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# The Messenger

Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

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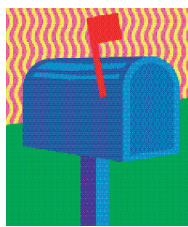
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AUGUST 7, 2024

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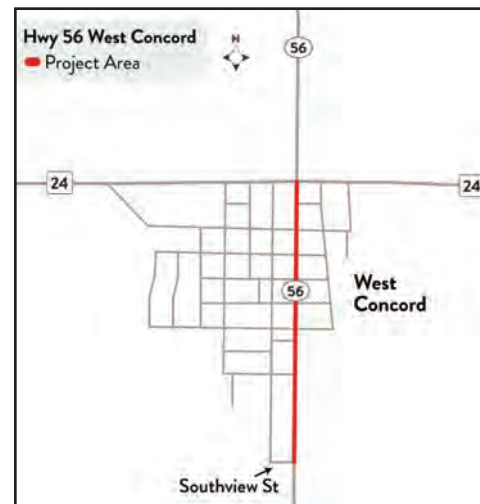
## Have You Been Receiving Your Paper?

We have been receiving an increasing number of complaints from rural customers not getting their Messenger in their mailbox. After the July 24th issue it was evident that a number deliveries on one route did not take place. Upon questioning the post master it was found that they indeed were not distributed because of a potential negligent act of a rural carrier. We know this is upsetting to our loyal customers as well as us, since you pay for your subscription and we pay to print the paper and pay the post office to deliver the newspaper. This is completely unacceptable and we too are waiting to see how the USPS will resolve this to avoid this issue in the future. *(continued on page 3)*



## Highway 56 Resurfacing Starts Next Week

West Concord can expect traffic congestion in town for the next two months. Hwy 56 is scheduled to be resurfaced from Southview St. to Dodge Co. Rd. 24 in West Concord in



## 2024 Claremont Hogfest a Success



A great variety of classic cars were on display Sunday at the car show *(additional pictures on page 7)*

## West Concord Survival Days Awards



Gracelyn Hodgman, 2024 Miss West Concord



Congratulations to Jake Bucher for receiving the Mayor's Key to The City Award

2024. Accessibility and sidewalk improvements will also be made. The work is anticipated to begin Aug. 12 and be completed by late-September 2024. You can expect lane closures while flaggers or a pilot car is directing traffic. Sidewalk pedestrian traffic may be affected while improvements are being made.

## Announcements

• GriefShare support group for those seeking support and healing from loss of a loved one through death. Beginning Monday, Aug 19 at Anchor Of Hope Church, 203 E. Main St, Dodge Center, at 6:30 pm. Contact Rev Dale Rood at 507-633-2772 for further information.

• 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](mailto:hometownmessenger@gmail.com)

## Be a Host Family This Year

By Tyler Weeks  
Stepping outside our comfort zones and seeking change is a scary idea for many of us- why do something we aren't 100% certain about?



*(continued on page 9)*

🎵🎵 **LIVE MUSIC!** 🎵🎵  
 Friday, August 23rd from 7-10 PM  
**Leonard McCracken**  
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## Pastors Corner

By Pr. Eric Hanson

In 17+ years of ministry I've had the pleasure of accompanying people of different ages, stages, cultures, and socioeconomic status on their journeys of faith. It is an honor to walk alongside others as together we seek to discern what God is up to in our individual lives and in our world. One question that often pops up in conversation with people, whether old or young, from familiar cultures or foreign ones, is the question, "Who goes to heaven when they die and what do people need to do to get there?" It's an age, old spiritual question, and I think we ask it for a few reasons. First, we hope to be on the right side of this question. We want to think, believe, and live in such a way that we're assured of our place in eternity alongside our Savior. Second, we ask this question for the sake of our loved ones. We want those we love to be alongside us in eternity too. And third, I think we're a bit afraid. We all secretly wonder in the dark of night if we (or those we love) have done enough and believed enough to merit heaven in the afterlife.

There's a problem with this question though, however. If a focus on heaven and who goes there takes up too much spiritual real estate in our hearts and minds, it could mean the true center of our faith is heaven, not Jesus Christ.

What do I mean?

The center of the Christian faith is supposed to be Jesus, not heaven.

One thing scripture is very clear about is that Jesus Christ isn't a means to an end in our lives of faith. He is the end. Jesus is the fulfillment of where our faith lives are headed. Jesus says in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." And the word for life he uses in this verse is the Greek word "zoe" which means "life in this world and the next." This means that in scripture, eternal life isn't identified as a place or as a spiritual state of being, it's identified as a person—specifically, an eternal relationship with a person—Jesus Christ. Anybody who reads the Gospels knows that the Bible doesn't center us on a love for heaven, the Bible centers us on love for Christ. C.S. Lewis

once said, "Aim at heaven and you'll get earth thrown in." He should have said, "Aim at Christ, and you'll get heaven thrown in." The center of the Christian faith is Christ, not heaven. Think of heaven as a nice addition to our lives with Christ, not the main course. The main course is Jesus.

Why is this an important distinction? The question "Who goes to heaven & how do I get there?" can, if we let it, pull us away from Christ rather than toward Him. A preoccupation with heaven may make us categorize people and judge their spiritual state of being rather than focus on simply loving whoever God puts in our path (Jesus loved whoever God put in His path). A preoccupation with heaven may cause us to look inward at ourselves too much rather than outward at God's activity in the world (Jesus Christ cared deeply about what happens to people in this life, not only the afterlife). A preoccupation with heaven may cause us to nurture a "self-centered" faith that focuses solely on our spiritual destination, but cares little for others around us. A preoccupation with heaven may cause us to objectify our neighbors, valuing them only as future objects of conversion or as stepping stones to our place in eternity (it's hard to love our neighbors authentically if "loving them" means we're using them to secure eternal life through good deeds done to them). A preoccupation with heaven may cause us to ignore Christ's work in the world here and now, feeding the hungry, befriending the lonely, bringing peace and justice to our communities. If we're always looking up to heaven, how can we be part Christ's life

being lived out at our feet?

