



KENYON • WANAMINGO Messenger

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OCTOBER 9, 2024

Volume 17 • Issue 14

Announcements

• **Gol Harvest Luncheon Sunday, October 20 from 11a.m.-1p.m.** (see page 3)

• **Dale Lutheran Church Fall Festival Sunday, October 27 from Noon to 1:30p.m.** (see page 3)

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

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

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

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

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

Welcome Exchange Students

By Cheri Roshon

Our school systems have used the Foreign Exchange Student program for many years

now. Providing students who want an immersive experience in a country that is not their home place has worked all these years.

Two Candidates for District 19A

The Messenger does not endorse any candidate, only to inform the readers of the choices on the ballot for these offices.

The Minnesota House of Representative candidates for District 19A are **Keith Allen** of Wanamingo and **Jessica Navarro** of Faribault. They are running to replace retiring Brian Daniels. District 19A includes four townships in Goodhue County, Wanamingo township, Cherry Grove Township, Kenyon township and Holden township, eight townships in Rice county and four townships in Waseca county. (continued on page 22)



Keith Allen



Jessica Navarro



Left to right: Ignacio Cancela, Rafal Dzedzic, Daniel del Rio Duque

Science has proven that an "immersion" experience brings a much clearer picture of what living in the country they choose has to offer. (continued on page 8)



What is...Granny Basketball?

By Cheri Roshon

Did you know that we have our own Granny Basketball team right here in Wanamingo? And that they are called the Bulldogs? Well, now you know! As most of you remember, before the Kenyon/Wanamingo merger, our Wanamingo teams were called the Bulldogs. After the merger, they became the Knights, but the Granny team retained the Bulldog moniker.

Granny Basketball is a non profit 501(c)3 organization, designed to keep women from 50 to 90 active, and it's fun!

(continued on page 5)

Pictured to the left: Front Trudy Vangness, Loretta Froyum, Mary Hagen. Middle Elrene Clausen, Carrie Foss, Carol Post, Barb Renken, Amy Matson. Back Marlene Syverson, Sonia Stehr, Amy Schutz and Julie Lazano. Members not pictured are Lois Bjorngaard, Susan Hazen, Karen Zimmerman, Wendy Graham and Joanie Wood.

CRAFT SALE

51st Annual 100 Ladies and Gentlemen Craft Sale 2024

October 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31
November 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10

10a.m. to 7p.m./Closing at 5p.m. last day • (507) 789-6223

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Holden Lutheran Church

All Saints Dinner

Sunday, November 3, 2024

Dine In: 12-2 and 4:30-6:30

Meat Balls and Gravy* Pulsa
Scalloped Potatoes * Buttered Carrots
Cranberry Relish * Lefse * Fruit Soup
Rommegrot * Bakings

Cost: \$20/meal • Delivery available upon request.
Cash or check only, Holden WELCA
Address: 6949 Co 30 Blvd, Northeast of Kenyon

To Go Meals are available but reservations are preferred.
Call (507) 789-0677
Email: holdendinner@gmail.com

A Word from the Lord about Harvesting

By Pastor Marty Weigand

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.

(continued on page 3)

DENNISON/VANG LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor Paul A. Graham
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301 2nd Avenue, Wanamingo • 824-2155
October 13: 9:00a.m. Sunday School; Sacred Space;
10:00a.m. Worship with Noisy Offering
October 16: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th Grade; 6:30-7:30p.m. 9th Grade
October 20: NO Sunday School; 9:00a.m. Sacred Space;
10:00am. Worship with Holy Communion
October 23: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th Grade; 6:30-7:30p.m. 9th Grade
October 26: Trunk or Treat 10:30a.m.-Noon
October 27: 9:00a.m. Sunday School; Sacred Space; 10:00a.m. Worship
Reformation/Confirmation Sunday
October 30: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th

WANAMINGO LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

130 West 3rd St., Wanamingo • 824-2457
www.TrinityWanamingo.org
October 13: 9:00a.m. Sunday School; Sacred Space at TLC; 10:00a.m. Worship at TLC with Noisy Offering
October 16: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th Grade; 6:30-7:30p.m. 9th Grade
October 20: NO Sunday School; 9:00a.m. Sacred Space at TLC; 10:00am. Worship with Holy Communion at TLC
October 23: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th Grade; 6:30-7:30p.m. 9th Grade
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Reformation/Confirmation Sunday
October 30: Confirmation Class 5:00p.m. Dinner; 5:30-6:30p.m. 7th & 8th

ASPELUND EMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Rob Edwards, Pastor
429 County 1 Blvd, Kenyon • 507-824-2307
www.emmanuelafcl.org
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10:30a.m. Worship Service

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David J. Chatelaine, Pastor
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GOL LUTHERAN

Joe Jorgensen, Pastor • 507-838-2100
Sunday Worship 8:30a.m. Sept.-Dec.

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.

GOSPEL OF LIFE FAMILY CHURCH

Pastor Steven G. Roberts
www.gospeloflifechurch.org
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Wanamingo - Wednesday 7:00p.m.

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Mike Ahrens S.A.M.
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Sunday School 10:15 am

HAUGE LUTHERAN

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

LANDS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

David Krinke, Pastor
16640 Hwy. 60 Blvd.
www.landslutheran.com
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. at Everson Park

STORDAHL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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

HOLDEN/DALE

Pastor Dustin Haider • 507-789-6677
Email: holdendalsecretary@gmail.com
Worship schedule found at:
www.holdenlutheranchurch.org
Holden/Dale Facebook

MOLAND CHURCH

507-456-4242
Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.

NERSTRAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Gary Liker, Pastor
12 Maple Street • 507-330-0025
Worship 9:00 a.m.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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429 4th Street, Kenyon • 507-951-1271
Worship 9:30 a.m.

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Sharon M. Hoaglund

Sharon M. Hoaglund, age 78 of Kenyon, MN passed away on Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at the Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis, surrounded by her family following an extended illness.



Sharon Marie, the daughter of Theodore and Dolores (St. Mars) Reichert was born on May 3, 1946 in Faribault, MN. She attended Bethlehem Academy High School and graduated with the class of 1964. On August 3, 1968 she was united in marriage to Gene Hoaglund at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Faribault. Gene preceded her in death on

May 15, 2003. Sharon worked at different businesses in Faribault, starting in the Catalog Department at Montgomery Wards, then moving to Northland Plastics, cooking at Bethlehem Academy High School and different nursing homes in Faribault and retiring from the Minnesota Correctional Facility where she retired as a Supervisor with the Anagram Mylar balloons. Sharon enjoyed doing puzzle books, collecting lighthouses and roosters, camping, fishing, cooking, writing letters and cards and most of all spending time with her family.

