



# Goodhue-Bellechester Messenger

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**Avy Agenten & Caleb Kurtti**  
2024 Goodhue  
Homecoming Queen & King



## Goodhue Living Celebrates Second Anniversary and Residents

By Beth Brekke

“We like to have fun. We also have an important job to do,” said Goodhue Living’s Executive Director, Missy Shaleen. A second anniversary celebration on Monday, September 23rd highlighted both priorities. “We have an amazing management team, great staff and residents. We are one big, happy family.”

With only seven of the 40 apartments available, they are right on target as expected at the two year mark. *(continued on page 4)*



**Pictured to the right: Goodhue Living Staff and volunteers working at the facility's second anniversary party were (front row, L-R) Susie Matthees, Missy Shaleen, Sydney Lundquist, Trinity Poncelet, Zoe Willis. (back row, L-R) Eric Stehr, Shelley Johnson, Abigail Brinkman, Marlys McNamara, Donna Holst and Kayla Ryan.**

### Announcements

• **Belvidere Happy-Go-Luckies 4-H Club** (usually) meets the first Monday of each month at 7p.m. at St. Peter’s Church, rural Goodhue. New members are always welcome! Contact club leader Michelle Benrud at 651-923-5247 for more information.

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

*Do you have an announcement?  
Email: [hometownmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:hometownmessenger@gmail.com)*

### Goodhue City Council Candidates

*This article does not constitute an endorsement of any candidate for the city council election by the Goodhue-Bellechester Messenger. We welcome each and every candidate to contact us for a story if they are interested in doing so to inform the public on their views.*

There are two candidates running for the Goodhue City Council and one running for the mayor position this year. We asked them for an interview to introduce themselves to the community.

Ernest Valenzuela is running for mayor, Michael Brunkhorst and Tyler Rashid are running for the two seats on the council.

*(continued on page 5)*



**Pictured to the left: Michael & Kylie Brunkhorst**

### Goodhue School Board

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There are three open seats on the Goodhue School board this election. Three candidates are on the ballot, Karl Knobelsdorff, Jerod Thomforde and Ryan Buck.

*(continued on page 5)*

## OCTOBER 6-12, 2024 FIRE SAFETY WEEK

### Smoke Alarms: Make them work for you.

Teach your family about fire safety during Fire Safety Week. Take a moment to practice a home fire drill and test your smoke detectors. Voth Insurance and Grinnell Mutual urge you to change your smoke alarms every 10 years.

Jerry Tipcke and Brandon Haidar  
[www.Vothinsurance.com](http://www.Vothinsurance.com)  
109 N Broadway  
Goodhue, MN 55027  
Phone: 651-923-4048  
[agent@vothinsurance.com](mailto:agent@vothinsurance.com)



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## A Word from the Lord about Harvesting

By Pastor Marty Weigand,  
Grace and St. Peter's  
Lutheran Churches (WELS)  
of Goodhue, MN

October is not only for football games and fall color; it's a month of combines, gravity boxes, and bright lights in the middle of a field as farmers work late into the night to get the harvest in. Listen to what the Bible tells us about a harvest time many years ago with God's Old Testament people Israel, and the lessons God has for us in this.

It was around 500 B.C.—the people of Israel had recently come back from 70 years of captivity in Babylon (present day Iraq) and were in their own land again. They were living in their own houses, which they had rebuilt, and planting and harvesting in their own fields again. But the harvest was not what they hoped. "You planted much, but harvested little," God told them through the prophet Haggai (Haggai 1:6 NIV).

Why was that? God explained it to them. "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why? declares the LORD Almighty. Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house. Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the oil,

and whatever the ground produces, on men and cattle, and on the labor of your hands." (Haggai 1:9-11 NIV)

The people didn't want to be bothered with rebuilding the Lord's temple, which had been torn down when the Israelites went into captivity. They wanted to have their own houses and stuff all the way they wanted first. Only after that—maybe—would they find time to rebuild the temple. Logically, this should have resulted in greater harvests and more prosperity for them, since by not spending time or wealth on the Lord's house, they had more time and wealth to put into building their own houses and planting and tending their own fields.

But God didn't let it work out that way. He made it so that when they put God last in order to have more for themselves, they ended up with less for themselves than if they would have put God first.

God is still in charge today of how successful our work is on this earth—whether it's farming, factory work, construction, retail, or fixing up our own house or vacation home. He's also in charge of how our day goes—whether we have time to spare; or unexpected complications eat away all the extra time we thought we had set aside for ourselves.

When we put God last, in order to have more money for ourselves, or more time for ourselves, he may do like he did with the Israelites, and we end up with less money to spare to buy things we wanted to, or less time

to enjoy them, then if we would have put the Lord first with our time, wealth, or energy.

The reverse is also true. God inspired the Apostle Paul to write these words to Christians in Corinth around 55 A.D., who were willingly taking part in an offering to help needy fellow Christians around Jerusalem. "Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion." (2 Corinthians 9:10-11 NIV) Instead of the Christians making themselves poorer by giving away what they had, God would bless them and make them richer

than if they hadn't given, so they could bless yet more people with their gifts. God can do that with our time as well, blessing us so that when we take time to worship him, and to serve him by serving others, he lets our day go in such a way that we get more done and still have more time left than if we hadn't taken that time out to serve him.

Dear Christians in our community, let these things encourage you to do what your new Christian heart already wants to do. Put your Lord Jesus first, with your time and your wealth, in thanks to Him who put serving and saving you ahead of his own time, health and life; but then rose from the dead to live forever as your Savior!

## All Aboard! Celebrate ZAHS

The Zumbrota Area Historical Society invites the public to celebrate their 25th year along with the 100th Anniversary of their historic building on Sunday, October 27th. All Aboard for a railroad themed celebration an annual meeting.

At 12 p.m. enjoy free hotdogs, chips, & ice cream on the lawn at the ZAHS building, 55 East 3rd St. Inside, a Meet-and-Greet will feature: Mr. B's Hiawathaland Rails, Anthony Bianchi; TJ's Epic Train Channel, Todd Hein, running old model trains; Bluestem Films, Ethan Krueger, 1 p.m. Drone launch weather permitting in the parking lot.

Then, at 2 p.m. at the State Theatre, 96 East 4th St. a short Annual meeting followed by Mr. B's Hiawathaland Rails presents the Duluth Red Wing & Southern Railroad "DRW&S" that once ran from Red Wing to Zumbrota. Remember them, they built Zumbrota's 2nd covered bridge!

After the 2 p.m. event the ZAHS building will open again for a follow-up Meet-and-Greet.

Join ZAHS on Sunday, October 27th for an All Aboard for a railroad themed celebration and annual meeting.



**Goodhue-Bellechester  
Messenger**

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**HOLY TRINITY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Father Thomas McCabe • www.holytrinitygoodhue.org  
211 4th St. N., Goodhue • 923-4472  
Parish Office Hours, Mon.: 9:00AM - 2:00PM  
*(Holy Trinity Parish Office has sacramental records for St. Mary, Bellechester,  
and St. Columbkil, Belle Creek, since merger in 2013).*  
Sat.: 4:45PM - 5:20PM Confession, 5:30PM Holy Mass (Sunday vigil)  
Tues.: 8:00AM Holy Mass  
Wed.: 8:00AM Holy Mass, 9:00AM - 2:00PM Eucharistic Adoration  
Rosary said 25 minutes before Holy Mass  
All are WELCOME! But receiving Holy Communion are for those  
who are of age and practicing the Catholic faith.  
We practice because we are not yet perfect!

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221 Chester Avenue • 923-4472  
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and St. Columbkil, Belle Creek, since merger in 2013).*  
Sun.: 8:15AM - 8:35AM Confession, 8:45AM, Holy Mass  
Mon.: 8:00AM Holy Mass, 6:30PM - 9:00PM Eucharistic Adoration  
Rosary said 25 minutes before Holy Mass  
All are WELCOME! But receiving Holy Communion are for those  
who are of age and practicing the Catholic faith.  
We practice because we are not yet perfect!

