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AUGUST 28, 2024

Volume 21 • Issue 8

## 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.



Joe Johnson

(continued on page 14)

## The 49th annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show will take place 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.

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



2023 Show

day.

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

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## Announcements

• **Hegre's Annual Fall Swedish Meatball Supper:** Wednesday September 18 2024. Serving 4pm to 7pm. Call or text orders to 507-330-4996 by September 13th is appreciated and will guarantee meals. Menu: Swedish meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes, & gravy, coleslaw, corn, dinner roll, dessert. Hegre Church 51939, Hwy 56 Blvd, Kenyon.

• **Wednesday Wear, Nerstrand United Methodist Church** hours are Wednesdays 1-5 and Saturdays 9-12. Women's, men's and children's clothing, shoes, accessories, linens, toys and books. All things are free with donations accepted. Come and see what we have!

• **Dennison City Council** meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

• **The Nerstrand City Council** meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7p.m. at the Nerstrand City Hall. Office hours are: Monday 8:30-11:00; Tuesday by appointment; Wednesday 8:30-11:00; Thursday 5:00-7:00; Friday by appointment. 507-332-8000.

• **Warsaw Township Meeting** is held the 2nd Monday of each month at the Warsaw Township Hall. Meeting time is 6:00p.m.

• **The Wheeling Township meeting** will be held on the second Monday of each month at 8:00p.m. at the Wheeling Township Hall. Contact Rebecca Vergin, Township Clerk.

## Dine-In Returns to Vang Lutefisk Dinner



The annual Vang Lutheran Church Lutefisk dinner is on once again this year, with a few changes. This year, the event will be

on Saturday, October 5th, beginning at 11 AM.

This year, the event will offer dine-in service again for the first time in several years after operating just takeout, which was initially started after COVID restrictions. The meal will be served buffet style.

Guests may make reservations ahead for seatings at 11 AM, 12 noon, 1 PM, and 4 PM. Continuous seating will start at 5 PM, with no reservations needed then.

Home and business delivery is also available, simply call 507-789-5186.

This is an annual fundraising event for the rural church.

## 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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## What Can We Agree Upon?

By Pastor Larry Grove  
Hauge Free Lutheran Church

In the aftermath of 9/11 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."

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 believ-

ers 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.



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Mike Ahrens S.A.M.  
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Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran  
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10:00a.m. Coffee Time 10:30a.m. Worship Service

Hegre Lutheran  
Pastor Chris Brekke  
Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

Moland Lutheran  
Nancy Edwardson, Pastor • 10:30 a.m. worship

First Ev. Lutheran  
Luther Mathsen, Pastor  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. worship

Wangen Prairie Lutheran Church LCMC  
Shannon Bauer, Pastor  
24289 Cty. 24 Blvd., Cannon Falls  
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Thursday Bible Study at 9:00a.m.

### 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.

### METHODIST

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## 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 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



Wayne Eddy

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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## 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 Sydney, 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 season. 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 incalcula-

ble 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 Sydney; 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.

## Justin Underdahl

Justin Underdahl, age 41 of Faribault, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Wednesday morning, July 31, 2024.

Justin James Underdahl was born November 2, 1982, in Northfield, Minnesota, to Kevin L. and Julie J. (Mailhot) Underdahl. He at-

tended Northfield Schools and in 2000, graduated from Eau Claire Charter School. Following his education he began working full time with his father at Underdahl Construction. In 2006, Justin built his home in Faribault. He married Rebecca Williams in 2009. They later divorced.

Justin was a man of varied interests, many talents, and a good storyteller. He enjoyed playing softball, collecting agates, fishing, hunting, searching for morel mushrooms, and anything outdoors. He would accept any spice challenge, had the best pickles this side of the Cannon River and made one heck of a good maple syrup. He poured his heart into everything he did, was a natural athlete and a skilled craftsman. Above all, he was a loving father who was kind hearted and had a sweet soul. He was loved by so many and his passing has left a large void in our hearts. He will be truly missed.

