

KENYON • WANAMINGO Messenger

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AUGUST 14, 2024

Volume 17 • Issue 10

Announcements

• **Vang Lutefisk Supper 2024.** Save the date - Saturday October 5, 2024. New times: 11:00am, Noon, 1:00pm, 4:00pm reservation. Price: \$26.00 per meal (cash and check only). More information coming soon.

• **OPEN INVITATION: All are welcome to breakfast, fellowship, bible study, and prayer time every Saturday morning at Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon.** Breakfast and fellowship start at 8:00 am. Followed by a verse by verse bible study. Finishing with prayer time at 10:00 am. All are welcome (men, women, and children) each Saturday morning!! Any questions, please contact Loren Bauer: 507-450-6623.

• **Three Rivers Community Action is currently accepting new Meals On Wheels clients in the communities of Zumbrota, Mazeppa, Goodhue, Pine Island, Kenyon and Wanamingo.** Receive a hot meal delivered to your home by a volunteer at lunch time up to 5 days per week. To qualify you must be 60 or older, live within city limits, have limited mobility and/or are unable to prepare nutritious meals. The suggested donation is \$5-\$10 per meal. For more information on how to sign up for meals or to be a volunteer driver, please contact Dana Bergner at 507-421-6067 or dbergner@three-riverscap.org

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

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

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

Get Real With Jill

By Cheri Roshon

Today I had the pleasure of meeting Jill Warner, Kenyon's newest realtor. She and her husband Brian have purchased Frank Peterson's building on Main Street, and she is now known as the "realtor with the gold door". Yes, her first renovation was to paint the front door gold. Why would she do such a

thing? Because her "colors" are black and gold! And to be honest, she has a great imagination....

Imagine walking into a new house, and seeing all the possibilities it holds. That is one of Jill's favorite aspects of her job.

(continued on page 3)



Jill Warner

Rose Fest In Kenyon the Third Weekend in August



Plan to attend Rose Fest August 16, 17 & 18. Some of the events planned include the Medallion clues which were published the three Wednesdays on the RoseFest Facebook page. The Grand Marshall and Rose Fest Royalty will be announced at 6pm on Wednesday August 14th. At 7:30pm that evening there will be a town cruise of golf carts, ATV's and UTV's. The lineup will begin at the First Lutheran Church parking lot at 7:15pm.

(continued on page 5)



2023 Rosefest

49th Annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show Aug. 30, 31 & Sept. 1



2023 Show

Visitors can take a trip back in time with all the various exhibits and activities going on at the annual Rice County Steam & Gas Show just South of Dundas MN on Hwy. 3 Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 30, 31 & Sept 1. This year the event features Minneapolis Moline Tractors and Equipment.

Attendees can expect to see many of the familiar attractions as they have in the past including the operating sawmill, corn shelling, thrashing, blacksmithing, and more.

(continued on page 6)



Cristian Pinos

Cahill Bistro & Bar

By Cheri Roshon

Walking into the new space which once served as Lacey's, you will notice some big changes. No longer a dark bar atmosphere, it is bright and open and very welcoming. Read the menu, and your mouth will start watering--- well, I'm speaking for myself, but the description of the meals that await your taste buds are so tempting, I want to try them all!

I was met at the door by Cristian Pinos, one of 3 brothers who moved to the United States from Ecuador.

(continued on page 4)

PILLOW CLEANING



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Thursday, September 12th at Kenyon VFW from 7:00 AM-3:00 PM

Wednesday, September 11th Evening Drop Off 5:00 PM-8:00 PM

Sponsored by: Kenyon Lions

Groups interested in details for sponsoring this service contact:

Carlson's Pillow Service • 3103 Westview Road NW Willmar, MN 56201 • 320-212-5811 or 320-235-8422

We have lots of
K-W Knights apparel
on hand for back to
school shopping!

We will be open for Rosefest on Saturday, August 17th.
Special hours 10:00 to Noon.

D&S Banner,
Sign & Print

113 Forest Street, Kenyon, MN 55946
507-789-4611 • dandsbannersignandprint.com



What Can We Agree Upon?

By Pastor Larry Grove
Hauge Free Lutheran Church

In the aftermath of 911 there was a uniting of minds and a common opinion that what happened to this country was horrific and we needed to do whatever it took to make sure it never happened again. Along with this unified commitment came all kinds of inconveniences. Long waits at airports, identity verification requirements, purse size limitations and bag checks with pocket emptying at ball games and large events. Even body scans were commonplace. All of these restrictions hamstrung our nation but we were in agreement that these things were necessary in order to prevent another debilitating attack. Fast forward 23 years and this same country is as divided as I have seen it in my lifetime. There is strife, frustration and angst in all circles. We have an election fast approaching with each side of the political spectrum pointing at the opposition as the cause for all the turmoil. So, what is the answer? In the sweltering summer of 1787, the Constitutional Convention was attempting to craft a document that would be the benchmark for the New Republic. Deliberations became so heated and the air surrounding the assembly seemed so bleak that if the Convention would adjourn the dissolution of the union of states appeared to be inevitable. At this point when tempers were flaring, Benjamin Franklin addressed his fellow Statesmen asking for prayer, exhorting the men to seek divine intervention and unity. These were his words, "The longer I live, the more convincing the proofs I see that God governs in the affairs of men. Without His continuing aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel. Have we now forgotten this powerful

friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need His assistance?" With each session beginning in prayer, unity and cooperation became the theme and the delegates came to the "Great Compromise" which brought about two distinct houses. The House of Representatives, based on population and the Senate which would have two people from each state. It seems abundantly clear to me that our country needs to turn its allegiance back to God and pray that He would bring about harmony

and restoration to our fractured system. Regardless of our political bent, as believers and followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, we must turn to His Word for guidance and direction. Romans Chapter 1 beginning with verse 18 tells how corporately, as a country, we have turned from the statutes of God to worldly ideas. It says, "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may

be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened." (continued on page 3)

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.

DENNISON/VANG LUTHERAN PARISH
Pastor Paul A. Graham
(C) 507-269-5997
Office: 507-645-6042
P.O. Box 117, Dennison, MN 55018
Website: www.dennisonvang.org
You can join us for Worship online at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/167136242800>

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
301 2nd Avenue, Wanamingo
824-2155
August 18: 9:00a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
August 25: 9:00a.m. Worship

WANAMINGO LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
130 West 3rd St., Wanamingo
824-2457
www.TrinityWanamingo.org
August 18: 9:00a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at TLC
August 25: 9:00a.m. Worship at TLC

ASPELUND EMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Rob Edwards, Pastor
429 County 1 Blvd, Kenyon
507-824-2307
www.emmanuelafcl.org
9:00a.m. Sunday School;
10:00a.m. Coffee Time
10:30a.m. Worship Service

FIRST EV. LUTHERAN
Julie Rogness, Pastor
309 Forest Street, Kenyon • 507-789-5261
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.;
Wed. Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

GOL LUTHERAN
Joe Jorgensen, Pastor
507-838-2100
Sunday Worship 10:30a.m. July-August



Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to the Kenyon-Wanamingo Messenger at: hometownmessenger@gmail.com



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
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GOSPEL OF LIFE FAMILY CHURCH
Pastor Steven G. Roberts
www.gospeloflifechurch.org
2010 Jefferson Rd, Northfield - Sunday 10:30a.m.
507-259-2644
Wanamingo - Wednesday 7:00p.m.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Lora Sturm, Pastor • 507-330-0025
www.stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info
19086 Jacob Avenue, Faribault
Sunday School 9:30a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NERSTRAND
Mike Ahrens S.A.M.
Service 9am. Coffee hour follows @ 10 am
Sunday School 10:15 am

HAUGE LUTHERAN
Larry Grove, Pastor • 507-271-9761
302 Bullis Street, Kenyon
Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.
with lunch following

LANDS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
David Krinke, Pastor
16640 Hwy. 60 Blvd.
www.landslutheran.com
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. at Everson Park

STORDAHL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
Pastor Kathleen Lowery
15049 Cty. 12 Blvd., Zumbrota • 732-5711
Sundays 10:30 a.m. Worship

HOLDEN/DALE
Pastor Dustin Haider • 507-789-6677
Email: holdendalesecretary@gmail.com
Worship schedule found at:
www.holdenlutheranchurch.org
Holden/Dale Facebook

MOLAND CHURCH
Nancy Edwardson, Pastor • 507-789-6661
Sunday School 9 a.m.

NERSTRAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Gary Liker, Pastor
12 Maple Street • 507-330-0025
Worship 9:00 a.m.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Reverend Daren Flinck
429 4th Street, Kenyon • 507-951-1271
Worship 9:30 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Cory Rohlfing
Deacon Newell McGee
108 Bullis St., Kenyon
Sunday Mass 8:00a.m.
Wednesday Mass 5:00p.m.

NEW LIFE CHURCH
525 Beverly St., Wanamingo
507-824-3019
10am Worship Service
office@nlcwanamingo.org
Website with online services which are live at 10:00a.m. or can be viewed at anytime:
<https://nlcwanamingo.org/>



Mainstreet Publishing Minnesota, Inc.

P.O. Box 125
Dennison, MN 55018
Phone/Text 507-645-3327
Fax 507-645-9878
www.kenyonmn.net
www.wanamingomn.com
E-mail:
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Published in cooperation with
Mainstreet Publishing Minnesota, Inc.
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Get Real With Jill

(continued from page 1)

She has been in the real estate industry for over 20 years, and she has a keen sense as to what her clients are looking for, and how to bring their dreams to life. She prides herself on educating her clients as to the ins and outs of her business, and finding out what is important to them so she can help them to see the possibilities in each new showing. She says, "Buying a home is like going on a date. On the first date, you see what the house has to offer. If you see red flags, the first date is the last one. If however, you like the house, and you can see the possibilities, you go on a second date, and delve deeper into it." Great analogy!

I asked Jill what brought her to the real estate business. She said she and Brian had been buying and flipping homes and businesses, and she decided that she may as well go the distance and become a realtor, not only for herself, but to be able to help others find their next home. After all, for most people, a home will be their largest investment. Many of her clients are first time home buyers, and don't really know what they are looking for. Jill makes it a point to find out things like, do they have or want pets? Do they like to have a close proximity to the town's school, daycare, or workplace? Are they thinking of having a

large family, or would a smaller house do? She actually takes them around town if they don't already know it, and shows them the things they may be interested in knowing about. Like the pool, right in town and accessible for the kids. Or the walking trails and parks for evening strolls, or walking the dog. She makes it her job to understand the needs of the client, and point out what this area has to offer.

My next question was, Why Kenyon? Her family was living in Moose Lake, in northern Minnesota. When her daughter Isabel graduated from Aveda School of Cosmetology and moved to Texas, an opportunity to purchase Brian's grandparents' home became available, and they couldn't resist. Many of you will remember Lester and Doris Flom from Sogn. Well, they chose to make that their forever home, and here they are!

The next decision was, where would she locate her office? So she started calling around to the people who had buildings empty, not sure if she wanted to buy or rent. She wasn't sure if she should choose Kenyon or another town, but the people of Kenyon were so welcoming, she knew this was the place for her. "I love living in a small town", she said. "People here are so kind and friendly. So many people know Brian's grandparents, and Eric and Mel Flom, his aunt and uncle, live just up the hill.", as well as his aunt & uncle Pam & Steve Tralle from Nerstrand. So, the decision was made, and now she is ready to help others with their next real estate adventure, whether it be commercial or residential.

I mentioned previously that the Warners had been flipping homes and businesses, but

I didn't tell you that they also ran some of the businesses they bought, while upgrading them. Some of the properties she owned were insurance agencies and laundromats, a gas station and a restaurant! Quite a diverse collection, but the point is she knows how to make either a home or a business work for you.

So as you can probably tell, Jill is committed to her new clients, and willing to go the extra mile. She not only strives to educate her clients, but teaches other realtors how to be successful in their own company. She is also a consultant, and can help you get your business ideas flowing so you can be more efficient and creative in your own endeavors. All in all, Jill is about serving others and helping

to make a difference in their lives. Her goal is to leave a lasting impression on those she works with. She invites you to pop in and say hello when her office is up and running, and to get to know her. She loves to hear the history of Kenyon, and of her building, which has been many things. If you have any old pictures to share, she would love to see them, too.

She has a strong social media presence, and you can reach her at jillwrealty@gmail.com, or go to her website at www.propertieswithjill.com. If you'd rather call, her number is (320) 279-3212. And you can always stop into her office....it's the one with the gold door! And you know she is here to stay!!

What Can We Agree Upon?

(continued from page 2)

It goes on in verse 28 to say, "Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them." The name calling, the lies, the greed and slandering from both parties has left so many with a sour taste in their mouths. We must all humble ourselves and repent and pray that God would have mercy on us as a nation and restore us to the great country we once were. We must refrain from looking at the character qualities that we dislike in the individuals that are seeking office and focus on the issues and how they align with God's principles and how they ultimately affect our community, our state, and our nation. The thought of God pouring out His wrath on the godlessness that He sees should be terrifying to all of us. We must take a stand for righteous living and oppose those that approve of all who practice immoral behavior from both sides of the aisle. Hebrews 10:36-39 is an encouragement to all believers to stand firm. It says, "You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised. For, "In just a little while, He who is coming will come and will not delay." And, "But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back." But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved." We must pray for our country and endeavor to be informed about issues that are being addressed and also those issues that need addressing and have been avoided. Pray for and encourage our leaders to seek divine intervention, just as our Constitutional framers did, so that harmony and restoration could come to our great nation and God's favor could be poured out on us as He has done so generously over centuries. God bless you as you exercise your right to vote for whoever you feel would best carry out this task. May we once again be the 'United' States of America.

