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MARCH 27, 2024

Volume 18 • Issue 3

A Spring Adventure



By Cheri Roshon

Spring is here, and soon we will all be out looking for fun and interesting things to do.

(continued on page 3)

Rice County Steam & Gas Annual Flea Market & Swap Meet

The Rice County Steam & Gas Show has announced their annual Swap Meet and Flea Market for May 25th & 26th. A full line up of events are included.

New flea market vendors are welcome. check out their website and facebook page for more information. www.rice-countysteamandgas.com



Announcements

• Join the Dundas Parks and Recreation Board in the 2024 Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 30th at 10a.m.

The hunt will be held at Memorial Park, 214 1st Street S. Bring your own basket! Donation request: \$1.00 per child. Help us "be green" by turning in the eggs following the hunt.

• **Winter Parking Ban:** The winter parking ban is in effect through April 15th between the hours of 2am and 6:30am. There is no parking allowed on any city street. Vehicles in violation will be ticketed. Dundas ordinance §71.06. Even if there is not snow on the ground the ordinance is still in effect!

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

County expects Safety Center to be Ready for Possession this Summer, Operational Late Fall



Courtesy of KYMN Radio

The new Rice County Safety Center, which will house both the Rice County Sheriff's Department and the Rice County Jail, is in the final stages of construction. Rice County Sheriff Jesse Thomas said the carpeting is about to be installed in the office spaces, furniture will be moved in starting in May, and the county will take full possession of the building sometime in July.

That, according to Sheriff Thomas, is when the real work will start.

Moving an entire law enforcement department, to say nothing of the incarcerated individuals in the jail, is not an easy or quick process.

(continued on page 4)

Easter Brunch Menu

Sunday, March 31st • Serving 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Reservations Strongly Suggested

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Journey with John



By Colin Rueter

As I have had the privilege to continue to write articles, I have decided that, Lord willing and as I am able, I would like us to walk through God's word again. I have been encouraged by emails from many over the last month sharing how God has used articles for His glory and the good of His people. Though not using the previous template of an overview of each book, I will walk us through one book at a time, 1 John, in an expository way, verse by verse. This letter, doctrinal (teaching) letter, from the Apostle John presents theology that should ground the believer, convict the believer, and give the believer discernment about false doctrine which creeps into our minds so easily. He brings us back to three basics of Christian life: true doctrine, obedient living, and enthusiastic devotion to Jesus. Even in our communities, I see a rise in false teaching that can lure people away from the core doctrines of faith into myths and sooth itching ears and, therefore, I desire to point each of you back to the solid foundation of God's word (2 Timothy 4:1-5). My hope is that even if you are not believing in Jesus as Lord and Savior, that you may be enlightened to His grace. So, let's look at this letter.

Our author is John the Apostle, the same John that wrote the familiar Gospel of John. He probably wrote this letter around the same time as Revelation while he was exiled on the island of Patmos. John writes this to be a summary that assumes knowledge of the gospel as written by John and offers assurances for faith in Christ. This letter indicates that the audience of this letter were confronted with the error of Gnosticism, which became a more serious problem in the second century and still pervades our beliefs and culture today. As a philosophy of religion, Gnostics held that matter is evil and spirit is good. The solution to the tension between these two was knowledge, or gnosis, through which man rose from the common world to the spiritual. In the gospel message that was shared by those who held this belief, this led to two false theories concerning the person of Christ. Docetism, regarding the human Jesus as a ghost and Cerinthianism, making Jesus a dual personality, at times human and at times divine. This belief is heresy, false, and is to be rejected, friends. The key purpose of 1 John is to set boundaries on the content of Christian faith (core doctrine) and to give believers assurance of their salvation. As we walk through this letter, I wanted to provide a brief overview and give you a challenge at the end of this article.

John's letter is about the basics of faith in Christ, it helped the audience reflect honestly on their faith. It helped them answer the question, Are we true believers? John told them

that they could tell by looking at their actions. If they loved one another, that was evidence of God's presence in their lives. But if they bickered and fought all the time or were selfish and did not look out for one another, they, in fact, did not know God. That did not mean they had to be perfect. In fact, John also recognized that believing involved admitting our sins and seeking God's forgiveness – repenting of their sin and wrongs against God and other Christians. They must depend on God for their cleansing from guilt, along with admitting wrongs against others and making amends, as another important part of growing in relationship to God. Back then, as today, we can observe many churches and people within local gatherings that do not seem to be believers. This letter calls us to self-evaluate first, then engage others in their supposed faith to see if it is genuine (Matthew 7:1-5; 15-23).