Survivors include his daughters Alexa, Avalynn and Paige; his parents Kevin and Julie of Nerstrand; his grandmother Joyce Mailhot of Deerwood; his sisters Lindsay of Delray, Florida, Amber of Waconia; his nieces Madyson, Bella, Sydney and Gabby; other relatives and many friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Visitation was held from 4:00PM - 7:00PM on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at the Bierman, Benson & Langehough Funeral Home.



## Traxler Law PLLC

traxlerlaw.com

**Ann Traxler**  
Attorney

### PRACTICE AREAS

- Wills, Trusts, & Estates
- Farm and Business Transition Planning
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- Probate

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## OBITUARY

### Kelly Patrick Allen



Kelly Patrick Allen, born on August 22, 1967, in Des Moines, IA, passed away on July 28, 2024, in Rochester, Minnesota. He is remembered as a dedicated father, grandfather, brother, son, and friend who cherished the outdoors and had a passion for classic rock, Harley motorcycles, and sports, especially the Vikings.

Kelly graduated from Kenyon High School and built a commendable career, dedicating 20 years to Crown before working at Daikin and, most recently, Aldi's warehouse. His hobbies included riding his Harley, fishing, hunting, watching the Vikings, and spending quality time with friends and family. He was also on a spiritual journey, finding solace in his faith.

He leaves behind his fiancée, Liz Dwyer of Owatonna; his children, Dustin (Cherish) of Northfield and Brittany of Owatonna; his father, Roger (Kay) of Rochester; his uncle Jerry (Judy) of Cottage Grove; and his siblings, Mona (Craig) of Brownsdale, Joe of Fairbault, Roger (Jessie) of Morristown, Rocky (Lisa) of Farmersville, TX, and Randy (Lisa) of Wichita, KS, Bob (Jolienne) of Claremont and Keith (Suzy) of Mazeppa. Kelly was a proud grandfather to Dominic, Paisley, Natalie, Rowan, and Chase. He also leaves behind many cherished nieces and nephews: Shane, Shanna, Sonia, Jasmyn, Josh, Kristin, Rachel, Spencer, and Ava.

Kelly was preceded in death by his mother, Joyce Russell of Kasson, his stepmother, Jeanie, and his stepfather, Dave.

A celebration of Kelly's life is scheduled for Saturday, August 31, 2024, from 12 pm to 2 pm at North Alexander Park shelter 2. Attendees are encouraged to wear Harley, Vikings colors, or casual clothing in his honor. The Brick-Meger Funeral Home in Owatonna, MN, is assisting the family during this time.

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

(continued from page 1)

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



2023 Show



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](http://ricecountysteamandgas.com)

## DO YOU HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE MESSENGER?

Email: [hometownmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:hometownmessenger@gmail.com)



Pastor Paul A. Graham

Dennison-Vang Lutheran Parish seeks to be a loving presence in the community in Christ's name. We are a community of faith that makes a difference through worship and serving outside our walls.

If you are looking for something more in your life, come check us out!

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Website: [www.dennisonvang.org](http://www.dennisonvang.org)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: [dennisonvangoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dennisonvangoffice@gmail.com)

### Visit from Border Servant Corps

We are honored and excited to welcome Mica Faull, Director of Engagement and Education for Border Servant Corps, on Wednesday, September 25 at 7:00 PM at Vang.

Mica will be visiting churches in our synod all that week.

This is event is for local churches and community.

This will be a unique opportunity to learn more about the US-Mexico borderlands, and get an on the ground, faith-based perspective.

### From the BSC website:

Since 1997, Border Servant Corps served our community in the U.S.-México borderlands.

Every day, we provide hospitality services to migrants released from the Department of Homeland Security. Since the fall of 2021, we have welcomed more than 135,000 newly-arrived neighbors with dignity and respect.

We collaborate with partners – community members, schools, churches, government officials, and organizations – locally and from around the country to bring people together to make a positive impact.

### October Community Night – Windy Willow Farm Save the Date!

To start of the year, there will be a Community Night at Windy Willow Farm on Wednesday, Oct. 2. Fun for all ages! Come enjoy the farm, a variety of activities, and a good dinner. And, since the Feast of St. Francis is in October, there will be a special "Blessing of the Animals." Look for more information to come!