At best, a faith centered on heaven is misguided. At worst, it's good, old-fashioned idolatry. Christ is our center. Heaven may be thrown in, but heaven is not our center.

And please don't hear me downplaying heaven. From what I read in the Bible, heaven sounds amazing, and I'm excited to get there. But not yet. For now, I need to engage with what Christ is doing at my feet much more than I need to engage the afterlife. I have trouble loving my family and neighbors as myself now. But if Christ is at the center of my relationships, I find I'm able to love family and neighbors a lot better. I often want to look after my own needs and neglect the needs of others. But if Christ at the center of my community, I'm

pulled out of myself into that community where Jesus is always at work. I often want to divide the world into "people I like" and "people I don't like." I need Christ to blow up my categories every day and teach me to how love whoever God puts in my path.

And in the end, I don't want to love Jesus just for what He can give me. That's not real love. That's how I treat Santa Clause. I want to love Jesus for what God made Him to be for our word: love incarnate, alive, active, and at the center of everything, NOW.

And part of me wonders, if I focus on walking with Christ now, am I getting a little taste of heaven thrown in? That would be ironic. If we focus on Christ now, maybe we don't have to wait so long to experience heaven?

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### DODGE CENTER

#### Faith Lutheran Church

308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center  
Pastor Jessica Bakken Busch • 507-374-2174  
Traditional Worship 9a.m.; Fellowship 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](http://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](http://www.congregationalchurchdc.com)  
Keith Mosier, Pastor

### Area Church Directory

#### Which of These Was a Neighbor?

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

— Luke 10:27

When we moved into our house 12 years ago, there were only five other houses on the street and a lot of empty lots where new homes would be built. We imagined what the houses and neighbors would look like—and now, with almost 100 houses on our street alone, we have made friends with many of our neighbors.

Along the way we decided to become "muffin people," delivering those treats to about a dozen houses nearby. We introduced ourselves without thinking who might be behind the door except that they were neighbors. We began a soup and buns night with neighbors too, learned their stories, and shared life with them. It may have cost us a bit, but the reward of sharing experiences has been life changing.

The parable of the good Samaritan offers a picture of what Jesus was trying to show a religious leader who wanted to test him. It is about risk and relationship with people who are not identical to us. It is about seeing the one that Jesus has placed in front of us and becoming involved in their story. It is about addressing hurts and loneliness because that is what Jesus is asking us to do. It is about paying attention to the needs of people around us and not stepping aside or walking by, thinking that someone else can take care of them.

Who is your neighbor?

*Lord, open our eyes and hearts to all the people whom you have given us to be our neighbors. Help us to see and share your love for all. 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](http://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](http://trinitychurchwc.net)  
Sunday worship video is posted on Facebook  
[Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcordmn](http://Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcordmn)  
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; 10:00a.m. Worship  
[concordchurchmn.com](http://concordchurchmn.com)

#### Zwingli United Church of Christ

"The Berne Church"  
23148 Co. Hwy. 24, West Concord • 507-356-4340  
Pastor Karen Larson  
Sunday 10:00a.m. Worship; Find us on Facebook

Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to the The Messenger at: [hometownmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:hometownmessenger@gmail.com)

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## Sharon Gayle (Parriott) Shimek

Sharon Gayle (Parriott) Shimek passed away on Tuesday, July 9th, 2024 at the age of 77. She was born on September 30th, 1946 in Albert Lee, MN where she grew up on the family farm in Kenyon, MN.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Shimek, whom she had been happily married to for 54 years. She was also preceded in death by her older brother, David Parriott, as well as her parents, George Parriott and Genevieve Parriott (Ovrebø).

Sharon is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Genevieve and Joseph Brumfield, and son and daughter-in-law, John and Jessica Shimek. She is also survived by her older brother and sister-in-law, Gordan and Judy Parriott, and her older brother, Llyod Parriott.

But Sharon was more than a birthday, an age, and a list of family. She was a reporter for several years for the Milaca Times and loved knitting and quilting, but the best thing about Sharon was how she made friends everywhere she went, whether it was her coworker, her neighbor, or the cashier at store she would never visit again. Sharon was kind and cared about everyone she met. Everyone will miss her dearly.

## Raymond John Kath

Raymond John Kath, 84, of West Concord, MN passed away on Sunday, July 28, 2024, in West Concord, MN.

Raymond was born on January 5, 1940, in Owatonna, MN to John and Velva (Redden) Kath. He operated a repair shop and was a local grave digger for many years. He also played in various bands around the area. He enjoyed music, hunting, and motorcycling.

Raymond is survived by his wife, Marlene Kath; children, Darla (Dennis) Reinert,

Johnny (Roxanne) Kath, Julie (Jeff) Hanson, Deanna (John) Daher; step-son, David (Sara) Staley; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother and a sister.

A private family graveside service will be held at Old Concord Cemetery in Concord, MN.

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

## Robert L. Burns

Robert L. Burns, age 84 of Dallas, WI and formerly of Faribault, passed away peacefully on July 31, 2024, at Mayo Health System, Eau Claire, WI with family at his side.