Here is John's outline in themes: The one, eternal God became incarnate as His Son, Jesus Christ, who is true God and eternal life. All mankind (humanity) is sinful under the wrath of God, but through faith in Jesus Christ alone receive salvation and adoption in fellowship with God as Father, with Jesus, and right fellowship with one another as new creations in Christ. Jesus alone is our advocate with the Father and propitiation for our sins. Those who truly know Christ forsake sin, pursue holiness and obedience in God's commands, particularly love for God and one another in truth. Denial of Jesus, obedience in repentance, and following the God's commandments is fruit of true faith. This faith in Jesus results in forgiveness of sins by God, eternal life, confidence in prayer, protection from the evil one, and understanding and knowing the true God.

So What?

Your theology (belief about God) matters and you have a theology. It is what can bring you to Christ and fullness of joy or keep you on the path of destruction that leads to Hell and wrath. I may not know you personally, but God has given me an opportunity to share these truths on this platform, I desire to fulfill the command to proclaim Good News to my neighbors (Matt. 28:18-20). Love compels proclamation. This is not love as the world speaks of it, but it is the same love that comes from God who is love (1 John 4:7-21).

John concludes his introduction in verse 4 that these things are written so that "our joy is complete." Joy here is lasting, unchanging happiness in Jesus. John writes these truths because they will be for the joy of others and their joy is also his own joy, therefore to-

gether, seeing others treasuring Christ, while he also treasures Christ, brings joy that is complete. Your pursuit of joy in Jesus and others pursuit of joy in Jesus is not in competition with one another, but is a labor of mutual encouragement towards bringing glory to God. So, be in the bible often, reading and studying to grow in your faith and knowledge. Gather with believers who bear fruit according to the gospel in a local church. If you must drive to find a faithful church, do so, for it is better to travel and have a faithful church that attempt to walk faithfully alone (which is unbiblical). Walk worthy in your life according to Jesus Christ and His gospel.

So, friends. This letter (in fact the whole Bible) guides in discernment of truth – what

is true vs what is almost true. God's word is true, infallible, inerrant, inspired by God. Live in it. Sure, read other books, but live in the greatest Book. For it gives you all things for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). My challenge to you is 3-fold: read John's gospel and may you behold Jesus as He is. Next read through 1 John as we journey through the word together. Finally, trust that God through the power of the Holy Spirit will bring you to treasure Jesus above all else. Next month we will look closer at the text in Chapter 1, verses 1-4. Until then, may God be with you in spirit and truth through His word.

As always, if you have questions, need prayer, a word of encouragement, or a cup of coffee, please contact me via my personal email: niloc1214@gmail.com

Area Church Directory

Jesus Recreates Us

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday youth grades 6-12: 6:30pm

LITTLE PRAIRIE UNITED METHODIST 2980 130th St. E.
Pastor Penny Bonsell • pastor@littleprairieumc.org
507-663-6150 church phone • 651-503-4279 Cell

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship; Sunday School & Nursery; Adult Group 8a.m.

CITY LIGHT CHURCH 2140 Hwy. 3 South, Northfield, MN
Pastor Pete Haase • 507-645-8829 Call for service times

LIFE21 CHURCH 2100 Jefferson Road (just north of Target)
Pastor Brent Bielenberg • 645-7730 life21church.com
 10:00a.m. Worship Experience

NORTHFIELD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 5600 East 110th Street
Pastor Dan Runke • 663-0133 • northfieldefc.org
 9:30 a.m. Worship; 11:00 a.m. Christian Life Classes

HOSANNA CHURCH - NORTHFIELD 205 2nd St. S., Dundas
Pastor Dean Swenson • 507-664-9007 • www.hosannalc.org
 Sunday: 9am & 10:45am Worship with Hosanna Kids Church ages 3-5th grade and Child Care for ages 6wks-3years at both services
 Fellowship time with refreshments between services.
 Wednesday: Middle School Ministry - doors open at 5:30; programming 6-7:15;
 High School Ministry - doors open at 7pm; programming 7:30-9pm

MAIN STREET MORAVIAN CHURCH 713 Division St., Northfield
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A Spring Adventure

(continued from page 1)

One of my favorite places to visit is Windy Willow Farm Adventure. They are located at 9748 110th Street E, Northfield, MN, and have a large variety of outdoor play ideas, as well as classes and programs to get "hands on" experiences for kids and adults, too!

