

# KENYON • WANAMINGO Messenger

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SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

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## Announcements

• **Hegre's Annual Fall Swedish Meatball Supper:** Wednesday September 18 2024. Serving 4pm to 7pm. Menu: Swedish meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes, & gravy, coleslaw, corn, dinner roll, dessert. Hegre Church 51939, Hwy 56 Blvd, Kenyon.

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

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

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

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

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

## A life Well Lived

By Cheri Roshon

On July 1st, 2024, Katie Henslin and her siblings took a journey from Florida to Ari-

zona aboard a commercial airline flight with Katie's father, Tim Hardy at the helm. This was his last flight in a career that spanned almost 4 decades and began in west central Minnesota. *(continued on page 5)*

## Two vie for Kenyon Mayors race



Doug Henke



Donald Kirchman

Doug Henke is the current mayor of Kenyon.

He served a year and half as interim mayor and is now running for his third term as mayor. *(continued on page 24)*

Pictured to the right: Tim Hardy and his family celebrate his retirement



## Holden Lutheran Church Celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Its Church Building

KENYON, MN – Holden Lutheran church is happy to announce the celebration of its 100-year-old church building on October 6, 2024, with a special rededication service, meal, and memorabilia. *(continued on page 4)*



## New Teachers at Kenyon-Wanamingo



Four new teachers join the Kenyon-Wanamingo staff for 2024.

Pictured left to right; Steve Blacker, *HS Special Education Teacher*; Samantha Geving, *Preschool Teacher*; Heather Olson, *HS Counselor*; Ben House, *HS Special Education Teacher*

## The King with Cash & Diamond Show Returns to Dennison September 28th

The popular Vegas Style Tribute Show featuring the music of Johnny Cash, Elvis, and Neil Diamond returns to Dennison Saturday, September 28th, under the big top.



*(continued on page 7)*

## PILLOW CLEANING



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

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

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Groups interested in details for sponsoring this service contact:

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## Landmarks And Boundaries

By Pastor Larry Grove  
Hauge Free Lutheran Church

Deuteronomy 19:14

*“Do not move your neighbor’s boundary stone set up by your predecessors in the inheritance you receive in the land the Lord your God is giving you to possess.”*

When I was in my 20’s and 30’s and into my 40’s, the history of my family was not that significant to me. In recent years it has become much more intriguing and I am way more focused on what type of legacy am I leaving in regards to my relationship with Jesus Christ to my children and my grandchildren. My hope and my prayer is that the family circle would be unbroken and the impact that we could have on those around us would be significant as we do all we can to take as many with us into eternity as God gives us the opportunities to share the Gospel message.

When I look back on Hauge Free Lutheran Church and how it was originally formed I see that the faith of those men and women had was solid and their desire to gather together to encourage one another in their walk and to fellowship and pray for each other was a priority.

The first settlers came from Norway to Goodhue County in 1847. They settled south and west of Kenyon. There is not a lot of information written about this group of pioneers for about 12 years. They traveled by walking and by oxen teams as there were no roads. It is thought that they would meet in homes of neighbors and friends to gather around the Word of God and in prayer. Elling Eilson would travel from place to place and share

messages from the Word of God.

In 1859 they formed a congregation and called it the Hauge Congregation. Osten Hanson was a lay preacher that served the group. The first recorded service was a communion service on June 30, 1861.

Norwegian was the language that they used until 1939 when English was adopted. All records were written in Norwegian until that time and the history was often difficult to decipher.

In March of 1871 they discussed building a church. A unanimous vote was taken and funds were raised to start the structure. Land was purchased and mason work was under way.

Christian education for their children was also a prime concern for the settlers as well. They started a school and had the children go for at least two months each year.

The church building was mostly completed around 1875, but it was not completely

equipped until 1888. Congregants discussed a steeple but decided it would cost too much and they didn’t want to spend money

frivolously. A 1/4 acre lot that this church sits on was purchased for \$7.00. Later 2 more lots were purchased for the cemetery for \$25.00. This church was used until 1902 when it was decided to build a church building in the town of Kenyon.

*(continued on page 3)*

### AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY What Things?

*“Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”*

— Luke 24:32

At a concert, the usher at the door looked so familiar to me. But I could not recall where or when I might have met him before. After a brief conversation with him, we recalled that years ago he had been our son’s grade-8 teacher. We enjoyed sharing a few memories of that time in our lives.

I think the situation was slightly different as the two followers of Jesus walked along toward their home in Emmaus. They didn’t recognize that they were talking with Jesus, even though they had seen him recently. Did he not look the same? Jesus asked questions and taught them about the Scriptures, but it wasn’t till they sat and shared bread together that their eyes were opened to see him. What a wonderful feeling that must have been!

Then, after Jesus “disappeared from their sight,” they joyfully made the long trip back to Jerusalem to share their story. They could not wait to share their experience. Their love for Jesus and the others was enough to propel them back to Jerusalem to share.

With a text message from my cell phone, we eagerly shared with our son that we had talked with his grade-8 teacher at the concert that night. And it was fun to share that with him.

Are we eager in a way like that to share with others about our times with Jesus?

**Lord, thank you for moments when you meet with us in a fresh new way. Open our eyes and hearts to your work in our everyday lives, realizing you are closer than we might think. Amen.**

**DENNISON/VANG LUTHERAN PARISH**  
Pastor Paul A. Graham  
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You can join us for Worship online at  
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**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
301 2nd Avenue, Wanamingo  
824-2155  
September 15: 9:00a.m. Sunday School at WLC;  
10:00a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
at WLC  
September 18: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m.  
Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th,  
6:30-7:30p.m. 9th  
September 22: 9:00a.m. Sunday School at WLC;  
10:00a.m. Worship at WLC  
September 25: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m.  
Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th,  
6:30-7:30p.m. 9th  
September 29: 9:00a.m. Sunday School at TLC;  
10:00a.m. 100th Anniversary Worship Service  
at TLC

**WANAMINGO LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA**  
130 West 3rd St., Wanamingo  
824-2457  
[www.TrinityWanamingo.org](http://www.TrinityWanamingo.org)  
September 15: 9:00a.m. Sunday School at WLC;  
10:00a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
at WLC  
September 18: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m.  
Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th,  
6:30-7:30p.m. 9th  
September 22: 9:00a.m. Sunday School at WLC;  
10:00a.m. Worship at WLC  
September 25: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m.  
Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th,  
6:30-7:30p.m. 9th  
September 29: 9:00a.m. Sunday School at TLC;  
10:00a.m. 100th Anniversary Worship Service  
at TLC

**ASPELUND EMMANUEL LUTHERAN**  
Rob Edwards, Pastor  
429 County 1 Blvd, Kenyon • 507-824-2307  
[www.emmanuelafc.org](http://www.emmanuelafc.org)  
9:00a.m. Sunday School;  
10:00a.m. Coffee Time  
10:30a.m. Worship Service

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

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

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

**ST. JOHN’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Lora Sturm, Pastor • 507-330-0025  
[www.stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info](http://www.stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info)  
19086 Jacob Avenue, Faribault  
Sunday School 9:30a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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## Landmarks And Boundaries

(continued from page 2)

All of this history is fascinating and important as well, but the most significant history is about the settlers love for Christ and necessity of passing on that legacy to their descendants. We see the fundamental interest of the people of Hauge to keep this building intact and have it for a landmark set by their predecessors. As Pastor of this church I can tell you that they view the passing down of their spiritual heritage as being foremost in their thoughts and even more salient. The same type of story and heritage is recorded in the churches in our community and treasured as well. To hear these stories would be a faith builder for us all.

So, how do we carry on this principal task of passing this message to the next generation?

I would like to share with you a page from the New England Primer. This is a text book used in the early public schools and what was likely taught in the school that the settlers opened. It is called 'Verses for Little Children'.

Though I am young, a little one, If I can speak and go alone,  
Then I must learn to know the Lord. And learn to read His holy Word.  
This time to seek to God and pray, For what I want for us all day,  
I have a precious soul to save, and I a mortal body have:  
Though I am young, yet I may die, and hasten to eternity.  
There is a dreadful fiery hell, Where wicked ones must always dwell,  
There is a heaven full of joys, Where Godly ones must always stay.  
To one of these my soul will fly, As in a moment when I die;  
When God that made me calls me home, I must not stay, I must be gone,  
He gave me life, He gave me breath, and He can save my soul from death.  
By Jesus Christ my only Lord, according to His holy Word.

So, how do we take back ground that was given up in years past?

There is legislation recently signed into law in Louisiana that would require the display of the Ten Commandments in large, easy readable font in all public classrooms in the state by 2025. This will all be funded by donations. No education funding would be used for this. This is one state's attempt to take back ground. If we don't look at where we were when our forefathers came to this country and how they set up what was important to them, we will never strive to carry on that legacy of Christ-centered living.

Every time I step into the 'Old Stone Church' I get the feeling I am walking on hallowed ground. The sacrifice and determination that the men and women exhibited to come together and worship and pray together, causes me to shrink back in shame at times. How we can complain about the fact that we are tired or it may be too cold or maybe too hot to go to church, it's raining or it's snowing. Then we think about what they went through to gather for fellowship and it can be heart-wrenching to see how luke-warm we have become.

Getting up before sunrise to do the chores, to feed the cattle, clean the barn, feed the chickens, pick the eggs, slop the pigs, hook up the horses, clean up, put on good clothes and make it to the church on time, help with any setup, and even take part in the service would be a common commitment. What we go through to worship together pales in comparison.

That is why it is important to remember the commitment of our pioneering fathers. Psalm 77:11-12 tell us of God's faithfulness.

"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds." Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God? You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples."

Psalm 145:13 is a promise that had to be treasured by the people that started this church.

"Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does."

We must hold fast to the truth of God's Word with the same determination that we saw in our forefathers.

I just received a book from one of my sons. It is called, "Dad, I Want To Hear Your Story". This is probably one of the most profound gifts I have ever received. To think that my son would want to know my story is humbling and very gratifying. I want to encourage you all to tell your family your story. To tell them your parents and grandparents story as best you can remember it. And most importantly, tell them about your spiritual journey. How you came to faith in Jesus Christ and what are some of the most significant things He has done in your life as well as how He has used you in the lives of others for His glory.

If Jesus Christ has never become the Lord of your life, don't let another day go by without coming to the foot of the cross in repentance and faith.

Jesus is waiting with open arms. Romans 10:13 says, "All who call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

The history of the churches in our community is foundational as we continue to build our spiritual legacy. Think seriously about writing down your life story for your descendants to see. It can be an heirloom that can be treasured for generations to come. May we always cling tightly to the testimony of God's working in our lives and be ever on the watch for opportunities to add to that story as God brings situations our way.

### James B. Foss

James B. Foss, age 85, a lifelong Kenyon farmer, passed away peacefully on Monday evening, August 26, 2024, at Cannon Rivers Senior Living in Cannon Falls.



James Bennett Foss was born on December 30, 1938, in Faribault, to Selmer and Borgny (Okkelberg) Foss.

He graduated from Kenyon High School in 1956 and from the University of Minnesota School of Agriculture in 1958.

Jim married Elizabeth "Liz" Pagel on October 6, 1962, at Spring Garden Lutheran Church in Cannon Falls. They raised their two sons on their farm near Kenyon.

An active member of Holden Lutheran Church in Kenyon, Jim was also involved in many associations. He served on the MN State Fair Board from 2002-2011, including a term as president from 2012-2013. He was a member of the Goodhue County Fair Board from 1959-2022, the Wanamingo School Board, the MN Livestock Breeders Association for 60 years, the National Milking Shorthorn Association Board, and the MN FFA Foundation. Jim was inducted into the MN Livestock Breeders Hall of Fame. He and Liz were honored as Goodhue County Citizens of the Year in 2015 and National Milking Shorthorn Citizens of the Year. Jim and Liz traveled everywhere together for board meetings and volunteering. They were inseparable as a team.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 62 years, Liz of Cannon Falls; sons, Tim (Janet) of Omaha, NE, and Tom (Julie) of Cambridge; four granddaughters, Lauren of Omaha, NE, Jordan of Kansas City, KS, Abby, and Allison, both of Cambridge; sister, Sandra Anderson of Stillwater; brothers, Steven (Lori) and Davis, both of Kenyon; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

His wife, Liz died on Saturday morning, August 31, 2024. A memorial service for Jim and Liz will be held at Holden Lutheran Church on Saturday, September 21 at 11:00 am, with visitation from 9-11 am. This serv-

ice will be livestreamed and available to view at [www.LundbergFuneral.com](http://www.LundbergFuneral.com) under the Elizabeth "Liz" Foss obituary. A private family Interment will be at the church cemetery.

Active urn bearers will be their granddaughters.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Holden Cemetery or the MN State Fair Foundation.

### Elizabeth A. "Liz" (Pagel) Foss

Elizabeth A. "Liz" (Pagel) Foss, age 81, a longtime Kenyon resident, died peacefully on Saturday morning, August 31, 2024 at Cannon Rivers Senior Living in Cannon Falls.



Elizabeth Ann was born on January 24, 1943 in Cannon Falls, the daughter of Howard and Mar-

jorie (Benson) Pagel. She attended District 42 through the sixth grade, Wastedo School through 8th grade, and graduated from Cannon Falls High School in 1960.

Liz married James B. Foss on October 6, 1962 at Spring Garden Lutheran Church, Cannon Falls, which was her home church. She has been an active member of Holden Lutheran Church, Kenyon following her marriage. They raised their two sons on their farm near Kenyon.