KENYON ACE HARDWARE

RED-HOT

AUGUST BUYS

<p>BUY THREE GET ONE FREE</p> <p>Ace® Basic Pleated Furnace Air Filter</p>	<p>SALE</p> <p>2 for \$4.00</p> <p>Select Reading Glasses, Lighters, Scissors, Magnifying Glasses and More!</p>	<p>SALE</p> <p>\$7.99</p> <p>Pennzoil® Platinum® Synthetic Motor Oil, 1 Qt.</p>	<p>SALE</p> <p>\$349.00</p> <p>EGO® POWER+ 56V 18" Chain Saw</p>
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Kenyon Ace Hardware

FOR SALE

ONE REALTYONEGROUP CHOICE

634 2nd St. Kenyon, MN

320-279-3212

Jill Warner REALTOR

WWW.GOLDDOORHOMES.COM

Cahill Bistro & Bar

(continued from page 1)

Raised on a large farm with clean mountain water feeding their organic produce, they are three of eleven siblings who come from a long line of restaurateurs. Latin American Fusion would be the description of their delightful creations, and throw in some fresh seafood, and you have a menu that will please anyone with a discerning palate. Cristian's two older brothers came to the twin Cities area in 1999, and began working in top scale restaurants. Carlos was a server, and Alberto was a chef. They learned the ropes, and asked Cristian to join them on their adventure. In 2005, he did just that, and in 2017 the brothers finally achieved their dream of opening a high class restaurant with personal service to their patrons that inspired loyalty. The Cahill Bistro in Edina is their first location, and now Kenyon will be the second one to emerge on the scene! You can go to their website at

www.cahillbistro.com and check out the menu in Edina, and you will get an idea of what is to come!

I asked Cristian what his goal is with the new bistro, called Cahill Bistro & Bar. He replied immediately, "I want to make our customers happy!" Well, that's a goal worth striving for, and I have full confidence that he will meet that goal. The food is all fresh and made to order. Nothing is pre-made, and nothing out of a bag or can will be found onsite. They have many vegan and gluten free options, and follow the recipes they have found to be successful in their first location, so you can be assured that if you like an entree the first time, you can enjoy it again and again! They will serve beer, wine and hard liquor, and have a selection of traditional desserts that you will have to see for yourself! Fresh soup is made everyday, and all the salad dressings are homemade. They source fresh produce from the Restaurant Depot in St. Paul, and even their corn chips are made onsite. Salsa, guacamole, organic beans and other traditional favorites like tomatillos and fresh jalapenos are served daily, and they are hoping to bring organic coffee beans from Ecuador soon. As they get to know the tastes of the community, they will offer creative entrees for you to savor.

The restaurant itself, as well as being bright and cheery is also quiet, cozy and casual. No blaring music or multiple televisions to dis-

rupt your conversation. You can be sure that the service will be personal, and the atmosphere elegant. Glassware and the cloth napkins will show you the attention to detail that makes their first location a success. In the kitchen, they have replaced the old equipment and hood fan with new ones, and modified their storage to make it flow. Are you looking for fresh food served in the fresh air? Well, the large outdoor patio is waiting to accommodate you.

One of Cristian's ideas is to have an Air B & B in the upstairs section of the building, but that is a ways down the road! Hoping to open before Rose Fest, they are working round the clock to get everything ready to open to the public. "We love what we do",

says Cristian, and his passion for this business is apparent as he talks about his dreams for his family's future in Kenyon. Stop by and welcome him to the community, and tell him Cheri sent you!



ESTATE SALE

September 6 & 7

8:00am to 5:00pm

**Furniture, TV, antiques,
1/18 scale car collection,
signed/numbered prints,
misc.**

1218 6th St. NW, Dodge Center

Do You Have an Announcement?

Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

2024-25 Kenyon-Wanamingo Elementary First Day School Needs

* Please label everything with student's name unless noted "unlabeled" or "to share"

Kindergarten (DO NOT LABEL)

- Crayons - (24 ct. Crayola) - 4 boxes
- Glue Sticks - 15-20, Elmer's (unlabeled)
- Blunt Scissors (Kids Fiskars) No plastic blades
- Water bottle
- Pencil Box - Approx. 5" X 8" Plastic (No zipper bags)
- 3 Spiral Notebooks
- 1 Composition Notebook
- Backpack (No wheels)
- Tennis Shoes (Velcro if unable to tie)
- 2 Washable Marker 8-pk. Broad Line
- 2 low odor EXPO Dry Erase Markers
- Tissues to share - 1 lg. box (unlabeled)
- 1 Highlighter
- 1 Plastic Folder-Red
- 2 Packages Baby Wipes
- 1 Container Clorox/Antibacterial Wipes
- Last Name A-M: 1 box Ziploc sandwich bags
- Last Name N-Z: 1 box Ziploc gallon bags

1st Grade

- Crayons - 24-pack -3 boxes
- 2 Glue Sticks (unopened & labeled)
- (1) 2-pack Pink Pearl Erasers
- Scissors - Kid's Fiskars or similar quality
- 24 Pencils to share (Ticonderoga or USA Gold Brand)
- School Box - Approx. 5" X 8"
- 2 Spiral Notebooks (Wide-rule)
- (5) 2-Pocket Folders: Red-Blue-Green-Yellow-Purple
- 2 boxes Washable Markers - 8 or 10 pk.
- 2 pk. Expo Dry Erase Markers
- 2 boxes Tissues (to share)
- 12 oz. Hand Sanitizer (to share)
- 2 Yellow Highlighters
- Headphones (No earbuds please)

2nd Grade

- 24-pack Crayons - 2 boxes
- 6 Glue Sticks & 1 Glue Bottle (5 oz.) (Unlabeled)
- (3) 2-Pocket Folders: Red-Blue-Yellow
- Scissors - Kid's Fiskars or similar quality
- (2) 24-pack Pencils to share (Ticonderoga or USA Gold Brand)
- 5" X 8" Crayon Box
- 2 Spiral Notebooks (Wide-Rule)
- (2) 8-pack Washable Markers
- 2 boxes Tissue (to share)

2nd Grade (Cont.)

- Headphones
- (1) 4-pack EXPO Dry Erase Markers
- Clorox wipes (to share)

3rd Grade

- (3) 24-packs #2 Pencils - (Ticonderoga or USA Gold. Pre-sharpened preferred.)
- Individual enclosed Pencil Sharpener
- Pencil-top Erasers
- Colored Pencils
- Crayons
- Glue Stick
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Zippered Bag for Pencils
- 4 Single-Subject Notebooks (8 1/2 X 11 Wide-rule with spiral binding)
- EXPO Dry Erase Markers
- Headphones (No earbuds please)
- (3) 2-Pocket Folders: Blue-Yellow-Red
- Antibacterial Wipes
- 2 or more boxes Tissues (to share)

4th Grade

- 24 Pre-sharpened Pencils
- (2) 24-pack Colored Pencils
- Crayons (optional)
- Pencil Box (No locks please)
- Scissors (Not child-sized)
- Pencil-top Erasers
- 2 Glue Sticks
- 1 Glue Bottle
- Pencil Sharpener (optional-not electric)
- 5 Notebooks: Red-Blue-Yellow-Black-Green
- (6) 2-Pocket Folders: Red-Blue-Yellow-Green-Black-other your choice
- 1" 3-Ring Binder
- 2 Yellow Highlighters
- Basic Calculator
- Headphones (No earbuds please)
- 1 Clorox wipes
- 2 boxes of tissues
- Water Bottle (No glass please)

Tennis shoes will be required for all students for Physical Education. We would request no black soles if possible.

Please note that supplies will need to be replenished during the school year. Teachers will store extra supplies until needed and notify you if supplies are running low.



FALL SAVINGS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

GET UP TO \$60*

OFFER VALID 8/28/24 - 9/23/24

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Rose Fest In Kenyon the Third Weekend in August

(continued from page 1)

On Thursday evening the Farmers Market will be held from 4 to 7pm and the Gopher State Garden Tractor pull will take place on Langford Avenue behind CHS starting at 6:30pm. Friday will kick off the city wide garage sales. There will be a book sale from 10am to 4pm in the city council chambers.

The KW athletic booster club golf tournament will tee off at noon on Friday. The VFW hog roast will be held from 5 to 7pm inside the VFW hall. The Kenyon Park and Rec will

be hosting a wine and beer tasting at Depot Park from 5 to 7:30pm. From 6 to 9pm Tommy Kramer, a former Vikings player will be meeting outside the Kenyon Muni for free photos and autographs. At 9pm there will be music at the Kenyon Muni with Fire at the Falls starting at 9pm. The Field of Flags will be open all weekend with closing ceremony on Sunday after the parade.

On Saturday August 17th the Kenyon Volunteer Fire Department will host a pancake breakfast and Bloody Mary bar outside the Kenyon Muni from 7 to 10:30am. An old car ad truck show will be held from 8am to 2pm. A tractor pull will begin at 9am at Marings Auction lot. The KW booster Club 5K will start at the High School at 9am. A vendor and craft market will be held from 9am to 3pm. The Road Rally lines up at the CHS elevator at 10am. The Ladies Auxiliary will serve lunch at the VFW from 10am to 2pm. The United Methodist Church lunch is also serving lunch from 11am to 1pm.

There will be Gunderson House tours from 11am to 2pm on Saturday. At noon there will be a Euchre tournament at the Kenyon Muni

followed by a bean bag tournament at 3pm. From 5 to 7pm the VFW will host Family Bingo. A street dance will be held outside the Kenyon Muni from 8pm to 12:30am featuring the Jake Nelson Band with Zero Below opening. This is an all ages show with a \$10 cover charge.

A Family Fun Day at Depot Park starts at 10am Saturday. The kid's Tractor pull starts

at 10am. There is a free petting zoo and free face painting from 10am to 2pm. At 11:30am there is a free magic show by Greg the Great Magician. Laser tag will be in the ice hockey rink from 2 to 8pm.

On Sunday the Rose Fest parade will start at 1pm followed by the Fire Department Water Fights. The Kenyon pool will host the Rose fest regatta at 5pm. (see schedule on pg. 11)

SEMCAC Announces School Residency Grants Now Open for 2024-25 Academic Year

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



SEMAC, a non-profit arts agency, is designated by the State of Minnesota Arts Board as the regional arts council for eleven southeastern Minnesota counties: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona



The Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council is pleased to announce that applications for the School Residency Grant program opened on July 1 for the 2024-25 school year. This program aims to enrich the educational experience of K-12 students through interactive arts activities with professional artists.

Program Highlights:

\$3,000 grants available for artist residencies in public or non-religious private schools
Residencies must last between one and five school days

No matching funds required

Annual reapplication possible for previous recipients

Rolling deadline: 30 days prior to the planned residency

The residencies are designed to supplement, not replace, existing school curricula. Programs must culminate in a public capstone event showcasing student work. Importantly, activities designed solely to meet K-12 Minnesota Academic Standards in the Arts are not eligible for this grant.

Interested schools and artists can find more information and apply at www.semac.org. For questions, please contact Karen Miller at staff@semac.org or 507-281-4848.

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

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



49th Annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show Aug. 30, 31 & Sept. 1

(continued from page 1)



2023 Show



2023 Show

The annual flea market will take place on the grounds and additional exhibits are many, including antique tractors, classic cars and trucks along with draft horses. Vintage Machinery, both horse drawn, and tractor driven, will be on display and used in various exhibits on the grounds.

The tractor parade takes place at noon each day.

Breakfast is served daily on the grounds as well as other food stands offering food throughout the day.

The kids pedal pull is Saturday after the parade, and the tractor pull is Sunday at 9:00 AM. Minneapolis Moline tractors and implements are the feature of this year's show, and one is being raffled off for their annual fundraising raffle. The kids' play area includes a merry go round, swings, sandboxes and more.

A petting zoo will also be available for visitors, presented this year courtesy of Windy

Willow Farm Adventures.

There will be live music all three days and a non-denominational church service will take place Sunday at 8:00 AM.

General admission is just \$10 for the entire weekend and all events are free for ages 12 and under.

The all-volunteer group works hard to preserve history, maintain the grounds and bring new pieces of history to visitors every year. The newest acquisition for the club was the former Waterford, MN schoolhouse and township building, which was moved to the grounds last year from its original location in Waterford (Just North of Northfield). The move south down Highway #3 was delayed several times last year due to weather and other factors. Photos of the historic move are available on the Rice County Steam and Gas Facebook page.

Complete information and event listings are available on the group's Facebook page and website at ricecountysteamandgas.com



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Blaze Body Fitness Open in West Concord



Theresa French

Blaze Body Fitness, the new health club in West Concord is now open.

