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SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

Volume 5 • Issue 18

A life Well Lived



Tim Hardy and his family celebrate his retirement

By Cheri Roshon

On July 1st, 2024, Katie Henslin and her siblings took a journey from Florida to Arizona aboard a commercial airline flight with Katie's father, Tim Hardy at the helm.

(continued on page 6)

50 Years of Grace

By Cheri Roshon

I've noticed a lot of churches around this area are celebrating being in service for a long time. Holden Church in Kenyon just celebrated 100 years, Trinity Church in Wanamingo will be celebrating the same on Sept. 29th. Now, as I look into the history marks of other churches in the area, I found a new landmark at Grace Lutheran Church in Dodge Center that I would like to bring to your attention.

Although Grace has been around for over 137 years now, there is someone who has been an integral part of the church and its parochial school for 50 years. Her name is

Patty Marquardt, better known to all as Mrs. Patty.

Patty has been a teacher and Director of Grace Lutheran since 1973, when she got the call from Pastor John Schildwacher, asking her what she thought of opening a pre school at the church. Patty had attended school to become a teacher at Winona State University, graduated in 1969, and gone to work teaching English in Claremont High School for the 7th, 8th and 9th grades. She loved being a teacher in a small town, and the thought of teaching in Dodge Center appealed to her, so she jumped in with both feet, and she is still there.



"Being a teacher is like herding cats" is a quote I have heard about teaching the little ones more than once, so I asked Mrs. Patty why she became a teacher. "I had exceptional teachers at Dodge Center Public School", she said. "Right around 3rd grade, I realized that I wanted to be a teacher, and I've never regretted that decision. It was like a light came on in my mind, and never diminished.

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A 1930's Gala Event

The West Concord Historical Society is holding a thirtieth anniversary celebration in honor of the organization. The West Concord Historical Society has turned the original 1902 school building into a museum and the 1936 gymnasium community center after the pairing of the school districts in 1991. The building was added to the register of National Historic Places in 2021. Everyone who is an alumni of the West Concord High School will have many wonderful memories from their years of school in that building.

This anniversary celebration will have a 1930's era theme with music and an opportunity to dress up in the style of the jazz, swing and the Golden Age of Hollywood. It will be held on Saturday, September 28 starting at 4pm.

(continued on page 4)



Announcements

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

• **The United Methodist Church of Dodge Center at 20 First Street NE offers a dine in and carry out meal from 5:00-6:00pm the third Wednesday of each month.**

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

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.

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Dodge Center Volunteer Firefighters

48th Annual

All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, October 6th from 8am to 12:30pm

Dodge Center Fire Hall, 130 E. Hwy St., Dodge Center

Biscuits & Gravy, Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs,
Sausage, Milk & Coffee

\$8.00 Adults • \$6.00 5-12 Years 4 & Under Free

~ Take out is available ~

Silent Auction to raise funds to restore "Old 31 Fire Truck"

LIVE MUSIC!

Friday, October 11 from 7-10 PM

Sister Luv & Men in Back

Thursday, October 3: Lady's Happy Time 4:30-7, Open Mic 7-10

Thursday, September 19 & October 17: Open Mic

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Reflections on 9/11: Contemplating Evil, Justice, and Divine Mercy

By Pastor Elliott R.C. Malm

Nearly a generation has passed since September 11, 2001. But many Americans are old enough to remember the haunting images of the World Trade Center buildings engulfed in flames after hijacked passenger planes crashed into them. And then as the nation watched in disbelief, the renowned Twin Towers, which had stood proudly for almost 30 years, collapsed like a pair of conquered giants onto the streets of New York City. How could anyone ever forget? A couple months ago, a man released some never-before seen video footage he had filmed from his apartment that day. Watching his recording of that pivotal event in history prompted me to reflect again on those audacious, swiftly executed, and highly coordinated terrorist attacks in the Empire City that killed a staggering 2,753 people in the span of seconds.

Almost immediately, the moral offense, or injustice, of 9/11 was recognized by people around the world. Consequently, once the American people overcame their initial shock, it was not long before our nation resolved to respond to this preeminent threat to life in our native country. In the State of the Union Address, delivered in January 2002, President George W. Bush galvanized support for the "Global War on Terror." The countries that supported terrorist networks like al-Qaeda, which carried out the heinous attacks, he strongly declared, "constitute an axis of evil." As the country prepared to enter the War in Afghanistan, originally called "Operation Infinite Justice," the stated objective was not only to defend our country, but also to bring the terrorists to justice. Years later, the truth of all that the President claimed and the political motives would become seriously questioned. While nobody in their right mind will deny or question the attacks on 9/11 were evil, unjustifiable acts which deserve to be denounced, there is another grave evil, or injustice being committed which has not been fully acknowledged or adequately addressed by Americans—it is the unjust killing of human life that commonly occurs with induced abortion.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, a reputable source for abortion statistics, an estimated 1,037,000 abortions took place in the United States in the 2023. This means that trained doctors and clinicians performed ap-

proximately 2,841 abortions in the U.S. every day last year, ending more lives than the terrorist acts at the World Trade Center on 9/11. Some readers may object to this comparison. However, those who were violently killed in the terrorist attacks had no control over the ending of their lives just as the unborn have no control over the ending of theirs. Why are so many Americans complacent about these facts about abortion, denying or ignoring the precept that it is a morally evil act that cannot be rationally justified? Should we not cherish every life and publicly acknowledge and mourn the death of everyone who dies?

Holy Scripture teaches us that every human life is precious in God's sight. Contrary to what may be stated explicitly or implied from the legal sanctioning of government, nobody has the right to take an innocent life. Induced abortion violates what philosophers and theologians refer to as natural law. It was an eternal truth, discernible by reason within the natural law, that the Founding Fathers of our great nation appealed in the preamble to the Declaration of Independence, writing, "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights..." In removing all references to gestational age from the Minnesota State Statutes in 2023, the Minnesota Legislature effectively declared that an unborn, unwanted child does not need to be protected by state law because that child does not have a right to life.

Bishop Robert Barron, a luminary in the American Church currently serving as the

bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, has observed: "Opposition to abortion is not a matter of doctrine in the strict sense of the term, but rather a conclusion drawn from moral reasoning and from the findings of objective science. It is an indisputable fact that human life—which is to say, a living human being with a distinctive genetic structure and identity—comes into existence at the moment of conception. It is furthermore a fundamental axiom of ethics that innocent human life ought never to be attacked."

In a classic study in ethics and politics, a prominent American theologian named Reinhold Niebuhr avers, "An irrational society accepts injustice because it does not analyse the pretensions made by the powerful and privileged groups of society." It can be easily observed that the most powerful, influential members of American society favor abortion. For them, it is not up for debate: Debate, if it does occur within the public square, is plagued by incivility and incoherency. Does this mean our nation is being led and increasingly ordered around by a bunch of rebellious fools who do not have the desire or

capacity for reasoned and unbiased thought?

In a bracing, opening address given to the wicked nation of Judah, the ancient prophet Isaiah declared the Word of the Lord, saying: "Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice; correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. 'Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: through your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken' (Isa 1:16-20 ESV)."

The great author Cervantes once wrote, "Among the attributes of God, although they are all equal, mercy shines with even more brilliancy than justice." As the American people we should acknowledge our sins, repent, and seek the mercy of God, so that we can eat the good of the land together as neighbors and not be eaten by the sword.

Fall Senior Festival at Faith Community Church

The Fall Senior Festival and Hymn Sing will be held at Faith Community Church in West Concord, MN on Thursday, September 19th at 2:00 pm. All seniors are invited to come and enjoy singing favorite hymns. We will live-stream the Sr. Festival on Facebook: WC Faith Community Church. Refreshments will be available following the program. Everyone is welcome. Invite your friends. Faith Community Church is located at 305 State Street North (Hwy. 56) in West Concord. The facility is handicap accessible.

This is a free event!. For more information call the church at 527-2244.

DODGE CENTER

Faith Lutheran Church

308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center
Pastor Jessica Bakken Busch • 507-374-2174
Traditional Worship 9a.m.; Fellowship 10a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

404 Central Avenue N, Dodge Center
Rev. Elliott Malm • 507-633-2253
<https://gracedc.church>
Worship 9a.m.; Sunday School 10:30a.m.

Praise Fellowship Church

602 Central Avenue S, Dodge Center
Roger Langworthy • 507-374-6400
Kidz Church 9:15a.m.; Sunday Worship 9:30a.m.

Dodge Center Methodist Church

201 1st St. NE, Dodge Center
Rev. Chad Christensen • 507-374-6885
Sunday Morning Worship at 8:15a.m.,
Fellowship Time Following

St. John Baptist De La Salle

20 2nd St. NE, Dodge Center • 507-374-6830
Mass Saturday 5p.m.

Living Water Assembly Church

104 1st St. NW, Dodge Center
Roy Andrews • 507-374-6561
Sunday 10a.m.

Dodge Center SDA Church

410 3rd Ave. SW
Dodge Center • 507-374-6895
Sabbath School 9:15a.m.; Saturday Worship 11a.m.

Anchor of Hope Church, a 7th Day Baptist Congregation

203 E. Main St., Dodge Center • 507-374-6755
Saturday 10a.m. Worship; 11:45a.m. Sabbath School

Bible Lutheran Church

(American Assoc. of Lutheran Churches)
11 1st Ave. N.E., Dodge Center
www.biblelc.org • 612-803-1212
Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.
(weekly sermons available on YouTube and on website)

First Congregational Church

12 Second Street NW
Dodge Center, MN 55927 • 507-633-6873
www.congregationalchurchdc.com
Keith Mosier, Pastor

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.

CLAREMONT

1st Presbyterian Church

200 East Street, Claremont • 528-2320
Pastor Doug Walters
Sunday Worship at 10:00a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church

4532 SE 84th Avenue, Claremont • 528-2404
Pastor Alan Broadwell
Sunday Service at 10:30a.m.

WEST CONCORD

Faith Community Church

305 State Street N, West Concord • 507-527-2244
Pastor David Brederland
Sunday 9:30a.m. Worship; 10:45a.m. Sunday School
www.fcwc.org
Facebook: WC Faith Community Church

Hegre Lutheran, ELCA

51939 Highway 56 Blvd., Kenyon • 507-527-2353
Sunday: 9:15a.m. Sunday School; 10:30a.m. Worship

Trinity Lutheran, ELCA

301 Highland St., West Concord • 507-527-2778
Pastor Chad Christensen • trinitychurchwc.net
Sunday worship video is posted on Facebook:
[Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcordmn](https://www.facebook.com/Trinitylutheranchurchwestconcordmn)
Sundays 9:45a.m. Worship in building and live streamed on Facebook.
Sunday School 10:30a.m.
Tuesday Men's Bible Study, 7:00a.m.
at church and via Zoom
Call church for more information on ministries and events.

Church of Christ

55087 200th Ave., West Concord • 507-527-2723
Pastor Peter Moen
9:00a.m. Sunday School; 10:00a.m. Worship
concordchurchmn.com

Zwingli United Church of Christ

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

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

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Marian M Saemrow

Her chores are done. The calves have been fed. The last bottle is washed. Marian Saemrow died at home on September 8, 2024, at age 97. Marian Magdalena Marquardt was born on April 3, 1927 to William and Alma (Burzloff) Marquardt in Dodge County, MN. She received her 8th grade education from a country school. In her younger years she raised chickens and sold eggs. She was also a piano player and would accompany services at Grace Lutheran Church in Dodge Center.

On June 1, 1958, she married Herb Saemrow of Morristown, MN. Together they raised a family and dairy farmed until Herb's death in 2007. The most important things in Marian's life were Faith, Family and Farming. She was a devout Lutheran her entire life. When her children were young, she was adamant that each day end with a family devotion and saying the Lord's Prayer together, a habit she continued until the day she died.

Her greatest pride and joy was working alongside her children and grandchildren on the family farm. She spent many selfless hours feeding calves, patching chore pants and making sandwiches that she would carry out to the farm in an ice cream pail. She was a true Proverbs 31 woman.

Those left to celebrate Marian's life and divvy up her collection of empty cottage cheese containers are her children, Ron (Brenda), Gordon (Hindy), Keith (Jackie), Wayne (Abbie) all of Morristown and Ruth (Mark) Pfeifer of Owatonna.

For every birthday or milestone that a grandchild celebrated, Grandma would always give a card containing a one-dollar bill. Fondly remembering the love behind each dollar are Matt (Elsa), Tyler, Judd (girlfriend Anna), Jack, Jacy, Jobb, Lisa, Wyatt, Michael (girlfriend Marisa), Tommy, Jacob (Jess) and John. She loved getting to know her great grandson, Paxton Saemrow.

She is also survived by siblings Ron (Carol Ann) Marquardt, Helen Swendiman, Rachel Boyum and sister-in-law Arlinda Marquardt

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; brothers, John (Laura) Marquardt and Harry Marquardt; grandson, Alex Pfeifer

and brothers-in-law, Charles Swendiman and Andrew Boyum.

