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Announcements

• **Hegre's Annual Fall Swedish Meatball Supper:** Wednesday, September 20 2023. Serving 4pm to 7pm take out & curbside pickup only. Call or text orders to 507-330-4996 by September 15th is appreciated and will guarantee meals. Drive up meals day of supper while food lasts. Menu: Swedish meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes, & gravy, coleslaw, corn, dinner roll, & dessert. Hegre Church 51939 Hwy 56 Blvd, Kenyon.

hegrechurch@yahoo.com

• **Three Rivers Community Action is currently accepting new Meals On Wheels clients in the communities of Zumbrota, Mazeppa, Goodhue, Pine Island, Kenyon and Wanamingo.** Receive a hot meal delivered to your home by a volunteer at lunch time up to 5 days per week. To qualify you must be 60 or older, live within city limits, have limited mobility and/or are unable to prepare nutritious meals. The suggested donation is \$4.50 per meal. For more information on how to sign up for meals or to be a volunteer driver, please contact Dana Bergner at 507-421-6067 or dbergner@threeriverscap.org

• **Wanamingo Veterans Honor Guard invite you to become a member.** Join us and help us make the Wanamingo Veterans Honor Guard an even bigger success. WVHG meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Wanamingo Community Center. The VFW will meet from 7-7:30p.m. The Honor Guard will meet from 7:30-8:30p.m. For more information contact Eric Dierks 507-321-1967, Gary Floan at 507-732-7740, or Larry Van De Walker at 507-421-4674.

• **Hiawathaland Transit:** Service hours are 7:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Call dispatch at 866-623-7505 Monday through Friday 6am-9pm and Saturday 7:00am-5:00pm. Visit threeriverscap.org for more information.

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

New Esthetician at All the Buzz

By Cheri Roshon

Jamie Sommers is pleased to announce the

addition of Abbi Clement, certified esthetician, to the crew at All The Buzz. She has

been interviewing for the position, looking for just the right fit, and Abbi was chosen. Complimenting the other offerings of hair cut, color and styling, beauty products to keep your hair and skin healthy, and massage, now facial and body care complete the selections for you to choose from.



Abbi Clement

Abbi currently lives in Rochester, but is looking forward to eventually relocating to Wanamingo to join her cousins. Some of her cousins are Harriet and Gary Peterson, Courtney Junger and Sara Burke.

(continued on page 5)

Super-Intendent

By Cheri Roshon

With a new school year starting, I would like to introduce you to the new Kenyon/Wanamingo superintendent, Beth Giese. She has agreed to take on the job of .5 Principal and .5 Superintendent.

What qualifies Beth for this daunting task? I'd say quite a bit of unusual life experience. Beth grew up in Pine Island. As soon as she graduated, she joined the U.S. Army to take advantage of the G.I. Bill while serving our country. While she was stationed in Fort Dix, New Jersey, she took training for her MOS

of 88M--- she learned how to drive semi trucks and busses with her CDL license. She served in the Army for 12 years and earned her Master's Degree in Education and Administration for her Superintendent degree.



Beth Giese

(continued on page 6)

A Tribute to Beth

By Cheri Roshon

When a loved one passes on, each individual has their own way of grieving their personal loss. I believe we keep their memory alive by recalling the special things we shared. In my mind, they are gone, but not forgotten.

Beth Windhorst was one of those special ladies who knew early on that her blessing and special gift in life was all about serving others.

She completed her education with a Master's degree in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education, and moved to Zumbrota to begin what was to be a 30 year career in teaching.



Beth Windhorst

Living in Zumbrota, she met her future husband Mark, and started their family. Lauren and Carleigh completed their family of origin, but Beth's family grew beyond the boundaries of blood relatives.

(continued on page 5)

Vang Church Annual Lutefisk and Norwegian Meatball Supper

The annual Vang Church Lutefisk and Meatball Supper will be held Wednesday, October 11th. Meal includes: Lutefisk with melted butter, Norwegian meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, cole slaw, fruit soup, lefse and Norwegian baking's.

Tickets are \$20.00.

Home or business delivery and curbside pick up. 11:00-2:00pm/4:00-7:00pm. Pre-orders required with credit card by October 6, 2023.

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Lamentations: "Weep"



By Pastor Colin Rueter,
New Life Church
(colin@nlcwanamingo.org)

Lamentations: [/lamən'tāSHəns/] noun – the passionate expression of grief or sorrow; weeping. The original name of the book in Hebrew can be translated “Alas!” or “How,” giving the sense of weeping or lamenting over some sad event. Later, it was translated to ‘Lamentations’ for a clearer understanding and application.

The author of the text is not listed. The tradition is that the Prophet Jeremiah wrote Lamentations. This view is highly likely considering the author was a witness of the Babylonians destroying Jerusalem. Not only does the author of the book witness the results of the recent destruction of Jerusalem, he seems to have witnessed the invasion itself (Lamentations 1:13–15). Jeremiah fits this qualification (2 Chronicles 35:25; 36:21–22). The Book of Lamentations was likely written between 586 and 575 B.C., during or soon after Jerusalem’s fall.

OVERVIEW:

The Book of Lamentations is divided into five chapters. Each chapter represents a separate poem. In the original Hebrew, the verses are acrostic, each verse starting with a succeeding letter of the Hebrew alphabet. In the Book of Lamentations, the Prophet Jeremiah understands that the Babylonians were God’s tool for bringing judgment on Jerusalem (Lamentations 1:12-15; 2:1-8; 4:11). Lamentations makes it clear that sin and rebellion were the causes of God’s wrath being poured out (1:8-9; 4:13; 5:16). Lamenting is appropriate in a time of distress, but it should quickly give way to contrition and repentance (Lamentations 3:40-42; 5:21-22). As we read through the text, we cannot help but wonder

how many ways Jeremiah could describe the desolation of the once proud city of Jerusalem. Children begged food from their mothers (Lamentations 2:12), young men and women were cut down by swords (2:21), and formerly compassionate mothers used their children for food (4:10). Even the city’s roads mourned over its condition (1:4). Jeremiah could not help but acknowledge the dismal state of this city. Yet even in this seemingly hopeless situation, he somehow found hope in the Lord (3:21–24).

SO WHAT?

God is a God of hope (Lamentations 3:24–25). No matter how far we have gone from Him, we have the hope that we can return to Him and find Him compassionate and forgiving (1 John 1:9). God’s faithfulness (Lamentations 3:23) and deliverance (Lamentations 3:26) are attributes that give us great hope and comfort. He is not a disinterested, capricious god, but a God who will deliver all those who turn to Him, admit they can do nothing to earn His favor, and call upon the Lord’s mercy so that we will not be consumed (Lamentations 3:22). Despite its inconsolable suffering, Lamentations does offer us hope, first in the text itself and then in the full scope of the Bible. In the center of the book, in Lamentations 3:21-25, clear words of hope are found. The author has hope because he calls to mind the nature of his covenantal God and remembers that he is ultimately a God of love, compassion, and faithfulness. He then resolves to seek the LORD and wait on his salvation even when the LORD is nowhere to be found (seemingly). Yet the ending of Lamentations leaves much to be desired in terms of salvation and redemption. We praise God that these are not the final words of God! We see, in the con-

text of the whole Bible, God who knows of our lost and dead state and came to us on a rescue and redemption mission. This glorious God came in the flesh, fully God and fully man, in Jesus Christ, to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15), to bear our grief and shame (Isaiah 53). Much of what we recoil at in Lamentations—the level of shame, the humiliation, the judgment of God—are little pictures of what Jesus would suffer as he bore the sins of the world. This includes our sin and suffering. That alone is reason enough to read Lamentations. We need to linger over these horrifying images long enough to appreciate the depth of Jesus’ work. Through Jesus, we not only experience salvation within sorrow, but we also have great confidence that one day all our sorrow will be wiped away when Jesus returns to right all wrongs and cause us to walk with

God in unbroken fellowship on a fully renewed earth (Revelation 21). This doesn’t mean you should ignore over your pain and grief; it just means there’s always hope. In the living hope we have through Christ, who is alive, we can have joy, for our hope does not put us to shame (Romans 5:1-5).