She is survived by her sons, Brian Hoaglund of Kenyon, MN, Chad (Christine) Hoaglund of Solon Springs, WI and Jason (Bobbi) Hoaglund of Wanamingo, MN; by 10 grandchildren, Zachary Hoaglund, Zury Hoaglund, Zane Hoaglund, Zoe Hoaglund, Joe Hoaglund, Nicole Hoaglund, Kenny Hoaglund, Annie Hoaglund, Austin

Hoaglund and Tyler Hoaglund; by 16 great grandchildren; by her siblings, Jim Reichert of Faribault, MN, Linda (Dave) Schmitz of Faribault, MN, Debra (John) Truman of Florida, Diane (Dennis) Rothstein of Faribault, MN, Michele (Randy) DeMars of Faribault, MN and Mary (Dave) Owens of Burnsville, MN and by nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two brothers, Jeff and Tom Reichert, by her Father and Mother-in-law, Joseph and Ocie Hoaglund, and by several brother and sister-in-law's.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, October 4, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Kenyon, MN. Interment was held at Frontenac Cemetery in Frontenac, MN.

Visitation was held at the Parker Kohl Funeral Home & Crematory of Faribault on Thursday, October 3, 2024 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and at the church on Friday for one hour prior to services.

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 fu-

ture 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 several 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) Ascheman 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.

Dale Lutheran Church Fall Festival

Dale Lutheran Church Fall Festival will be Sunday, October 27, 2024. Serving from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.

Menu includes shredded pork sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, pie and beverages. \$10.00 for meal with beverages extra. There will also be a bake sale, produce for sale and a quilt raffle.



Dale is located 6 miles east of Kenyon on County Road 12 Blvd. Everyone welcome!

Everyone's Invited to our

TURKEY DINNER

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

Take Out Available
Call Ahead or Text
Your To Go Orders
507-645-6042

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

Adults \$13.00 • Children \$5.00
Children Under 5 Years Free

Join us for a special worship service at 10:30
with guitarist Todd Thompson. All are welcome.



A Word from the Lord about Harvesting

(continued from page 2)

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!

Gol Harvest Luncheon

Soup's on at Gol Lutheran Church for its annual Harvest Luncheon 11a.m.-1p.m. Sunday, October 20 at the church just west of Kenyon at 1500 MN60. Take out orders are also available.

Gol invites the community to savor homemade vegetable beef and barley soup, barbeques, potato salad and pie - and neighborly conversation - at this seasonally inspired event.

Proceeds will help support Lutheran Campus ministries on state college campuses, Ruth's House, Kenyon Food Shelf, Dorothy Day House, Hope Coalition, Goodhue County Christmas Project and several more organizations. Thrivent funds are also being provided for the luncheon.

For further information or take out orders, call or text Julie Hogy, 507-491-3505.



2024 Vang Lutefisk Dinner

After four years of carry out only, lutefisk was back October 5th, both indoors and carryout.

This year 525 pounds of lutefisk, firm and quivering, swimming in melted butter were sold.

The church hopes to bolster its budget by \$10,000 this year.

Past peak attendance was 1,500. This year about 750 tickets were sold. Total of fifty volunteers participated. There were four separate settings indoors, 11 am to 5 pm.



Dishing up the lutefisk carry out dinners

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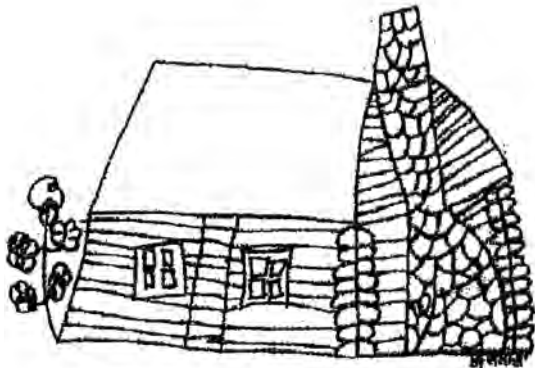
Indoor storage now available for auto's, boats, RV's and more!

Harvest & Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26

Sundays: September 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27

Hours: 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.



Place:
Lori & Darwin Amy
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Monday-Friday 7:30am-6:00pm
Saturday 7:30am-5:30pm
Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm

Kenyon Ace Hardware

What is... Granny Basketball?

(continued from page 1)

There are several states involved in tournaments, scrimmages and practices in the gyms of the local schools. Lois Bjorngaard and Karen Brant started a team in 2007, and started recruiting members for the team. Each team designates a local charity to turn the admission fees over to, and there is no monetary compensation for the players, coaches, referees or time keepers. They are always looking for volunteers and sponsors, and anyone male or female, of any age can do anything but play the game. That right is strictly reserved for the players!

I spoke with Loretta Froyum about the awesome season the 'Dogs had this year. "We have always been the team to play!" she said enthusiastically, "We were the team they could beat!" In the first 16 years of playing, they only won 5 games, total. This year they won 5 of 10 league games, and won all the scrimmages against Faribault, the only other team in Minnesota! They've come a long way, Baby!

So, let's get the history here. Granny Basketball was started by accident, they say. In 2005, Barbara McPherson Trammel was helping her father write his memoirs, and being

a basketball coach, he recounted a girl's team, and all the modest rules they played by. Thinking this was a fun idea to recreate for a fundraiser to save an old historic building in Lansing, Iowa, she started a team to play as they used to in the good ol' days. Well, other people heard about her idea, and 3 more teams were formed, and the fundraiser turned into a tournament. People were so enthusiastic about the games, that Granny Basketball became a "thing"!

There are several states that have teams. Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, Wisconsin, Arizona, and one Canadian province, Toronto. Their mission and purpose states, "As empowered women of the 21st century, we seek to promote a spirit of camaraderie, a model of sportsmanship, and friendly competition. In doing so, we honor the women who came before us, and set an example for those who follow."