Outdoors on the surrounding acreage are approximately 40 different activities to enjoy. There are interactive games, such as Giant

Corn Hole, animals to get acquainted with, and many places to explore. Inside you will find opportunities to purchase handmade items, eggs, jellies, baked goods, and the very popular freeze dried candy! Classes in a variety of artistic and creative endeavors are open to the public, and are being added to as we speak!

For instance, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt on March 30th that has been very popular in past years, and on April 7th and 14th, you can experience Goat Yoga!!! If you have never heard of that particular type of yoga, it is an interactive yoga class with goats who like to participate with you, and sometimes, on top of you!!! You have to see it to believe it! Next up is the Truck and Tractor Days on June 14th and 15th. Come and explore what

Admission

<p>General: \$15 Senior: \$12 Under 2: Free</p>	<p>Season Passes Individual Pass: \$40 Family Pass: \$150</p>
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Windy Willow

What's Outside?!

<p>Farm Animals Farm Equipment Giant Cornhole Tire Mountain Giant Connect 4 Ball Maze Game Spider Climber Tug-O-War Scavenger Hunt Corn Maze Patio & Fire Pit Fairy Garden Busy Boards Lasso Ponies Sunflower Field Teeter Totters Hay Ride</p>	<p>Pedal Carts Bubble Station Photo Boards Lucky Duck Sensory Tires Playground Tether Ball Culvert Slides Rock Painting Giant Jenga Play Houses Grain Display Train Rides Garden Beds Corn Pit Stick Ponies</p>
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& More!



Dundas Clean-Up Day
Saturday, May 11th

No Cash Check or credit card only

7 am - 11 am

MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCE



Location: Mill Towns Trailhead - 215 Railway Street Parking lot area

Acceptable Items (Free): Household garbage, bulk items and construction waste including; windows, doors, lumber, shingles, sheetrock and scrap metal.

Accepted Items (Fee): Mattress or Box spring (\$35.00 each) Appliances, Electronics, Computers, Monitors (\$25/item) and Tires (\$5/tire)-Tire with rim (\$10.00)-Tractor Tires (\$40/tire).

Unacceptable Items: Paints, sludge, tar, liquids, thinners, fertilizer, pesticides, batteries, yard waste and brush.

Questions? Please call Dick's Sanitation at 952-469-2239.

promises to be a fun weekend!
 Colleen and her crew are always coming up with new ideas for learning and for good old fashioned fun! To find out more about their upcoming classes, etc, you can call them at (507) 581-9248. They have facilities for birthday parties, family reunions, field trips,

and family fun days. You can purchase one time passes, or seasonal passes if you want to come more often. You can also see what they are up to at windywillowfarmadventure.com for a list of activities and upcoming classes. It is a truly unique venue, and you will be glad you checked it out!

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2024 National Agriculture Week



County expects Safety Center to be Ready for Possession this Summer, Operational Late Fall

(continued from page 1)

Thomas said it must be done meticulously, carefully and with great attention to detail. The moving of staff offices and basic office equipment will be helped along by the Rice County facilities department, but most of the process will have to be handled in-house.

Files have to be handled carefully, as does the department's equipment that is used for law enforcement. The handling of evidence will require a well-placed system that Thomas

said has to be thought through completely before it can begin.

"Evidence will be a big move. We'll have to log everything out of our current location and transport it. You can't just throw everything in the back of your car and transport it to the new site. [Once it arrives,] you have to log it all back in through the new system. It takes a lot of time and we've been working on what that procedure is and what that looks like in our world."

Once everything is in place, he said, then the County Detainees can be moved. Thomas said that will be the most difficult challenge in the entire process.