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**ST. COLUMBKILL  
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Father Thomas McCabe • www.holytrinitygoodhue.org  
County Road 47, Goodhue • 923-4472  
*(Holy Trinity Parish Office has sacramental records for St. Mary,  
Bellechester, and St. Columbkil, Belle Creek, since merger in 2013).*  
Sun.: 10:30AM Holy Mass  
Thurs.: 8:00AM Eucharistic Adoration/Confession, 9:00AM Holy Mass  
Rosary said 25 minutes before Holy Mass  
All are WELCOME! But receiving Holy Communion are for  
those who are of age and practicing the Catholic faith.  
We practice because we are not yet perfect!

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**GRACE EV. LUTHERAN  
CHURCH (WELS)**

Pastor Martin Weigand  
39774 Co. 4 Blvd., Goodhue • 651-923-4624  
gracelutheranchurch@gmail.com • www.gracestpeters.org  
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30a.m. with communion  
on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.  
Sunday School at 9:30a.m., Sunday Bible Study at 9:45a.m.,  
Confirmation Class 5:45 on Wednesday at St Peter's.  
8:30a.m. Quilting and Bible Study on Wednesday at St Peter's, and  
10:30a.m. Midweek Bible Study on Thursday at St Peter's.

**AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY**

**Wake Up**

*"Young man, I say to you, 'Get up!'" — Luke 7:14*

I am not a morning person. I wish I were. I have learned to get up early out of necessity, but it takes some time and coffee to get me going.

In our reading from Luke 7 today, we see a remarkable awakening. A young man has died. Jesus sees the funeral procession, and his heart goes out to the young man's mother, who is also a widow. He walks up to the funeral stretcher and says, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" Jesus uses a Greek word here that literally means "wake up." Jesus treats the young man as if he is not dead but asleep. And when he wakes up, the young man starts to talk, which seems like a funny detail to include. Maybe he is a morning person!

Later in the passage, the same word is used again. The crowd that had seen this miracle declared with awe, "A great prophet has appeared among us." More literally, this can be translated: "A great prophet has awoken among us!"—meaning that the people could see they were in the presence of someone specially sent by God. They didn't know much about Jesus yet, but they would soon learn.

I don't know if you are a morning person or not, but here is a helpful prayer we can offer anytime: "Jesus, please awaken me!" Ask the Lord to wake you up to see and care about the people around you.

*Dear Jesus, as you worked your resurrection power in that young man, will you work the same power in my life and spirit today? Help me to serve you faithfully. Amen.*

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**ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN (WELS)**

Pastor Randall Kuznicki  
Minneola Twp. Co. Rd. 7, rural Zumbrota  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Communion 3rd Sunday  
Sunday School and Bible Studies (Adult & Teen) 11:00a.m.

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**ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, MISSOURI SYNOD**

Pastor Steven Frentz  
28961 365th St., Goodhue  
651-923-4438  
Email: stpeter@sleepeyeyetel.net  
9:30a.m. Sunday School  
10:30a.m. Worship

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

**MINNEOLA  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Pastor Hannah Bergstrom de Leon  
www.minneolalutheranchurch.com  
13628 Cty. 50 Blvd., Goodhue  
Office line: (507) 218-7177 • Pastoral Care: 507-218-9063  
10:30a.m. Sunday Worship  
Sunday School the first 2 Sundays of the month at 9:30am.

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**ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN  
CHURCH (WELS)**

Pastor Robbin Robbert  
36620 Co. 4 Blvd., Goodhue • 651-923-4773  
Sunday 9:00am Worship  
Communion offered on the 2nd & 4th Sundays.

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**ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH (ELCA)**

Pastor Eric Hanson  
37750 County 6 Blvd., Goodhue, MN 55027  
Email: officestlukegoodhue.org • 651-998-7106  
8:30a.m. Sunday School  
9:30a.m. Sunday Worship  
6:45p.m. Wednesday Worship  
www.stlukegoodhue.org

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**ST. PETER'S EV. LUTHERAN  
CHURCH (WELS)**

Pastor Martin Weigand  
702 West Third Ave., Goodhue, MN • 715-441-5086  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45a.m. with  
communion on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.  
Sunday School at 9:30a.m. at Grace.  
Sunday Bible Study at 9:30a.m.,  
Confirmation Class 5:45p.m. on Wednesday,  
8:30a.m. Quilting and Bible Study on  
Wednesday, and 10:30a.m. Midweek Bible Class  
on Thursday.



## Curtis Edwin Schrimpf

Curtis Edwin Schrimpf, age 68, of Minneapolis, formerly of Goodhue and Zumbrota, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at Methodist Hospital in Rochester.

Curt was born on December 4, 1955 in Red Wing, the son of Edwin and Lois (Stehr) Schrimpf. He attended St. John's Parochial School, Goodhue and later graduated from Goodhue High School in 1974. He married Julie Lexvold on October 8, 1977 at St. John's Lutheran Church, and for many years had been an active member and served as elder.

Curt farmed most of his life near Goodhue. When Julie started Cut Above Home, Curt went to work with her and helped with everything she needed him to do. He loved spending countless hours in his woodworking shop making projects for his family and their customers.

Curt was community minded and enjoyed volunteering and serving wherever the need.

He had been active in the Jaycees, Goodhue Lions, and served on the Goodhue School Board.

His greatest joy was spending time at their lake cabin with his family, especially his grandchildren. He loved boating, fishing, golfing, playing cards, and baking pies.

His sense of humor, his love, dedication and presence in his family's lives will be greatly missed, but his deep faith reassures them of his new life.

His memory lives on in his partner for life, his wife of nearly 47 years, Julie; his beloved children, Joel (Sarah) of Chanhassen, Kimberly (Adam) Lodermeier of Goodhue, and Jeffrey (Katie) of Port Charlotte, FL; his precious grandchildren, Briana, Tobias, Brooke, and Emily Lodermeier, Claire and Jovie Schrimpf; his mother, Lois of Goodhue; siblings, Linda (Mike) Frost of Oronoco, Marilyn (Dale) Just of Rochester, Ken (Kristin) of Goodhue, Carol (Brad) Grover of Zumbrota, and Liz (Ron) Peters of White Rock; many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Edwin.

A Celebration of Life Service was held on Monday, September 23 at 1:00 pm, with vis-

itation from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Goodhue. A luncheon followed the service at the Goodhue Lions Community Center.

## Ellen Wilma Amy

Ellen Wilma Amy died unexpectedly at her home on Thursday September 26, 2024

Ellen Wilma Edelbach was born at home on the farm near Alma (Buffalo County) Wisconsin on September 13, 1935 to parents Melvin and Wilma (Fink) Edelbach.

She attended school in Buffalo County Wisconsin and began working out of the home for various farm families in her teenage years, and met her future husband, Loren Amy in 1951. Ellen and Loren married in Fountain City, Wisconsin on September 19th, 1953. They farmed on shares for several years near Kellogg, MN before purchasing their dairy farm in Dennison, MN in 1961. Ellen was a life long farmer and homemaker. Although they discontinued dairy farming in the early 1970's, Ellen and Loren continued raising beef cattle and working the farm. She provided daycare to sev-

eral area farm families as well as many of her Grandchildren as the family grew. In later years, after Lorens retirement from McQuay, they were able to travel to see family, including Texas, Oregon, California, Arizona as well as many trips to Wisconsin Dells with the family, and continued to enjoy the farm. After Lorens death in 2009, Ellen continued to live and take care of the cattle on the family farm in Dennison, actively gardening, cooking, canning and continuing the traditions she loved so much. Ellen held a strong Christian faith and supported her children and family to the fullest.

