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MAY 1, 2024

Volume 5 • Issue 9

March Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

Proposed Land Purchase

The County Engineer informed the Board that as part of the TH 14 relocation there is a land remnant that MnDOT will be selling back to the original property owner.

(continued on page 5)

Announcements

• **Adult community pickleball:** Come join us for a fun evening of learning all about pickleball. Tuesday evening, May 7th at 6:30 at the court by the swimming pool in West Concord. Equipment will be furnished. Just come out for a good time of fun, fellowship, and exercise!

• **The Claremont American Legion Auxiliary** will have poppies available at several businesses May 20 through May 24. On Monday, May 27th, treats will be served (free will offering) at the Legion Hall after the cemetery programs.

• **GriefShare support group** meets Sundays, 3-5 pm, at Anchor Of Hope Church, 203 East Main Street, Dodge Center, MN. Contact Dale E Rood at 507-633-2772 for more information. Registration is available on the GriefShare website or by calling Pastor Rood. This is for anyone experiencing the loss of a loved one, friend, or other significant person in their lives.

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

Do you have an announcement?

Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Midwest Sign Tech; Big Time Screen Printing in a Small Town

Midwest SignTech has been doing vehicle wraps, graphics and signage banners at their Rochester location for years and owner Dustin Snell acquired the business in 2007 after working with the previous owner for about ten months. In 2014 they purchased screen printing equipment and set up their production shop where the cafeteria used to

be in the old West Concord High School building.

The business has grown and now screen printing shirts amount to about half of their business each year. They ship shirts all over the United States and Canada. One of their biggest clients is the Big Iron Classic held in Kasson each fall. They print 2,000 t-shirts for



Dustin and Christine Snell

the event each year. Trucking companies account for many of their sales as they take pride in exclusive designs on their shirts.

Dustin originally was an iron worker for about eight years but after an injury he decided to use his mind instead of his muscles and took a job in a print shop.

(continued on page 5)

Eden Progressive Gophers 4-H Club



Monday, April 15, the Eden Progressive Gophers 4-H Club members presented legion members Rod & Renae Streich with a check from the 4-H Pancake Breakfast held March 17. Proceeds will go toward kitchen improvements.

Thank you to everyone who supported the 4-H Pancake Breakfast AND American Legion Post 295. (additional pictures on page 8)

Fan-Favorite Acts Return for Berne Wood-Fired Pizza's 13th Season

West Concord, MN: Berne Wood-Fired Pizza is gearing up for another great summer of mouth watering pizzas and toe-tapping tunes as it announces the return of some of its most beloved musical acts for the 2024 season. With Wednesday nights set to be filled with an amazing combination of delicious pizza and captivating live music, Berne invites everyone to kick off the excitement on June 5th at 5 PM.

(continued on page 3)

LIVE MUSIC!

Leonard McCracken Friday, May 10 • 7-10p.m.

The Dreamers Friday, May 31 • 7-10p.m.

Open Mic Thursday, May 2 7:00-10:00p.m.

Open Mic Thursday, May 16 7:00-10:00p.m.



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True North

When we're using a map we need to understand that there are two different types of north. They are: True North and Magnetic north. True north (geodetic north) refers to the direction along the surface of the earth as you proceed towards the geographic North Pole. The Magnetic north refers to the direction a compass needle will point corresponding to the magnetic field lines of the Earth.

We use a compass to point us to magnetic north. A compass needle will always point towards the Magnetic north pole. The pole may not be the exact point since the compass aligns itself to the local geomagnetic field which varies constantly. The pole is the wandering point in the Northern Hemisphere where the magnetic field points vertically downwards.

The two norths are important to map readers and navigators in making them understand topography. The difference between the magnetic north and the true north is the angle of incline. Each area can be a little different; a few degrees can be either added or subtracted to get the specific north one is looking for. The direction and source of your compass will impact where you end up. What does this all matter?

Consider this. If you're going somewhere and you're off course by just one degree, after one foot, you'll miss your target by 0.2 inches. (doesn't seem to important- right) But what about as you get farther out?

- After 100 yards, you'll be off by 5.2 feet. Not huge, but noticeable.
- After a mile, you'll be off by 92.2 feet. One degree is starting to make a difference.
- After traveling from San Francisco to L.A., you'll be off by 6 miles.
- If you were trying to get from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., you'd end up on the other side of Baltimore, 42.6 miles away.
- In a rocket going to the moon, you'd be 4,169 miles off (nearly twice the diameter of the moon).

• Going to the sun, you'd miss by over 1.6 million miles (nearly twice the diameter of the sun).

Over time, a mere one-degree error in course makes a huge difference! What we are pointing our life at matters! Our direction matters. The truth in our faith matters. Where we are heading on our faith journey matters!

Magnetic north almost never- aligns with True North. Magnetic North misses the mark because it is focused on the magnetic pull. Truth North is unchanging. We can count on it to be in the same place it was the last time. And the next time too. As believers, we need to follow something that doesn't change, something that is true all the time. To be on the right track we must be following 'True North.' Jesus' truth never changes. Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." He is our true North! Jesus is the only way you will find True North.

Jesus is the one sent from God to be our Savior- the perfect Passover lamb for all humankind. Jesus gave His all for you and me. He desires that we focus our hearts and lives on Him.

Jesus said in John 11:25 "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." We can have life forever with Him- when we choose to believe Him; we must believe that He is the Messiah. We need to believe that He is our truth for today and for the future too.

We all have the tendency to drift from True North. Often, we begin our walk with Jesus with high hopes and expectations- and then

something happens. Life happens. Sorrow or hardship take over and we begin to drift. We don't see Jesus loving hand in our lives when everything seems to be going wrong! We struggle to believe and to have faith. Our hope takes a hit.

When that happens, we have to readjust and find our true north once again! We have to get back into the Bible. We can't stop meeting together- but meet all the more with other believers. Hebrews 10:23-25 says, "23 Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. 24 Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. 25 And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." We need to hold tight to our hope- trust in God's promises and keep being with other believers! We are not meant to live life or faith alone!!! Look at the words in Hebrews: hold tight, without wavering, think of ways, motivate one another, meet together, encourage each other... **ESPECIALLY NOW!** Especially now as the day of Christ return is drawing near.

If we don't hang tight, we will drift off course. There are many magnetic pulls that can take us away from True North.

- We can drift when we get our lives focused more on ourselves than on Jesus Words and His truth.
- We begin to drift when we allow compromise and sin into our lives.
- We drift when we focus more on the problems than the one with the solution.

Jesus tells us to not worry- He's got this! Instead of focusing on the problem- we must keep our focus on Jesus Christ.

To stay on course we need to grow a daily walk with Jesus. As we read His Word each day and obey His truths we will be committed to the true north. Will it be easy- probably not! Satan loves to put roadblocks in our way. The world would rather have a pasty, ineffective follower of Jesus than one that is totally committed to Him. Reading the Bible, going to church, being a part of a small group are all ways to keep us on course.

When we follow True North, those things that are pulling us away or making our life a mess will need to be removed. When we recognize the mess we've made, or the wrong direction- it is ok to get help. You may need to go to counseling, or to treatment. You may need to get involved in a Celebrate Recovery or another 12-step program. To be restored to true north- you must first admit your need- you need to tell Jesus and someone you trust that you are lost! It's not easy to admit being lost. It happens to new believers as well as people that have been on the journey for a while. But once you recognize that you have lost your way- seek Jesus- go to Him, get back on course! You may have to go back through a lot of that junk that got you where you are now- but stay true. Remember the power and the love of the resurrected Jesus- Because He lives, we have hope for tomorrow. **REMEMBER:**

Jesus has the power to give you hope today, and for all your tomorrows.
Jesus is True North, Follow Him!

Serving the Triton Area

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DODGE CENTER

Faith Lutheran Church
 308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center
 Pastor Jessica Bakken Busch • 507-374-2174
 Traditional Worship 8a.m.; Fellowship 9a.m.
 Christian Education 9:15a.m.
 Contemporary Worship 10a.m.