We would like to thank Brighton Hospice and Pastor Palm for their compassionate care and ministry. A special thank you to her audiologist, Dr. Jennifer Reside, for understanding the importance of keeping Marian's hearing aid functional.

Funeral services were held at Trinity Lutheran Church, North Morristown on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. Reverend Juan Palm officiated. Interment was at Concordia Cemetery, North Morristown.

Visitation was held at Boldt Funeral Home, Faribault on Tuesday, September 10th from 4 to 8 p.m. and at church for one hour prior to the service on Wednesday.

God has richly blessed us!
BoldtFuneralHome.com for information and guest book.

Barbara Ann DeMars

Barbara Ann DeMars, age 66, was called home after a long battle with cancer, surrounded by family on September 7, 2024.

Friends greeted the family from 4:00 to 7:00 PM Thursday, September 12, 2024, at Brick-Meger Funeral Home (1603 Austin Road, Owatonna, MN) and one hour prior to the memorial service at the funeral home. Memorial service was at 11:00 AM Friday, September 13, 2024, at Brick-Meger Funeral Home.

Barb was born to parents Lloyd and Doris (Schuler) Kern in Owatonna. She was raised in West Concord, MN, and graduated from Medford High School in Medford, MN, with honors. Barb attended Faribault Vocational School studying business administration. In 1981, Barb married Alcid DeMars at Christ the King Church in Medford. She then began a 25-year career at K & G manufacturing in Faribault. For a short time, Barb and Alcid lived in Arizona while their daughter Theresa attended college. When they moved back to Minnesota, Barb worked at Sciencix in Burnsville, MN, until she retired.

Barb and Alcid enjoyed camping up north for many years in Sherwood Forest near Garrison, MN. She was always ready to play

cards with friends and family. Alcid will miss playing cribbage with Barb in the mornings. Barb loved to go shopping with her granddaughters. But most of all, she enjoyed her family, especially her granddaughters and great-grandson and was eagerly awaiting the birth of her second great-grandson. Barb was a kind and giving person.

Barb is survived by her husband of 43 years, Alcid; daughter Theresa (Scott) Ihrke; granddaughters: Samantha Ann Ihrke, Jasmine (Jonny) Hernandez, and Isabel Ihrke; great-grandson, Sabastyan Michael Hernandez, and one great-grandson on the way, Malakai Adam Hernandez; siblings Jerry (Linda) Kern, Marilyn (Trish Moudry) Kern, Darold (Bonnie) Kern, Allen (Bonita) Kern, and Carol (Mal Galusha) Olson.

She was preceded in death by her son, Adam, and her parents.

She was preceded in death by her son, Adam, and her parents.

Burton Juel Iverson

Burton Juel Iverson, 99, passed away peacefully on Monday September 9, 2024. He was born on August 27, 1925, in Red Wing, Minnesota, the son of Alfred and Ellen (Gustafson) Iverson.

Burt graduated from West Concord High School in Minnesota in 1943. His draft notice arrived shortly thereafter, and he served as a tank gunner in the Tenth Armored Division under Patton from January 1945 until the end of World War II. He received the Infantry Battle Badge, Bronze Star, and European Star. Burt was a proud WW II vet and a 75 year member of the American Legion.

Following discharge as a Staff Sergeant in 1946, Burt graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1950 with a degree in Business. He then became a National Bank Examiner, and later earned another degree from the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin.

On September 14, 1957, Burt married Shirley Baumgardner in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They were blessed to have celebrated over 66 wonderful years together, until her death in March.

After their marriage Burt and Shirley immediately moved to Pittsville, Wisconsin and

assumed management of the People's State Bank where Burt was the owner and president for 35 years. He also owned shares in the People's State Bank of Augusta and Owen/Curtis Bank for several years and ran the People's Insurance Agency. They retired in 1992 and became snowbirds in Naples, Florida. Many new memories were made there.

Burt was a generous, hardworking, spirited man who loved his Pittsville community. He is the last surviving member of the committee that created Lake Dexter, and was a major contributor to the Pittsville Library, and he also donated to many civic organizations to make Pittsville what it is today.

Burt was a member of the United Church of Christ in Pittsville, serving on the church council, the Pittsville Lions Club, the Pittsville VFW, and the American Legion. He also served on the Board of Directors for North Central Life Insurance Company in St. Paul, MN and was the Treasurer of the Wisconsin Bankers Association.

He enjoyed golfing in both Wisconsin and Florida, watching sporting events, and being out in nature, hunting in his younger years. He also took great interest in the Financial Markets. His favorite pastime though, was spending time with his children and grandchildren. Burt's vibrant, funny personality always brightened up any room that he walked into. He never met a stranger; every person was just a friend he hadn't met yet. He loved to make people laugh.

Burt is survived by his children, Eric (Debra) Iverson of Watertown, Melinda (Burl) Pate of Blue Springs, Missouri, and Andrew Iverson of River Falls. He is further survived by his grandchildren, Adam and Emma Iverson and Devin and Connor Langford.

Burt is also survived by his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Judy (Jim) Stephens, Fred (Wendy) Baumgardner, Sherry (Marv) Kohlbeck, and Jan (Sam) Retka.

He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Burt was preceded in death by his wife Shirley, his grandson Nicholas Iverson, his brother Aldrich (Lilamae) Iverson, a brother in infancy, his brother-in-law and sister-in-law Carole (Bob) Schneider, and his sister-in-law Diane Baumgardner, as well as his parents.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at Rembs Funeral Home in Marshfield with visitation from 10:00 am until the time of service. Rev. David Sobek will officiate. The service will be streamed online at www.facebook.com/rembsfuneralhomes. Military rites will be conducted by American Legion Post 153 - Pittsville at the funeral home. Burial will take place at Mound Cemetery, Pittsville. Memorials can be directed to the Pittsville Library or the UCC in Pittsville.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Jennifer Neville for her kind and compassionate care of Dad, and all of his caregivers at Stoney River Assisted Living and the House of the Dove Hospice in Marshfield.

Rest easy, Dad! You are so loved.
Condolences may be sent online at www.rembsfh.com



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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 Norwegian 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 dancing 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.

A 1930's Gala Event

(continued from page 1)

There will be a social time to explore the museum and play a Trivia game from 4 to 5pm followed by a catered meal of hot and cold appetizers and two complimentary beverages.

There will be music from the 1930's all evening and you will be able to have your picture taken in front of a backdrop of the Golden Age of Hollywood. You may even win a prize for dressing in your best 1930's style.

You can enjoy the evening with West Concord friends in the Flame Room, a recreation of the dining room of the same name originally located in the Hotel Concord, which was the popular restaurant in the community during the 1930's.

Tickets are still available and are \$25.00 per person. Make your reservation by contacting the West Concord Historical Society by Friday September 20th. Call 507-527-2628 or e-mail wchs@frontiernet.net.

The Flame Room is located in the WCHS at 600 West First Street in West Concord, MN.



West Concord Dance

Saturday, October 19th, 2024, 6:30 PM

Old time polkas, schottisches and waltzes

Featuring guest artist, fiddler and dancer,

Beth Hoven Rotto

Free and open to the public at the WCHS gym.

Workshops during the day for string musicians

At 2pm, a Panel Presentation, also free and open to the public, will feature the music and history of two fiddles at the museum that date back to before 1900.

West Concord Historical Society

600 West First Street, West Concord, Minnesota

www.fiddlemn.com/west-concord-dance

mssfiddlers@gmail.com



Minnesota State Fiddlers Association

West Concord Historical Society



Get Your Dinner Theatre Tickets for "Nutt House" Now

The October dinner theatre "The Wedding Will Out or Night in the Nutt House" by Greg Miller runs October 11-27. Friday and Saturday at 6:30 and Sunday at 12:30. <https://www.mantorvilletheatrecompany.com/tickets.html>

Our dinner will be provided by Powers Ventures (owners of the Hubbell House). The meal of chicken kiev, potatoes, green beans, bread, salad, and Bunnie's coconut cake will be served buffet style.

Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free meals are available ONLY if arrangements are made by contacting the box office 72 hours prior to your show date. The box office can be reached via email (MantorvilleTheatre@gmail.com) or phone (507-635-5420).

All seats are reserved and must be purchased at least 72 hours prior to all show dates.

Doors will open 30 minutes prior to show time (6:00 pm on Friday & Saturday and 12:00 pm on Sunday). All tickets are \$50. A cash bar will be available.

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Museum Musings

IT'S HOWDY DOODY TIME

By Colleen Sathrum Hayne

Recently I stepped into the 50's/60's room at the Museum and found myself lost in time remembering the era when television first came to West Concord. What sparked my memories was a black panther TV lamp sitting on a 1949 RCA Victor television with a mighty small screen. TV lamps were a part of the television culture back then. Families watched TV in a dark room because the screens of the first sets were often small and had very low luminosity. People feared that sitting close and watching TV in darkness would cause eyestrain. This was the motivation for a 10 year heyday of the TV lamp industry. If you're as old as I am, or almost, do you remember a lamp sitting on top of your family's TV? They were often glazed ceramic lamps, both decorative and functional. They were backlit by one bulb that emitted a soft glow. Television lamps were often given as a free incentive to purchase a TV. Animals, birds, sea creatures, and transportation modes were featured in the lamps and they became almost a kind of "hood ornament" for televisions.

Experimental TV broadcasting actually began back in 1929, but it wasn't until 1939 that NBC was the first company to have regular broadcasts to just 400 TV sets in New York. In the 30's only the wealthy could afford televisions. They ranged in price from \$200 to \$600 at a time when the average yearly income was \$1368. That would be a whopping 15 to 44% of an average family's entire annual income.

During World War II television production was placed on hold to put all efforts and materials into what was needed for the war, but the growth of the television industry after the war was rapid. There were 6000 TV sets in American homes in 1946. By 1951, in prosperous times, 12 million sets lived in U.S. living rooms—and just 4 years later in 1955, half of all American homes had televisions. Those statistics made me wonder what was happening in TV sales in West Concord. It was back to the newspapers of the 40's and 50's for me to check it all out.

Not one television was advertised in the West Concord Enterprise until May of 1952. I saw many ads for chest freezers, refrigerators, corn pickers, and Chevy, Ford, and Chrysler trucks and cars—but not TVs until the spring of '52 when Pirkel and Hall offered a 20 inch Admiral TV, with the "clearest picture" available. In July Pirkel and Hall once more advertised the Admiral TV but this time with a special motivation: to be able to watch the Democratic and Republican Conventions in Chicago. As the ad said, "The largest audience in history will see the action and hear the speeches . . . You can bring history-making events into your own home with an Admiral Television." As we know, the nominated candidates from those very conventions, Adlai Stevenson and Dwight Eisenhower, visited Dodge County that fall for Plowville USA.

In 1953 Clarence Barwald advertised a 21 inch Motorola at his Gambles store. It featured an "eye shade filter (not sure what that meant), an eye conditioned picture, right up front tuning, and new, long, low cabinet styling." During the Christmas season of 1954 Gambles and Pirkel and Hall were widely advertising Coronados, Motorolas and Admirals and promoting the idea of upgrading from 17 inch to 21 inch TVs, welcoming trade-ins.

So what were the most popular early TV shows? You remember your favorites. The early 50's featured programs like "The Jack Benny Show", "I Love Lucy", "The Milton Berle Show", "Gunsmoke", "Red Skelton", "What's My Line", and my favorite as a young child when we first got our TV, "The Howdy Doody Show". I even sent my second grade school picture to Howdy Doody for his Smile Contest. I waited and waited to be the winner, only as a child would do—and then one day, the real winner was announced on the show and it wasn't me. What a disappointment! In the late 50's shows like "Leave it to Beaver", "Father Knows Best", and "The Honeymooners" captured America's attention.

One of the banes of early TV was the repairs televisions often needed. There could be tubes that required replacement or rabbit ears or outdoor antennas that needed fixing. My mother used to be so pleased when the TV went on the "blink" that she would delay repairing it for as long as Dad could tolerate it. She hated seeing our family be "couch potatoes" when we could be outside playing or reading. Even if the TV was not broken it took some knowhow with the horizontal and vertical knobs to keep the picture from drifting and to finally stabilize it. Remember that?

In the 1950's, Rutgers University and CBS jointly undertook a study to find out how American families were feeling about television. Families reported that they felt more unified as the whole family gathered to watch television shows together. They said the TV was almost like another member of the family. But they also expressed concern, wondering if so much screen time was good. Doesn't that sound like today with our screen dependency on phones, tablets, and yes, our televisions, too?

Television has become so pervasive in our lives that when Joey Tribbiani of the "Friends" show of the 1990's found out an acquaintance didn't have a television he asked, "But what does your furniture point at?" I know the Sathrum family in the 50's was very happy to arrange their furniture to point at the brand new television. How about yours?



1949 RCA Victor TV at the West Concord Historical Society—complete with panther TV lamp



1948 Admiral TV at the Museum

Republicans! Democrats!

GET SET FOR THE CHICAGO CONVENTIONS
WITH AN

Admiral Television Set

The largest audience in history will see the action and hear the speeches that will nominate the Republican and Democratic candidates for President and Vice President of the United States next month.