Next month, we will look closer at the book of Ezekial, the prophet who spoke during the Israelites exile in Babylon. Ezekial’s challenges us to have a life-giving vision of the power of God as we humble ourselves before Him in worship.

If you have questions, need prayer, a word of encouragement, or a cup of coffee, please contact me. Reach out to me via email: Colin@nlcwanamingo.org or by phone: 507-824-3019.

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9:00a.m. Sunday School at TLC
September 27: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner
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9:00a.m. Sunday School at TLC
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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY Deep Sense of Awe

“Now get up and stand on your feet. . . I am sending you to [the Gentiles] to open their eyes. . . so that they may receive forgiveness of sins.”
— Acts 26:16-18

Consider your own story of faith. One of the ways you can know the awe of God is through your story. Maybe you came to Jesus out of a life of poverty and pain. Maybe you think your story is less than exciting because you grew up in the church and have always been a part of it.

Whatever the case, you have a story to share because it’s really about God’s story happening through you. In all your struggles, celebrations, griefs, and joys, God has been telling his story of grace in and through you.

When given the opportunity, Paul shared his story. One of the main reasons a personal story is so powerful is that no one can argue against the way God has chosen to work in and through you. Think of moments when you had to trust God with a loved one who was sick, or when you were not sure how to pay a debt and God provided for you. Or maybe you thought your marriage was at the point of no return, but God brought it back.

People can debate theology and doctrine, but they cannot argue against the awesome work of God in and through a transformed life.

May we not lose sight of the power of whom we serve and that we are called to be his people. Let’s embrace and celebrate the awe and wonder of God’s power each day.

God, undo me today! Soften my heart and bring me freedom so that I may see and know the wonder of who you are. Amen

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Robert Morris "Bob" Benson

Robert Morris "Bob" Benson was born November 25, 1931, in Wannaska, Minnesota to Elmer and Mabel (Torfin) Benson. He spent his childhood on the family farm, attending grades 1-8 at the 44 West (Palmville) school. He attended the Ag High School in Crookston, Minnesota his freshman year, and part of his sophomore year, before returning to the farm in Wannaska. Robert loved hockey, and played at the amateur level from his teens through his mid 20's. He also coached youth hockey in Wannaska for many years.

On Dec. 6, 1952, he married Ida Marie Eggen in Wannaska. He worked with his father on the family farm until 1958, when he took a job with a road construction crew. In 1962 Robert and Ida Marie put down roots and raised their family in Wanamingo, where he continued to live until 10 days before his death. After 16 years as a heavy equipment/crane operator, Robert launched off on his own, as a concrete contractor: First as Benson Construction, and later incorporating as B&N Construction. From 1969-1986 Robert was a Polaris snowmobile dealer. Following his retirement from construction in 1998, Robert spent 17 years driving motor coach to destinations throughout the United States and Canada. He was always happy to talk about his travels, and to pass out to his

riders his "Old Bus Driver" business card that included the saying "It's what you learn after you think you know it all that really counts."

In 1998 Robert established the Robert Benson Hunting Camp near the farm he grew up on so that his sons and grandchildren for generations to come could enjoy deer hunting as much as he did.

Robert was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church - Aspelund, where he served numerous terms on the Church Board.

Robert served on the Wanamingo City Council for 18 years, and also served a term as Mayor of Wanamingo.

Left to cherish Robert's memory are his children, Linda (Greg) Pippert of Fullerton, Calif., Jeffrey (Linda) Benson of Wanamingo, Daniel (Janell) Benson of Centennial, Colo., and Jon (Jeannette) Benson of Newark, IL.; grandchildren, Bryce (Katherine), Berent (Janice), Brett (Kristin), Jason, Kyle (McKenzie), Michelle, Kevin (Natalya), Brian (Jenn), Marie, Andrew (Kathryn) and Caleb (Cassie); great-grandchildren, Hartvig, Trisha, Ava, Charlie, Wynn, Grant, Lorelai, Ryder, Trevor, Hannah, Iver, Ella, Greyson, Asher, Josiah, Ryleigh, Arya, Sophie, and Ezra.

Robert was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ida Marie; his parents, Elmer and Mabel; sister, Marie and her husband, Layton Oslund.

Robert passed into eternity at Pine Haven in Pine Island, Minnesota, Sunday, August 20, 2023, at the age of 91 years.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Palmville Cemetery.

Visitation was Thursday, August 31 from 5-7 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Aspelund. Memorial Service was Friday September 1 at 11 am at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Aspelund. Burial was Sunday September 3 at 10 am, Palmville Cemetery, Wannaska, Minnesota.

Constance, 'Connie' Ruth Ione (Boraas) Voxland

Constance, 'Connie' Ruth Ione (Boraas) Voxland, 85, died Friday, August 11, 2023 at her home in Kenyon.

Connie was born March 21, 1938 to Herman and Alma (Haugen) Boraas, and she attended country school and Wanamingo High School. She was baptized and confirmed at Minneola Lutheran Church. She married Wally Voxland on January 10, 1955 and together they raised four children.

Connie was employed at Our Own Hardware, Floms' Department Store, Kenyon Farm and Home, Kenyon Vet Clinic, and was a substitute school bus driver for Held Bus Service. She and Wally eventually took over Wally's family farm in rural Kenyon and farmed together for over 20 years. Connie was also an organist at Holden Lutheran Church for approximately 10 years, where both her and Wally attended and she sang in the choir.

She went on many trips with Wally that included Hawaii, Alaska, and Norway. She also enjoyed summer visits to their cabin in Marcell and wintering in Mission, Texas, where they went on several cruises. She always enjoyed visits from family and friends, whether at their cabin, in Texas, or their home in Kenyon and loved seeing her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Connie is remembered as a loving wife, dedicated mother, devoted grandmother and great-grandmother, and a treasured friend.

Connie is survived by her children: Don (Mary Jo) Voxland, Gary Voxland (Gail Berg), Lori Thompson, and Kelly (LeRoy) Uhlenkamp; grandchildren: Jared Voxland (Kristy Lenartz), Crystin (Adam Maloney) Voxland, Carly (Jeremy) Bergerson, Caleb Voxland, Adam Voxland (Nina Ohnsee), Jessica Thompson, Berent Uhlenkamp, and Kelsey (Justin) Mergen; great-grandchildren: Evan and Austin Voxland, Beau, Brynlea, and Blakely Bergerson, and Elijah and Eleanna Mergen; sister-in-law, JoAnn Lancaster (Arlen Fordahl); brother-in-law, Charles Voxland; many nieces and nephews.

Connie was preceded in death by her husband, Wally; sister, Phyllis Carlson; brother-in-law, George Voxland; nephew, Brian Lancaster; and niece, Julie Steberg.

Memorials are preferred to Holden Lutheran Church or Holden Park.

Visitation took place at Holden Lutheran Church on Saturday, August 19, 2023, beginning at 10:00am. With the funeral service was at 11:00am. Burial took place at Holden Cemetery following the service.