Liz worked as a waitress at the Edgewood Restaurant from 1954-1960, and went to Minneapolis Savings and Loan as a central files clerk until 1962. She was a 42-year employee at Chicago Ed's, where she was a clerk at the jewelry store.

Liz was active in her faith circle at Holden Church. She was also a 4-H leader, active in the State and National Milking Shorthorn Association, and a 50-year member of the Rural Youth Group. Liz and Jim were honored as Goodhue County Citizens of the Year in 2015 and National Milking Shorthorn Citizens of the Year. They traveled everywhere together for board meetings and volunteering. They were inseparable as a team.

Liz was preceded in death by her husband, Jim on August 26, 2024; her parents, Howard and Marjorie Pagel; brothers, infant Kevin and Elmer; and infant sister, Martha.

She is survived by sons, Tim (Janet) of Omaha, NE, and Tom (Julie) of Cambridge; four granddaughters, Lauren of Omaha, NE, Jordan of Kansas City, KS, Abby, and Allison, both of Cambridge; brothers and sisters, Wilbur (Becky) Pagel, David (Nina) Pagel, Kenneth (Pam) Pagel, Marie (Darryl) McLain, and Julie (Rob) Lorentz; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Jim and Liz will be held at Holden Lutheran Church on Saturday, September 21 at 11:00 am, with visitation from 9-11 am. This service will be livestreamed and available to view below. A private family Interment will be at the church cemetery.

Active urn bearers will be their granddaughters

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Holden Cemetery or the MN State Fair Foundation.

(obituaries continued on page 4)

**MomCo**

(Formerly known as MOPS)

**Mom's & Children's Programs**  
(nursery provided)

Faith Community Church, West Concord

**KICK-OFF**  
Friday September 20th  
9:30-11:00 AM

\*Meeting every 1st & 3rd Friday throughout the school year

CONTACT: Cindy Breederland 507-272-2600  
or Louise Severud 623-695-3813.

## Holden Lutheran Church Celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Its Church Building

(continued from page 1)

Holden Lutheran Church located at 6949 30th Ave Blvd, Kenyon, MN 55946, was established in 1856 as the earliest

Norwegian Synod Church in Goodhue County. Holden helped with the establishment of many other Lutheran Churches.

Holden's first minister, Rev BJ Muus, established the St. Olaf Academy in the Holden Parsonage, it later moved to Northfield becoming St Olaf College.

Holden's first church was built between 1861 and 1871. It was a beautiful wood structure. But after 60+ years the cost of essential maintenance was deemed too expensive, and the congregation grew.

Beginning in 1920 the congregation began raising money through voluntary pledges to build a new church. In 1921 five members of the congregation traveled long distances to visit other church buildings in preparation for the building project at Holden. In 1922 architect Thorwald Thorson from Forest City, IA was hired, and it was decided that no new

church building would occur until the needed funds were pledged. In early 1924 the funds had been raised and a construction company was hired. The total cost of the building at the time was \$56, 687 which would be slightly over \$1 million in today's dollars.

In March 1924 the old building was torn down board by board by members of Holden in one week and the lumber was sold at auction. The cornerstone of the current church building was laid on May 18th, 1924, with the dedication of the new building seven months later, on October 12, 1924. The Wanamingo Progress reported there were 2,100 autos parked and nearly 7,000 people at the dedication of the church. The Kenyon leader gave the dedication front page publicity noting "The new structure built this summer is an attractive and substantial edifice and reflects the character of the hardy and God-fearing people which constitute the membership of the congregation."

Holden church is a brick structure whose steeple can be seen for miles. The sanctuary has beautiful dark oak woodwork, but the crown jewels are the 10 rare large stained-glass windows that surround the sanctuary. The front window above the altar depicts the Resurrection and the one in the back of the church is Jesus as a Shepherd. A replica of the famous Thorvaldson's statue of Christ adorns the altar. The large front and rear windows were funded by the congregation and all of the remaining windows, and the altar statue of Christ were donated as special gifts by various congregation members over and above their contributions to the building fund.

The community is invited to a special Holden Lutheran Church service on October 6, 2024, at 11:00 AM. The service will include a rededication of the building, special music, and excerpts from the original dedication service in Norwegian.

The Holden congregation also welcomes all visitors to a celebratory meal to follow.

About Holden Lutheran Church

Holden Lutheran Church is a rural congregation part of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church

of America). Located at 6949 County 30th Blvd., Kenyon, MN.

We are mindful of God's great blessing, grace, and mercy through 168 years in this place and community. At Holden Lutheran Church we are called to share God's love through our ministry of Choir, Youth Programs, Sunday School, Bible Study, Community Outreach, Adult Education, and Fellowship. Pastor Dustin Haider leads us.

## OBITUARY

### Virginia Mae Fordahl Aase

Virginia Mae Fordahl Aase, 94, formerly of Kenyon, died Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at The Commons on Marice in Eagan, Minnesota.



Virginia was born June 29, 1930 in rural Kenyon to the late Kenneth and Ila Haugen Fordahl. She graduated from Kenyon High School in 1948 where she was recruited to work for the Kenyon Mercantile and Elevator Co. She married Wallace "Wally" on July 13, 1951. They were married for over 66 years. While Virginia and Wally were dating, they went to the movies on Wednesdays and dancing on Saturdays. This was a tradition that long continued into their married years. She loved to snowmobile, and she was an avid quilter. She made quilts for her children and all the grandchildren as well.

She is survived by her children, Sharon (Bill) Schmidt of Eagan, Roxanne (Paul) Perreault of Waconia, Kathleen (Dennis Merritt) Merritt Aase of Morris-town and Gerald (Kathy) Aase of Green Bay, WI; grandchildren, Katrina (Bly), Mitchell (Megan), Zachary (Adriana), Nicholas, Kayley, Jamie (Ryan), Justine (Jeremy) and Joseph (Samantha); great-grandchildren, Trenton, Zachary, Audrey, Elizabeth, Zeke, Beckham, Autumn and Silas. One brother, Arlen Fordahl.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Wallace R. Aase; one sister, Helen Fleming.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2 pm on Friday, September 13, at First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenyon with visitation beginning at 1 pm. Interment will be in the Gol Lutheran Cemetery followed by a lunch reception back at First Evangelical Lutheran.

## 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.

## 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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## A life Well Lived

(continued from page 1)

Tim's passion for aviation took flight at a young age, nurtured by his father before him. His father was also a pilot, and not only was

this his profession, it was his passion.

His hard work and dedication to aviation was unwavering, and this created a legacy that was passed down to Tim. I am going to give you this story from Katie and her siblings own words, so you can feel the pride they have in their father's accomplishments.

"At age 15, Dad started taking flying lessons from our grandfather. Our grandparents owned and operated 2 businesses, Willmar Aerial Spraying, and Olivia Flying Service, an FBO....Fixed Base Operator. These fam-

ily businesses provided essential services to the community, and also ignited a lifelong love for aviation in dad.

In July of 1975, on his 16th birthday, dad achieved his first solo flight. A year later he earned his private pilot license. This early start to his career earned him approximately 22,000 hours in the sky over the course of his career. For the next 7 years, dad worked in the family business, crop dusting and providing aerial spraying services. His dedication and skill in these formative years were evident, setting the stage for his transition to commercial aviation. In 1985, he accepted a position as a first officer with a small airline based in Spencer, Iowa. One year later, he took a big leap in his career by joining a corporate division of American Airlines, where he served as a first officer and captain for the next 37 years."

As a preparation for retirement, Katie and her siblings were able to be on Tim's last commercial flight from Florida to Arizona and were able to spend a few days together, recalling his career, and their pride in his ac-

complishments.

Katie says..."Sitting in the flight cabin on my dad's last flight was a surreal experience. It was a time to reflect on his dedication, hard work, and the thousands of hours he spent soaring through the skies. To me, his career was a testament to his unwavering passion and commitment to aviation. When the plane touched down, and dad completed his final landing, there was lots of joy, and of course, tears. Dad had held his duty to safely transport millions of passengers to their destinations. It was a poignant moment filled with happiness and a touch of sadness as he signed off as captain for the last time. It was an incredible experience to embark on his last flight as a family, honoring my dad in his incredible career. For my siblings and I, this final flight will forever be etched in our hearts. A tribute to a man whose life was truly defined by his love of flying."

So, there you have it! A life of service to others, and a passion for doing what he loved. Add that to the way Tim inspired his kids, and there is a recipe for success!

## Nerstrand United Methodist Church

### Fall Festival

Saturday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>  
10 am – 1:00 pm

#### Lunch Menu:

Hot beef Sandwiches  
Potato Salad  
Chicken and wild rice soup  
Pie/Cake

#### Bake Sale

Home and holiday décor/baskets

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Web page: Nerstrandumc.org

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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.



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# TURKEY DINNER

Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>  
at Dennison Lutheran Church  
Serving 11:30am-1:30pm

Menu:  
Turkey Roast, Dressing,  
Mashed Potatoes,  
Corn, and Pies

Adults \$13.00 • Children \$5.00  
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Join us for a special worship service at 10:30 with guitarist Todd Thompson. All are welcome.

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*Letter from the Superintendent*  
**Welcome Back to the 2024-25 School Year!**



By Beth Giese MA, Ed.S  
 Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools  
 District Superintendent



As we prepare to embark on another exciting school year, I want to extend a warm welcome back to each and every one of you. Whether you are returning to our schools or joining us

for the first time, we are thrilled to have you as part of our Kenyon-Wanamingo family.

This year, our theme is "**Igniting Potential, Inspiring Excellence.**" These words reflect our commitment to fostering an environment where every student can reach their full potential and where excellence is not just a goal, but a daily pursuit. We believe that every student has unique strengths, and it is our mission to help them discover and ignite those talents, while also inspiring them to achieve greatness in all they do.

Our dedicated staff is ready and eager to guide, support, and challenge our students. We have spent the summer preparing our classrooms, preparing for the Read Act, and planning exciting new initiatives that will enhance the learning experience for all. We are committed to providing a safe and engaging environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

As we move forward into this new school year, I encourage our students to embrace every opportunity to learn, grow, and make a positive impact. Whether it's in the classroom, on the athletic field, or through extracurricular activities, I challenge you to strive for excellence in all areas of your life. Remember, the effort you put in today will help shape the future to making your dreams

come true. To our families, thank you for your continued support and partnership. Your involvement is key to our students' success, and we look forward to working together to ensure that every child in our district has the opportunity to succeed. Finally, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our staff. You are simply the best and make our district a place where students are inspired to reach

new heights. Together, we will ignite potential and inspire excellence throughout the 2024-25 school year.

Interested in joining the Knight family, feel free to call me directly, I will get you all set up for a great year.

## 2024 KENYON ROSE FEST Old Car & Truck Show

THANK YOU TO ALL THE SPONSORS FOR THE 2024 KENYON ROSE FEST CAR SHOW

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**Other Sponsors:** D & S Banner & Signs; Kenyon Market; State Farm Insurance; The Hair Place; Mary's Rustic Rose; Edina Realty (Chris Mallery)

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*Kenyon Rose Fest Car Show Committee*

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## The King with Cash & Diamond Show Returns to Dennison September 28th

(continued from page 1)

For fans young and old, if you have ever been to the show in Dennison or to the popular Breezy Point Resort up north in Minnesota, you may have caught The Memories



of Elvis Show ([www.espkng.com](http://www.espkng.com)), with Chris Olson.

You may have seen the show on the dock-side bar at Breezy Point or the popular up north spot, Zorbaz. Chris Olson performs this entertaining tribute of The King, and will be bringing his talents and show back to DENNISON, MINNESOTA on Saturday, September 28th. Show time will be at 7:30p.m.

This will be a rain or shine event under the big top at the Fireside.

Doug Allen Nash will again join the show this year with his tribute to Neil Diamond and also his "Johnny Cash Tribute - American Icon". ([www.dougallennash.com](http://www.dougallennash.com))

It is in this production, Nash includes one of his own songs "June" co-written and co-



produced with Jeff Silverman in Nashville, TN. Engineering mix by Grammy Award Winners John Carter Cash and Chuck Turner at Cash Cabin Studio in Hendersonville, TN.

You can see both of these great artists in Dennison Saturday, September 28th.

Advance tickets are just \$25.00. \$30.00 day of show. Call Fireside at 507-645-9992 during normal business hours, or e-mail them at

[firesideloungedennison@gmail.com](mailto:firesideloungedennison@gmail.com) to order tickets.

You can also make dinner reservations that evening ahead of the show. Space is limited, so make your reservations early, as Fireside Lounge celebrates 22 years of Amy Family Hospitality, Saturday, September 28th.

(see ad on page 15)



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## The View From the Back *Part 3*

By Ted Gamble

*Ted Gamble is an avid runner and friend of The Messenger. This is the third of a 3 part series on his recent adventures. We hope you enjoy it.*

The rest of the lap was somewhat uneventful. We just kept going—“relentless forward progress!”. As one racer passed us he said the fifth lap is awful because you’ve done everything five times and you still have to do it once more before you’re done. He was on the best lap, the sixth one—it is the best because each time you hit one of the harder portions of the trail you get to think and say to yourself, “I don’t have to do that again—you can even give it an obscene gesture if you want!”

Anyway so we finished lap number five. Chad was pretty tired so he stayed there and rested up with plans to run the loop in reverse so he could meet up with me somewhere along the way and then we could finish together. It was just a few minutes after 6 AM when we finished the fourth lap, and it was just a few minutes before noon when I began lap six. Still on pace.