You can bring these history-making events into your own home with an

Admiral Television

Order Today and Be Ready For The Conventions!

Pirkel & Hall Appliances

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(additional picture at www.westconcordmn.net, www.claremontmn.net, www.dodgecentermn.com)

A Life Well Lived

(continued from page 1)

This was his last flight in a career that spanned almost 4 decades and began in west central Minnesota.

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 family 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 accomplishments.

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!

Vang Lutheran Church ANNUAL LUTEFISK AND NORWEGIAN MEATBALL SUPPER

Vang Lutheran Church

2060 Cty. 49 Blvd.
Dennison, MN 55018

Saturday, October 5th

Tickets are \$26.00



Meal Includes:

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

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

Call for reservations: 11:00am, Noon, 1:00pm and 4:00pm.
Continuous seating (no reservations needed) starting at 5:00pm through 6:00pm.

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Ticket price \$26.00. Payments by check or cash.
Call or email for reservations: 507-789-5186 • vanglutefisk@gmail.com

TRITON
CLASS OF
2025

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

FAMILY
Giselle Gonzales is a senior at Triton this year. Her parents are Mireya and Gilberto. She has two brothers, Gil and Ricardo.

ACTIVITIES
She is active in 4-H and Puma

HOBBIES
Her favorite pastime is art. Her music tastes are Aurora-Warriors, Tchaikovsky-1812 Overture and Prokofiev-Dance of the Knights.

FUTURE PLANS
She plans to work before going to college.

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Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-288-7600
Email: jesse.stenke@northriskpartners.com

50 Years of Grace

(continued from page 1)

As I would teach, seeing the light bulb turn on in a child's mind was always a special moment. I love teaching here at Grace Lutheran. We have excellent teachers who are committed to the children. The parents are easy to work with because they chose to send their children here. We offer a Christian based approach to education, and the children get the

individual education they need, because of our smaller classroom sizes. We work in small groups, so no child is left behind."

Mrs. Patty taught Sunday School along with the pre-school for awhile. The program they used for the pre-school kids was called ABeka, a Florida based curriculum for accelerated learning. This program is designed to hold the kids' attention with colorful pages and motivational learning. The pre-school program was so successful that the church decided to add a kindergarten program in 1981. In 1986, a new playground was added. In 1992, the 100th year of being a church was celebrated.

As the success of the school was being noticed, a first grade class was added in 1999, and a second grade class was added in 2000.

In 2002, a third grade was added and 3 teachers were hired. As the school grew, so did the church. Outreach programs were begun, and more and more people were being served, not just by going to church, but by helping others in need.

The School's Silent Auction to raise money for new programs and equipment began in 2003. In 2006, a 4th grade was added to the curriculum. More programs were added to help others in the community. In 2014, members started going to Fair View Care Center in Dodge Center to sing after Easter breakfast. They held suppers for the first responders to show their appreciation. These are our Firemen, Sheriff's department, and ambulance crews that serve the community. In 2015, the first mission trip to Point of Grace in Kenya was established. In 2016 a 500 card club was started for the last Sunday of the month

through the winter.


The church held its own through the ups and downs of our changing economy, and it is because of the dedication of the pastors and the members of the school and church. As you know, it takes a lot of time and planning to meet the budget requirements of any business, and churches have the same needs. Grace Lutheran has been doing the School Silent Auction since 2003, and recently added a new fundraiser-- That's My Pan---which will be held in October. Personal cake pans with lids bearing your name and a logo you pick out, so you always leave a pot luck with your own pan! They also make great Christmas gifts! For more info on these fundraisers, or to talk to the church about enrolling your child in a quality school program, please call Mrs. Patty at (507) 259-3106, and she will be glad to share the info with you!



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TRITON CLASS OF 2025

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Camila Medina

FAMILY

Camila Medina is a senior at Triton this year. Her parents are Consuelo and Ramon. She has one brother, Ramon and two sisters, Romina & Regina.

ACTIVITIES

She is active in MHS as president, student council as secretary, BPA, SADD, Link Crew, Prom Committee and FCA. She plays soccer and basketball.


HOBBIES

She is a Kindergarten TA and enjoys community service activities. In her spare time she likes to lift and stay active, drawing and music, sing and play guitar, cooking and baking and all kinds of music.

FUTURE PLANS

She is attending PSEO and will graduate with an Associates Degree. She plans to continue her education studying criminology.

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Speaking Up for Life in Minnesota

Sponsored by LCMS Minnesota South District Faribault Circuit

EVENT LOCATION:

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Owatonna, Minn.

2500 7th Ave NE, Owatonna, MN 55060

Doors open at 8 a.m. • Program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024 9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Register online at:
goodshepherdowatonna.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2397242

Event Speakers: Rev. Fred Hinz, LCMS Public Policy Advocate; Dr. Robin Goldsmith, co-founder of St. Gianna Clinic (De Pere, Wis.) and Catholic Medical Association Midwest Regional Director; Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford, LCMS Minnesota South District President; Jeff Evans, Minnesota Family Council CEO

Ministry Displays: LCMS Life Ministry; Lutherans for Life; Minnesota Family Council; Catholic Medical Association; Pregnancy Options Lifecare Center (Faribault, Minn.)





2024 West Concord Events

- **October Membership Drive**, Date/Time to be determined
- **Christmas in West Concord will happen on Saturday, December 7th, 2024.** Many activities are planned with something for all ages. One of the favorites is the Silent Auction at City Hall. Proceeds from the auction provide funds for our parks. Bring the baskets to city hall. Contact Karen Peterson with more questions.



Twig Fest Saturday, October 5th

7:00pm until closing • *Bring a dish to pass*



Weekly Story Time

Every Wednesday at 10am at the library.
This is geared towards elementary aged children and homeschool families.

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Teens & Adults

MINNESOTA'S MOST HAUNTED LOCATIONS

Join us for a ghostly journey to some of the most haunted places in the state. From wandering ghosts in the North Woods to a haunted B&B in Wabasha to graveyard apparitions located in your own backyard, no place in MN is without its own hauntings. This program is free and open to the public.

October 3, 2024
3:00pm

West Concord Public Library
180 Main St
West Concord, MN 55985

(507) 527-2668



← Find more events in the region here!



2024
3RD ANNUAL



OKTOBERFEST

AT THE MUNI
124 Main Street, West Concord



Come and enjoy live Oktoberfest music performed by the **MARION'S CONCERTINA BAND** and sip German bier (Schell's Oktoberfest) at the West Concord Municipal:
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST FROM 3:00 PM TO 7:30 PM.

The West Concord American Legion will be selling Brats, Kraut and German Potato Salad baskets for \$12.00 and the Cardinal Club will be organizing a pretzel fundraiser to collect donations to contribute towards the parks and endeavors.

Come in costume, contest judging at 5pm Sharp!

2024 OKTOBERFEST COSTUME CONTEST



AT THE MUNI
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST
3 PM – 7:30 PM



COME IN COSTUME. 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD PRIZES TO BE AWARDED
FOR BEST MALE AND BEST FEMALE COSTUME!
JUDGING AT 5PM SHARP!



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WEST CONCORD AMERICAN LEGION POST 295

Oktoberfest @ the Muni

Saturday September 21, 2024
4:00 - 7:00 PM

American Legion Hall
on East Main Street

\$12.00 a meal

- ❖ BRATWURST ON A BUN
- ❖ SAUERKRAUT
- ❖ GERMAN POTATO SALAD OR CHIPS
- ❖ NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINK




CELEBRATE THE ERA OF JAZZ, SWING AND HOLLYWOOD WITH US—

Explore the Museum and Play our Trivia Game from 4 to 5 p.m.

HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN IN FRONT OF OUR GOLDEN AGE OF HOLLYWOOD BACKDROP

Make a meal from a wide assortment of catered hot and cold appetizers

ENJOY TWO COMPLIMENTARY BEVERAGES: SOFT DRINKS, WINE, OR BEER

Optional: Dress in your best 1930s style and you might win a prize

SAVOR BACKGROUND MUSIC OF THE 30'S ALL NIGHT LONG



Please join us for a

1930'S

30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HONORING

WEST CONCORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, September 28

4 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

THE FLAME ROOM AT WCHS
600 WEST FIRST STREET
WEST CONCORD, MN

\$25.00 per person

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY SENDING PAYMENT AND REPLY FORM TO WCHS BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13. SEE PARTY DETAILS ON THE BACK OF THIS INVITATION.





West Concord Class of 1956 Reunion

Back Row Standing: Glen Hanson, Betty Wiuff) Staffon, Darlene (Rasmussen) Felber, Jon Glarner, Doug Matti, Stewart Agerter, Linda (Halla) Vrieze, Jerry Stensland, Marvin Twernbold. Front Row Seated: Joanne (Rhodes) Paulson, Shirley (Benson) DeChAnt, Jim Raddatz, Rosalie (Osowski) Johnson, Kay Wright (Knudsen). The reunion was held in West Concord American Legion Hall on Friday, August 16 at Noon. Other friends, spouses attended also. - Submitted

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Thursday, October 24, 2024

NORWEGIAN LUTEFISK DINNER & BAKE SALE

RESERVATIONS ONLY - **No walk ins**
Dining room seating or take out available
Seatings: 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 4pm, 5pm, and 6pm
Adults: \$25 Children (under 10): \$10

Non-refundable tickets on sale starting at 8am on Monday, September 16, until sold out

Tickets can be purchased either online using the reservation link at stjohnskasson.org or by calling the dinner hotline at 507-634-6021 weekdays 8am-5pm

All-you-can-eat dinner served family-style

Lutefisk and Lefse	Meatballs in Gravy
Rutabagas	Mashed Potatoes
Cranberry Relish	Cabbage Slaw
Norwegian Baked Goods	

Bake Sale - 9:30am until sold out

SEPTEMBER



**2024
Ford
F-150
XLT**

6 cylinder, 3.5L, 10 speed automatic, Agate Black Metallic, 4 door crew cab

MSRP \$63,385

BEST PRICE \$56,385

Lease for \$599/month

Lease based on 10.5k mpy for 36 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.



2024 Chrysler Pacifica Limited

4 door passenger van, FWD, 9 speed automatic, bright white clearcoat

MSRP \$54,315

BEST PRICE \$45,409

Lease for \$699/month

Lease based on 10k mpy for 42 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.



2024 Ford Bronco Outer Banks

4 cylinder, 2.3L, 4WD, 10 speed automatic, Eruption Green Metallic

MSRP \$54,480

BEST PRICE \$52,161

Lease for \$649/month

Lease based on 10.5k mpy for 36 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.



2024 Ford Escape Active

3 cylinder, 1.5L, AWD, 8 speed automatic, gray

MSRP \$33,320

BEST PRICE \$32,142

Lease for \$449/month

Lease based on 10.5k mpy for 36 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.



2025 Dodge Ram 1500 Big Horn/Lone Star

4 door, crew cab, 4WD, 8 speed automatic, Diamond Black Chrystal Clearcoat

MSRP \$62,435

BEST PRICE \$52,235

Lease for \$599/month

Lease based on 10k mpy for 36 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.



2024 Jeep Compass Latitude Lux

4 door Sport Utility, 4WD, 8 Speed automatic, Bright White Clearcoat

MSRP \$39,265

BEST PRICE \$34,265

Lease for \$399/month

Lease based on 10k mpy for 39 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.



2024 Ford Bronco Sport Heritage

3 cylinder, 1.5L, 4WD, 8 speed automatic, carbonized gray metallic

MSRP \$34,290

BEST PRICE \$32,812

Lease for \$399/month

Lease based on 10.5k mpy for 36 months with \$3,000 due at signing. Included tax, title, license and doc fee. OAC. See dealer for complete details.

SEPTEMBER USED CAR SPECIALS



2021 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L

4 door passenger van, FWD, 9 speed automatic, brilliant Black Chrystal Pearl coat, 61,571 miles, **20 Chrysler Pacifica's to choose from!**

BEST PRICE \$21,999



2022 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L

4 door passenger van, 6 cylinder, 3.6L, FWD, 9 speed automatic, Bright White Clearcoat, 69,079 miles, **20 Chrysler Pacifica's to choose from!**

BEST PRICE \$23,999



2023 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L

4 door passenger van, 6 cylinder, 3.6L, FWD, 9 speed automatic, Granite Chrystal Metallic Clearcoat, 65,440 miles, **20 Chrysler Pacifica's to choose from!**

BEST PRICE \$26,499



2022 Ford Edge SEL

4 door sport utility, 4 cylinder, 2L, AWD, 8 speed automatic, Carbonized Gray Metallic, 64,593 miles, **15 Ford Edge's to choose from!**

BEST PRICE \$23,499



2020 Ford Edge ST

4 door Sport Utility, 6 cylinder, 2.7L, AWD, 8 speed automatic, silver metallic, 71,527 miles, **15 Ford Edge's to choose from!**

BEST PRICE \$24,999



2020 Ford Edge ST

4 door Sport Utility, 6 cylinder, 2.7L, AWD, Agate Black, 70,664 miles, **15 Ford Edge's to choose from!**

BEST PRICE \$24,999



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Despite Bigger Paychecks, Struggling Households in Minnesota Continue to Increase

New ALICE report shows wage growth was no match for inflation after a decade of falling behind

Rochester, MN Though wages for the lowest paid jobs have risen across the country at the fastest rate in four decades, the number of households struggling to get by in Minnesota grew from 2021 to 2022. As a result, a total of 834,343 households or 36% were living paycheck to paycheck, according to a new report, "ALICE in Minnesota: A Study of Financial Hardship," from United Way of Dodge County, United Ways of Minnesota, and their research partner, United For ALICE. That calculation includes 233,779 Minnesota households in poverty as well as another 600,564 defined as ALICE. ALICE® is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Con-

strained, Employed, and it's a way of understanding families, neighbors, and colleagues who work hard, earn above the Federal Poverty Level, but don't make enough to afford a basic household survival budget. ALICE workers include childcare providers, home health aides, cashiers, retail clerks, waiters, nonprofit professionals and others — those working low-wage jobs, with little or no savings and one emergency from poverty. As a member of the United Ways of Minnesota, United Way of Olmsted County recently joined the United for ALICE network — a national movement to raise awareness about this growing but often hidden population in our communities.