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Gaylord Casper "Max" Maxson

Gaylord Casper "Max" Maxson, 95, of Pine Island, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at the Pine Haven Care Center. He was born in Kasson, MN on March 5, 1928, to Casper and Lillian (Davidson) Maxson. His mother



passed away when he was two years of age, and Max was raised by various family members. He attended grade school in Kasson, high school in Mantorville, and graduated from Wanamingo High School in 1947. After high school, he went to California with his best friend, Charlie Glarner, while in California he was working and attending Glendale Junior College. He was drafted in November of 1950 into the United States Army and served in the Korean Conflict. After he was honorably discharged in 1952, he came back to Kasson and worked in construction in Rochester. During this time, he met his future wife, Dorothy Holtorf. In the Fall of 1954 he attended Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis where he trained as an electrician. On June 18th 1955 he and Dorothy were united in marriage at her parents' home in Kasson. Following his graduation from Dunwoody in 1955, he was hired by IBM in Rochester as a Customer Engineer. IBM sent Max to Poughkeepsie, NY where he studied computer operations and repair. While there, he and

Dorothy welcomed their first son, Scott, into the world. At the completion of his training, he and Dorothy returned to Minneapolis for a short time before being assigned to Milwaukee, WI. The couple made their home in Waukesha, WI. This is where Max and Dorothy welcomed their 2 other sons, Mark and Eric, into the world. After eight years in Waukesha, Max was reassigned back to Minneapolis. The family then lived in White Bear and Hastings. In 1970 Max was again reassigned, this time to Rochester, MN. Max and his family were finally back home. He bought their farm in Pine Island in 1971. Max continued to work for IBM in Rochester until he retired in 1987 after 33 years of service. Max thoroughly enjoyed his retirement doing what he loved and where he felt the most at home, on the farm. He and Dorothy enjoyed going to many farm auctions over the years, where they could be found in the front row. Joining in 1955, Max was a lifetime member of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota AF and AM at Kasson/Mantorville lodge number 11. He was also a lifetime member of the Scottish Rite Society, the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, the Order of the Eastern Star of Rochester, the Osman Shrine, the Rochester Area Shrine Club, and the Rochester Merry Medics. After retirement Max was very active with the Masonic Lodge where he held various positions and was ultimately bestowed with membership to the 33rd Degree of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite. He and Dorothy were members of the Order of the Eastern Star Grand Family of Minnesota and enjoyed traveling thru out Minnesota and parts of Canada performing Masonic and

Order of the Eastern Star ceremonies. Max performed in many parades all over southeastern Minnesota as a clown with the Rochester Merry Medics. He was a lifetime member of the Mantorville VFW Post 4555 and the Charles C. Cowden American Legion Post 184 in Pine Island.

He is survived by his loving wife of 68 years, Dorothy Maxson of Pine Island; three sons, Scott (Patty) Maxson of Pine Island, Mark (Gwen) Maxson of Mantorville, and Eric (Diane) Maxson of Pine Island; five grandchildren, Trista Schrage of East Grand Forks, ND, Darren Maxson of Kasson, Ash-

ley (Zeb) Schutz of Pine Island, Gunner Maxson of Pine Island, and Maia Maxson of Pine Island; and six great-grandchildren, Elijah, Lydia and Levi Schrage and Talon, Jaxon, and Lawson Schutz.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Casper and Lillian, and his brother, Chester (LuAnn) Maxson.

A celebration of life service for Max will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at the Charles C. Cowden American Legion Post 184 in Pine Island. Visitation will be for one hour prior. Arrangements by the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Mahler Chapel.

Former Governor Al Quie Passes Away

Former Minnesota Gov. Al Quie, a moderate Republican known for working across the aisle as both governor and as a congressman, has died. He was 99.

Quie died of natural causes late Friday, August 18 at a senior living community in suburban Wayzata where he had lived for the last 10 years, his son, Joel Quie, said Saturday.

While he had been in declining health in recent months, he still enjoyed meeting and greeting people. At a family gathering two weeks ago, he read aloud to his great-grandchildren from their favorite storybook, his son said. He died just a month shy of his 100th birthday.

"His stature and his energy and his enthusiasm for life was there right to the end," Joel Quie said.

Albert Harold Quie was born Sept. 18, 1923, on his family's dairy farm near Dennison in southeastern Minnesota. After serving as a Navy pilot in World War II, he returned home to resume farming. He served a stint in the Minnesota Senate before winning a special election for a vacant congressional seat.

Quie represented southeastern Minnesota's 1st District in the U.S. House from 1958 to 1979, becoming known for his expertise on education and agriculture. He ran for governor in 1978 and unseated Rudy Perpich in what was dubbed the "Minnesota Massacre," a bad year for state Democrats. Voter anger had lingered after Gov. Wendell Anderson arranged for Perpich, then his lieutenant governor, to appoint Anderson to the U.S. Senate seat that Walter Mondale gave up in 1976 to become vice president.

But Quie's single term as governor turned rocky amid a deep budget shortfall in the early 1980s, when Democrats controlled the Minnesota Legislature. Amid the bitter divisions of the 1981 and 1982 sessions, he opted not to seek reelection.

In a farewell address at the University of Minnesota in December 1982, Quie decried the growing partisanship in politics but said he remained optimistic about the future of the state and the nation.

"I entered public life with a strong, though still-developing belief in the sanctity of the individual, the centrality of the family, and the compassion and good sense of people in neighborhoods and local communities. I believed that all people have infinite worth, and that all people possess gifts that can be known fully by no one," he said. "My belief in these ideas gained in strength as the years passed and I better saw their worth, and as they withstood the doubts of skeptics and the strain of great change. Nothing ... has successfully challenged my early — and lasting — belief in them."

Quie, a man of deep Lutheran faith, remained active after leaving office, serving as a local and national leader of the Christian ministry Prison Fellowship.

Joel Quie, a retired Lutheran pastor, said his family used his 99th birthday celebration last year as sort of a dress rehearsal for what they hoped would be his 100th. Current Gov. Tim Walz proclaimed it Al Quie Day. When he turned 97, the former Navy pilot got to fly in an open cockpit plane — albeit with another pilot at the controls. He had been an avid horseman and last rode when he was 1995. His goal was to saddle a horse when he turned 100, his son said.

"God blessed him with incredible resilience and stamina," his son said. "And he embraced it and lived life to the fullest."

Walz, a Democrat who held Quie's congressional seat for 12 years before becoming governor, paid tribute to him Saturday, recalling that he found him "caring, funny, and generous as ever" when he attended his predecessor's 99th birthday celebration.

"A veteran, a man of faith, and a life-long public servant, Governor Quie had a deep commitment to the betterment of our state and a legacy that extends beyond his time in office," Walz said in a statement. "His advocacy for education, eliminating discrimination, and rural development demonstrated his unwavering dedication to creating a better life for all Minnesotans."

His wife, Gretchen Quie, died in 2015. Al Quie is survived by children Fred Quivik of St. Paul; Jennie Coffin of Fairfax, Va.; Dan Quie of Greenfield, Minn.; Joel Quie of Eden Prairie; Ben Quie of St. Paul; 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. Quie's funeral was held at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on September 9 at 1 pm.



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A Tribute to Beth

(continued from page 1)

Her extended family, friends, neighbors, students and customers were all part of that family. Some of the comments we received when writing this article are very touching, and Beth's family wishes to share them here.

The very last time I saw Beth was probably two weeks before she passed. We were both at our driveways getting our mail, and we were yelling across the road at each other about my daughter's wedding. We finally walked closer so we could hear each other. She had altered my daughter's wedding dress, and every time we went to her shop she made us laugh. She was so incredibly helpful to make sure her dress turned out beautiful. When her daughter Lauren got married out in their pasture, they didn't know it, but we were in our yard watching the wedding with our binoculars! Beth would joke with us that she was going to find a way to watch our daughter's wedding too, she got married in our woods that connected to their land. – Maureen Scheffler

I was privileged to work with Beth and witness her love and concern for her students. She was a friend with an ability to make one feel very special; the same ability she showed her students and anyone, really, that was part of her life. I was very honored to be present for the "Walk of Honor" for Beth when she donated organs to three people, giving them a

second chance at life. She will be fondly remembered for sure! – Marcia Goplen

When I worked with Beth at Kenyon-Wanamingo Schools I was a new, young teacher lacking the wisdom and energy (from late nights writing lesson plans and IEPs) that she had as a veteran teacher. Beth asked me to join her for lunch, where of course she would pack me a lunch that consisted of her homemade treasures. We'd eat together in her office and she'd counsel me through my rough patches. She was a wonderful cook and a fabulous friend. I'll always remember her wise words, her catchy laugh, and her bright smile. – Riley Krusmark

There are a lot of things I could say about Beth, but just to mention a few. She always made me laugh when I needed to. She never let things get too serious. Even during the first weeks after she passed away, I would lie in bed and think of her sassy quick sense of humor and start laughing quietly by myself. She lived life the way I have been trying to do for some time. Memories of us girls sitting by the fire with our glass of wine and sharing things we could only share with each other. She was always ready to get together for our "personal therapy" sessions. Love her forever. – JoAnn Erie

After devoting herself to education, she turned her creativity to another of her passions, her shop, Beth's in Stitches on Main Street in Wanamingo. Her primary focus was assisting couples in celebrating their most cherished day—their wedding. She did alterations for the brides and bridesmaids, helping to make the day perfect. There were even a few times she made veils to match the dresses! Of course, Prom comes into the pic-

ture, as well as other special occasions. Beth always did her best to make any day special with her talents, jokes and her quick and contagious smile.