We did some run/walk intervals a bit on the fifth lap to build some extra cushion into the final lap which would probably be needed.

There was still six hours to go, but I didn’t want to have to push it too hard, I’m already sore and tired, and now it’s getting stressful!

With the various shortcuts and his fresher status we assumed that Chad would be meeting me before I was halfway done.

Anyway, I’m on my own again and looking forward to him Chad later on. That’s when the hallucinations started to come hard and often. The first one occurred where I saw the woman with the large dog on the side of the trail that goes down to the first water stop; this time it was a little girl putting up a garage sale sign. I thought it could be real, this part of the trail is an old logging road that leads to a gravel road that I’m sure goes by some farms and rural homes. There could be a garage sale around here somewhere. Makes sense, right?

But once again, this was a tree stump. Earlier, I wrote about trying to find the downhill that goes down to the Sand Coulee area. As I was moving along the trail looking for this and not finding it, I realized that I hadn’t seen any of the orange ribbons along side of the trail for quite a while.

Oh no, am I lost? Now what? I will never finish on time now! Deep down...here’s my excuse...

So I backtrack for a little bit until I found one, touched it to make sure it was real, and then turned around assured that I was on the right trail. I didn’t backtrack much, but it was wasted time, and it took away from my “relentless forward progress” motto.

It still seemed to take a while before I finally found the downhill turn. When I finally found it, there was a young man sitting

with his girlfriend at the top of the hill.

I’m wondering what they’re doing there? Are they suffering as much as I? Maybe I can rest with them a bit before we tackle Sand Coulee, the company would be nice.... Turns out they weren’t doing anything. The young man and his girlfriend were just a couple of bushes. Anyway, when I finally got to the bottom there was an old rusty pickup truck parked off to the side in the woods. Just another large stump on the ground.

I’m about halfway, where is Chad?

Anyway, time to climb up to the Scenic Overlook Trail for the last time. I am not sure if this guy was real or not, but he was sitting on the side of the trail near the top. Shirtless (it was pretty warm again by then) and wearing a hydration pack. I looked down for a bit, and he had moved to the last switchback. He did not reply when I greeted him, but I didn’t stop either. Was he real? I don’t know.

I stopped and admired the view from the top (for the last time!) and continued down the trail. I really like this part of the trail, and just enjoyed slowly trotting along. The next phase that I had to look forward to was my final descent down Ant Hill.

It was really tempting to cut some corners or take some shortcuts that would make the journey a little easier. But, I knew deep down that I wouldn’t/couldn’t do it. Even though nobody would see, I would know that I cheated. So I didn’t. Why even consider it, then?

“Lord help me make it through this!” I prayed.

Anyway, as I’m approaching Ant Hill, I started to imagine taking a short cut along a



Maybe some cold water will keep the hallucinations away?

trail that runs along the ridge that meets up at the top of Paddy’s hill. This would eliminate the descent down Ant Hill and the equally brutal trip up Paddy’s Hill. Nobody would know, maybe if I ...and then I saw a flatbed truck with a wooden gate around the bed filled with about a dozen large propane tanks—the kind that you see at older gas stations in rural areas.

*(continued on page 9)*

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## The View From the Back

(continued from page 8)

To the side of the truck was a farmer and his wife. Both were wearing flannel shirts—that’s weird, it’s kinda hot today, I thought. He was posing next to the truck while his wife was taking photos. He looked very proud. There were others standing behind the truck. There’s no way I can take my shortcut now!

As I turned onto Ant Hill the entire scene disintegrated into the trees and bushes that were always there.

Maybe only five miles to go? I glanced at my phone and it’s getting close to 4:30. About 90 minutes to go.

Normally, on any other day this would not be a big deal. But, today was different. I have been up for roughly 36 hours, and been moving since 8 AM the day before.

Am I going to make it? Everything hurts, I’m tired, and starting to worry. I just want this to be done.

As I got to the bottom of Ant Hill just before making the turn up on Paddy’s Hill I saw a guy come off the road, and he is “sneaking” (high stepping it, elbows out, looking from side to side—did I really just see that?) onto Paddy’s Hill. He just gets on the hill and

starts hiking up, did he just cheat?

That makes me kind of mad!

Maybe it bothered me because earlier on I had thought about doing the exact same thing. At the bottom of the Scenic Overlook Trail there is a road that cuts to where the bottom of Ant Hill and Paddy’s Hill join up. Taking that route cuts a few miles off the route, and eliminates a couple of very tough hills. But, I also knew as soon as I had the thought that if I cheated I would regret it because I would know that I cheated, even if no one else did.

Anyway, I followed him up the hill and did not see him again until I passed him about a mile later just before starting the final “Death March”. He looked like he was in a lower place than I was, no wonder he took a short cut!

Just before leaving the woods, I could see a few people running up the gravel road. What is going on? Maybe they’re aid station workers getting a little exercise?

When I got on the road I notice off on the side in there were three or four people sitting in camp chairs enjoying some cold drinks. Only they weren’t there. More hallucinations.

Even weirder than the hallucinations was the fact that they were coming so often and I did not think it was weird. It just was.

There was a small portable TV on the side of the road that probably should have been a hallucination but wasn’t. It was really there and had been since the first lap. Thankfully, nothing was playing on the TV whenever I saw it. Now, that would have been weird!

One of the aid station workers that was run-



Finishing the “Death March”

ning on the road approached me and asked me if I needed any help to finish this thing.

“I will take any help that you can give!” I replied, grateful for the offer.

We exchanged introductions, her name was Jeannie and she was from Milwaukee. She was here to

“give back to the community”. It seems foolish now, but I had to ask if she was real, I had been seeing too many things that weren’t for the last few hours.

She was real all right. We started down the hill together and she reassured me that we had plenty of time to make it. As long as I crossed the finish line before 6PM, I would

be happy. But Jeannie had other ideas and wanted to push me. She wanted a bigger cushion than I did. Why? I don’t know; she was kind of harsh.

Hey, where was Chad? He should have been here hours ago!

“I can see physically you’re wasted, but mentally you still have something in the tank. Now let’s run to that tree. Not that tree—the next one! Keep going!”

I would have preferred Chad; he would have been nicer to me.

I told Jeannie that I was still expecting him, even though he was late. But, remember my prayer earlier? *(continued on page 10)*

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## The View From the Back

(continued from page 9)

Jeannie was an answered prayer—God gives you what you need, not what you want.

We cross the bridge, for the final time. Now we're now on the last stretch of road before the turn back into the campground and the Finish Line.

"Hey, is that your buddy coming towards us?"

It was Nick and Linda.

"Yes, but not the one I was expecting! Hey, and that's my wife, too!"

I was really happy to see them; seeing Linda was an extra surprise.

But, I was not finished yet, I still had about a half mile to go. Eventually, finally, we see the sign indicating the turn into the campground.

And the Finish Line.

Suddenly, it wasn't hard to run. I trotted into the campground following the line of orange flags to the Finish. As I passed our tents, I noticed my daughter, Katey, sitting out front. She jumped out of the chair and headed to the Finish to meet me.

I didn't expect to see a lot of people there, but some of my crew was there and there were several race volunteers still hanging out. They probably had to stay until everyone was finished.

When I crossed the finish line, I expected elation. But I was too wore out and there was only relief. The people that were still there cheered as I was handed my belt buckle and a wooden race medal was placed around my neck.

Then I had the honor of signing the Zumbro 100 Finishers poster. My name next to the



legends of Zumbro.

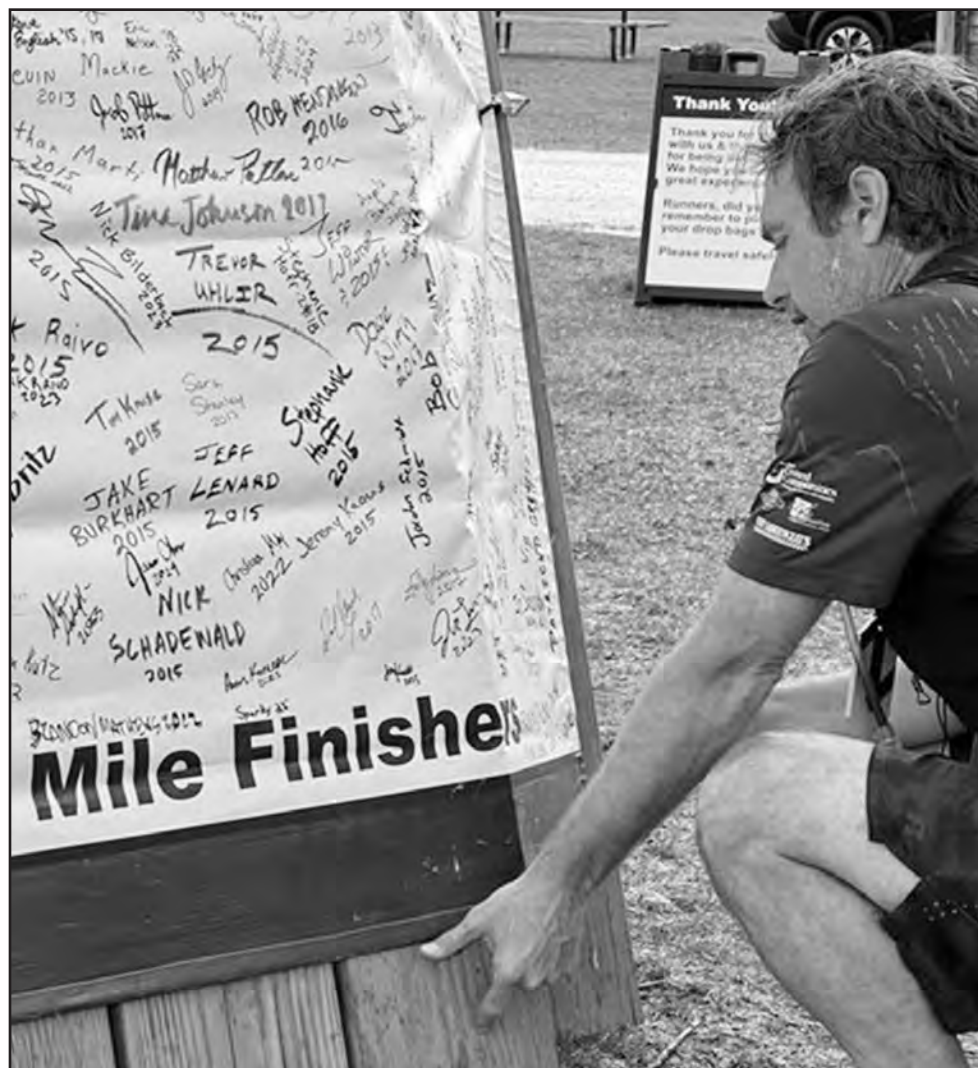
Derrick and Chris waited see me finish. The rest of our group had packed up and left. Chad had fallen asleep—that's why he never met me. He woke up from his nap, and was there too.

Pretty soon Nick and Linda joined us.

I was officially the last finisher. Number 44 out of 69 that started. So, really, technically, not last!

As I conclude, I'm thinking back to my father's question above, "Why the hell do you want to do that?" Well, here's an answer from Dean Karnazes that I really like:

"Western culture has it a little backwards right now. We think that if we have every comfort available to us, we'll be happy. We equate comfort with happiness. And now we're so comfortable, we're miserable. There's no struggle in our lives. No sense of adventure. We get in a car, we get in an elevator, sit at a desk. It's all comes so easy. What I've found is that I'm never more alive than when I'm pushing, and I'm in pain, and I'm struggling. And in that struggle, I think there's a magic."



Adding my name to the 100 Mile Finisher poster. I'm grabbing wood below so I don't fall over.

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## A Successful 2024 Goodhue County Fair for 4-H Members!

By University of Minnesota Extension, Goodhue County

And just like that the Goodhue County Fair has come and gone for another year. With 530 exhibitors, over 900 livestock stalled and 1,400 static projects the fair was very alive. It is always a good feeling when the doors open for general project judging on Monday. 4-Hers and their families filled the building with projects and excitement. On Tuesday, the livestock rolled in and the fairgrounds came to life. 4-Hers could be seen checking animals in, hanging out with their friends, showing poultry, and talking with industry professionals during their livestock interviews. Wednesday was packed full! While the sheep show was taking place in the show arena, local daycares were stopping by interacting with the animals and checking out the 4-H booth. The

day ended in the show arena with the beef show. Thursday morning came and the pig barn was hyped up getting ready for the show! The meat goat exhibitors wrapped up the day with their show. It was a busy Friday morning with both the Dairy Cattle and Rabbit shows and it kept rolling with the Dairy Goat show, Lamb Lead, and Goat Costume Contest later in the afternoon. The annual Livestock Auction took place on Saturday, and it was truly amazing to watch the community come out to support our livestock exhibitors. Goodhue County Arts In members could be found under the white tent putting on a great show throughout the week. 4-H would like to say thank you to everyone who made this year a success. We truly appreciate all of the volunteers, families, and kids who worked for this week all year and made it a success!