The rules and dress of the game remained in the style of the 1920's. And it was a 6 on 6 instead of the now traditional 5 on 5 players. Two on one end of the court, two in the middle and 2 on the opposite end of the court. The rules are strictly enforced by not two, but 3 referees, and no touching is allowed. There is a "no skin" rule, which brings a "flesh foul" if you come untucked and your skin is exposed. No bare legs or upper arms may be revealed! Therefore, they have a traditional (for the 1920's) uniform consisting of bloomers, midi blouses and knee high stockings. All uniforms are the same except for the color of the stockings, denoting the teams. A side note here..... The Bulldogs originally had gold

socks because the school colors were purple and gold. After a few years, the gold socks were hard to find, and they changed to purple and gray. The ladies seemed to like that color better, and people stopped calling them "Chicken legs"!! Another rule that differ from today's is no running. You may "hurry" but you may not run. The Grannies have sections they play, and cannot leave their space. The scoring consists of a 3 point underhanded throw, a 2 point regular throw and 1 point for a free throw. Only 2 dribbles allowed per player, and only one time out per quarter.

Our Bulldogs currently have 15 members. Members must be from 50 to 90 years old. Loretta Froyum (75) and Julie Lozano (58) are the co-captains of the team, and everyone gets a chance to play. Loretta delegates responsibilities, and keeps all the ladies involved in the game. There are only 2 original members of the team that are still active, Loretta Froyum and Susan Hazen (71), but Karen Brant jumped ship and moved to Faribault, so she is now playing for the Hot Shots! Other members are Trudy Vangsness (68), Mary Hagen (82), Elrene Clauson (63), Carrie Foss (58), Carol Post (71), Barb Renken (79), Amy Matson (67), Marlene Syverson (73), Sonia Stehr (58), Amy Shutz (50), Lois Bjorngaard (85), Karen Zimmerman (79), Wendy Graham (63) and Joanie Wood(71). Those members who have passed are Avis Erlandson, Elise Halvorson, Charlene Hanson, and Adele Trent. Current referees for the team are Sonia Stehr, Julie Lozano, Joanie Wood, and Stacy Froyum (non player, volunteer). And we can't forget the spouses who help out with the practices

in the first year, Pervin Bjorngaard, Tim Hazen, Fred Halvorson and Palmer Brant.

The ladies are involved in several "extra curricular" activities as well! There is a secret Granny program in which each member has one team member that they do nice things for, like birthday cards sent anonymously, a Christmas party at a member's home, a Spring Banquet at a restaurant of choice to tie up the year, a summer picnic at a member's home, birthday recognitions, and the ever popular Dairy Queen runs after practice! Practices are twice a week, but they don't go to the Dairy Queen after every practice!!

The season begins in September and runs until May. Iowa league play starts with a Jamboree in January. As of 2024, there are over 600 players on 47 teams in 10 states, and in Toronto. The ladies welcome you to come to watch their practices in the Wanamingo elementary school gym, and to come to watch their games. And they are always open to welcome new players, volunteers, and are currently seeking a sponsor. Michael Alme was the first sponsor of the team. He provided team jackets and duffle bags, both in purple, and with the players' names on them. To find out more info about all of this, call Loretta Froyum at (507) 210-8210. Remember, anyone of any age can be a volunteer and get in on the fun!! Let me end this article with the slogans of Granny Basketball. "Die with your tennis shoes on" "Gentle game for women of a certain age." and the theme on their parade float, "These grannies are off their rockers!"

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It Is Much More Than What Is On The Shelf

By Natalie Jacobson

When you are driving down a dusty gravel road and enter a small town, what is the first thing that draws you in? Are you visiting a friend or family member? The history? What about the local shops?

Personally, I have always been fascinated by the grocery stores. After all, everyone needs their essentials, but when you witness interactions between a small community and a local business, it's much more than that! I spoke with the owner of Kenyon Market, Pete Wagner, about his experience.

Growing up, Pete was very familiar with the environment. In the forties, his grandfather John, had owned a grocery store and later, his father would as well. Pete decided after college that he wanted to get into the business, leading to him being a third generation grocery store owner!

"After being in the grocery business my whole life, it was a natural progression for me," he expresses, "I have always enjoyed meeting new people. Grocery stores bring in every type of person you can think of. A great way to get to know the community!"

Originally, "Fred's," the building was going up for sale and Wagner could not pass up the opportunity. Previous owner, Fred Braegelmann, made Pete's transition to Kenyon a smooth one. It is evident that he cherishes a small town! Growing up in Adams, Minnesota, he acknowledges how important it is for a community to work together while still maintaining that "homey" aspect.

"People working out of town and big box stores competing for business have really taken a toll on small town life. When my grandpa first started in Adams, there were three grocery stores with a population of seven hundred people, each filling its own niche. More and more, I see small towns like I grew up in, becoming ghost towns, but downtown Kenyon is doing amazing! There are so many businesses to choose from here! We do our best to work with our customers, whether that's delivering groceries for seniors that aren't able to get out or collaborating at local events. It's what makes us different from corporate stores. It makes all the difference in the world, having a staff that is so committed and fun as well." explains Wagner.

One of those staff members I spoke to,

Is Leora Albright. She has been at Kenyon Market for four years, being a customer myself, she always welcomes you with a warm smile. Albright has been a grocery clerk and stocker throughout this time, she really enjoys her job.

"What do you find most rewarding about working here?" I ask.

"I would say getting to see all the wonder-



ful locals each day is very rewarding, I have such nice coworkers, a great boss and it is fun helping out different areas of the store. You see people come from all over too, specifically for the meatballs!" she answers.

Speaking of, when it comes to Kenyon, along with many others outside of the community, celebrating Scandinavian tradition is something Pete had witnessed in his childhood but in terms of business, was not ready for this kind of demand.

"It is an amazing thing to see people home for the holidays stocking up on our pulsa and meatballs, the local churches have incredible suppers! The Scandinavian influence here runs deep, more than any place I have seen in Minnesota, and that is really saying something! I grew up with lutefisk suppers in Adams. Like they say with lutefisk - you are either in or out, there is no in between! There is also a surprising amount of young people still keeping this tradition alive."

Pete shares. He continues to say that in No-

vember and December is when everything becomes chaotic, but he has a great team in the meat department, Sonya and Carla who makes sure everyone gets what they need during that holiday rush.

Moving forward, the store is in the process of launching a loyalty app and website. The app assembles coupons and collects points for customers towards rewards, weekly advertisements are also posted. It is available on all App stores. Looking for work? You may just be eligible to be a part of his team! Apply on the website: www.kenyonmarket.com and/or visit Pete!

