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AUGUST 28, 2024

Volume 18 • Issue 8

County sales tax would supplant use of property tax for Safety Center payment

Courtesy of KYMN Radio



When the General Election comes around in November, county residents will have another referendum upon which to decide, this one courtesy of the Rice County Board of Commissioners.

On Tuesday, Rice County issued a statement saying the County Board has approved a referendum on a .375% county-wide sales tax to pay for the new Public Safety Center set to open this fall. Proceeds from the tax would be used to repay debt from the project and would not be available for any other purpose.

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Oktoberfest in Dundas!



2023 Oktoberfest

Join family, friends, neighbors, area businesses and non-profits as we celebrate the 2nd Annual Oktoberfest in downtown Dundas! Last year was our 1st Celebration and it was a huge success! So, make sure you plan to participate in the 2nd Oktoberfest! Oktoberfest will be held rain or shine on Saturday September 21st in downtown Dundas! So, pull out your lederhosen and dirndls and join us! We'll have Oktoberfest mugs...to easily fill with Chapel beer, Keepsake cider, Little Prairie Church root beer, or Martha's lemonade! This will pair nicely with your pretzel, brat (meat and vegetarian), hot German potato salad and sauerkraut!

And a new food vender this year are The Dundas Dukes with cheese curds...and a side of merchandise!

Downtown Dundas will be lively with the sounds of Todd'n Tina starting at 12:30PM followed by the Musikmeister Concertina at

1:30PM! The Bavarian Musikmeisters, a 35-member wind instrument German Band take the stage at 2PM! Enjoy and revel in a sense of Gemütlichkeit as you enjoy a full complement of events planned from noon until 6:30 pm! There will be something for everyone, from German themed foods and beverages to child friendly activities such as pumpkin painting, face painting and crafts, numerous vendors, barrel cart rides, horse drawn carriage rides, strider races and a corn hole tournament!

(continued on page 8)

Announcements

- City Hall will be closed Labor Day.
- Oktoberfest will be held on September 21st, 2024 from 12pm to 6:30 pm. For more information, visit <https://www.dundasoktoberfest.com/>
- The Watering Restrictions went into effect on June 1st. The exceptions to the restrictions are newly seeded/sod areas and new trees/shrubs which can be watered every day.
- Memorial Park Pavilion is open for reservations by calling City Hall at (507)645-2852. Half day reservations \$80, full day reservations \$135.

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

The 49th annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show August 30, 31 & September 1

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.

(continued on page 9)



2023 Show

Wayne T. Eddy, Legendary Voice of KYMN Radio, Passes Away at 83

Courtesy of KYMN Radio

Wayne T. Eddy, the broadcast founder of KYMN Radio, a co-founder of the Northfield historical Society, a dedicated member of the Defeat of Jesse James Days, and perhaps the single biggest promoter of Northfield, itself, over the last half-century, has passed away Saturday morning, at the age of 83.



Wayne Eddy

(continued on page 3)

HAVE A GREAT LABOR DAY WEEKEND

OPEN REGULAR HOURS LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Sunday, September 8th and 15th:

We will open at 11:00 AM.

(Sorry, no breakfast served those days.)



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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 dis-

tingt 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."

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.

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.

CANVAS CHURCH

404 Schilling Drive, Dundas

Lead Pastor: **Jed McGuire** • www.canvaschurchmn.com

Sunday service: 10:00am Wednesday youth grades 6-12: please check website for dates/times

Beginning September 15: Sunday service 9:00a.m. and 10:45a.m.

YTH Wednesdays at 6:30p.m. Canvas Recovery Group meets Thursdays at 6:30p.m.

LITTLE PRAIRIE UNITED METHODIST 2980 130th St. E.

Pastor **Penny Bonsell** • pastor@littleprairieumc.org

507-663-6150 church phone • 651-503-4279 Cell

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

CITY LIGHT CHURCH 2140 Hwy. 3 South, Northfield, MN

Pastor **Pete Haase** • **507-645-8829** Call for service times

LIFE21 CHURCH 2100 Jefferson Road (just north of Target)

Pastor **Brent Bielenberg** • **645-7730** life21church.com

10:00a.m. Worship Experience

NORTHFIELD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 5600 East 110th Street

Pastor **Dan Runke** • **663-0133** • northfieldefc.org

9:30 a.m. Worship; 11:00 a.m. Christian Life Classes

HOSANNA CHURCH - NORTHFIELD 205 2nd St. S., Dundas

Pastor **Dean Swenson** • **507-664-9007** • www.hosannalc.org

Sunday: 9am & 10:45am Worship with Hosanna Kids Church ages 3-5th grade and Child Care for ages 6wks-3years at both services

Fellowship time with refreshments between services.

Wednesday: Middle School Ministry - doors open at 5:30; programming 6-7:15;

High School Ministry - doors open at 7pm; programming 7:30-9pm

MAIN STREET MORAVIAN CHURCH 713 Division St., Northfield

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Support the Local Businesses
Who Help Support
Our Community!

Wayne T. Eddy, Legendary Voice of KYMN Radio, Passes Away at 83

(continued from page 1)

Wayne was born on May 22, 1941. He grew up in St. Paul, attended Harding High School, and learned the craft of broadcasting at Brown Institute before landing his first job in radio in 1964 at WTMB in Tomah, Wisconsin. In 1966 he took a job at KAUS in Austin, Minnesota, working as a Disc Jockey in the mornings and then serving as the weatherman on the evening news television broadcast.

Wayne came to Northfield in the late summer of 1968 as the first hire by Stan Stydnicki of the yet to be launched 1080 AM KYMN radio. Over the next few weeks, he spent time working throughout Northfield, getting to

know seemingly every person in the community and promoting KYMN.