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

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

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

St. John Baptist De La Salle
 20 2nd St. NE, Dodge Center • 507-374-6830
 Mass Saturday 5p.m.

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

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

**Anchor of Hope Church,
 a 7th Day Baptist Congregation**
 203 E. Main St., Dodge Center • 507-374-6755
 Saturday 10a.m. Worship; 11:45a.m. Sabbath School

Bible Lutheran Church
 (American Assoc. of Lutheran Churches)
 11 1st Ave. N.E., Dodge Center
 www.biblelc.org • 612-803-1212
 Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.
 (weekly sermons available on YouTube and on website)

First Congregational Church
 12 Second Street NW
 Dodge Center, MN 55927 • 507-633-6873
www.congregationalchurchdc.com
 Keith Mosier, Pastor

Area Church Directory
Work: Serving God With Excellence

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord. . . . — Colossians 3:23

Work is not merely a means of earning a living; it is an opportunity to serve God with excellence. Whether it's in our job or career, our studies, or our daily chores and tasks, we can bring glory to God by working with diligence and wholeheartedness.

Our attitude toward work reflects our devotion to Christ. When we view our labor as an offering to the Lord, even mundane tasks take on significance.

Every effort made with love and dedication is an act of worship.

God calls us to work for him and not for human approval. We find our ultimate reward in him.

Knowing that God sees and values our efforts, we serve with joy and a sense of purpose.

May our work ethic be characterized by integrity and humility. Whether we are enjoying success or facing challenges, we can keep our eyes fixed on the One we serve, knowing that our labor is not in vain.

And as we go about our work each day as working for the Lord, we become a reflection of God's love and a light in this world.

Lord, I offer my work and all I do as worship to you. Help me to serve diligently and with integrity. May my labor bring you glory and reflect your love to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

CLAREMONT

1st Presbyterian Church
 200 East Street, Claremont • 528-2320
 Pastor Doug Walters
 Sunday Worship at 10:00a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church
 4532 SE 84th Avenue, Claremont • 528-2404
 Pastor Alan Broadwell
 Sunday Service at 10:30a.m.

WEST CONCORD

Faith Community Church
 305 State Street N, West Concord • 507-527-2244
 Pastor David Brederland
 Sunday 9:30a.m. Worship; 10:45a.m. Sunday School
www.fcwc.org
 Facebook: WC Faith Community Church

Hegre Lutheran, ELCA
 51939 Highway 56 Blvd., Kenyon • 507-527-2353
 Sunday: 9:15a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship

Trinity Lutheran, ELCA
 301 Highland St., West Concord • 507-527-2778
 Pastor Chad Christensen • trinitychurchwc.net
 Sunday worship video is posted on Facebook:
[Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcord](https://www.facebook.com/Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcord/)
 Sundays 9:45a.m. Worship in building and live streamed on Facebook
 Sunday School 10:30a.m.
 Tuesday Men's Bible Study, 7:00a.m.
 at church and via Zoom
 Call church for more information on ministries and events.

Church of Christ
 55087 200th Ave., West Concord • 507-527-2723
 Pastor Peter Moen
 9:00a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship
concordchurchmn.com

Zwingli United Church of Christ
 "The Berne Church"
 23148 Co. Hwy. 24, West Concord • 507-356-4340
 Pastor Karen Larson
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Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to the The Messenger at: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

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Fan-Favorite Acts Return for Berne Wood-Fired Pizza's 13th Season

(continued from page 1)

This year, Berne is excited to announce the return of some fan-favorites that have become synonymous with the summer venue.

Coming back to the stage with much fanfare are the beloved bands Six Mile Grove, Incognito, The Local Hooligans, and Lost Faculties. These tried and true performers have become staples of the Berne experience, drawing in audiences with unforgettable performances and incredible energy. But it doesn't stop there. Eight new bands will make their Berne debut this summer, and Berne is thrilled to welcome back two wonderful tribute acts that have reached legendary status at Berne: Crazy on You: A Tribute to Heart and fABBAulous: A Tribute to ABBA. Fans of the timeless classics anxiously await these

nights each summer where the music pays homage to these legendary bands.

Of course, no trip to Berne would be complete without indulging in the mouth watering pizzas that have become essential to the Wednesday night experience. The quality ingredients produce a monthly specialty pizza including the Chicken, Bacon, Ranch, Hawaiian, and Bacon Bleu. Those with more traditional palates will enjoy the Bacon Cheeseburger and Meat Lover's.

In addition to pizza and music, Berne has many special events planned to make every night unique. Returning once again this year is the SxSE Brewfest, brought to you by the SxSE Brewery located in Pine Island, Minnesota. In addition, Berne is set to host a monthly classic car cruise-in, weekly children's crafts, an artisan market, and, new this year, "Country Night," which will feature two country music bands as well as activities. This event will take place on June 26th.

So, mark your calendars and make plans to join Berne for another season of unforgettable moments, delectable flavors, and fantastic music, all while raising money to support a variety of area nonprofits.

June 5: Lost Faculties
 June 12: Thomas and the Shakes
 June 19: Foster Grand
 June 26: 507 Country
 July 3: Rockin' Hep Cats
 July 10: The Vintage Tones
 July 17: Orchid Jane
 July 24: Collective Unconscious
 July 31: Cosmic Orphan
 Aug. 7: My Grandma's Cardigan
 Aug. 14: The Chubs
 Aug. 21: True North
 Aug. 28: Jeremy Jewell & The Co-Dependents

Uptown Jazz
 Branded: Hot Country
 Crazy on You: A Tribute to Heart
 County Line Drive
 Old Country Boys
 The Soul Train
 Incognito
 The Stella Vees
 Retro Soul and the Westside Horns
 Six Mile Grove
 The Local Hooligans
 fABBAulous - A Tribute to ABBA
 Nite Shift

About Berne Wood-Fired Pizza: Berne Wood-Fired Pizza is hosted by Zwingli United Church of Christ and held on their grounds. Funds raised support the church and its chosen nonprofit beneficiaries. To learn more, visit Berne Wood-Fired Pizza's website or Facebook page.

OBITUARY

Melvin A. Edelbach, Jr.

Melvin A. Edelbach, Jr., 79 of Kellogg, passed away Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at Mayo Clinic - St. Mary's Campus, Rochester, MN.



Melvin Allan was born February 4, 1945, in Waumandee, WI to Wilma (Fink) and Melvin Edelbach, Sr. He grew up in the Buffalo County, WI area. On April 18, 1966 he married Sharon R. Kelly and together they raised six daughters: Jeanine, Linda, Lisa, Lori, Nancy, and Cindy.

Melvin enjoyed hobby farming and logged with his brother William for many years until a near fatal injury in 2009. A skilled wood crafter and tinkerer. A faithful member of the United Church of God. He loved spending time with his family and grandkids. He set such a great example for his family in his faith, work ethic and honesty.

He is survived by his wife Sharon; daughters: Jeanine Case; Linda (Ted) Gamble; Lisa (Todd) Fox; Lori (Brad) Passe; Nancy (Steve) Shanahan; and Cindy (Darrin) Dillinger; 13 grandchildren: Shane, Vachelle, Katey, Matt, Raleigh, Breena, Isabel, Jack, Luke, Grant, Austin, Tyler, and Trent; one great grandson Revan; four step-grandchildren: Dan, Toni, Emily, Adam; 10 step-great grandchildren: Logan, Ian, Hannah, Mason, Johnelvis, Owen, Christopher, Gianni, Easton, Ashton; a sister Ellen Amy and many other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a granddaughter Melanie; a grandson Dustyn; and eight siblings: Loren, Dawn, William, Russell, Shirley, Ivy, Marvin and Jesse.

A visitation was held from 10 am to 12 pm, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at Abbott Funeral Home, Wabasha, Interment was at Hillside Cemetery, Minneiska, MN.