Blaze Body Fitness is the brainchild of Theresa French of West Concord. Theresa grew up in northern California and moved to Iowa in 1989 and then Minnesota twenty-five

years ago. She is a business owner and entrepreneur at heart. Having owned and operated a full-service photography studio to running a fully remote, online coaching and consulting business helping small businesses with their marketing and sales for the past 15 years. Theresa and her husband Terry have lived in West Concord since 2008 and they have two daughters, five grandchildren and many furbabies.

As a full-figure woman herself, Theresa was tired of the traditional fitness options. In 2017, while working at an online nutrition and

fitness company here in Minnesota, coaching hundreds of clients on their nutrition and fitness, she realized most of them struggled in the same way as she had with consistency and sticking with it. It was then she decided to create something less traditional with a different approach to fat loss and fitness by focusing on function and fun. It was then BlazeBody Fitness was born.

With less focus on conforming and performing, BlazeBody fitness promises to be less focused on routine and less regimented. Instead, members will be given the freedom to dance at their own pace, at their own fitness ability and have fun while getting fit. The main focus will be on mindset, making sensible food choices and allowing yourself to step out of the usual routine by freestyling your dance fitness workouts. Theresa believes that if you focus on the fun, the weight loss will come.

The buildout on the vacant building on Main Street started in 2019. Construction was halted during COVID and it once again became a labor of love for Terry and Theresa when they picked their hammers back up in late 2021. The completed remodel features a very upscale lobby, 2 changing rooms and a 900 square foot dance floor with mirrors and D.J. "club like" sound and light system.

The keystone offering of this new dance fitness studio will be routine free dance sessions of 30-45 minutes with varying music genres and themes to keep members dancing to their favorite songs. From the 50's and 60's to hip hop and country, to 80's & 90's to Latin Salsa beats, these dance sessions are designed to serve every age range and fitness



level. Theresa says, "It's like dancing all night long at the best wedding reception ever or going "clubbing," just without alcohol. From the 50's and 60's to hip hop and country, to 80's & 90's to Latin Salsa beats, these dance sessions are designed to serve every age range and fitness level.

Members can use a heart monitor which will display your heartrate on a monitor inside the dance space so you can keep your workout within the prescribed heart rate zones to meet your fitness training goals. Circuit Strength Training and HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training) will also be offered 2-3 days a week using small equipment such as kettle bells, battle ropes, tension bands and medi-

cine balls for full body strength training and agility.

Later this fall, Theresa will be hosting special dance clinics taught by local choreographers in swing, ballroom, hip hop as well as line dancing. In the future look for special community events such as a movie on the big screen during the winter and holiday inspired formal dinner and dance events.

Check out the website blazebodyfitness.com for a full calendar of events and class offerings or follow us on Facebook @facebook.com/blazebod. You can also reach her by phone at 507-969-5708.

Theresa and Blaze Body Fitness is excited to help you ignite the fire for what you desire in your fitness and in your life.

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The View From the Back *Part 2*

By Ted Gamble

Ted Gamble is an avid runner and friend of The Messenger. This is the second of a 3 part series on his recent adventures that we will run in the Messenger in August and September. We hope you enjoy it.

On my second lap in that area, I tripped over a rock and landed flat on my face. Not hurt, just embarrassed. I told myself to remember that, but I got a little careless on the last lap and tripped over this exact same rock.

Then we go over the bridge crossing the Zumbro river. This is another often photographed area.

Then we head into the river bottoms and there's some flat single track; it's really kind of an easy portion of the course. From there we go up onto a gravel road portion for a bit.

There's a little climb here before going down to the Sand Coulee area, then up a hill where you wind and snake through the woods eventually hitting a long downhill with really excellent views of the river. Then up a short little single track washout which when muddy is awful but when everything is dry, it's just kind of a short hill to get you warmed up for what comes later. Winding trails take you to

a nice little downhill trail to the first aid station. It's (mostly) unstaffed and only had water.

At this point it feels like you've come a long way, but you're only about 5 miles into the course with another 12 to go. There's a sign as you leave that aid station telling you have 8.2 miles to the next aid station, which is fully staffed and has food. On a normal run 8.2 miles isn't bad, but this is the longest and most discouraging stretch of the entire race, and it seems much longer. The trail snakes through the woods until it comes to the Pump House Trail. It's just a bit bigger and longer than the washout described earlier. This one is absolute hell when it is muddy but this year it wasn't that bad—well, it wasn't that good either! I brought my trekking poles and I'm really glad I had them as they were very useful for the hilly portions. At that point you're at the top of another hill and the next thing to look forward to is kind of a long rocky decline, which, if I was younger, stronger, and more nimble would be really fun to run down. But I am none of those things so I had to take it kind of slow.

It seems to take a long time to find this, but when you finally do get down the next portion is a flat stretch called Sand Coulee. And that's what it is. It's a ditch that's full of sand. It's hard to run the sandy portions but it is flat and there are some packed down dirt areas where running is easy.

There are some really pretty areas along here.

(continued on page 9)



One of the first rocky downhills

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The View From the Back

(continued from page 8)

Eventually it ends, though and there's an intersection of various road and trails where we are routed up a very steep, and thankfully, short single track before hitting the Scenic Overlook Trail. It is a very long trail and steep in parts, especially as you get near the top. But once you get up there, there is another great view of the valley. You can see where you were at the beginning of the race as well as the bridge over the Zumbro that was crossed only a few miles back.

Along the top of the ridge is an old horse trail that has been there so long, the trails are grooved down several feet in many places.

There's a cabin up there that I kind of wonder about, but probably built by the DNR for some forgotten purpose years ago.

After about two miles there is the Ant Hill, which is very steep and very rocky. At least it's downhill, but it has to be taken slowly, or the injury possibility can be severe. This is where Derrick cramped up and lost his eye. When the bottom is reached, the trail immediately turns left and goes up a fresh hell (yes, I spelled that right!) called Paddy's Hill. It's just like Ant Hill, but it goes up. 300 feet

down, then 300 feet back up. At this point, you have come about twelve miles.

Next, comes a short single track along a cornfield followed by a logging road that leads to a downhill gravel road. From here, it's all downhill to the aid station. In the earlier stages of the race it's a good place to open it up and just coast down the hill. At the bottom is a fully staffed and supplied aid station. The sign says you're only 3 1/2 miles from the start/finish area, but the scenery is flat and unchanging so it seems much longer. These final miles are fondly known as the "Death March". After the Ant Hill descent, followed by Paddy's Hill, and then down the gravel road the flat should be easy right? Only it's not—your legs are trashed from the ups and downs, combined with the unchanging scenery, this part seems much longer than it actually is.

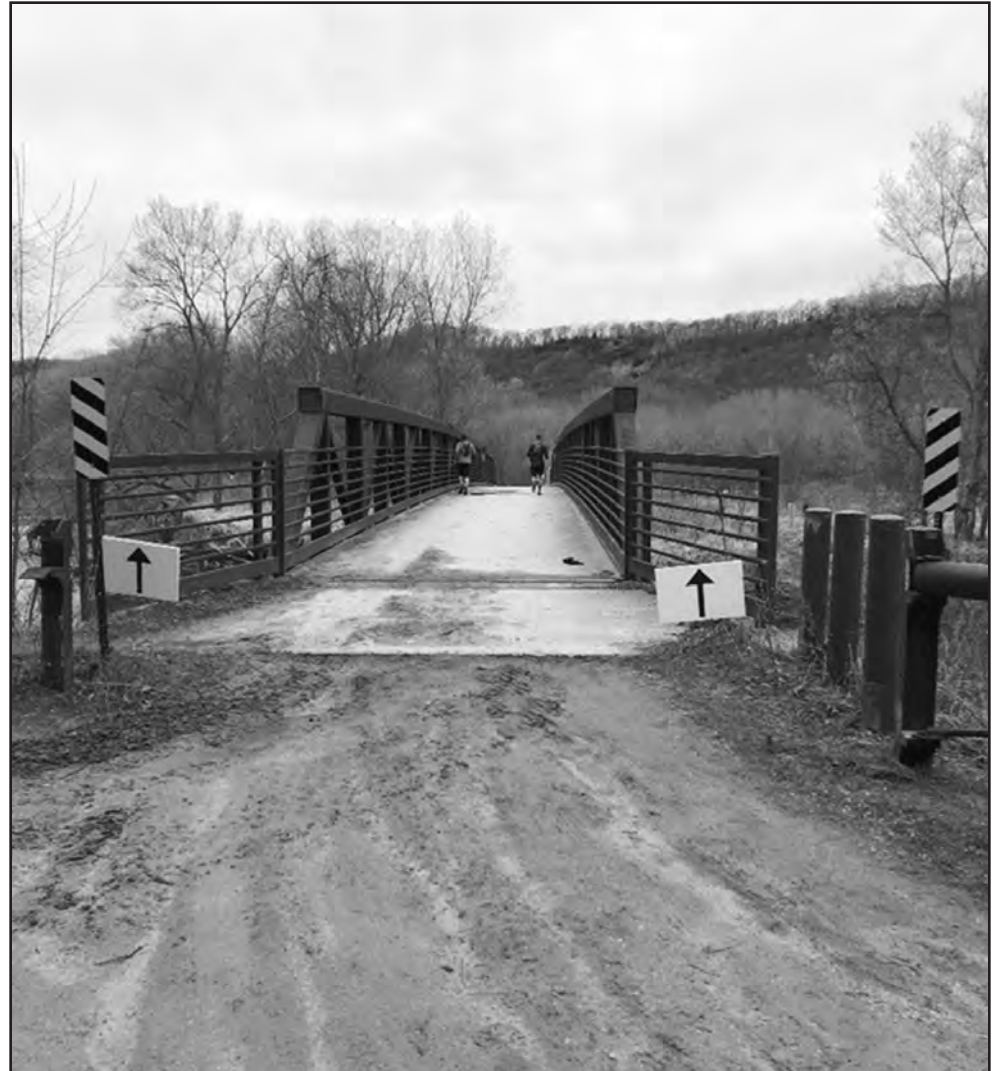
The first part of the "Death March" is a mostly flat gravel road that goes back to the bridge over the Zumbro that was crossed earlier in the race. After crossing the bridge, there is a narrow logging road that goes back to the start/finish. There is a nice view of the river at about the halfway point.

Zumbro is a very scenic area lots of good places for photos. Although I had my phone on me the whole time I think I only took one picture. And that was when I was going to quit and it didn't matter.

So, back to the race.

As we left the camp for the fifth time a little before six in the morning something really strange happened: a joint hallucination.

(continued on page 10)



The bridge over the Zumbro

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The View From the Back

(continued from page 9)

It was just starting to get light out, and we were on the short stretch of gravel road leading up to Rock Hill. To our left was an unplanted cornfield. Chad asked, "What are those people doing?"

I looked and saw two people on the left side of the road. One was crouched over and the other was lying behind with his hand on the other person's hip. It looked like they were trying to either take a photograph of something in the field, or maybe they were guns they're trying to shoot something? Or maybe they were sighting in their rifles?

We both looked, expecting to see deer (it is not deer season) or a target off to the left; but there was nothing. As we got a little closer, Chad says "Hey wait a minute--that's just a wash out in the road!"

We kept moving, and he was right. Wow, how did that happen? That was really strange.

Chad reminded me several times that on this lap that I was executing my plan to perfection. With a six hour goal for each of the remaining two laps, I was still OK. But there was something deep inside that wanted to

push it and go a little bit faster. I was getting very sore and very tired, but at this point I had made up my mind: I was going to finish this thing! It's funny how the mind can tell the body to do something it doesn't want to.

Anyway, we continued on and a few miles later we got to the portion that led down to the first unmanned aid station. I swear there was a woman with a large white dog standing on the side of the trail. As we got closer, it was actually just a stump.

From that point on I decided not to look into the woods. Just keep your head down and eyes on the trail and you won't see anything weird, I told myself.

(Watch for part 3 in the next issue of The Messenger)



Some single track near Sand Coulee



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KENYON ROSEFEST

AUGUST 16-18 ²⁰²⁴

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

City Wide Garage Sales begin

- Noon KW Booster Club Golf Tournament
- 5pm VFW Hog Roast
- 5pm Wine & Beer Tasting @ Depot Park
- 6pm Tommy Kramer (former Viking player) Outside Muni
- 9pm Fire at the Falls live music at the Muni

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

- 7am Kenyon Fire Department Pancake Breakfast & Bloody Mary Bar Outside Muni
- 8am Old Cat & Truck Show
- 9am KW 5K Run @ High School
- 9am Tractor Pull at Maring Lot
- 9am-3pm Craft and Vendor Market
- 10am-2pm VFW Auxiliary Lunch
- 10am Road Rally Start at Elevator
- 11am-1pm UMC Church Lunch
- 11am-2pm Gunderson House Tours
- Noon Euchre Tournament @ Muni
- 3pm Bean Bag Tournament @ Muni
- 5-7pm Family Bingo @ VFW
- 8pm Street Dance with Jake Nelson Band & Zero Below

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

- 1pm Rosefest Parade
- 2pm Fire Department Water Fights
- 5pm Rosefest Regatta @ Wwimming Pool

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Kids enjoying the farm machinery displays

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- KENYON-WANAMINGO MESSENGER -

Page 13



Sawyer and a show goat



Ayana and her speckled beef



Aubrey and her show hog



Clara and her show sheep



Watching a friends beef project



A girl and her 4H show calf



Trimming a sheep for judging



Checking her show rabbit



Goat judging participants



The sheep judging ring

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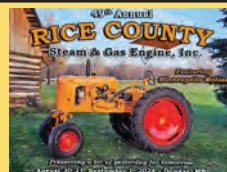
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Constipated? Read this. ADHD now 1 in 9 children



By Shauna Burschem, D.C.