Living in a small town doesn't mean "there isn't anything to do" you just haven't discovered everything about it yet. One moment you're shopping at your local grocery store trying to get through the line and go on with your day, to later notice the detail, thought, time and effort that an owner and his team went into having a dream become a reality.

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Downtown Kenyon Fall Festival takes place this week

Local businesses are participating in a shopper's event this week. Now through Sunday October 13th visit these businesses and get your card stamped. Drop your card off at city hall to be entered in a drawing for a \$100 gift card to your favorite local Kenyon business. Shoppers must be 18 years of age or over to enter.

These are the participating businesses; Mary's Rustic Rose, The Hair Place, Kenyon Historical Society, Workout 24/7, Gary Buchta CPA, All Seasons Community Services, Cahill Bistro, Kenyon Fire Department, D & S Banner Sign & Print, Kenyon Muni, S.I.F.T., Sogn Valley Orchard, Kenyon Library and Angie's Restaurant.

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Letter from the Superintendent

Kenyon-Wanamingo Calls for a Write-In Candidate for School Board



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

As the upcoming election approaches, the Kenyon-Wanamingo School District faces a unique challenge: while two candidates have placed themselves on the ballot for the school board, a third position remains unfilled. The district is now urgently seeking a community member to step forward as a write-in candi-

date to fill this important role.

The Kenyon-Wanamingo School Board plays an essential role in shaping the future of education for our students. Board members make key decisions about district policy, budget allocation, and the overall direction of the school system. Their influence has a lasting impact on the academic success and well-being of students, staff, and our community.

This is an opportunity for a passionate and civic-minded individual to contribute to the district's success. If you or someone you know is committed to supporting our students, strengthening our schools, and fostering community collaboration, consider running as a write-in candidate for the Kenyon-Wanamingo School Board. Interested individuals should have a passion for education, a desire to serve, and the ability to work collaboratively with other board members to address the district's priorities.

For those unsure about running, there's still time to connect with current board members or attend an upcoming school board meeting to learn more about the position and its responsibilities. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of students and contribute to the long-term success of our schools.

Every voice matters, and the success of our schools depends on strong, effective leadership. We encourage community members to engage in the election process and help ensure that all board seats are filled with dedi-

cated individuals ready to serve the Kenyon-Wanamingo community.

Together, let's make sure our school board is ready to continue its mission of providing a high-quality education for every student.

Write-in candidates are an essential part of this year's election. Make your voice heard and consider stepping up to serve your community in this vital role

Wanamingo Community Meets to Discuss Possible Charter School

By Barney Nesseth

On September 25 a gathering of community members made up of young families and other community members met to discuss the possibility of a charter school being opened in Wanamingo. The discussion came about after the KW school board has listed an option for solving some of its financial issues of closing the Wanamingo site and moving all classrooms k-4 over to Kenyon and closing the Wanamingo site. The Wanamingo community had some concerns about not having a school in Wanamingo and the effects that could have on the city's future. A presentation was made to the community on research that had been done on opening a charter school. While not a small task, it appears it could be done. As a charter school you receive funding from the state, similar to a public school, but at a slightly lesser amount per student. Also there are grants available that assist in the creation of a charter school. There is financial assistance available from the state of MN to rent a facility to operate the school. The discussions talked about the possibility of buying the existing school building from the district if the KW board decides to close it, but that comes with some risk surrounding the building's current and future maintenance needs. Another possibility is building a new building to house the school.

It was discussed that either option would fit the new schools needs. At the end of the meeting an exploratory group was formed and will start meeting regularly. From a community standpoint it was discussed about the detrimental affect of a town without a school. Several references were made to what happened to West Concord after their school closed. To be a vibrant community you need a school to attract young families to the town.

In March the KW school board is going to do a survey to get community input on what should be done to help solve the big issues they face. The KW school board is in a tough spot financially and needs to figure out a way out of them. It is expected that the KW board may make a decision by mid year 2025 on what to do. Best case scenario for Wanamingo is that they decide to keep the elementary school in Wanamingo open and functioning. Worst case scenario is the KW school board decides to close the Wanamingo site and move everything to Kenyon. If they decide to close the Wanamingo site the community feels it is important to be prepared to go into action to protect the vibrancy and viability of the city and community. If you would like more information or have question please email wanamingocharter-school@gmail.com

Welcome Exchange Students

(continued from page 1)

Sure, students can learn the language in a classroom situation, or hear about the nuances of the country they choose in books, and from others who have been there, but will that give them the flavor of the country itself? Probably not.

In 1961, Congress passed the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act, mandating an increase in governmental programs to enhance mutual understanding between people of the United States and other countries. This program has proven to be beneficial, and the students who participate report that they make lifelong friends and keep in touch with their host families and friends they make here, for years to come.

Thinking about learning from others reminds me of the story of the blind men who were given an experience with an elephant. The men were placed in different areas and asked to describe what an elephant looked like. One man was placed by the trunk. He described the elephant as a snake with wrinkly skin. The second man was given a place near the elephant's leg. He described the animal as a tree trunk with large toenails. The third man was placed next to the elephant's ear. Describing the animal, he said it was more like a sting ray, soft and floppy, and very thin. As you see, each man had a different description of the animal, and none were correct, because

they couldn't see the real picture. That is the difference between immersion and book learning, I think!

The 2024-2025 school year is upon us, and the Kenyon/Wanamingo schools are pleased and privileged to have 3 students joining us this year. The Students are all 10th graders. Daniel del Rio Duque is from Spain and is hosted by Allison and Anders Nygren. Ignacio Cancela is from Spain and is hosted by Chris and Alecia Budahn. And Rafal Dziejdzic is from Poland and is hosted by Ashley and Jon Meyers. A big thank you goes out to the host families! Be sure to welcome each of these students, and show them the meaning of "Minnesota Nice"!

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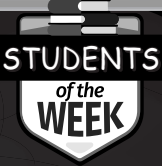
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KENYON-WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





OCTOBER 4, 2024

Front Row: Vivian Bartlett, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Mabel Eggert, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Marley Lurken, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Cooper Bauer, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Neil Ellingsberg, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Peyton Luedtke, Gr. 2, Mrs. Megan Jordan. Back Row: Kiley Hedeem, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Nova Christensen, Gr. 3, Mrs. Sandy Bohaty; Bree Helgeson, Gr. 4, Mrs. Chloe Gohman; Oliver Stoppel, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing

Do You Have an Announcement?

Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

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

By University of Minnesota Extension, Goodhue County

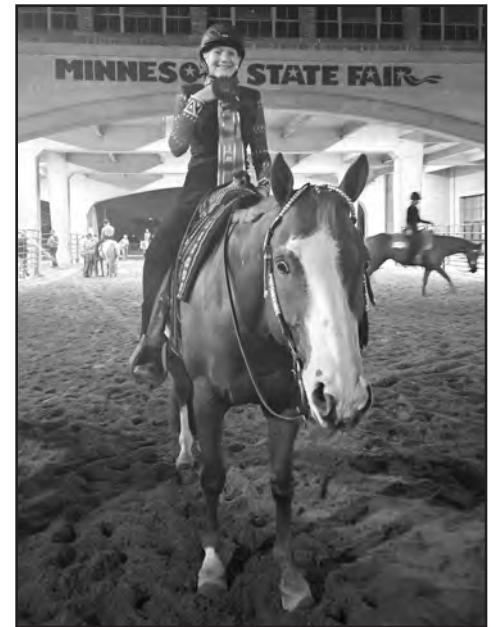
St. Paul, MN – Five 4-H youth from Goodhue County participated in the Minnesota 4-H State Horse show Sept. 13-16, 2024. 4-H'ers demonstrate their skills and knowledge in hippology (showing knowledge and understanding of horse training and achievement, speech and demonstrations about interest in horses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



Jaeda Johnson



Audrina Meyer



Ellie Holst



Charli Gjemse



Haley Betcher

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 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, 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

Goodhue County Youth to Celebrate National 4-H Week October 6-12



Millions of youth, parents, volunteers and alumni across the country will be celebrating National 4-H Week during the first full week of October.

This year's theme is Beyond Ready. Goodhue County 4-H will leverage this theme by showcasing the incredible experiences that 4-H offers young people and will highlight the remarkable 4-H youth in our community who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them.

Goodhue County 4-H will be celebrating National 4-H Week by participating in a social media campaign to encourage new membership, and each club will be creating and submitting a window display in a local business near you!

4-H alumni around the country are always the first to acknowledge the significant positive impact 4-H had on them as young people; the opportunities and experiences that 4-H provides youth empowers them to become true leaders. In fact, research has shown that young people in 4-H are over twice as likely to contribute to their communities, and are less likely to experience depression or risky behaviors.

With more than 175 screened adult volunteers, 700+ 4-H members and 18 4-H clubs across the county, Goodhue County is 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, 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

About 4-H:

4-H, the nation's largest youth development and empowerment organization, cultivates confident kids who tackle the issues that matter most in their communities right now. In the United States, 4-H programs empower six million young people through the 110 land-grant universities and Cooperative Extension in more than 3,000 local offices serving every county and parish in the country. Outside the United States, independent, country-led 4-H organizations empower one million young people in more than 50 countries. National 4-H Council is the private sector, non-profit partner of the Cooperative Extension System and 4-H National Headquarters located at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Come, spend a "Night in the Nutt House"! Bwa-ha-ha-ha, tee-hee!

Mantorville Theatre Company's dinner theatre begins Oct. 11. Advance reservations required.

A cast member once quipped, "If Neil Simon had written a melodrama for the Adams Family, it might look like this!" It was a dark and stormy night as a young innocent couple approaches a creepy mansion, uh, oh... but instead of screaming, don't be surprised to find yourself laughing at *The Wedding Will Out* or *Night in the Nutt House* written by Greg Miller and directed by Becca Messick!

Mantorville Theatre Company presents its October dinner theatre event October 11-27; Friday and Saturday nights at 6:30 and Sundays at 12:30. Doors will open 30 minutes before showtime.

What's it about?

Baxter and Barbra want to get married by

the Justice of Peace but find themselves taking shelter on a stormy night at his home while he is out. Mrs. Nutt is mysterious, as is the butler... and the house! Her three daughters, each eccentric in different ways, try to get Baxter's attention to marry one of them instead. Lots of thrilling things start to happen with hilarity, hijinks and surprises in this fun, haunted house-esque, slapstick, melodrama!

Who's in it?

KCIN SIEGELE plays Baxter Devonwich, our hardworking, diligent, loyal and honest hero. His fiancé Barbra Doyle, our educated socialite heroine, born with optimism and sweetness to spare is played by ANNIE BURESH. The mysterious matriarch of the Nutt family, Mrs. Phobia Nutt, with her sinister schemes is portrayed by STEPHANIE NEHER. Her henchman, the demented butler Mord, is played by BOB SOLAND. The Nutt sisters, Chollera, Rubella and Influenza, played by BROOKLYN REDING, BRE NEHER and ELIZABETH OSBORN are quirky, macabre and maybe a little crazy. DAVID KLICKMAN has multiple roles such as a villager and the-thing-that-goes-bump(giggle)-in-the-night.

What's for supper?

Catered by Powers Ventures, owners of the Hubbell House, the food will be served buffet style throughout the evening during breaks in the show. First, salad with garlic toast, next Chicken Kiev with potatoes and green beans, and Bunnie's coconut cake for dessert. Water will be provided. There will also be a cash bar of pop, beer and wine.



The "Nutt House" cast. Front: Kcin Siegele (Baxter), Annie Buresh (Barbra), Elizabeth Osborn (Influenza), David Klickman (Villager). Back: Stephanie Neher (Mrs. Nutt), Bob Soland (Mord), Brooklyn Reding (Chollera), Bre Neher (Rubella). "Night in the Nutt House" runs October 11-27 (Fri, Sat, Sun). Reservations must be made 72 hours in advance at mantorvilletheatrecompany.com.

Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free meals are available only if arrangements are made 72 hours prior to your show date. Contact the box office by email mantorvilletheatre@gmail.com or call 507-635-5420 (leave a message).

Reservations – a must.

All seats are reserved and must be purchased at least 72 hours prior to all show dates. Go to www.mantorvilletheatrecompany.com to reserve your seat. Cost for dinner and the show is \$50.

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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 fea-

ture: 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.

Wild Wood Comes to Nerstrand



photo by Doug Jones

Tricia and Nick Streitz recently completed renovations on the former Nerstrand Woodcraft Building on Main Street in Nerstrand. After the wood shop closed, it was used for storage for many years by the neighboring implement. The Streitzes purchased it and began remodeling it some years ago. The building, called WILD WOOD, will house Tricia's photography business, Sweet Shibui, as well as be available for rental for small events.