Services entrusted to Abbott Funeral Home & Crematory, Wabasha, MN. Words of sympathy or remembrance may be left at www.abbottfh.com

BERNE Summer 2024 Concert Series

FREE MUSIC WEDNESDAYS 5-8 PM

Date	Opening Band 5:00 PM	Headliner 6:30 PM
June 5th -	Lost Faculties	Uptown Jazz
June 12th - <small>Swiss Heritage Exhibit</small>	Thomas & the Shakes	Branded: Hot Country
June 19th - <small>Art & Antique</small>	Foster Grand	Crazy on You: A Tribute to Heart
June 26th - <small>Classic Car Cruise-in & Country Night</small>	507 Country	County Line Drive
July 3rd -	Rockin' Hep Cats	Old Country Boys
July 10th - <small>Kids Night w/ Zollman Zoo</small>	The Vintage Tones	The Soul Train
July 17th -	Orchid Jane	Incognito
July 24th -	Collective Unconscious	The Stella Vees
July 31st - <small>Classic Car Cruise-in</small>	Cosmic Orphan	Retro Soul & the Westside Horns
August 7th - <small>Artisan Market</small>	My Grandma's Cardigan	Six Mile Grove
August 14th -	The Chubs	The Local Hooligans
August 21st - <small>SxSE Brewfest</small>	True North	fABBAulous
August 28th - <small>Classic Car Cruise-in</small>	Jeremy Jewell & the Co-Dependents	Nite Shift

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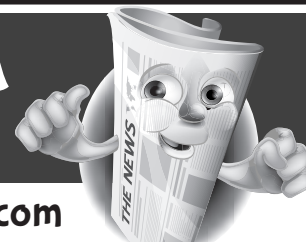


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Down on the Farm/ Up at the Cabin

*Farm Living is the
Life for Me*

By Monica & Claudia Vanderborght

Two weeks before teachers were scheduled to return to school, Monica became the proud owner of her "new" 20 acre farm in Wanamingo township.

Moving In:

Friends came to help -- parishioners from her new church, neighbors from her previous homes, colleagues from her school. Many hands make short work -- the Pack Rat shipping container was quickly emptied, and (priority number one) the bed was assembled. (No more sleeping on an air mattress!!! YAY!)

And Now I Need:

A bigger lawn mower. The push mower from the suburbs was not going to work on a five-acre yard.

A chainsaw. Monica had been told that the electricity bills could run as high as \$700 a month in the winter. But downstairs was a fireplace with an insert and a blower. Claudia (Monica's sister) had, for decades, heated her homes exclusively with wood. After researching the many makes, models, and sizes, Monica bought an Echo with 16" blade. It wasn't too long, it wasn't too heavy -- it was just right. (Her guy-friends were gladly willing to fell the big stuff with their chainsaws that didn't get much use in suburbia.)

An ATV and trailer to haul the wood that was cut.

A hydraulic wood splitter to size the pieces

for handling, stacking, and fitting into the fireplace.

A farm truck. Dean (4WD Club and motor-head friend) found a 13-year-old F250 that would surely fit her farm needs and budget ... but Monica had to buy it THAT DAY or it would be gone. Stop working on lesson plans. Stop assembling the dining room table. Drive up to Elk River to see the truck. Yup, it's a truck.

Yup, it seems to drive okay. (Monica's experience with vehicles -- at this point -- was limited to sedans, minivans, Jeep Wranglers, and Goldwing motorcycles). Yup, I'll take it ... but I will have to pick it up next week.

Plow blade. Silly to have someone else plow the long driveway when you own an F250. Another new skill to learn. (It can't be that difficult, can it?)

Farm clothes. Slacks, blouses, and pretty sandals are great for teaching, but are obviously impractical for farm chores. Muck boots, overalls, heavy winter jackets, and gloves that can get dirty while still keeping you warm. Monica was never shy of shopping at thrift stores; there was plenty to be found there and at a reasonable price.

Winterizing the Home

The pretty stuff was going to have to wait (replacing the rust-stained robin's egg blue tub and commode was just not important, repainting the dingy living room walls could be done later, the bare concrete floors in the basement could wait another year - or two, the harvest gold range would cook food just like any other color of stove).

But the attic insulation was thin. (When Monica accompanied the building inspector, he mentioned adding insulation would decrease that dreaded electricity bill. He also assured Monica there were no monsters lurking up there.) YouTube can teach you any-



thing! So Monica and her grandson braved the attic heat in October and blew in cellulose.

Insulating the 1970s single-pane windows with plastic was a multi-day task: thirteen 48" windows downstairs, seven 48" windows upstairs, plus one enormous 108" picture window (a challenge!)

Adding a deck and sliding glass door off the kitchen. Most people would not consider this a winterizing project, but Monica grilled most evenings (yes, even in January and February).

Cutting, Hauling, Splitting, Stacking the Firewood

They say that heating with wood heats you more than once. Maybe five times. Six?

Cutting: Dead-fall was plentiful, so felling live trees and waiting for them to dry was not an issue.

Cutting and Hauling: The woods were overgrown and nearly impassable -- ATV-sized trails needed to be made so wood could be hauled out.

More Hauling: Claudia suggested a LOT of kindling. You just needed to bend down,

pick up a dry stick, and toss it into the trailer.

Stacking: An old, dilapidated shed near the house needed only a few racks to turn it into an airy, usable woodshed.

More Stacking: Throughout the winter, the firewood supply in the house needs to be replenished.

Definitely six times. Maybe seven.

Enjoying the Farm

Watching the corn and soybeans that surrounded the farm turn from lush green to crisp brown. Seeing and hearing the huge combines harvest the crops and smelling the rich, black dirt left behind.

Listening to the geese fly overhead, heading south for the winter.

Noticing the sun rise and set just a little farther south every day.

Deciding where to put the chicken coop in the spring. Considering what livestock to put in the pastures and pole barn.

Sitting on the new deck on a sunny October afternoon, adult beverage at hand, and celebrating the amazing differences between a suburban home and a rural farm.

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March Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 1)

Before it is sold to the original owner, the county has the opportunity to purchase some

it for the county. The parcel of interest is the now cleared connection between old and new TH 14 just south of the Hodgman Shop. The portion the Highway Department is interested in is the south 3 to 4 acres of the old right of way. Included in the Board packet was an overhead picture of the desired parcel. Over the last several years the Highway Department has struggled to locate places for operations such as material stockpiling and brush burning. This is a somewhat centrally located piece of ground with good access to state and county roads. In discussions with MnDOT they indicated that the county would

be able to purchase the land for the same price as the original property owner, approximately \$10,000 per acre. The funds to purchase the land would come from unbudgeted additional funds the Highway Department has worked out of the TH 14 turnback. Maintenance Superintendent Andrew Hesper was available to comment on the request. Motion by Toquam seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the Highway Department to pursue purchasing 4 acres from the TH 14 relocation project from MnDOT at a cost of approximately \$10,000 per acre to be used for Highway Department material stockpiling and brush burning as discussed. Motion Adopted [Unanimous]

Guy Kohlhofer, County Engineer & Lauren Cornelius, Environmental Services Director Progress of New Park and Associated Activities

Mr. Kohlhofer reported that as the new park neighboring the Transfer Station nears completion a date for opening to the public is coming into view. At this time, it is ex-

pected the park will be ready for opening early this fall. With that comes the idea that the county's new park may need a name, hopefully it will have significance to the area and community. The following is a list of names tossed around by the Parks Department as well as the Environmental Services Department who had the lion's share of effort in making this park happen. Restoration Park, Sunset Park, Horizon View Park, Skyline Park, Whitetail Meadow Park, Westwood Meadow Park and Conservation Park. There has also been consideration that the county could open up the naming of the park to the community for ideas. This would be done on Facebook and at the county fair. An alternative is to leave it un-named until the park is more fully developed and in use by the public. Included in the Board packet were sample signs Mr. Kohlhofer and Ms. Cornelius are working on for the entrance to the park. The Environmental Services Director distributed additional sign examples they have been working on. (continued on page 6)

Midwest Sign Tech; Big Time Screen Printing in a Small Town

(continued from page 1)

He started by hand drawing a photo onto stationary. Realizing his potential he enrolled in a Minneapolis Art School where he graduated with honors earning a Bachelors degree six months early.