Aloe vera gel can help improve the symptoms of psoriasis as well as other skin conditions such as cuts and burns. Psoriasis treatments typically involve medications with serious side effects like nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Aloe vera gel has been shown to benefit psoriasis sufferers by decreasing inflammation, increasing collagen production, relieving pain and adding hydration to dry scaly skin. While topical aloe vera creams are available, the best way to apply aloe vera gel is by cutting or snapping a piece off the easy to grow plant.

Low back pain sufferers are finding relief with regular walking. Walking is an effective, low-cost intervention for preventing and

managing back pain. Studies show walking can significantly extend pain-free periods and reduce recurrence risk by 43%. Regular walking is as beneficial as other forms of exercises (stretching, yoga, resistance) for chronic low back pain, improving pain levels, disability, quality of life. Walking offers numerous other health benefits beyond back pain relief, including improved cardiovascular function, health, better sleep and helping the aging process. Aiming for 7000 to 12,000 steps daily provides optimal health benefits without the risk of over exertion. To increase the benefits of walking you can wear weighted vests, use Nordic walking poles, walk in nature, with friends and or combine walking with purposeful activities like learning (site-seeing, history trails). Chiropractic care provides a holistic, non-invasive approach to back pain relief by focusing on spinal adjustments to improve alignment and overall mobility. Coupled with regular walking on flat surfaces, which strengthens core and back muscles, this combination can significantly reduce low back pain and promote long-term health

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) diagnoses in U.S. children have increased, with 1 in 9 now affected. Factors like chemical intolerance in parents, environmental pollutants and prenatal exposures are potential contributors. Toxic substances linked to ADHD include lead, phthalates, BPA, pesticides and air pollution. These can disrupt brain development and neurotransmitter systems, affecting behavior and cognitive function. EMF exposure from electronic devices (smart phones, tablets) may cause mitochondrial dysfunction and

neuropsychiatric effects, potentially contributing to ADHD. Limiting EMF exposure is recommended but challenging in modern environments. Multiple childhood vaccinations may be associated with increased ADHD risk. Genetic vulnerabilities may increase susceptibility to environmental toxins like glyphosate and vaccine ingredients. Early-life gut flora composition plays a crucial role in neurodevelopment. Frequent antibiotic use, environmental stress, and secondhand smoke exposure in early childhood increase ADHD risk.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) now recognizes more than 14,000 different chemical structures as PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl chemicals (PFAS) or "forever chemicals"). These synthetic, man-made chemicals don't break down easily in the environment and can bioaccumulate in people and wildlife. Rates of cancer diagnosis in children are increasing in Minnesota, which is where chemical company 3M's global headquarters are located. As far back as the 1960s, the company has been dumping PFAS chemicals in the surrounding areas. Minnesota sued 3M for the damage that it has caused to the state's natural resources, and in 2018, the company was ordered to pay \$850 million for contaminating

the state's water supply for decades.

Constipation happens when you have trouble with bowel movements, making it hard to pass stool. This can be caused by several factors, including not eating enough fiber, not drinking enough water, and not getting enough exercise. Fiber helps to move food through your digestive system, and drinking water helps to soften the stool, making it easier to pass. When you don't get enough fiber or water, your stool can become hard and dry, leading to constipation. Additionally, if you don't move around much, your digestive system can slow down, which can also cause constipation.

If you're dealing with constipation, there are a few things you can do to help. First, try to eat more fiber-rich foods like fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. This can help to bulk up and soften your stool. It's also important to drink plenty of water throughout the day to stay hydrated. Regular exercise can also keep your digestive system active and help prevent constipation. By making these small changes to your diet and lifestyle, you can often relieve constipation and keep your digestive system healthy.

**Information and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and may not reflect those of The Messenger.*

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Allergies Gone



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS
Licensed Nutritionist

Are allergies affecting your quality of life these days? As we move into the fall season,

many will be challenged with hayfever, but others have been dealing with pollens since spring began. We often associate allergies with pollens or animal dander, but an allergic reaction can develop for anything. Under the right conditions, the human body will identify a potential threat and develop an immune response to that threat in an effort to decrease your presence near that item. Food allergies are increasing across the country with the most common food items being dairy, eggs, nuts, seafood, and wheat. Chemical allergies are increasing as our environment continues to be overwhelmed with perfumes, personal care products, agricultural chemicals, and plastics. Even electrical sensitivities are being observed more frequently as our culture spends increasing amounts of time with cell phones, laptops, and iPads. All of these challenges increase stress on our body and activate our immune

system. The allergic reaction is a stress response of your immune system.

The stress response from the immune system can have different levels of intensity. You may be allergic to something and have such a low immune response that you do not recognize it as a problem. At the extreme end of allergic response we have a reaction where breathing gets difficult and heart rate increases, known as anaphylactic shock. Hives, body rashes, runny nose, and watery eyes are additional symptoms we recognize as allergic responses.

Three main systems of the human body express allergic reactions. The digestive system can generate cramps, bloating, or diarrhea immediately after eating a certain food. The lungs can have difficulty breathing after exposure to pollens, chemicals, or food. Asthma is often related to allergies of food, pollen, and chemicals. The skin will present with rashes, eczema, or psoriasis as an allergic response. As you consider these three systems of your body, which one seems to be the area you experience?

How can this allergic response be changed? Your immune cells are the "front line troops" that respond to any food, chemical, or pollen you come across. The immune cells release chemicals to attack the challenge. Current ways of treating allergic responses involve shots, drops, or medicine to calm the immune cells and suppress the activity. But the immune cells receive instructions from your brain on how to act. To make a lasting change, the allergic response can be reduced by helping the nervous system to "change its mind" or "reset" about the offending item.

A client came to the office with an allergy to cow's milk. The allergic response started after a car accident when a newly purchased gallon of milk hit the dashboard and sprayed all over the car. The brain registered the stress of the car accident with exposure to the milk and the result after the accident was an allergic reaction any time the client consumed milk. Another client reported some trauma in the family that took place at the same time he developed asthma. The brain will process information in such a way as to most effectively help the body survive. Allergy medications and shots only help to suppress the signaling but do not help resolve the issue.

There can be true allergy relief by providing specific signals to the brain to reset on this information. An allergy response to pollen, animal hair, food, or chemical can be removed when the brain is given the proper stimulation to make a change. This stimulation is accomplished with a focused beam of light that carries the electrical frequency of the allergy to the nervous system to stimulate the brain to reset. Typically just one treatment is needed to resolve a specific allergy and remove the hyper-sensitive response. The light therapy is pain free and involves a simple clinic office visit. This therapy has been available across the country for more than 16 years and is quickly becoming the favored alternative to allergy shots and medication.

As a society we have become well trained to look to medications to reduce our symptoms of illness, and we have become ignorant of the true building blocks that sustain life. Allergies are a signal that the brain is hypersensitive about a specific item. You do not have to be dependent on allergy shots or medications to get through another day. A free video about this therapy is available at <https://www.dr.cramchiro.com/allergy-relief/>. Contact me to discuss your health goals for 2024. I can help you become allergy free in 2024. You can contact me at nutritionproportion@gmail.com, or check out my website at www.nutritionproportion.net

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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.



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An Inconvenient Truth KW Public Schools

We are one district. We can be united. U-Knight for all.

And so began the summer of 1995. With slogans and words of admonition from the study's author, Dr. Roger Worner, we were told that "We must detach ourselves from brick and mortar and attach ourselves to children and what is best for them." Moreover, the late Jeff Evert, a longtime KW administrator, said, "There is not a more accurate statement that has been made about education than buildings do not teach students...teachers do."

With the aforementioned in mind, a referendum to build a single site PreK-12 complex at Bombay was presented to Kenyon and Wanamingo residents in December of 1995. Once the votes had been counted, 54% of Kenyon voters said YES to the proposal and 84% of Wanamingo voters said NO...and the proposal failed.

Over the course of the past 29 years, the school district has not only spent millions of dollars to maintain separate sites in Kenyon and Wanamingo, but we now know that the school board has placed us in statutory operating debt to the tune of 1.5 million dollars.

But there is more. Just recently, they spent an additional \$43,000.00 for a one-year insurance policy, with a million dollar deductible, for the Wanamingo building. And to think that this kind of spending preceded a three million dollar cash flow loan while continuing to discuss what a current school board member said 'could be a four million dollar upgrade' to the Wanamingo site.

Today, we find ourselves in trouble in other areas as well. In addition to a student enrollment drop from 1089 in 1995 to a current enrollment of 665, our academic achievement has been substandard for some time. According to the State Department of Education, only 17.5% of our high school seniors are college ready and out of seven neighboring school districts, Kenyon is last in mathematics and next to last in both reading and science for the 2023-2024 school year testing cycle. But there is more.

To begin with, we find a division in leadership when it comes to unity. On the one side you have a superintendent trying her best to get the school district out of statutory operating debt and on the other side you have a school board continuing to spend money on a building that they cannot even get insurance for from a local insurance agent. And second, on the one side you have a superintendent planning for a single site in the 2027-2028 school year; and on the other side you

have at least two school board members willing to fall on a sword (a quote) rather than close the Wanamingo site. In both cases, it increases the debt. But there is more.

In August of 2023, the school board began working with a consulting firm out of Minneapolis. Now that they have missed the deadline for getting a referendum on the ballot for this fall's elections, they have suddenly become interested in collecting data to determine what the voters of the school district are actually thinking about. Question: How in the world could they have missed the deadline for filing for a referendum that would have given the voters an up or down vote this coming November? Answer: By design. Is there any wonder why we find people talking about dissolving the school district so we can go our separate ways? Shame on the school board for putting us in harm's way.

In a recent article in the Zumbrota News Record, the school board listed dates for three referendum options. Beginning with Option One on November 5, 2024, they included Option Two for February 2025 and Option Three for the fall of 2026. Moreover, it was decided they would need at least two years before they could be ready for a tax payer vote. Here we have a school board that proposed three options and, yet, they picked the one that makes the least sense when one considers the condition the school district

now finds itself in. For lack of a better vernacular, picking Option Three is like kicking the can down the road...again. But why? Read on....

During my search for an answer, I discovered that various school board members had made statements indicating that they were afraid of a large Kenyon voter turnout due to this year's Presidential Election. You see, unlike 1995 when both communities had to vote YES to the question of a single site, this time it will be decided by a total vote count on whether or not we will remain a two site school district into the future. Just remember, a NO vote would actually be a YES vote for becoming a single site...as it should be. That is what our current leadership is afraid of.

Ladies and gentlemen, I think it is time for a new school board at Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools. Although this may require a write-in campaign due to this year's registration timeline, we need to put an end to what has cost us more than we can possibly know. If we are going to restore our place in the educational community, it will start with a single site in Kenyon. In the end, it actually becomes the "Inconvenient Truth" that has been ignored ever since the NO votes were counted in 1995. Our children and grandchildren deserve better!

Dr. James Russell Lehman
Kenyon, MN



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**City of Wanamingo
Regular EDA Meeting
Monday April 8, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

**Wanamingo City Council Chambers
401 Main Street
Wanamingo MN**

PRESENT: Brian Gudknecht, Rebecca Haugen, Ryan Holmes, Jim Kittelson, Annette Fritz, and Laurie Musselman

ABSENT: Josh Schaefer

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Boulton, Barney Nesseth, Brad Kennedy, and Andrew Deziel – Kenyon Leader

Brian Gudknecht called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ADOPT AGENDA: Haugen motioned, seconded by Kittelson to adopt. Approved 6-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA: Musselman motioned, seconded by Haugen to approve. Approved 6-0-0.