In 2022 in Dodge County, 24% of households were ALICE, compared to the state average of 26%, and 5% of Dodge County households were in poverty, compared to the state average of 10%. This means in Dodge County, 2,215 households are struggling, with 28% percent below the ALICE Threshold.

ALICE in Minnesota: A Study of Financial Hardship shows that while wages were increasing, so too were costs. For a family of four with an infant and a preschooler, the basic costs to live and work in Minnesota, excluding tax credits, rose from \$63,444 in 2021 to \$77,304 a year later.

Compounding the issue in 2022 was the loss of up to \$15,000 in federal child tax credits and stimulus payments that this family had access to in 2021. In 2022, household costs in Dodge County for a single adult (\$28,740) and a family of four (\$80,832) were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$13,590

and \$27,750 respectively.

"There is no doubt, bigger paychecks helped, but inflation and the loss of pandemic supports converged to keep ALICE trapped," said United Way of Olmsted County President Jerome Ferson. "This latest data is a reminder that while we have made some progress, our work is far from over."

The findings in this one-year period are consistent with a more than decade-long trend: Since the end of the Great Recession, despite some ups and downs, the number of ALICE households in Minnesota has been steadily growing. From 2010 to 2022, the total number of households rose by 10%, households in poverty increased by 1% — and the number of ALICE households grew by 33%.

"The data is showing persistent and widespread financial hardship — a red flag that the current system isn't working for ALICE," said Stephanie Hoopes, Ph.D., United For ALICE National Director. "Current policy has not been enough to break down the barriers that trap ALICE households in financial hardship, from lack of access to housing and childcare that's affordable, to inadequate community supports such as broadband internet."

Additional insights include:

- From 2010 to 2022, people age 65 and over made up the fastest-growing age group in Minnesota — and the group with the largest increase (44%) in the number of households struggling to make ends meet.
- Racial disparities persisted in the rates of financial hardship; 60% of Black, 58% of American Indian/Alaska Native, and 45% of Hispanic households in Minnesota were either in poverty or ALICE in 2022, compared to 34% of white households.
- Food assistance continued to elude many vulnerable families in Minnesota. Partly due to the SNAP income eligibility level in the state (200% of the Federal Poverty Level), only 32% of all Minnesota households in

poverty and 13% of all ALICE households participated in SNAP in 2022.

To read the report and access online, interactive dashboards that provide data on financial hardship at the state, county and local levels, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Minnesota

Thank you to the First Alliance Credit Union Foundation for supporting the ALICE launch.

About United Way of Olmsted County

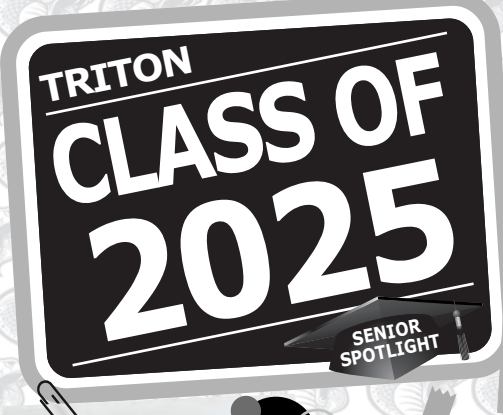
United Way of Olmsted County (UWOC) is a community change organization with the mission to unite people and resources to improve lives in our community.

We fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community in a variety of ways: we collaborate with local organizations, businesses, and community leaders to mobilize their expertise and resources; we accelerate impact by strengthening systems and cultivating leaders to build a community where all people can thrive, regardless of race or place; and we participate in a collective effort that empowers local residents to create lasting transformations in their own communities through our focus on community-driven change.


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About United For ALICE

United For ALICE is a U.S. research organization driving innovation, research and action to improve life across the country for ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) and for all. Through the development of the ALICE measurements, a comprehensive, unbiased picture of financial hardship has emerged. Harnessing this data and research on the mismatch between low-paying jobs and the cost of survival, ALICE partners convene, advocate and collaborate on solutions that promote financial stability at local, state and national levels. This grassroots ALICE movement, led by United Way of Northern New Jersey, has spread to 31 states and includes United Ways, corporations, nonprofits and foundations in Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawai'i, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Washington, D.C., West Virginia and Wisconsin; we are United For ALICE. For more information, visit: UnitedForALICE.org



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FAMILY
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ACTIVITIES
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HOBBIES
Her pastimes are drawing and digital art. She likes most kinds of music but mostly SZA.

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FUTURE PLANS
She plans to attend the University of LaCrosse but not sure of the career.

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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

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

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Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease: New Research Insights

Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (CIRD), often called "kennel cough," is a highly contagious respiratory disease of dogs. It is caused by numerous bacteria and viruses such as Bordetella bronchiseptica, various Mycoplasma bacteria, parainfluenza virus, canine influenza virus, and more. The classic clinical sign of CIRD is a dry, honking cough, but other signs including eye or nose discharge and fever can be seen. Pneumonia can develop, but is often due to bacterial infections that take hold when the immune system is weakened by the primary infectious agent.

Thankfully, most cases of CIRD resolve within 7-10 days with supportive care consisting of rest and cough suppressants. However, in 2022 and 2023, there were increased reports of CIRD cases in the United States. Some cases were unusually severe and did not respond to standard treatments or resolve within the usual period of time. This led to intense debate regarding whether this was a true increase in disease incidence or just more media coverage. If there was an actual increase in cases, was it caused by a new infectious agent? Were dogs not as resistant to typical respiratory disease agents because they were isolated and/or not vaccinated during the COVID-19 pandemic? Or were there other factors at play?

At the University of New Hampshire's New Hampshire Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, veterinary pathologist Dr. David Needle asked surrounding veterinary clinics to submit swabs from the noses and throats of dogs showing signs of CIRD to study what was really happening. Collaborating with scientists at the University of New Hampshire's Hubbard Center for Genome Studies, Dr. Needle and his team examined the genetic material collected from the respiratory tract of these sick dogs. They found genetic material that was not a match for any known dog respiratory pathogens. However, the DNA did resemble that of a known human respiratory pathogen.

"The pathogen is a small bacterium with a relatively small amount of genetic material," Dr. Needle says. "It really looks like it's something new to the canine respiratory microbiome – a new pathogen that has not been described before."

Dr. Needle needed funding to pursue the follow-up studies required to understand this new disease-causing agent. Thankfully, he reached out to the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF), a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the health of all dogs by funding scientific research and sharing health information to help prevent, treat and cure canine disease. CHF seeks to support ground-breaking research in response to the ever-changing health needs of dogs. It was a perfect match!

With more than \$300,000 invested by CHF and its donors, Dr. Needle and his team are now studying the exact genetic composition of the CIRD pathogen. They are also examining the entire microbiome of the canine respiratory tract, identifying which viruses, bacteria, and fungi are present in healthy dogs and those with various respiratory diseases.

"This information will greatly improve our understanding of canine respiratory disease," Dr. Needle says. "We can look at how a dog's respiratory tract responds to various infectious agents. Ultimately, we hope to use this information to develop treatment strategies that help all dogs recover from CIRD and in a shorter period of time."

Dr. Needle remains enthusiastic about identifying and describing the new respiratory pathogen. "We are going to find this bacterium!" he continues. "The work is intellectually stimulating. But even better, it serves the public and our animal communities. I'm a dog owner too and happy that we can impact the clinical care of our pets."

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Terrance Lorch Family Farm Nominated for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's 2024 Conservationist of the Year

The Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District has awarded the Terrance Lorch Family Farm as the 2024 Conservationist of the Year. Terry Lorch has been farming since 1969, and now owns and operates over 350 acres in Mantorville and Wasioja townships in Dodge County. Once moving onto the farm in 1980, he started planting over 1,400 linear feet of trees around his new farmstead. The mix of deciduous and conifer trees provide a windbreak helping with energy conservation, and wildlife habitat.

Terry has been working with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District since he started farming in the late 1960's. He currently runs a wheat / soybean rotation, and has

worked with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District and United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service to transition to no-till farming for his wheat, and uses minimal tillage when planting soybeans. In the 1980's he worked with David Delzer from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District to install four water and sediment control basins on the southern side of his farm, and in the 2010's in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, he installed two more on the northern portion of his property. Terry also worked with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Natural Resources Conservation Service throughout the years to install six grassed waterways on his land, totaling more than 8,300 linear feet.

Today Terry is experimenting with cover crops, including adding oats in with his fertilizer applications. He's looking forward to continuing to work with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District on ways to improve his operation either through cover crops, and if needed, through additional conservation structural. He believes we have to take care of our soil now, so we will have something to farm in future generations.

Please join us in congratulating the Terrance Lorch Family Farm as the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's 2024 Conservationist of the year!



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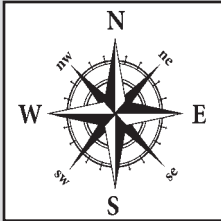
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Vacation Homes and Winter



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 located. 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 expositions, 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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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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Four Candidates for Dodge Center City Council

There are two open seats on the Dodge Center city council this year and four people have filed for the November 5th general election.

Cathy Skogen is the incumbent seeking re-election. Cathy filed a vacancy to start her first year on the council and will be completing her third term at the end of this year. She believes she brings a unique perspective being she is the only woman on the council and lives in the southeast part of town.

Cathy feels like a couple of the accomplishments she has seen during her tenure include getting street assessments lowered so they are fair for everyone and getting garbage rate pricing on a straight forward level. She also likes going paperless for the meeting packages and the implementation of remote meeting options. She would like to see all the city street resurfaced and infrastructure completed at least once. She is also looking forward to the completion of the new wastewater treatment plant, even though that is at least five years off.

She believes the strengths of the community include the large employers and big industry in town, the good school system and low crime rate. The town has nice recreational areas like the golf course, swimming pool, park, a good variety of restaurants, a grocery store, the library and a number of churches.

On of her goals is to entice more small businesses to town and fill in Main Street store



Cathy Skogen



Braedon Dostal



David Myrom

fronts.

Cathy has been married for forty-nine years with four kids and nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She worked for Dodge County for thirty-five years and volunteers for many organizations like Faith in Action and is active in her church.

Braedon Dostal is a newcomer, running for office for the first time. He thinks the current

council is doing a good job but he would like to see more youth in the council. One of his goals would be to get more involvement by the council members and help others in the community to pay attention to what takes place.

He is a Dodge Center native and knows all the locals so he feels like he would be a good communicator.

Braedon is a pipeliner for a company based out of Rochester. He is married with two kids, and enjoys spending time with the family, fishing and metal detecting.

David Myrom is also running for the council for the first time. He used to work for the city of Dodge Center as a community development technician. His job was code enforcement and zoning and he worked as lead to get the EAB grant.

David likes Dodge Center as it is like the community he grew up in. He likes the direction the city is going and knows the people. He would like to see Dodger Days become a bigger event.

Things he would like to accomplish on the council would be to get more business in town, have better communications with the residents on things like the road construction. He would like to provide more clarity of future growth plans.

David grew up in St. Micheal, Minnesota and moved to Dodge Center in 2013. He met his wife in West Concord and he currently works full time as police officer in West Concord.

Matt Leglet moved to Dodge Center when he bought a home here in 2022. He started working washing dishes when he was ten years old and began full time with an oil company when he turned eighteen. He moved on to heavy equipment as a crane operator installing wind towers before joining the Army. He retired from active duty just before he moved to town.

He feels Minnesota is a great state and there are lots of good people in this community. He is running for city council because he believes people matter. He served this country in the armed forces because he believes everyone deserves rights and protection. He is concerned about fairness and transparency in local government and will be an unbiased representative and ask the questions that need to be addressed.

Matt is a retired Army combat veteran and has a son who just retired from the Air Force and a daughter who is still in school.

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.espkking.com).with Chris Olson.