Ellen is survived by her children, David (Mary) Amy of Dundas, Bonnie (Favorite Son-In-Law, Randy) Ascherman of Faribault, Dallas (Rebecca) Amy of Dennison, Darwin (Lori) Amy of Dennison, Daniel (Sarah) Amy of Dundas, Jeff (Paula) Amy of Wells, and Joe (Michelle) Amy of Dennison, along with 21 Grandchildren, 31 1/2 Great Grand Children\*, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Visitation was at the Bierman Funeral Home Monday, September 30, 2024 from 4-7 PM, and one hour prior to funeral services at Dennison Lutheran Church Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 11 AM with her final resting at Prairie Creek Cemetery, rural Dennison.

Lunch followed at The Fireside Lounge & Supper Club in Dennison.



## Traveling Display

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In remembrance of the 40 Minnesotans who were victims of Intimate Partner Homicide in 2023, HOPE Coalition will host a traveling display in their service area of Goodhue and Wabasha counties. Host sites and dates to visit the display are below:

**Wabasha – October 1-10 next door to our Wabasha County office at 251 Main Street West.**

**Red Wing – October 11-17 at Christ Episcopal Church, 321 West Avenue.**

**Plainview – October 18-25 in the lot at the corner of 1st Avenue NW and 4th Street NW (across the street from the public library).**

**Lake City – October 26-November 1 along the river walk between Gold Star Memorial Park and Great River Flats.**

The sites were generously made available to us by Robin Gwaltney (Wabasha), Vicki Lambert of Christ Episcopal Church (Red Wing), Foresight Bank (Plainview), and Lake City Public Works.



## Goodhue Fire Department Open House Sunday, October 13th

You and your family are invited to the Goodhue Area Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department's annual open house and fundraiser. It will be held at the Goodhue Fire Hall on Sunday October 13th from 11am to 2pm. Active department members will serve lunch and be available to answer any questions about the equipment and services provided to the Goodhue community and surrounding areas. There will be fire truck rides, check out the new fire engine and possible a visit from a rescue helicopter if their schedule and the weather permits.

The Goodhue Fire and Rescue Department provides services to the townships of Belle Creek, Belvidere, Chester, Featherstone, Goodhue, Hay Creek and Vasa in addition to the cities of Goodhue and Bellechester – an area of over 275 square miles. They are proud to provide firefighting, fire protection, medical first responder and motor vehicle accident response services to the residents of these communities. The members have responded to 153 medical and 60 fire calls in 2023 within the area they serve.

The department completed over 1,000 training hours in 2023 and 789 hours so far in 2024. This keeps the members up to date on the latest medical and firefighting practices, procedures and protocols so they can provide the best possible service to the residents of the communities they serve. They hope to see you Sunday, October 13th at the Goodhue Fire Hall.



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## Goodhue Living Celebrates Second Anniversary and Residents

(continued from page 1)

Shaleen estimates 80% of the residents have come from within a ten-mile radius of Goodhue.

"They're just great," she says, adding how new residents feel at home within two to four weeks of moving into the community. "We've become the Senior Center," she remarked when talking about the many activities happening in the building. Each day is filled with opportunities to participate in spiritual, health and fitness programs, games, movies and other entertainment. October 31st Halloween fun will include kids coming through in costume. The community room is free to use and all events are open to the public. A calendar of events is available in the entryway.

Among the celebratory anniversary events was the third of three car shows held on the campus this year. Slightly smaller than the first two, there were about 20 vehicles of all models and ages. Food was available from Big River BBQ out of Lake City at all three shows. Mark Swan donated his time to sing and play guitar during the party.

Culinary Coordinator, Sydney Lundquist spearheaded a bake sale that raised \$500.00 for the Alzheimer's Association. Starting her work day at 7 AM, she baked a variety of bars and cookies to sell at that evening's anniversary celebration. The Goodhue High School graduate attended the Institute of Culinary Education in Manhattan, New York. "I loved cooking and baking since age 12. I like making people happy with food." She has that opportunity a minimum of five days a week as she makes breakfast and lunch for the residents and preps food for the remaining meals and desserts. "I love it. I like being busy," says the newlywed who lives in Lake City. Her husband, Nick does maintenance through a company that also serves senior citizens.

Lundquist worked out a system to sanitize new placemats that debuted on the Memory Care unit's dining tables September 25th. The woven mats were a joint project of the Goodhue Living community and resident, Jan Buckman. Jan cut the waxy, woven fabric to size and rounded and finished the edges. Jan has extensive experience working with this type of material as a self-taught basket artist.

"I can't remember when I wasn't doing something," Jan said of her life experiences. She would be knitting or crocheting and raising her children while working in a store on the West Bank of Minneapolis. She enjoyed working with other creative people at the store that sold handmade furniture. She later took up basketry. Using waxed linen and the wrapped twining technique, she created intricate, one-of-a-kind works of art.

Jan created her own patterns, designing baskets with contrasting geometric prints. A 10-12-inch tall piece may take 5-6 weeks to complete. She is so proficient in her craft that no cord ends or knots can be found where one



**Gracie the cat, Goodhue Living's only resident pet, was the guest of honor at a recent Dare to Dream event.**

length or color stops and the next begins. Her talent earned her a \$20,000.00 National Endowment for the Arts grant that she says gave her the freedom to experiment. Other smaller awards including an Arts Midwest grant, allowed her to travel to watch and learn from other basket makers. Jan, who is ¼ Ojibwe, took special interest in visiting the Hopi Indian Reservation.

The handmade nature of Jan's craft made it hard to put a price on her items. "At one point, I had a lot of (pieces in) galleries," she said, revealing that some pieces sold for as much as \$6-7,000.00, of which the gallery keeps half. The Minneapolis Institute of Art has one of her baskets on display and Jan's work has been featured in books and shows across the country. Once while in California, she saw a giant rendition of one of her baskets on the side of a passing bus.

Jan's husband, Tom, describes their early relationship as built "One dollar at a time". While their early affordable housing was literally in a cow pasture, he also meant the slow and steady way they worked together in life. A musician by trade, Tom now plays piano as a way to relax. From the Hager City, Wisconsin area, the Buckmans chose Goodhue Living for Jan's care due to the feeling of community they get from the staff and other residents. Sharing her skills while making the new placemats and being recognized for her many accomplishments was part of the senior living's Dare to Dream program.

St. Croix Hospice teamed with Goodhue Living to treat another resident (who wishes to remain anonymous) to some time with a furry friend.

The staff hoped to have the local shelter bring in some of their adoptable cats and kittens but when that fell through, Gracie, a large tortoiseshell patterned cat got all of the attention. Gracie belongs to one of Goodhue Living's occupants and is the only pet on campus at the moment. Her owner says she just showed up at their farm one day and may be about 10 years old. Spayed and well-mannered, she moved into the house and now lives with them in their apartment.

There may have been a lack of fur and whiskers but the Dare to Dream event turned into a nice gathering of the resident's family members, friends and animal-loving occupants. The resident shared a few memories of pets, describing the family dog as a "Spoiled rotten third kid". The staff hopes to reschedule a visit from the shelter at another time.



**Culinary Coordinator, Sydney Lundquist, sold freshly made treats at Goodhue Living's second anniversary celebration. The bake sale raised \$500.00 for the Alzheimer's Association.**



**Jan Buckman holds a sample of her work as a basketry artist. Her pieces have been featured in books and art shows across the country. They have also sold in galleries for as much as \$7000.00. She keeps supplies and tools and continues to work on her craft in her room at Goodhue Living.**



**Goodhue Living resident, Jan Buckman was honored for her artistry during a Dare to Dream event on September 25th. Pictured with her husband, Tom, Jan cut and finished the edges of new placemats being used in the memory care unit.**

## Goodhue School Board

(continued from page 1)

We asked all three for an interview to introduce themselves to the community. Ryan Buck and Jerod Thomforde responded.