Beth made a real impact in a lot of people's lives. Lauren told me that many of the children Beth taught, now grown up, attended her funeral. They all had stories as to how she made them feel special, as if they could accomplish anything. For someone to take the time to help a child feel special is truly a gift.

They say when God closes a window, He

opens a door. Beth, in her love of others and her generous spirit, did just that. Being an organ donor, she gifted three others a second chance at life.

You know those things you've always wanted to do? You should go do them. Be a Beth, and spread the joyfulness and love with which she lived her life to the people in yours. As you look up into the night sky and see a twinkling star, think of Beth and others like her who were here to show us all how to be a kind and loving soul, and do your best to do the same.

New Esthetician at All the Buzz

(continued from page 1)

"Even though I live in a big city now, I'm really a small town girl. I am looking forward to becoming a part of this community!" says Abbi. She grew up camping with her family, mostly in Wisconsin. When she is not working, you will find her out boating, at rodeos, or outdoors with her blue heeler.

Graduating in April from Nova Academy as a licensed esthetician, she has been searching for the right fit. I asked her how she decided on her career.

"I started out as a para professional in early childhood development because I love working with kids." After 7 years, she was ready for a change. Since she had always loved skin care and makeup, she decided to follow that dream and enrolled at Nova. There she found her niche, and has been happy in the field of beauty.

She uses all natural products that the school she attended recommends called Eminence.

It is an organic blend from Hungary that caters to all skin types, from sensitive to aging and mature skin, using ingredients that you can pronounce! Her repertoire includes brow tinting and waxing, facials, hand, foot and back skin treatments, masks, exfoliants and paraffin dips. A relaxing facial massage with extractions included, and moisturization complete her current presentation of services. She will be doing lash applications in the future, too.

Her hours at the salon will be Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm. Call ahead for an appointment at 824-2381, or email her at abbielement16@gmail.com.

Abbi is offering a Grand Opening Special of a brow wax and tint at a special price of \$25.00, and will continue to offer specials throughout the year so you can experience her work for yourself. Pop in and say hi, and ask her any questions you may have, and welcome Abbi to our community!

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Super-Intendent

(continued from page 1)

Upon leaving the military, she took a teaching position in Kasson/Mantorville as a special education and physical education teacher. After that, she taught in South Washington County. She then taught in Cannon Falls until a position came up to be the Principal in the Cannon Falls school district. She applied for it, and got it. From there, she was hired as the Cannon Falls Superintendent. While working with the Cannon Falls school district, she and her husband Brad decided to purchase a small hobby farm. They reside there still with 2 Tennessee Walker horses, Rip & Finn. They have 3 adult children, Lauren, Anna and Matthew.

After 20 years in Cannon Falls, she took the position of Superintendent at St. Francis in Anoka County. Although this was truly a prestigious position, she found it was too far from home, and she missed her interaction with the kids in school. She made the deci-

sion to go back to her small town roots, and accepted the position she now holds as Principal/Superintendent of the Kenyon/Wanamingo schools. I'd say she is well qualified for this position, wouldn't you agree?

We had a candid conversation about the areas Beth feels need the most focus to achieve her goals. Financial transparency is a top priority. She means to address fiscal accountability, and rebuild the trust of the school district. Secondly she wishes to fix what she sees as a communication deficit using all forms of social media. Beth welcomes questions and comments, as well as ideas for the school, and will maintain a social presence where she can be reached. Concerned parents, staff and students can call her office, stop in and chat when she is available, or contact her on Face Book at @Suptgiese.

Beth feels that authentic leadership can be maintained by being present and listening, and also by having a community presence. You will find her at band concerts, sports events and FFA meetings, to name a few. She welcomes conversations at these events.

Enrollment is up about 20 students this year. That means the right amount of staff to students is a priority. She is putting together a 3

year plan to address this issue. The plan is a solid one, so I asked her how she is going to accomplish all these goals. "I'm not afraid to say no", she replied. "If a request is made that we as a district can't currently afford, I will deny the request and look for ways to implement the request at a later date."

She is addressing state funding, and said that the state is covering 44% of cross subsidy funding for special education for the 2024/25 school year. Keeping the current students enrolled in the K/W school district is important. Focusing on drawing new students is crucial, too. For every child enrolled in the system, the state pays the school a set amount for operating expenses, food and transportation, to name a few things that they need. Knowing this, you can see how revenue from new students can help balance the budget. Keeping the students we already have is an important step, so keeping the extracurricular activities we currently have in place is key. Addressing mental health is also a priority, and letting students know they are heard is valuable. When the students know they are being listened to, and that their ideas are important, more ideas surface.

Putting all these ideas into play will be a big job, but Beth has a "Can Do" attitude, and believes that working together to address the is-

sues we all are facing in the upcoming year is the key to success. I encourage you to get to know Beth as a person on a mission for the good of all concerned. You will be able to "hear" her thoughts and ideas in her new monthly column in the Messenger! I am looking forward to hearing what she has to say, and she is excited to hear your thoughts on her ideas, too. Here's to a great year ahead!!



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Letter from the Superintendent Ready, Set, Go -



**By Beth Giese
MA, Ed.S
Kenyon-Wanamingo
Public Schools
District
Superintendent**

I am so excited to be your new superintendent. I've had the opportunity to be a part of many community events over the summer. As I visit the local businesses, partake in celebrations, and explore the area, I am so impressed with everything our communities have to offer.

The last week of August was filled with staff back in the buildings and you can feel the energy throughout the hallways. As we kick-off the 2023 school year, I want to express my enthusiasm and commitment to providing the best possible educational experience for your children.

I am not surprised by enrollment being up this year. Here is a very brief summary of why parents are gravitating to K-W when they are selecting a school.

- **Small Class Sizes:** We know that personalized learning from our talented staff occurs when we keep class sizes as low as possible. Our Kindergarten, for example, boasts 15 students in a class. This allows for things like early literacy development to occur.
- **Academic Rigor:** Students have access to advanced math and language arts coursework, world language and Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Concurrent enrollment coursework also offers options to our high school students in areas of their personal interest. Our band, choir, technology, and CTE (Career and Technical Education - "The Trades") are just some of the reasons people enroll their children in our district. Workforce Pathways and Certifications is an upcoming priority of mine.
- **Student Engagement:** When students engage in activities, the arts, or athletics beyond the school day, their achievement and overall success increases. K-W continues to offer a wide variety of program offerings, and has an unprecedented number of individual Conference and State Championships in athletics and the fine arts. Coding, FFA, and Robotics are all competing as well.
- **Early Childhood Programs:** K-W has prioritized and offers high-quality preschool and early learning programming for our youngest students and their families!

At our August "State of the School" address, I shared my belief that our teachers and staff are the CHAMPIONS for our students. It is our responsibility as educators to continue to encourage them to follow their dreams. This may be running the family business, college, tech school, apprenticeships, the military and the list goes on.

My door is always open to your questions, suggestions, and feedback.

Email: bgiese@kw.k12.mn.us

Website: www.kw.k12.mn.us

Social Media: @SuptGiese.

I truly am excited to be a Knight.