## Vang Lutheran Church ANNUAL LUTEFISK AND NORWEGIAN MEATBALL SUPPER

### Vang Lutheran Church

2060 Cty. 49 Blvd.

Dennison, MN 55018

Saturday, October 5th

Tickets are \$26.00



### Meal Includes:

Lutefisk with melted butter, Norwegian Meatballs with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Cole Slaw, Fruit Soup, Lefse and Norwegian Baking's

Join us for our annual supper, buffet style (we are back with church seating!)

Call for reservations: 11:00am, Noon, 1:00pm and 4:00pm.

Continuous seating (no reservations needed) starting at 5:00pm through 6:00pm.

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Ticket price \$26.00. Payments by check or cash.

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## 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. 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 sum-



mer!

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



The old, rutted horse trail



One of the first rocky downhills

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. 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.

(continued on page 8)

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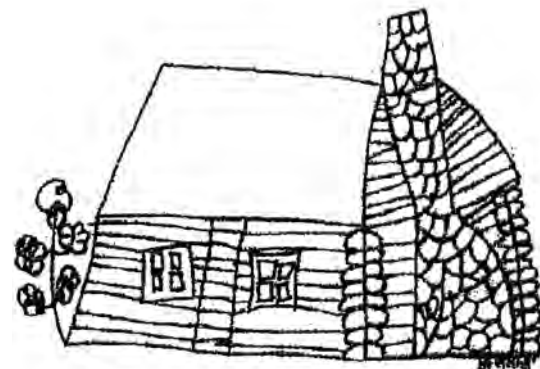


## Harvest Thyme Craft Show

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



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## The View From the Back

(continued from page 7)

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 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?



The bridge over the Zumbro

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)

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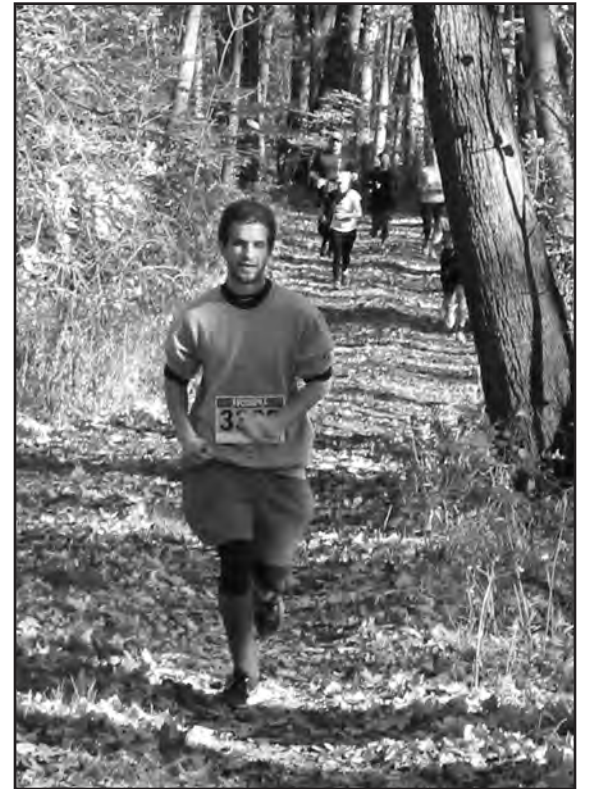
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## Big Woods Run

An organized run through the Big Woods State Park is happening again this year! St John's United Church of Christ is once again planning the Big Woods Run, a race that takes runners through one of the best hardwood forests in southern Minnesota. Saturday, September 28, 2024 is the date to pull on your running shoes and enjoy this scenic trek. The Big Woods should be in prime color for the runners and spectators.



The schedule of events includes a half marathon, 10k, 5k and a kids 1k. The half marathon will take runners through beautiful wooded scenery with challenging hills. The 10k and 5k runners will enjoy a fairly flat wooded trail course. The half marathon and 10k races begin at 9:00am at St John's UCC, 19086 Jacobs Ave, Faribault. 5k runners will take a shuttle bus from the church to the starting line in the middle of the park. 5k runners must be on the bus no later than 8:40am. The kids k begins at 10:30 at the church. Runners can register online at [www.finalstretch.com](http://www.finalstretch.com). Race day registration is 7:15am-8:45am at the church.