**Ryan** was first elected to the board in 2020. Here are his views on his position on the Goodhue School board.

Not just mine but the accomplishments of the board over the last 4 years would be . Transitioning into our new addition of the building. Navigating through the pandemic with minimal disruption as possible. Also staying financially responsible during these tougher economic times. All while continuing to build on our solid foundation of education and growing good people!

Education is ever changing whether it be at the state level or the national. Continuing on our path to take the best decision possible for our district, our students, and our community

The number 1 strength of our community is the strong support of our school. Whether it be financially or as simple as volunteering during the school day or at a sporting event. Our community is top of the chart . Having that kind of support helps us as a board make the best decisions possible!

In the future we will continue to build on

strong test scores and building well rounded young men and women as they head out into the real world. We will continue to navigate and operate financially in the best interest of the district and the community. Continue to work with administration and staff to make sure they have the tools needed to do their job at the best level possible! Go Wildcats.

My wife Lauren and I have been married for 14 years. We have two children Silas is 6 and in 1st grade. Collins is 4 and in pre-school. We farm in the area and I also sell crop insurance in Goodhue . I've served as lions club president . I also served 10 years on the MN Corn growers board was President during that time. We enjoy spending time as a family outdoors and attending the many sporting events in Wildcat county. As a life long resident and graduate of Goodhue it very humbling and also gives a great sense of pride to serve and give back to the school.

Thank you for your support!

### Jerod Thomforde

I've been a lifelong resident of the Goodhue area and graduated from Goodhue High School in 1994. Currently, I work at Xcel Energy and have been married to my wife, Tammy, for 25 years. We have three children: two have graduated, and one is still in high school. For the past 18 years, I've served on the Goodhue Fire Department. I'm currently in my second term on the Goodhue School Board and am seeking re-election for a third term.

In the last seven years, we've made several significant changes, including hiring a new Superintendent, passing a building referendum, transitioning to a middle school format, and navigating a pandemic. The Goodhue



Ryan, Lauren, Silas and Collins Buck



Jerod Thomforde

School District has successfully operated within our budget, and I want to ensure we continue this effort.

One pressing issue facing many districts is staffing shortages. I believe our administrative team has excelled in recruiting and hiring

staff who share our goals and fit well within our District. We have a dedicated team of administrators, teachers, and support staff committed to providing a quality education for all students. This success is made possible by the strong support of our community!

## Goodhue City Council Candidates

(continued from page 1)

Only Michael responded to our request. Hello, my name is **Michael Brunkhorst**. My wife, Kylie, and I have proudly called Goodhue home for the past seven years. We've fallen in love with this community and its welcoming spirit. I pursued my education at Vermillion Community College in Ely, where I earned a degree an AAS in water quality science. This education has equipped me for my current position as the interim utilities manager for the Prairie Island Indian Community, where I have been working for the past eight years. I'm passionate about ensuring our water systems are safe and efficient, as they are vital to our health and environment. Beyond my professional commitments, I believe in giving back to the community that has given us so much. In addition to my professional role, I'm committed to giving back to the place we call home. I'm actively involved with the Volksfest Committee and my wife and I are co-chairs of the Goodhue Flower Committee. I enjoy connecting with fellow residents and helping to foster the vibrant culture and beauty of our town.

I am running for Goodhue City Council because it gives me the chance to make a direct impact on the future of our community. With my expertise in water and wastewater management, I bring a unique perspective on environmental and infrastructure issues, ensuring the safety and efficiency of vital systems that affect everyone. In addition, my involvement in local committees shows my dedication to enhancing Goodhue's culture and beauty. By serving on the Goodhue City Council, I can expand my role in decision-making and help shape policies that make Goodhue an even better place to live, work,

and raise families. I want to run because I believe in the strength of the community, understand its challenges, and I am eager to advocate for practical, sustainable solutions. I believe that by working together, we can continue to grow as the community city of Goodhue.

**Community Engagement:** I believe that the citizens' involvement in this community is remarkably strong. Residents consistently rally behind one another in times of need, demonstrating a profound sense of solidarity. They also actively support local events, such as the school system, Volksfest, the Lions Club, the Fire Department, and various local businesses.

**Community Recreation:** Goodhue offers a diverse array of recreational options for its residents. The community features multiple parks, a swimming pool, and pickleball courts, among other amenities. Additionally, there is a walking path that encompasses a large portion of the town, as well as an indoor walking path at the school.

**Quality Employment Opportunities:** Goodhue provides numerous employment opportunities in sectors such as agricultural implements and sales, agricultural commodities, grain and feed, fabrication, construction services, and farming, among others. Its central location allows for convenient access to nearby cities, including Red Wing, Lake City, Rochester, Cannon Falls, and the south metro region, all within a manageable 40-minute commute. This accessibility makes Goodhue an excellent place to call home.

I believe that these three qualities represent significant strengths, contributing to Goodhue's appeal as a vibrant community to be part of.

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

By University of Minnesota Extension, Goodhue County

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

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

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



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



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



Small Animal Supreme Showmanship Participants await the results



Ella D. is all smiles after her heifer class



Judge Jan McNallan gives feedback to Trevin D about his project



Cloverbud Swine Show Participants

## Goodhue County 4-H Members Participate in Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show

By University of Minnesota Extension, Goodhue County

St. Paul, MN – Five 4-H youth from Goodhue County participated in the Minnesota 4-H State Horse show Sept. 13-16, 2024. 4-H'ers demonstrate their skills and knowledge in hipology (showing knowledge and understanding of horse training and achievement, speech and demonstrations about interest in horses or the horse industry, showmanship and drill team skills throughout the event.

This year, the following youth were members of the Goodhue County delegation: Charli Gjemse (Zumbrota), Audrina Meyer (Lake City), Jaeda Johnson (Cannon Falls), and Ellie Holst (Red Wing). They each earned their trips during the Goodhue County 4-H Horse Show in August. Additionally, Haley Betcher (Goodhue) presented her Horse Related project

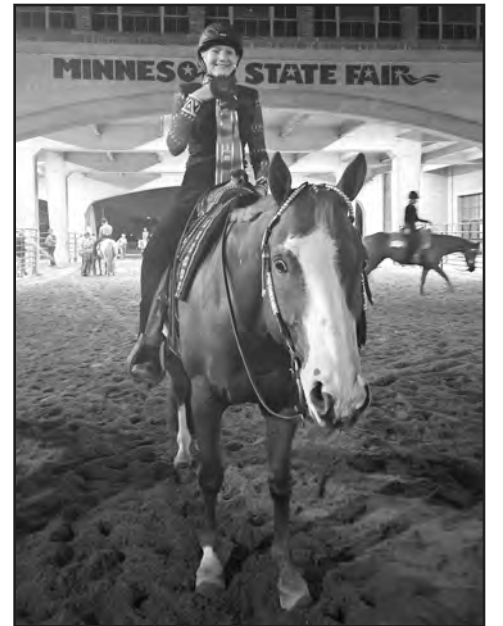
Charli had a tough run on barrels but placed 1st in the Grade 11 Jumping Figure 8. Audrina won the championship class for both Western Pleasure and English Pleasure. Jaeda was excited to place in each of her six classes and Ellie, a first-time participant, placed in four of her six classes! Haley's Horse Related



Jaeda Johnson



Audrina Meyer



Ellie Holst

project placed 10th overall.

Congratulations to all on your accomplishments!