"On our side, the biggest obstacle is moving our inmates, or detainees, into the new facility. The Department of Corrections has a lot of criteria, so we have to make sure we dot all our I's and cross all our T's. They will have to sign off on the building before we can start moving people."

Thomas said the careful process is necessary for obvious reasons, but the care they take will be worth it when it is finished. The Rice County Safety Center is expected to be running and fully operational, he said, by November.

Dakota History Bus Tour: Hocokata Ti Cultural Center

Join RCHS for a fun day as we learn about the history and culture of the Mdewakanton Dakota. We will be visiting Hocokata Ti in Shakopee, MN where we will have a guided tour of their cultural center and museum. The bus loads at 12pm and leaves promptly at 12:15pm. We will be leaving from the Rice County Historical Society Museum. We will arrive at 1pm and return by 5pm. Tickets are \$25 per person. This bus tour is limited to 45 people, so reserve your seats soon!

Please call to reserve your spot at 507-332-2121, or email rchs@rchistory.org



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Rice SWCD Plans Open House

The Rice Soil & Water Conservation District invites the public to come for an open house at their new office location on Friday, March 29th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Citizens will be able to tour the office and talk conservation with District staff and supervisors. Light snacks and drinks will be shared. The new office is located at 302 1st Avenue NW in Faribault.

625 Bar & Grill Celebrates Anniversary

The 625 Bar & Grill in Dennison will celebrate their 1st Birthday with a full line up of events planned for Saturday April 6th.

Sean & Marie Kylo purchased the establishment in 2023.

Check out their ad inside the Messenger and watch their facebook page for all the events happening including Live Music, Prize Giveaways, beer & drink specials and more.



Mike Sherwood



Bryan Anderson

625 BAR & GRILL

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New Photography Shop and Event Space Coming to Nerstrand



Photos By Doug Jones
Trisha & Nick Streitz continue to remodel the building on Mainstreet in Nerstrand, located next to Lake Country Community Bank. A Photography Studio and Event Space is planned in the building for Trishas business.



Thank You, Farmers!
National Ag Week March 17-23




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Fasting



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS
Licensed Nutritionist



SCAN ME

a few days or up to 40 days. Various religious practices around the world have incorporated fasting as a way to focus more attention on spiritual activities and less time on physical activities. However, there are some significant benefits to the physical body when a healthy fast is practiced.

A simple, healthy fast would begin in the evening after your final meal of the day. Once dinner time is complete, the fasting clock begins. No midnight snacks, only water as needed and go to bed. The majority of the first 12 hours of fasting will be spent sleeping through the night. The next day only drink water, a small amount of herbal tea, or possibly some vegetable broth, if needed. By the time you reach the next dinner hour you have stayed away from food for 24 hours. Continue drinking water only and go to bed. By the next morning, you will have completed almost 36 hours of fasting and now is a good point to break your fast with a healthy breakfast. This 36 hour fast is a good first step to practicing what fasting on a regular schedule may look like.

Benefits of fasting include:

- Reduces high blood sugar levels
- Decreases high insulin levels and reduces insulin insensitivity
- Increases immune cell activity
- Improves clarity of thinking
- Can reduce inflammation
- Stimulates detoxification systems in the liver and kidneys

When you go into a fasting season, you force the cells of your body to do some clean up work. Activity inside the cells will remove anything that has become non-functional or is unhelpful. With this activity,

cleaning helps the cell to prioritize healthy activity. This can be a helpful activity when your body is recovering from an illness. Improving healthy activity at the cellular level is what fasting stimulates.

A variation of fasting is becoming popular with many individuals called Intermittent Fasting. The general concept is reducing the window of time each day when food is consumed. Instead of eating food within a 12 hour window of the day, the time frame may be reduced to only 6 hours in the day. The remaining 18 hours of the day would only drink water or sleep. Some individuals reduce the eating more strictly to only 4 hours per day for eating, or only eating every other day. Intermittent fasting has gained popularity since 2010 when research studies on animals observed the animals living longer when their food intake was restricted.