Funeral services will be held at Boldt Funeral Home, Faribault on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. Interment will be at Maple Lawn Cemetery, Faribault with military rites provided by the Rice County Central Veterans Association.

Visitation will be held at Boldt Funeral Home, Faribault for one hour prior to the service on Thursday.

Robert LeRoy was born on December 13, 1939, in Chicago, IL. He later moved to Claremont, MN and graduated from Claremont High School. In August of 1957 he joined the Army and later was honorably discharged. In 1962 he married Marie Wegner and they later divorced. He later met his significant other, Donna of over 40 years, they had many wonderful adventures and built a beautiful life together. They are now together once again.

Robert was known for his sense of humor. He played multiple musical instruments. He was a "Bob" of all trades whether it was electrical, woodworking, fabricating metal, cars, mowers, or tractors. Bob was very creative and could fix anything. Robert obtained his

pilot license on April 24, 1977. His love of flying was shown through his many flights.

Robert went to Winona State University and received his Master Electrician License. He was employed by Kletschka Electric from 1969 - 1976 and later owned and operated Burns Electric of Faribault from 1976 - 2023.

Robert is survived by his children, Nancy (Gene) Benolken of Cleveland, Nikki (Jim) Lemke of Faribault and Terry (Mandy) Burns of Dallas, WI, Paula Tesch of Faribault and Sherri (Doug) Clammer of Faribault; 17 grandchildren; 32 great grandchildren; his much anticipated 33rd great grandchild expected in November; siblings, Jerry Stevens of WI, Gary Burns of CA, John Burns of IN, Larry (Linda) Burns of IN, and Beverly (Arnie) Schlinger of MN.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Vivian; longtime partner, Donna Tesch; sons, Timothy Burns and Jeffrey Tesch; brothers, Bill Burns, Marvin Burns, Chuck Stevens along with sisters, Shirley Keck and Marilyn Quimet.

Visit [boldtfuneralhome.com](http://boldtfuneralhome.com) for information and guestbook.

## Donna Marie (Parsons) Zeltinger

Donna Marie (Parsons) Zeltinger, 87, passed away peacefully at home of natural causes on July 13, 2023, surrounded by her family in Burlington, WA.

Donna was born on August 1st, 1935, in Little Falls, MN. She was the younger of two children, born to Elmer and Bertha Parsons. The family moved several times, as her father was a creamery operator and dairy inspector. Most of her younger years were spent in Little Rock and Little Falls. The family eventually moved to West Concord, MN, where she graduated from West Concord High School in 1954.

After high school, she attended the College of Medical Technology in Minneapolis, where she had a scholarship. Upon graduation, she accepted a position as a medical laboratory and x-ray technician in a small 50-bed hospital in Chamberlin, SD. It was there that she met the love of her life, Michael

"Mike" Zeltinger, who was visiting a friend while on leave from the Navy. They married on April 1st, 1955, and remained together for 57 years until his passing in 2013.

Mike and Donna moved to Missoula in 1956 from South Dakota and started a family. Donna took seven years off to raise their son, Kirk, and daughter, Michelle. Donna worked for various physicians in Missoula, including Dr. Grover Hulla, Dr. Steven Wisner, and lastly, for Dr. Jesse J. Pitt as his office manager. She retired in 1997.

After living in Missoula for almost 50 years, she and Mike moved to Burlington, WA, in order to be closer to their daughter and her family. Mike and Donna often spent the winter months in Indio, CA, where they had a second home.

Donna loved to go clothes shopping, especially with her best friend, Bonnie Duncan, who preceded her in death. She also enjoyed ceramics and taking walks with Mike. While still in Missoula, Mike and Donna enjoyed playing cards (Shanghai Rummy and Pinochle) on weekends with their friends.

She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law: Janice and Robert Kohs of Lindstrom, MN; her son, Kirk of Frankfurt / Main, Germany; her daughter and son-in-law: Michelle and Tom Foggin; and her three grandchildren: Quint, Paige, and Ryan of Anacortes, WA.

## Have You Been Receiving Your Paper?

(continued from page 1)

We do leave copies at Heritage Bank in West Concord, West Concord City Hall, MBT Bank in Dodge Center and Luminat Bank in Claremont.

If you did not receive your copy you may pick up one at these locations. It is also available on line at our website. Also, please call the post office to let them know if you do not receive your Messenger in a timely fashion in the future.

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## Down on the Farm/ Up at the Cabin Chickens and Cows and Goats, Oh My!

By  
Monica & Claudia Vanderborgh

Chickens.

Yup – they would be the first livestock on Monica’s farm. But knowing nothing, she knew she needed to educate herself. It was time to start some research.

A church friend had six chickens in a very small hut. Water and feed was carried daily for a reward of a few delicious eggs. Monica’s closest neighbor, Rae, had more than 300 chickens housed in one large cinder-block coop and three brooding coops, with many

feeding stations. After visiting both farms, Monica knew wanted something in-between.

Friends Norm and Dawn once again came to the rescue! In exchange for building a hunting blind on Monica’s land, they would teach and help Monica to build a chicken shed. (The joys of farm construction projects is a different story.)

Rae offered to sell Monica some of the older chickens to start her flock. If you have never tried catching a chicken with a foot hook, you should. Chickens don’t just run away in two dimensions; they can jump more than a foot in the air to get away from that contraption! Many laughs and a few skinned knees later, Monica had 12 laying hens. (Of course she would do her best to take care of her new flock, but should they die it was not a great financial loss. And if she tired of them, they could find their way to the soup pot.)