Further information can be found on their website www.wildwoodofnerstrand.com.



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Halloween Party

Thursday, October 31

Dennison City Hall

5:00-6:30 P.M.

Everyone's Invited!

GAMES! HOT DOGS! CHIPS! TREATS!

Down on the Farm/ Up at the Cabin The Second Winter

By
Monica & Claudia Vanderborcht

One year after Monica settled into her Wanamingo farm, Claudia and her husband joined her there. (Claudia's husband passed about one year later.) Monica would be in charge of the livestock (Claudia would help); Claudia would be in charge of the gardens and firewood (Monica would help). Both continued teaching: Monica in Apple Valley, Claudia as a substitute teacher in several neighboring school districts.

The previous winter had been long and cold (as winters in Minnesota are), but Monica had become comfortable running the downstairs fireplace 24/7. On warm days, Monica and the grandkids used the ATV and trailer to bring in load after load of firewood, filling the basement floor around the fireplace, hoping not to run out before the next nice day. Monica regularly checked the electric baseboard registers – seldom did they feel warm. That first winter, Monica's highest electric bill was \$280 – a fabulous improvement of the feared \$700 the previous owner had mentioned!

But Claudia was the expert on heating with wood. She could identify the different tree species (summer or winter) and knew their BTU capacities. Claudia was very particular about the firewood's dryness (both interior and surface moisture), and began stacking wood in a two-year rotation. She refused to run the chainsaw (which was fine with Monica, because she thought it was a lot of fun!), but Claudia was an ace at finding deadfall, hauling it to the house, using the hydraulic splitter, and stacking it. (Claudia loves stacking wood! She claims it's a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle.) Current year firewood was stacked in the pole barn – one area for kindling, another area for autumn / spring fires, and another for "rocket fuel" which would be saved for the coldest January and February nights. All the stacks were easily accessible and very stable (many years ago Claudia had learned to keep the firewood stacks from collapsing onto the cats while they inevitably climbed to the top).

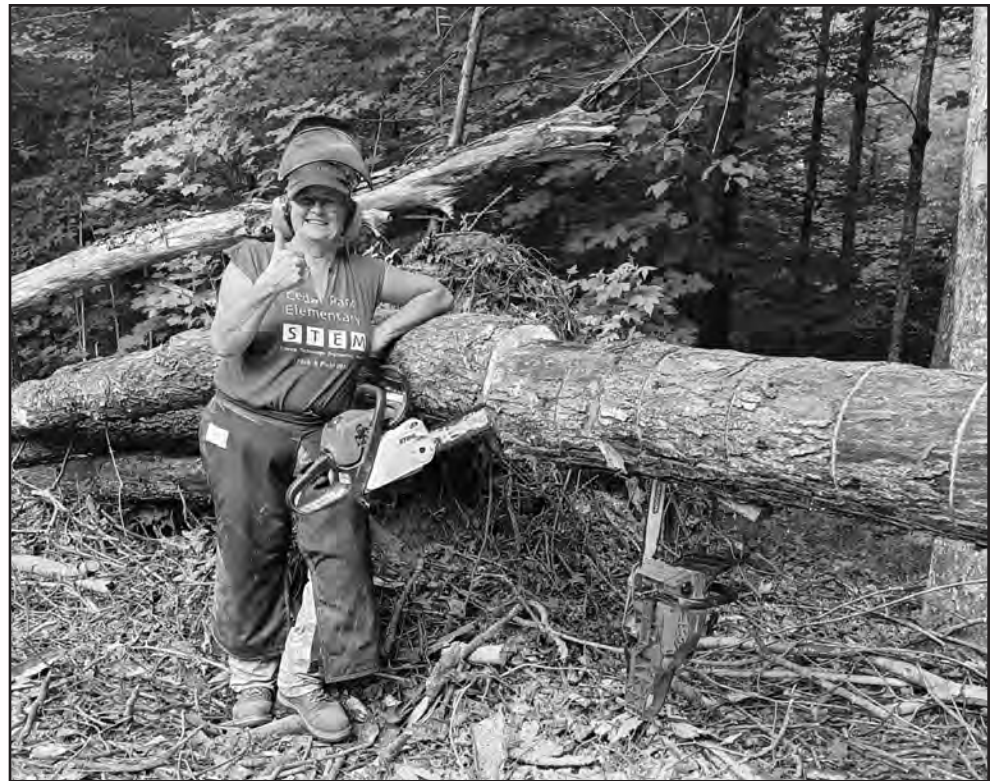
They say that heating with wood heats you more than once. Monica's overgrown woods had a lot of deadfall; felling trees was unnecessary in the first few years unless the ATV

trail needed to go through. But (in the warm days of August and September – before the temperature dropped and the house needed to be heated) the deadfall had to be cut into fireplace-sized logs, carried to and lifted into the trailer, lifted out of the trailer (back at the pole barn), lifted onto the hydraulic splitter, tossed into ever-growing piles on the ground, then lifted one more time to be stacked. (Handling count: seven times). To keep the homefires burning, the firewood had to be loaded back into the trailer, driven to and then carried into the house, placed in stacks, and – eventually – loaded into the fireplace. (Handling count: four more times). So firewood heats you a minimum of 11 times, not counting burning it in the fireplace.

Occasionally, over the 20+ years that Claudia and Monica had been heating their homes with firewood, someone would claim burning firewood pollutes the environment. Not true. Anything that rots (meat, autumn leaves, dead trees) creates gasses, including carbon dioxide gas. Leaving a log to rot on the ground creates just as much carbon dioxide as burning that same log in the fireplace. Actually, burning a log releases just as much carbon dioxide into the air as the photosynthesis and carbon dioxide it took in to grow that log in the first place. If a forest is sustainably managed, burning firewood to heat one's home is carbon neutral. (And the newer wood stoves practically eliminate any soot that might escape into the atmosphere.) According to Jim Bowyer, professor emeritus from the University of Minnesota, there is no environmental reason not to use the wood on your property as a source of energy. (Source: Climate Curious: Is burning wood for heat carbon neutral, Elizabeth Dunbar, MPSNews November 9, 2019)

Claudia does not like garages. Yes, silly. She hadn't had one for years and learned to cover her windshield with a tarp for no hassle snow removal before driving. But she still did need a shelter for the car and we needed a better spot for wood. This time getting the building permit for a farm structure was easy. No big hoops to jump through with the county. The building would hold whatever machines it needed, including cars, and we had a specific area set aside for five cords of wood.