With more than 175 screened adult volunteers, 700+ 4-H members and 18 4-H clubs across the county, Goodhue County is ranked one of the largest 4-H programs in Minnesota. To find out more information about 4-H, or to locate a 4-H club in your area, please visit the 4-H website at [extension.umn.edu/local/goodhue](http://extension.umn.edu/local/goodhue), or contact the Goodhue County 4-H Extension Educator, Aly Kloeckner, at the Goodhue County Extension Office at (651) 385-3100 or [schw1348@umn.edu](mailto:schw1348@umn.edu)



Small Animal Supreme Showmanship Participants await the results



Isaac S. talking to the Beef Judge (Dan Fox) about his project



Image 5: Oliver L. shares about his project with Gardening judge Laura Teele



Image 4: Ella D. is all smiles after her heifer class



Judge Jan McNallan gives feedback to Trevin D about his project



Cloverbud Swine Show Participants

## Down on the Farm/ Up at the Cabin Farm Vehicles: More Power!

By  
Monica & Claudia Vanderborcht

It seemed silly to pay someone to plow the 1/3 mile gravel driveway when Monica owned a perfectly good F250 farm truck. (Plowing couldn't be that difficult, could it?) So she bought a plow blade, had the installers give her a quick "How To" for running it, and figured she was good to go.

Now Monica wasn't inexperienced with vehicles: besides driving sedans and minivans in the suburbs, Monica had toured 49 states on a motorcycle. She had also slow-crawled through many back-country trails with her Jeep Wrangler, equipped with an air-actuated front differential locker, big Super Swamper radial tires, and a 4" suspension lift. She had conquered "Baldy" – a steep, sandy hill at a private off-road camp in northern Wisconsin, disemboweling a rear shock while navigating over some large boulders. In Colorado, she negotiated 12-point turns on the old single-lane mountain trails. And at her elementary school, Monica routinely parked at a 45-degree slant on the snowbank. (The kids loved it; the principal hated it).

The most important lesson from the Dakota Dirt Diggers 4WD club (a great bunch of guys who were happy to teach Monica about their favorite hobby) was probably, "If you never get stuck, you're not doing it right." Glorious freedom to make mistakes! Other important lessons were how to avoid getting stuck (usually) and what it took to get unstuck (towstraps, chains, and winches). Yep, thanks to her Dirt Digger buddies, Monica was somewhat fearless behind the controls of farm vehicles.

The first few snowfalls, light and fluffy, were great practice for the plow controls.

Then one beautiful winter day Monica got overzealous plowing around her pole barn and did, indeed, get stuck. (There was a dip in the lawn that she had forgotten about.) The truck had great clearance, but the snow plow frame didn't. Out came the shovel, the high-lift jack (which she had owned for years but never had a reason to use) and the camera (to memorialize the event). Lesson learned: the plow has less clearance than the truck.

It was a great first winter learning to snow-plow! Only a few times did Monica back into a rock-hard snowbank (going too fast). Or get stuck up to the windows in the hard-packed drift snow across the driveway (going too fast). She volunteered to plow out a friend a few times (only once getting so stuck they had to call the tow truck). And she helped plow the church's parking lot – several times pulling vehicles out of ditches (neither going too fast nor getting stuck).

In the spring, Monica ordered several loads of Class V to firm up the driveway and around the barns. The trucks came once the roads were cleared for heavy equipment. After one dump truck dropped its load and was turning around, the rear tires sunk into the soft spring

lawn. The trucker tried, but the tires only spun and sunk deeper into the soft earth. No stranger to stuck vehicles, Monica – friendly and helpful person that she is – offered to help, explaining that she actually had experience pulling vehicles.

Out came her heaviest chains! A quick hook-up between the dump truck and her little F250 – one tug and he was out. Although he probably never shared that story with his buddies over a bottle of beer.

New livestock necessitated new vehicles. Monica purchased a Kubota tractor to move the 1000-pound round bales for the two cattle and a few 700 pound square bales for the six goats. All was good until after a few thaw-freeze-thaw cycles ... Yes, the Kubota could lift a dry round bale without too much trouble. But when the top few inches had absorbed water and the base had become encased in ice – oops! In the end, Monica took the bales apart and fed the cows one scoopful of hay at a time. Lesson learned: store the hay in the pole barn so it doesn't freeze to the ground.

By winter, the farm had grown to 80 chickens, 14 cows, and 10 goats.

Yes, the Kubota could lift a round bale if it was kept in the pole barn over winter, but it was very difficult to maneuver: with the bale in the front and an implement on the back for ballast, the now very-long tractor required multiple-point turns. She dreamt of something that was both stronger and more maneuverable.

Monica started looking for a skidsteer (just what every retired elementary teacher dreams of!) She had never driven one – had never even sat in one – but fearless Monica started shopping. It wasn't too long before she found one, in-budget, and with acceptable hours.

She drove the F250 with 20' trailer up to get it, but made the sales guy drive it onto the trailer (not willing to look foolish with an audience).

The skid loader was perfect – maneuverable, stronger, and more power! The new snow on the driveway was the perfect place to practice. (And so cozy warm in the cab compared to the chilly open seat of the Kubota.) Who knew the skid loader clearance was only 3 inches? Yup, stuck again. (Towing skills certainly come in handy on a farm.) Claudia in the truck, Monica in the loader – it was out in seconds. Another lesson learned!

Remember the Dakota Dirt Digger motto: "If you never get stuck, you're not doing it right." Monica regularly found herself stuck in the mud with the riding lawnmower, stuck on a high rut in the skidloader, stuck in a ditch with the ATV (who put that ditch there by the silo?). Once, trying to deliver a hay bale to the goats, Monica got the skidloader stuck in the snow ... tried to pull it out with the truck but got it stuck, too ... and then fired up the tractor, driving it out of the summer barn (intending to free the truck and skidloader) but got the tractor stuck in the drifted snow. Claudia headed to the garage for the snow shovels.

That spring, Monica was moving a round bale across the yard to the goat pasture. The frost was starting to come out of the ground and it was slippery. Heavy machines make deep mud ruts; low clearance makes heavy



machines stuck. Usually not a big deal. But this time she couldn't go forward, she couldn't go backwards, and she couldn't get out – trapped inside the cab by the round bale! Oops.

Monica enjoys farm vehicles; Claudia not so much. The most helpful thing Claudia could do was phone Heather: a neighbor, stay-at-home mom, and very experienced farmer. As Claudia reached for the phone, it rang – it was Heather! Calling out of the blue! Within minutes she and her kids were at the farm studying the predicament. Her oldest son had just received a winch for Christmas and was really excited to try it out. He winched the bale off the forks and Heather used the forks to push the loader slowly backward.

And Monica drove the skidloader straight back into the barn until the ground was solid again. Lesson learned!

In time, Monica got quite proficient with the skid steer, able to unload the 20 foot trailer full of round bales as if she had been doing it for years. She could load and unload any farm vehicle onto the trailer without assistance (ATVs, tractor, skid loader) – for which Claudia was grateful because just watching the operation scared her silly.

Guys like to brag about their vehicles –

make, model, even the number of cylinders. Let's see: F-250 (10 cylinders), minivan (4), second minivan (6), tractor (3), skidloader (3), mower (4), ATV (4), second ATV (4) – not bad for a suburban gal turned farmer. Not that anyone cares, but the tire count, including all the trailers, was 40.



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## Pesticides Found in Hair Samples, Childhood Chiropractic Care



By Shauna Burshem, D.C.

Using mass spectrometry analysis techniques, researchers in Luxembourg and France detected 69 biomarkers of pollutants and pesticides — 12 of which are banned in the EU — in hair samples from over 200 French children.

This study, published in Environment International, is the first to target over 150 biomarkers in a single hair sample, which “represents the most comprehensive assessment of chemical exposome in humans,” the authors say. This adds more credence to the debate as to whether or not to eat organic foods, foods which are grown without chemicals and pesticides.

A new study published in the British medical journal, Lancet has confirmed that the use of statin drugs for high cholesterol increases the risk of diabetes by 36%. Statins have also been shown to increase risks of cataracts, neurological conditions and certain cancers. Recent research is pointing to insulin resistance

being the primary driver of atherosclerosis, not LDL cholesterol levels. Scientists are recommending a holistic approach to heart health, considering factors beyond cholesterol levels. A Japanese study, published in Scientific Reports (Feb 2024), links the use of statins to pancreatic cancer risks. This study was massive (67,768 participants) and performed over many years and showed a definite increase in pancreatic cancer risk in those who took statins.

Vitamin C is an important nutrient that helps our bodies fight off colds. It has special properties called antiviral and antibacterial properties, which means it can help protect us from germs that make us sick. When we take vitamin C supplements, it boosts our immune system. This makes it easier for our body to fight off infections, so we can get better faster and stay healthy. Taking vitamin C supplements is especially helpful during cold and flu season. They can help reduce the severity of colds and make our symptoms less severe. Plus, vitamin C is easy to find in fruits like oranges and strawberries, but sometimes we don't get enough from food alone. That's why taking a supplement can be a good idea to make sure we have enough to keep our immune system strong. I personally take 1000mg of vitamin C per day. Vitamin C is a staple in our “medicine cabinet” for when our bodies might be coming down with a germ. At the first sign of a symptom, I become proactive and start taking higher doses of C, multiple times per day. When a germ appears, 3000 to 4000 mg every 4 hrs is not an uncommon dosage for me. Usually, one day of high dose C is all I need, as the C will wipe out the germ with its anti-viral, immune system boosting properties. Liposomal vitamin C is the best C to take for high doses, as liposomal C will not cause any gastric distress.

Chiropractic care can be very helpful for children. It focuses on making sure that their spine and nervous system are working properly. This can help improve their overall health by making sure that their bodies can function the best they can. For instance, children who receive chiropractic care may have better posture and fewer problems with back pain. Another great benefit of chiropractic care for kids is that it can help their immune system. When a child's spine is in good shape, their body can fight off infections more easily. Science has researched the connection to immune system function and spinal neural impulse flow. The nervous sys-

tem controls the function of the immune system. This means children might get sick less often and recover faster when they do.

Some kids who see a chiropractor also see fewer ear infections, which are a common problem. Muscle tension in the neck can place pressure on the ear tubes, pushing them more horizontal, which prevents ear fluid from draining. Stagnant ear fluid attracts bacteria which then can lead to infection. Chiropractic adjustments to the neck relaxes the muscles, allowing the tube to “dip” downward, draining the fluid and preventing the ear infection from reoccurring.

Chiropractors can also help prevent and treat issues like scoliosis, which is a condition where the spine curves in an unusual way. This can make a big difference for a child's comfort and health as they grow. Additionally, if a child plays sports, chiropractic care can help them recover from injuries more quickly and even prevent some injuries from happening in the first place. Overall, chiropractic care is a great way to support the health and well-being of children.

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

## Magnesium



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS  
Licensed Nutritionist

Benjamin Franklin is quoted as saying, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” When talking about the impact of magnesium on your health, this is especially true. Magnesium is the sixth most abundant mineral in your body and is involved in more than 300 essential chemical reactions to keep your body active and healthy. The healthy adult male requires 420 milligrams per day, while the healthy adult female requires 320 milligrams per day. This small amount is not even one-tenth of an ounce, and yet about 75% of Americans are deficient in daily magnesium.

Your body will begin to show symptoms when it is missing essential nutrients because these nutrients are the original building blocks used to make your body. While medication may lessen a symptom for a season, the only true way to eliminate that symptom is to identify the necessary ingredients your body is signaling to receive. So what are some symptoms that may indicate your body is not getting enough magnesium?

Osteoporosis – More than 10 million Americans are experiencing decreased bone density. While many assume or have been told to take calcium supplements, this is not sufficient. Magnesium is needed to transport calcium where it needs to go in the body, and magnesium is also a component of strong bone tissue. Long term magnesium deficiency is associated with decreased bone density.

Restless Leg Syndrome – a nerve condition that can produce unwanted leg movements that decrease the quality of sleep each night. Magnesium is a critical mineral for proper nerve activity. Deficiency of magnesium can result in improper communication between the brain and muscles

resulting in leg twitches and uncontrolled muscle responses. Restless leg symptoms have been decreased with consistent magnesium supplementation.

Diabetes – is becoming one of the leading health concerns in the United States. More than 1/3 of the population is challenged with effective control of blood sugar. Magnesium is an essential mineral to aid in the effective control of blood sugar. Magnesium helps the cells of the body to respond quickly to insulin. Without magnesium, cells become insulin resistant and will not absorb the sugar molecule the insulin is bringing to the cell.

High Blood Pressure – The body is having difficulty relaxing partly because of a lack of nutrients that will help the body to relax. Magnesium and potassium are two essential minerals the body will use to relax. Magnesium helps muscles to relax. Both the heart and the blood vessel muscles need magnesium to be able to relax. When an individual is brought to the Emergency Room with a heart attack, magnesium will be one of the first supplements provided to help get the heart muscle in a more relaxed state.

Additional conditions associate with magnesium deficiency include: vertigo, constipation, heart arrhythmia, anxiety and panic attacks, depression, brain fog, migraine headaches, and colon cancer. According to Dr. Norman Shealy, “Every known illness is associated with a magnesium deficiency. Magnesium is the most critical mineral required for electrical stability of every cell in the body. A magnesium deficiency may be responsible for more diseases than any other nutrient.”

Magnesium rich food sources are necessary to help you keep a healthy balance in this stressful time we live in. Avoid processed foods that do not have any magnesium in them. Choose almonds, cashews, and pumpkin seeds, as well as black beans, lima beans, and quinoa. Magnesium is rich in seeds and in dark green leafy vegetables. Therefore, kale, spinach, and collard greens will be good sources of magnesium. There is no danger of overconsuming magnesium from food sources.