When you are new in a small town, everyone knows it. While buying some parts for the ATV, Monica met a gal who raised “Heritage” cattle. Fascinated, Monica discovered that Irish Dexters are small (maturing at about 40 inches at the shoulder and 700-900 pounds) but are not considered miniature, since there is no full-sized version of them. Dexters were developed in Ireland over 500 years ago by poor farmers who needed cattle for more than one purpose; they are good for

milk and/or meat, and can be trained as oxen.

Dexters are intelligent, curious, and hardy – usually able to calve unassisted. They sounded like the perfect breed for Monica! And the gal lived locally so she would be around to answer questions.

Monica bought two: a boy and a girl. (Bull and heifer ... there was going to be a lot of new vocabulary to learn!) She named the black heifer Olive (for Olive Oyl – the Navy Reservist in Monica had always loved Pop-eye). Whenever the red bull spotted Monica, he was all love and kisses, begging for the apple-flavored horse treats she always brought to the pasture. He became Scooby and the treats – Scooby snacks. That spring and summer, Monica spent many hours in the pasture with her cattle.

But two young cattle cannot consume seven acres of fenced pasture. The grass grew longer, the thistles grew thicker, and the riding lawnmower was definitely not up to the task. Monica knew she did not like lamb – what about goat? Goats are cute. And she had eaten goat meat when deployed overseas in the Navy. Monica knew she liked it better than lamb.

As said, when you are new in a small town, everyone knows it. Someone told Monica that there were some male goat bottle-babies for sale just south of Wanamingo. And six wethers (farmer-talk for castrated goats – more vocabulary to learn) easily fit in the back of the minivan. Five had been disbudded (dehorned) but one hadn’t. A corner of the pole barn was fenced off for them (more construction projects). The young goats – Stew, Ribs, Chops, Patty, Link, and Horny – were so very cute.

Goats aren’t grazers, they are browsers. (One of Monica’s favorite sayings is: You don’t know what you don’t know. Four more head, which means more pasture, more fencing.) She brought the goats branches with leaves (more trails in the woods from which to harvest more firewood for cutting, hauling, splitting, and stacking). The goats loved those branches!! Monica wondered if there was a more efficient way of getting the goats the food they so loved. She tried taking Horny on a leash into the woods – it sort of worked.

Next, she grabbed a bucket of grain and tried walking the whole bunch out there. And

they followed!!

Goat walks became a regular occurrence. And they sure made clearing the trail easier!! The little herd learned to stay close and would follow Monica (well, the grain bucket) back to the barn each time.

Monica had no experience with livestock – let alone three different species. Rae had tilled a big garden plot with her tractor and Monica had planted a bunch of seeds. Monica had little experience with gardens – but seeds were cheap. And don’t forget about the

winter’s worth of firewood to harvest. And the seven acres of overgrown pasture and five acres of lawn. It was a very busy summer!

But she was in heaven! Monica loved viewing the gorgeous sun - rises from the kitchen window and the spectacular sunsets in the back. And watching the farmers in the neighboring fields till and harvest the corn and beans. And – of course – watching her dog, four cats, 12 chickens, two cattle, and six goats grow and frolic in this wonderful pastoral setting.



# BERNE

## Summer 2024

### Concert Series

FREE MUSIC  
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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 &amp; Jazz</small>	Foster Grand	Crazy on You: A Tribute to Heart
June 26th - <small>Classic Car Cruise &amp; Country Night</small>	507 Country	County Line Drive
July 3rd -	Rockin' Hep Cats	Old Country Boys
July 10th - <small>Kala 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</small>	Cosmic Orphan	Retro Soul & the Westside Horns
August 7th - <small>Antique Market</small>	My Grandma's Cardigan	Six Mile Grove
August 14th -	The Chubs	The Local Hooligans
August 21st - <small>Swiss Breakfast</small>	True North	fABBAulous
August 28th - <small>Classic Car Cruise</small>	Jeremy Jewell & the Co-Dependents	Nite Shift

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## Would you like some cheese with that fine wine (whine)?

*The third Mantorville Melodrama runs August 2-18, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2*

By Melanie Dobson

Mantorville Theatre Company wraps up the summer melodrama season with its third melodrama, "Grapes of Woe or Please No Wining" written and directed by Sandra Hennings Miller.

About the play: In the art of winemaking, sometimes more gets crushed than just the grapes. Our stalwart hero is on a timeline to make a success of his wine business, so he can marry his long-time sweetheart, Morgan. But beware! There is a fly in the wine vat; a sneaky fly who has made it his business to see our hero fail, so he can steal the hand of fair Morgan. Juices ferment and corks pop as all strive to meet their goals. Who will stand by Morgan to receive the wedding toast???? (hint: This is a melodrama.... what do you think?)

Logan Tufte plays the novice winemaker, David and Litany Peterson portrays his lovely fiancé, Morgan. Keeping pulse on the upstart business is Morgan's Mama played by Heidi Brasher. Jessica Willette, as Sherry, works to snag and "sip" David for herself with some help from the conniving villain, Vincent, played by Kaiden Beliveau. All hope lies in Cooper Worden's character, sommelier Monsieur Siebel, a potential investor. Meanwhile, Andrew Edge, as the steadfast handyman Emil, has a hidden agenda. Marianne Groven melodiously carries the story-



Why is Vinnie the villain the only one smiling? Come to Mantorville August 2-18 (Friday and Saturday at 7:30, Sunday at 2) to see "Grapes of Woe or Please no Wining" to find out! On floor, Kaiden Beliveau as Vincent Edgar. Left to right: Andrew Edge as Emil; Cooper Worden as Albert Siebel; Jessica Willette as Sherry Dupont; Litany Peterson as Morgan Casella; Logan Tufte as David Phillips; Heidi Brasher as Mama Casella. This is the third and last melodrama for the summer.

line on the piano. While this is not a musical, characters will sing some fun familiar olios (songs).