Before we knew it, fall had arrived and so did the school year. Monica was off every day to Apple Valley to teach fifth grade; Claudia was substitute teaching at the various high schools in the area. The chickens were happily laying eggs in the insulated coop, the cattle and goats got along great



across their shared fences. A few big square bales were in the barn for the goats when it snowed (goats hate precipitation; who knew?). The dog was still enjoying the farm (and after killing only 2 chickens learned to leave them alone). The only drama was between the cats: Claudia's cats did not like the upstairs neighbors at all (human, canine or feline), and the feeling was mutual. Everyone had settled into a comfortable routine.

But the days were getting shorter and colder. Caring for the goats was getting more

difficult. The goats were mature, and had been purchased for meat. When Christmas break came Monica decided it was time to take the goats to freezer camp before the new year. Monica didn't have a livestock trailer, but did have an older, somewhat decrepit minivan. It had worked to bring the kids home, now it would suffice to bring them to the butcher. Ten or so days later we picked up the boxes of meat. Those goats were loved TWICE!



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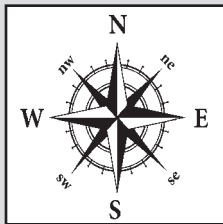
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes **Tennessee Hurricane**



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.

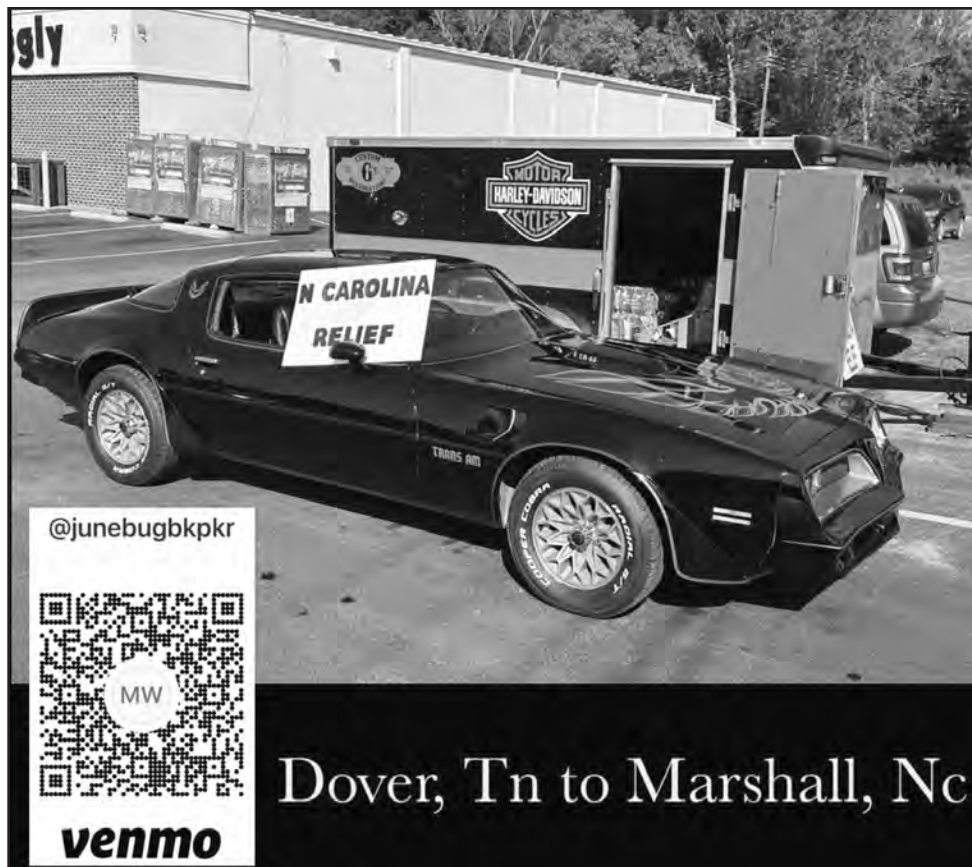
On Friday September 27th the storm surge from Hurricane Helene struck the east side of Tennessee. Hurricanes don't usually affect Tennessee. But Hurricane Helene is one of the strongest to come ashore in many years. There is a town 30 miles south of us named Hurricane Mills, but it is only known as the home of Loretta Lynn.

There had been a couple days of warning about the impending storm as the weather forecast predicted where it would be heading, but the storm stalled out and dumped over twenty inches of rain in one day at the end of a week that had already seen almost a foot of rain. The mountainous terrain created a deluge of water through the valleys. This was the worst flooding the area had experienced since 1916.

Local efforts to rescue families cut off by the destruction began with private helicopter pilots flying stranded people to safety aided by independent drone operators scouring the hills for signs of life. One man signaled with a large bathroom mirror to flag down help. Tempers flared when FEMA showed up and told the helicopter pilots they would be arrested if they refused to cease the flights. The airlift issue was resolved a day or so into the disaster but the fiercely independent locals had already had their fill of the feds. Private donations were brought in and dispensed from a school building until FEMA arrived and confiscated the inventory. Then the donations were redirected to churches, which were allowed to distribute freely to the needy. Church group t-shirts were handed out to all volunteers as workers wearing the garments of a religious organization were not hassled. Reports of trailers full of water, food, sanitation items and clothing being told to turn around a leave by FEMA officials fueled the public distrust. Some started using four-wheel drive trucks to take the supplies to four wheelers which could reach farther into the hills where the natives resided. From there horses and hikers with backpacks pushed on even further. For some reason many Gen 5 smart phones went into SOS mode and wouldn't communicate when the power grid failed. A few of the residents already owned Starlink Internet systems and were able to communicate with the outside.

Mules were used to haul whiskey into the affected areas for those who were suffering from DT's which was reminiscent of hundreds of years prior when mules were hauling moonshine out of the Tennessee hills.

In our hometown of Dover, Tennessee three large trailers were filled with donations in a couple days during a friendly competition between out friend Madison Campbell and Sheriff Frankie Gray. Madison has a 1977 black Trans Am and the Smokey and the Bandit challenge was underway. They



were East bound and down, loaded up and truckin' supplies to Marshall, North Carolina loaded with bottled water, baby formula, diapers, blankets, non-perishable food items, can openers, garbage bags and work gloves.