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



Charli Gjemse



Haley Betcher

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## Goodhue High School Class of 1979 Reunion



**Goodhue High School Class of 1979 enjoyed an evening reminiscing together on Sept 7th at Wiederholts.**

(Front row): Meredith (Schafer) Adomat; Brenda (Wiebusch) Grote; Val (Carlson) Smith; Judy (Gorman) Safe; Kris (Nibbe) Mahoney; Wendie Ringeisen; DonnaMae (Dicke) Niebuhr; Mark Strusz. (Middle row): Eugene Poncelet; Steve Hinsch; Karl Thomforde; Rick Buck; Kevin Luhman; Al Jacobson; Mark Schultz; Dewey Munson; Mike Lodermeier; Jeff Zemke; Mark Reding. (Back row): Deb (Quiggle) Thomforde; Sue (Lunde) Heise; Char (Majerus) VonKnobelsdorff; Holly (Mensink) Roschen; Carol (Schrimpf) Grover; Deb (Ward) Tutewohl; Dorothy (Kehren) Lodermeier. Missing: Sheila (Poncelet) Tiedeman - *Submitted*

### Chamber Happenings



**By Beth Brekke**

The last Goodhue Chamber Farmers' Market of the season was held September 25th. Two food trucks and six vendors were onsite for the closing week. Chamber member and vendor, Paul Luhmann said once school starts the crowd thins and garden produce becomes more scarce. He noted that although it was near 80 degrees this year, we often have much cooler temperatures and sometimes even frost by late September.

The chamber is turning their attention toward Christmas. Planning for the third annual Christkindlmarkt, the open-air street event held in early December, has begun. They will also sponsor a holiday lighting/decorating contest for residences. They are arranging out-of-town judges as unbiased officials and a separate contest for businesses. For more information or questions about Goodhue Chamber events contact, Shannon Harrell at 651-380-1475.



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## Goodhue rolls past Winona Cotter 42-7!

Submitted by Chad Otterness

Sept. 6, 2024, Goodhue, MN

Goodhue started their home opener against the Ramblers and ran to a big first half lead and never looked back with a 42-7 win over Winona Cotter.

Offensively, Jack Carlson scored two first half touchdowns, on runs of 1 and 9 yards. The Wildcats scored three times in the second quarter, Caleb Kurtti running in a 41-yard fumble return for a score and Nathan Beck scored on runs of 5 and 6 yards. Hayden Holm added an 86 yard touchdown return in the 2nd half.

Winona Cotter was able to score in the fourth quarter on a 3 yard run by Cade Cummings. The Wildcats totaled 159 yards rushing.

Defensively, Jack Carlson led the team with 10 tackles with 3 of them for losses. Owen Rothen, Payton Holst and Jacob Ryan each had 7 tackles a piece.

Scoring	Scoring Play	Score
1 9:06	Jack Carlson 1 YD TD Run (Cristian Monjaraz Kick)	7 0
1 1:19	Jack Carlson 9 YD TD Run (Cristian Monjaraz Kick)	14 0
2 11:49	Caleb Kurtti 41 YD Fumble Return for TD (Cristian Monjaraz Kick)	21 0
2 5:36	Nathan Beck 5 YD TD Run (Cristian Monjaraz Kick)	28 0
2 0:49	Nathan Beck 6 YD TD Run (Cristian Monjaraz Kick)	35 0
3 11:45	Hayden Holm 86 YD Kickoff Return For TD (Cristian Monjaraz Kick)	42 0
4 10:16	Cade Cummings 3 YD TD Run (Macs Nisbit Kick)	42 7



Caleb Kurtti with the fumble recovery for a touchdown, the fumble was caused by Ethan O'Reilly and his awesome pressure on the offense.



Hayden Holm with the kick return for a touchdown after the halftime break. Way to start the second half.



Sean Matthees with the carry, Jack Carlson and Caleb Kurtti on the block.



Player of the Game senior Caleb Kurtti!

There were several players that played outstandingly well last night, Caleb was the recipient of Player of the game from Radio Station KWNG 106. With several clutch tackles, kick block and a defensive touchdown during the game!

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## The Wildcats Run over Rushford-Peterson 31-6!

Submitted by Chad Otterness  
Sept. 13, 2024

The Goodhue football team traveled to Rushford and ran at will to score 5 touchdowns. Nathan Beck started the scoring with a 56 yard touchdown run, Jack Carlson punched in a 2 yard carry. Cristian Monjarez added a 38 yard field goal. Goodhue picked up a safety and then Carlson ran in another 3 yard touchdown. Henry Caswell hauled in a 20 yard touchdown pass from QB Luke Roschen. R-P added a late touchdown with a pass reception in the 4th quarter.

**Statistics:**

**Rushing: attempt/yards**

- N. Beck 14/98 1 TD
- H. Holm 3/16
- J. Carlson 9/49 2 TD
- A. Bartholome 2/6
- M Lexvold 1/2

**Passing: L. Roschen 6/9 61 Yards 1 TD**

**Receiving:**

- J. Carlson 2/22
- S. Matthees 3/19
- H. Caswell 1/20 1 TD

**Defense:**

**Tackles**

- C. Kurti 16 4 sacks
- J. Carlson 11
- J. Ryan 9 1 sack
- P. Holst 9



Goodhue QB Luke Roschen set to throw the ball vs R-P



Wildcat Owen Roschen with a nice tackle on a kick return



Jack Carlson going for yards running the ball

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### Goodhue 2024 Graduate Playing Football for the University of Wisconsin River Falls-Falcons

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27

Grant Reed

---

Height: 5-10

---

Weight: 193

---

Class: Freshman

---

Hometown: Goodhue, Minn.

---

Highschool: Goodhue

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**Summary** Media Season Career

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## Cats come from behind to beat the Blossoms!

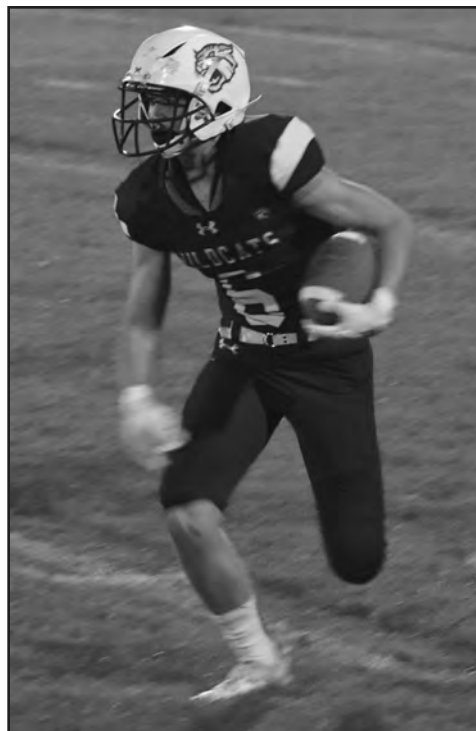
By Chad Otterness

The Wildcats Football team had a tough opponent from Blooming Prairie on Friday night in Goodhue. Goodhue scored 3 touchdowns in the first half, but were behind 28-21 at halftime.

In the 2nd half the Wildcats came back and scored 3 touchdowns and won by a score of 39-28.

Scoring touchdowns for the Wildcats were Caleb Kurti on a fumble recovery, Jack Carlson scored on a 68 yard reception, and runs of 1 and 6 yards. Sean Matthes ran for an 8 yard score, and Nathan Beck added a touchdown on a 5 yard run. Quarterback Luke Rochen was 4 for 12 for 112 yards and 1 touchdown. Hayden Holm had one pass for 34 yards. Jack Carlson led the rushing with 13 carries for 66 yards. Henry Caswell had 2 receptions for 70 yards.