Contact me to discuss your health goals for 2024. I can help you reach those health goals with whole food plans customized to your specific needs. You can contact me at nutritionproportion@gmail.com, or check out my website at www.nutritionproportion.net

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- Bobcat 553 Skid Loader, 1437 Hrs, Cab, Dsl, 48" Bucket
- '12 Featherlite 20' x 7' Gooseneck Livestock Trl, All Aluminum, 7K Tandem Axles, Very Nice
- Skid Loader Attachments, Bale Spear, Pallet Forks, Grapple Fork
- 3pt., Post Hole Auger
- Cattle Grooming Chute
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- ~ Polaris UTV, JD Lawn Mower, PJ Flatbed Trailer, Tools, Related Items ~
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## Fabrication Business Relocates to West Concord

By Tyler Weeks

With the metal fabrication industry expected to grow almost 5% by 2028, there is a rising demand for manufactured goods in construction, automotive, and aeronautics. While these sectors are essential for the growth of the metal industry, they must adapt to the increasing need for sustainability. Through companies pooling their efforts into minimizing waste and reducing energy consumption, they can continue this upward trend while leaving little to no carbon footprint.

One of the companies contributing to a greener practice is Minnesota Implement, the best source for custom skid loader and skid steer attachments in the West Concord community. Due to the freedom of their smaller shop, they can offer attachments custom-made for any construction vehicle, providing you with something perfectly fitted for your needs. Just send one of your current attachments to them to copy and resize through a process that brings excess material to a minimum and runs less than 5% non-usable waste. Practices like these contribute to a more sustainable metal industry for Minnesota- keeping our state green in the process.

The company has used American-made products since their release in 1998 but has worked in the landscaping industry for over fifty years. With experienced workers in welding, manufacturing, and fabrication, they specialize in attachments such as the Buckthorn Tree and Post Puller. Clearing land for agriculture has never been easier, as removing a tree or pole is as simple as ripping it out by its base. Their guarantee of providing the perfect attachment for any vehicle doesn't just apply to Buckthorn Pullers- lightweight and durable snow plows, grapple buckets to clear logs and debris, trench

diggers, hoe arms, grading planers, rakes, forks, and trailer hitches are all available through their website.

With such a vast selection of products, it's crucial to have a straightforward process of planning, building, and bringing the item into customers' hands to ensure the smoothest buying experience. After interviewing the company about their manufacturing process, it was clear that several steps outline this crucial part of fabrication.

What is your process of creating products, from receiving an order to putting it in the hands of a customer?

Minnesota Implement: Most of our equipment comes from a deep understanding of the product and how we can have it function to the best of the client's needs. When a customer comes to us with a unique idea or project, we refine their idea using decades of experience to turn it into the best product possible.

90% of our production process is done on-site, from the raw steel stock to cutting, ma-



chining, welding, painting, and assembling the order. Only the rolling process of our plow skin backboard and a few laser-cut parts are outsourced.

The design process is done entirely on paper and by fabrication and refinement. Being hands-on, our company doesn't use any computer design in our manufacturing process. A laser cutter would help speed up our operations, but it isn't a high priority at our production level.

Which of your products is the most popular?

Snow plows and tree pullers are the bulk of our orders, with our total yearly production rate at around 200 to 270 units. While other market offerings focus only on efficiency, we specifically develop our designs to maximize fit and function for the client.

You used to have one location in Afton and the other in West Concord. What is the history behind them, and what differentiates the two stores?

We started fabricating equipment in 1998, operating under the original name of Koeckeritz Iron and Steel. Since it didn't fully represent what our company does, we rebranded to Minnesota Implement Inc. in 2014. Our original shop in Afton was a 600 sq ft addition on the side of my dad's pole building, which functioned very well for us as a two-person operation. However, its size severely limited the ability to grow our business and take on larger contracts.

In 2019, our wish to expand the shop came true after purchasing the old hardware store on 207 Main St. in West Concord. From there, we would operate out of both locations, keeping daily fabrication work at Afton and making West Concord our dealer lot, warehouse, and alternate workshop. The "5-year plan" was to eventually build or buy a house in West Concord and fully move the

business there.

Fortunately, Minnesota Implement's took shape before COVID hit when they bought a home in West Concord. Due to the small size of their shop, the pandemic seemed to benefit them, and they grew impressively despite the economic turmoil. While larger businesses were forced to shut down, their company was considered

essential amidst the struggling time. In 2022, a welding shop bought on the other end of the block was the final puzzle piece they needed to complete their operations. With its purchase, they successfully moved their shop to West Concord and now work there full-time.

Our 3-year growth plan is to get the old hardware store set up and functioning as a dealer lot, showroom, and distribution center. The fabrication shop on 268 Main will grow from 3 workers to an 8 to 12 full-time employee operation. We are now seeking dealers and investors to help us with this next stage of our evolution. (Minn. Implement)

If you want to help make this plan a reality, need a new attachment for your vehicle, or a custom order like the eight-foot metal dog they built for a client's park, contact Minnesota Implement at 651-269-5688 or check out their website! They'll turn the ideas in your head or scribble on a napkin into something functional and beautiful.

While companies like Minnesota Implement are making great strides toward a more sustainable society, they can only do so much. That's not to say supporting your local businesses does nothing, but a massive part of keeping our community green depends on us. It's up to the people to do their part, conserve excess energy and power, limit disposable items and food waste, and, most importantly- make their impact sustainable.



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## That's the Latest Party Lines and Polkas



**By Emery Kleven**

*Emery is now a retired farm broadcaster after starting at KDHL in Faribault in 1987. He's a 1971 graduate of West Concord High School. You can view past columns at his website RoadFarming.com. You can email him at emery@roadfarming.com.*

This month I want to start off with a thank you to Todd Montgomery for his kind words in a letter to the editor last month. Todd and

I go back more years than we care to count. Back in the day, our telephones were on a party line. There were 8 or 9 farm families that were on our particular party line stretching from the Montgomery's on the east end to the Wenzel's on the west end. My earliest recollection and this can be verified from an old phone book in the WCHS Museum, we all had short numbers. The Kleven number for several years was 2106. Then, on the same party line, the numbers changed to either 305 or 325 with a letter behind them. Ours went to 305L. If I recall, without referring to the old phone book, the west end of the party line including the Klevens, Wenzels and Envals, were in the 305 zone while from the Johnsons to the Montgomerys were 325.

Eventually we ended up with the 7 digit numbers starting with 527 for West Concord. I don't know if the 507 area code was used when we had to short numbers. I do remember it was long distance to call Kenyon and it cost more to call long distance. My mom would talk really fast if she had to call all the way to Kenyon. It's long distance you know! Even Skyberg was long distance back then.

I try to explain this to my kids and grandkids and I might as well describe it in Nor-

wegian because they'd understand just as much. Grandkids especially; 'You mean you didn't keep your phone in your pocket?' I tell them you couldn't even take it into the next room. I remember when we got a longer cord that would stretch about 15 feet. That's when I thought phones went mobile. My mom thought it was great as she could go from the sewing machine, which was always about 4 feet from the phone, all the way to the stove to check on things in the oven without having to end her conversation, unless of course she was talking long distance, then she'd say 'I think my pot roast is burning, bye!'

I do have to correct Todd on one point. My radio career did take to many places from the White House to Australia and I did talk with and interview many people whose names you would recognize but I did not get sophisticated. Not even close. I'm just a farm kid who took an off the farm job but never lost my roots.

My wife Mary Pat and I have been organizing and preparing for a dance at the WC Historical Society gym on October 19th as part of the 30th Anniversary celebration this year at the WCHS. It's going to be one of those old fashioned type dances that were very common in years gone by with polkas, schottisches and waltzes. If you like danc-

ing to live music, you will not want to miss this event. Mary Pat is in her final year of being President of the Minnesota State Fiddler's Association and they are co-sponsoring this event.

In all of our planning I got thinking back to the first time I danced on that gym floor. I was in Mrs. Stukel's 4th grade class. We were being taught square dancing. Our class actually got to be pretty good at dosey doeing around the floor. I think we all liked it because it was more fun than arithmetic. Another time I recall dancing in the old elementary gym was for a talent show the school had one night during my senior year in high school. 4 or 5 of us guys from the basketball team including Wayne Miller, Matt Fellows and Bruce Bjerke, thought it would be a good idea to be up on stage and pretend we're singing Ike and Tina Turner's Proud Mary while doing a choreographed dance. That ended my dancing career in the gym. Now it's being revived in October. I'm getting more dancing instructions, this time from Mary Pat. The first lesson learned was that we don't Dosey Doe during a polka, at least not on purpose. We'll see how the night goes. I was never sophisticated and I was never light on my feet when it came to dancing. Mark your calendar and be looking for more details on the October 19th West Concord Dance



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West Concord Historical Society

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[www.fiddlemn.com/west-concord-dance](http://www.fiddlemn.com/west-concord-dance)

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*Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of The Messenger.*

**To the Editor:**

Thank you to all the local businesses, individuals and neighboring businesses who sponsored the 2024 Kenyon Rose Fest Old Car and Truck Show. There were \$5,710.00 in donations in addition to three \$100.00 gift cards given for the show. Every hour there were four to ten tickets drawn for \$100.00 cash prizes from the sponsors and a \$500.00 cash prize was drawn at the end of the show. The generosity and support from the Kenyon community is amazing! The car show banner and free donuts and bottled water were donated by local businesses for the car show participants. We had 181 entries in the show. The car show participants donated 150.2# of food in addition to giving cash donations to our local food shelf. They also supported the breakfasts and lunches that were being served and shopped the local stores and the vendors booths which were set up. A special thank you to Lee Sjolander for announcing the car show winners and for promoting all of the sponsors and for keeping the music going. Thank you also to everyone else who helped the day of the show. The car show would not have taken place without the support of all of the sponsors, so again THANK YOU to each one of you!

Sincerely,  
Bob & Helen Peterson  
Kenyon

**A Change For The Better  
KW Public Schools**

In 1989, two Kenyon School Board members, unbeknownst to their board member colleagues, would forget about who they represented. One a business owner of farm equipment and the other one a doctor of farm animals in the Kenyon and Wanamingo area, they would not only step away from their legal responsibility and meet privately with the Wanamingo School Board Chairman and his board member colleagues, but a subsequent display of unprofessional behavior would cost further discussion with the West Concord School Board. When all was said and done, these two events would lead to the eventual merger of two school districts that has now cost Kenyon tax payers millions of dollars.

In 1995, there was another group of Kenyon School Board members trying their best to restore what had once been one of the finest school districts in Minnesota. As a recently consolidated school district with Wanamingo (1994), they attempted to establish a state-of-the-art PreK-12 facility in the Bombay area. But here is where a miscalculation was made. You see, the referendum that was called for required a yes vote from each community. Unlike today, when the votes will be a combined total, Kenyon voted YES and Wanamingo voted an overwhelming (84%) NO. While Kenyon was willing to give up their buildings to create something special for our children, Wanamingo was not so inclined. And the rest is history.

Today, the KW School District finds itself in serious trouble. After a long series of misguided school board decisions, we no longer find ourselves one of the elite schools in Southeastern Minnesota. As a matter of fact, it is for this reason that a petition has been drawn up that will hopefully give the tax payers a second chance to rectify the problem before it gets any worse. Made after considerable consideration, and with the foreknowledge that the Kenyon site can best accommodate the entire student body as we currently know it, the petition reads as follows:

*Whereas Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools is in Statutory Operation Debt in the amount of 1.5 million dollars; and whereas Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools has been forced to borrow an additional 3 million dollars for Cash Flow Purposes; and whereas Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools has been forced to pay \$43,000.00 for a one year Insurance Premium with a million dollar deductible for the Wanamingo site; and whereas a school board member has indicated that the Upgrade of the Wanamingo Site could be 4 million dollars; and whereas Student Attendance Numbers have shown a steady decline since we consolidated in 1994; and whereas Student Achievement continues to be substandard; and whereas we can no longer afford a Two Site Model, we the undersigned are petitioning the Kenyon-Wanamingo School Board to hold a Special Election, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 205A.05, subd, 1, for the express purpose of*

*closing the Wanamingo site and creating a single PreK-12 site in the City of Kenyon, Minnesota beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.*

Ladies and gentlemen, as I sit here today I can make no long-range predictions for the future, On the other hand, after 50 years in both public and higher education, I know we can no longer afford to support the habits of the current school board. This is not about a building but, rather, a civic responsibility with the future of our school district and its students at stake.

Therefore, and with the hope that you appreciate the gravity of the situation, I would like to set aside a time to allow the school district's tax payers the chance to sign a petition whereby 'the school board shall by resolution call a special election to vote on any matter requiring approval of the voters of a district.' With a "magic number" of 259 signatures, I have scheduled a petition signing forum at the Kenyon Community Center for Saturday, September 21, 2024, beginning at 10:00 A.M. I hope to see you there.

Finally, let the record show that these problems could have been avoided if the school board and its leadership team had taken the aforementioned circumstances more seriously. In the end, it should have been about our children and grandchildren rather than the preservation of an 85 years old building that needs to be retired from use for school purposes.

Dr. James Russell Lehman, KHS '63  
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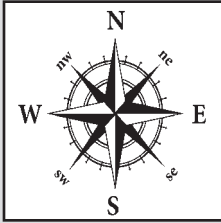
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## Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Vacation Homes and Winter



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.*



I built our home on Kentucky Lake in 2021. I had purchased the land a few years earlier but kind of left it alone while we worked on other projects. I hadn't scoped out the property before purchasing it, because it was sort of an impulse buy. I was quite surprised to find it was right over the hill from the lake. Once the leaves came off the trees, I could see the water.