While fasting may seem the exact opposite of living a full life, consider how the alternative has affected our society. We live in a culture where no restriction is given. You are encouraged to eat at all times of the day and to eat whatever you want. Grocery stores are filled with more choices than you know what to choose. The result has been increased obesity, increased diabetes, chronic inflamma-

tion, and a generation that does not know how to prepare healthy food. An occasional season of fasting can help bring clarity and focus to food preparation and a healthy lifestyle.

I invite you to join me this spring at the Northfield Holistic Health Summit “New Beginnings” Saturday, May 4, 2024, to learn more about healthy lifestyle choices and the resources available to you. Ten local health practitioners will be presenting information on – herbs, homeopathy, acupuncture, toxins, neurology, allergy therapy, and more. Come join us for the day and enjoy a healthy catered meal by Café Shawn. More information at <https://www.nutritionproportion.net/health-summit2024> or scan the QR code.

Make your health a priority in 2024. Change is required, but the outcome is worth the effort. Little changes can make a big difference over time. If you would like to pursue a healthy lifestyle and increase longevity, I can help you start a plan.

Contact me to discuss your health goals for 2024. I can help you reach those health goals with whole food plans customized to your specific needs. You can contact me at nutritionproportion@gmail.com, or check out my website at www.nutritionproportion.net

March is a month of new beginnings and this year the beginnings seem to be coming earlier than previous years. The official start of the spring season will come this month and the month will conclude with the celebration of Easter. During this month, some will choose to abstain from a select food or activity in observance of Lent. Choosing to abstain from something can be a good exercise in self-control. This type of practice helps an individual to understand how much something truly influences their life. Perhaps during this season, you may consider the activity of fasting.

Fasting can take many forms from abstaining from one meal to not eating any food for

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JOIN THE DUNDAS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
IN THE 2024

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY MARCH 30TH AT 10 AM

MEMORIAL PARK
214 1ST STREET S

Bring your own basket!
Donation request: \$1.00 per child

HELP US "BE GREEN" BY TURNING IN THE EGGS FOLLOWING THE HUNT!

35,000 Die from Antibiotic Overuse, Helium Shortage



By Shauna Burslem, D.C.

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

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

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

improving vascular function.

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

It appears that the "conspiracy theory" that Covid-19 coronavirus was developed in a lab in China is not a theory any longer. Evidence gathered through the Right to Know Act shows that the ECOHealth Alliance in 2018 proposed gain of function research (this is the type of research used to develop vaccines) on bat coronaviruses. Documents show that American scientists planned to work with China's Wuhan Institute of Virology to engineer coronaviruses with SARS-CoV-2 features the year before the virus emerged from the city. In his new book, Senator Rand Paul states that the COVID-19 pandemic was the result of Anthony Fauci's decision to fund the bat coronavirus gain of function research in China. This research was banned in the U.S. at the time. Paul goes on to say that Fauci profited from the Covid-19 pandemic disaster

in the amount of 5 million dollars. In an interview on the Tucker Carlson show, Paul states that the pandemic killed millions of people and Fauci should serve prison time.

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

By Monica & Claudia Vanderborght

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

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

Monica settled into a local community church. Although the congregation was

small, it was welcoming. With instant friends: there were two female veterans, a single middle-aged teacher, and a few families who farmed. Having time on her hands before house closing and school starting, Monica offered to help her new friends with whatever was needed. One family invited her to help trim grape vines in their vineyard; it was hot, sweaty work, standing on a steep hillside -- but Monica liked being outdoors and loved learning new skills.

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

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

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

so while she was gone Monica helped pack her belongings.

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

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

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

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

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

When it was her turn, Monica presented her driver's license and military identification

(knowing that many officers had served in the military).

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

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

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

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

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

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Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol



Question: I am looking at purchasing my first vehicle but I am worried about scams. Do you have any advice for me? Thank you.

Answer: Here is some information we recently shared on our Minnesota Department of Public Safety blog. Picture this: You are excited about buying a car. You drive it home, but later find out the odometer had been rolled back thousands of miles, it was stolen, or it had previous damage the seller didn't tell you about — all devastating news.

Scams like this are happening right here in Minnesota. That's why our Minnesota State Patrol Investigative Services Section is warning people to be on the lookout for signs the deal might be fraudulent.