Dustin draws the design on a computer and it can take up to sixty hours to complete the image for a shirt. They have a ten-station press, which allows them to produce a nine color shirt. With one color they can print about five hundred shirts per hour. The set up for the multi color designs is very time consuming so there is a minimum order requirement for the intricate multi-colored designs. The press is temperature controlled. It has to be 120 degrees to begin and 345 degrees to set the ink on the shirt.

Dustin and Christine Snell operate the business along with a couple employees. An average year will see orders of more than 30,000 t shirts designed, printed and shipped out of the facility.

Join us for Book Group at the West Concord Library Saturday, May 4 from 9-10am or Wednesday, May 8 from 4-5pm

The Lager Queen of Minnesota by J. Ryan Stradal

A novel of family, Midwestern values, hard work, fate and the secrets of making a world-class beer.

Two sisters, one farm. A family is split when their father leaves their shared inheritance entirely to Helen, his younger daughter. Despite baking award-winning pies at the local nursing home, her older sister, Edith, struggles to make what most people would call a living. So she can't help wondering what her life would have been like with even a portion of the farm money her sister kept for herself.

With the proceeds from the farm, Helen builds one of the most successful light breweries in the country, and makes their company motto ubiquitous: "Drink lots. It's Blotz." Where Edith has a heart as big as Minnesota, Helen's is as rigid as a steel keg. Yet one day, Helen will find she needs some help herself, and she could find a potential savior close to home. . . if it's not too late.

349 pages, Hardcover, First published July 1, 2019



WEST CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

DOUBLETREE LEATHERWORKS


Ages 14+ Registration required

LEATHER WALLET WORKSHOP

Join us for this fun class to create a bifold leather wallet. During this four hour session you will learn to pattern trace, cut leather, apply a stamp, apply a protective finish, hand-stitch, and edge-finish your own wallet! All materials and tools will be provided and this program is free and open to the public

May 9, 2024 4:00pm
(507) 527-2031

West Concord Public Library
180 Main St
West Concord, MN 55985



Find more events in the region here!

MINNESOTA LIBRARY LEGACY
CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY FUNDAMENT

Save the Date!

West Concord Spring Fling

HELLO Spring

Saturday, May 11, 2024
4:00-7:00 PM

Plant Sale
Food/Cash Bar
Silent Auction
Music

More Information to Come!

Your Local Organizations and Park & Recreation Fundraiser

Sponsored By:
Cardinal Club of West Concord
West Concord Historical Society

March Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 5)

Mr. Kohlhofer and Ms. Cornelius were looking for guidance and input from the Board as to what their wishes were regarding the naming of the new park. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve and authorize Ms. Cornelius and Mr. Kohlhofer to move forward with naming the new park the Restoration Park and supported using the sign design with the park logo and Dodge County logo. Motion Adopted [Unanimous]

Elmquist reported the City of Kasson is applying for competitive funding to construct trails to fill some gaps in their overall system. Included in the Board packet was a map for the affected project areas. As part of the application, the City of Kasson is requesting letters of support. They would like to include a letter from Dodge County to improve the application. Included in the Board packet was a proposed letter of support for the Board's review.

The deadline for the competitive funding is April 1, 2024. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Toquam to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a letter of support for the City of Kasson to apply for competitive funding to construct trails to fill some gaps in their overall trail system. Motion Adopted [Unanimous]

Ms. Grondin presented for the Board's consideration the March 6, 2024 Planning Commission recommendations. The Zoning Administrator informed the Board that the first public hearing applicant withdrew their application the day before the public hearing so that item will not be presented. IUP #24-01 Nuss Ms. Grondin reviewed with the Board IUP #24-01 - Nuss. Motion by Toquam seconded by Kenworthy to approve of the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on March 6, 2024 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit: IUP #24-01 Nuss The second public hearing is to consider an application for Interim Use Permit #24-01 to allow for an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) in the Ag. District on approximately 11-acres, section 16 in Ripley Township. The applicant and property owner is Shawna Nuss. **RECOMMENDATIONS** The Environmental Services Staff recommends approval of the Interim Use Permit (I.U.P.) as the request meets the ordinance requirements and criteria. The following conditions are recommended:

1. An Ag Covenant shall be signed and recorded prior to any construction activities for the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU).
2. A Restrictive Covenant shall be signed and recorded prior to any construction activities for the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU).
3. The water supply system shall meet all applicable Minnesota Department of Health requirements for water wells.

4. A Dodge County Zoning Permit shall be obtained before construction of any structure.

5. A final plan set for the ADU and a remodeling plan for the future use of the structure shall be submitted to the Environmental Services Department prior to any construction activities in order to be placed on file with the IUP.

6. A post-construction inspection shall be conducted by the Environmental Services Department in order to verify that the ADU meets the performance standards of the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance and the provided plan set dimensions.

7. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner, upon property transfer, to disclose the termination of the IUP for the ADU on the property to the buyer(s) and the process to maintain, remove or remodel the ADU as stated in Chapter 16, section 16.41 of the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance.

8. Upon termination of the IUP, the structure occupied by the ADU shall be remodeled following the provided remodeling plan within the timeframe specified in the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance. Permit(s) shall be applied for, as needed, prior to any construction.

Any alteration to the remodeling plan shall be approved by the Environmental Services Department prior to any work being done. A site inspection shall be conducted after remodel is performed in order to verify that the structure meets all applicable standards.

9. The access and driveway shall adhere to the design standards established in Chapter 17, section 17.2 of the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance. The driving surface width shall be approved by Emergency Services and the appropriate road authority. Motion Adopted [Unanimous]

The third public hearing is to consider an application for Zoning Amendment #24-01 to Chapter 12. To view the proposed language a copy will be available at the Dodge County Finance Office, the Dodge County Environmental Services Office and also on the County web site [www.co.dodge.mn.us/Departments/Environmental Services/Public Hearings](http://www.co.dodge.mn.us/Departments/Environmental%20Services/Public%20Hearings). Commissioner Tjosaas offered the following resolution (#2024-10), seconded by Commissioner Kenworthy: WHEREAS, amendment of Chapter 12 (Commercial District "C") is proposed to remove a category of conditional uses to the Commercial District per legal recommendation; and WHEREAS, a summary of the language to be amended in Chapter 12 (Commercial District "C") has been published in the legal newspaper on February 22nd, 2024 and posted upon the county website; and WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed amendment was held by the Dodge County Planning Commission on March 6th, 2024; and WHEREAS, the Dodge County Planning Commission found the draft language to be consistent with the Dodge County Comprehensive Land Use Plan; and WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed amendments to Chapter 12 (Commercial District "C") to the Dodge County Board of Commissioners; and WHEREAS, the Dodge County Board of Commissioners adopted the proposed amendment to Chapter 12 (Commercial District "C") at its March 12th, 2024 meeting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Dodge County hereby adopts the amendment to Chapter 12 (Commercial District "C"). Resolution Adopted [Unanimous] ZA #24-02 Chapter 18 & Chapter 21 Ms. Harbaugh reviewed ZA #24-02 Chapter 18 & Chapter 21. The fourth public hearing is to consider an application for Zoning Amendment #24-02 to Chapter 18 and Chapter 21. To view the proposed language a copy will be available at the Dodge County Finance Office, the Dodge County Environmental Services Office and also on the County web site [www.co.dodge.mn.us/Departments/Environmental Dodge](http://www.co.dodge.mn.us/Departments/Environmental%20Dodge)