Melodramas are family friendly; tickets are \$10. Reservations can be made online at

[www.mantorvilletheatrecompany.com](http://www.mantorvilletheatrecompany.com) or by phone, (507)635-5420.

This is your final chance for the summer to come boo, hiss, sigh and hurray!

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## GRAPES OF WOE

OR  
*Please  
No  
Wining*



Written & Directed by Sandra Hennings Miller

**August 2-18**

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# West Concord Survival Days





# Claremont Hogfest

August 7, 2024

- DODGE CENTER, CLAREMONT, WEST CONCORD MESSENGER -

Page 7





# Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Inc.

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## August 30, 31, September 1, 2024

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- **KIDS PEDAL PULL** - Saturday after Parade
- **TRACTOR PULL** - Sunday 9:00am, Registration 7:00am
- **RAFFLE TRACTOR DRAWING - SUNDAY 4:00pm**

### *Live Music!*

Friday, August 30: *Czech Concertina Club* 2:00-5:00pm

Saturday, August 31: *Marv Gohman* 10:00am-Noon  
*Charlie Sticha Band* 1:00-5:00pm

Sunday, September 1:

Non-Denominational Church Service 8:00am  
*Marv Gohman* 10:00am-Noon  
*Dakota Ramblers Band* 1:00-5:00pm

Registration of all golf carts & ATV's will be required at Exhibitor's Gate. Proof of insurance. No cycles.

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*The Rice County Steam and Gas Engines, Inc. is a non-profit organization. The farmers, exhibitors and workers time is all donated. All income is used to improve the show! Thank you for attending.*

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INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK: [ricecountysteamandgas.com](http://ricecountysteamandgas.com)



# Be a Host Family This Year

(continued from page 1)

But when we say yes to new experiences, life introduces us to cultures and communities that are only reachable through taking that first step.

Exchange students from countries all around the world dream of doing this very thing by visiting America through the International Student Exchange program. Since 1982, the organization has allowed students to temporarily live in countries with a host family to better their education and build relationships.

Without the help of local families offering their households to host, their mission and goal of letting youth experience the world

through the lens of a small town would never be possible. It's been ISE's leading motivation to persist for over forty years, during which they've brought communities closer together by promoting peace in a detached world. With their help, over 30,000 students have received access to quality exchange programs.

Many exchange students still need families to open their doors. High schoolers from Europe, Asia, and South America are eager to experience life in a Minnesotan community, including people like Umberto. Hailing from a small Italian town, Umberto desires to go to America for the 2024 fall semester to gain independence and improve his English. Hosting him will offer a glimpse into his passion for robotics, philosophy, history, and geography while spotlighting interests like soccer, boxing, and spending time with friends. With his love for travel, he hopes to add Minnesota to his list of visited places, alongside Hawaii, Tanzania, and various European capitals.

If you're interested in positively impacting Umberto's life this upcoming semester, please message Jennifer Conrad, the determined woman aiming to get him and many other students into American households. Find her at 651-434-0517 or on Facebook, where she strives to bring exchange students the opportunities they deserve. If you want to impact your community in a meaningful and life-changing way, know that he and many others from Belgium, Spain, and Thailand look forward to meeting you. In the chance that you still have doubts, though, hear from a family who recently decided to host their first exchange student: *(continued on page 10)*

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## Farm to School and Early Care Funds Available from MDA

*Family child care providers now eligible for program funding*

St. Paul, MN: Minnesota schools, early childhood education (ECE) centers, and family child care providers looking to serve more locally sourced meals and snacks can apply for funding now available through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Farm to School and Early Care grant and cost-share programs.

The First Bite Farm to School and Early Care Grant is intended for Minnesota K-12 school districts and ECE centers that have little to no experience with local food procurement, and is intended to be an intentional learning process for the applicant. Applicants may request a minimum of \$2,500 and a maximum of \$5,000 in funding, with no match requirement.

The Full Tray Farm to School and Early Care Grant is intended for school districts and ECE centers that have some Farm to School and Early Care procurement experience and

want to expand their local food offerings. Applicants may request up to \$35,000 based on the number of meals served as a part of federal meal programs, with a 1:1 match requirement.

Applicants for both the First Bite and Full Tray grants may also apply for an Equipment Grant, which provides up to \$25,000 for kitchen equipment purchases to support Farm to School and Early Care programs, with a 1:1 match requirement. Schools and ECE centers may not apply only for equipment grants.

New for this round of funding is the Local Tots Cost-Share, which expands the MDA's Farm to School and Early Care offerings to Minnesota family child care providers that want to purchase and serve Minnesota-grown or -raised foods as a part of their meals and snacks. This cost-share will reimburse providers for their purchases of eligible food products, and no match is required. This program is only available to providers who participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

"Farm to School and Early Care programs connect students with fresh, exciting menu items while supporting our farmers and local food systems," said Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. "I'm excited that MDA grant funding is now accessible for family child care providers, helping ensure that more of Minnesota's kids get to build connections to nutritious, local foods from a young age."

The MDA will award a total of approxi-

mately \$1,051,875 across all Farm to School and Early Care programs for fiscal year 2025. Approximately \$100,000 of this amount is expected to be awarded to the Local Tots Cost-Share program, with the remaining funds going towards First Bite and Full Tray grants.

Grant applications and cost-share letters of intent must be submitted by 4 p.m. Central Time (CT) on Thursday, October 24, 2024.

Visit the Farm to School and Early Care Programs webpage for full eligibility and application details for each funding opportunity.