**GOD'S WORK
OUR HANDS
COMMUNITY
RALLY DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 17,
2023**

10:30AM

**HOLDEN
COMMUNITY
PARK**

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Our rally day begins with outdoor worship at 10:30am with Bishop Hassanally providing the message. After worship, join us for food, fellowship and service projects supporting local and global ministries, knowing that every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Donations are currently being collected and can be dropped off at Holden Lutheran Church or brought to the event.

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September 14, 2023 1:00 PM
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FOR ROBERT & KAREN SCHULL
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(3) Arctic Cat 550 & 650 ATVs,
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Starts Closing..... Oct. 11, 2023
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Elvis & Johnny, Bingo & More

The popular Vegas Style Tribute Show featuring the music of Johnny Cash, Elvis, and Neil Diamond returns to Dennison Saturday September 16th, Under the big top.

For fans young and old, if you have ever been to the popular Breezy Point Resort up north in Minnesota, you may have caught The Memories of Elvis Show (www.esking.com) with Chris Olson.

You may have seen their show on the dockside bar at Breezy Point or if you have been to Dennison on Labor Day weekend, Chris Olson performs this entertaining tribute of The King, and will be bringing his talents and show back to DENNISON, MINNESOTA on Saturday, September 16th. Show time will be at 7:30p.m.

This will be a rain or shine event under the big top at the Fireside.

Doug Allen Nash will again join the show this year with is tribute to Neil Diamond and also his "Johnny Cash Tribute - American Icon". (www.dougallennash.com)

It is in this production, Nash includes one of his own songs "June" co-written and co-produced with Jeff Silverman in Nashville, TN. Engineering mix by Grammy Award Winners John Carter Cash and Chuck Turner at Cash Cabin Studio in Hendersonville, TN.



You can see both of these great artists in Dennison Saturday, September 16th.

Advance tickets are just \$25.00. \$30.00 day of show. Call Fireside at 507-645-9992 during normal business hours, or e-mail them at firesideloungedennison@gmail.com to order tickets.

You can also make dinner reservations that

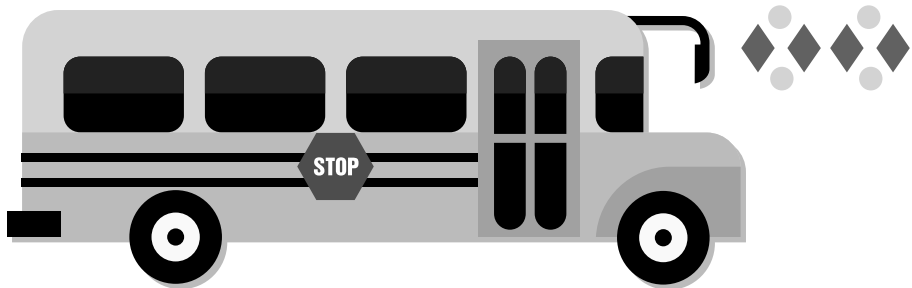


evening ahead of the show. Space is limited, so make your reservations early. This years event will be a part of a weekend celebration in Dennison. As Fireside Lounge celebrates 20 years of Amy Family Hospitality, Friday, September 15th, music will be provided by popular variety band, The Look. Music will start around 7 PM Friday night to kick off the

weekend. Also this year, under the tent Saturday afternoon, Fireside Lounge & The Dennison Lions Club will host Purse & Gift Card Bingo.

Watch the Fireside Facebook page & website for up to date information.

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Parents, be sure to review these important bus safety tips with young riders to keep kids safe this school year.

- Talk to your kids about bus safety and respect. Ridership is a privilege. It can be taken away due to bad behavior, so check with your school district about established guidelines.
- Dress appropriately for the weather.
- Be at the bus stop at least 5 minutes before the bus is set to arrive. Tardiness can lead to mistakes in safety measures.
- Kids should follow the five giant steps rule: Be five giant steps back from where the bus actually stops until it comes to a complete stop and the driver opens the door.
- Backpacks/bags need to be fully closed and sized appropriately for the child to prevent safety hazards such as dragging straps.
- Always stay seated on the bus. Teach your child to stay in the seat until the bus comes to a complete stop at your child's destination.
- Show appreciation to the bus driver. Remind your kids to say thank you when they get off. Kindness and good manners go a long way.
- Go over your child's bus routine. Describe the location and street where your child should get off. For younger kids, write down their names, bus number, bus stop and where you may be reached and put that information inside their backpack. Help your children memorize your cell telephone number; putting it to song can help.
- Don't hang out of the window. Keep body parts inside the bus!
- Bullying should never be tolerated. Talk to your child about bullying on the bus. Read your district's school bus behavior policy to understand to whom you should report such bullying. It may be the driver, teacher, principal or someone else.



An Apple A Day



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS
Licensed Nutritionist

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

You probably have heard the rhyme, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." But what does an apple really do for you? Does any apple work, or only certain kinds? Let's dig a little deeper.

Medications - A 2015 study published in JAMA Internal Medicine by Davis et al observed that those who consumed one apple a day required less prescription drugs. Those who eat one apple a day probably make other

healthy choices as well that contribute to this positive association between apples and reduced drugs.

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

Cholesterol - The healthy control of cholesterol has also been improved with an apple a day. A 2017 study in the Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture by GC Tenore compared modern apples with the Annurca apple and observed that two small Annurca apples a day significantly lowered the bad cholesterol and increased the good cholesterol. The Annurca apple is known for its higher flavonoid content. Older, heritage apples typically have high flavonoid and polyphenol content.

Blood Sugar - Those individuals who had a daily intake of apple polyphenols, which are from the skin of the apple, had an improved ability to manage blood sugar compared to individuals who did not consume the polyphenols. This observation was reported in a 2017 study published in Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice by Shoji et al. One possible reason for this improved sugar control is the polyphenols seem to reduce the sugar absorption ability of the intestines by closing the primary "door" that sugar uses to

pass through the intestines, according to Schulze et al in their 2014 published study in Molecular Nutrition and Food Research.

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

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

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

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

In this seminar series, we will talk about:

- What proteins are the efficient proteins and how much you need
- What fats are good fats and what fats are bad fats
- What Carbohydrates (sugar) is good for you and what to avoid
- How much of each category should you consume
- What foods will bring real satisfaction in a meal

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What is Child Support?

By Goodhue County Health & Human Services

Child support is money parents pay for the care, support and education of their child. It may include a monthly court-ordered amount for Basic Support, Child Care Support and Medical Support. Under Minnesota law, a child has the right to be financially supported by both parents.

One of the most frequently asked questions

received at the Child Support Office is, How do I change my child support order? This process can begin with either party seeking a potential modification, which can only be changed or modified by court order. There are three options to have a review and potential modification of the child support order.

- Contact an attorney and let them take care of all the necessary paperwork and details.

- Complete and file your own legal action documents, which is called Pro Se which means you represent yourself. For this option, you can contact Court Administration to request a packet of necessary documents be mailed to you or you can go to the Minnesota Judicial Branch website to obtain the documents online at

<https://www.mncourts.gov/GetForms.aspx>.

- The final option is to request a review through your county's child support agency. With this option, a child support worker will review your case to see if the change(s) in circumstances meet the statutory criteria for a modification, meaning the current order is 'unreasonable or unfair'.

Reasons for a modification request may include, but are not limited to, a change of income, disability, change in medical insurance or medical assistance. A great tool to help you determine whether you may or may not qualify is the Minnesota Child Support online calculator at: <https://childsupportcalculator.dhs.state.mn.us/>.

Learn more about changing child support orders, making child support payments, and general child support information at <https://www.childsupport.dhs.state.mn.us/Action/Welcome>.

In addition, this webpage offers links to many helpful tools, including an online portal.

Goodhue County's Child Support Unit strives to help with financial support, so that both parents can concentrate more on the emotional support and growth of the child(ren). If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at 651-385-3200 or email us at hhs.childsupport@co.goodhue.mn.us. A new texting option is also available. Please contact your Child Support worker for more information regarding this option.