Mr. Harbaugh reported that on March 5th, 2024 they opened proposals as advertised for the replacement of the piping and new heat pumps in the Government Services Building (GSB) and the Courthouse. Proposals were opened by Finance with the Building Committee present and the proposals were included in the Board packet for review. The Facilities & Fleet Manager is recommending that the Board accept the proposal from Benike and allow Mr. Harbaugh to execute the contract after review by the Attorney's Office so the equipment can be ordered. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Toquam to approve and authorize accepting the proposal from Benike at a cost of approximately \$2,271,313 to update the Government Services Building and Courthouse HVAC systems and allow Mr. Harbaugh to execute the contract after review by the Attorney's Office. Motion Adopted [Unanimous] 2024-25 Lawn Care Contracts The Facilities & Fleet Manager reported that on February 1st, 2024 they placed advertisements for the acceptance of proposals for lawn care services on the County website as well as the Facebook page, this advertisement ran for one month with a deadline of 4:30 p.m. on March 1st, 2024. The county received two proposals which included the required documents, the proposals are as follows: JMC Property Services \$1,606.50 for four fertilizer and weed control at GSB and Courthouse/Annex \$900.00 per time to

mow all sites \$665.50 aerate and seed GSB and Courthouse/Annex \$138.00 Weed control along sidewalks, plant/rock beds at GSB and Courthouse/Annex 25(mows per season) X \$900= \$22,500 + \$1,606.50 (4 weed control/ fertilizer)= \$24,106.50 2 weed control sprays x \$138.00 + aerate/seed \$665.50= 941.50 \$25,047.50 annually for lawn care at all sites (roughly) Corey's Outdoor Services \$2,340.00 for four fertilizer and weed control and the GSB and Courthouse/Annex \$740.00 per time to mow all sites \$600.00 Aerate and seed GSB and Courthouse/Annex \$150.00 Weed control along sidewalks and plant/rock beds at GSB and Courthouse/Annex 25 (mows per season) X \$740.00= \$18,500 + \$2,340 (4 weed control/fertilizer) = \$20,840 2 weed control sprays x \$150 + aerate/seed \$600= \$900.00 \$21,740.00 annually for lawn care at all sites (roughly) Motion by Toquam seconded by Tjosaas to accept Corey's Outdoor proposal for the 2024-2025 Lawn Care Contract and authorize Mr. Harbaugh to sign the contract as recommended. Motion Adopted [Unanimous]

Commissioner Rod Peterson is requesting authorization to attend the NACO Legislative Conference in Tampa, Florida on July 12 - 15, 2024. The conference price is \$530 and hotel fees average \$250 a night for approximately 4-5 nights. The plane ticket could be anywhere from \$500 to \$675 round trip. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize out of-state travel for Commissioner Peterson to the NACO Legislative Conference in Tampa, Florida on July 12 - 15, 2024 at a cost of approximately \$530 for the conference, \$250 per night (4-5 nights) for the hotel and \$500-\$675 for a round trip plane ticket. Motion Adopted [3 to 1]

Commissioner Kenworthy presented a summary of the Public Health Committee report. Public Health Update Commissioner Kenworthy shared the following Public Health update:

- 1) Opioid Settlement Funds Update: purchasing cabinets for use in all schools to store Naloxone and test kits for drug court participants.

(continued on page 7)



Dodger Days is June 13-16, 2024. Anyone from the Dodge Center community wanting their garage sale posted on the events listing, please send your address, phone number and a brief description using 10 words or less to Amanda at: Dodgecenter@sunshinefoodstore.com

The deadline for having your address included in our printed materials is May 6.

March Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 6)

2) Kindness boxes will be placed in a few businesses in every community next week. This campaign will encourage individuals to right words of kindness to individuals. They will be collected and distributed to various sectors each month of service-oriented professions.

The Transfer Station has allotted \$110,000 in capital to replace the push-out trailer with trade in.

Included in the Board packet were four quotes for a trailer. Environmental Services is recommending moving forward with the 48' Stargate trailer. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Toquam to approve and authorize the Environmental Services Department to move forward with purchasing a 48' Stargate trailer from Butterfield Trailer Sales at a cost of approximately \$132,080.00.

Mr. Martin reported that bids were opened on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 for the Wasioja Seminary Ruins Stabilization Phase I Project. Following are the bid results: ACME Tuckpointing & Restoration Advanced Masonry Environmental Associates \$1,196,269.00 \$ 825,000.00 \$ 616,368.00 The county's engineering/architectural firm has indicated that they have worked with Environmental Associates many times and con-

sider them good to work with. The Assistant County Engineer noted this bid is below the engineer's estimate and the Highway Department looks forward to completing this phase of the project. Motion by Peterson seconded by Toquam to award the Wasioja Seminary Ruins Stabilization Phase I contract to Environmental Associates in the amount of \$616,368.00 with the County Engineer authorized to approve change orders and supplemental agreements up to 20% of the contract amount as recommended. Motion Adopted

Mr. Elmquist reported Dodge County Environmental Services (ES) has been contacted by the Dodge Center Lions Club regarding a donation. The Dodge Center Lions Club has graciously offered a donation of \$200 to be used towards the Dodge County Renovation Reuse.

Ms. Evans reported that included in the Board packet is a Proclamation declaring April 1-7, 2024, as National Public Health Week. This is the week we celebrate the successes and highlight continued challenges facing the public health and the residents of Dodge County. The Public Health Director read the proposed Proclamation. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Peterson to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a Proclamation declaring April 1-7, 2024 as National Public Health Week. Motion Adopted

Mr. Thompson is requesting that the Dodge County Board review and approve an out-of-state training request for Assistant Dodge County Attorney Kailee Thompson to attend the Prosecutor Training sponsored by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP). The NADCP offers four-day, in-person training programs for various disciplines designed

to educate new or transitioning Drug Court team members. Research confirms that individualized training and role-specific education improves treatment court outcomes. The NADCP is considered the preeminent source of cutting-edge training and technical assistance to the Drug Court field. The Prosecutor Training is scheduled for August 13-16, 2024 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Kailee Thompson is the criminal prosecutor on the Drug Court team. In addition to insuring that Drug Court participants are held accountable, Ms. Thompson also provides referrals to the Drug Court program; thus, it is critical that Ms. Thompson have an opportunity to be trained in the Drug Court model. The best training available in this regard is the Prosecutor Training offered by the NADCP. The registration fee for the NADCP Prosecutor Training is \$850.00. The group rate for hotel accommodation is \$440.00 (\$110.00/night). Airfare, dinners, and mileage are not included. The total estimated cost of the training is anticipated to be no more than \$3,000.00. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Peterson to approve and authorize out-of-state training and travel for Kailee Thompson to attend Prosecutor Training August 13-16, 2024 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma including a registration fee of \$850.00, \$440.00 for hotel, airfare, meals, and mileage as recommended. Commissioner Peterson informed Mr. Thompson that he'd like to have Kailee Thompson report back to the Board after her training, they'd like to hear what she learned from attending the training. Motion Adopted [Unanimous]

Shotgun Use for Deer Hunting in Dodge County

This issue was recently discussed at a legislative meeting with Senator Nelson and

Representative Quam. Dodge County has previously been exempted from Section 1, Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.318, subdivision 1 and allowed to prohibit rifle use for deer hunting in Dodge County. There is current legislation to not allow for this exception for both Dodge and Olmsted. The submitted resolution is a request that this exception remain for Dodge County. In talking with Madeline Hoy, Senator Nelson's Legislative Assistant, the bill prohibiting this exception has not received a committee hearing as of March 18, 2024 and if it doesn't by March 22, 2024, the bill will not be heard this session until a possible reintroduction next year. Commissioner Peterson offered the following resolution (#2024-14), seconded by Commissioner Tjosaas: WHEREAS, previously, Minnesota State Statute included an amendment prohibiting rifle use for deer hunting in Dodge County; WHEREAS, there is currently legislation (S.F. 314/H.F. 864) allowing rifle use for deer hunting without exception in all available counties; WHEREAS, citizens of Dodge County have previously expressed concerns to the Dodge County Board of Commissioners about stray rifle rounds striking homes, surrounding farms, signs, and solar panels; WHEREAS, the Dodge County Sheriff has also indicated his support for Dodge County to remain shotgun only during deer hunting season due to the before-mentioned reasons; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Dodge County Board of Commissioners support the continued amendment of Section 1, Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.318, subdivision 1 to include Dodge County as shotgun only for deer hunting in the county.