You may have seen the show on the dockside 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 is tribute to Neil Diamond and also his "Johnny Cash Tribute - American Icon". (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 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 12)

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 fi-



Finishing the "Death March"

nally 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

(continued on page 23)



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FAMILY

Romina Medina is a senior Triton this year. Her parents are Consuelo and Ramon. She has one brother Ramon and two sisters Camila and Regina.



HOBBIES

After school she likes to play soccer, track and field.



FUTURE PLANS

After graduation she would like to be a dental assistant and play soccer.

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How to Find Legal Help When You Can't Afford a Lawyer

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you recommend any programs or organizations that provide free or low-cost legal services to seniors? I believe I need some professional legal help but have limited income and very little savings.

--Almost 70

Dear Almost,

Whether you need help drawing up a will or a contract, or you're facing some sort of legal jeopardy or dilemma, hiring an attorney can be expensive. Most lawyers today charge anywhere between \$100 and \$300 an hour. Fortunately, there are a number of different programs and organizations that offer free legal advice and may help you find a free or low-cost attorney. Here's where look for help in your area.

Legal Aid: Directed by the Legal Services Corporation, legal aid provides free legal assistance to low-income people of all ages. Each community program will differ slightly in the services they offer and income qualifications. Visit LSC.gov/find-legal-aid to locate a program near you.

LawHelp: Powered by Pro Bono Net, a national nonprofit organization, LawHelp.org is a terrific resource that will help you locate free legal aid near you, get answers to your legal questions and even fill out legal documents. These free services are for people with low to moderate incomes.

Free Legal Answers: This is an online program created by the American Bar Association that matches low-income clients with volunteer lawyers who agree to provide brief answers online for free. This service will not answer criminal law questions and it's not available in every state. See ABAfreelegalanswers.org to look for a program in your state.

Senior Legal Hotlines: There are around 30 states that offer senior legal hotlines, where all seniors over age 60 have access to free legal advice over the telephone. To find out if this service is available in your state, go to ProSeniors.org and click on "Resources," followed by "U.S. Senior Legal Hotline Directory."

Senior Legal Services: Coordinated by the Administration on Aging, this service may offer free or low-cost legal advice, legal assistance or access to legal representation to people over the age of 60. Your Area Agency on Aging can tell you what's available in your community. Call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 to get your local number.

Local Law Schools: More than 200 university law schools across the country have pro bono programs that offer free legal assistance provided by law students, who are supervised by their professors. See AmericanBar.org/groups/center-pro-bono - scroll down and click on "Directory of Law School Public Interest and Pro Bono Programs" to locate a program near you.

Pension Rights Center: This is a nonprofit consumer organization that provides free legal assistance for problems with pension, 401(k) or other retirement plans. Go to PensionRights.org/find-help to search for help in your state.

Stateside Legal: For military members, veterans, and their families, StatesideLegal.org provides access to free legal information and legal assistance in your area.

National Disability Rights Network: This is a nonprofit membership organization that provides legal assistance to people with disabilities through their Protection and Advocacy System and Client Assistance Program. If you are disabled, visit NDRN.org to find help in your state.

Other Options: If you can't get help from one of these programs, or find that you aren't eligible, another option is to contact your state or local bar association to see if there are any volunteer lawyer projects in your area or if they can refer you to a low-fee lawyer. To contact your state or local bar association, go to FindLegalHelp.org.

The View From the Back

(continued from page 22)

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 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. 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 running 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? Jeannie was an answered prayer--God gives you what you need, not what you want.

We cross the bridge, for the final time.

(continued on page 24)

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The View From the Back

(continued from page 23)

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



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

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.

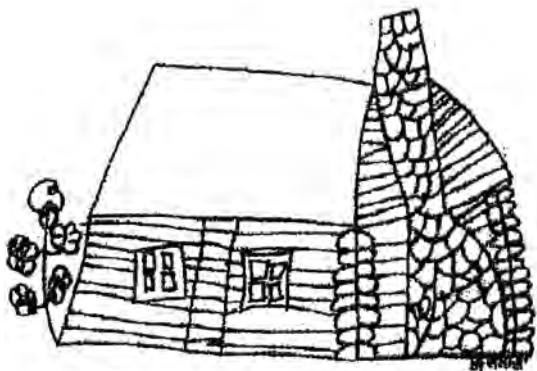
What I've found is that I'm never more alive than when I'm pushing, and I'm in pain, and I'm struggling. And in that struggle, I think there's a magic."

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TRITON CLASS OF 2025

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

FAMILY

Skylar Wrolstad is a senior at Triton this year. Her mother is Amanda Wrolstad. She has one brother, Codey.

ACTIVITIES

She has been active in MHS for two years, Earth club for two years and FCCLA for one year.

HOBBIES

She enjoys reading, hiking and sewing. She enjoys Mountain Music. Her favorite movie is "CryBaby" and Johnny Depp and Audrey Hepburn.

FUTURE PLANS

After graduation she would like to open up her own cozy cafe, used bookstore or consignment shop.

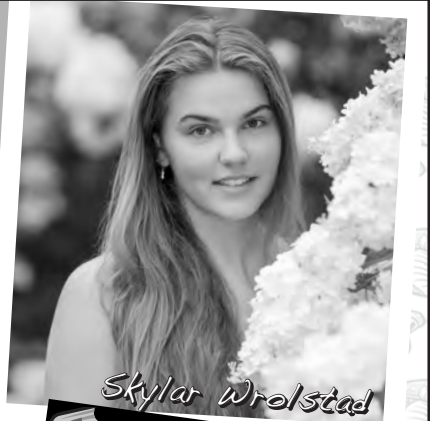
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- Champion Commercial Doeling
- Reserve Champion Commercial Doeling
- Champion Commercial Yearling Doe
- Grand Champion Breeding Female
- Reserve Grand Champion Breeding Female
- Champion Live Carcass Goat
- Grand Champion Graduate Showmanship
- Reserve Grand Champion Pair of Market Goats
- Champion Lightweight Market Goat
- Reserve Champion Middleweight Market Goat



Elyssa Robinson

- Grand Champion Advanced Dairy Showman
- Exhibited two head in the swine show

Noah Kasper

- Exhibited two Simmental Breeding Heifers

John Moenning

- Exhibited swine in the FFA show



Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

The school year has begun, and it is off to a great start. The first couple of weeks always give you a feel for what the rest of the school year is going to be like, and this year feels great. With only a couple of new teachers this year,

it feels like we have been able to pick up where we left off this past spring. Many of the interventions and hard work of our staff has certainly been shown in the release of our MCA results. The score of an MCA test is a number that is associated with a student, that documents how well they did on that test on that one day in time. There are a variety of things that can influence that score, and we do our best to try to make sure that students put away any anxiety or distractions, but the reality is that some days students do not do their best, while others may have their best day ever. It is a measure from one point of time that

we use in conjunction with a variety of other tools to best determine how well a student is learning. We don't entirely rely on one score to tell us how well a student is doing in school. Focusing on each individual student, and how they are doing and what they need to improve is what is most important when it comes to learning because students all have different needs, and they are so much more than a test score!

Success can certainly be measured in the number of students that pass an exam, and then compare that percentage to the percentage of another school. I can remember a time when the scores from our district didn't look very good when compared to some of the surrounding districts, that simply isn't the case anymore. Not only are we competing for the top scores we are seeing growth scores from students that are amazing. I know that these scores are often used to measure the "success" of a school for those that want to simplify learning into a competition like a football game. Only that use of test scores totally misses the true importance of a score. These types of comparison lack many important details that don't show up on a test score. Over the years our district has

continued to improve in our overall scores, but the way we are doing it is the most important part of the story. We are helping students improve and seeing growth from students that is off the charts and that is something to celebrate.

The first digit in an MCA test score refers to the grade level of the exam. So, a 300-test score would be for a third-grade student. These tests begin at the third-grade level and continue all the way up to 1100 for Juniors that take the math exam. In grades 3-8 the students take the math and reading exams. They take the science exams in 5th, 8th and 10th grades. The high school students take the reading exams in 10th grade and the math exams in 11th grade. The tests are different from grade to grade, so it is tricky to compare a 3rd grade score to a 4th grade score based on the final score. They are different tests measuring each grade levels standards. The scores are broken down into one of four categories, does not meet, partially meets, meets and exceeds standards.

An example of a score that I am very happy with is our 10th grade science students. Even though the score that they obtained was lower than it has been in the past few years,

for this group of students, there was a 33% increase in the number of students that were proficient compared to the last time they took the test in 8th grade. Another example of growth that is something to celebrate is when a student may jump a level from one year to the next. For example, a student score "does not meet" one year and ends up in the "meets standards" the next year. Or a student that goes from "partially meets" to "exceeds standards" in one year. While the data on individual students is private data, when you see the growth that students are making in your district, it is worth noting that our students are doing great things.

Please reach out to me with any questions that you may have regarding our school district. You can email me at schlich@triton.k12.mn.us or you can call me at 507-418-7530 to reach me at the district office. I would be happy to set up a time to meet with you or your organization. Communication is an important aspect of my job responsibility, and I welcome the opportunity to gain experience from your perspective. GO COBRAS!

#WeAreTriton

Travel To EUROPE

PARIS - VENICE - LAKE COMO - LUCERNE

JULY 2027



HOTELS



BREAKFAST & DINNER



PERSONAL GUIDE



FLIGHTS


INFORMATION MEETING

WHEN: THURSDAY OCTOBER 10TH
WHO: ANY STUDENT CURRENTLY IN 7TH - 10TH GRADE & THEIR PARENTS
TIME: 7:30 PM
WHERE: PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT TRITON HIGH SCHOOL
RSVP: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3AGTHWS](https://bit.ly/3AGTHWS)







CONTACT LIZ NESETH WITH ANY QUESTIONS: ENESETH@TRITON.K12.MN.US

Middle School Orientation



8TH GRADE WEB LEADERS

6TH GRADE STUDENTS ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

TRITON MIDDLE SCHOOL
WHERE EVERYBODY BELONGS!



Triton Homecoming Parade

Friday, October 4, 10:00 AM



The map shows the parade route starting on 3rd St NW, heading south to 2nd St NW, then east along 2nd St NW through the center of town, and finally east along 2nd St NE. Key landmarks and businesses marked include Faith Lutheran Church, Living Water Assembly, United Methodist Churches, Pure Country Family Dining, Citizens State Bank of Hayfield Dodge Center, and various hardware and auto sales stores.

OCTOBER 7TH-11TH

FIRE SAFETY WEEK

TRITON ELEMENTARY WILL WELCOME LOCAL FIRE FIGHTERS ON OCT 8-10TH TO TEACH OUR PREK-2ND GRADERS THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE SAFETY!

Triton Homecoming 2024

September 30 - October 5

Monday, September 30
JV Football VS. Chatfield, 5:00 PM
Coronation in the THS PAC, 7:30 PM

Tuesday, October 1
Volleyball VS. Faribault BA, Varsity 7:15 PM
Boys Volleyball 11th grade VS. 12th grade following game

Wednesday, October 2
Powder Puff Football, 7:00 PM

Thursday, October 3
G Soccer VS. Jordan, 7:00 PM

Friday, October 4
Pep Fest, Elementary 8:30 AM, Middle-High 9:15 AM
Parade, 10:00 AM
Volleyball VS. Hayfield, 1:00 PM
Tailgate, 3:00 PM - Gametime
Football VS. Cannon Falls, 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 5
THS Homecoming Dance, 7:30-9:30 PM

Home varsity events will be live-streamed on Triton Hudl Fan. You can access hudl fan from the www.triton.k12.mn.us and clicking on the activities tab.

2024 COBRA HOMECOMING TAILGATE

Come and celebrate our communities!

Where: Triton High School Bus Garage

When: 10/4/24 @ 3:00pm following the Homecoming Parade

Fun!
Activities setup by our local organizations!

Food!
Food options provided by local food trucks!

Activities!
Face painting, washable hair coloring, Temporary Tattoos, Climbing Wall... and more!

Music!
Tunes for all to enjoy a great time!

Homecoming Football Game
Stay to watch the Cobras take on the Cannon Falls Bombers at 7pm!

ELEMENTARY HOMECOMING DRESS UP DAYS

Monday Sept 30th
PAJAMA DAY

Tuesday Oct 1st
HAWAIIAN DAY

Wednesday Oct 2nd
JERSEY DAY

Thursday Oct 3rd
CLASS COLOR
PRE K & KINDER: RED 3RD: GREEN
1ST: ORANGE 4TH: BLUE
2ND: YELLOW 5TH: PURPLE

Fri Oct 4th
COBRA GEAR

Triton Grads: Where are they now?



Stephanie Krause, Triton Class of 2016

By Christi Runnells

Once the senior class graduates, I always wonder where they end up and what they're doing these days. This school year I'd like to showcase some of our awesome Triton alums! Nine months of the school year means nine graduates and we'll start 9 graduation years ago with the Class of 2016.