About Goodhue County Health and Human Services:

The mission of Goodhue County Health and Human Services is to "Promote, Protect and Strengthen the Health of Individuals, Families, and Communities." The department has three service divisions: Economic Assistance, Public Health, and Social Services and is accredited by the national Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). For more information on Goodhue County Health & Human Services, please visit www.co.goodhue.mn.us/HHS and www.facebook.com/gchhs.



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**CITY OF WANAMINGO
City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, August 14, 2023 7:00 P.M.
Wanamingo City Council Chambers –
401 Main Street
Wanamingo, MN**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Holmes.
PRESENT: Council: Ryan Holmes, Eric Dierks, Jeremiah Flotterud, Rebecca Haugen, and Stuart Ohr

City Administrator: Michael Boulton
Deputy Clerk: Karen Masters

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kennedy, Melissa Meyers – Zumbrota News-Record, Jason Grant, Elizabeth Eliason, Todd Greseth – Goodhue County Commissioner, and Josh McGovern – Kenyon Leader.

ADOPT AGENDA: Ohr motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Dierks. Passed 5-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA: Flotterud motioned, seconded by Dierks. Boulton explained that the first North Zumbro Sanitary Joint Powers meeting took place on August 2nd. The meeting minutes are included in the consent agenda and will be included each month. The Council should review and let Administrator Boulton know if they have any questions on what is taking place at the Joint Powers meetings. Passed 5-0-0.

Mayor Holmes shared a letter from the League of Minnesota Cities honor Senator John Jasinski as a Legislator of Distinction. Senator Jasinski represents Wanamingo in the Minnesota State Senate. The League of Minnesota Cities appreciated Senator Jasinski accessibility and his consultation with legislation impacting cities. Senator Jasinski was instrumental in securing long-term funding for the Small Cities Assistance Account along with a wide range of legislation that was important to Cities. Mayor Holmes thanked Senator Jasinski for his work in the bonding bill, including securing the \$10 million for the North Zumbro Sanitary Sewer preliminary planning for the regional treatment facility and collection system.

PRESENTERS:

A) Brad Kennedy reported on:

1) New pool pump installed. Have an extra pump on hand. Olson Motors are working on repairing the damaged pump

2) Picked up new frog for pay loader snow plough from Little Falls. Scott Myers will be cutting off old warped from and welding on and beefing up new frog.

3) Worked on seven hydrants: two hydrants were rebuilt with parts and help of Dan McCabe from Core & Main. Five other hydrants were repaired by City staff with parts from Core & Main

4) Cut the head covers and sections of pipe off five curb stops located in the 100 Block Main Street alley (behind JB's Tavern). New head covers/top casings were installed

5) The new Street salt/sand shed rafters were ordered from Pine Island Lumber. The rafters are a minimum of 6-8 weeks out. Staff plans to start removing the old salt/sand shed in the coming week in preparation for the concrete work (B & N Construction).

6) Schumacher Excavating repaired two leaking hydrant gate valves located at Main/Beverly Street and 1st Avenue/4th Street West. Schumacher also replaced the curb stop stand pipe located at 333 Main Street. The curb stop standpipe was corroded

and bent. The pipe wrench could not get on the curb stop to turn it on or off. Homestead Restoration plans to replace the concrete curb/gutter and sidewalk by the end of August.

7) Three more apparent hydrant gate valves are now leaking at Main Street/5th Street E, 1st Avenue/5th Street W, and Hill Avenue/4th Street E. Schumacher has been contacted and will schedule the work.

8) Schumacher Excavating completed repairs to the Nelson Drive stormwater retention pond. The outlet pipe was reset, concrete was poured around the pipe, new rip wrap was installed, and black dirt was placed over the top.

9) Rented Minnesota Rural Water gate valve/hydrant valve exercising machine. Exercised a combination of 230 gate valves and hydrant valves.

10) Burnt brush pile on July 29th. City staff are working with Reckitt in order to avoid air contamination by burning the brush pile during operations. City staff are waiting to burn the brush pile until Reckitt has a planned shutdown day, which occurred July 29th.

Administrator Boulton and Public Works Supervisor Kennedy have been working with Brandon Theobald from WHKS on the MN Department of Health lead water service grant funding application. All public water systems must complete and submit to the State a lead service line inventory by October 16, 2024. Funding was recently made available Cities to identify lead water services and come up with a plan for replacement. The grant application was submitted and includes visual inspection process of the roughly 500 water services. The City would like to complete a curb stop GPS inventory of all the curb stops in Wanamingo.

B) Todd Greseth, Goodhue County Commissioner, reported on:

Waste Management ceased solid waste collection services in the townships north of Wanamingo. The County has been working to obtain a new service provider. Highland Sanitation stepped up to provide solid waste collection services. Waste Management does not have staff to cover the necessary route and provided notice to rural residents regarding the discontinuing services. The City of Wanamingo residents were not affected by the changes as Waste Management is under contract.

The County Board is starting work on the 2024 Budget. There has been discussion of proposed property tax increases, but no definite range of percentage increases.

Jail Staffing full for the first time in years. The new dispatch position was opened with twenty (20) applicants. The Sheriff's Office is short two (2) patrol deputies and are currently in the hiring process.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION:

23-046 = Certifying Proposed Tax levy for 2024: Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Haugen. Holmes reminded the Council that once the proposed 2024 tax levy is certified that it cannot be raised. Holmes stated that the Council will consider a final 2024 tax levy in December that can be equal to or lower than the proposed tax levy. Boulton stated that the 9.18% proposed levy increase is from \$980,000 to \$1,070,000. Boulton stated that the Maple Island/Mead Johnson TIF District is scheduled to be decertified

and placed back into the tax pool for 2024. In 2023 the district generated \$104,000. The City would see a little over half of that placed back into the tax pool. There were seven homes constructed in 2022 along with the Revland Alignment commercial expansion that will add to the tax pool. It is estimated that \$70,000 of the proposed \$90,000 levy increase will be covered by the TIF decertification and growth from 2022. Boulton stated that the larger levy increase for 2024 was important because the slow of growth will mean that 2025 and possibly 2026 levy increases will be directly onto the existing tax base. Boulton stated that the proposed levy increase helps to cover inflationary costs while State Aid increases should help with future capital purchases. Passed 5-0-0.

23-047 = Adopting a Proposed Budget for 2024: Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Passed 5-0-0.

23-048 = Setting Date for Public Hearing and Continuation for 2024 Budget Adoption: Dierks moved to approve, Seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-0.

23-049 = Approval to Transfer Up to \$23,005.00 from Operating Reserve to SEMMCHRA for 2023 Projected Vacancy, Marketing, and Capital Expenses: Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Ohr. Boulton stated that \$23,005 is from operating loss and capital purchases. Boulton stated that the City is levying \$25,000 in 2023 which would bring the \$50,000 reserve to \$56,666 in August 2023. Boulton stated that the City would be levying \$25,000 in 2024 which will cover 2023 operating loss and capital needs while bring the \$50,000 back in line. Passed 5-0-0.

23-050 = Approving Fire Department By-Laws Updates: Flotterud moved to table until the September 11th City Council Meeting, Seconded by Ohr. Boulton stated that the Fire Department By-Laws Committee raised concerns with the language of the Amendments section. Boulton stated that he and Mayor Holmes worked on language to resolve the concerns. However, the Fire Department By-Laws Committee did not have time to review the new changes. Mayor Holmes agreed that the Fire Department By-Laws Committee should have to review the newly proposed changes before the City Council considers approval. Passed 5-0-0.

23-051 = Authorizing the Order and Purchase of a New Street Department V-Snow

Skid Loader Attachment Blade Utilizing the State Bid: Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Haugen. Boulton stated that the V-Snow Skid Loader Attachment Blade would cost \$7,800. Passed 5-0-0.