Funding for the Farm to School and Early Care programs is made available through the MDA's Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program, which administers grants to farmers, agribusinesses, schools, and more throughout Minnesota to advance the state's agricultural and renewable energy sectors.

## Time Running Out for United Way's 2024 Running Start for School Drive

Rochester, MN – With less than two weeks left in their Running Start for School supply drive, United Way of Olmsted County (UWOC) is 46% of the way to their goal. They still need help making sure another 1,800 local students get the supplies they need to start school before the August 16 deadline.

Each summer, our community rallies together alongside United Way of Olmsted County to support local students through the Running Start for School program. **This year, United Way's backpack and school supply program is making sure nearly 3,500 students start school with the supplies they need by partnering with 44 Olmsted and Dodge County schools.** It's a nearly 20% increase in need compared to last year.

To support United Way's Running Start for School program, purchase backpacks and school supplies through the online drive at [www.uwolmsted.org/rs](http://www.uwolmsted.org/rs). For as little as \$8, you can make sure a student is prepared to at-

tend school.

SCHEELS is the Premier Sponsor of the UWOC Education Fund. During their volunteer shift at United Way of Olmsted County, Mariah Palmby, Events/Marketing Coordinator, said, "This is genuinely one of our favorite days of the year. We love to get the kiddos ready for the school year, getting them shining with confidence, getting them new backpacks!"

Learn more about United Way's Running Start for School drive and how you can support local learners at [www.uwolmsted.org/rs](http://www.uwolmsted.org/rs). This year's deadline is August 16, 2024. United together, we can ensure every student in our area has a running start for school!

Thank you also to our Supporting Sponsor of the Education Fund, Rochester Chevrolet and Your Select Chevy Dealers.

**\*Please note: If you are looking to receive supplies, please contact your child's school directly.**

## Be a Host Family This Year

(continued from page 9)

"It has been a phenomenal experience! We never dreamed that we would enjoy her so much. She has already asked us to visit her home country and said she feels like family here."

Apart from significantly affecting a student's life, hosting a kid benefits both sides in many ways. Sharing cultures, creating lasting memories, and allowing them to experience a day-to-day American lifestyle are all things that come with the program. Those of us who have always had access to such opportunities often take the small things for granted. But after seeing how grateful someone is for something as simple as education, our perspective shifts, and daily occurrences like a

college football match or summer barbeque take on a new meaning. Hosting an exchange student isn't just about opening your doors—it's about opening your heart to something new, exploring the globe without leaving home, and sharing our world with others.

By inviting an exchange student into your life through the ISE program, you can learn about a foreign culture while allowing them to experience yours. This decision

doesn't just greatly benefit the student and family; it showcases humanity's openness and care for people who were initially strangers. If you're considering hosting one of these incredible students, step outside what's expected of you this upcoming school year. Open the door to opportunity.

## University of Wyoming Spring Semester Dean's and Dean's Freshman Honor Rolls: Minnesota

The University of Wyoming lists the following students from Minnesota on the 2024 spring semester academic Dean's and Dean's Freshman Honor Rolls.

The honor rolls consist of regularly enrolled undergraduates above freshman standing who earned a 3.4 or better grade-point average, and freshmen who have earned a 3.25 or better grade-point average.

To be eligible, students must have been enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours taken for letter grades.

The University of Wyoming provides quality undergraduate and graduate programs to 10,913 students from all 50 states and 74 countries. Established in 1886, UW is a nationally recognized research institution with accomplished faculty and world-class facilities. Offering 200 areas of study, UW provides an environment for success. A low student/faculty ratio allows for individual instruction and attention, and undergraduates often participate in cutting-edge research projects.

For more information about the University of Wyoming, view the webpage at [www.uwyo.edu](http://www.uwyo.edu).

Students included are: **West Concord: Austin J. Schlichting**

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## Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,  
Minnesota State Patrol



*Question: I own a 1987 Toyota based RV. The dashboard instrument cluster is pretty minimal. No tachometer, etc. I have found a cluster from another Toyota truck that I'd like to install. My problem is that my RV has about 112,000 miles on the odometer while the "new" odometer shows a bit over 210,000 miles. Is it legal to unwind the "new to me" odometer to match the actual miles on the RV and is there a person/place where I can get this done?*

*Answer: Minnesota State Statute 325E.14 Subd.6 says about replacing odometers, "Repair or replacement restriction. Nothing in*

this section shall prevent the service, repair, or replacement of an odometer, provided the mileage indicated thereon remains the same as before the service, repair, or replacement. Where the odometer is incapable of registering the same mileage as before such service, repair, or replacement, the odometer shall be adjusted to read zero and a written notice shall be attached to the left door frame of the vehicle by the owner or an agent specifying the mileage prior to repair or replacement of the odometer and the date on which it was repaired or replaced. No person shall remove or alter such a notice so affixed."

Example of odometer notice:

Here's what this means for your situation where your odometer is being replaced with a "used" odometer and unable to reflect the vehicle's actual mileage. You would need to adjust this "new to you/used" odometer to reflect zero. The written notice shall be attached to the vehicle's left door frame. I would advise keeping all documents and receipts on file of the work you had done and equipment purchased for this repair. It would probably be a wise idea to keep another set of the copied documents in your vehicle.

*Question: Since I've moved to Minnesota, I've seen many drivers use right turn lanes as a bypass lane. Is this legal or does the*

*sign reading "lane must turn" mean exactly what it says?*

Answer: White signs are regulatory and failing to comply can result in a citation for "fail to obey traffic control sign/signal." "Right Turn Lanes" are what they are posted for, not passing or bypassing. The "Bypass Lane" is for bypassing (on the right.) Some areas where signs are posted, both of those would be permitted. A word of caution in those areas where both are allowed, remember who has the right of way and to use due

care.