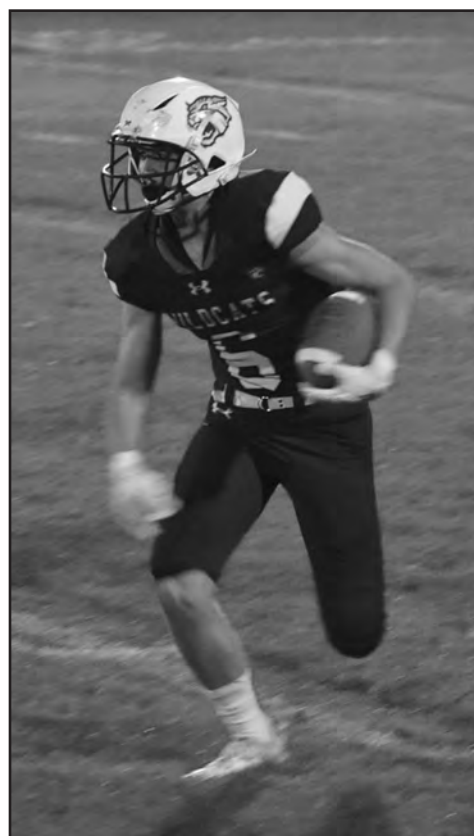
Defensively, Kurti and Carlson each had 14 tackles. Nathan Beck and Ethyn O'Reilly each added 12, Peyton Holst added 13, and Mike Rochen and Holm each added 10 tackles apiece. The Wildcat Football team is now 4-0.



Sean Matthes carrying the ball



The Goodhue defense pursuing the Blooming Prairie runner.



Senior Sean Matthes #6



#80 Henry Caswell



Goodhue scores



Jack Carlson gaining yards!

## The Wildcats shutout Faribault Bethlehem Academy 30-0!



**By Chad Otterness**

The Goodhue Football team's defense stopped the Cardinal's offense of Bethlehem Academy in a lopsided win!

The defense forced three fumbles and had two interceptions.

Hayden Holm had an interception and scored a touchdown from 23 yards to start the game. Michael Roschen picked off the 2nd interception from the Cardinal quarterback.

Offensively, Wildcat running backs Nate Beck, Peyton Holst and Austin Bartholome each scored touchdowns on runs of 20, 12, and 1 yard. Kicker Cristian Monjarez kicked

a 28 yard field goal to cap off the scoring Goodhue's record is 5-0.

**Statistics:**

**Offense**

**Passing:** S. Matthes 1/31

**Rushing:** J.Ryan 15/80, P. Holst 3/33 1TD, J. Carlson 3/27, N. Beck 1/20 1 TD A. Bartholome 5/17 1 TD

**Receiving:** A. Loos 1/31

**Defense:**

**Interceptions:** M. Roschen 1 H. Holm 1, 1 TD

**Tackles:** E.Sievers 5, C.Klindworth 4



Nate Beck #20 with the carry



Nate Beck running in a touchdown!



Kicker #42 Cristian Monjarez - kicking as been an exciting part of the game this year with the Wildcats!



Sean Matthes running the ball



Senior Craig Kurtti #67 on defense

## Chiropractic Care for Colds and Flu



By Shauna Burschem, D.C.

During cold and flu season, many people look for ways to stay healthy and ward off sickness. One option is chiropractic care, which can be a great ally for keeping your body in fighting shape. Chiropractors focus on adjusting the spine to improve how the nervous system functions. This is important because the nervous system is closely linked to the immune system. When your spine is aligned correctly, it can help boost your body's ability to produce more white blood cells and resistance enzymes, both crucial for fighting off colds and the flu. Another benefit of chiropractic care during this time is that it can help your body recover faster if you do get sick. Regular chiropractic adjustments can help reduce stress and improve circulation,

which are key factors in maintaining a healthy immune system. When your body is less stressed and your blood flows better, your immune system doesn't have to work as hard to keep up with viruses and bacteria. This means you might experience milder symptoms and get back on your feet more quickly. Plus, chiropractic care often includes lifestyle advice, which can guide you in making healthier choices all season long.

Monkeypox is a rare viral zoonotic disease similar to smallpox, characterized by fever, rash, and swollen lymph nodes, typically transmitted to humans from animals. As of the most recent data available, monkeypox has been associated with a low mortality rate, with deaths being relatively rare. Most cases reported have been mild, with fatalities occurring in less than 1% of those infected. Most individuals infected with monkeypox recover completely. Recovery typically occurs within two to four weeks after the onset of symptoms, although some complications can extend the recovery period. A vaccine approved in August by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for people deemed to be at "high risk" for mpox infection may cause more harm than good, according to the FDA's own medication guide for the product. The FDA medication guide comes with a list of "serious complications," including myocarditis, death and fetal death. The FDA's medication guide also warns that people who receive the vaccine may spread it to unvaccinated people, who also risk developing vaccine side effects, including death.

According to the opinion of respiratory therapist Mark Bishaskey, thousands of pa-



tients hospitalized for COVID-19 died because of a rush to put people on ventilators — while denying them medications like ivermectin, hydroxychloroquine and vitamin D. A respiratory therapist is a healthcare provider who helps diagnose, treat and manage conditions that affect the lungs, according to the Cleveland Clinic. They are the clinicians who perform intubation — inserting a tube through a person's mouth or nose, then down into their airway — so the patient can receive oxygen from a ventilator machine. As published in an interview with the Children's Health Defense, Bishofsky tried to convince doctors that "this wasn't the right thing to do." He explained:

"When I started my career in 1999 I went to ... a huge symposium talking about the risks of intubation — the risks of using a ventilator — and even back then it was known that intubation should be a last resort. "At that

time, they were reporting a 25% increase in mortality of patients that were getting intubated and put on a ventilator. And now we know during COVID it was upwards of 80 to 85% of people that were on ventilators passed away." Ventilators are "one of the most important life-saving tools we have," Bishofsky said, but they are also "extremely dangerous" because they typically cause bacterial pneumonia. In the first week of the pandemic, the doctors at Bishofsky's hospital used hydroxychloroquine. "We had extremely good outcomes," he said. But then an "absolutely bogus" study came out in the British medical journal Lancet on hydroxychloroquine. "The doctors would cite that." At the end of his tenure at the hospital, Bishofsky told its medical director, "You know, this whole early intubation thing was completely hideous." The medical director admitted it was hideous but said, "We were doing the best we could." Patients were being intubated "when they were needing as little as three liters of oxygen," according to Bishofsky, who said he'd never seen that before in his 25 years of practice. "That's so little oxygen to the point where if you took the patient off of it, they're gonna be fine," he said. "But there was this rush to intubate these patients."

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

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## Constipation Checklist



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS  
Licensed Nutritionist

Almost everyone has experienced difficulty passing a bowel movement at least once in their life. For some, the challenge is a regular occurrence. Dr. Alan Gaby defines constipation as having less than 3 bowel movements in a week. Dr. Bernard Jensen raised concern if an individual was not having 3 bowel movements a day. There are numerous reasons why constipation may be happening, but let's consider the basics.

The digestive system starts at your mouth and ends with the anal opening. This amazing system allows food to pass through the middle of your body with only the nutrients your body wants getting absorbed. All the rest of the remains of food will provide some support for the trillions of bacteria in your intestines and then will move out with the next

bowel movement. The colon is the last section of the digestive system, and a primary role of the colon is to absorb water so that you do not constantly have diarrhea. When this system is working well, your intestines should be regularly moving food remains through with ease.

In order to see regular bowel movements occur with ease, consider the following checklist:

**Water** – since a primary role of the colon is to absorb water make sure you are consuming enough water that the colon cannot absorb it all. Other beverages like coffee, tea, and carbonated beverages do not count. These beverages will stimulate the kidneys to pull more water out of the body, so additional pure water needs to be consumed to compensate.

**Fiber** – fiber is that portion of fruits and vegetables that is indigestible. It serves a purpose in absorbing water and toxins from the digestive track and removing them from the body. Consider fiber to be the broom which sweeps through the intestines and keeps them clean. Beans of all kinds, oatmeal, fruits and vegetables are quality sources of fiber. An adult should consume around 30 grams of fiber per day, but the average American only consume half that amount.

**Probiotics** – Probiotics are the beneficial bacteria you need in your intestines to maintain quality health. These probiotics can be obtained by supplement or through fermented foods like yogurt, sauerkraut, or kimchi. These beneficial bacteria feed on the fiber and produce helpful chemicals that

stimulate healing and bowel activity. I recommend a probiotic supplement that has at least 10 different bacteria listed in the ingredient list and to take between 50 billion CFU and 100 billion CFU in the evening before bed.