Proceeds from the Big Woods Run are donated to local charities. Over \$150,000 has been distributed in the years of the event!

[www.finalstretch.com](http://www.finalstretch.com)  
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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

27<sup>TH</sup> 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.djjd.org)  
CARNIVAL 5pm Highway 3 & 5th Street  
6-10pm "Wrist Band Night" See [www.djjd.org](http://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](http://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**  
40<sup>TH</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://northfieldartsguild.org).  
40<sup>TH</sup> 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](http://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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*Welcomes You To Our*

## 49th Annual

# Tractor Show

### August 30, 31, September 1, 2024

*All Makes & Models of Tractors & Equipment Welcome*

11988 Faribault Blvd • Dundas, MN 55019 3 miles South of Northfield, MN on MN Hwy. 3

**Golf Cart Rentals at West Exhibitors Gate**  
Contact  
Sheryl Trebelhorn  
612-245-8722

**Miniature Railroad Train Rides**  
No charge, but donations are welcome

- **FOOD STANDS** - OPEN DAILY, Breakfast served
- **FLEA MARKET** - Opens 8:00am Daily
- **PARADE OF TRACTORS** - 12:00 NOON DAILY
- **KIDS PEDAL PULL** - Saturday after Parade
- **TRACTOR PULL** - Sunday 9:00am, Registration 7:00am
- **RAFFLE TRACTOR DRAWING** - SUNDAY 4:00pm

### Live Music!

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

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

Sunday, September 1:

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

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

**RAFFLE TRACTOR TICKETS AVAILABLE ON SITE**



1st Prize - Minneapolis Moline Tractor or \$2,000 Cash  
2nd Prize - Minneapolis Moline Pedal Tractor  
3rd Prize - 1/16 Scale Minneapolis Moline Tractor

### Activities & Demonstrations

All Makes & Models of Tractors and Equipment Welcome

Food Stands \* Flea Market \* Parade of Tractors  
Live Music \* Tractor Pull \* Petting Zoo  
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides  
Kids Play Areas \* Kids Pedal Pull  
Horse & Tractor Plowing \* Sawmill Demos  
Blacksmithing & More!

### ADMISSION

\$10.00 Adults

FREE 12 & Under

Good for all 3 days!

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

Leashed Pets Only \* Primitive Camping  
No Alcoholic beverages allowed on grounds.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### CONTACTS:

Bill Becker 507-581-1225

Jeremy Sevcik 507-403-1614

Carmen Sevcik 507-649-0352



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MN Ag Group  
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Nerstrand Agri Center  
Our Circle of Friends - Bob & Rebecca Glende  
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ProNails Spa & Massage  
R&D Automotive LLC  
RE/MAX Results - Steven Holman  
Sissy's On 7th Gifts & Home Decor

Sunsdahl's Restoration Tooling  
Quarterback Club Inc.  
The Hop Shop - Small Engine Repair  
The Messenger Newspapers  
Bernice Wenzel  
Waterford Warriors Snowmobile Club Inc.  
Werner Seed Company  
Ziggy's LLC

*If we missed your name, please accept our apology. Your support is appreciated.*

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



# 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

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## Taste of the Ranch!

Submitted by Chad Otterness

Cannon Valley Ranch (CVR) is hosting a beef cookout and serving the public on Thursday, September 12th, 4-8 PM. CVR previously had beef cookouts in July and August. Bruce and LeeAnn Waugh are owners of Cannon Valley Ranch and their sons Taylor and Aaron also assist in operations. Entertainment will be provided musician Clay Fulton. CVR is showcasing their ranch and raising Angus Beef by implementing regenerative agricultural practices. They are inviting the public into their ranch to learn more about how they raise their beef.

Food options will Angus Beef burgers, beef hotdogs, cole slaw, fries and ice cream for dessert. Pasture tours will be available throughout the evening for family enjoyment.

Animals will be in holding areas for families to view, such as calves, goats and a lama.

A wine tasting area is available for adults, as well as beer, soda and water.