As I started to rough in the structure I began to fall in love with the area. It was peaceful and so quiet. There was nobody around. Just my neighbor Gloria and her two beautiful Golden retrievers who came by every day to visit. She lived about a half mile up the road and would drive her golf cart over so see the crazy longhaired guy building a house all by himself. These were all rich people who hire everything done. I think they were intrigued by the working class in action.

What I learned with time was that all these houses along the lake were summer homes for most of the owners. Big beautiful homes. Million-dollar properties with \$150,000 boats sitting in a shed next to the house. All vacant during the winter. After I finished the house and we were living there, I would walk the dog up to the lake and along the road where all these fancy, empty homes were lo-

cated. About one in ten had a resident. They did show up over Christmas and New Year and then vanished again. The year-round residents soon became our friends. They are always happy to visit when I go by. John at the end of Dogwood mows our lawn and trims weeds all summer. He makes a living mowing everyone's lawn in the area. Harry is a retired farmer from Illinois, who lives about a mile down the road from us. He has a John Deere tractor with a loader. He loaded the logs on my trailer, landscaped our property and bladed gravel for our driveways. Bob and Linda live across the valley from us and keep an eye on our house when we are gone.

Building this house down by the lake was relaxing for me. I would work on the newspaper all morning online and then drive over from our small farm by Dover, to build all afternoon. A half-hour drive each way. The hardware store in Dover was also a lumber yard so I could pick up supplies on the way for each day. The only downside was that the pandemic panic had driven the price of lumber sky high. I was paying \$9 per 2x4, during 2021. Pretty shocking to haul \$1,000 of

lumber to the building site each day. Fortunately, I had drawn up the plans for the house two years prior and I had purchased all the exterior log siding and interior rustic pine tongue and groove lumber while prices were good, and they were stored on the car trailer in the pole shed on the farm.

My plan had been to spend a couple winters completing this project and enjoy the summers in Minnesota. But the spring of 2022 ushered in an overheated housing market and when my wife listed our hobby farm outside of Dover, she had an offer in four days. Suddenly I was going to finish a house in four months, or we wouldn't have a winter home to go to. I worked from 6am to 10pm seven days a week. Just like farming, only I was quite a lot older now. July and August are quite hot in Tennessee, everyday can reach 100 degrees. I got the house buttoned up before we closed on the old one and

then spent the rest of the year finishing the interior.

Back to the million-dollar mansions on the lake shore. We got in the habit of driving the golf cart for miles along the waterfront roads each day with the dogs. Smaller gravel roads lead away from the paved roads and down these little paths you find a different life. Old run-down shacks where the hillbilly's live looking right out of a century ago. Some you wouldn't think were habitable but the lights were on. Most were surrounded by years of junk and trash. We have seen houses with so much garbage in front of the door, one can hardly get through. It is sad to find that within a mile from the most affluent lifestyle was a most depressing and primitive one. Most of these were home to people with no motivation to pick up after themselves or try and improve their lifestyle. The locals call them hillbilly's.

## A Minnesotan: State Fair



By RosaLin Alcoser

The Minnesota State Fair is something to look forward to with great anticipation.

Unless you are one of the Minnesotans, like me, who did not think through living near the State Fair grounds before moving there.

For everyone else it is a time to be excited about. From the farm exhibitions, 4-H projects, musicians, to the rides everyone has something to look forward to at the fair. The thing I have heard most about this year has been the food from my

co-workers. Mostly about the variety of things that have been deep fried. The most heavily discussed one has been the new deep fried ranch dressing that has been there this year. While no one I have spoken to has actually tried this it has been one of the more curious deep fried foods I have ever heard of.

While I did not go this year I have gone before in years. My favorite trip to the Minnesota State Fair was the year we went as soon as the gates opened. Which is really the ideal time to go to the fair.

That year we had a great parking spot at the fairgrounds and got in before it started getting crowded. We had a great time walking around before everything was open drinking coffee from the Farmers of America stand while eating mini-donuts. If you have never had mini-donuts for breakfast I would highly recommend doing so.

By the time we had been there roughly eight hours we were tired of the fair and ready to go at about 1PM or 2PM. Which is just about the time the fair really starts to get overly crowded in my opinion. We had seen all of the attractions we had wanted to see and tried all the fun fair foods we had gone for. Making a perfect trip to the State Fair.

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## Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,  
Minnesota State Patrol



**Question:** I heard the Minnesota State Patrol got a new design for our patches and squad cars. Can you talk about that?

**Answer:** You are correct. For the first time in more than 50 years, the Minnesota State Patrol has a new look.

Last year when the Minnesota Legislature approved a replacement design for the Minnesota seal and flag, State Patrol leaders took note.

“That decision presented us with a unique opportunity to create something different to represent our division and culture within the State Patrol and its staff throughout the state,” said Col. Christina Bogojevic, chief of the Minnesota State Patrol.

A working group made up of 13 sworn and non-sworn members of the State Patrol worked for four months with a design agency to come up with and refine the new design. “We wanted something that represented the strong history and legacy of our division, something that is identifiable with the state of

Minnesota, all while giving it a more modern update. The redesign was an opportunity for us to create something highlighting our pride in serving Minnesota,” said Lt. Col. Jeremy Geiger, who led the group.

The new look — with heavy ties to symbolism — reflects the values and history of the State Patrol. The North Star — a four-pointed star and the same one used on the redesigned state seal — represents the cardinal directions, just as we serve Minnesotans to the north, south, east and west. The Mississippi River, abundant in its contribution to our state and serving as a critical artery for transportation, lends itself to our role of maintaining and securing an efficient transportation network and connecting with others. The Norway pines, the state tree of Minnesota, underscore the steadfast and reliable commitment of the State Patrol, working for Minnesotans 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through all seasons, all year long.

The new look for the State Patrol isn’t just a redesigned patch on our troopers’ shoulders. It includes badges, hats, squads, license plates, buttons on uniforms, signage and so much more. In fact, there are more than 188,000 pieces of equipment that will need to be updated with the new design. State Patrol leadership is prioritizing updates on squad cars and uniforms, and being diligent about updating items where they were already scheduled to be replaced. To complete the whole process will take somewhere from six to nine months and an estimated \$4 million.

**Question:** With back to school starting, can you talk about school patrol safety?



**Answer:** When you see a student safety patrol helping children cross a street or highway, you must come to a complete stop. You must also stop for adult crossing guards displaying a stop sign or flag. It is illegal to drive through a line of children crossing the road, even if a school safety patrol is not present. Violating this law is a misdemeanor. A second violation within a year is a gross misdemeanor.

**Question:** Hello, we took a trip to the cities this summer. While down there we came across these freeway ramp meters. I know we don’t have those in out-state Minnesota but I thought you might be able to write about it in one of your articles for anyone that travels. Thank you for all you do and be safe!

**Answer:** Thank you. I don’t believe this is a topic I’ve wrote about before but I’d be happy to do so.

Ramp meters are signal lights on freeway entrance ramps that help control the flow of merging traffic. Like traffic signals at intersections, red, yellow, and green lights indicate when drivers can proceed. Only one car may proceed each time the light is green.

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You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson – Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

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## Plan Ahead to Avoid Speeding

As the new school year kicks off for many across the state, the roads will get busier with parents and caregivers rushing to drop kids off – and make it to work on time. If drivers don’t plan ahead, juggling new morning routines can lead to speeding!

Planning for the new routine is crucial to avoid the potential speeding that often comes with the morning rush. Start by organizing everything the night before – pick out clothes, pack lunches, and be sure that backpacks are ready to go.

- Being prepared will help eliminate the need to speed.
- Know your route.
- Leave a few minutes early.
- Account for potential delays like traffic or bad weather.

Planning ahead will allow drivers to slow down, put distractions away, and stay focused on the road to ensure everyone gets to school and work safely. Together, we can drive Minnesota toward zero deaths.





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# U.S. Senators Tina Smith, Amy Klobuchar Announce Historic Expansions of Clean Energy Across Rural Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, MN – Last week, U.S. Senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar (both D-Minn.), announced historic funding for clean, reliable and low-cost energy across rural Minnesota. Three rural electric cooperatives with operations in the state will receive funding to deploy clean energy or make energy efficiency improvements. More cooperatives are expected to receive funding in the coming months.

Minnesota’s electric cooperatives provide electricity to nearly one-third of the state. Senator Smith was instrumental in securing this funding for rural electric co-ops through her work on the clean energy provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act.

The three cooperatives selected that operate in Minnesota are:

### Dairyland Power Cooperative (Southeast Minnesota)

This \$573 million investment will support eight wind and solar power installations across rural Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois.

Dairyland’s electric rates are estimated to be 42 percent lower over 10 years than they would have been without this funding

### Great River Energy (Southern, Central, and Northeast Minnesota)

Great River Energy will produce 1,275 megawatts of energy across rural portions of Minnesota and North Dakota.

These investments are estimated to create over 1,600 short and long-term jobs, reduce costs by \$30 million on average annually, and reduce carbon emissions by over 5.49 million tons each year.

### Minnkota Power Cooperative (Northwest Minnesota)

This investment will support Minnkota

Power Cooperative’s carbon capture and storage project (Project Tundra) in addition to 370 megawatts of wind energy in North Dakota.

These projects will create hundreds of short- and long-term jobs, while providing environmental benefits to rural consumers in Minnesota and North Dakota. This proposal will reduce greenhouse gas pollution by 4.3 million tons, the equivalent pollution of 1 million cars each year.

“The clean energy transition is here, and we can either lead or follow. I want Minnesota to lead, and with this announcement, we will,” said Senator Smith. “With this investment, cooperatives can unleash clean energy in a way that works best for their communities. This will fight climate change. This will lower energy costs. And this will strengthen our energy security and resilience by ensuring our rural communities continue to have safe, reliable and clean, American-made energy for years to come.”

“Domestically produced renewable power strengthens our energy independence and boosts rural economies,” said Senator Klobuchar. “These Empowering Rural America Program grants will lower rural energy costs, create good paying jobs, and support renewable energy projects in Minnesota and across the country.”

“Dairyland Power Cooperative is honored to receive this New ERA award, which provides Dairyland and our member cooperatives with a tremendous opportunity to continue making vital investments in essential clean energy resources,” said Dairyland Power Cooperative President and CEO Brent Ridge. “Through a carefully cultivated port-

folio of renewable energy projects, New ERA will drive substantial carbon reduction across the Dairyland system, facilitate new economic growth and job creation, promote environmental stewardship and lower energy costs for rural and agricultural communities.”

“Our consortium laid out an innovative portfolio of projects and power purchase agreements that will benefit cooperative members across Minnesota,” said Great River Energy President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau. “The projects in our New ERA proposal will allow us to procure more than 1,000 megawatts of renewable energy while creating over 1,500 new jobs, saving our members \$30 million on average annually, reducing carbon dioxide emissions by over 5 million tons and creating a host of benefits across the communities we serve.”

“As we enter one of the most transformational periods in our industry’s history, the New ERA program represents a positive opportunity for our membership and many oth-

ers across rural America,” said Minnkota President and CEO Mac McLennan. “We are grateful to continue forward as we pursue development of Project Tundra – a bold carbon capture initiative in North Dakota – as well as the advancement of 370 megawatts of new wind energy resources in the state. New ERA helps not-for-profit cooperatives like Minnkota more cost-effectively decarbonize power supply portfolios, while retaining a reliable and resilient electric grid for the members we serve.”

The program, dubbed the Empowering Rural America (or New ERA) program, was partially inspired by Senator Smith’s Flexible Financing for Rural America Act. Both Senators have pushed to deliver rural clean energy investments for Minnesota through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). To date, over 168 grants for farms and small businesses to install clean energy and energy efficiency technology through REAP.

# BRAD FINSTAD

Proudly Serving the 1st District of Minnesota

## Finstad Releases Statement on Subpoena of Governor Walz, USDA Officials

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Last week, House Education and the Workforce Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) issued a subpoena for Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, requesting additional documents regarding the mismanagement of funds resulting in the Feeding Our Future fraud scheme.

Along with Governor Walz, the Committee issued subpoenas for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack, USDA Inspector General Phyllis Fong, and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Commissioner Willie Jett.

“The Biden-Harris Administration and the Walz Administration oversaw the exploitation of \$250 million in child nutrition program funds, resulting in the largest COVID-19 fraud scheme in the nation,” said Rep. Finstad “This egregious mismanagement of funds meant to feed hungry children should have never happened, and we must ensure that it never happens again. I commend Chairwoman Foxx for issuing these subpoenas and providing the American people the transparency they deserve.”

Last week’s action continues ongoing congressional oversight efforts beginning in 2022 by Rep. Finstad, alongside House Education and the Workforce Chairwoman Virginia Foxx, Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn “G.T.” Thompson, and Oversight and Accountability Chairman James Comer, as well as the Republican members of the Minnesota delegation, including:

A September 30, 2022, letter sent to Secretary Vilsack requesting documents related to improper payments administered by USDA’s Food & Nutrition Service (FNS).

After more than six months passed with no response from the administration, Rep. Finstad questioned Secretary Vilsack at a House Agriculture Committee hearing about USDA’s lack of oversight into its child nutrition programs and again requested USDA respond to the September 2022 request for information on the lack of oversight in FNS programs that led to the alleged Feeding Our Future fraud.

A July 20, 2023, letter to Secretary Vilsack reiterating their September 2022 request for USDA to provide information and documents related to the mismanagement of its child nutrition programs.

A November 14, 2023, letter to Governor Walz and MDE Commissioner Jett requesting all documentation related to MDE’s oversight of Feeding Our Future.