Mother's Day Weekend

Avoid the Rush...
You Can Celebrate
with Mom Friday or
Saturday too!

Treat Mom to
Sunday Brunch
at Its Best!



Mother's Day Brunch Menu

Sunday, May 12th Serving 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Reservations Highly Suggested! Call 507-645-9992.

Regular Menu Available 3:00-Close

Daily Features

WEDNESDAY Enjoy Our Jumbo* Wings Specials! BBQ Rib Dinner - 1/2 or Full Rack (begins at 4:00p.m.)
THURSDAY \$3.50 All Taps, Domestic Bottles, Rail Drinks! 16oz. Margarita Special! Taco Specials! Fajita Specials!
FINALLY FRIDAY All You Can Eat Fish Dinner
SATURDAY Hand Battered Jumbo Shrimp or Slow Roasted Prime Rib
SUNDAY Enjoy Our Sunday Breakfast Beginning at 9a.m. and Sunday Pasta Features



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Garden Thyme Craft Show

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LIVE MUSIC By Shane Martin! www.shanemartin.com

Saturday, June 22nd

Watch www.dennisondays.org for updates to the schedule

Students Promoted



From left to right on April 20, 2024 at Milton Township Hall: Black Belt Candidate: Daniel Blezek, Ph.D; Black Belt Recipient: Dayang Lilliaunna Blezek; Instructor: Lakan Daniel Quest, Ph.D.; Black Belt Candidate: Margaret Quest; Black Belt Recipient: Dayang Lillian Quest

The Official Minnesota Charter Club of Philippine Martial Arts Alliance met at Milton Township Hall on April 20, 2024 to appoint new teachers.

The Philippine Martial Arts - Filipino Martial Arts (FMA) consists of the stick fighting arts of Arnis, Kali & Escrima. Students learn practical self-defense skills and jujitsu (the art of leverage). Students learn how to train safely and be respectful of others while having fun.

Find more info at Quest Filipino Martial Arts on Facebook.



Dayang Lillian Quest and Dayang Lilliaunna Blezek demonstrate advanced techniques for friends and family gathered at a the club's yearly celebration at Milton Township Hall on April 20, 2024

Trees Planted throughout West Concord

On Saturday April 20th volunteers with the help of the Minnesota DNR, University of Minnesota and Tree Trust spent the day planting fifty-one trees at locations throughout West Concord. This was the benefit of the Minnesota DNR Emerald Ash Borer grant the city received. This is the second year of tree planting and there are plans to continue again next year.



Medal of Commendation Plaques Presented to Sergeant Scott Prins and Deputy Tyler Vermeersch



Olmsted County Sheriff Kevin Torgerson stopped by the Dodge County Sheriff Department Office on April 25th to present Medal of Commendation Plaques to Sergeant Scott Prins and Deputy Tyler Vermeersch (DCSO Drone Pilot) for their help assisting Olmsted County with a shooting/homicide incident by Oxbow Park in 2022.

May is Bike Safety Month

To Celebrate -
National Bike to School Day
is Wednesday, May 8th!

Strap on your helmet and lace up your shoes. National Bike & Roll to School Day is May 8, 2024. Bike & Roll to School Day invites you to celebrate the joy of active commuting while building a sense of community and school spirit. Whether addressing the need to make routes to school safer for active trips or encouraging children and teens to be more active, these events can be powerful tools to inspire lasting change. Of course, they are also fun!

The month of May is National Bicycle Safety Month. According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), bikers are at a much higher risk of injury in crashes on the roadway. Without separate bike lanes, trails, or paths, bicyclists may be required to bike on the roadway with vehicles. Bicyclists are also affected more by the weather and road surface conditions. This May, NHTSA wants our community to protect bicyclists by being responsible drivers. NHTSA also wants our bicyclists to practice smart riding habits by riding safely and al-

ways wearing a helmet. A few safety tips to remember:

1. Be Alert
2. Wear the right clothing and gear
3. Obey all rules of the road
4. Ride with the traffic, not against it
5. Stick to designated bike lanes and avoid sidewalks where possible
6. Signal with your arm

When we think of the benefits of bicycle riding, we typically think of it as a form of exercise, or a way of getting around. Along with that, bicycling (especially children) comes with many other benefits. According to Sanford Health, some benefits of children bicycling are:

- Improves Coordination and Balance
- Gets Kids Outside
- Promotes Kids' Self-Confidence and Independence
- Keeps Kids Physically Healthy
- Provides opportunities to Socialize

According to MnDOT, 45 years ago walking and biking to school was the norm – in 1969, roughly half of all 5- to 18-year-olds either walked or biked to school. Times changed, and by 2001 nearly 90% of our youth were driven to school either by bus or car. We are beginning to see some small reversal of this trend. But until we can get more of our children engaged in active school transportation, we will continue to have increased traffic congestion, poor air quality and the continued decline of our children's physical health. While distance to school and safety are the main reasons students are not walking and bicycling to school, private vehicles still account for half of school trips for



children living within 1/2 mile from school—a distance easily covered on foot or bike. In 2009, American families drove 30 billion miles and made 6.5 billion vehicle trips to take their children to and from schools, representing 10-14 percent of traffic on the road during the morning commute. In response to these emerging issues, in 2005 the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program was established through Federal legislation to:

- enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school.
- make walking and bicycling to school safe and more appealing.
- facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects that will improve safety, and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

National Bike and Roll to School Day is a great way to get outside and either start new habits or continue these healthy behaviors. While May 8th is this year's official date, communities are welcome to celebrate any day in May that best fits their schedules. If you are unable to bike TO school, try choosing a destination and bike there solo or with members of your household. Right now would be a great time to find a route to a place you visit frequently (like a park) and practice riding there. Sometimes you must try different routes to find the most comfortable and safe ride, so pick a new destination each week and be ready to ride when school's out! Be sure to practice basic traffic safety precautions like stopping at stop signs, signaling turns, and wearing a helmet. Happy biking.

Gold Star Amusements on the midway! Rides will run from 1:00pm-10:00pm

It's Fair Time!

JULY 4th GRANDE DAY PARADE 1:00pm FIREWORKS SHOW! Dusk

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JULY 3-6, 2024

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DR. STREET MAGICIAN ★ DEMOLITION DERBY

JULY 3rd: CHICKEN RANCH DUO 8:30 PM

JULY 4th: DAVE CARPENTER BAND 2:00-5:00 PM

BRYAN ANDERSON 8:30 PM

JULY 5th: THE CHUBS 8:30 PM

JULY 6th: BLYND EYE 8:30 PM

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Email: a.sanders@insurancebrokersmn.com

North Risk Partners Rochester

2048 Superior Drive, Suite 100
Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-288-7600
Email: jesse.stenke@northriskpartners.com

Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol



Question: I know it has been extremely dry but with the anticipation of "April showers" can you talk about hydroplaning?

Answer: At speeds of 35 mph or less, most tires will "wipe" water off the road surface to keep tires in contact with the road. At higher speeds, water can collect

under tires and lift them off the surface of the road — this is called "hydroplaning."

When your tires hydroplane, they lose all contact with the road. If this occurs, you will be unable to brake, accelerate, or change direction. If your tires begin to hydroplane, take your foot off the gas pedal.