23-052 = Approving the Transfer of Liquor License for JB's Tavern from Barney Nesseth to Dan Romo: Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Haugen. Boulton stated the Dan Romo would still need to provide liquor liability certificate of insurance and workers compensation certificate of insurance before submitting the application to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division for approval. Flotterud asked when the sale is scheduled to take place. Boulton stated that the plan was September 1st, but could be pushed back for real estate closing procedures or State licensing delays. Passed 5-0-0.

Public Hearing - Ordinance #202 – An Interim Ordinance Authorizing a Study and Imposing a Moratorium on the Operation of Cannabis Businesses: Mayor Holmes opened the public hearing at 7:21PM. Administrator Boulton stated that that State Laws recently passed to establish the Office of Cannabis Management. The Act provides local units of government certain authority related to cannabis businesses, including the authority to (1) require local registration of certain cannabis businesses operating retail establishments, (2) adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the operation of cannabis businesses, provided that such restrictions do not prohibit the establishment or operation of a cannabis business, (3) limit the number of certain cannabis businesses based on the population of the community, and (4) prohibit the operation of a cannabis business within 1,000 feet of a school, or 500 feet of a day care, residential treatment facility, or an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field. The ACT Requires OMC to work with local governments to develop model ordinances for reasonable restrictions. Cities can have interim ordinances from August 1, 2023-January 1, 2025. On January 1, 2025 the OMC will be fully operational and the City can develop an ordinance regarding the operation of cannabis businesses. Boulton stated that local governments will not license or directly collect fees or taxes.

(continued on page 17)



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Wanamingo City Council

(continued from page 16)

Local governments will receive 25% of the taxes collected by the State from cannabis sales. There has been concerns in neighboring communities with existing businesses attempting to sell cannabis and people thinking that they can open up a business before January 1, 2025. Boulton stated that the proposed moratorium would not apply to the medical cannabis program and the lawful sale of Edible Cannabis Products. Boulton stated that the change in law was rushed, leaving local governments in the dark. Boulton stated that applications are being accepted for cannabis licensing and that past convictions with cannabis move you up the list for approval. Grant stated that he hoped that the State and local laws protect minors. Grant hopes that adults are smart about how and where they utilize cannabis. Grant stated that he hoped to City businesses, such as bars/restaurants to be able to restrict where usage can occur. Grant stated that the state cannabis licensing fees from growth to sale are around \$70,000. Grant asked who sets the number of liquor licenses available in a jurisdiction. Boulton stated State Law establishes the number of licenses within a City. The City Code of Ordinances lists the number of on-sale and off-sale available liquor licenses. Boulton stated that Counties could cap the number of cannabis licenses within the County per 10,000 residents. Greseth stated that the County Board has not spoken about Cannabis Ordinances or regulations. Greseth stated that there are policing concerns with the changes to the cannabis law. There is limited training and testing kits to see if someone is under the in-

fluence of cannabis when operating a motorized vehicle. Greseth thought that there were saliva swap tests sticks available for field sobriety tests. Grant stated that he attended the public hearing to make sure that the Council doesn't shut down the cannabis industry in town. Grant said, if regulated correctly, it can be a good business. Eliason stated that she was in attendance to hear about what the Council was considering for cannabis ordinance and had interest to allow for business in town. Ohr stated that commercial drivers who test positive for THC/cannabis lose their commercial license immediately. Grant stated that commercial truckers who test positive in hiring test can now choose whether or not to hire. Grant said that State and Federal cannabis laws are in conflict with each other since the law changes. No further public comments were provided. Mayor Holmes closed the public hearing at 7:45PM.

Ordinance #202 – An Interim Ordinance Authorizing a Study and Imposing a Moratorium on the Operation of Cannabis Businesses: Ohr moved to approved, seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Administrator Boulton provided an update memo on the Emerald Valley Phase II Subdivision. Jon Whitcomb, Metro East Commercial Re Inc., has purchased the 24 Emerald Valley II tax forfeited parcels. Mr. Whitcomb is a developer in the Southeast Metro. Mr. Whitcomb conducted extensive due diligence research on the development. Mr. Whitcomb is aware that the parcels require additional infrastructure. Mr. Whitcomb, with the help of the City, reached out to parcel owners within Emerald Valley II

that still require additional infrastructure. Emerald Valley II Subdivision has fifty total undeveloped parcels. The lots in question, as part of the Emerald Valley Phase II Subdivision, lack necessary public (i.e., curb/gutter, asphalt roadway, storm sewer, and in most cases water, and sewer) and private infrastructure (electric, natural gas, and communications) for homes to be built.

There are two options to see the necessary infrastructure installed to all fifty parcels in Emerald Valley II. The first is for the City to take the lead by hiring out the engineers for final plans and construction inspection, public bids for a contractor, and assessing the costs of the improvements against the parcels (MN Statutes 429 special assessment process). The second is for a private developer (one that owns parcels in the development) to hire an engineer to develop final plans and construction inspection, hire a contractor, work with other who owns parcels in sharing the development expenses. The developer would pay for the cost of the City consulting engineer to review final construction plans.

Mr. Whitcomb believes that the development can be completed cheaper privately lead, rather than publicly by the City. There are thoughts that the requirements for engineering, public bidding, and assessment process create inefficiencies with development. Mr. Whitcomb believes that the downturn in the economy, coinciding with construction companies looking for work, creates a window for lowered construction costs. Mr. Whitcomb believes that 2024 or 2025 may be the advantageous time for construction.

Mr. Whitcomb reached out to WHKS to see what the engineering costs would be to put together final plans and construction field observation for Emerald Valley II. WHKS put together a professional service agreement

with a lump sum fee of \$115,000. Mr. Whitcomb has no way to verify the market cost for the estimated work. Mr. Whitcomb would like to reach out to other engineering firms for costs estimates for the same scope of work. Mr. Whitcomb would need full access to the plans that have been put together, to date. Mr. Whitcomb does not wish to offend the City or WHKS in his request.

WHKS and City staff have no concerns with Mr. Whitcomb receiving all access to plans put together to date and seeking out other engineering firms for pricing. If an outside engineering firm is hired to put together final plans and conduct construction observation, the City engineer would still need to review the final plans, conduct limited construction observation, and receive final as-built construction plans. The developers would pay the City engineering costs as part of a development agreement. Mr. Whitcomb would like the City Council's blessing to consult outside engineering firms regarding costs. Boulton stated that the City would need to verify that the final construction plans and construction are completed to City specification. Flotterud asked how many buildable lots are left in Wanamingo. Boulton stated that there are roughly twenty (20) buildable lots left for sale in Wanamingo when you take out double lots owned by adjacent homeowners and factor townhome lots as single-family lots. Haugen stated that there will be pressure coming for additional residential lots in the near future. Holmes asked if WHKS would conduct periodic site inspection/field observation if another engineering firm were hired by a private developer. Boulton said that the City could require some site inspection/field observation costs into a development agreement. Flotterud stated that he had no problem on Mr. Whitcomb obtaining price comparisons for engineers and had no problem sharing engineering plans that have been drawn up to date.

The Council agreed to allow for Mr. Whitcomb to obtain price comparisons for engineering costs and allow for sharing engineering plans that have been drawn up to date.

Boulton stated that the snow removal contract with Jason's Sewer Service & Excavating needed to be renewed before the 2023-2024 snow season. Boulton also stated that the mowing contract with Sheldon Lunde Lawn Care is up at the end of the 2023 season. Holmes had appointed himself, Council member Ohr, and Administrator Boulton to a committee to negotiate the new contracts for both snow removal and mowing. Boulton stated that Sheldon Lunde indicated that he preferred a three (3) year contract extension. Boulton stated that it would be nice to keep the snow removal and mowing contracts for the same length of time. Boulton stated that he had a discussion with Jason Rath who is also open to a three (3) year contract extension. Boulton stated that he hoped the committee could have contract proposals for both snow removal and mowing in front of the City Council at the September 11th City Council meeting for consideration.