"I moved up here immediately on the 18th and went to work on the 19th at 8:00 in the morning. Stan put me on the street right away to sell advertising, even though there was no radio station. It was physically being built. The tower was going up. But I was so excited. I was 27 years old, I think."

On September 27th, 1968, it was Wayne's voice that was first heard on our airwaves, playing Up, Up and Away by the 5th Dimension. Over the next five decades, Wayne's voice would be heard on KYMN nearly every day as host of the KYMN Morning Show and later the Wayne Eddy Affair, on sporting events, and on special community event broadcasts, including the Defeat of Jesse James Days Grand Parade.

Jeff Johnson, the outgoing owner of KYMN Radio said he learned "everything" from Wayne, but in particular, he learned the commitment to community that is necessary to make a small-town radio station successful. Wayne was deeply involved in so many different organizations, both local and statewide. He would speak with pride about

his days with the Northfield Jaycees. As mentioned, he was one of the founders of The Northfield Historical Society and was instrumental in that organization's acquisition of the Scriver Building, which of course houses the original Northfield First National Bank that the James/Younger Gang attempted to rob.

With his booming voice and outgoing personality, Wayne Eddy was known by every person in Northfield and seemed to know every person as well. Johnson said his impact on the community was felt by everyone who lived here.

"How many events did he emcee? How many parades did he announce? How many towns people did he interview? How many charities was he involved with? You know, he helped found the Northfield Historical Society among other things. And he was so completely entwined with the Defeat of Jesse James Days. Yeah, his impact is immeasurable."

With the Defeat of Jesse James Days, Wayne served as the General Chair of the organizing committee three times, in 1974 & 75, then again in 1999 & 2000, and once more in 2011 & 2012. As a member of the James Gang Raiders, he portrayed, as he put it, nearly every character in the bank raid reenactment before he finally settled in as Frank James. Playing a role as a bank raider, he said, was always his favorite part of the celebration.

"There's nothing more exhilarating than dressing up like a cowboy or an outlaw from the 1800s, getting in the saddle, going into town, getting off the horse, going in, robbing

the bank, coming out remount and leave or dying in the street. There's nothing more exciting. It is a blast."

Wayne served as president of the Minnesota Broadcasters Association and helped develop new educational programs as chair of the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting. In 1998, he was named Minnesota's Outstate Broadcast Personality of the Year, and in 2007 he was inducted into the Minnesota Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Teri Knight, who worked with Wayne in a variety of roles at KYMN on and off over the course of nearly two decades, is a veteran of Twin Cities broadcasting as well. She said with the exception of some of the legendary names from the heyday of WCCO-AM, Charlie Boone, Roger Erickson, and Steve Cannon to name a few, there is no name more revered and remembered in the realm of Minnesota radio broadcasting than Wayne Eddy.

"His personality is bigger than life, and I would call him authentic, committed to community, committed to service, and just an absolute radio icon."

Wayne was a true champion of Northfield, and he expressed his love for the city often. He was the living embodiment of this radio station for fifty years, at least. Every employee of KYMN Radio, past, present and future owes Wayne our deepest gratitude. This radio station, or as he would say, "Your hometown radio station," is a part of Wayne's long and impactful legacy. The KYMN family will miss him dearly.

Our thoughts and our deepest condolences are with Wayne's wife Julie, and their daughter, Angel.

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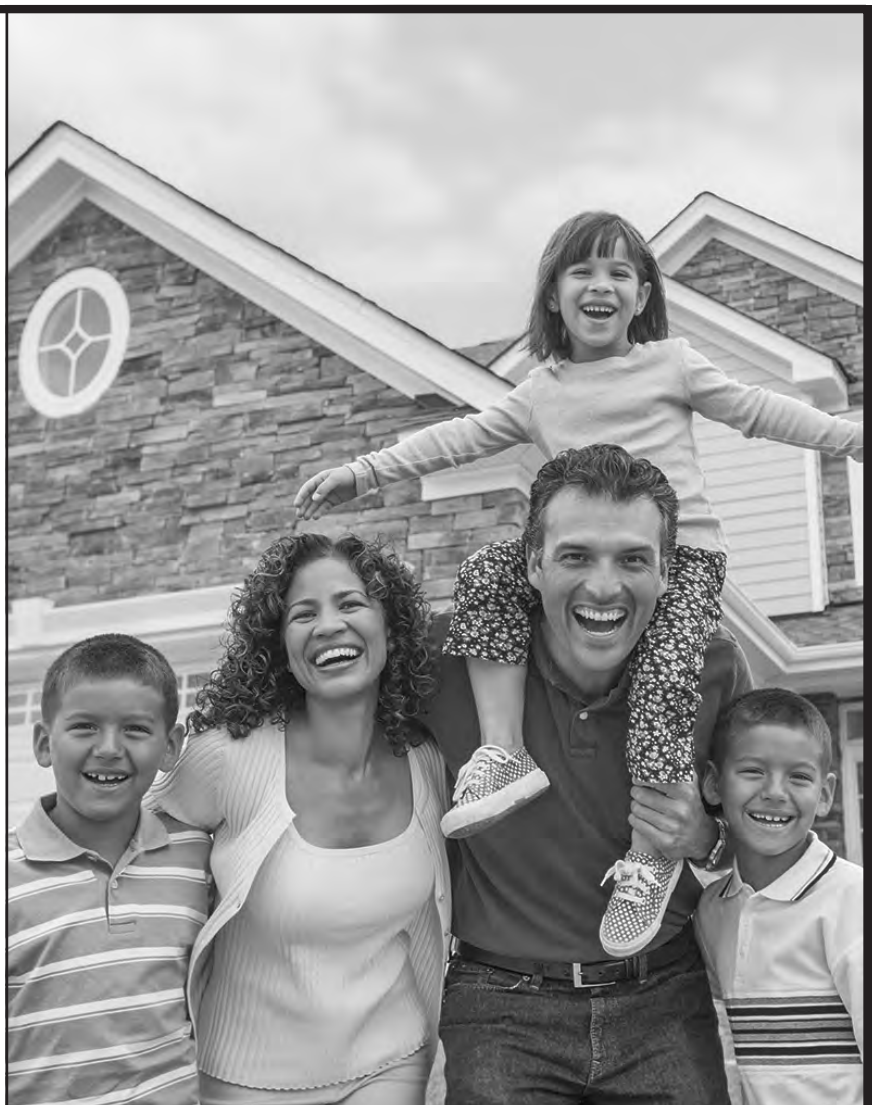
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Wayne Thomas Eddy