"If you're in the market for a new vehicle, make sure you know what you're getting and who you're getting it from," State Patrol Capt. Jason Bartell said. "Trust your instincts. If it appears too good to be true, it probably is."

Buying a new car is a big decision. Our investigators recommend doing your research before handing over any money. Look up the

value of the vehicle you're looking to buy. There are several sites online that can give you a good idea of what the price should be.

Whether you're buying from a dealership or a private seller, request a vehicle history report from a company such as Carfax or Autocheck. Look over the previous crashes that vehicle has been a part of and the previous work that's been done on the vehicle. Make sure the mileage is consistent and doesn't have any sudden huge changes.

If you're buying from a dealership:

- Look up the business online and review what customers are saying.

- Make sure you understand each part of the negotiated deal, including any warranty, and that each part is in writing.

- Read all the paperwork. Minnesota law requires the dealer to notify you of prior damage exceeding 80 percent of the value or the existence of any title brand, which is a label on a vehicle title that depicts its status, such as salvage, flood, junk, etc.

- Complete the transaction at the dealer's place of business.

If you're buying your new-to-you vehicle from a private party:

- Be suspicious of any deal requesting you put money down or transfer funds before seeing the vehicle.

- Ask if they are the owner and if they possess the title. Verify the name on the title is the person that is selling the vehicle with their state ID, driver's license or another form of identification. Look at the title to see if it shows a lien or a security interest on the vehicle. If it states the name of a bank or credit

union, then there is a lien.

- Be wary. Fraud often occurs with out-of-state titles, and sellers that are not listed on the title.

- Make sure each part of the deal is in writing. The bill of sale or receipt should be signed by all parties and include the names of all seller(s) and purchaser(s), as well as a vehicle description that includes the make, model, year and VIN. Include the date of the sale, the price of the vehicle and the vehicle's mileage. We recommend getting the document notarized.

- Complete the transaction at a safe location and transfer the title at a local deputy regis-

trar's office together with the seller. If this is not possible, make sure to transfer the title within 10 days as required by state law.

- Take the vehicle to a trusted mechanic for an inspection.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

To the Editor, Water/Sewer Rates in Northfield May Double

The average-priced Northfield home pays \$88/month for sewer and water service.

Senator Amy Klobuchar a year ago promised the city a free Federal grant of \$35 million for a water and sewer infrastructure upgrade. But later in 2023, Congress changed course and nixed the grant. However, the city had already spent \$18 million they did not have, so they did an \$18 million bond offering last October. Now the second half of the bill is coming due.

The city just paid \$44,000 per acre for 13 acres on Hall Avenue in Northfield Township by the water tower. This was four times any other sale in recent years.

In desperation, the city is asking the state for a bail out, in the form of a "soft loan". The city web site shows the new water filtration plant, to take out trace amounts of manganese, may cost \$22 per gallon for 6 million gallons annually.

All this is caused by a state mandate due to baby formula also containing manganese, posing a possible health risk to up to half of the city's infants under age one, or 1% of the population.

The incredible element in this story is that Culligan offers to deliver ultra pure water for \$1.50 per gallon, making the city's own cost estimate of \$22/gallon a killer for all rate payers.

Doug Jones, Nerstrand

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Reuniting stray animals with their owners By: SENATOR BILL LIESKE

This week I want to highlight an example of a wrecked law that emerged from 2023. When Senate Republicans talk about Repairing Minnesota, this is what we mean. It is not just about big issues like the mandates that have crushed school budgets or the \$360 million in accidental task increases. It is also about

cleaning up messes that won't get big headlines.

In this case, it is about helping families reunite with their stray pets.

My bill is Senate File 3703. It simply says that if a person finds a stray animal and knows who the owner is, they must alert the owner. If they do not know who the owner is, they must file a notice with the town or city clerk and post a notice online along with a description. It has strong bipartisan support.

Sounds straightforward. So why is it needed? This is where it gets interesting.

Last session, the Democrats' Judiciary bill deleted a section of laws that govern county

recorders – specifically, the requirements that they keep books of stray animals.

Literally. In a law going back to 1905, county recorders are required to keep a physical log book of all stray animals in their jurisdiction. Obviously that practice has not been used for a very long time. But in deleting that chunk of laws, the bill also accidentally eliminated several other rules related to stray animals – including requirements for people who find them.