PRESENTERS:

Barney Nesseth brought up again, the EDA owned parcel number 70.210.0050 on Mill Street. In September 2020 Barney Nesseth and the EDA signed a purchase agreement on the parcel for \$30,700. Nesseth did not follow through with the purchase due to increased costs of construction for the proposed small houses in the plan that had been presented to the EDA. Nesseth is looking again at the property for development. Nesseth has concerns with the west side of the property having nearly a 6' increase in elevation from the street. There would be potential driveway issue with the slope. Nesseth brought up the Xcel Energy power pole location along with the 60' utility and alley easement on the back side of the property as concerns. Kittelson asked if the easement could be partially or fully abandoned. Boulton stated that there are utilities within the easement that make it difficult to abandon. Nesseth stated that one set of townhomes/apartments could be constructed on the east side of the property before running into elevation issues. A second smaller set could be constructed, but access would be needed for a driveway before the elevation change. Nesseth had plans for either 24' x 24' apartments or 36' x 38 duplexes. Nesseth stated that there is a need to short-term rentals but does not intend to be a landlord with the property. Nesseth stated that City staff has not yet been able to identify if the parcel has water or sewer services. Nesseth was not sure if the City would require separate water and sewer hookup for each dwelling that was constructed. Nesseth stated that this could be a large expense to dig into Mill Street for water and sewer service lines. Nesseth stated that upon further review the asking price of \$30,700 would need to be less for him to proceed. Nesseth asked about how close to the easements that he could build and if the EDA would be willing to reduce pricing. Boulton stated that the City did not proceed with a variance to zoning, modifying the zoning ordinance, or creating a new zoning district for the small houses. Boulton had again recently spoken with the City Attorney regarding the zoning options. Gudknecht stated that storage units would be a good fit for the east portion of the parcel. Nesseth stated that access would still be a concern. Kittelson stated that there is a platted alley that could be accessed from 2nd Street E or West Avenue. Kittelson stated that the water

and sewer service line installation would be relatively inexpensive, the road repair is where the expense would come in. Holmes stated that the size and shape of the parcel makes it difficult to develop, fitting with the current zoning and elevations. Kittelson stated that the parcel could be portioned off and the west side of the lot developed, and the east side be given to the adjoining property owners or left vacant for green space. The EDA agreed to look at options with Nesseth, to be discussed at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 23-06 - Approving the 2023 EDA Portion of the Wanamingo City Audit. Kittelson moved to approve, seconded by Musselman. Administrator Boulton went over the EDA accounts of importance, including 251 EDA, 306 (Cenex Industrial Park), 331 (Cenex 4th Bond Fund), and 604 (Medical Center). Boulton provided a memo on the audit. Funds ending 12/31/2023 balances and plans going forward for each fund. Administrator Boulton presented Smith Schaefer & Associates Power-Point presentation for the EDA centered funds as well. Boulton shared concerns regarding the Medical Center as it owes the general fund \$34,441 at the end of 2023. Boulton stated that the Medical Center should cash flow with all four suites being occupied and collecting rent. Passed 6-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS: None

There being no further business Kittelson made a motion seconded by Fritz to adjourn the EDA meeting at 6:34PM. Approved 6-0-0.

Brian Gudknecht, President
Michael Boulton, Director

**CITY OF WANAMINGO
City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, July 8, 2024 7:00 P.M.
Wanamingo City Council Chambers –
401 Main Street
Wanamingo, MN**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ryan Holmes.

PRESENT: Council: Ryan Holmes, Stuart Ohr, Eric Dierks, Jeremiah Flotterud, and Rebecca Haugen

City Administrator: Michael Boulton
Deputy Clerk: Karen Masters

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kennedy, Beth Haas – Zumbrota News-Record, Andrew Deziel – Kenyon Leader, and Matthew Garrick – Goodhue County Deputy Sheriff.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: Dierks motioned, seconded by Flotterud. Passed 5-0-0.

PRESENTERS:

A) Brad Kennedy reported on:

- 1) Much of the last month was in preparation for the 4th of July
- 2) Sprayed weeds along curb/gutters of streets, downtown sidewalks, and parks.
- 3) Replaced swimming pool plastic façade on doors. This was a requirement from the Minnesota Department of Health yearly inspection.
- 4) Filled various potholes around town with cold mix
- 5) Dug out and brought in gravel to install garbage can and pet waste plastic bag dispenser at Prairie Ridge Estates park shelter. Shane Electric buried electric service line for park shelter. Xcel Energy will need to install

electric meter to get power turned on.

6) Trimmed trees along parade route

7) Started flood clean up. Most of the sugar sand was washed out of the volleyball courts. Pushed around what sand was left so the public does not get hurt. Cleaned up various sand bars and sediment deposits at Riverside Park and by the sewer plant. Removed debris from nature trail walking bridge. The walking bridge wood ramp will need to be pressure washed and stained in the future. Boulton stated that a federal emergency declaration had been approved. City staff were tracking cleanup time and obtaining quotes for new volleyball court sugar sand and walking bridge work.

8) Cannon Valley Concrete completed concrete curb replacement and repairs at 3rd Avenue/3rd Street E and 5th Street E alley between West Avenue and high Avenue, respectively.

9) Weed whipped and mowed around public and private properties leading up to the 4th of July

10) Mowed and trimmed along MN TH 60 & MN TH 57 ditch and utility poles. Mowed at the WWTP, community garden, undeveloped lot boulevards, and other various areas around town.

11) Coordinated Waste Management dumpsters and brought garbage containers to fire hall for 3rd of July Dance/4th of July activities

12) Staff have completed street sweeping along the streets every two weeks and multiple times leading up to the 4th of July celebration.

13) New Ford F-150 Truck was delivered by Midway Ford. The City of Wanamingo decals were installed on both the new F-150 and F-550.

14) Swept streets; the goal is to sweep Main Street weekly, the west side of town one week and the east side of town the next week on Wednesdays.

Flotterud requested that the maintenance staff work on gravel erosion along the edge of Mingo View Drive. Kennedy stated that the maintenance staff will assess the erosion and attempt to make repairs. Mayor Holmes stated that the Wanamingo 4th of July activities went well considering the rain. The main events such as the fireman's dance, parade, and fireworks were able to stay on time even though some of the small activities needed to be canceled. Holmes thanked all that were involved in planning on putting on the events.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION: None

Administrator Boulton provided a memo on 643 2nd Avenue utility billing request. The new owners of 643 2nd Avenue, Lary & Bunny Ronningen) have requested that future utility bills only have one set of water/sewer debt service/base rate charges (\$54 per month - \$26 water and \$28 sewer). The property has a full apartment in the basement but only one water meter for both units. The Ronnings are currently not renting out the apartment. They will not say for definite whether or not the unit will be rented in the future. The do not intend to change the physical layout of the property to make one unit.

City staff explained to the Ronnings that the property is set up as two separate units and should be charged two water/sewer debt service/base rates each month. Staff explained that the debt service/base rate charges

go to pay for the infrastructure costs for water and sewer. The infrastructure costs are spread out to all properties with water and sewer services, including individual residential housing units. City staff said that there is no mechanism for the City to quit charging the second set of debt service/base rates and then know to start charging if the unit is occupied in the future. It should not be on City staff to check the property periodically to see if the unit is occupied. City staff suggested a separate water meter be installed for the second unit since little to no water would be utilized if the unit was unoccupied. The City would remove the second set of debt service/base charges. This would show to the City that if there is usage consistent with being occupied to charge the second set of debt service/base charges. The cost of the meter is \$360 plus any costs to plumb the meter for use in the basement unit. The Ronnings said the compromise would create an unreasonable cost and again requested that the second set of debt service/base charges be removed. Staff told the Ronnings that the request would need to go to the City Council for consideration.

Administrator Boulton stated that the request needs to be addressed by the City Council. City staff recommend that the second set of debt service/base rate charges remain unless there are either physical changes made to the property making one unit or a simplified mechanism is in place to start charging the additional rates if occupied. The Council has the authority to instruct staff to remove the second set of monthly debt service/base rate charges if they desire to honor the request. However, this could create problems in the future for water/sewer debt service/base rate billing. It would go against treating properties equally in sharing infrastructure costs, if the second unit is occupied. Kennedy stated that it may not be possible to install a second meter for the basement only since the water lines are connected throughout the house. Flotterud asked how many homes are set up with multiple units. Boulton stated that there are other single-family homes set up with second living units that are being charged a second base rate. Flotterud moved to charge one based rate to 643 2nd Avenue and the owners are required to let the City know if the second unit is occupied, to be changed back to two base rate charges, seconded by Ohr. Flotterud requested that a letter be sent to the Ronnings for a paper trail honoring the request and stipulating any changes. Boulton stated that the code of ordinances does speak to enforcement process if the second unit is found to be occupied without the homeowner notifying the City. Passed 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Public Hearing – Mayor Holmes opened Ordinance #207 – Amending Wanamingo Code of Ordinances § 53 Waters & Sewers – Sump Pump Ordinance at 7:16PM. Boulton stated that the proposed changes to the ordinance were in preparation for the sump pump inspection program that will start this fall. The City Council approved a professional service agreement with WHKS in April. WHKS put together the proposed changes to the water & sewers section of the ordinance. City staff and the City Attorney reviewed the changes and placed them into the Wanamingo ordinance format for City Council to review. *(continued on page 22)*

Wanamingo City Council Meeting

(continued from page 21)

Flotterud asked if the ordinance was to help reduce ground water (inflow and infiltration) from going into the sanitary sewer collection system and having to be treated at the wastewater treatment plant. Boulton said that the program is the first step in the process to reduce inflow and infiltration. Holmes asked what WHKS timing was to start the program. Boulton stated that WHKS would be initiating the public hearing, mailers, and website starting in August. Boulton stated that inspections would probably start in September. Ohr asked what would happen to those that needed to replumb sump pumps and if the lines would be allowed to be drained into the curb/gutter of the street. Boulton stated that draining into the curb/gutter of the street is preferred to into the sanitary sewer line. Boulton stated that the City would look to add drain lines behind the back of the curbs and storm lines when roads are reconstructed in the future. This would eventually eliminate sump pump discharge from being placed into the curb/gutter of the street. No Additional Public Comments Offered. Mayor Holmes closed the public hearing at 7:21PM.

ORDINANCE #207 – Amending Wanamingo Code of Ordinances § 53 Waters & Sewers – Sump Pump Ordinance – Second Reading. Dierks moved to approve, seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

Administrator Boulton provided an update on the residential/commercial solid waste/recycling collection. Administrator Boulton and Mayor Holmes have been in discussions with Waste Management as the current contract for residential solid waste, residential recycling, commercial solid waste, and commercial recycling is up December 31, 2024. Boulton stated that the contract allows for mutually agreed upon terms for a five-year extension. Boulton has requested and received pricing from Waste Management for a potential five-year extension.

The Council reviewed Waste Management contract extension proposals. There were concerns with the residential recycling and commercial solid waste collection proposed increase pricing. Waste Management has offered the alternative of every other week recycling. The proposal also has a 4% annual increase for the duration of the contract. Inflation is up significantly since the 2019 contract and 2021 approved surcharges reflecting the proposed residential/commercial solid waste/recycling rates. Boulton had obtained rates from the Cities of Zumbrota, Pine Island, Kenyon, and Goodhue for residential garbage and recycling. Boulton stated that Pine Island is the best comparison because their rates were established at the beginning of 2024. Boulton stated that the Waste Management proposal is in line with Pine Island's rates for both residential garbage and recycling.

The Wanamingo Code of Ordinances 50.09 states "...In no case shall the City Council be required to provide for recycling of recyclables for which the city is unable in its judgement to secure an adequate collection arrangement or a market within the financial capabilities of the community." The City is not required to contract for recycling. However, the City Council may not want to have the headline of dropping recycling service. Dropping to every other week service would have drawbacks of overflowing containers

along with additional items being blown around in heavy winds when tipped over. City staff does not wish to see addition debris blown around town that would need to be picked up. Waste Management has assured the City that roughly 85% of recycling collected is recycling. The remaining 15% in not recycled because, when sorted, the items should not have been placed in the recycling and are not recyclable.

Boulton stated that there is very little competition for contracts involving solid waste and recycling for commercial and residential. In April 2024 Hometown Haulers out of Dodge Center recently sold out to Waste Management. This is similar to the sales of Gibson Sanitation, Advanced Disposal, and Countryside sanitation over the past few years. In 2019 the City received proposals from Waste Management, Countryside, Advanced Disposal, and Highland Sanitation. Waste Management and Highland Sanitation are the remaining options that provided proposals in 2019. There may be other haulers options (LRS serves Zumbrota and Harters services Pine Island, but other regional options such Flom Sanitation had not been willing to expand into Wanamingo in 2019.

Time is running short to put together a full RFP's for residential/commercial solid waste/recycling haulers to have contract in place for planning and logistics by fall. Going to a formal RFP could push out a final contract decision until September. A potential new hauler may not be able to obtain containers by January 1st. Staff had hoped to bring the Waste Management numbers to the Council in May or June but they were not received until June 27th. Holmes stated that there is a lack of options for garbage and recycling in the area. Dierks said that he was fine with the Waste Management proposal and would be good with putting together a contract. Flotterud requested to see how many haulers would be willing to offer proposals on an RFP. Flotterud stated if there were at least three haulers that would provide proposals that the City should initiate an RFP process. Flotterud stated that he hoped to save residents money if there was competition in the RFP process. If there were not at least three haulers to provide proposals the City should extend the agreement with Waste Management. Boulton stated that he would contact the roughly five area haulers to check interest. If there were three haulers willing to provide proposals he would bring a proposed RFP to the Council at the July 22nd meeting for consideration of approval.