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.

### Changes to Minnesota's Child Passenger Safety Law

On Aug. 1, new guidance on car seats, booster seats and seat belts went into effect and may change how your children ride in a vehicle. The new law is based on best practice. It keeps children from prematurely graduating to the next level of restraint.

Prior to the changes, state law required car seats to be used according to manufacturer's instructions on height and weight. Now, instead of just relying on the child's size, the law specifies ages for rear- and forward-facing car seats, booster seats and seat belts (subject to weight and height depending on the child seat manufacturer). The booster seat requirement has been increased from 8 to 9 years old. Additionally, children under 13 years old must sit in the back seat if possible. See additional information on the Minnesota Child Passenger Safety Law and the Child Passenger Safety news release on the Minnesota Department of Public Safety website.

Crashes are a leading cause of injury and death among children, but proper car seat use can help protect and prevent injuries to our youngest passengers. Together, we can drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.



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## Talking Summer Hydration with U of M



**Katie Loth, PhD, MPH, RD,**  
University of Minnesota  
Medical School s

Getting enough water each day is crucial for our health year-round, and it's especially important in the summer months as temperatures rise. While there are many beverage options to choose from, water is essential for replenishing fluids.

Katie Loth, PhD, MPH, RD, with the University of Minnesota Medical School speaks about symptoms of dehydration, the importance of staying hydrated and her research.

*Q: Why is it important to stay hydrated?*

Dr. Loth: Staying hydrated is critical to

many of our body's functions. Water helps to regulate body temperature, supports the delivery of nutrients, facilitates the removal of wastes throughout the body, protects joints and organs and keeps all of your organs working correctly. Drinking enough water also helps your muscles work efficiently. For example, when you are well hydrated, your heart does not have to work as hard to do its job. Staying hydrated can also improve your mood and ability to think, and has been shown to improve sleep quality.

*Q: What are the signs and symptoms of dehydration?*

Dr. Loth: Being dehydrated means that your body does not have enough water. The first sign of dehydration is thirst or having a dry mouth or tongue. You will urinate less than usual, your urine will be darker in color and it will have a stronger smell. Other signs include dizziness, feeling tired or lightheaded, swollen feet or hands and headaches. Extreme dehydration can cause people to develop a fever and even lead to life-threatening illnesses, such as heat stroke. Not sweating during vigorous physical activity can be a sign that you are dehydrated to the point where you are at risk for heat stroke.

*Q: What tips do you have for staying hydrated in the summer months?*

Dr. Loth: I always tell people to start by drinking a glass of water first thing in the morning and a glass with every meal or snack you have during the day. This habit alone will get you a long way toward your goal. Many

people also benefit from a visual reminder — like a fun water bottle you carry throughout the day or a refillable mug or glass that you keep at your desk or work station. If you are particularly forgetful, set an alarm or notification on your phone to remind you to drink water. You can also get creative by infusing your water with slices of fruit or veggies to make it more flavorful, or by having sparkling water or seltzer on occasion.

Focus on your body's signals: be sure to drink water in response to your own thirst and make a note to drink more if you notice the color of your urine is darker than usual. Water is typically all a person needs to stay hydrated, but if the weather is particularly hot or you are engaging in vigorous physical activity, you could benefit from a sports drink that replaces fluids and electrolytes.

*Q: How much water should people drink each day?*

Dr. Loth: The amount of water a person needs depends on a lot of factors, including their age and size, the climate, the clothing they're wearing, their level of activity and the sex they were assigned at birth. As a starting point, it is generally recommended that men should drink about 13 cups, women 9 cups (10 if they are pregnant and 12 if they are breastfeeding), and kids and teens 6 to 8 cups of water each day. This might sound like a lot, but eating fruits and vegetables that are filled with water and drinking beverages that are primarily water (e.g. milk, tea or coffee) also count toward this total. Sugar-sweetened beverages (e.g. soda, lemonade or juice drinks) should be consumed in moderation.

Importantly, as people age, their thirst cen-

ter — the part of the brain that regulates the sensation of thirst — is not as active as it used to be. This means it may take longer for them to realize that they are thirsty. In addition, our bodies do not hold on to as much water as we get older. Combined, these two factors place older individuals at greater risk for dehydration and make it critical that they stay on top of their hydration, particularly during warmer weather.

*Q: What work are you doing at the U of M to advance diet and nutrition research?*

Dr. Loth: I am involved in a number of projects seeking to better understand how to promote the development of healthy dietary intake and eating behaviors in children, adolescents and adults across their lifespan. My newest research project, Preschool Plates, is a cohort study that aims to better understand the role of parents in the development of their child's food preferences, eating behaviors and dietary intake. We are enrolling parent-preschooler pairs and following them over the span of two years to better understand the impact of various parenting approaches on young children's developing relationship with food. We look forward to sharing that information with families throughout Minnesota. I am also lucky enough to mentor and teach pre- and post-doctoral students and work closely with medical residents training to be family physicians.

Katie Loth, PhD, MPH, RD, is an associate professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School and associate vice chair for faculty affairs in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. Dr. Loth is both a researcher and a practicing clinical dietitian. Her research explores social and environmental influences on child and adolescent dietary intake and eating behaviors. Specifically, she is interested in identifying ways that parents and primary care providers can work to help the children in their care develop and maintain a healthy relationship with food and with their bodies.