Wayne Eddy, age 83, of Northfield passed away with his wife by his side, Saturday morning, August 17, 2024, at his home.



Wayne was born May 22, 1941, at Miller Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota, to Paul W. Eddy and Lorraine (Coursolle, Eddy) Fortney.

Wayne spent most of the first years of his life in a hospital with eczema. He attended various parochial and public schools, including 2 years at St. Thomas Military Academy and Harding High School, from which he was a part of the class of 1960. As a young man he worked in a drive-in, as a shoe store clerk, a soda jerk, trash hauler, and even a bill collector. In his 20's Wayne was a "Limbo" dancer and dance instructor.

Wayne's interest in broadcasting started while taking an English class at Central High School in St Paul which was being taught by Casey Jones (Roger Awsumb). Wayne graduated from Brown Institute— (American Institute of the Air) in 1964. His first radio job was at WTMB-AM in Tomah, WI--Wayne helped put on the first 100,000-watt FM station in that area of the country.

In April of 1966, he became a morning air personality and a rock and roll disc jockey, for KAUS-AM of Austin, Minnesota. When KAUS added FM, Wayne was involved in putting that 100,000-watt station on the air. Then he moved over to KAUS-TV, where he was the station's weatherman, and the talent on the station's first color weathercast. A TV Guide shows Wayne with his weather pointer and claims "Even if the weather isn't sunny--Wayne is". He also introduced the use of videotape for commercials.

During his time in Austin, he met VoAnne Wheeler and they married in 1968. Following their marriage, they moved to Northfield. In 1977 they adopted daughter, Angel. They later divorced in 1986. On April 15, 1989, Wayne married Julie Detlie at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Angel has given them one granddaughter Sydnee, who has given them a great-grandson, Hudson. In 1991, Wayne and Julie hosted a Rotary Exchange student, Jesper Elming of Denmark, who has continued to be an important part of their family and who has gone on to become a popular broadcaster/director/journalist in Denmark.

In 1968, Wayne, along with Stan Stynicki, founded KYMN Radio. Together they operated KYMN until 1989, when Don McRae became Wayne's business partner. Following Don's death in 1996, Wayne became sole owner of KYMN. In 2002, Wayne sold KYMN to Ingstad Broadcasting Company. For 34 years he was KYMN's sign on morning man.

Under Wayne's direction, KYMN broadcast the first NCAA-sanctioned "metric football" game. St. Olaf and Carleton Colleges marked the field in metric, NCAA sanctioned it, and it was the first and only college football game to ever be played on a "metric field". KYMN was the first station in Minnesota to have a Viking football player on each morning live from the player's home, during football sea-

son. The programming was called "Visit with the Vikings." The KYMN studio was located in Waterford Township, several miles north of Northfield. During severe weather—such as blizzards or threatening tornados, KYMN listeners could always hear Wayne's calm, authoritative voice as he would stay at the station broadcasting emergency information for the duration of the storms.

Wayne has long been interested in Special Olympics. KYMN was named "Media of the Year" by Minnesota Special Olympics and Wayne served as an announcer and coordinator of announcers at the International Special Olympics where he was singled out for special recognition by actor and former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Wayne served the Minnesota broadcast industry in many ways. He served on the Minnesota Broadcasters Association Board of Directors from 1984 to 1995, holding offices of president, chair and past chair of the board. The year he served as MBA Membership Chairman, the membership included every commercial radio and TV station in the state but one. In 1997 he was named MBA Radio Personality of the Year.

Through the years he has spoken before classes in elementary and secondary schools, colleges, universities and trade schools on broadcast training and issues in Minnesota, Wisconsin and South Dakota. He served on the Brown College Advisory Board for many years as well as the community college board in Austin MN. Wayne has been on the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting Board for over 30 years and was chairman of the board for seven years.

He also served nationally as Minnesota Legislative Liaison for the National Association of Broadcasters. He served on the NAB Day-Timer's committee, chaired the NAB Small Market committee, served as a panelist on Sales and Small Market Issues at NAB conventions, testified before the FCC on various issues, and wrote numerous articles for NAB publications.

Throughout the years Wayne remained an active voice at KYMN. Even after selling the station, he returned to host the "Wayne Eddy Affair" for close to 15 years, visiting with countless people from all walks of life and varied social and economic backgrounds. Wayne said he interviewed "from prisoners to priests, and everything in between." These visits were archived and Wayne's work will live on for generations.

In 1998 Wayne was inducted into the Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame and has been the emcee for their annual banquet for the past 40 years. Last October, he insisted on getting out of the hospital in enough time to travel to Detroit Lakes to emcee the 2023 banquet.

He was the track announcer at Elko Speedway for many years and sponsored many race cars. He was inducted May 2007 in the NASCAR/ELKO Speedway Hall of Fame for his many contributions.