Student: Stephanie Krause
Graduation Year: 2016
Current City: Oronoco

Stephanie was involved in FFA during her time at Triton and says that her favorite memories during her high school years were the bus rides to the World's Toughest Rodeo with the FFA chapter. She has some hilarious sto-

ries she thought it was better to keep to herself. Stephanie says that her experience at Triton prepared her for the real world, especially time management. As she aptly explained the 'real world,' "You have no one to babysit you to get your stuff done!"

Today Steph is a travel agent and owner of Traveling is the Best! agency. She loves it, especially helping other people plan their vacations. (If you are in need of a travel agent you can reach her at Stephanie@travelingis-thebest.com or 507-990-7390 or check out her facebook business page). "I would be happy to help you plan your next vacation!"

Steph's advice for current Triton high school students is to enjoy your time now as a student because before you know it, you'll be graduating and off to that real world! She would also like to give a special shout out to her favorite teacher, Mr. Rathbun (now retired). She recalls that he could always

brighten her day, even if he did give her a hard time about being a Packers fan (especially when they played the Vikings). Go Pack Go!

Thank you for updating us, Stephanie!

Triton Public Schools
www.triton.k12.mn.us
#WeAreTriton
#SomosTriton

THANK YOU!

Triton Public Schools would like to sincerely thank all the community members, organizations, and businesses that have donated school supplies and funding at the beginning of this school year.

A special gift was given to the music program! The donation of the Baby Grand Piano by the Barb Gilliland Family in the High School Choir room.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED SCHOOL SUPPLIES THIS FALL. OUR STUDENTS ARE ALL READY FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR BECAUSE OF YOU!

PRESCHOOL

Preschool is off to a great start! We do still have a few spots open, if your child would like to join us!

We have some ECFE classes that have started, or are starting soon, including an infant class! This is the first time we have offered this class, and are really excited about it. If you have an infant 12 months or under, please join us! Details on our website: <https://www.triton.k12.mn.us/page/ecfe>

It is now time to start thinking about Early Childhood Screening! Our first screening is coming up on October 22nd. You can sign up on our website: <https://www.triton.k12.mn.us/page/preschool>

Screening is a quick check of your child's development. It's free, and it's required before kindergarten. The ideal age to screen is 3.

If you have any questions about anything for preschool, please give us a call: 507-418-7550 or email: mknutson@triton.k12.mn.us

We Are Hiring!

Triton's Cobra Care Childcare Program is looking to add an adult to our team!

This part time job requires an individual who enjoys working with children and parents. Candidates must be willing to work as a team member with other staff, have good people skills, and be active with children.

Please call Tiffany at 507-418-7550 or 507-226-3985 or email her at tlamoree@triton.k12.mn.us to inquire about this position.

Baby Steps with Mrs. V	Parenting Book Club with Mrs. V!	Evening Adventures
Parent/Caregiver and Infants ages 0-12 months. This class is for parents/caregivers looking to connect with other adults and talk about all things infants. The class will include open discussions on infant development, offer activities and resources to support your family and give you a space to relax while connecting with your infant. Cost: \$20 for all 8 meetings Mondays: September 16, 30 October 7, 14 November 11, 25 December 2, 9 1-2PM Triton Elementary Room #315	Explore parenting topics with other parents in this casual and supportive atmosphere, led by Mrs. Vermilyea. The group will individually read an assigned section of the book, followed by a discussion session each Monday. Participants are welcome to join this group in person or join by Zoom each week. Each book club will be a 6-week session. We will order the book for you, which will be yours to keep. Session One: "The Whole Brain Child: 12 Revolutionary Strategies to Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind" Deadline so that we make sure to get you your book on time: September 3 Cost: \$21, includes book Mondays: September 16- October 21 6:00-7:30PM, in person at Triton Room # 315 or Via Zoom Session Two: "Raising Good Humans: A Mindful Guide to Breaking the Cycle of Reactive Parenting and Raising Kind, Confident Kids" Deadline so that we make sure to get you your book on time: October 16 Cost: \$21, includes book Mondays November 4-December 9 Noon-12:45PM, in person at Triton Room # 315 or Via Zoom	Children aged 2-5 and an adult Join us this session with your preschooler, ages 2-5 years (not yet in kindergarten). Mrs. Vermilyea will plan a special evening centered around a theme. You will participate in activities, games, explorative play, reading and art around the same topic. Mrs. V has also invited many experts from our community to join you and share their knowledge and resources to make these truly amazing experiences for all who participate. Snacks will be provided, so PLEASE alert us if your child has any allergies or sensitivities to food. Please pre-register for each of these classes, so that we can provide the appropriate number of materials and supplies needed. Cost: \$8/class or \$20 per semester/family Dates: Sept 11 and 25, Oct 9 and 23 Nov 6 and 20, Dec 4 and 18 6-7:30PM All classes will be in Mrs. Vermilyea's Room #315 in the Elementary School.

Call 507-418-7550 or go on-line at triton.k12.mn.us to register

TRITON COMMUNITY ED YOUTH ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550

CANVAS PAINTING ART WITH SUNSHINE AND ROSES

Canvas Painting with Sunshine and Roses

Grades K-6
Join Sunshine and Roses Traveling Art Studio to paint and create on canvas. Classes are open to all ages (adults too) and you do not need any painting experience! (Ages 6 and under must be accompanied by an adult).

October 8
Cost: \$26 per painting,
or do both canvases for \$48

Dragonflies
3:15-4:15PM

Peter Pumpkin (Customizable)
4:15-5:15PM

TES ART Room #167



YEL Flag Football

Grades K-5 (see schedules below)
Get ready to dash to the end zone with our high-octane, inclusive (everyone plays) Flag Football course. YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in non-contact flag football games. SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized! We focus on basic skills development in passing, catching, defending, and teamwork. Sign up before the two-minute warning! Min 8/Max 16

Cost: \$72

Grades K-2
Thursdays: 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, 11/14
3:15-4:15PM
Grassy Field by the Sport Court

Grades 3-5
Thursdays: 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, 11/14
4:20-5:20PM
Grassy Field by Sport Court

Triton Community Ed Youth Activities

{YEL!} Junior Soccer

For grades K-5
Get outside and get kickin' with our fast-paced, inclusive (everyone plays) Junior Soccer course! YEL's Teach It, Practice It, Play It® approach teaches players new skills each class, practices those skills in kid-friendly games, and then encourages students to use those skills in introductory soccer games. SAFETY & SPORTSMANSHIP are emphasized! We focus on the fundamentals of dribbling, passing, trapping, and shooting. Sign up today! Min 8/Max 16

Cost: \$76

Fridays: 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8
3:15-4:15PM
Grassy Field by the Sport Court



{YEL!} Grandmasters of Chess 1.1 Fall

For grades K-5
New and returning students invited. Learn, Practice and Play chess in each class. The {YEL!} Teach It! Practice It! Play It!® method keeps students on track with new chess lessons and puzzles each week as well as guided games and in-class tournaments. Class fee includes ChessKid.com membership for the session. Sign up today. Visit YELKids.com for more info. Min 6/Max 20

Cost: \$84

Fridays:
9/27, 10/4, 10/11,
10/25, 11/1, 11/8
4:20-5:20PM
TES Media Center



COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY

Trunk or Treat

Sponsored by the Dodge Chamber of Commerce
5:30-6:30PM
Located in the Triton's MAIN ELEMENTARY PARKING LOT

Family Halloween Dance and Costume Contests

Sponsored by Triton Community Ed and the Dodge Center Lions
6:30-7:45PM
Located in the Triton WEST GYM
(Enter through the Main Activities Entrance)

Halloween Games and Activities

Sponsored by the Triton Student Council, Dodge Center Lions, and the Dodge Center Chamber
6:30-7:45PM
Located in the Triton Wrestling Room (Enter through the Main Activities Entrance)

OCTOBER 16

TRITON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PARK IN THE
TRITON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL
PARKING LOT

Featuring the Salvation Army's
Winter Wear Clothing Drive Drop Off
& Triton Student Council's
Trick or Canning Food Drive
Drop Off



Get Crafty with the Green Shack!

Learn to Crochet

K-6th grade

This is a beginner's basic class. you will learn to chain, single crochet and double crochet. We will start with just the basics. You will be able to choose for a larger variety of yarn colors and I'll have hooks available to use or purchase. Max number of students: 8

September 23-27th

Cost: \$34
3:30-5PM
TES Art Room



Colored Sand Jars

K-6th grade

Join Brittany from the Green Shack and make beautiful decorations! She will bring an assortment of fun colors so that you can personalize them to your liking!

October 8
Cost: \$14
3:30-4:30PM
TES Art Room



Tech Academy Camps for Youth

Our virtual camps feature engaging interactive instruction in a collaborative learning environment. For each session, students will also be given access to our online classroom, which will feature recordings of the lessons and a curriculum guide with all the steps covered in class, along with instructions for project extensions. To protect students' privacy, we do not share videos of the actual classes, but we will have follow-along recordings reviewing the instructions and activities done in class. Parents will be given the option to sign up on our classroom page for a reminder email and text before the class begins. We will be using Zoom for all our classes. An email will contain all the information students need to prepare for our Virtual Camps and will be sent to the email indicated on the registration. Registration will close 2 days before the start of classes.

Home Technical Requirements For all Classes:

- Computer: PC (Windows 7 or later) or Mac (OSX) with at least a 2GHz processor and 4GB of RAM
- Chromebooks, Tablets, and phones typically DO NOT Work.
- Internet: Broadband internet
- Webcam
- Microphone and Speakers
- Zoom Installed on Computer
- Students should be comfortable using a PC, mouse and keyboard.

Intro to Video Game Design with Nintendo Characters

Grades 1-4

Create YOUR OWN VIDEO GAME! Love video games? Choose your storyline with popular Nintendo characters as your stars. Add challenges and difficulty levels.

Additional Technical Requirement:

- Scratch and Scratch Account – Instructions will be emailed
- PC Needed (Windows or MacBook), will not work on a Chromebook, tablet or phone.



Cost: \$50
2 Saturdays- 11/16 & 11/23
8AM-9:30AM both days

3D Printing: Dungeon & Dragon Die Design

Grades 3-7

Learn the ins and outs of 3D Design and TinkerCAD. Students will design a custom D&D D4(4-Sided) and D10 (10- Sided). Dies will be printed and mailed to the home.

Additional Technical Requirement:

- TinkerCAD (login information provided during class)
- PC Needed (Windows or MacBook), will not work on Chromebook, tablets, or phones.

Cost: \$65
2-Saturdays 10/19 & 10/26
10:30AM-Noon each day



Multiplayer Minecraft: Theme Park Builder

Grades 1-5

Work as a team to create a custom theme park in Minecraft. Use creative and Redstone to create this world! Projects include roller coasters, water rides, a trampoline park, an obstacle course, a boat race, bumper boats, a dunk tank, and many more rides and attractions! Students will get a copy of the world map to take home and expand on.

Additional Technical Requirement:

- Minecraft Java Edition
- PC (Windows or MacBook), will not work on Chromebook, tablets, or phones

Cost: \$50
Saturday, 10/12
9AM-Noon



TRITON COMMUNITY ED ADULT ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS For Adults

Presented by Instructor LeeAnne Krusemark

The Zoom login information will be sent to participants by Triton Community Ed prior to the session, and they will receive their digital handouts as a pdf download in the Zoom session.

Bio: LeeAnne is an author, speaker, business owner, Chamber of Commerce Past President, and guest instructor at more than 200 colleges and other institutions from Maine to Hawaii, as well as an adjunct online professor of publishing through Ed2Go at more than 2,000 facilities worldwide, including Harvard.

MOST POPULAR

How to Start Any Home Business + 250 Home Business Ideas!

Tired of working for someone else? Do you need to make more money? Turn your talents and hobbies into profits by starting a home business. Taught by a Chamber of Commerce Past President and award-winning business owner, this is probably the most comprehensive business startup workshop you will ever find. You will discover:

- * More than 250 legitimate home business ideas
- * Mandatory legal documentation
- * Many ways to market your product/service
- * How to take tax deductions (this workshop included!)

Informative handouts for future use are included in the class fee. The instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is a former journalist, current author and editor, and a nationwide Professor of Publishing at higher learning institutions, including Harvard Adult Education.

Cost: \$ 32
Thursday, 10/17
6-8PM

The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

Write Your Life Story

You don't need to be famous to have a legacy to leave behind. Create an inspirational autobiography for family, friends, and others. Learn how to recall vivid memories, analyze events and people that shaped who you are, and bring your story to life. Your handout, included in the class fee, will have an outline to

help you organize and write your memoir step-by-step. Printing/publishing options will also be discussed.

The instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is a former journalist, current author and editor, and a nationwide Professor of Publishing at higher learning institutions, including Harvard Adult Education.

Cost: \$40
Saturday, 10/12
10AM-1PM

The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class

Save \$Money\$ with Extreme Couponing!

Learn how to save \$\$\$ every day with extreme couponing. Coupons are NOT just for groceries. The savings can add up to HUNDREDS or even THOUSANDS of dollars every year. This comprehensive workshop will teach you:

- * Where to find all different types of coupons, even for high ticket items
- * How to find the best coupon apps and websites
- * How to match coupons with sales for maximum savings

This workshop is taught by someone who has used many couponing secrets to save thousands. Informative handouts for future use are included in the class fee.