A June 12, 2024, letter to Governor Walz and MDE Commissioner Jett requesting all communications between MDE and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, USDA, or the Office of the Governor of Minnesota, among other communications.

Additionally, Rep. Finstad introduced H.R. 4786, the Feeding Children Not Fraudsters Act, which would audit any cases of COVID-related fraud through USDA child nutrition programs.

To date, the Department of Justice (DOJ) has charged 70 individuals for allegedly exploiting \$250 million in pandemic-era relief funds fraudulently obtained by Feeding Our Future, a Minnesota-based nonprofit organization participating in the Federal Child Nutrition Program.

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KENYON VFW POST 141 HAPPY HOUR: Monday-Saturday from 4-7 PM DAILY SPECIALS BURGER TUESDAY 5:30-7:30pm WEDNESDAY WINGS 6:00-8:00pm FRIDAY NIGHT MEAT RAFFLE 6:00-8:00pm Tap Specials NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Conrad Osthum Post 141 Veterans of Foreign Wars 601 2nd Street, Kenyon, MN • 507-789-5691 PULL TABS AVAILABLE! Lic. #G-00019-004

## Kenyon City Council Meeting August 20, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 20th day of August 2024. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henke.

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

Also present: Interim Administrator Frank Boyles, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Engineer Derek Olinger, Public Works Director Wayne Ehrich, City Attorney Joe Sathe, Officer Brian Homeier, Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### CITIZEN COMMENT

#### ADOPT AGENDA

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

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Helgeson seconded by Bailey to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers 76246 through 76288; 5048E through 5144E. Motion carried 4-0-0.

### PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS ENGINEERING

#### 2025 Street and Utility Improvements

Engineer Olinger stated the preliminary design and survey work for the 2025 street and utility project has started. Sewers have been televised and soil borings are complete. The preliminary report should be ready for review at the September council meeting.

#### Pearl Creek & Gates Avenue Utility Improvements

Engineer Olinger stated that the lift-station is operational. There are just a few minor control issues to be resolved.

#### Pay Application #7 to BCM Construction

Motion by Helgeson second by Bailey to approve pay request No. 7 to BCM Construction in the amount of \$335,092.09 for work completed through August 9, 2024. Motion carried 4-0-0.

### LEGAL

#### OLD BUSINESS

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### Revised Policy #7 – Employee Evaluation

Interim Administrator Boyles stated that administrative policy #7 was revised to add that yearly reviews are to be done in October, which will help ensure that job descriptions are kept up to date so that our compensation and classification plan remains accurate.

Motion Bailey seconded by Sjolander to approve revised administrative policy #7 contingent on review by the city attorney. Motion passed 4-0-0.

#### Approve Administrative Policy #34 – Purchasing

Interim Administrator Boyles stated that administrative policy #34 reviews ethics with vendors, purchasing process, purchasing alternatives, cooperative purchasing organizations, and a variety of other purchasing topics. This policy will help make purchasing decisions as regulated by Minnesota Statutes Section 471.345.

Motion Helgeson seconded by Henke to approve administrative policy #34, contingent

on review by the city attorney. Motion passed 4-0-0.

#### Approve Administrative Policy #35 – Fixed Asset Record System

Interim Administrator Boyles stated that administrative policy #35 establishes a standard system of control for all city fixed assets in compliance with CASB 34 requirements.

Motion Bailey seconded by Helgeson to approve administrative policy #35, contingent on review by the city attorney. Motion passed 4-0-0.

#### Approve Classification and Compensation Plan for Kenyon

Interim City Administrator Boyles reviewed the proposed employee compensation plan. The council questioned why the police were not shown on the presented plan. It was determined that the police had their own salary schedule. This item was tabled until the police schedule could be reviewed.

#### TIF 4-4 Fund Transfer

Interim City Administrator Boyles stated that when the 2004 Sunset Home TIF 4-4 was decertified in 2022, there was a remaining fund balance of \$17,611.98. These funds will be returned to Goodhue County to be redistributed.

#### Resolution 2024-19:

##### Committing Capital Fund Balances

Interim City Administrator Boyles stated that the auditors had recommended the closing of four funds with remaining balances, which are no longer active. This item was tabled to verify what the COVID CARES Act Funds could be used for.

#### Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

EDA Meeting: Tuesday, August 27 @ 8:00 a.m.

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 10 @ 7 p.m.

### COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL COMMENTS

Council Member Helgeson thanked everyone who worked at Rose Fest and everyone who came out.

Council Member Sjolander thanked city staff for their work at Rose Fest and the vendors who came to the event.

Council Member Bailey thanked everyone for their work on Rose Fest.

Mayor Henke stated that Rose Fest went very well. He thanked Kim and her family for their work and Wayne and public works.

Interim City Administrator Boyles stated that the administrator search has been posted and is on our website. The consultant will be providing updated reports weekly.

Motion by Bailey seconded by Helgeson to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant  
Douglas Henke, Mayor

### City of Wanamingo Regular EDA Meeting Monday August 12, 2024 6:00 P.M.

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

**PRESENT:** Brian Gudknecht, Ryan Holmes, Laurie Musselman, and Josh Schaefer

**ABSENT:** Annette Fritz, Becky Haugen, and Jim Kittelson

**ALSO PRESENT:** Michael Boulton.

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

Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**ADOPT AGENDA:** Holmes motioned, seconded by Schaefer to adopt. Approved 4-0-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Schaefer motioned, seconded by Musselman to approve. Approved 4-0-0.

**PRESENTERS:** None

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**Resolution 24-06 - Adopting a Proposed Budget for the Wanamingo EDA Accounts for the Fiscal Year of 2025.** Schaefer moved to approve, seconded by Musselman.

Administrator Boulton provided an update of 2025 proposed changes to the income and expenses for account numbers 251, 206, 331, and 604. Discussion took place on the budgetary needs of the EDA in conjunction with the proposed 2025 City Levy. A detailed preliminary 2025 City of Wanamingo budget memo, that included the EDA accounts, was presented by Administrator Boulton. Passed 4-0-0.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**Administrator Boulton updated the EDA on Emerald Valley II Addition development.** City Staff are working with Jon Whitcomb of Metro East Commercial Real Estate Services on a development agreement and plans to complete the necessary infrastructure for roughly 50 residential parcels. The developer plans to complete the necessary infrastructure and work with the remaining parcel owners on both right of entry and contributions toward the development costs. The City consulting engineer, Brandon Theobald of WHKS, is close to recommending approval of plans submitted and revised by the developer's engineer. Julie Eddington, City attorney of Kennedy & Graven, has put together a development agreement and made revisions based upon recommendations from the City engineer and requests from the developer. The developer plans to go to bids this fall for contractors.

There being no further business Schaefer made a motion seconded by Musselman to adjourn the EDA meeting at 6:39PM. Approved 4-0-0.

Brian Gudknecht, President  
Michael Boulton, Director

### CITY OF WANAMINGO City Council Regular Meeting Monday, August 12, 2024 7:00 P.M. Wanamingo City Council Chambers – 401 Main Street Wanamingo, MN

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Holmes.

**PRESENT:** Council: Ryan Holmes, Eric Dierks, and Jeremiah Flotterud

City Administrator: Michael Boulton

Deputy Clerk: Karen Masters

**ABSENT:** Stuart Ohr & Rebecca Haugen

**ALSO PRESENT:** Brad Kennedy, Brandon Theobald – WHKS, Bobby Stewart – Highland Sanitation, Trevor Aase, Beth Hass – Zumbrota News-Record, Goodhue County Deputy Tom Blue, and Daren Strobel – Kenyon Leader.

**ADOPT AGENDA:** Flotterud motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Dierks. Passed 3-0-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Dierks motioned, seconded by Flotterud. Passed 3-0-0.

#### PRESENTERS:

A) Brad Kennedy reported on:

1) Added gravel along shoulders of Mingo View Drive and 440th Street. The shoulders were washed away during heavy rains.

2) Worked with Jason's Sewer Sucking & Excavation to repair water service line in alley of 500 block of Main Street. Locate water shut off valve that had a previously unknown location.

3) Worked with Jason's Sewer Sucking & Excavation to repair storm sewer pipe on the corner of Hill Avenue and 2nd Street E. Two pipes had split apart causing a sink hole when it rained.

4) Well House project is underway. The underground piping and well house demolition is complete. The contractor poured the new building footing this week while the walls will be poured later in the week.

5) Cleaned out MN TH 60/3rd Avenue (Cenex Industrial Park) retention pond outlet. Cut out the volunteer trees, mowed down weeds, and removed debris from in front of the outlet.

6) Midco removed their shed and satellite dishes from the Mingo View Drive water tower site. The site still requires some restoration. Boulton stated that he would relay the request for site restoration (grading and seeding).

7) Worked with Schumacher Excavating to repair water main break within the 500 block of Main Street. Schumacher was able to get a crew to the site for the emergency repair within an hour and had the repair completed by the evening. The site will need concrete curb replacement and asphalt patching. Cannon Valley Concrete is tentatively scheduled to replace the curb while Durst is scheduled to patch the asphalt. Concrete work is expected to be completed at the end of August while the asphalt patching will be completed mid-September.

8) Started to dismantle ice rink boards. The plan is to rebuild a smaller (65' x 70') square ice rink that is centered on the light poles. The site may require dirt work to make it level. The current site, designed for a hockey rink, has over four inches in elevation making it difficult to create even ice throughout the rink. Once dismantled new holes will be dug and the poles set. The boards will be re-installed after the poles are set. The rebuilding of the ice rink should make starting and maintaining ice easier during the use.

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

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

B) Brandon Theobald – WHKS, reported on:

1) The sump pump inspection program is set to kick off at the end of August

2) Ground water is entering into the sanitary sewer collection system and costing residents to treat at the wastewater treatment plant.

(continued on page 24)

## Wanamingo City Council Meeting

(continued from page 23)

Right now, there is minimal cost due to the current older waste water treatment plant being overbuilt. The new regional waste water treatment plant will bill the City of Wanamingo for actual flow to cover new capital and operational cost. The extra ground water will increase sanitary sewer rates to cover the additional charge.

3) A website has been set up for residents to schedule inspections and obtain information - wanamingosump.com

4) A public hearing is schedule at the Wanamingo Community Center for August 29th starting at 6:00PM led by Brian Kaemingk of WHKS.

5) Letters will be sent out to all residential property owners at the end of August. The letters will include individual log in and password for the City website to schedule an inspection. There is also an 1-800 number that will call WHKS staff to schedule an inspection. Property owners will have 30 days to schedule an inspection. The inspection takes less than fifteen minutes. If appointments are not scheduled within 30 days the City has the option to place a \$100/month surcharge onto the utility bill. The City staff and WHKS staff will reach out a number of times to line up an inspection before a monthly surcharge is implemented. There may be reasons that appointments may take time to schedule due to renters, health problems, and family issues.

The point is to get the inspection scheduled and completed. The surcharge is a way to complete the inspection. The surcharge is a last resort if the owner refuses to schedule an inspection. The inspections will start the week before Labor Day. If there are sump pumps found to be discharging into the sanitary sewer system the homeowner will have 90 days to obtain a plumbing permit and disconnect sump pump or other prohibited discharge into the city sanitary sewer system. The homeowner will have to request-reinspection, certifying that all work necessary to disconnect the owner's sump pump or other prohibited discharge from said property into the city sanitary sewer system has been completed.

6) Sump pump inspection programs have become a common way for cities to tackle ground water infiltrating the sanitary sewer system. Recently Owatonna, Rochester, and Kasson have completed sump pump inspection programs.

7) Along with the sump pump inspection program WHKS will also be inventorying water service lines. The City is required to identify the lines through MN Department of Health Lead & Copper Rule. Lead service line (or galvanized) pipes need to be identified to eventually be replaced. The State and Federal Government will be making funds available in the future to replace these lead service lines.

8) Sump pump inspection programs have

identified roughly 10-15% of homes that are placing ground water into the sanitary sewer systems.

9) Wanamingo's sanitary sewer inflow increases nearly 8 times during and right after heavy rain events. The City will also be smoke testing the entire community this fall checking for cross connections between the storm and sanitary sewer collection lines. This could also help to reduce inflow and infiltration.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### RESOLUTION:

**24-044 = Certifying Proposed Tax levy for 2025:** Dierks moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Boulton reminded the Council that once the proposed 2024 tax levy is certified that it cannot be raised. Boulton stated that the Council will consider a final 2024 tax levy in December that can be equal to or lower than the proposed tax levy. Boulton stated that the 9.35% proposed levy increase is from \$1,070,000 to \$1,170,000. Boulton stated that the Midco Utility Building increased its taxable value by an estimated \$20,000, Zumbro Valley Landscaping New Salt Sand Shed increased taxable value by an estimated \$11,000, Beulke new greenhouse increased taxable value by an estimated \$25,000, and Casey's remodel increased taxable value by \$94,000 in 2023.

This would bring in roughly \$5,740 (slightly less than half City portion) in property taxes (0.041). The improvements at the Wanamingo Medical Facility will be captured in additional TIF. New construction within the community over the last year (7 new taxable homes in 2023) should aid with the increase to the taxable market value increase. The new construction should off-set roughly 1/5 of the proposed levy increase (1.75% of the proposed 9.35% increase). Boulton stated that the larger levy increase for 2025 was important because the slowing of growth will mean that 2026 and possibly 2027 levy increases will be directly onto the existing tax base. Boulton stated that the proposed levy increase helps to cover inflationary costs mainly in the public safety (police fire, and ambulance) portion of the budget. Passed 3-0-0.