Cannon Valley Ranch is located in rural Goodhue 1/2 half mile off of county road 7.

Reach out to the website for further details: [www.cannonvalleyranch.com](http://www.cannonvalleyranch.com)

Address: 14495 390TH ST, GOODHUE, MN 55027

## MAKE SURE THEY HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE

Kids are back in school, and that means we all need to be careful. Watch for buses, children walking to school and bicycles on the road. By playing it safe, we all can have a brighter future.



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## Be ready: Back to school preparedness

(continued from page 1)

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. Under-

standing 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](http://ready.gov).



## 2024 Minnesota Renaissance Festival

### 7 Weekends of Huzzah & Cheers!

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Plus Labor Day, Sept 2 & Festival Friday, Sept 27

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952.445.7361 | [RenaissanceFest.com](http://RenaissanceFest.com)

### Public Comment Sought for County's Hazard Mitigation Plan

Goodhue County has completed an updated draft of its Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and is now seeking public feedback. Like all Minnesota counties, Goodhue County is vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards such as tornadoes, windstorms, severe winter storms, flooding, drought, and extreme temperatures, which can threaten the loss of life and property in the county. Planning for natural disasters minimizes the impact of events that can cause vast economic loss and personal hardship.

All county residents, as well as other interested agency or organizational stakeholders, are strongly encouraged to review and offer feedback on the interactive website, PDF of the draft plan, and proposed local mitigation actions. The review and comment period is open for a period of 15 days through September 3, 2024. The public can access the plan using the following links:

**Goodhue County HMP website**

(<https://goodhue-county-hmp-umn.hub.arcgis.com/>)

**Mitigation Action Charts**

(<https://goodhue-county-hmp-umn.hub.arcgis.com/pages/mitigation-actions>)

**Public Comment Feedback Form**

(<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/92f82cf5334b4ea687dc510a1c21d7df>)

The Goodhue County HMP is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers Goodhue County, including the cities of Bellechester, Cannon Falls, Dennison, Goodhue, Kenyon, Lake City, Pine Island, Red Wing, Wanamingo, and Zumbrota.

Update of the plan has been under the direction of Goodhue County Emergency Management in cooperation with U-Spatial at the University of Minnesota Duluth and representatives from county departments, city and township governments, school districts, and other key stakeholders. Together, the planning team worked to identify cost-effective and sustainable actions to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life or property from natural hazards. Examples include infrastructure projects for areas that experience repetitive flooding; construction of safe rooms in areas where residents and visitors are vulnerable to tornadoes and severe storm events; burying powerlines that may fail due to heavy snow, ice, or wind storms; ensuring timely emergency communication to the public through warning sirens and mass notification systems; and conducting outreach to increase public awareness of severe weather and personal preparedness.

Hazard mitigation planning helps Goodhue County and other jurisdictions protect their residents. Working with local communities through the process helps identify vulnerabilities and develop strategies to reduce or eliminate the effects of a potential hazard. In addition, increasing public awareness of natural disasters and encouraging personal preparedness helps to create a community that is resilient to disaster, and breaks the cycle of response and recovery. Updating the plan further allows Goodhue County and its jurisdictions to be eligible to apply for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant program funding for projects that help to reduce or eliminate the impacts of future natural hazard events.

Community feedback is vital to the success of the plan. Goodhue County invites public review and feedback of the draft plan prior to submitting it to the State of Minnesota and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. Feedback may be provided via the online comment forms or directly to Goodhue County Emergency Management.

Contact

Earl Merchlewitz

Goodhue County Deputy Emergency Management Director

Phone: 651-267-2639

Email: [earl.merchlewitz@goodhuecountymn.gov](mailto:earl.merchlewitz@goodhuecountymn.gov)

Please scan the following QR code to go directly to the Goodhue County Hazard Mitigation Plan interactive website:





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

37540 Goodhue Ave., Dennison, MN  
Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 AM-8:30 PM; Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM-9:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM  
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Owatonna  
507-451-2585  
M-F 7am-7pm  
Sat-Sun 7am-2pm



## City Council Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2024

7:00 P.M.