Cost: \$20
Wednesday, 10/9
4-5PM

The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class

Online Technology Classes

By Nickie Welsh, Social Club Simple

Please note that each class is taught live online. If a student is unable to attend the live online training time, they can still register and watch the recording of the training at their convenience. Follow-up support is also included from the instructor and students are encouraged to reach out with questions at any time before or after the class has concluded.

Each class offering costs \$21/session.

A zoom link will be sent to you prior to the class you have registered for.

Cell Phones & Parenting - Oh My!

When your child has a Smartphone there are key things you should know to keep them safe and secure. In this class you'll understand recommended safety settings on popular social media apps, parental apps for your child's Smartphone, and more! You will leave this class with a confident plan to simplify the technology so that you and your child can use the phone safely without worry.

September 19th
12pm – 1pm

Practical ChatGPT Training for Everyone

Have you been curious about what ChatGPT is exactly and how it may affect you? Learn what you need to know about ChatGPT powered by Artificial Intelligence in this fun and engaging class! You will understand how it works exactly and why it's taking the world by storm. You'll also learn practical everyday uses for ChatGPT in the workforce and at home. Don't get left behind in today's tech savvy world and attend this upcoming training!

October 15th
12pm – 1pm

Google Sheets for Awesome Beginners

Expand your skills with Google Sheets and use this training for a lifetime! Whether it's for work or for play, this class will teach you comprehensive skills which will turn you from a Sheets novice into a Sheets expert. You will learn to enter, organize, refine, analyze, and visualize your data using Google Sheets!

September 26th
12pm – 1pm

Canva for Awesome Beginners

Canva is the perfect digital tool for beginners and novices! Open a world of possibilities by learning how to use the easiest design website available all for free. In this class you will learn how to create designs from scratch or use templates with step-by-step guidance for any digital image you need. From online documents, business cards, email signatures and more, you'll leave this class with a practical guide to use Canva with confidence!

October 10th
12pm – 1pm

My Kid Wants To Be a YouTuber - Help!

Does your child dream of having their own YouTube channel? Eliminate the worry with this helpful class as we walk you through the steps on how to set up a YouTube channel, safety settings, and consideration for kids having their own channel. Parents will learn the basic guidelines of being able to help manage and monitor their activity, all while incorporating practical business skills when it comes to managing your own channel. You'll learn how this hobby can become a practical career, safety practices, and even create fun videos! Parents will leave the class with helpful guidelines to get their kid's channel started safely and a solid foundation for their child's new creative outlet in 2023.

Please note, children must be age 13 and have parental permission to start a YouTube channel. Benefits for the Student:

Students will gain clarity on what is involved for creating a YouTube channel for their child (and be able to see if it's the correct decision for their family). The students will also leave with an easy-to-follow game plan for the correct steps to set up and manage their channel effectively and keep up safety standards as well as business practices.

October 1st
12pm – 1pm



Adult ESL and GED Classes

******FREE******

Triton Community Ed offering free Adult ESL and GED classes!

Our instructors, Tara Bradford, Sue Torgerson, and Mayra Monarrez are here to help you reach your adult learning goals, whether it's finally accomplishing your GED or to learn English as your second language. All levels of ability are welcome.

Please call 507-418-7550 for more information and to get started on your learning goals!

Tuesdays and Thursdays Starting October 1st
3:30-5:30PM GED • 6-8PM ESL
TES Room #308



**TRITON COMMUNITY ED
ADULT ENRICHMENT 507-418-7550**

Over the River and Through the Woods

Sidekick Theatre at the Ives Masonic Heritage Center

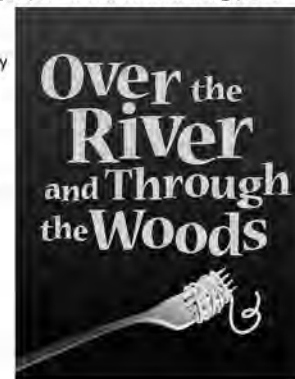
Every Sunday, Nick crosses the river to New Jersey and has dinner with both sets of his Italian-American grandparents. But Nick has dreams, and when he receives the perfect job offer from the west coast, he is determined to take it. His grandparents – Frank, Aida, Nunzio, and Emma – are just as determined that he stay put. Thus begins a series of shameless schemes and hilarious shenanigans that will have you roaring in your seat while reminding you of the wonderful zaniness that is family. 45 tickets are available for this trip.

We will have lunch in the ballroom prior to the show. The menu includes: Creamy Chicken Breast, with Rosemary Red Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Coleslaw, Dinner Rolls, Assorted Dessert, Coffee, Hot Tea (Special dietary meals available by request ahead of time).

COST: \$82, includes coach bus ride, lunch at the theatre and ticket to the show.
CALL: Triton Community Ed at 507-418-7550 to Register for this Trip

Thursday, October 10

Bus	Departs	Approx. Returns
Byron Community Ed Parking Lot	9:30AM	5:15PM
Kasson Football Field Lot	9:45AM	5PM
Dodge Center Triton Activities Entrance	10 AM	4:45PM
Owatonna Target Parking Lot closest to the Hotel	10:25 AM	4:20PM



Safe Driving Class

Jim Jensen

In the Safe Driving Class, you will learn driving strategies that can keep you safer on the road. You will learn updates to traffic laws, how to reduce distractions to driving and how to navigate different intersections. Driver's aged 55 years old and older who successfully complete the Safe Driver Class will qualify for reductions in their automobile insurance premiums. It's important to pre-register so that Jim can ensure accommodation for all. Please call Triton CE at 507-418-7550.



Two Class Dates Available:

November 21, 2024

**** Veteran's Appreciation Class—all Veterans will receive a \$10 discount on this day!

January 23, 2025

Cost: \$20, checks should be made to Jim Jensen
5-9PM in the THS Media Center

Branson Country Christmas— A Special Tribute To Veterans

Branson's Ozark Jubilee

Treasure Island Resort and Casino

Direct from BRANSON the OZARK JUBILEE features an all star cast of Branson's top entertainers. This year presenting, "AN ALL NEW CHRISTMAS SHOW", WITH NEW MUSIC, NEW JOKES, but the same, WORLD CLASS TALENT THAT YOU HAVE COME TO EXPECT! This year the OZARK JUBILEE will be honoring and paying tribute to our VETERANS, and thanking them for their SPECIAL SERVICE. The entire second half of our show is a total variety of Christmas music. From traditional standards you'll remember such as Silent Night, White Christmas and many more to some more contemporary Christmas selections. We will share with you the TRUE meaning of Christmas with music, comedy and message to provide an evening of entertainment that will touch your heart. The Jubilee features Branson's funniest comedian and world class fiddler DOOFUS DOOLITTLE! Doof will have you rolling in the isles with his unique brand of humor and you will be captivated by some of the best fiddle and word class violin music ever. Doofus has an all new line up of jokes and hilarious routines this year not to miss! Having performed with several of these artists, Doofus will be sharing stories from some of those legends. A real treat this year, Doofus will be saluting the great comedians of yesteryear! Folks such as Archie Campbell, String Bean, Minnie Pearl and many more of your favorites! If you like Country Music, and Good Clean Family Entertainment, you'll want to bring all your friends & come out & see the: OZARK JUBILEE! 45 tickets available.



We will arrive early enough for you to gamble if you'd like to do so, or simply have a coffee and people watch! We will also enjoy a group lunch during the show.

Menu includes: Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, rolls and butter, dessert and coffee/water.

November 7

Cost: \$92, includes coach bus ride, lunch and ticket to the show
CALL TRITON COMMUNITY ED to register for this trip at 507-418-7550

Bus	Departs	Approx. Returns
Dodge Center Triton Activities Entrance	9:20 AM	4:40PM
Kasson Football Field Parking Lot	9:35AM	4:25PM
Byron Community Ed Parking Lot	9:50AM	4:10PM

Registration

*Walk in/Drop off at the Triton Community Ed Office, located in the Elementary Building.

*Call us at 507-418-7550

*Go On-line at triton.k12.mn.us

Click on the Menu Tab, and select Community Education under the Community Header, Choose Class + Activity On-line Registration.

Please note that for students the software does not automatically update their grade, teacher, age or shirt size. Please update these pieces of information each year.

Mail the registration form to:

Triton Community Education
813 West Highway St
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____
Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____

Participant Information:

First/Last Name: _____
Class Title: _____
Grade if a student: _____

First/Last Name: _____
Class Title: _____
Grade if a student: _____

First/Last Name: _____
Class Title: _____
Grade if a student: _____

Payment Information: Total Due: _____

Attention SCHA or UCARE Insured Families:

If your child has South Country Health Alliance (SCHA-could cover up to 5 classes up to \$15 per calendar year) then discounts MIGHT apply. Eligible UCare members may get up to a \$15 discount on many community education classes in Minnesota. Members must have UCare insurance at the time of registration and throughout the duration of the class. Members need to provide their UCare ID number when registering for class. Limits and restrictions may apply. Registration is not complete without this insurance information.

Call 507-418-7550 with questions-Thank you!



TRITON CE'S ANNUAL
Holiday
MARKET



**FEATURING LOCAL
ARTISTS, VENDORS &
BUSINESSES**



**PARK AND
ENTER AT
THE
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

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**CITY OF CLAREMONT
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6,
2024
7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Claremont, Minnesota was held on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Claremont City Hall.

Members present: Mayor Tasha Dahl, City Council Members: Jacob Klejeski, Krystal Sultze, Deb Ellis, and Ryan Hedberg. Council Members absent: None.

City staff and others present: City Administrator Elizabeth Sorg, Maintenance Director Casey Dahl, City Attorney Mark Rahrick, City Engineer Derek Olinger, Jarrod Sultze, Patti Chiarini, and Donna Gregory.

AGENDA

Motion by Sultze to approve the agenda with 1 addition under New Business, Item C. Resolution #24-21: A Resolution Approving Publication of Ordinance by Title and Summary will be added, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Donna Gregory said

Hogfest was great.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of: Minutes of the July 2, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting and Resolution No. 24-17: Resolution Certifying Past-Due Bills to Dodge County for Collection with 2025 Property Taxes. Administrator Sorg said \$613.29 was added to the Resolution to assess Claremont MHP for unpaid water. Motion by Ellis to approve the Consent Agenda with the added assessment on the Resolution, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Klejeski to approve the financial reports, second by Hedberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ellis to approve the amended list of bills to be paid, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

EDA

Nothing at this time.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Nothing at this time.

PARKS COMMITTEE

Three companies submitted electric bids for the scoreboard and lights. The bid request was to put the scoreboard in now and place conduit where lights will go for installation later on. Motion by Hedberg to approve Ripley Electric's bid of \$8,698.40, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance Director Dahl will be getting a small storage shed to put in Harmer Park.

Hodgman Drainage submitted an estimate for expanding the ball field parking area in order for buses to come in and park. The council tabled the parking area expansion until 2025 in order to raise more funds.

PEOPLESERVICE

Their monthly reports were in the packet.

CITY ENGINEER

The 2025 street project will be:

3rd Street (Wheat St to East St)

Oak Street (2nd St to Front St)

Church Street (Julia St to McKinley St)

3rd Place (Julia St to Paukert Ave)

Julia Street (Church Street to a point approx. 450 feet north)

Oakview Drive (120th Ave to a point approx. 1050 feet south) & Oakview Place

The street project will be pavement improvements and utility improvements, as deemed necessary by the feasibility study. A neighborhood meeting will be held prior to the improvement hearing (a less formal setting for residents to learn about the project). Motion by Ellis to approve Resolution No. 24-18: Ordering Preparation of Report on Improvement, second by Klejeski. Motion carried unanimously.

Bolton & Menk's estimated engineering fees for the street project are \$26,300. Costs will be billed on an hourly basis and won't exceed without consent from the city. The engineering and designing fees will be reimbursed through the project financing package. Motion by Klejeski to approve the preliminary engineering proposal, second by Ellis. Motion carried

unanimously.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Oak Street Lift Station rebuild was completed July 31.

So far, one person has applied for the part-time maintenance worker position. Interview(s) will be Tuesday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY

Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Ellis to open the Public Hearing for Administrative Fines, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously. There were 3 properties that received administrative fines and didn't become compliant with city ordinances at the time the agenda was done: 300 E Front Street, 220 Church Street, and 411 N East St, Lot 239. Patti Chiarini from 220 Church Street was present and explained the reasons for the delays. The total amount of administrative fines she received was \$1500. She did keep in touch with Sorg saying when she could get the violations taken care of and as of today is compliant with

city ordinances. The Mobile Home Park has received \$1500 in administrative fines and has not made any improvements. They have never communicated with City Hall since they bought the mobile home park. David Stein at 300 E Front Street has received \$1500 in administrative fines and has not made any improvements. He has a building on his lot that has been deemed unsafe and a hazard by the building official. Motion by Klejeski to close the Public Hearing, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Hedberg to reduce Chiarini's fine to \$300, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Hedberg to hire Junk Recyclers, along with assistance of a Dodge County Deputy, to clean up the items at Lot 239, second by Klejeski. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Ellis for City Attorney Rahrick to prepare a Court Order in order to go onto 300 E Front Street to clean up the violations, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

(continued on page 34)



**TRITON
TEACHER
SPOTLIGHT**



Caroline (Gosse) Otto
Triton Middle School Special Education Teacher

Caroline (Gosse) Otto is a new Triton Middle School Special Education teacher this year. She is a native of this community. Caroline student taught K-M 5th grade and has been a long term sub for the 1st grade. She is looking forward to working with the staff and students at Triton. She enjoys playing golf, traveling with family, spending time with her two Labrador Retrievers and planning her upcoming wedding.