Hydroplaning is less likely to occur at normal highway speeds if your vehicle is equipped with good tires that have deep treads, which will allow water to escape. But hydroplaning can occur at any speed if the depth of the water on the road is greater than the depth of the tire treads. In heavy rain, standard cars may begin to hydroplane at 35 mph.

To prevent hydroplaning, keep your tires in good condition and reduce speed when driving on wet roads.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and of course, 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 Trp. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us.

Work Zones are Temporary. Actions Can Last Forever.

Work zones can present many challenges — narrow lanes, sudden stops, traffic pattern shifts and uneven road surfaces. This means that drivers need to be on the lookout for flaggers and road signs that indicate changes to the speed limit, detours and changing traffic patterns.

Brush Up on Safety Tips:

- Obey posted speed limits. The fine for speeding in a work zone is \$300.
- Drive undistracted. Cell phones, mobile devices, adjusting the radio — even eating — should be avoided in work zones.
- Stay alert, especially at night.
- Be patient. Expect delays, especially during peak travel times.
- Expect work zones to constantly change. Day to day you could experience lane shifts, closures or moving workers and vehicles.
- Don't make unnecessary lane changes.
- Never enter a road blocked with barriers or cones.

Everyone plays a role in work zone safety! It is critical that drivers slow down and pay attention to help keep construction, utility and other workers in work zones safe, especially as the construction season ramps up.



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MEAT RAFFLES Sundays at 4PM
BINGO Tuesdays at 6PM

Dennison Lions Club Charitable Gambling Permit #2762

E-TABS, PULL TABS EVERYDAY!
FOOD SPECIALS!

BROASTER CHICKEN

Watch Our Facebook Page for Updates!
- ON/OFF SALE -

Closed Mondays
Tuesday-Friday: Bar 4pm-Close; Kitchen 4-8pm
BEGINNING MAY 3rd: OPEN FRIDAYS AT 11am
Saturday: Bar 11am-Close; Kitchen 11am-9pm
Sunday: Bar 1-9pm • Kitchen 1-8pm

Main Street, Dennison • Phone 507-782-9061

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The Fireside
LOUNGE AND RESTAURANT

SUNDAY SUPPER IS BACK!

DAILY FEATURES

WEDNESDAY Enjoy Our Jumbo Wings Specials!
BBQ Rib Dinner - 1/2 or Full Rack (begins at 4:00p.m.)

THURSDAY \$3.50 All Taps, Domestic Bottles, Rail Drinks!
Taco Specials! Fajita Specials! 16oz. Margarita Special

FINALLY FRIDAY All You Can Eat Fish Dinner

SATURDAY Hand Battered Jumbo Shrimp or Slow Roasted Prime Rib

SUNDAY Enjoy Our Sunday Breakfast Beginning at 9a.m. and Sunday Pasta Features

37540 Goodhue Ave., Dennison, MN
Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 AM-8:30 PM
Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM-9:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM
Bar Open Later

RESERVATIONS STRONGLY SUGGESTED. CALL 507-645-9992.
www.firesidelounge.net

Center Restaurant
30 Main Street
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Generous portions, friendly service and delicious homestyle cooking anytime!

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Good Monday-Friday. Expires May 31, 2024.

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BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY!

Hours: Sunday-Thursday 7am-3pm
Friday-Saturday 7am-8pm
507-633-3333

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Specials & Weekend Entertainment!

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Friday & Saturday 11:00am-1:00am
Sunday 11:00am-9:00pm

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BUFFET & MENU

East Wind 東風 Buffet

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1015 W. Frontage Rd., Suite 103, Owatonna • South of Lowe's

Hours: Monday 11am-10pm; Tuesday Closed; Wed.-Sun. 11am-10pm

SANDWICHES • BURGERS
BBQ

THE SMOKIN' SILVERBACK

1832 South Cedar Owatonna MN
507-214-0701

Monday-Thursday 11am-9pm
Friday-Saturday 11am-10pm
Sunday 11am-7pm

Great Food • Strong Coffee

Daily Lunch Specials • Delicious Desserts

Area 57 COFFEE & Cafe

Where Good Coffee and Good Friends Meet!

M-F 7:30am to 7:30pm
Sat. 7am to 2pm; Closed Sundays

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FRIDAY 11:00AM-9:00PM - SATURDAY 3:00PM-9:00PM - SUNDAY CLOSED

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MENU OR BUFFET

Hours:
Monday: 11am-10pm
Tuesday: Closed
Wed.-Sun.: 11am-10pm

Cannot be used with other offers.
507-451-9666

1015 W. Frontage Rd., Suite 103, Owatonna • South of Lowe's
Dine In Only • Expires May 31, 2024

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Restaurant & Bar
Kasson, MN

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SANDWICHES • BURGERS
SALADS • WRAPS • DESSERTS

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Sun 11am-8pm

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Restaurant

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Sunday 8am to 1pm
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Daily Specials
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Expires May 31, 2024

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Here's Where To Buy Your Minnesota Country Salute CD Buy the FINAL Minnesota Country Salute CD

Once again the net proceeds from this years Minnesota Country Salute CD will go to the Minnesota Military Family Foundation and Minnesota Wheels of Honor. Starting Veteran's Day you'll be able buy your copy at any one of these locations and make sure the service men and women and first responders of Minnesota have the support they need.

CD Available at:



37540 Goodhue Ave., Denilison, MN

Open Wednesday-Thursday 11:00am-8:30pm (Bar Open Later), Friday-Saturday 11:00am-9:30pm (Bar Open Later), Sunday 9:00am-8:00pm (Bar Open Later)
507-645-9992 • www.firesidelounge.net



MMFF
Minnesota Military
Family Foundation
Serving
Military Families



WHEELS OF HONOR
Minnesota

About the Minnesota Country Salute CD Project:

A decade ago while sitting on his porch, Neil Freeman came up with the idea of tying together two groups that BOB FM supports. The Homegrown artists of Minnesota and the military member support organizations.

By creating a compilation CD to sell across Minnesota, he nailed it. With the help of many sponsors and listeners who went out and purchased these CDs over the years, BOB FM has donated over \$235,000 to the Minnesota Military Family Foundation, Minnesota Wheels of Honor, and Tribute to the Troops.

If you or your business would like to help further this mission, or help distribute the CD, please contact Neil Freeman, neil@mybobcountry.com.



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<p>AWD, iced blue silver metallic, 7,899 miles, 1.5L ecoboost #24024U</p>	<p><i>Spring Special!</i> \$24,580</p>	<p>AWD, stone blue metallic, 14,248 miles, ecoboost 2.0L I-4, turbocharged #23213U</p>	<p><i>Spring Special!</i> \$28,775</p>	<p>4 door, advanced 4x4, 18,527 miles, cactus gray, 2.7L V-6 ecoboost #23121U</p>	<p><i>Spring Special!</i> \$51,950</p>	<p>4WD, supercrew, 5.5' box, rapid red, 27,508 miles, 2.7L V-6 ecoboost, 4 door #23067U</p>	<p><i>Spring Special!</i> \$40,999</p>
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3020 457th Street Way, Kenyon • 507-789-6113 • SALES HOURS: M-T-Th 7:30a.m.-8p.m.; W-F 7:30a.m.-6p.m.; Sat. 8a.m.-4p.m.

Talking hearing loss and aging with U of M

Many Minnesotans experience changes to hearing and speech as they age. One-third of adults over 65 have hearing loss that significantly affects their lives.

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts Professor Matthew Winn, a speech, language and hearing scientist, shares insights about hearing loss and aging.

Q: How does hearing change as we age?

Prof. Winn: Most people think hearing loss is like turning the volume down, but the most common problem is sound losing clarity. Imagine a camera with a smudge on the lens — even in good lighting, the photo will be blurry. For someone with age-related hearing loss, no matter how loud the volume is, the sound will be a little blurry and they'll have a hard time telling one sound from another.