This means right now, under current law, if your animal gets out and someone finds it, they can do whatever they want with it. They can keep it. They can sell it. They can give it away. There is no law on the books that forces them to give it back to you or notify someone they found it.

You might be thinking that these situations would be covered under our theft laws. But they aren't, because strays are not technically stolen property.

This is a much more common problem than you might think. For example, Fox 9 ran a story in January about a family whose dog, Buddy, escaped their yard. A few days later, a Craigslist ad appeared of somebody selling

what appeared to be the family's dog. It has been more than 70 days, and they are still trying to get Buddy back.

About ten million pets go missing every year in the U.S., and tragically, around 35% never return home. Online lost pet posts are often met with comments encouraging finders to keep the animal or give it away, based on assumptions about its care. This mindset is misguided and can prevent reunions with distraught owners. Losing a pet happens all too often, and without clear legal obligations for finders, many more animals will fail to make it back to their families.

My sincere hope is that repairing this law will help more families be reunited with their missing pets.

Your feedback, ideas, and concerns are what allow me to serve you to the best of my ability. Please share your thoughts with me any time at sen.bill.lieske@mnsenate.gov or 651-296-5019.

I would also love it if you follow my new, official Facebook page here: <https://www.fb.com/SenatorLieske>.

It is a privilege to serve you!
Bill

Bridgewater Township Annual Meeting March 12, 2024

By Doug Jones

A full house approved a 7% levy increase for 2024, and seriously considered much bigger future increases, related to dust control on gravel roads and restoring about 5 miles of paved roads.

The industrial park is making fast strides with the Core X frozen food warehouse project. Negotiations under way will decide whether the state will allow Steel Waseca Electric to supply the needed service even though technically in Xcel's territory.

Also MNDOT support for paving 140th street west to an I-35 connection is in the works. But the key may be the new Union Pacific Railroad attitude to supplying rail service to new sidings directly, without having to allow the shortline railway to insert itself. Besides the Core X project, this may lead to many more industrial opportunities to the south into the County 9 corridor.

Bridgewater is preliminarily discussing the sale of a \$1 million bond placement with the Dundas bank to bridge expenses for water, electricity, and normal delays starting a new property tax levy on an industrial project. Following years might see a \$2 million bonding to finance the five miles of new asphalt in Bridgewater's many small developments.

Other tidbits include Steve Albers and Leif Knecht looking for a weed control replacement ("It is fun shooting cow parsnips"). And a backup grader operator for the inevitable return of winter some year. Glen Castore led the three supervisor winners with 101 out of 115 votes. Mary Franz could not attend as she is expecting a baby, and Kathleen Kopseng was sick and out of action. Eric Schrader held the meeting on a fast track, ending at 10:15 PM.

DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, February 26, 2024 7:00 p.m. City Hall

Present: Councilors Ashley Gallagher, Luke LaCroix, Grant Modory, Luke Swartwood
Absent: Mayor Glenn Switzer
Staff: City Engineer Dustin Tipp, City Administrator/Clerk Jenelle Teppen

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Modory called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by LaCroix, second by Gallagher, to approve the agenda. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU)

CONSENT AGENDA

- Regular Minutes of February 12, 2024
 - Consider Resolution 2024-05 Accepting Donations
 - Disbursements - \$106,748.16
- Motion by Swartwood, second by LaCroix, to approve the consent agenda. MCU

REGULAR AGENDA

• Consider Proposal for Long Term Financial Plan Update
Motion by LaCroix, second by Swartwood, to approve proposal for Abdo Financial Services update to the Long-Term Financial Plan for \$6,500 MCU

• Consider Approving Resolution 2024 – 06 Approving an Interfund Loan in the amount of \$158,000 from the 602 Sewer Fund to the 410 Public Works Capital Equipment Fund
Motion by Swartwood, second by Gallagher, to Approve Resolution 2024 – 06 Approving an Interfund Loan in the amount of \$158,000 from the 602 Sewer Fund to the 410 Public Works Capital Equipment Fund MCU

• Consider Approving Appointment of Bridgewater Township Representative to the Dundas Planning Commission

Motion by Modory, second by LaCroix to approve Frances Boehning as a Bridgewater Township Representative to the Dundas Planning Commission for a four-year term 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2028. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer – Dustin Tipp

Tipp reported that the scope of the TH3/Cty Rd 1 project has been amended to include additional sidewalk installation along Schilling Drive both north and south of Cty Rd 1. He also reported that the bid opening for the Forest Ave/Depot Street reconstruction project will be on March 19 with the bid awarded at the March 25 City Council meeting.