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CLAREMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

(continued from page 33)

Motion by Ellis to open the Public Hearing to consider changes to Claremont's Floodplain Ordinance, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously. Sorg has been working with FEMA to have Claremont listed as a No Flood Plain Area. In order for a business or resident to get assistance from the state or FEMA due to flooding, they must follow the city ordinance. Adopting the No Floodplain Ordinance might help residents get better insurance options and maybe reduced insurance rates. Motion by Sultze to close the Public Hearing, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Ellis to adopt Ordinance No. 24-4.70 Floodplain Ordinance, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hedberg to approve Resolution No. 24-21: A Resolution Approving Publication of Ordinance by Title and Summary, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Klejeski to ap-

prove Resolution No. 24-16: Apply to Participate in National Flood Insurance Program, second by Hedberg. Motion carried unanimously. In order to continue working on I&I issues once a property has been sold there will be an inspection to determine whether there are prohibited uses or connections to the sanitary sewer.

Motion by Ellis to approve Ordinance No. 24-0806: Regulating Public Sewer Inspections, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Klejeski to approve Resolution No. 24-19: Approving Summary Publication of Ordinance, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dahl and Administrator Sorg were present for a zoom meeting with DCA EMS Special Taxing District. A draft of the Joint Powers Agreement was reviewed, and they will be meeting again to find out what city council members would accept and their thoughts on the Agreement. As drafted currently, the taxing district would allow 1 council member or representative of each city to be on the board and

have a vote. The cities participating are Claremont, Dodge Center, Kasson, and Mantorville. Each city's levy will have a preset amount per house added to their levy. At any time if a city wanted out of the agreement, they would need to submit a resolution at least 2 years in advance. At the zoom meeting Kasson said they would want to have more votes on the board due to their population. The council discussed this topic thoroughly. The council didn't want to restrict the uses of the levy to capital purchases or certain items. All council members strongly opposed Kasson, or any city, getting more than 1 vote. Since each property will be paying the same dollar amount, each city should get the same amount of votes.

Motion by Sultze to approve Resolution No. 25-20: Adopting the Proposed 2025 Tax Levy, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. The total proposed tax levy is \$588,130.

Motion by Klejeski to approve the 2025 Proposed Budget, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sultze to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Sorg,
City Administrator

Tasha Dahl, Mayor

CITY OF CLAREMONT SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024 6:30 P.M.

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Claremont, Minnesota was held on Monday, August 26, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Claremont City Hall.

Members present: Mayor Tasha Dahl, City Council Members: Jacob Klejeski, Ryan Hedberg, and Krystal Sultze. Members absent: Deb Ellis. City staff and others present: City Administrator Elizabeth Sorg, Maintenance Director Casey Dahl, Nathan Gustafson, and Donna Gregory.

The purpose of this special meeting was to interview Nathan Gustafson for the

part-time maintenance worker position.

Motion by Klejeski to offer the part-time position to Nathan Gustafson starting at \$20 per hour, \$200 clothing allowance annually, PERA, and decreasing term life insurance, second by Hedberg. Motion carried unanimously. There will be a 90-day probation period.

Motion by Sultze to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m., second by Klejeski. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Sorg,
City Administrator

Tasha Dahl, Mayor

CITY OF WEST CONCORD CITY COUNCIL MEETING JULY 18, 2024 7:00 P.M.

Meeting held at the City of West ConCORDS Bell Tower Center

PRESENT: Mayor Jeffrey McCool, Council members Nielsen and Peterson.

ABSENT: Council Members Burse and Ripley

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Palen of Stantec, Maintenance Supervisor Keith Clammer, Administrator/Clerk Paula Even Trenda, Accountant Michelle Lee, and Police Chief Shannon Boerner, Fire Chief Chad Finne, Chris Sanders of People Services.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA;

MOTION: Motion to approve the agenda as presented Consent Agenda

- Approve of Council Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2024
- Resolution 2024-36: Approval of new fire dept volunteers Mike Naze and Grant Erler

• Resolution 2024-37 Approval of 2 new reserve officers Gavin Boerner and Aden Kadner

• Approval for City Administrator/Clerk to attend LMC Clerks Academy Sept 5 & 6

• Approval of Payment of Claims: June 14, 2024 – July 11, 2024: \$453,158.58

MOTION: Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion made by Council member Nielsen, seconded by Council member Peterson

(continued on page 35)

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WEST CONCORD CITY COUNCIL MEETING

(continued from page 34)

Ayes: Mayor McCool, Council members Nielsen, Peterson

Nays: None
Motion passed

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Sandra Sullivan – Wanted Stantec to address the issue of the tree that was damaged by road construction work. As well as ask when she would be able to access her driveway again.

Ross Cameron – Felt his water bill/usage was way too high when they were out of town. He will work with the city to see if we can adjust his billing but wants to know if there is an issue with meter. Chris thought the meter was fine, but Ross said he doesn't have an internal leak.

CITY BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-38: Agreement and approval to pay the new 2025+ contract for CAD Software for squad cars.

MOTION: Motion to approve Resolution 2024-38 Agreement and approval to pay the new 2025+ contract for CAD Software for squad cars. Chief Boerner explained that this is the only software available and is managed through Dodge County Sheriff's office.

Motion made by Council member Peterson, seconded by Council member Nielsen

Ayes: Mayor McCool, Council members Nielsen,

Peterson
Nays: None
Motion passed

Review Road Closures for Survival Days. Discussion and information only for city residents, staff, and visitors.

Resolution 2024-39: Accept Amendment #1 for grant deadline extension for the Residential Rehabilitation Program from September 2024 to September 2025.

MOTION: Accept Amendment #1 for grant deadline extension for the Residential Rehabilitation Program from September 2024 to September 2025. Motion made by Council member Nielsen, seconded by Council member Peterson.

Ayes: Mayor McCool, Council members Nielsen, Peterson

Nays: None
Motion passed

Resolution 2024-40: Affidavit of Ripley Electric for \$675

Affidavit for \$300 work done for swimming pool and \$375 for pump house door.

MOTION: To accept Affidavit for \$675 for Ripley Electric.

Motion made by Council member Nielsen, seconded by Council member Peterson.

Ayes: Mayor McCool, Council members Nielsen, Peterson

Nays: None
Motion passed

Joe Palen, Stantec Engineering

Joe Palen of Stantec was present to provide an update on the street projects. The contractor is adding geo-tech fabric to the new roads and repairing, at no cost to the city, repair and burying of "floating" sewer pipes contractor didn't secure properly. Sand and class 5 material will be installed throughout the week, as weather permits. The road should be able to be driven on and walked on during Survival Days. An update for residents will be out the week of July 22.

The municipal parking lot is completed and will be stripped on July 22. Unfortunately, as lovely as the large tree is that is slated to be removed, needs to be taken out. The damaged tree will be fine once work is completed. Also, driveways should be less than 30 days out from being installed, but again, weather dependent. The mayor requested that the sidewalk by Bell Tower be left until after July 28.

Approve: Request for payment #3 on 2024 Street & Utility Project - \$71,860.85

MOTION: Motion to approve payment #3 to contractor. Motion made by Council member Peterson, seconded by Council member Nielsen.

Ayes: Mayor McCool, Council members Nielsen and Peterson

Nays: None
Motion passed

REPORT OF OFFICERS ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

It was reported that the city received from the Historical Society a check in the amount of \$3,763.49 for the gambling rent at the Municipal Liquor Store. Municipal On & Off Sale Report was included for council review. Sales remain strong but looking into expenses, as they seem high compared to the high sales. The current year to date budget was provided to the council to review.

The EMS work session was held, and we are looking for a meeting between Dodge Center and West Concord to discuss their "proposed" fees. In addition, we are looking at 2 or 3 other options for continued service of EMS by our own crews both volunteer and/or paid.

Budget to Actual revenue and expenses was provided to the council through June 30th.

LIBRARIAN REPORT:

Heather Fredericks was on vacation, so the Administrator touched on her high points for upcoming events.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Maintenance Supervisor Keith Clammer reported EBA Grant trees are looking good. He is purchasing a used fire hose from Claremont for use at the pool.

PEOPLESERVICE REPORT:

Wastewater Supervisor Chris Sanders verbally reported on his report.

POLICE CHIEF:

Police Chief Boerner said National Night Out is August 6th. There will be an Open Swim along with a bounce house and other fun activities.

FIRE CHIEF:

Fire Chief Chad Finne mentioned it has been a busy few weeks for EMS, along with a small shed fire.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion to Adjourn.

Motion made by Council Member Nielsen, seconded Council member Peterson.

Ayes: Mayor McCool, Council members Peterson, Nielsen

Nays: None
Motion passed

By: _____
Mayor Jeffrey McCool

Attest: _____
Paula Even Trendera

Clerk/Administrator

TRITON ISD NO. 2125 – SUMMARY SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.

TRITON HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER – DODGE CENTER, MN & ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the August 19, 2024, Triton School Board meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing in the Triton District Office, 813 West Highway Street, Dodge Center, or online at www.triton.k12.mn.us.

Present: Wendy Kenworthy, Rebecca Knutson, J. Jensen, D. Jensen, Lloyd Henslin, Jr., Duane Bartel, and Brian Ginder, Craig Schlichting, Luke Lutterman, Tricia Johnson, Corey Black, and Tina Kozisek.

The School Board approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent the July 15, 2024 regular meeting minutes and August 14, 2024 study session minutes as presented; budget update; claims and bills; treasurer's report; donations; open enrollment/nonresident agreements for students #081924A, #081924B, #081924C, and #081924D; contracts for Luke Lutterman as Superintendent, Kristine Ocampo Mora as Cobra Kids Assistant, Kayla Kunz as Special

Education Paraprofessional, and Taylor Kraemer as Preschool Assistant; extra-curricular contracts for Brandon Neseth as Head Football Coach, Brady Essig, Sam Storlie, Cole Rollins, and Colt Ullom as 9-12 Assistant Football Coach, Joe Giesler, Mark Evjen, and Dale Tate as Jr. High Football Coach, Shelly Bungum as head Cross County Coach, Laurie Essig as Head Volleyball Coach, Allissa Hallaway as JV Volleyball Coach, Karissa Eipers as 9th Volleyball Coach, Olivia Zwaschka and Morgan Reuvers as Jr. High Volleyball Coach, and Jeremy Himli as Head Girls Soccer Coach; resignation for Gena Dostal as Paraprofessional, Allison McMartin as Paraprofessional, and Steven Fairchild as Bus Driver;

- Spanish Immersion Child-care Handbook;
 - Triton Preschool Handbook for 2024-2025;
 - Triton Elementary School Student Handbook for 2024-2025;
 - Triton Middle School Student Handbook for 2024-2025;
 - Triton High School Student Handbook for 2024-2025;
 - Triton Staff Handbook for 2024-2025;
 - Policy updates;
 - Resolution for Appointing and Identified Official with Authority for the External User Access Recertification System;
 - Establishing December 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. as the regular board meeting to discuss the levy & budget;
 - Reauthorization of the Safe Learning Plan;
 - Changing the regular school board meeting from November 18, 2024 to November 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and setting November 13, 2024 to canvass election results.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, August 26, 2024

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the August 26, 2024 Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Matt Maas, Marianne Sobek, Sargent Stephanie French, Jodi Hill, Mark Barwald, AJ Gengler, Jeremy Dostal, David Kenworthy, Kathy Freeman and others

Absent: Paul Blaisdell

City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda to include: Minutes from August 12, 2024 City Council Meeting, July 9, 2024 HRA Minutes; Payment of Bills; Triton High School Homecoming Parade Route/Road Closures on October 4, 2024;
 - Dodge County converting vacant lot north of Fairview Nursing Home to native prairie grass;
 - Delay primary enforcement of the abatement order until September 9, 2024 on 11 NW 1st St;
 - Resolution 2024-020 – A Resolution Approving Variances for Valley View Manufactured Home Community;
 - Resolution 2024-021 – A Resolution Approving a Lot Split for Hermila Richardson;
 - Request for \$8,000 to purchase and install paddles at Wastewater Treatment Plant;
 - Quote from DeCook Excavating of \$3,368.44 for the boulevard area at 406 NE 2nd St;
 - Remove disconnection language from City policy;
 - Writing off Hoaglund account in the amount of \$6,892.13 and nuisance account from 18 NE 1st St in the amount of \$300.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm

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