Goodhue County Sheriff's office provided the policing contract numbers that will be submitted to the County Board for policing contracts. The sheriff's office is requesting a three-year pricing agreement from the County board. The pricing request is \$87.72 for 2025, \$90.66 for 2026, and \$93.73 for 2027. This is an increase from \$58.55 for 2024. Goodhue County Sheriff have evaluated the minimum number of policing hours needed for a contract. They are looking at adopting a formula of city population times 1.6. The minimum number of hours, per day, needed would be 5. The City would have the opportunity to stay with the 6 hours per day coverage, increase the hours per day coverage, or decrease the hours of coverage each day to no less than 5. The current contract is \$58.55 per hour or \$127,873 per year. The \$87.72 per hour would be \$192,106.80 per

year. Reducing the contract to 5 hours per day would be \$160,089.00 per year. Flotterud asked if the City could reduce to less than 5 hours of service per day. Haugen stated that the information provided at the police workgroup meeting was that the 5 hours per day were based off a formula of 1.6 times the population. Haugen stated that the City could save roughly \$32,000 by reducing 1 hour of service per day on a future contract. Haugen stated that Wanamingo needs to maintain the policing presence close to the current contract. Flotterud asked if the City needed 6 hours of policing service per day. Boulton stated that the service coverage was up to the Council. Boulton advised to consider the County minimum service level formula. Boulton stated that town has been relatively quiet recently but there are cycling of activity that necessitate additional coverage requests. Flotterud stated that the county proposal would be double dipping as Wanamingo residents being both tax payers and having contract for services. Flotterud stated that some of the County costs are fixed and should not be considered with contract for additional service beyond that of a regular taxpayer. Flotterud had no concern with actual wage and vehicle costs. Boulton stated that he had attended several board meetings and had expressed similar thoughts. Flotterud stated that he had spoken with several residents since last month's meetings that were concerned with the proposed increase and what that translated into proposed increases to the property tax levy. Flotterud stated that it is nice to have a patrol car in town for a presence. If there were no contract with the county there would still be a presence, even if it was reduced. Flotterud stated that there would be no enforcement of City ordinances without a County Sheriff contract. Flotterud suggested negotiating County Sheriff to see what they would provide for service based on smaller number. Boulton stated that the County board is setting the per hour rate and that the County Sheriff would be limited on their ability to negotiate. Holmes stated that the 6 hours of service at \$87.73 would not work with the 2025 budget and levy. Flotterud stated that there may be a possibility to work with Kenyon Police Department on ordinance enforcement and a reduced patrol presence. The Goodhue County Sheriff would still be required to respond to emergency calls. Ohr stated that Kenyon would have a tough time providing the needed policing service load. It would be difficult for Kenyon to provide even limited service for Wanamingo. Flotterud stated that he planned to attend the Kenyon City Council meeting on July 9th to start the conversation. Holmes stated that the Council needs to have a clear idea of what they want for future service. Flotterud stated that Kenyon has five employees and could get creative on shifts. Boulton stated that any policing coverage contract, either with County or another community, needs to have clear expectations. Without clear expectations there will be issues. Holmes stated that ideas for coverage and understanding the current contract can occur by attending the police workgroup committee meetings held every other month. Ohr asked Deputy Garrick about a typical shift. Garrity stated that most of the patrol coverage was in the evening. Garrick stated that all deputies are different on what they did on the shift, he

drove the community at least twice, ran through the requested list by the City, checked business doors, and made his presence known. Holmes stated that past contract with Goodhue County for policing reflected give and take. The City paid a reduced price but the deputies were able to come and go with calls throughout the County. Having service in Wanamingo helped the west half of the county residents have quicker response time. Holmes desired that the County Board honor this give and take with future contracts rather than calculating out all costs for the contract rate. Flotterud asked if the County contract could be reduced to 3 or 4 hours per day. Boulton will discuss with the Chief Deputy about reducing hours to less than the required five hours per day. Holmes stated that the City needs ordinance enforcement and some sort of law enforcement presence with the next contract.

Enforcement Process – Mead Johnson - Reckitt – 210 day written letter toward meeting goal of waste pH – Boulton stated that the City had received a letter from Mead Johnson – Reckitt. Mead Johnson – Reckitt pH of wastewater discharge was within range during most of the month of June. The frac tank was installed and incorporated into their process back in March. Mead Johnson – Reckitt goal is to install a new lift station with pH treatment. The project has been funded and is proceeding through the final engineering design phase. Boulton stated that the Wanamingo staff are still monitoring the wastewater discharge from Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The pH levels of the wastewater discharge are being adjusted before being sent to the wastewater treatment plant. Prior to December 2023, results have regularly shown extremely low and at times high pH levels along with the presence of high levels of QAC (Quaternary Ammonium Compounds) have been sent to Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The pH levels should be within 5.0 and 9.5. City Staff have been working with Reckitt-Mead Johnson toward the achieved solution of pH levels within the limits. The City appreciates the open dialogue and work, to date, from Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The City continues to keep the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency informed during this process, including Carolle Ternus the new Municipal Wastewater Compliance and Enforcement staff member. Boulton stated the Enforcement Process would be left on the monthly agenda until November 2024, or when the action items are completed. Boulton stated the Reckitt-Mead Johnson would be required to provide written monthly updates to the City Council.

Holmes stated that he spoke on behalf of the City at the June 24th Kenyon-Wanamingo School District board meeting. Holmes stated that he, Council member Rebecca Haugen, Council Member Stuart Ohr, and City Administrator Boulton were among the more than 30 concerned citizens in attendance at the board meeting. Mayor Holmes commented on the proposed closure of the Wanamingo site and its effects on the Wanamingo Community. Flotterud stated that the school board would like to make repairs to the Wanamingo site and keep it open. This will include asking for referendum for building repairs.

Wanamingo City Council General Election - Filing for Mayor (2-Year Term), City Council (Two 4-Year Terms) will run from July

Wanamingo City Council Meeting

(continued from page 22)

30th - August 13th.

*Next City Council meetings: 7/22/2024 at 6:00PM and 8/12/2024 at 7:00PM.

Adjourn: At 8:22PM a motion to adjourn was made by Ohr and seconded by Dierks. Passed 5-0-0.

Signed: Ryan Holmes, Mayor

Attest: Michael Boulton, City Administrator

CITY OF WANAMINGO

City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, July 22, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Wanamingo City Council Chambers –

401 Main Street

Wanamingo, MN

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Holmes @6:00PM

PRESENT: Council: Ryan Holmes, Stuart Ohr, Jeremiah Flotterud, Rebecca Haugen, and Eric Dierks (Late)

City Administrator: Michael Boulton

ABSENT: Deputy Clerk Karen Masters

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kennedy and Buffy Beranek (SEMMCHRA)

ADOPT AGENDA: Ohr motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Haugen. Passed 4-0-0.

PRESENTERS:

A) Buffy Beranek – SEMMCHRA – Heritage Hills Report

1) Presented 2024 projected expenses and transfers from the Operating Reserve Fund – required yearly as part of transfer agreement.

2) Operating losses and capital for 2024 are projected at being up to \$13,868.00

3) In the past 15 years since SEMMCHRA took over operations the City of Wanamingo has contributed \$403,195 toward operations of the facility

4) SEMMCHRA is asking for a transfer of up to \$38,868.00 from the operating reserve for projected losses and capital expenditures. The capital items include air conditioning core, flooring, outside tiling, and replacement of aging appliances. There is also higher budgeting for ground maintenance, snow removal, and utilities.

5) 2025 Levy Request will be \$25,000.

6) There were not many capital item expenditure items in 2024.

7) Not quite there to refinance the facility and end the City levy. If the interest rates fall the bonding agency staff are watching to move on the refinance.

8) Small Cities Grant surveys are out. Roughly 30% of the surveys have been returned. Please let residents know to submit the surveys as soon as possible. The greater the return of surveys the greater chance of receiving \$600,000 grant for low-income housing rehab. SEMMCHRA will advertise and look to work with local contractors on rehab projects in Wanamingo.

Boulton asked what the expected rent increase would be for 2025. Beranek stated that the rent increase should be \$75 per month but that it would likely be \$40-\$50 per month. The current rent on a one-bedroom apartment at Heritage Hills is \$820 per month. The increase in rent should help offset new costs. The modest increase should help maximize the section 8 reimbursement rate as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) 2025 Budget discussions

A) City Council looked at the staff proposal of the 2025 proposed budget, Memo on 2025

proposed budget, and proposed 2025 levy. The proposed increase to the levy is 9.35% (\$1,070,000 to \$1,170,000). There are concerns with additional inflation along with addressing future capital needs. The general fund, Street Capital, EDA, Debt Service Fund 332, and Debt Service Fund 336 are proposed to increase as part of the 2025 levy.

The City will no longer levy for Debt Service Fund 328 or the Debt Service Fund 331.

B) Administrator Boulton explained several line items that had either changed from the previous year or needed an explanation. The proposed wage increases were roughly 6% while proposed health insurance increases would 10%. The fire department budgeted expenses are proposed to increase by roughly \$6,294.48 (5.09%) from 2024. There are no scheduled elections in 2025. Proposed employee pay raises will roughly average 6% (\$21,000 – general fund is roughly 60%). The ambulance contract is expected to increase from \$16,695 in 2024 to \$19,478 in 2025 (\$2,783 increase). The police contract under 6 hours per day is expected to increase from \$127,873 in 2024 to \$192,198.70 in 2025 (\$64,255.70 increase). With 5 hours per day is expected to increase from \$127,873 in 2024 to \$160,107.25 in 2025 (\$32,234.25 increase). Public safety is expected to increase from a range of roughly \$41,000 to \$73,000. The proposed \$75,000 street maintenance (seal coating) project and \$10,000-\$15,000 Prairie Ridge Estates Park Equipment (playground equipment in 2025 or 2026). The street shop rehab work is estimated to cost \$200,000. \$140,000 is planned to be spent out of the 336 Fund while the remainder of \$60,000 will come out of the Street Capital budget (\$80,000 in 2025).

C) Administrator Boulton explained that the new Midco Utility Building increased its taxable value by an estimated \$20,000, Zumbro Valley Landscaping New Salt Sand Shed increased taxable value by an estimated \$11,000, Beulke new greenhouse increased taxable value by an estimated \$25,000, and Casey's remodel increased taxable value by \$94,000 in 2023. This would bring in roughly \$5,740 (slightly less than half City portion) in property taxes (0.041). The improvements at the Wanamingo Medical Facility will be captured in additional TIF. New construction within the community over the last year (7 new taxable homes in 2023) should aid with the increase to the taxable market value increase. The new construction should off-set roughly 1/5 of the proposed levy increase (1.75% of the proposed 9.35% increase). The Council will see how the finalized 2025 market value rates compared to the proposed levy increase will affect property values based on \$100,000 levels in October. The Council will be setting the initial levy at the August meeting and could stay at the same levy amount or decrease at the December meeting. The Council could not increase the levy from August to December.

D) Boulton stated that Local Government Aid (LGA) certified amounts would increase from \$302,161 in 2024 to \$302,415 in 2025.

The legislature recently approved funding for Small Cities Assistance to communities under 5,000 population for use on road construction and maintenance. This formula has been periodically funded in recent years. The City of Wanamingo is set to receive close to the 2024 number, \$22,900, in 2025.

D) Administrator Boulton shared concerns

with continued inflation and meeting capital needs while balancing property taxes from rising too quickly. Boulton also shared concerns with not budgeting for dead tree removal from Emerald Ash Borer and Emerald Valley II Addition. Boulton stated that there are expenses coming involving both but the proposed levy would need to increase to nearly 20% (\$200,000) in 2025 to be realistic in covering costs. Boulton stated that boulevard tree removal cost could be as high as \$100,000 the next two years. Boulton stated that the City share of the Emerald Valley II Addition construction could be \$50,000-\$100,000. Boulton stated that the City could utilize TIF 3-1 Fund 448 and General Fund 101 to cover construction costs. The expectation would be future levy needs to pay back the funds.

Flotterud stated that the City should not pay for tree removal in boulevards. Boulton stated that the ordinance does place primary responsibility for care and removal on the adjacent property owner. Boulton stated that property owners have been calling City Hall and are not happy with the ordinance/policy of the City. Holmes suggested that the City could bid out all the boulevard tree removal costs for economies of scale. Holmes stated that costs cost be placed back to property owners in special assessments. The Council had concerns with special assessments for tree removal. Dierks stated that the dead trees would start to break off with high winds and storms in the future. Ohr stated that there were at least seventy-five dead Ash trees in the boulevards and more than that on private property. No consensus was provided on boulevard dead tree removal budgeting. Flotterud asked if a 2025 street maintenance project is planned. Boulton stated that there is \$75,000 budgeted in 2025.

A portion of the funds may be utilized for the street shop rehab. Kennedy stated that the remained would cover necessary small patches and repairs. Kennedy stated that we may need to either budget more funds for maintenance or save up a couple of years to do a worthwhile project. Flotterud asked where the sump pump inspection program and smoke testing would be paid out. Boulton stated that the costs would come from the Sewer Fund. Boulton stated that this would be the first step in identifying and correcting inflow & infiltration into the wastewater treatment plant. Boulton expects in the coming years that repairs will be made and paid for out of the sewer fund. The sewer fund is projected to have \$650,000 by the end of 2024. Ohr stated that the repairs could cost more than the identification process but are necessary to save user fee costs with the proposed new regional wastewater treatment facility. Boulton stated that the plan is to slowly increase the sewer rates to build a reserve to pay some of the initial costs. Boulton also stated that the other reason was so rate increases are lessened for residents at the time these projects are completed. Boulton also noted that the Council's intentions are to increase the utility rates incrementally for future wastewater treatment plant and clay sanitary sewer line replacements. Boulton recommends the water user rates increase from \$6/1,000 gallons to \$6.25/1,000 gallons. Boulton also recommends an increase on the sewer base rate from \$26/month to \$32/month along with user rate increase from \$7.00/1,000 gallons to \$7.25/1,000 gal-

lons. Boulton noted that new construction probably will not continue at the same rate in the next few years and will in turn slow the levy growth. The tax rate growth should be captured in the levy now because 2026 and 2027 the levies should stay under 5% each year. Boulton stated it would be ideal for the increase in the 2026 levy to be inflationary plus capturing the new table market value (tax base) in the levy. The Council directed Administrator Boulton to bring the recommended budget and levy information at 9.35%, or \$100,000 levy increase in the 2025 proposed Levy Resolution and 2025 Proposed Budget.