Wayne was a true proponent and supporter of the Northfield community. He has been the volunteer auctioneer for various non-profit fundraising events that have raised enormous amounts of money for their organizations. His civic engagement was nearly incalculable and included serving as president of the Northfield Jaycees, Northfield Lions Club,

Northfield Park Board where he secured the baseball and softball fields of Sechler Park, and he was a board member of the Northfield Chamber of Commerce and Northfield Chamber Ambassadors. In Wayne Eddy style, he is remembered for serving as the emcee for the Chamber's annual banquet just six days after losing his leg as a result of diabetes in 2005. His unique ability to cultivate talent and increase membership in any organization he was associated with, was undeniable. When Wayne Eddy called, most people said "What are you going to talk me into doing now?"

Wayne "robbed" the bank for 25 years as a member of the James/Younger Gang as it reenacted the Northfield raid during the Defeat of Jesse James Days. He has served on the Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee for 56 years- serving as chairman or co-chairman multiple times and as the official emcee of many events. He originated having the bank raiders and royalty visit the schools to educate the youngsters on the reason we celebrate DJJD and was responsible for starting the entertainment center which had been prohibited previously. He was a co-founder of the Drum & Bugle Corps. In 1990, he received Northfield's most prestigious award - the Joseph Lee Heywood Distinguished Service Award. 1974-1975 were Wayne's busiest years as he was President of the Northfield Jaycees, President of the Northfield Lions, and his proudest achievement was co-founding the Northfield Historical Society. Wayne had the forethought to get the commitment from the former Scriver Building owner so that the Historical Society could purchase it.

Defining Wayne goes far beyond his accomplishments. Wayne & Julie enjoyed travelling on several trips to Europe, Canada, Mexico, Virgin Islands, and many parts of the U.S. They especially loved cruising on his 'pimped out trike' on many trips to Colorado as well as New Orleans, Albuquerque, and even the famous "Tail of the Dragon" that stretches from NC to TN and has 318 curves in 11 miles. Of course, the 1975 Oldsmobile Convertible was his trademark, which he bought off the showroom floor from Miller Motors. He loved fishing and was proud that he caught a 51-inch Northern Pike in Canada. Aside from his family, most of all he just loved people. His work ethic, personal drive, engaging personality, and his impact on the greater Minnesota community will long be remembered. He loved and was dearly loved by his wife and family and he will be greatly missed.

Survivors include his wife of 35 years Julie; his daughter Angel Eddy (Greg Seurer) of

New Market; his granddaughter Sydnee; his great-grandson Hudson; his half-sister Polly Tyra of Florida; niece Tracey Giancola of Las Vegas, NV (children Tyler & Selena), "adopted" son, Jesper Elming of Denmark; many other relatives and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Donna Lynch, and nephew Kelly Lynch.

Services were held at 11:00AM, Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Northfield. Visitation was held from 2:00PM – 7:00pm, Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at the Bierman, Benson & Langehough Funeral Home. Visitation continued on Wednesday at the church beginning at 10:00AM. Interment was in Northfield Cemetery. Pallbearers were Stu Voigt, Mike Czysz, Steve Aaker, Randy Christel, Jeff Johnson, and Don Pavek.

Memorials are preferred to Northfield Historical Society or Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee.

Dawn Marie Malecha

Dawn Marie Malecha, age 59, of Dundas, MN, passed away peacefully at her home of cancer, with her husband by her side on Saturday, August 3, 2024. Throughout this difficult journey she showed unwavering strength, courage, positivity, and incredible love for her



family and friends.

Preceded in death by her parents, Richard Sr. and Jeannie (Valek) Malecha; brothers, Gaylord Malecha and Richard Malecha Jr.; and her beloved golden retriever, Katie May.

She is survived by her husband, Phil Forshree; stepdaughters, Tiffany Hoffman (Rob) of Helena, MT, and Jessica Forshee of New York, NY; brother, Larry Malecha (Dawn) of Faribault, MN; sister, Renee Malecha of Rochester, MN; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and lifelong friends.

Dawn was highly regarded in her field of employment as a senior analyst with Infor installing warehouse management systems for businesses like GM and Georgia Pacific.

In her spare time, Dawn enjoyed spending time with family and friends and taking trips to casinos. Dawn travelled many miles for work and pleasure over the years and she has made her final journey.

There will be a celebration of life for Dawn sometime in September. Memorials to honor her memory can be made to ASPCA or World Wildlife Fund.

Do You Have a Story Idea?

Contact Terry at:
507-951-7417
or e-mail:
hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Dundas Messenger

Dundas Messenger

Dundas Messenger
Vol. 1 New



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

By
Monica & Claudia Vanderborcht

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. Mon-



ica 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.



Enjoy a Meal, Write a Review



We are offering our readers a chance to write a review of one of the restaurants in our Diners Guide. Visit one of the restaurants featured on the Diners Guide in this issue and let us know what you think of the meal you enjoyed.

Some of the establishments have a coupon you can clip out and bring along for a discount on your meal. Let them know you saw their ad in the Messenger Diners Guide.

E-mail us your comments on your dining experience at messenger-drawing@gmail.com or mail them to P.O. Box 1, West Concord, MN 55985. If selected to print we will send each response a \$25.00 gift card to a local restaurant.



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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.

(continued on page 7)



One of the first rocky downhills



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The View From the Back

(continued from page 6)

There are some really pretty areas along here. 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. It was just starting to get light out, and we



The bridge over the Zumbro

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



The old, rutted horse trail

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)

VOTE NO On Northfield Public Schools' \$200 million tax increase.

The biggest public school tax increase ever.

The main argument by Superintendent Hillmann and the board is a need for SAFETY because the "40 (high school) exits ... is a security liability". But the \$200 million project (\$95.38 million principal plus interest) would leave about 50 or more fire exits in the district's schools. The security problem would remain about the same.

What happens when voters vote NO? Hillmann claims the HVAC systems are at "substantial risk of costly failure". Would he come back next year with an affordable option to fix just the problems?