Volume can still be part of the problem — it becomes harder to hear softer high-frequency sounds like “s” and “t”, and the crispness of high musical notes. But more importantly, it becomes harder to separate two sounds that are going on at the same time. A younger person with typical hearing can listen to one person even if five other people are talking. We start to lose the ability to separate voices as we age, and they blend together into a tangled mess.

Q: Are there options to restore hearing?

Prof. Winn: For the most common type of hearing loss, hearing aids are the best option because they are programmed in a way that reflects decades of research on how the ear works to decode sounds. They can boost the frequencies of specific types of hearing loss and also prevent sounds from becoming too loud. A hearing aid also boosts soft sounds but doesn't amplify sounds that are already loud, which is what a typical healthy ear would do.

There are a variety of other options as well, especially for someone who only needs extra clarity for specific situations rather than all day. There are personal amplifiers and over-the-counter devices that can give you a boost.

Cochlear implants are used for more extreme situations, such as severe to profound hearing loss, where hearing aids no longer provide any benefit. Getting a cochlear implant is a more complicated procedure that involves surgery and a lot of hard work. I

spend a lot of my time working with people who grew up with typical hearing and then chose to have cochlear implants after losing their hearing — these are folks who didn't grow up in the Deaf community using sign language.

Q: Are there resources available for people who experience hearing loss as they age?

Prof. Winn: Get an evaluation by an audiologist as a part of your regular healthcare routine. An audiologist is trained to measure hearing in a variety of ways and also has the experience to guide their patients through options that might make listening easier.

You can learn a lot by chatting with someone with a similar hearing loss who knows about places to enjoy, places to avoid and resources that make listening easier. It can help to find community with meetup groups like Hearing Loss Association of America, which has a chapter in the Twin Cities.

Check out blogs and books written by people with hearing loss, which are different from material written by someone who identifies as deaf. There are consistent themes that might sound familiar, like disagreeing with your spouse over how loud the TV should be, being frustrated when someone starts talking from another room, asking someone to repeat what was said, and remaining quiet at restaurants because it's too difficult to hear different parts of the conversation.

Q: What is your research team doing to help Minnesotans experiencing hearing loss and speech

disruptions?

Prof. Winn: My lab measures effort by tracking changes in pupil dilation while listening, which is a sign that the brain is working harder. People with hearing loss often need an extra moment after they hear a sentence to piece the words together or fill in gaps they

missed. By the time there is enough information to figure it out, the speaker has already moved on to the next sentence, and it can be very frustrating to try to catch up. Our research is about that situation and the factors that make it better or worse.

A larger goal of our research is to raise awareness of this

issue of listening effort so that it can be better understood by other scientists, as well as the audiologists and family members who converse with individuals who have hearing loss. One day soon, the concepts of listening effort and social interaction will be the center of the conversation when we talk about hearing

loss.

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Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

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SIGNED BY: Dustin Dornink

MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: dustin.dornink@gmail.com

DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, April 8, 2024

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the April 8, 2024 Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Lee Mattson, AJ Gengler, Ingvild Herfindahl, Jeremy Dostal, Deputy Josiah Rehmann, Kathy Freeman and others.

City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda to include March 25, 2024 City Council Minutes, Payment of Bills; KWIK Trip Sign Zoning Request;
 - Field Training Officers in Ambulance Services: Abner Aguirre, Mariah Luhman, Makena Jensen, Dave Kenworthy and Jill Lucas;
 - Four quotes received by Fire Department from ALEX Air Apparatus, Clarey's Safety Equipment, Inc, FireCatt Precision Service Testing and FE Supply Company;
 - Jorgenson/Dierkhissing Lot Split/Combo;
 - McNeilus/Sanson Lot Split/Combo with two conditions 1) Create Parcel B and combine it with the rest of the Sanson Property to provide access to the Southeast area of Parcel B, and 2) Add stormwater easement from where the current stormwater easement ends to Stevens Trucking;
 - Consent to Assignments for Hangar #21 and Hangar #12;
 - Consent to Subordination on the William Hill loan;
 - Staff explore amending signage ordinance to allow for larger signs on the highway.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF WEST CONCORD, MINNESOTA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of West Concord, Minnesota (the “City”), will meet on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at or after 7:00 p.m. in the West Concord City Council Chambers, located at 180 Main Street in the City, to hold a public hearing concerning the proposal that the City abate property taxes levied by the City on the property identified as tax parcel numbers:

- 26.017.0107
- 26.100.0160
- 26.100.0390
- 26.100.0230
- 26.020.0900

The total amount of the taxes proposed to be abated by the City on the above properties for up to a 15-year period is estimated to be not more than \$343,450. The City Council will consider the property tax abatement in connection with issuing general obligation bonds to finance various public improvements, including but not limited to the construction of various improvements to the municipal liquor store parking lot and alley and the Phase 2A improvements on South Street in the City.

At the time and place fixed for the public hearing, the City Council will give all persons who appear at the hearing an opportunity to express their views with respect to the proposal. In addition, interested persons may direct any questions or file written comments respecting the proposal with the Interim City Clerk/Administrator, at or prior to said public hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST CONCORD, MINNESOTA

PUBLIC NOTICE 4-18-24

AA Self Storage will sell at public auction the contents of several storage units in Dodge Center and Claremont on which payment is past due. The auction will be conducted on-line at storagetreasures.com beginning about May 6, 2024.

The contents of these units is unknown, but are believed to be miscellaneous household and personal items.

The names of persons renting the units are as follows:

- June Bennett
- Martin Rodriguez Montes
- Manager Specials 2 units

CROSSWORD

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SUDOKU ANSWERS

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THEME: THE 1960s

ACROSS

1. "Odyssey" author
6. Time in NYC
9. Pay as you earn, acr.
13. Avoid paying taxes
14. Also
15. Rolled up, on a farm
16. From distant past
17. News channel acronym
18. Very angry
19. * ___ Invasion
21. *Vostok I pilot
23. Spring water resort
24. Talcum powder ingredient
25. Muted order
28. Sports award
30. Doled out, as in soup
35. Future atty.'s exam
37. Engage for service
39. In all sincerity
40. * ___ Preminger, director of "Exodus"
41. Petri dish jellies
43. DDS exam
44. Gordon Gekko: " ___ is good"
46. Barbershop sound
47. Bread pocket
48. Rumor
50. Whiskey straight, e.g.
52. Cubby hole
53. One-horse carriage
55. *#29 Down invasion coordinator
57. *TV's Tony Nelson's "dream"
61. *"8 1/2" and "La Dolce Vita" director
65. Lake scum
66. Toothpaste type
68. Baited
69. Thorny
70. Anger
71. Last eight in college basketball
72. Kill
73. Lamentable
74. Bob Marley, e.g.

DOWN

1. * ___ Alpert & the Tijuana Brass
2. Last word over walkie-talkie
3. Algeria's southern neighbor
4. Written corrections
5. Chef's guide
6. * ___ A Sketch toy, launched in 1960
7. *Just one of "My Three ___"
8. Polynesian kingdom
9. Prefix with trooper or legal
10. Resembling wings
11. Abominable humanoid
12. *#57 Across actress
15. Large feline (2 words)
20. The Obamas' daughter
22. "A Man for ___ Seasons" movie
24. Political repression
25. Nordic gl hwein
26. * ___ Turf
27. Man behind Windows
29. *Bay of ___ Invasion
31. "Turn on, tune in, ___ out"
32. Shockingly graphic
33. Fill with optimism
34. "The Times They Are A-Changin'" singer-song-writer
36. Three on a certain sloth
38. It's between Ohio and Ontario
42. *#21 Across - first man in ___
45. "Mary Poppins" producer
49. Not Beta or Kappa
51. Farm tool
54. Front of cuirass
56. Spurious wing
57. Kickboxing moves
58. Twelfth month of Jewish year
59. City of Taj Mahal
60. " ___ a soul"
61. Ran off
62. Purple flower
63. Not gross
64. Brainchild
67. E in B.C.E.

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