*Next City Council meeting on 9/11/2023

Adjourn: At 7:59 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Flotterud and seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

Signed: Ryan Holmes, Mayor

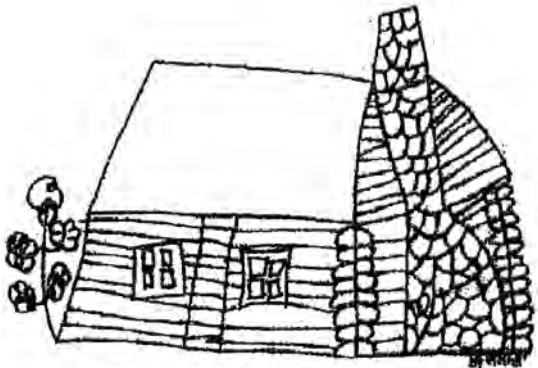
Attest: Michael Boulton, City Administrator

Harvest Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: September 30, October 7, 14, 21, 28

Sundays: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Hours: 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.



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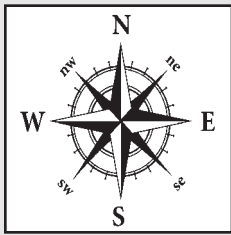
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes



By Terry Campbell

This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell. Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when it's warm here and Tennessee when it's cold here.

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

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

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

One day my activity aroused a bumble bee which had taken up residence under neath the

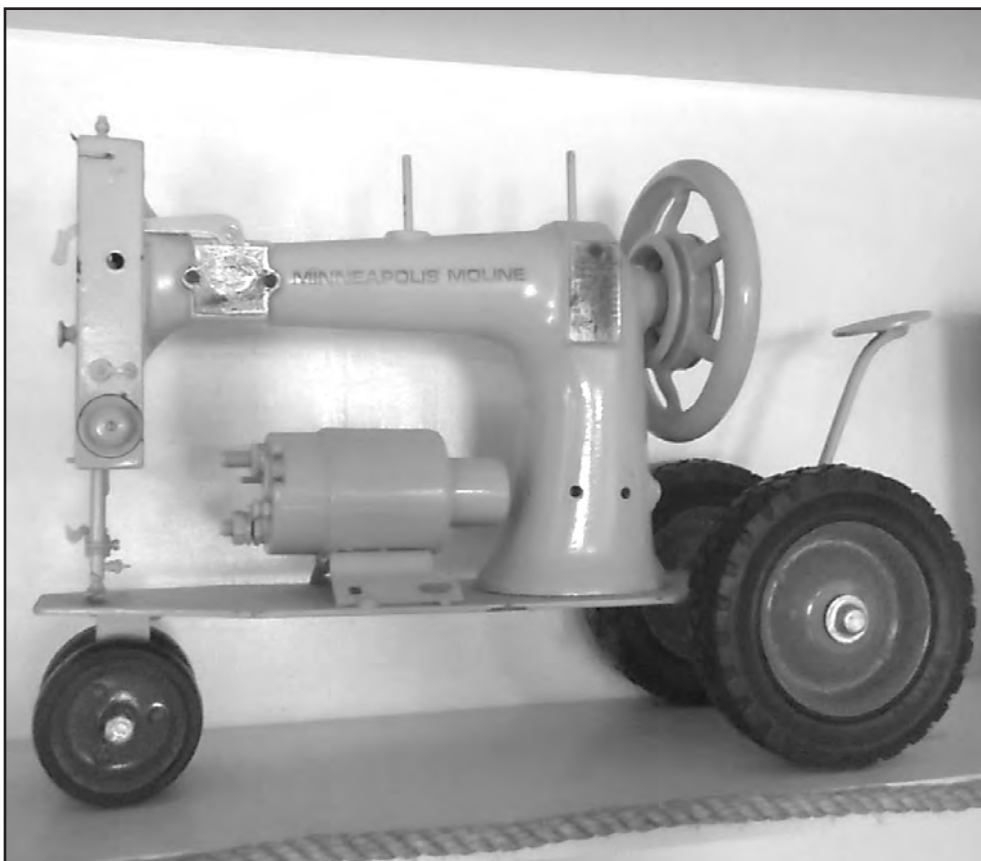
metal cowl of the tractor. He proceeded to sting me on the arm and I ran to the house howling for my mom. She put salve on my wound and soothed my pain but told me not to play on it any more. That was her standard advice when I did something she felt could harm me. I climbed the silo. She told me not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

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

One story related to me was how one fall it was very cold when they were doing fall plowing and my grandfather would drive the farm pickup along-side the tractor in the field. The hired man would drop the plow in the ground and tie the steering wheel with a rope and then ride in the warmth of the pickup to the other end of the field. It went slow enough with a two-bottom plow that he could easily climb on and off while it was moving. He would climb aboard, untie the rope and raise the plow out of the ground at the end of the field in time to turn it around and then get back in the warm pickup as the tractor lumbered along turning over the soil.

The kind of activity we all learned not to tell mom about until much later.

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



A Minnesotan: Down at the Riverside



By RosaLin Alcoser

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

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

Personally I was Baptized during outdoor Baptism back in 2004. Except it was done outside in a turned off hot tub. This was done mainly because the church was next

to the Zumbro River in a place where the current was way too strong to safely hold a Baptism in. Great part to go tubing in not so much for safely dunking people in and out of the water.

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

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

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

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

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

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- ACROSS
1. Brainchild
 5. Gravestone wish
 8. Paleozoic one
 11. Pressing tool
 12. Senegal's neighbor
 13. Literary theme
 15. Scissors sound
 16. Final notice
 17. *Notre Dame's Fighting _____
 18. *Home of the first Super Bowl winners
 20. National League Pennant series, acr.
 21. Steer clear
 22. "Glee" actress _____ Michele
 23. Befuddled
 26. *One of 4 NFL teams sharing a home field
 29. Fish story
 30. Stockings
 33. "Doggone it!"
 35. Rand McNally book
 37. Mozart's "L'_____ del Cairo"
 38. Whiskey drinks?
 39. Comedy act
 40. Be more of a fox
 42. Dead or Black, e.g.
 43. Obliquely
 45. Roof supporter
 47. High or low card
 48. Employer's good news
 50. Hyperbolic tangent
 52. *College player not using eligibility
 55. Beastly person
 56. Double-reed instrument
 57. *Nike Pegasus 39
 59. Smidgeons
 60. Paddleboarding acronym, pl.
 61. Seaside bird
 62. *Thirty-_____ teams in NFL
 63. *Ravens' or Lions' time, acr.
 64. *Rushing unit
- DOWN
1. "_____ Now or Never"
 2. "Shoot!"
 3. Arabian bigwig
 4. Fund-raising letter
 5. Torah teacher
 6. Homer's famous poem
 7. Feel for
 8. Larger-than-life
 9. A Supreme singer
 10. Emerald _____ borer
 12. Poet's death lament
 13. Fungal skin infection
 14. *Home of the Citrus Bowl in Florida
 19. Not odds
 22. Lily, in French
 23. Unfortunately, exclamation
 24. *a.k.a. Iron Mike
 25. Charcuterie stores
 26. Nibble away
 27. Have faith
 28. Rane'e's wrap
 31. LummoX
 32. Calendar abbr.
 34. Russian autocrat
 36. *Home to College Football Hall of Fame
 38. Secret supply
 40. *Extra point
 41. Van Gogh flowers
 44. Partners of pains
 46. Spirited
 48. Puzzle with pictures and letters
 49. Take as one's own
 50. Think, archaic
 51. Grand theft target
 52. *The oldest college football Bowl
 53. Actress Perlman
 54. Millimeter of mercury
 55. Took the bait
 58. *Defensive one

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Big Woods Run

An organized run through the Big Woods State Park is happening again this year! St John's United Church of Christ is once again planning the Big Woods Run, a race that takes runners through one of the best hardwood forests in southern Minnesota. Saturday, September 30, 2023 is the date to pull on your running shoes and enjoy this scenic trek. The Big Woods should be in prime color for the runners and spectators.

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

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

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



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