It's all about affordability in 2024. School, county and Northfield City bond proposals on the table would cost over \$400 million (\$200 million schools, \$80 million county jail refinancing, and \$140 million Northfield water infrastructure and ice rink, which Rhonda Pownell is still pushing for even after she lost in the primary.)

Prepared and paid for by Association for Government Accountability, PO Box 732, Northfield, MN 55057

Oktoberfest in Dundas!

(continued from page 1)

Oktoberfest in Dundas is being brought to you by a small but dedicated group of volunteers from Little Prairie Church, Chapel Brewing, Keepsake Cidery, Dundas Historical Society, City of Dundas, local businesses and residents. Several Dundas area businesses are participating in this event, such as Martha's Eats and Treats and Ruth's on Stafford. We are also looking for ways to showcase local talent and crafts. So, if you are interested in having a booth or volunteering, let us know by contacting info@dundasoktoberfest.com.

After Oktoberfest ends at 6:30 PM, the Gemütlichkeit continues at Dawn's Corner Bar with The Old County Boys!

We look forward to seeing you in downtown Dundas on the 21st!

For more information about Dundas Oktoberfest, please go to www.dundasoktoberfest.com.

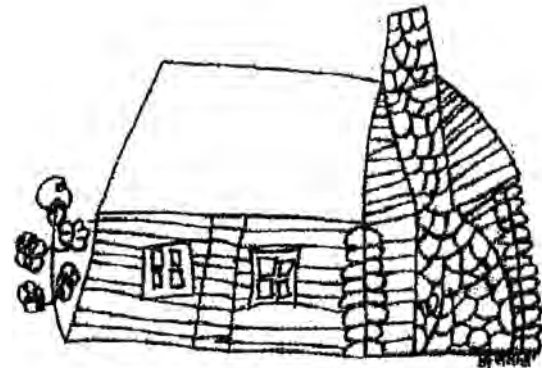


Harvest Thyme Craft Show

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:

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Phone: 507-649-1009

Email: cabincrew@frontiernet.net



Look Us Up on Facebook Under Potpourri Mill

The 49th annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show will take place August 30, 31 & September 1

(continued from page 1)

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. 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 pa-

rade, 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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Marv Gohman 10:00am-Noon

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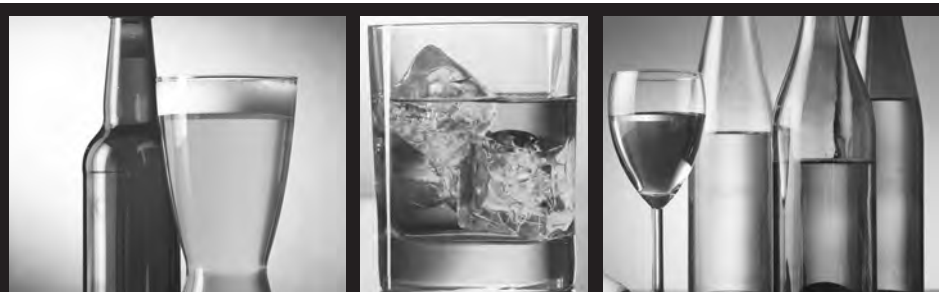
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THE DEFEAT OF JESSE JAMES DAYS EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 4-8, 2024

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

GOLF TOURNAMENT Willinger's Golf Course 2-person Best Shot. Tee Times
8am-4pm Open Division & Senior Division (both players over age 60)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

SPAGHETTI DINNER/MEET THE CANDIDATES PROGRAM 5pm Northfield Ballroom, Highway 3 North **BUTTON EVENT** Admission: \$20/\$12 under age 8

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

AMBASSADOR PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER
8:30am-NOON, VFW, 518 Division St. S. Admission \$10 / free under age 5

AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 2

27TH ANNUAL HORSESHOE HUNT Remember to register your button before the hunt. (Please read the rules and instructions before hunting at djjd.org/horse-shoe-hunt.)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

JOSEPH LEE HEYWOOD GRAVESIDE MEMORIAL SERVICE
NOON Northfield Cemetery, South Division across from High School
JOSEPH LEE HEYWOOD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD BANQUET 6:30pm (doors open 5pm) Northfield Ballroom, Highway 3 North. Prepaid Reservations - \$30 **BUTTON EVENT** email heywood@djjd.org. \$125 Pin Drawing, Auction of Defeat of Jesse James Days Collector Buttons Numbers 1 through 5

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER "The Original DJJD Townie Night"
BUTTON EVENT
5pm-12pm 5th & Water Street (valid ID req'd)
5pm-8pm Beer pouring by Past DJJD General Chairs & Past DJJD Ambassadors
8pm-12am *Southern Minnesota All-Stars*
NORTHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE 5-7pm
Free and open to the public. Archive lectures.
CLASSIC CAR CRUISE 5pm line up on Division St. between 2nd and 4th streets.
6:30pm 1-hour cruise begins. Free-will donation welcome. Route info at www.djjd.org
CARNIVAL 5pm Highway 3 & 5th Street
6-10pm "Wrist Band Night" See www.djjd.org for ticket sale locations
PEDAL TRACTOR PULL 5:30pm Between 4th & 5th streets on Division
BINGO ON BRIDGE SQUARE 6pm-Midnight
THURSDAY NIGHT THUNDER Division between 5th & 6th streets
6-8pm Meet local motorsport racing teams, family fun with autographs and games.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