2) Administrator Boulton provided a memo regarding the proposed street shop rehab. The City Council identified that the City shop, located at 648 2nd Ave, is in need of rehab nearly ten years ago. The building was purchased in 2006 and has not had any major upgrades or improvements since. The building roof is split into two portions with steel on the newer portion of the building and rubber on the older portion. The maintenance staff have worked to seal up leaks in the roof, but the repairs are temporary. The siding is dented so badly that the only option is to replace large portions. The siding of the building is an extremely faded yellow with a red accent. The faded color of the siding does not present a welcoming entrance to the community as seen from the roundabout at MN TH 60 and MN TH 57. The building lacks the necessary insulation and proper sealing of doors and windows to be energy efficient. The office/break rooms lack climate control for record storage. The building does not meet MN OSHA standard for ventilation. The building should have a ventilation system since it stores six or more vehicles driven by combustion engines.

Potential items of rehab include roofing, siding, service doors, windows, overhead doors, gutters/downspouts, ventilation system, spot concrete work, and potential electrical work. The street shop building ventilation upgrade has been on the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) since it was developed in 2014. The City Council added the entire shop building rehab project to the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) in 2020. The City Council toured the City shop building in July 2023. The Council was able to see, firsthand, the condition of the building. The City Council moved up the project to 2025 on the CIP. The plan is to utilize a combination of the 2025 budgeted \$140,000 set aside for debt service on the future street project (Fund 336), the 2025 budgeted \$45,000 from the street capital (Fund 221), and the 2025 budgeted \$75,000 general fund street & road expenses capital (Fund 101).

Mayor Holmes has appointed an ad hoc committee to work with Mitch Jackson of Tri Valley Construction, Inc. to identify the scope of work and put together estimates for the 2025 proposed Wanamingo Street Shop rehab project. The estimated rehab is roughly \$180,000-\$210,000, depending upon the final scope of work. In addition to the Street Shop Rehab numbers Mitch has estimated a new building would run \$130-\$150 a square foot. The current building is roughly 80' x 80' or 6,400 square feet. Brad Kennedy has a rough sketch of a new building being slightly larger; 120' x 80' or 9,600 square feet.

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Wanamingo City Council Meeting

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A new, slightly larger, building would cost between \$1,248,000 to \$1,440,000 and would require a new site for construction. The Committee includes Mayor Ryan Holmes, Council Member Rebecca Haugen, Brad Kennedy, and Michael Boulton. The committee met at the Street Shop building with Mitch Jackson (Tri Valley) to review the building and proposed scope of work. The committee unanimously agreed that rehabbing the current building is more cost effective than construction. The committee recommends that the scope of proposed street shop rehab work include roofing, siding, service doors, windows, overhead doors, gutters/downspouts, office climate control, ventilation system, spot concrete work, and any potential electrical work. There would need to be several contractors that would need to be hired to complete the proposed scope of work. The roofing and siding could be completed by one contractor, the windows and service doors could be completed by another contractor, the overhead doors could be completed by another contractor, any concrete work could be completed by another contractor, the office climate control and ventilation system could be designed and completed by another contractor, and the electrical could be completed by another contract.

The committee will research State bid requirements with consultation with the City Attorney. Since this would be a cash project there are no requirements for an architect or engineer to be involved. The committee made initial contact with Goodhue County Building Permits and Inspection on the scope of the work. The committee was told that there would be no requirement for an engineer or architect based upon the proposed scope of work. The committee is inclined to recommend hiring Mitch Jackson of Tri-Valley Construction to act as the project manager to oversee, organize, and coordinate the proposed street shop rehab project. The plan would be to obtain no less than two quotes from contractors for each separate portion of the project. State law allows contracts under \$25,000 to obtain quotes or do work in the open market, contracts between \$25,000, to \$175,000 at least two quotes are required, and contracts exceeding \$175,000 must use the competitive bidding process.

The proposed street shop rehab project outlines the scope of work, rough budget, and how the project is proposed to be paid with City cash in 2025. The proposed project is built into the 2025 proposed budget. Once the 2025 budget is approved the committee could work putting together formal estimates/bids for the work and provide recommendations upon low bids and contracts to complete the work in December 2024/January 2025. Work could be expected to be completed between late spring and summer 2025. Flotterud asked how Tri-Valley construction would be paid. Kennedy stated that the estimates included general contractor costs. Boulton stated that the City Attorney stated that the City will be serving as the general contractor and possibly hiring a construction manager (Tri-Valley Construction) to supervise and advise on the project to reduce the total cost of the project. The City will likely request two or more quotes from each specialty contractor needed. There may be four or more specialty contractors that the city

contracts with for a specific trade. The City Attorney recommends that this request for quotes separate out labor and materials. The City should purchase the materials directly to meet the criteria for the sales tax exemption with the Department of Revenue. Holmes stated that the estimates are a great deal for the size and scope of work. Kennedy stated that the roof would be commercial rib with no exposed screws, similar to the City Hall/Community Center roof. Haugen stated that Jackson was very thorough on the estimates and walk through. Boulton stated that Tri-Valley Construction has been either the general contractor or construction manager on most of the new commercial buildings or additions in Wanamingo for the last twenty-five years. Tri-Valley Construction has the experience and helps ensure a quality finished product.

RESOLUTION:

24-042 = Approving Residential and Commercial Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Request For Proposal (RFP), RFP Process and RFP Notice: Haugen moved to approve, seconded by Ohr. Boulton stated that along with Waste Management there were four other haulers willing to provide proposals for residential and commercial solid waste and recycling collection. The four other haulers include LRS, Highland Sanitation, Flom Disposal, and Harter's. Boulton stated that the proposals would be sent to each of the haulers on July 23rd and would be due back on August 6th by 4:30PM. Boulton stated that a resolution approving the low-priced hauler would be included for consideration at the August 12th City Council meeting. Passed 5-0-0.

24-043 = Approving Updated 10-Year Capital Improvements Plan for the City of Wanamingo: Dierks moved to approved, seconded by Haugen. Capital Improvements 10-Year Plan Discussion took place. Items added in 2024 were the community center/city hall exterior rehab (\$25,000), one-ton truck replacement (\$65,000), Riverside Park parking lot (\$200,000), and hydrant sandblasting and painting (\$15,000). Boulton stated that the proposed 2025 levy would include funds for street shop rehab project. The funds will come from budgeted \$140,000 set aside for debt service on the future street project (Fund 336), the 2025 budgeted \$45,000 from the street capital (Fund 221), and the 2025 budgeted \$75,000 general fund street & road expenses capital (Fund 101). Flotterud asked about utilizing FEMA funds to construct a combination pickleball court and volleyball court at Riverside Park as mitigation. Boulton stated that the FEMA funds for flood damage would have to replace what was damaged. There is a whole process for mitigation. Boulton stated that a future pickleball court might be better suited to Emerald Valley Park. The Emerald Valley II Addition may be fully constructed in 2025 and the park has plenty of space and power for courts. Boulton stated that the 2026 project could include work at Riverside Park parking lot. The parking lot needs to be replaced, including corrective action on the aggregate base. Boulton stated that a curb/gutter could be installed as a buffer for the parking lot and park. The curb/gutter could be sloped from west to east to send the surface water toward the walking path low point. Boulton said that the levy for future street fund 336 could be utilized to accom-

plish this capital project along with a street project that could be bonded for in 2026 or 2027. Passed 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Administrator Boulton provided updates on the proposed policing contract. Boulton and Ohr had attended the July 16th. The board formally approved the police contract pricing. The pricing included three-year agreements at \$87.70 per hour in 2025, \$90.63 per hour in 2026, and \$93.68 per hour in 2027. The board also approved the formula for a minimum number of contract hours per day. The formula is the population times 1.6 and then divided by 365 (days). The board acknowledged that representatives from the cities affected were present but were not asked or allowed to address the board. Boulton and Ohr expressed their disappointment in Commissioner Greseth with his vote for the significant per hour cost, vote for the formula for minimum coverage, and his lack of action to address the cities' concerns with the cost, minimum hour requirement, and accountability. Boulton and Ohr expressed thanks to Commissioner Anderson who was the only commissioner to express the cities' concerns. Many commissioners either expressed thoughts that the Cities should have other policing coverage or that the pricing per hour should be more. Boulton stated that he and Mayor Holmes had reached out to Chief Deputy Huneke before the meeting to try and decrease the minimum hours of coverage from 5 hours per day to 4 hours per day. Huneke stated that if the Sheriff's Office goes below these minimum hour's requirement, we could potentially be dealing with lowering of our patrol deputies' numbers in the future based on the contract hours we provide throughout the county. Boulton also provided a correspondence from Kenyon Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom stating that Kenyon Police Department would not be a good option for Wanamingo Policing at this time. There were concerns that the department does not have 24-hour coverage. The staff had concerns responding to Wanamingo during off-duty, on call hours. There would be significantly more time involved for a Wanamingo call than a Kenyon call and would require additional pay. Kenyon does not wish to significantly increase their policing budget at this time. Flotterud stated that Kenyon may still be open to a contract to enforce City ordinances during reasonable daytime hours. Goodhue County is holding the City of Wanamingo hostage with policing including new cost formula and minimum hours of coverage. It might be cheaper to hire a City police officer. Right now, the coverage is roughly four hours of patrol and then four hours of administration. Flotterud asked what would happen if there was no policing contract. Boulton stated that none of the local ordinance would be enforced. Holmes stated that the County would only come if the calls were an emergency. All other calls would not be responded to, coming back to City Hall. Holmes stated that he spoke with Zumbrota Police Chief Callahan who stated that small crime items such as vandalism and petty theft would turn into larger crime issues without the psychological patrol presence. Flotterud expressed his frustrations that there was very little growth in 2023 or new LGA to offset the 2025 levy. Flotterud stated that there are not that many calls for policing issues per month. Haugen stated that the po-

lice presence may be a helpful deterrent on crime. Haugen hopes that the deputies that have recently moved into Wanamingo will take pride in the community and help as a deterrent to crime. Flotterud asked what the West Concord budget was for policing and if it made long-term sense for Wanamingo to have its own department. Boulton stated that he could check into the cost and coverage for West Concord. Boulton stated that a regional police force of several communities will be further explored in the coming years, but it will not occur in 2025. Holmes liked the idea of a regional police force and said that it has been successful in other parts of the State. Holmes did not believe that the costs for a regional police force would be less than a County contract, but the service and accountability would be better. Holmes stated that a department would require at least two full-time staff and other part-time staff to allow for time off and on-call response to occur. Holmes stated that the cost is more than the average citizen would think, especially with the significant rise in pay for the law enforcement field over the last few years. Flotterud asked if the City were to throw out a dollar amount to the County for coverage why would they not negotiate a contract. Boulton stated that the County Board took away control for negotiation of the price per hour and the daily contract hour minimum. Boulton and Ohr stated that questions should be directed to our County Commissioner Todd Greseth. Without our own County Commissioner on board with a proposal it will go nowhere. Holmes suggested members reach out to Greseth regarding lowering the daily contract hour minimum from 5 hours per day to 4 hours per day for Wanamingo. Ohr stated that Commissioner Greseth was no help to Wanamingo in setting the price per hour formula for the County or the minimum hours. Ohr was frustrated at the lack of engagement with the communities affected that the County had in the decision-making process. Ohr stated that it is not feasible for the City of Wanamingo to have its own police force.

Updates:

Affidavits of Candidacy will be accepted at the City Hall (401 Main Street) during the filing period of July 30, 2024 through August 13, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. for the following City Council seats:

Mayor – 2 Year Term

2 At-Large City Council Positions - 4 Year Terms

Candidates' names will appear on the November 8, 2024 General Election ballot.

Listed below are the filing requirements for those individuals seeking public office:

1. Candidate must be an eligible voter.
2. Is, or will be on assuming the office, 21 years of age or more.
3. Maintained residence in the district from which the candidate seeks election for 30 days before the General Election.

Candidates must file an Affidavit of Candidacy and pay a \$2 filing fee at City Hall, 401 Main Street, Wanamingo, MN. Office hours are 7:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday and 7:00AM-12:00PM Fridays. Filings will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on August 13, 2024.

*Next City Council meeting on 8/12/2024

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Wanamingo City Council Meeting

(continued from page 24)

Adjourn: At 8:08PM a motion to adjourn the meeting made by Flotterud and seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-0.

Signed: Ryan Holmes, Mayor

Attest: Michael Boulton, City Administrator

Kenyon City Council Meeting

July 9, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 9th day of July 2024. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henke.

The following members were present: Mayor Doug Henke, Council Members Kim Helgeson, Lee Sjolander, and Molly Ryan

Absent: Mary Bailey

Also present: Interim Administrator Frank Boyles, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Finance Director Whitney Kylo, Engineer Derek Olinger, Public Works Director Wayne Ehrich, City Attorney Scott Riggs, Officer Brian Homeier, Jeremy Flotterud, Tyler See, Dana Callstrom, Lynn & Carolee Miller

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Jeremy Flotterud, Wanamingo City Council member, approached the Kenyon city council with the idea of possibly looking into the City of Kenyon servicing the City of Wanamingo for police services. If Kenyon is interested, he would like us to put some numbers together for costs.