**24-045 = Adopting a Proposed Budget for 2025:** Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Passed 3-0-0.

**24-046 = Setting Date for Public Hearing and Continuation for 2025 Budget Adoption:** Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Passed 3-0-0.

**24-047 = Approval to Transfer Up to \$13,868.00 from Operating Reserve to SEMMCHRA for 2024 Projected Vacancy, Marketing, and Capital Expenses:**

(continued on page 25)

## Wanamingo City Election Lacks Contenders



Left to right; council members Stuart Ohr, Becky Haugen, Erick Dierks, Jeremiah Flotterud and mayor Ryan Holmes

The Wanamingo city council and mayor's race should be easy to call this year. All positions are uncontested. Mayor Ryan Holmes has served as mayor since 2013 and served as councilmember prior to that since 2005. Stuart Ohr and Jeremiah Flotterud have both served on the council since 2015. All three are seeking re-election on November 5th unopposed.

## Two vie for Kenyon Mayors race

(continued from page 1)

Some of the accomplishments he has seen completed during his tenure as mayor include building the new Fire Hall, hiring the new police chief and finance director. Also completion of the Industrial Park and mutual agreement of city administrator leaving the employment of the city and cleaning up some of the blighted properties in the city.

He is looking forward to filing up the Industrial Park, attracting more businesses to downtown and looking for more land to develop for new homes.

He believes the strengths of Kenyon dwells in the mixture of older generations, middle age residents and young families, along with the ability to attract more families to the community for the affordable homes and a good school.

His priorities will be filling the Industrial Park and development of home lots for sale.

Doug is an Army veteran, vice president of the Kenyon Veterans Color Guard, service officer of the Preston State Veterans Cemetery and past vice commander and commander of the American Legion Post 78 in Kenyon for a few years. He is also a member of the 1st Lutheran Church.

As a mayor he sees his duty to be involved in all functions of how the city is running along with making decisions on what is needed for the future. Most important is getting out and visiting with the citizens on needs and desires for a good future for Kenyon, yet keeping taxes affordable for everyone.

**Donald Kirchman** is a graduate and resident of Kenyon, and an active volunteer firefighter and first responder of the Kenyon Fire Department. He has been active in the community for the past fifteen years, previously on the Park and Rec and currently with the Fire Department. He has been the secretary/treasurer for the Fire Department, safety officer and current president of the Fireman's Relief Association.

He feels it is time for a change for the office of Mayor. He believes in supporting the community and the people who live here. He will represent and listen to the community and maintain an unbiased opinion. He would like to push toward more housing, as without affordable housing it is hard to keep kids in town. The school's attendance is dwindling because the town is not growing. He wants to relook at the Industrial Park which has been sitting empty for the last few years, because sitting empty does not bring income to the town.

If elected he will work for transparency, accountability and ethical conduct in the city government. He believes it is important to have competent, reliable people with ethical morals. He will treat others the way he likes to be treated. If he makes a mistake he will own up and rectify the problem instead of ignoring it.

He wants to encourage citizens to be active by attending meetings or following along online. "Speak up when you have a concern, and voice your opinion. Reach out to me if you need to, I am usually in town and available by phone."

He believes it is important to support our police department, public works, fire department, etc. Some of them place their lives on the line, getting up in the night to restore power or coming to help in an emergency situation. We need to keep our community safe.

## Teddy Bear Puppies for Sale

Family raised Havanese, wormed, vaccinated, 1 yr. health guarantee

**507-951-7417**





## Wanamingo City Council Meeting

(continued from page 24)

Dierks moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Boulton stated that \$13,868 is from operating loss and capital purchases.

Boulton stated that the City is levying \$25,000 in 2024 which would bring the \$50,000 reserve to \$62,710 in August 2024. Boulton stated that the City would be levying \$25,000 in 2025 which will cover 2024 operating loss and additional capital needs while bring the \$50,000 back in line. Passed 3-0-0.

**24-048 = Approving New Hires for the Fire Department:** Dierks moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Holmes stated that he and Administrator Boulton were members of the committee that conducted interviews for the six candidates. Aase stated that the candidates were chosen based off points assigned to interview questions. Aase stated that a couple of the candidates work in town during the day. One works nights and is also available during the day. This helps as the department is in need of fire fighter/first responders during the day time hours. One of the candidates has seven years of previous experience on another community's department. The recommended new hires are Michael Edstrom, Austin Kern-Evert, Broc Fredrickson, and Michael Brainard. Passed 3-0-0.

**24-049 = Approving Lot Split for Goodhue County Parcel 70.210.0040:** Dierks moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Boulton stated that the request complies with the requirements of applicable zoning codes in the I2 Industrial Park District. Passed 3-0-0.

**24-050 = Approving Pay Request No. 4 to**

**The Joseph Company, Inc. for the Well House Portion of the 2022 Utility Improvements:** Flotterud moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Theobald stated that the pay request is for demolition of the old well house and excavation for piping changes. Theobald stated that project completion is expected October 15th. Passed 3-0-0.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Administrator Boulton provided the solid waste & recycling for residential and commercial proposals from Waste Management, LRS, Harters Disposal, Highland Sanitation, and Flom Sanitation.** LRS was lowest on the combined residential solid waste and recycling proposal at \$21.98/month with Highland \$23.20/month and Waste Management \$28.88/month. Waste Management had the lowest combine commercial solid waste and recycling proposal being roughly 25% lower than LRS and Highland Sanitation. Holmes stated that he liked Waste Management's commercial numbers since businesses get hit the hardest in solid waste and recycling costs. Flotterud asked if the City had to have organized solid waste and recycling and if they could be separated. Boulton said that organized collection was required by Wanamingo Code of Ordinances Section 50 and that the ordinance deems it an exclusive franchise license. Flotterud asked why there was such a difference in the commercial solid waste and recycling proposals. Bobby Stewart said that commercial solid waste and recycling is difficult to estimate/determine weights when bidding. Stewart stated that tipping fees have in-

creased from \$65/ton a few years ago to \$130/ton in 2024. Stewart stated that most solid waste dumpsters in Wanamingo are 2-4 yard. Recycling costs are determined how far and where the products are taken to sell. Flotterud asked if action needed to be taken at the meeting. Boulton stated that ordering containers and dumpsters could be an issue with haulers. Stewart stated that new containers have a 4-6-week lead time while dumpsters have a 4-8-week lead time. Flotterud asked if the haulers would be willing to separate the residential from the commercial. Boulton stated that the Ordinance specifically says exclusive franchise license and that they can not be separated. Flotterud stated that the ordinance could be changed. Boulton stated that even if the ordinance could be changed it will need to have a first and second reading, taking more than two months and adding costs. Flotterud stated that the Council would know by September if the haulers were willing to have two separate proposals. Boulton stated that the item would be placed onto the September City Council agenda with a recommendation moving forward. Flotterud thanked Stewart for attending the City Council meeting and sharing information.

**Enforcement Process – Mead Johnson - Reckitt – 240 day written letter toward meeting goal of waste pH –** Boulton stated that the City had received a letter from Mead Johnson – Reckitt. Mead Johnson – Reckitt pH of wastewater discharge was within range during most of the month of June. The frac tank was installed and incorporated into their process back in March. Mead Johnson – Reckitt goal is to install a new lift station with pH treatment. The project has been funded and is proceeding through the final engineering design phase. Boulton stated that the Wanamingo staff are still monitoring the wastewater discharge from Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The pH levels of the wastewater discharge are being adjusted before being sent to the wastewater treatment plant. Prior to December 2023, results have regularly shown extremely low and at times high pH levels along with the presence of high levels of QAC (Quaternary Ammonium Compounds) have been sent to Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The pH levels should be within 5.0 and 9.5. City Staff have been working with Reckitt-Mead Johnson toward the achieved solution of pH levels within the limits. The City appreciates the open dialogue and work,

to date, from Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The City continues to keep the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency informed during this process, including Carolle Ternus the new Municipal Wastewater Compliance and Enforcement staff member. Boulton stated the Enforcement Process would remain on the monthly agenda until November 2024, or when the action items are completed. Boulton stated the Reckitt-Mead Johnson would be required to provide written monthly updates to the City Council.

**Administrator Boulton provided a Goodhue County Sheriff policing contract update.** The Sheriff's office is going to notify the Goodhue County Board that 5 of the 6 contract communities indicated that they would not approve the proposed contract price and/or minimum hour proposal. The Sheriff's office plans to recommend to the County Board to create a committee of two County Commissioners, a County Finance Office Staff, two Sheriff's Office Staff, and representatives from the Contract Cities. The goal of the committee would be to review the formula for the per hour rate, review the formula for the minimum hours requirement, and look for ways to compromise policing contracts that work for both the County and the Contract Cities. It sounds like the formal process may not take place until September. An August 16th meeting is scheduled to review the cost formula. Boulton plans to attend the meeting in Red Wing on behalf of the City of Wanamingo. The goal would be to have approved policing contracts before December 2024.

**Boulton reminded the Council that the final day to submit affidavits of Candidacy will be August 13, 2024 at 5:00PM for Mayor – 2 Year Term and 2 At-Large City Council Positions - 4 Year Terms.** Candidates' names will appear on the November 8, 2024 General Election ballot.

**The Minnesota Primary Elections will be on Tuesday August 13th.** Wanamingo will hold the primary elections in the community center from 7:00AM-8:00PM. US Congress and US Senate will be the only items on the ballot.

**\*Next City Council meeting on 9/9/2024**

Adjourn: At 8:11 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Dierks and seconded by Flotterud. Passed 3-0-0.

Signed: Ryan Holmes, Mayor

Attest: Michael Boulton, City Administrator



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## Commissioner Corner

Greetings, District 3.

We are getting close to setting our preliminary budget amount and trying to balance needs vs. wants vs. taxes, can be real challenging. I want to thank staff for all they are doing to watch their spending in their departments. With everything going up in price I know how difficult it is to make ends meet. I am concerned about my grandchildren's future and what kind of money will be needed to support them. I did refile for another term for county commissioner, this is a 4 year term and I cannot believe that I am in my final year of my first term. I want to thank the Goodhue County Fair Board for putting on an amazing fair this year, I sure did enjoy my time at the fair. Another thank you goes out to all the non-profit organizations that are working here in Goodhue County, you are all appreciated so much. A reminder that the school buses are back on the roads and soon so will the combines and farm equipment. Please be cautious and patient while on our roads.

One ask that I have is, if you have any questions that I can help with please contact me. I struggle with social media trying to answer or solve a problem. Social media is a great tool when used responsibly and respectfully. My number is 507-319-9550.

Thank you, Todd



**Todd Greseth**  
Goodhue County  
Commissioner  
District 3



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SUDOKU ANSWERS

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- THEME: AT THE SUPERMARKET
- ACROSS
1. Marriott hotel chain
  6. Lockheed Martin Corporation @NYSE
  9. Desert in central Asia
  13. Tinder user?
  14. Distinctive period in history
  15. Munchausen's title
  16. Likewise
  17. Campfire leftover
  18. Jason Bateman/Laura Linney TV drama
  19. \*Traditionally clipped
  21. \*OS in POS at the supermarket
  23. Bro's sibling
  24. "\_\_\_ there, done that"
  25. T in Greek
  28. FBI's cold one
  30. Windshield \_\_\_, pl.
  35. "The \_\_\_ for Red October"
  37. Coach of Dallas Mavericks
  39. Bow's partner
  40. Black and white killer
  41. Be in accord
  43. First word in fairy tale
  44. Formerly known as Pleasant Island
  46. Long-lasting Steelers coach
  47. TV's "man named Brady"
  48. \*GO in BOGO
  50. French "place"
  52. 6th sense
  53. Adored one
  55. What cruelty and crush have in common
  57. \*Dairy aisle package
  60. \*S&H Green \_\_\_
  63. Non motorized vessel
  64. I have
  66. Nev.'s neighbor
  68. Offspring, collectively
  69. Rank above maj.
  70. Visual
  71. QBR in football, e.g.
  72. Will Ferrell's Christmas classic
  73. Like a gymnast

- DOWN
1. \*What registers do
  2. Nonclerical
  3. Football legend Graham
  4. Unborn vertebrate
  5. \_\_\_ of Cancer
  6. \*Like freezer aisle "Cuisine"
  7. "\_\_\_ Robinson" by Simon & Garfunkel
  8. California/Nevada lake
  9. Mediterranean Strip
  10. Not written
  11. Dull one
  12. Pen juice
  15. Home to Sarajevo
  20. Port city in Japan
  22. Like marines in slogan
  24. Cowboy's bedding
  25. Flip-flop
  26. Plural of aura
  27. Adam Sandler's "\_\_\_ Gems"
  29. Manual communication gesture
  31. High school ball
  32. Bert's TV buddy
  33. Ice in a cocktail
  34. \*TV's "Supermarket \_\_\_"
  36. Tropical tuber
  38. \*Sliced items section
  42. Choose a president
  45. "\_\_\_ we stand, divided we fall"
  49. Tokyo, once
  51. Adenine's partner in RNA
  54. Chilled (2 words)
  56. Savory taste sensation
  57. \*Rolling supermarket carrier
  58. Dwarf buffalo
  59. Type of canal, in dentistry
  60. Ego's main concern
  61. Surveyor's map
  62. Accompanies relief
  63. "Big Three" TV network
  65. Radio knob, abbr.
  67. ATM extra

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