AMBASSADOR/JAMES GANG SCHOOL VISITS 9am-3pm
ENTERTAINMENT CENTER 4pm-1am **BUTTON EVENT**
5th & Water streets (valid ID req'd) 8:30pm-12:30am *Mister Peabody*
CARNIVAL 5pm Highway 3 & 5th Street
BINGO ON BRIDGE SQUARE 6pm-MIDNIGHT
P.R.C.A. PROFESSIONAL RODEO 8pm Jesse James Arena, Hwy 3 South
"GIVE CANCER THE BOOT" NIGHT. A fundraiser for Northfield Hospital's Breast Care and Infusion Centers, donate and show your support. Special giveaway to the first 300 paid admissions, sponsored by CarTime Auto Center and ReMax Advantage Plus by Mary Jo Winter. General admission **presale tickets**: adults \$25, child \$15 (ages 3-10) under 2 free; available at Northfield Automotive, Family Fare Supermarket and Ziggy's. **Same-day tickets**: available at Rodeo grounds 2 hours prior to performance.
RODEO GROUNDS BEER GARDEN open **before, during & after** rodeo (valid ID req'd).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

NORTHFIELD ROTARY BIKE TOUR 7AM
Dundas Memorial Park 214 1st St., Dundas
A fully supported road, gravel & family adventure. On-Site Registration and Check-In begins at 6:30am. Online registration: northfieldrotary.org
RAIDER DERBY Registration 7:30am, Race begins 9am
Soapbox car racing, 3rd & Orchard St. **BUTTON EVENT**
Button required for all participants
DEFEAT OF JESSE JAMES DAYS CAR SHOW 9am-3pm
Sundowner Car Club, Riverside Park. Admission: \$2. 15 and under free with paid adult. **BUTTON EVENT**
40TH ANNUAL ARTS, CRAFTS & GIFT SHOW
9am-5pm Central Park, 4th & Winona streets

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 CONT.

COED 4S GRASS VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT 9am-6pm
Tyler Park, 1951 Roosevelt Dr. Outdoor grass volleyball with multiple levels of play, round-robin format followed by playoffs and cash prizes for top teams. Teams of four. Registration information on Facebook: Defeat of Jesse James Days Grass Volleyball Tournament
KIDDIE PARADE 9:30am 6th & Division streets
NORTHFIELD ARTS GUILD RIVERFRONT FINE ARTS FESTIVAL
10am-5pm Cannon River Walkway. More info at northfieldartsguild.org
CARNIVAL 11am Highway 3 & 5th Street
BINGO ON BRIDGE SQUARE NOON-MIDNIGHT
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT NOON Entertainment Center
Must pre-register through djjd.org. Registration opens August 1st (Teams limited.) **BUTTON EVENT**
ENTERTAINMENT CENTER NOON-1am **BUTTON EVENT**
5th & Water streets (valid ID req'd)
7-8:45pm *Border Hookups*
9pm-12:30am *8 Foot 4*
P.R.C.A. PROFESSIONAL RODEO 2pm Jesse James Arena, Highway 3 South. Free cowboy hat to first 400 paid kids admissions from Edina Realty. General admission **presale tickets**: adults \$25, child \$15 (ages 3-10) under 2 free; available at Northfield Automotive, Family Fare Supermarket and Ziggy's. **Same-day tickets**: available at Rodeo grounds 2 hours prior to performance.
DJJD BEARD CONTEST Division Street **BUTTON EVENT**
6pm (following final bank raid re-enactment), \$10 entry fee, see djjd.org.
P.R.C.A. PROFESSIONAL RODEO 8pm Jesse James Arena, Hwy 3 South
"TRIBUTE TO 1ST RESPONDERS" NIGHT
General admission **presale tickets**: adults \$25, child \$15 (ages 3-10) under 2 free; available at Northfield Automotive, Family Fare Supermarket and Ziggy's. **Same-day tickets**: available at Rodeo grounds 2 hours prior to performance.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

OUTLAW RUN 5K/15K RUN-WALK
4th St. and Washington St. Registration 6:30-7:30am, 15K Run start 8am, 5K Run/Walk start 8am. More info at northfieldhistory.org
ANTIQUA TRACTOR & TRUCK PULL Registration: 7am, Pull: 9am
Jesse James Arena, Hwy 3 South **BUTTON EVENT**
VFW BREAKFAST 7:30-11am Adults \$12, Children (5-10) \$6, Under 5 free
AMBASSADOR VIP RECEPTION 9:30am Northfield Middle School
NORTHFIELD ARTS GUILD RIVERFRONT FINE ARTS FESTIVAL
10am-5pm Cannon River Walkway. More info at northfieldartsguild.org
40TH ANNUAL ARTS, CRAFTS & GIFT SHOW
11am-4pm Central Park, 4th & Winona streets
CARNIVAL NOON-6pm Highway 3 & 5th Street
BINGO ON BRIDGE SQUARE NOON-8pm
ENTERTAINMENT CENTER NOON-6pm 5th & Water streets (valid ID req'd) Special appearance after the Grand Parade by the "Minnesota Pipes & Drums"
GRAND PARADE 2pm Division Street
RESCUE SQUAD DUCK RACE 15 minutes after parade 4th Street Bridge, \$5 tickets available at Bingo Stand. 1st place prize \$1000, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$150.
AMBASSADOR CORONATION 5pm Northfield Middle School
Admission \$10, Children under 5 free **BUTTON EVENT**

Bank Raid Re-Enactments

BUTTON EVENT = Buttons required for bleacher seating

408 Division Street

Friday 6pm & 7pm, Saturday 11am & 1, 3, 5pm,
Sunday 11am & 12:30pm

(Limited bleacher seating available for 12:30 raid)

American Sign Language Interpreted Raids:

Saturday 11am and 1pm

(for ASL, check in at Info Booth 20 minutes before re-enactment)



Spanish Interpretation Script available at all raids
visit the Info Booth or scan QR code

Northfield Historical Society Bank Site & Museum

408 Division Street 507-645-9268, www.northfieldhistory.org

See website for admission prices.