ADOPT AGENDA

Deletion: / XI / New Business / F / Transient Merchant/Solicitor Peddler License Fee Waiver

Motion by Ryan seconded by Helgeson to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried 4-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Helgeson seconded by Sjolander to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers 76168 through 76245; 4993E through 5047E. Motion carried 4-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Summary of 2023 City Audit -

Tyler See - Abdo

Tyler See presented a summary of the 2023 City and KMU audits and an overview of the overall City financial condition. The city received an "unmodified" or clean opinion on the audit.

ENGINEERING

Pearl Creek & Gates Avenue Utility Improvements

Engineer Olinger stated that electrical work is nearly completed on the lift station. The project is expected to be completed by mid-August.

Pay Application #6 to BCM Construction

Motion by Ryan second by Helgeson to approve pay request No. 6 to BCM Construction in the amount of \$112,532.25 for work completed through June 28, 2024. Motion carried 4-0-0.

LEGAL

Development Agreement - 98 Gunderson

Bldv Sanitary Sewer Reroute

Engineer Olinger stated that Dollar General had proposed a new building and other site improvements directly over an existing public sanitary sewer main. Rerouting of the main would be needed to allow for construction. Riggs and Olinger drafted a development agreement defining the essential terms for the developer to complete this relocation. The draft is currently being reviewed by the developer.

Motion by Sjolander seconded by Helgeson approving the development agreement for the 98 Gunderson Blvd sanitary sewer rerouting subject to final review by Interim Administrator Boyles, Engineer Olinger, and Attorney Riggs. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Kenyon City Code 900.11 Animal Control - Number of Animals

Attorney Riggs stated that revisions were made to city code 900.11 on animal control limiting the number of dogs or cats over six months of age to three. The existing ordinance had some unclear and problematic aspects that needed to be clarified.

Motion by Sjolander seconded by Helgeson to adopt Ordinance 105 amending Section 900.11 of the city code. Motion carried 4-0-0.

South Central Service Cooperative Contract

Attorney Riggs stated that a special council meeting was held on June 20, 2024, to select a firm to oversee the process of hiring a full-time city administrator. South-Central Service Cooperative was selected to oversee this process. They provided a draft contract to the city, which was submitted to the city attorney's office for review and revision.

Motion by Sjolander seconded by Ryan to approve the agreement for services contract with South-Central Service Cooperative for \$14,500.00. Motion carried 4-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS NEW BUSINESS

Payoff City Hall Roof Loan to KMU

Finance Director Kylo recommended paying off the city hall roof loan to KMU. The city has the money available to pay off the loan amount of \$53,000. The interest savings by paying the loan off early would be \$4,979.

Motion by Helgeson seconded by Ryan to approve the payoff of the city hall roof loan of \$53,000 to KMU.

Motion carried 4-0-0.

Approve Rose Fest Events

Street Dance Permit - Municipal Liquor Store

Park & Rec - Liquor Permit for Depot Park Parade Permit

Street Closures

Car Show (Informational)

KW Athletic Booster Club 5K Run/Walk

Motion by Ryan second by Helgeson to approve the Rose Fest requests including: street dance permit - Municipal Liquor Store, parade permit, street closures, 5K run/walk route, and Depot Park liquor permit for the Park and Rec committee. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Resolution 2024-17 Approving Election Judges for 2024

Motion by Helgeson seconded by Ryan to adopt Resolution 2024-17: Appointing Election Judges for 2024.

Motion carried 4-0-0.

On-Sale Liquor License (New)- Cahill Bistro Bar

Motion by Sjolander second by Helgeson to issue a liquor license including Sunday and outdoor service area sales to Cahill Bistro Bar. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Street Closure - Whitetail Block Party

Carolee Miller requested to close Whitetail Lane on Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm for a neighborhood block party and fundraiser for the Linaman family, who recently lost their house to a fire.

Motion by Ryan seconded by Helgeson to approve the closure of Whitetail Lane on Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Resolution 2024-18 Accepting Kenyon Fire Relief Association Donations to the City of Kenyon

Motion by Sjolander seconded by Helgeson to adopt Resolution 2024-18 accepting donations of \$38,764.00 from the Kenyon Fire Relief Association to the City to be used for specified items. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Set Council Work Session to Review 2025 Draft Budget

Finance Director Kylo requested that a work session be set up to review the 2024 draft budget. Tuesday, July 30 at 1:00 pm was tentatively set up.

Approval to Proceed with Door Installation Between City Council Chambers and Library

Interim Administrator Boyles stated that the Kenyon Public Library Board requested that a door be installed between the library and the city council chambers. The library uses the city council chambers for programming space and has increased programming over the last few years. Installing this door would eliminate the distractions for city staff during library events. The library board approved a quote in the amount of \$3977.00 from L and M Construction.

Motion by Ryan seconded by Helgeson to approve the door installation as requested by the library board using library board funds. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

KMU Meeting: Tuesday, July 16 @ 4:00 p.m.

EDA Meeting: Tuesday, July 23 @ 8:00 a.m.

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, August 20 @ 7 p.m.

COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL COMMENTS

Council Member Helgeson stated that Rose Fest plans were coming together.

Council Member Sjolander thanked city staff for their work and the police department for solving city crime.

Council Member Ryan stated Rose Fest was coming and hopefully the rain would hold off for it.

Fire Chief Ehrich reminded everyone of National Night Out that will be held August 6.

Motion by Ryan seconded by Helgeson to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm. Motion carried 4-0-0.

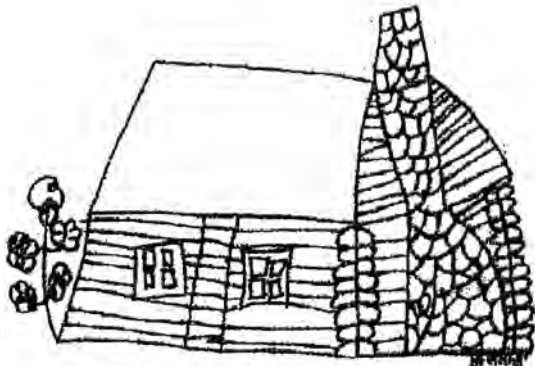
Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant
Douglas Henke, Mayor

Harvest Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26

Sundays: September 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27

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



Place:

Lori & Darwin Amy

2290 County 49 Blvd. Dennison, MN 55018

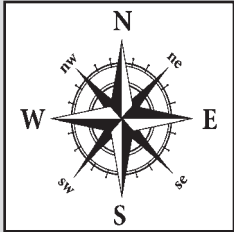
Phone: 507-649-1009

Email: cabincrew@frontiernet.net



Look Us Up on Facebook Under Potpourri Mill

Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Young Farm Lads and Lawn Mowers



By Terry Campbell

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

As a young boy on the farm in the early 1960's I was fascinated with machinery, and especially tractors. There was one tractor that was just my size. The garden tractor or lawn mower. I was too young to operate the first riding lawn mower my dad purchased. It was a Springfield and I believe it was purchased through the local Gambles Hardware store

around 1960. It had very small rear tires and even smaller front tires and the mower deck cutting height was not adjustable.

But a few years later we bought a Homelite riding lawn mower from Pete Boe in West Concord. I think Pete sold more Homelite's than any other dealer. This was my first serious job on the farm. It had a 24' single blade deck and a 5 horsepower Tecumseh engine. A few novel things about this unit was the four speed transmission, which was a rubber disc spinning on a flat drive plate, and the crank starter on the engine. One would wind the crank until it stopped and then trip the little lever, which spun the engine over. Easy enough for a 7 year-old to operate.

It had a padded seat and a bar in place of the steering wheel. I would spend hours upon hours mowing the yard around the farm. I could only dream of having a radio to kill the monotony. One had to be careful filling the gas tank, as it was part of the engine and any spill would pour raw gas right over the hot engine cylinder. One time the grass was exceptionally thick and tall behind the shop and I complained to my dad that it couldn't hardly cut it in first gear. I was secretly hoping we would get a larger garden tractor. He simply informed me to only cut half as wide a swath. I wasn't the best at fractions as a second grader but I did know that half of 24 inches was one foot and that was forever to get the lawn finished.

The one shining reward was mowing my



Homelite

grandmother's lawn. She lived at the south end of the farm and when I finished her lawn I was invited in for in ice cold Mountain Dew and some cookies. Nothing tasted quite as good as a cold glass bottle of innard tickling bottled by Zeke & Daisy Dew. Probably most Dew drinkers today have no clue.

My friend Ross Avery started selling Massey Ferguson Garden Tractors in the late 60's, at his dad's construction business. I wanted us to buy one of those so bad. The Massey Ferguson 7 was a thing of beauty to me. It had seven horse power, an electric start, a 34 inch deck and a hydrostatic transmission. It even looked like a tractor. I worked on my dad for a long time to con-

vince him. A lawn mower was not a necessity in his mind. But the day did come and I felt like a king on this new machine.

I still mow the lawn. Now I find it a welcome time to think and come up with new ideas. Fifty-six years have passed and my young mind could not even conceive of what lawn mowing would be like in 2024. I use a 25 horsepower John Deere zero turn mower with a 54" triple blade deck. Spring absorbing soft cushion seat with arm rests, and a top mowing speed of over 9 miles per hour. What used to take more than a day for me to accomplish is now finished in about two hours.



Massey Ferguson

A Minnesotan: Goats



By RosaLin Alcoser

My older sister believes that everyone has had at least one great goat story in their lives.

For her and I it was the time one of the neighbors down the road received a goat for Father's Day. The goat got out and ended up on our front porch then proceeded to blet if my sister did not sit outside with it. Our dog went ballistic and had to be kept inside all day until our parents figured out whose goat it was.

While they did that we proceeded to name that goat Kiddie; Kiddie was later renamed by his owners. We only had Kiddie for an afternoon but he was a good goat. About a year or so later our family bought him and he was delicious when we had

him for dinner.

One of my friend's goat story is from when he and his sister kept goats as a 4-H project back in grade school. Once when their aunt was staying over to watch them for a few days she pulled her car up to their car port in the late evening and heard a sound coming from inside.

Apparently the sound sounded like there was someone inside of the car port pretending to be a goat. Naturally since there was a suspected person pretending to be a goat hiding in the car port she called the deputy to come check it out. It turned out to be one of the 4-H goats bleating like a person pretending to be a bleating goat.

For one of my sister's friends their goat story happened after she told her friends about her belief in everyone having at least one great goat story. This friend was from a big city and had never seen a goat in person. So everyone in their group decided that they needed to take him to see a goat.

So his one great goat story is about the time he was taken to a petting zoo and forced to pet a goat.

Everyone has at least one great story about an encounter with a goat. Whether it is having one show up at your door, keeping goats that pretend to be people pretending to be goats or being forced to pet one by your friends. And if you do not have one great story about an encounter with a goat then clearly you have not spent enough time around goats.

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THEME: BACK TO SCHOOL
- ACROSS**
1. Soothing concoction
 5. *The Magic School ride
 8. Mama's husband
 12. Dwarf buffalo
 13. Moneyed one
 14. "M*A*S*H" extra
 15. Soon, to Shakespeare
 16. Sheltered, nautically
 17. *Abacus user, e.g.
 18. *School jacket-wearer
 20. TV classic "Happy ____"
 21. What hoarders do
 22. Speech-preventing measure
 23. *Pencil end
 26. Deep regret
 30. Indian restaurant staple
 31. What cobblers often do
 34. Mother Earth, to Ancient Greeks
 35. Embedded design
 37. ____ Khan
 38. Contending
 39. *Don't forget to cross them
 40. Plural of flora
 42. Rolodex abbr.
 43. Sultry or carnal
 45. *Rydell High School movie
 47. Defensive one on the gridiron
 48. Oodles
 50. *Some PTA members?
 52. *It involves elements
 56. Cuban dance
 57. Burkina Faso neighbor
 58. Opera solo
 59. Boot-shaped European country
 60. Oil org.
 61. Review a service
 62. Say "No!"
 63. Animal's nose
 64. Perceives with an eye

- DOWN**
1. Jezebel's idol
 2. Beheaded Boleyn
 3. Plunder
 4. Certain rays
 5. Plural of #1 Across
 6. Part of an eye, pl.
 7. Witnessed
 8. *Field of education
 9. ____ Walker, American Girl doll
 10. *Inspiration for circular charts, pl.
 11. Acronym, abbr.
 13. Zimbabwe's capital
 14. Address to a woman
 19. Nail salon file
 22. Toothpaste type
 23. *Marks in English
 24. Hindu queen
 25. "Hannah and Her Sisters" director
 26. End of line
 27. Yogurt-based dip
 28. *Opposite side over hypotenuse, pl.
 29. Bald symbol
 32. * ____ monitor
 33. Bigheadedness
 36. *All-school get-together
 38. Giuseppe ____ of opera fame
 40. Temporary craze
 41. Parthenogenetic
 44. Recant or retract
 46. *English homework, pl.
 48. *Circle, e.g.
 49. Paparazzi's target
 50. Remote control option
 51. Middle Eastern sultanate
 52. "Follow me!"
 53. Genealogy plant
 54. Agitate
 55. Puppy barks
 56. Antonym of keep

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