City Administrator

Teppen reported that the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 30 at 10 am at Memorial Park.

City Council

Council member Gallagher reported that the Cannon Valley Disc Golf group has attended a few PRAB meetings to discuss and seek support for a disc golf course in Dundas.

Council member Swartwood reported on the Intergovernmental Meeting held last week and some of the topics of discussion.

ADJOURN

Motion by Swartwood, second by Gallagher, to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 PM. MCU
Minutes prepared by Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator/City Clerk

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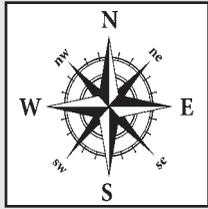
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Self-Checkouts and the "Pig"



By Terry Campbell

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



I do not care for self-checkouts. I never wanted to be a cashier at Dollar General. When I go to a store I expect to be waited on. I stop at the Piggly Wiggly in town. The "Pig" was the first self-service grocery store in the country. It started in 1916 in Tennessee, and no one knows why the name. But down here everyone loves them and refers to them as the "Pig". Originally no one shopped for groceries. You gave your list to the clerk, who filled your order. The Piggly Wiggly changed all that.

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

One evening I had to drive to Clarkesville to get dog food. I feed NutriSource dog food. It is a high-quality food and that was the closest store that sells it. It's a forty-five minute drive to J-M Petland. I take State Hwy 79 into Clarkesville and turn on Charlemagne which intersects Fort Campbell Boulevard.

Charlemagne Blvd is where the tornado hit Clarkesville in December of 2023. Over ninety homes were destroyed along that road.

I don't go up Fort Campbell Blvd very far. It will take you right into the Army base. I tried going to Fort Campbell one time to get an item my wife bought off marketplace. I had to stop at the guard shack to get permission to enter the base. They asked for driver's license, proof of insurance and vehicle registration. There was a very grumpy guard on duty. My insurance card had my name, address, vehicle information and VIN. He asked where my vehicle registration was and I said the info was on my insurance card. He wouldn't even look at it. He just looked at me and barked back that shouldn't even show up without the proper documentation, I was told to leave immediately and "Next". I left feeling fortunate I wasn't shot over this infraction.

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

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

A Minnesotan: Easter Bunnies



By RosaLin Alcoser

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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HAPPY EASTER

WISHING YOU AND YOURS A
WONDERFUL HOLIDAY!

From All of Us at the Dundas Messenger



Happy Easter



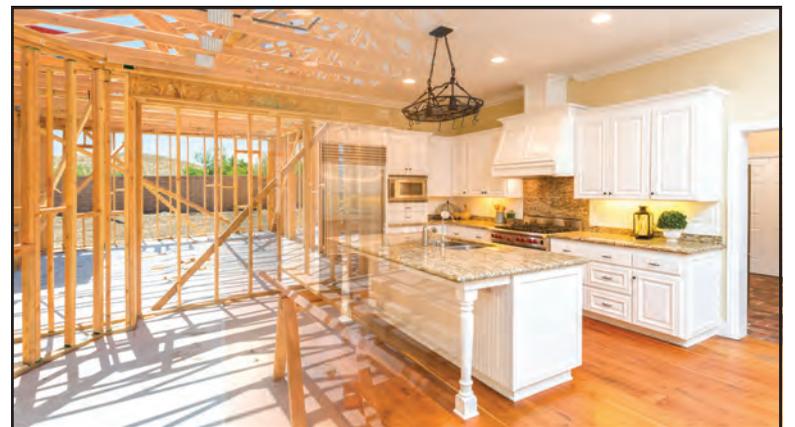
We're wishing you bright and happy days
this Easter and always.

*Thank you for your loyal support.
We look forward to serving you again soon.*

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