Wednesday 10am-5pm • Thursday 10am-8pm

Friday-Saturday 10am-7pm • Sunday 10am-2pm

The Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee reserves the right to reschedule, postpone or cancel any event without prior notice. Copyright 2024 Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee Inc., a non-profit organization.



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Be ready: Back to school preparedness



By Joe Johnson, Rice County
Emergency Management Director

As students across the county prepare to return to school, it is important for families to prioritize emergency preparedness. Whether it's navigating the risks of severe weather, school lockdowns or unexpected emergencies, taking steps now can ensure that students are safe and ready for the school year ahead.

Below are steps to take to ensure that your student is prepared for emergency situations.

• Review and Update Emergency Plans

Families should take the time to review and update their emergency preparedness plans, ensuring that all members know what to do in various scenarios. This includes updating emergency contact information with each child's school and discussing the school's safety protocols with your children.

• Emergency Communication Strategies

Teach your children the importance of the "Text First, Talk Later" strategy. During emergency situations, networks are more likely to be congested, and long text messages may not go through. Simple texts such as "I'm OK" are more likely to go through. This is a simple step that can ensure families remain connected during emergency situations.

• Prepare for Weather-Related Emergencies

Educate children on how to react to different weather emergencies, such as tornadoes, flash floods or severe thunderstorms. Understanding where to go and how to stay safe can make a significant difference during a crisis.

• School Safety Drills

Encourage children to take school safety drills seriously. Whether it's a fire, tornado or lockdown drill, practicing these drills can help students respond effectively if a real emergency occurs.

• College Student Preparedness

For those with college-bound students, it's important to ensure that they have an emergency kit and are signed up for the campus

alert system. These steps can offer peace of mind to both the student and parents.

These strategies into your back-to-school routine not only enhances safety but also empowers your students to take an active role in their own preparedness.

For more information on emergency plans, alerts and kits, visit ready.gov.

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Flood relief assistance available for southern Minnesota residents

Friends and neighbors, The flooding that struck our district and much of southern Minnesota earlier this summer has left many families struggling in the aftermath. Hopefully insurance will cover much of the damage, but there are no doubt gaps that have people worried about what to do. I wanted to share some key resources to help your family recover and rebuild.

SBA Disaster Loans: A Lifeline for Businesses and Residents

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is extending a helping hand through low-interest disaster loans. These loans are designed to aid both businesses and residents in our district with repairs and recovery efforts.

Businesses and nonprofits can borrow up to \$2 million. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$100,000 for personal property damage. Interest rates start as low as 2.688%, with repayment terms of up to 30 years.

I strongly urge all those affected to apply promptly. The deadlines are approaching:

- September 30, 2024 for physical damage
- April 29, 2025 for economic injury

For more information, contact the SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Visit

[SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster) and learn about Economic Injury Disaster Loans and other assistance options.

FEMA Individual Assistance: Support for the Uninsured

For many residents without flood insurance, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has opened individual assistance programs. This aid is available in 19 Minnesota counties, including Goodhue and Rice.

FEMA assistance can provide grants for temporary housing, home repair funds, or

coverage for other uninsured losses.

The deadline to apply is September 27. When applying, be sure to keep and submit photographs and other documentation of damage.

To apply or learn more:

Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
Call 1-800-621-3362

Tax Filing Extensions: Relief for Flood-Affected Taxpayers

If the floods prevented you from filing your Minnesota taxes on time, you can request an abatement of penalties or interest. This applies to returns and payments due from June 16 to July 4, 2024.

Make sure to contact the Minnesota Department of Revenue before November 1, 2024, to request the abatement. And remember, this extension applies only to Minnesota taxes, not federal taxes.

For assistance, contact these Minnesota Department of Revenue hotlines:

Individual Income Tax: 651-296-3781 or 1-800-652-9094

Business Income Taxes: 651-556-3075

Withholding Tax: 651-282-9999 or 1-800-657-3594

Special Taxes: 651-556-3022

MinnesotaCare Taxes: 651-282-5533

General Information: 651-556-3000

Moving Forward Together

The path to recovery may feel stressful or daunting, but remember that you are not alone. These assistance programs are designed to help our community rebuild and emerge stronger. I encourage everyone affected by the floods to take advantage of these resources.

If you need help accessing these programs or have questions about the recovery process, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Senator Bill Lieske

Senator Lieske announces new round of nursing home aid payments

State Senator Bill Lieske (R-Lonsdale) has announced the distribution of the second round of emergency aid to nursing homes in the area. This funding is part of the bipartisan \$300 million package passed by the Min-

nesota Legislature in 2023 to address the crisis facing nursing homes across the state.

"It is great that another round of emergency aid is reaching our local nursing homes," Senator Lieske said. "This aid will directly benefit many of our loved ones by making sure these facilities can stay open and showing our support for the amazing staff who care for them."

The nursing home aid package, which has been a top Republican priority, aims to stabilize facilities that have faced severe financial challenges in recent years. While Republicans initially proposed a higher level of assistance, the final bipartisan agreement of 2023 demonstrated the positive outcomes that can be achieved when legislators work across party lines.

"Getting this funding in the hands of nursing homes is a big step forward, but there's still more work to be done," Lieske added. "Bipartisanship is key here – if the majority shows a willingness to work together again next year it will be better for the state of Minnesota."

Nursing Facility Grants totaling \$173.5 million were split into two payments in August 2023 and August 2024. The first round of funding was issued last August; the second round of funding was issued at the beginning of August 2024.

The grants can be used for various strategies to improve the financial health of nursing homes. Unlike loans in the Human Service budget, these grants will not need to be repaid, making their impact much more meaningful for nursing homes.

Over the past few years, Minnesota has seen the closure of 50 nursing homes. This funding aims to prevent further shutdowns and maintain critical care services for the state's aging population.