City of Nerstrand

221 Main Street, Nerstrand, MN

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Mayor Todd Evavold, Council Members Monica Gernandt, John Harris

**ABSENT:** Kevin O'Brien

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Frances Boehning

**GUESTS:** Karla Ingersoll, Laura Ostlie (Bollig), Dan Pflieger

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council member Monica Gernandt made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Council member John Harris. All approved.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Payment of Claims dated July 9, 2024.

B. Minutes from June 11, 2024

### MOTION:

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion made by Council Member Monica Gernandt, second by Council Member John Harris.

All approved.

### BOLLIG UPDATE:

Laura Ostlie provided an update regarding the request for federal funding. She requested that residents and businesses contact the elected federal representatives to explain why this funding is important to them. It was mentioned that work is progressing on the preliminary engineering report.

### CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk said that she will be out of the office from July 17 through July 24. Council Member Monica Gernandt stated that she is willing to keep an eye on the emails, mes-

sages, and mail and cover while the Clerk is out.

The Clerk noted that Bollig returned a recent payment due to inaccurate billing. CTAS will be reviewed to ensure that the payment was credited correctly.

Following a joint review by the Clerk and Abdo, it was determined that CTAS in total is too high by \$3,438.20. Council Member Monica Gernandt made a motion to permit the Clerk to enter a correcting journal entry for \$3,438.20 to be split between the General, Water, and Sewer funds. Council Member John Harris seconded, all approved.

### NEW BUSINESS:

• Aged Utilities Balances – Following a review of accounts currently over 90 days late, the Council requested that late notices be sent to customers after 60 days late. The Council requested that shut-off notices be sent to customers currently on the aged list. The Clerk will work with Steve McDowell to shut off customers.

• Engage new auditor – Schutz CPA.: Mayor Todd Evavold reviewed the proposal for auditing services from Schutz CPA. Council Member Monica Gernandt made a motion to proceed with engaging Schutz CPA for the 2024 audit, Council Member John Harris seconded, all approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

• Update information for Pickle Ball Court: Council Member John Harris stated that he will investigate obtaining a windscreen for free from a local company. He noted that sometimes businesses are willing to provide the screens as they are then able to place their logo on them. Decisions to date regarding the pickle ball court were reviewed. Mayor Todd

Evavold mentioned that he will contact Carleton College to see if they have inexpensive bleachers that be added next to the court. The locates for the court pad will be done and cement work should be started in August.

• Pothole filling: Steve McDowell met with Pothole Patrol and reviewed the work that needed to be done on the streets. The

quotes from Pothole Patrol were reviewed. Council Member Monica Gernandt made a motion to approve the quote for \$1,475, Council Member John Harris seconded, all approved.

• MS Ride Agreement: Council Member Monica Gernandt made a motion to approve signing the legal agreement to allow the MS

(continued on page 17)

## 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.

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## Nerstrand City Council Minutes

(continued from page 16)

Ride to use the Nerstrand City Park, Council Member John Harris seconded the motion, all approved.

9. Reports of Officers

• Public Works Director – Steve McDowell was not present at the meeting.

• Mayor – Mayor Todd Evavold mentioned that when the cement pad for the pickle ball court is done, the current gravel area between City Hall and the Schiels building could be cemented over to improve usability. Mayor Todd Evavold made a motion to approve the bid for this cement work for \$3,200, Council Member John Harris seconded the motion,

all approved.

• Fire Department – The report from Joe Johnson was included in the packet for the month.

• Council Members: Former Council member Dan Pflieger read his official written notice of resignation. Council Member Monica Gernandt made a motion to accept Dan Pflieger's resignation, Council Member John Harris seconded the motion, all approved.

## MOTION ADJOURN:

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Todd Evavold second by Council Member John Harris to adjourn. All Approved.

Todd Evavold, Mayor

Frances Boehning, City Clerk  
Next City Council Meeting is scheduled for August 20th, 2024, at Nerstrand City Hall

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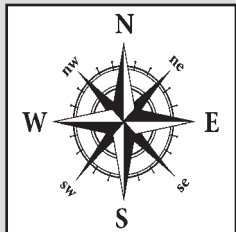
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## Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Young Farm Lads and Lawn Mowers



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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- 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.
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