doing none of those things and spend the time escorting them around the Mall of America. Do not get me wrong, going to the Mall of America every once in a while can be fun for three or four hours. However, it starts to become increasingly less fun once you start hitting hours six and seven; especially when it is the second time you have taken people around it in the span of a week. I feel that at least for me, the novelty of spending the entire day in the Mall of America has been washed away since I live close enough to it that I can go there anytime I want to. Which I do when we are not in the peak times for out of state tourist to be here. So I mainly go in the winter when it's at the point in the year that I'm looking for an indoor activity since it's just a bit too cold outside for me to enjoy one of those many parks we have. While I have recently spent a large amount of time showing friends and family around MOA this year I was able to get my sister and her husband to one of those parks with me. During their visit I was able to get them to hike with me at Gooseberry Falls and swim in Lake Superior. All of which my sister spent a lot of time calling after me to be careful as I kept running into Minnesota's many waters.

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- THEME: FRUITS & VEGETABLES
- ACROSS**
1. Itsy Bitsy Spider's tunnel
 6. Operations, as in military
 9. Carpenter's joint
 13. Book, in Paris
 14. Coach's talk
 15. Long-necked wader
 16. Did not go out to eat (2 words)
 17. Chi preceder
 18. Top scout
 19. *90s children's series " ____ in Pyjamas"
 21. *Alternative to stick
 23. T-cell killer, acr.
 24. Show worry
 25. Knee-related acronym
 28. Sushi restaurant's boozy offering
 30. *Grilled cheese and ____ soup
 35. Mouse to a snake
 37. In ____, or together
 39. Convicted one
 40. *Pear or quince, botanically speaking
 41. California and Nevada lake
 43. Raja's daughter
 44. Uncouth ones
 46. Of two minds
 47. RenÉ Descartes' "therefore"
 48. Make wealthy
 50. Use a surgical beam
 52. Gingerbread creation
 53. *When fruit is ready
 55. Red-white-and-blue inits.
 57. *"Hot" vegetable-shaped toy
 60. *L in BLT
 64. 3-D picture in a book
 65. U.N. workers' grp.
 67. Owned house or car, e.g.
 68. Item on a cell phone bill
 69. What's old is new again, prefix
 70. Popular electric car
 71. Hair styling products
 72. Scottish cap
 73. British peers

- DOWN**
1. Block of concrete, e.g.
 2. Pocket bread
 3. Baker's baker
 4. Dickens's Heep
 5. Serena's sport
 6. Prefers
 7. *Fairytale princess test
 8. Virgo's brightest star
 9. Letter opener
 10. Ship to Colchis
 11. Airhead
 12. The loneliest number?
 15. Concerning this
 20. Nautical "Stop!"
 22. College assessment test, acr.
 24. Camera's tiny aperture
 25. *Gwyneth Paltrow's daughter
 26. Sing like Tony Bennett
 27. Madagascar primate
 29. Myanmar currency
 31. BEBÉ's mother
 32. Rooster, in the olden days
 33. Polynesian kingdom
 34. *Layered bulb
 36. Giant Himalayan?
 38. Lady Grantham of "Downton Abbey"
 42. Follow as a consequence
 45. Claw mark
 49. "Battleship" exclamation
 51. Heir's concern
 54. *At the end of a hot pepper or many a sweet potato
 56. Cruising
 57. Prepare to be shot
 58. October birthstone
 59. What Little Toot does
 60. *Fruit of the ____
 61. Brezhnev's domain
 62. Jailbird's home
 63. Airline postings
 64. Dog breed from China
 66. Grazing ground

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