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**THE MESSENGER**



## Hunters in Antlerless Lottery Areas Reminded to Buy Licenses by Sept. 5

By Minnesota DNR

Hunters reviewing the 2024 Minnesota hunting regulations will find season details in most areas of Minnesota similar to what they were last year, including northern areas with lower bag limits intended to increase deer populations. Deer hunting licenses can be purchased now.

"We're looking forward to fall. The sights, sounds and camaraderie of deer season are cherished traditions for many Minnesotans," said Todd Froberg, big game program coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. "As hunters prepare, we encourage them to take someone new out hunting this season. Hunting experiences can be even more meaningful when

shared."

Deer season specifics for each deer permit area can be found on the Minnesota DNR website. Electronic copies of all 2024 Minnesota hunting regulations are available now online and printed copies will be available by mid-August wherever licenses are sold. Regulations translated into Hmong, Karen, Somali and Spanish will be available online in mid-September and are expected in print by the end of October.

Ninety-nine DPAs keep the same designation as the previous season. Thirty 30 DPAs, primarily in the northern portion of the state, have lower bag limits that will reduce the harvest of antlerless deer, with the intent of increasing deer populations. No

DPAs have increased bag limits this year.

Mild conditions this past winter were favorable for white-tailed deer, but looking over the next several years, northern deer populations will need multiple mild winters to recover after the severe winters in 2021-2022 and 2022-23.

Firearm and muzzleloader hunters who want to harvest antlerless deer in a DPA designated as antlerless permit lottery need to purchase their license by Thursday, Sept. 5.

Hunters who purchase their license by Sept. 5 are automatically entered into the lottery for the DPA or special hunt area they declare. Hunters in DPAs 235 and 251 are especially reminded to apply for the antlerless permit lottery, because these DPAs were either-sex last season and are designated antlerless permit lottery this season. No application is needed to take antlerless deer in permit areas with either-sex, two-deer limit, three-deer limit, or five-deer limit designations.

Deer season dates for 2024

**Archery:** Saturday, Sept. 14, through Tuesday, Dec. 31

**Youth and early antlerless:** Thursday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 20

**Firearms:** Saturday, Nov. 9, with various closing dates depending on location

**Muzzleloader:** Saturday, Nov. 30, through Sunday, Dec. 15

Late CWD (DPAs 605, 642, 643, 645, 646, 647, 648 and 649) Friday Dec. 20, through Sunday, Dec. 22.

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### DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, July 8, 2024

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the July 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](http://www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us).

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen via video, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Lee Mattson, Deputy Jeff Brion, Meredith Brose, Kathy Freeman

Absent:

City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and amended consent agenda to include: Minutes from June 24, 2024 City Council Meeting, Payment of Bills; Resolution 2024-019 Appointing of Election Judges;
- Public Hearing on Nuisance:

The order to abate 104 4th Ave NE; 510 E Main St; 107 4th Ave NE; 209 2nd St NE; 14 3rd Ave NE; 12 4th Ave SE; 105 1st Ave SE; 203 1st St SW;

Council will review: 506 3rd Ave NW; Extend time allotted to 405 1st St NW to August 5 2024 at which time the City will order to abate said property; Tabled abatement on 811 1st Ave NW for further investigation; Extend time allotted to 607 North St to September 30, 2024 at which time the City will order the abatement of said property; 306 4th Ave NW and 410 6th Ave NW were found to be in compliance at the time of the meeting;

- Public Hearing by City Council on the Valley View Lot Setback Variance;
- Denying request to pay additional hours of PTO over the 300 allowed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm

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PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:

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USA APPLICANT(S):

Name: Taylor Nolan

Address: Lake State

PDR, 670 Nelson Dr

Wanamingo, MN 55983 USA

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Taylor Paul Nolan

MAILING ADDRESS:  
670 Nelson Dr  
Wanamingo, MN 55983 USA

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES:  
[taylorlolanpdr@gmail.com](mailto:taylorlolanpdr@gmail.com)

### 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.

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Serving Military Families



#### 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](mailto:neil@mybobcountry.com).



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1. Genoa or storm jib
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  20. God of thunder
  21. Tight or rigid
  22. Blunder
  23. \* \_\_\_\_ control
  26. \*Alarm clock delay
  29. Edible tuber
  30. Racecourses
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  35. Often follows dark or back
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  38. Friend, south of the border
  39. Singular of #25 Down
  40. Containing uranium
  42. Rip off
  43. Sleeping sickness vector
  45. Che Guevara's hat, pl.
  47. Roman road
  48. "And Then \_\_\_\_ Were None"
  50. Hillside, in Scotland
  52. \*Home ringer
  55. Raccoon's South American cousin
  56. Debate side
  57. Spring in a mattress
  59. Ar, atomic number 18
  60. Black-tie occasion
  61. Golfer's aim
  62. Group with pressure
  63. Stallone
  64. Semiprecious variety of agate

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  6. American Eagle's intimates brand
  7. "Oh \_\_\_\_!"
  8. \*Edible button
  9. "The Sun \_\_\_\_ Rises"
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  14. City area
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  28. Cereal killer
  31. Land measure
  32. \_\_\_\_-cha-cha
  34. Wails
  36. \*Tall building people-mover
  38. Of sour taste
  40. All 50 states
  41. Spanish airline
  44. Make a logical connection (2 words)
  46. Repeat an echo
  48. Opposite of atonal
  49. In a heated manner
  50. Dull one
  51. Angry display
  52. Entertainingly eccentric people, Down Under
  53. "On Golden Pond" bird
  54. \_\_\_\_ of the valley
  55. \*A baseball one has a button on top
  58. Lexington airport code

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