**Food Allergies** – make a journal of the foods you eat from day to day and note if constipation is experienced after eating a certain food. Any food can produce an allergic reaction. Some common foods associated with constipation include Cow's milk, cheese, wheat, and beef.

**Flaxseed** – Flaxseed oil and flaxseed meal consumed regularly can improve bowel movements and regularity. Recommended intake is 1 – 2 tablespoons of flaxseed oil, or 2 – 3 tablespoons of flaxseed meal per day. Flaxseed provides multiple benefits to the human body from the essential fatty acids, fiber, and additional nutrients packed into this tiny seed.

**Magnesium** – The intestines only absorb the quantity of magnesium the body needs. However, most Americans are deficient in magnesium as mentioned in a previous article. When you consume more magnesium than your body needs, a laxative effect will be produced to increase bowel activity. Magnesium citrate is an easy supplement to take and 400 mg in the evening before bed will be appropriate to increase bowel activity for most people.

**Vitamin C** – The intestines only absorb the quantity of Vitamin C the body can use at that time, so excess Vitamin C will also increase bowel movement. If you notice bowel movements are loose or too frequent, check your

Vitamin C intake.

As mentioned earlier, there are numerous reasons for constipation to develop. These causes can include hormone levels, medications, stress, sedentary lifestyle and diet. This checklist helps to identify some of the ways constipation may be relieved. Review this checklist and apply what seems best to you. I am happy to discuss individual cases and help you experience a more positive life.

Contact me to discuss your health goals for 2024. I can help you realize greater health freedom in 2024. 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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*\*Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of The Messenger.*

**Letter to the editor:  
A Survey for the Greater Good**



**Josh Smith**

The Goodhue County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) survey will be mailed to a random sample of Goodhue County residents starting in September. The survey is done every 3 years in partnership with Mower and Freeborn Counties and the Mayo Clinic, and it helps us identify the top health needs in Goodhue County, how they are changing over time, and how we can direct resources to address those health issues.

The survey is completely voluntary, and all answers are strictly confidential. Any potentially identifying information will not be linked to responses. The households that receive the survey are randomly selected and limited in number, so it's especially important to complete the survey if you receive it.

This year, the survey can be completed by hand or online. You can access the online survey by scanning the QR code on the postcard or survey packet. If you, a family member, a friend, or a neighbor receive a postcard or survey packet in the mail, know it's not a scam. We are just looking to collect information so we can make informed decisions and improve the health of our communities.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact me at 651-385-6150.

Your input is valuable, and it can make a

real difference!  
**Josh Smith, MPH**  
**Goodhue County Community Engagement Specialist**  
**426 West Ave**  
**Red Wing, MN 55066**

\*\*\*

**Letter to the editor:  
Why is this the most important election in our nation's history?**

Let's look at some of the new laws in Minnesota. Our current trifecta (meaning all three branches of government in Minnesota) is held by a one vote Democrat majority. Before the trifecta came on the scene in 2023, Minnesota had around a \$19 billion surplus. That is now gone. Plus an additional 40 % increase in spending (your taxes) is now in the 2025 budget.

The trifecta has passed the largest spending package for schools. Yet our Districts remain in financial crisis. Why? The over 60 new mandates restricting and directing those education funds certainly have a part to play. These last 2 years we have seen an increase in central State control in multiple areas of life and business. Instead of a "one box fits all" approach we should empower our school boards to listen to the community and make decisions that reflect the needs and goals of the district.

The one party legislation also enacted  
- Tax funded college to anyone, citizen or not, who's family makes under \$80,000  
- legalized at-will termination of pregnancy for any reason at any time,  
- gaged councilors by mandating them to

only affirm gender transformation instead of a allowing a conversation and a wholistic approach,

- restrictions from collecting and using the thermal energy created when burning trash,  
- created a brand-new payroll tax that socializes paid family and sick leave through a public option

These are just a few of the extreme stances taken last cycle. What has happened in MN should be a warning sign to all voters of what will happen to the U.S. should the same party continue in power.

THIS is why I will be voting Republican down ticket this year.

This is the most important election in our nation's history!

Everyone needs to take a stand and vote!!

**Sara Bertschinger**  
**Pine Island, MN**

\*\*\*

**To the Editor,**

"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are 'I'm from the government, and I'm here to help.'"

- Ronald Reagan

While comical, Ronald Reagan's words do speak to the truth that sometimes one's government will take pains to do more and more with the result not being the benefits it promises. The Minnesota DFL has had a Trifecta for now almost two years, proving the validity of Reagan's words.

At its start, the Trifecta took a \$17 billion surplus from 2022, spent it, failed to follow through on a promised major tax refund, increased spending by 40% (\$19 billion), and

destined Minnesota for a deficit (see American Experiment link below). Both high taxes and the inflation resulting from this spending will degrade the value of the citizen's dollar. Have you felt this? Moreover, their energy policies (namely bill HF7/SF4 which outlaws fossil fuels by 2040) will only steer Minnesota deeper into high energy costs. Citizens are being fleeced by taxation and robbed through inflation by an indifferent government.

The Trifecta has also incentivized illegal immigration with the passing of bill HF4/SF27 which gives illegal immigrants driver's licenses even though they cannot drive without insurance and get insurance without a social security number. Not only is fostering illegal immigration a robbery of citizens' jobs, college opportunities, and other resources, but also it resigns the immigrants to a form of serfdom, without the benefits of citizenship. Imagine if you could not call the police for fear of deportation. For the DFL to subjugate immigrants to a fearful, deprived, second-class citizenship is cruel and trending Minnesota towards slavery which decades have been spent trying to reverse.

I think we need to listen to Ronald Reagan's other quote, "Government is not the solution to our problem; government [DFL Trifecta] is the problem."

<https://www.americanexperiment.org/minnesota-state-budget-is-a-disaster-waiting-to-happen-thanks-to-gov-walz-and-the-dfl-controlled-legislature/>

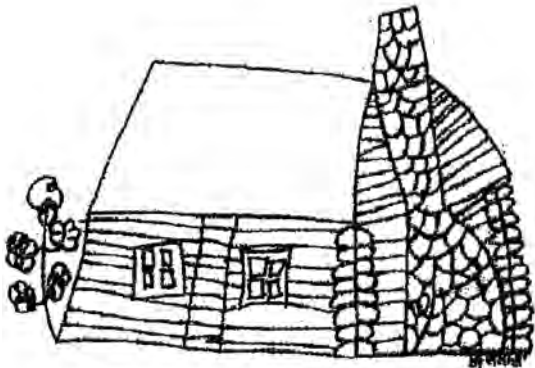
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*\*Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of The Messenger.*

**To the Editor:  
Voting Season is Here!**

President Thomas Jefferson once said, "We

do not have a government by the majority. We have a government by the majority who participate."

Informed citizen voting is one of the greatest privileges and responsibilities possessed by the American people. Every year is an

important year. So we want to encourage everyone to do your research, look into the candidates platform and make a plan to vote!

The MN Secretary of State website has an "elections" tab where a person can look up sample ballots, candidate filings, polling locations, and register to vote. All races on the ballot are significant. One of the best parts about local races is that these individuals are our friends and neighbors. Reach out, have a conversation with those on the ballots, ask questions and make an informed vote this year!

Election Day is Tuesday November 5th. In-person early voting has already begun and is held at the County Government Center.

For Goodhue County the address is as follows:

**Goodhue County Government Center  
509 W 5th Street  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
(651) 385-3040**

Open: M-F 8am-4pm

The Goodhue County Republicans would like to encourage everyone to participate this election season as informed voters for both the partisan and nonpartisan races. Elections are won by those who show up. Your voice matters and your vote is valuable. You make a difference.