Facilities in the area receiving funding in this round include:

- Mala Strana Care and Rehab Center, New Prague: \$254,786

- Three Links Care Center, Northfield: \$302,215

- Trinity Care Center, Farmington: \$285,718

DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, July 22, 2024 • 7:00 p.m. City Hall

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Switzer called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Regular Minutes of July 8, 2024
- Pay Voucher No 2 Forest and Depot Project \$142,128.13
- Disbursements - \$56,805.48

Motion by Modory, second by Gallagher, to approve the consent agenda. MCU

REGULAR AGENDA

- Consider Approving Draft 2025 Capital Improvement Plan
Motion by Swartwood, second by Gallagher, to approve the 2025 Capital Improvement Plan. MCU

- Consider Request from Millstone Square Townhome Association and Millstone Twinhome Association

Staff reviewed the request from the Millstone Square Townhome Association and the Millstone Twinhome Association for reimbursement of payment to repair a leaking curb stop box that is tied to the Associations irrigation system. Staff met with the Association representatives and shared the only records on file with the City that show the curb stop box in question was installed by the original developer, only to be abandoned when a subsequent developer finished the project. The curb stop box is outside of any easement or right-of-way which further supports the City's denial of reimbursement. Staff supplied the City Council with a copy of the denial letter from the City's insurer, the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT).

Eric Teachout, 412 Archibald Lane and representing the Millstone Square Townhome Association appealed the decision by staff and the LMCIT saying that a lack of record keeping should not be the reason why the City Council would deny the reimbursement.

Mayor Switzer responded that the lack of records was not the only reason for the denial, rather it was the fact that the box is outside of the easement/right-of-way and that curb stop boxes are not directly connected to irrigation systems, so all signs point to this particular curb stop box being a private utility.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer – Dustin Tipp

Tipp reported that Depot Street received the final lift of asphalt on Friday, July 19 while Forest Ave will receive the final lift by the end of this week depending on the weather.

Timm's Trucking is on-site and preparing to pave the dog park parking lot – and install curb and gutter and install a water line.

Work Session

- Draft 2025 General Fund Budget

Staff reviewed the first draft of the 2025 General Fund budget and highlighted some of the planned projects that are included in the CIP and the draft 2025 general fund budget. Further refinement will take place over the next couple of weeks, with it being back before the City Council at their meeting on August 12.

ADJOURN

Motion by Gallagher, second by Swartwood, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 PM. MCU Minutes prepared by Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator/City Clerk

County sales tax would supplant use of property tax for Safety Center payment

(continued from page 1)

The statement said an increase to the county sales tax would mean non-residents who shop in Rice County would contribute to payment for the Public Safety Center. As is the case with all sales tax in the State of Minnesota, the tax would not be assessed on what are defined as "essentials" by the state, including groceries, medication, baby products, clothing and motor vehicles.

Construction of the Safety Center, which will house the Rice County Sheriff's Department and the Rice County Jail, began in fall 2022.

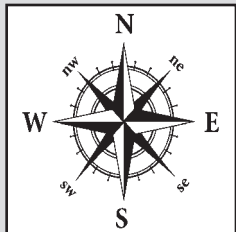
The new facility became necessary following notification from the Minnesota Department of Corrections that due to a lack of space for recreation and programming, the Rice County Jail, which opened in 1975, was no longer an acceptable facility. The county was told to make changes, or the jail would be reclassified as a 90-Day Lockup. A reclassification would have been costly for the county, involving additional transportation and out-of-county housing costs, that were estimated at \$1.5 million annually.

The County Board authorized the sale of nearly \$49 million in bonds to finance construction of the 83,000-square foot Public Safety Center in 2021. The first debt repayment was made in 2023 using funds from the county's property tax levy.

During the 2023 session, the state legislature authorized Rice County to put the proposed sales tax before voters. If approved the tax would take effect in 2025 and last a maximum of 30 years though it could end sooner if the bonds are repaid earlier than anticipated. If the tax is not approved, the Safety Center will continue to be financed via the county property tax levy.

Sheriff Jesse Thomas said he hopes the Safety Center will be up and running by the beginning of November.

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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 43. Sleeping sickness vector
 45. Che Guevara's hat, pl.
 47. Roman road
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1. Collector's goal
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 10. "The Lion King" villain
 11. Olden day "your"
 13. More asinine
 14. City area
 19. Bulwark
 22. Ems follower
 23. Aimless walk
 24. "Bravo! Bravo!", e.g.
 25. Pall ____ and ____ of America
 26. Largest organ of human body
 27. Mobutu Sese Seko's nation
 28. Cereal killer
 31. Land measure
 32. ____-cha-cha
 34. Wails
 36. *Tall building people-mover
 38. Of sour taste
 40. All 50 states
 41. Spanish airline
 44. Make a logical connection (2 words)
 46. Repeat an echo
 48. Opposite of atonal
 49. In a heated manner
 50. Dull one
 51. Angry display
 52. Entertainingly eccentric people, Down Under
 53. "On Golden Pond" bird
 54. ____ of the valley
 55. *A baseball one has a button on top
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Follow these important rules on the school bus for your safety and the safety of your fellow passengers.

- Arrive at your bus stop at least five minutes early. Running to catch the bus is very dangerous.
- Stand at least three giant steps away from the curb when you see the bus approaching your bus stop.
- Stay put until the bus stops, the door opens and the driver tells you it's okay to enter the bus.
- Always use the handrails when entering and exiting the bus.
- Never walk behind the bus. If you must cross the street, cross in front of the bus. Walk on the sidewalk alongside the bus at least five giant steps before crossing in front of it, making sure you and the driver can see one another.
- Stay seated and wear your seatbelt the entire time the bus is moving. Avoid yelling or loud talking that could distract the driver.



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