**Goodhue County Republicans  
www.gcgop.us**

## Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes August 21, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Meeting is recorded, and the recordings belong to the City of Bellechester.

Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Jody Gordon, Council people Mark Gerken, Jered Buxengard, and Rich Majerus as well as City Clerk Lisa Redepenning, Treasurer Kyle McKeown and City Engineer Matt Mohs. Councilmember Kyle Blattner was absent. Also present was Deputy Huneke from Goodhue County Sheriff Department, Betty and Tim Huneke and Nick Huneke.

Minutes of July 17, 2024 regular meeting minutes were reviewed and motion was made by Jered Buxengard with a second by Mark Gerken to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed with MMS additional payment not submitted to be mailed and a motion by Mark Gerken with a second by Rich Majerus to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Sewer Lining Project - Update progress – Due to the schedule, there has been no work done by VisuSewer. Musel Brothers are doing the lateral lining work. They found some issues internally that they are working through with Bolten Menk. They are setting a meeting next week to go thru the lining issues. Angles in the piping is causing some issues. We do have a contingency plan to cover extra work that may be necessary.

- Water Meter Project - Update progress – Had preconstruction meeting and vendor is waiting for the meters to arrive and phone calls with be made by them for contacting and installation. Letters went out to inform residents. Anticipated project end is December.

- 2025 Preliminary Budget – review – Tabled until September.

- Junk Ordinance & Pool Requirements Review - review/discuss – Homeowners insurance proof, fence and locked. Pools need permits. Junk ordinance will be re done over the winter and put in place before next summer.

- Ideas for possible excess sewer grant fund expenditures – we have a list, but needs a timeline for purchase. We will be using COVID money on well house needs. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard to approve the poly in both well houses. Motion carried.

New business:

- Tim and Betty Huneke – Complaint – addressed in above discussion.

- Goodhue County Police Contract – Goodhue County Commissioners will be taking another look at the numbers. Sheriff Huneke spoke about how the rates have been determined. Decision will be tabled until September.

- Building Permit – Nick Huneke – Nick presented plans for a 2 car garage. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Mark Gerken to approve the plans as presented. Motion carried.

- Building Permit – Jesse Fox – Garage. Plans were distributed on the garage plans. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard to approve the permit as presented. Motion carried.

- Church Building Permit – Shingling. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Mark Gerken to approve the building permit as presented. Motion carried.

- Kyle McKeown Permit – reroofing. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard to approve permit. Motion carried.

**Engineer Report** – Lead service line inventory records we have are solid in town. Bolten & Menk will send the data to the Department of Health regarding the inventory that was done. Property owners will be contacted based on what lines were found on their property.

**Clerk Report – LGA** – our amount for 2025 is set at \$30,598 and we are getting another Small Cities Assist money in the amount of \$12,041. Police Rates - 2025: \$87.70 per hour, 2026: \$90.63 per hour, 2027: \$93.68 per hour. Pool ordinances – Lake City only has fencing requirements. State Building Code states that a building permit is required for all pools. Confirmed by the County: Per the Minnesota State Building Code, Above-Ground pools that exceed 5,000 gallons and has a depth capacity of 2-feet or more require a building permit.

**Treasurer Report** – Shut off notices were sent.

**Water/Wastewater/Facility Report** – Working finding all the water shutoffs. Some found were bent. There have been some well issues that is getting addressed.

**Mayor Concerns:** None

**Council Concerns:** Security signs are needed for can collection as well as fencing by brush pile.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Jered Buxengard to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:21. Motion carried.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk



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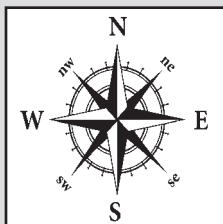
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## Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

### Transistor Radios



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.*

One of the earlier favorite memories I had as a kid was the radio. I enjoyed listening to the radio. But I had no control over the stations when I was real young. The radio in the barn was on KDHL. Polka music, weather and farm market reports was all it played. There was a radio in the milking barn and

one in the hog barn. My dad said it calmed the livestock to hear music all day. It sure helped beat the monotony when I was cleaning and feeding the animals.

In the car it wasn't much different. My dad controlled the dial and it was usually WCCO and the Minnesota Twins with Herb Carneal and Halsey Hall. About the only music they played was the Hamm's beer commercial. All we knew existed back then was AM (amplitude modulation) and I had no idea what that meant. Just that it got fuzzy when it stormed and clicked in time to the electric fence around the farm.

My dad had an old red transistor radio that operated off D cell batteries. I would take it out with me when I did farm work like cleaning calf pens and listen to KYMN in Northfield. Its range was quite limited and that was all I could find in my musical tastes.

Somewhere around 1971 I purchased my own transistor AM radio. I believe I bought it at the Gambles Hardware store. It was a futuristic style in the form of a round yellow globe with a silver chain and ring attached to it. It was a Panasonic Panapet designed to commemorate the World Expo in Osaka, Japan. It had two chrome dials for volume and tuning and the AM display inset on the surface of the ball.



This was great, now I could listen to my favorite radio station, 1270 KWEB Rochester. I kept it in the headboard of my bed and listened to it before I went to sleep and the first thing when I woke up. C.J Stevens was one of the deejays at KWEB and I remember he was killed in a tractor rollover accident on his dad's farm in the early 1970's. This radio used the small 9-volt batteries which lasted much longer than the big old D cells.

Our tractors didn't have radios. They didn't even have cabs. I bought a fender radio at Farm and Home and put on the John Deere .4020. It was only an AM radio but it kept me from falling asleep in the field.

The radio is a great marker of time for me. Often when I hear a song I will be transported back in my mind to the time and place when I first heard it. Some of these are a trip of almost sixty-years into the past.

I developed a habit of having a radio in

each farm building. They are always on. That way I do not miss a song as I go from one building to another doing chores. They are all tuned to KRPR, 89.9. That is the classic rock station in Rochester. Classic rock without the talk, twenty-four hours a day. On five radios in five farm buildings all simultaneously cranking out the music. I do wear out radios every year, but the one in the shop is a Radio Shack boom box I have had since the mid 1980's. It just keeps on running.

In Tennessee I listen to WTPR 101.7. The greatest hits of all time in Paris, Tennessee. They have the Swap Shop every morning six days week at 9am. It is like a hillbilly Facebook marketplace. But the best is a couple weeks before Christmas, they switch to all Christmas music, all the time, during the holiday season. Music is timeless and a very enjoyable part of life.



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## A Minnesotan: Water Show



**By RosaLin Alcoser**

was probably not quite the same thing. I did go in with the assumption that it would be somewhat similar. Instead of watching lumberjacks do their thing we would get to watch firefighter's run their drills. Which sounded like a great time to me.

Well first off I was wrong, that's not what we were going to see. Secondly it was so much better than that. It turned out that it was a firefighter water battle.

If you are like me and have never seen or heard of a firefighter water battle before then you are missing out. Teams of two to three firefighters faced off against each other in the middle of the street with the fire hose. Over their heads was a long rope pulled between two poles.

The rope had a marker in the center and a knot on either end with a big black ball hanging from it. They would pull the ball into the middle and then spray it with the water trying to push it to the other team's side.

Each round lasted one minute or until one of them made the ball hit the other side's knot.

As white jets of water shot out of the fire hoses. Crossing with one another while fighting for control of the ball. It was one of the most existing things ever to watch and something that I now feel should be at more town festivals.

Over the course of my life I have attended and taken part in a number of festivals. From county fairs to street festivals and town festivals I've been to just about little of everything. The most recent one I've had the pleasure to attend was Mantorville's Marigold Days.

The main reason I went to Marigold Days this year is because one of my friends asked me to come down to the firefighter show. Which I readily agreed to do. Now I had never been to a firefighter show before, however, my brian immediately went to the lumberjack show. Which I have seen before. Even though I knew that





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