The Cumberland Power Cooperative sent some local linemen and trucks to help restore power to east Tennessee and the western Carolinas. One thing the linemen were requesting was Benadryl because the wasps had been displaced as well and were very aggressive and stinging workers trying to do

their jobs.

My wife ordered some 10-gallon handheld sprayers from Harbor Freight to be sent to a guy near the flood area who was painting them black and distributing them with bottled water to be used as portable shower units for those with no running water. The sun would heat up the water for a primitive hot shower. Based on the scale of the destruction it may be months before power is restored in the mountain communities.

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A Minnesotan: Water Show



By RosaLin Alcoser

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

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.



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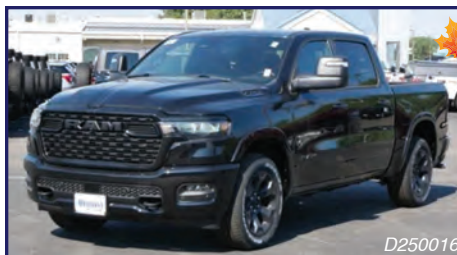
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Chiropractic Care for Colds and Flu



By Shauna Burshem, 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 patients 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.*

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:

AMERICA

A Modern Day Assyria

According to the Word of God, the Assyrians were a pagan culture who hated the Jewish people. The Bible tells us that they sacrificed their children on the altar of Asshur, the chief Assyrian god, as part of their idolatry and disobedience to the Word of God. In the end, Assyria was no more.

They were anti-Semites thousands of years before we even knew what the word meant. In Genesis

12: 3a, God says, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee." In this verse, God is talking about His chosen people, Israel, through whom the Savior of the World, Jesus, would be born. To hate Israel is to hate God and, yet, today this kind of hatred is not only found in our cities and towns, but it has infected our schools, colleges, universities, and Congress. A Modern Day Assyria.

Today, they are the Democrat Party. Whether it is in Minnesota under the misguided leadership of Vice Presidential candidate, Tim Walz, who has not only been lying about his military service/rank, but has recently expressed his opposition to the Ten Commandments being placed in our public schools or at the White House under the leadership of President Joe Biden and to what has now become a candidate for President, Kamala Harris, America is witnessing what happens when godlessness becomes the new norm. Could this be why the Bible is silent when it comes to the United States of America and its future in God's end time solution to sin? A Modern Day Assyria.

Today, they are institutions like the Mayo Clinic. "One of the worlds most admired service organizations" (Berry & Seltman, 2008), they now pride themselves in being a leader in transgender altering surgery to the detriment of our children. After covering up the faces of the renowned Doctors Charles and William Mayo at a Mayo House gathering, their current leadership promised a new "brand" as though it is something to be proud of (sic). In the end, these radical doctors are the killers of the innocent (it's Biblical) when it comes to abortion and transgender altering surgery...and God will hold them accountable. A Modern Day Assyria.

Today, they are our public schools. Lead by the Minnesota Department of Education, Katherine Kersten, writing for the American Experiment, reported that the new K-12 social studies standards will "Instruct students to embrace race-based group identities, portray America as oppressive and imperialist, and call on our young people to resist our nation's fundamental institutions." As a result, "We can be sure that Minnesota public schools will have among the worst social studies standards in the nation." As an old socialist axiom says, "Give us your children for a generation and we will change the culture." And to think that Governor Tim Walz led the charge all the way to China. A Modern Day Assyria.

Finally, they are the churches mentioned in the Book of Revelation. While there were seven of them in Asia Minor, the Bible tells us

that the Church of Ephesus 'left its first love' (Rev. 2:4) for which Jesus seeks 'repentance' (v. 5); and the Church in Laodicea 'was neither cold or hot' (Rev. 3:16) for which Jesus calls for an 'opening of the door so He can come in and sup with them' (v.20). Sadly, this represents most of the churches that are now found across America. Did you know that many Biblical scholars believe that the church that will be present on earth at the time of the Rapture will be the Church of Laodicea? A Modern Day Assyria with millions and millions of people 'left behind.'

In conclusion, the only way we are going to change our country is to change its leadership in places like the Democrat Party, the Mayo Clinic, the Minnesota Department of Education, and those churches that have lost their first love and gone cold. Starting with repentance and a commitment to the infallible Word of God (Evangelicals), Christians must go to the polls this November and help to put an end to this evil versus good behavior consuming Minnesota and the United States of America.

And finally, let me end with Psalm 55:21 where the Bible says, "The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords." It reminds me of people like Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, Tim Walz, and the leadership of the Democrat Party. A Modern Day Assyria at the altar of Asshur...and the Great White Throne Judgment their destiny (Rev. 20).

Dr. James Russell Lehman
Kenyon, MN

Letter to the Editor:

**A Big Thanks To My Neighbors
KW School Petition**

Every once in awhile something special comes down the pike that is worth remembering. It might be people at a local trailer park who took the time to sign a petition before celebrating an afternoon baby shower. It might be an old veteran who reminded me of a father who served in the Army Air Corps in both the European and Pacific Theaters during WWI. It might be an elderly grandmother who made her way to the door with her cane and the kind of smile that reminded me of my late grandmother. While each of these events were different in one way or another, they all had something in common: they involved people of kindness. And nothing

in the world can replace people who show kindness.

Many years ago, I knew a boy who was told to 'go back on the other side of the tracks where he belonged.' After he thought about it for awhile, the boy decided that was exactly where he belonged. You see, the boy identified with people who were blue-collar, lived by railroad tracks, lived in trailer parks and small towns, served their country at home and abroad, and when all was said and done, they were not afraid to swim up stream when it was necessary. The story of America!

Later on in life, this same boy would go on to serve his country in the United States Air Force. Moreover, he would learn to fly airplanes, spend five decades teaching and administrating in public and higher education, and in this particular case, he would learn once again that there will always be people willing to tell other people to 'go back on the other side of the tracks where they belong.' It is for this reason that he started a petition to save his alma mater.

In the coming days, you are going to witness what happens when a school board, that never seems to learn its lesson, tries to make matters even worse. Beginning with all of the problems listed in the petition, they are going to try and "kick the can" as far down the road as possible. Currently, both a local newspaper reporter and I, have heard dates that include the possibility for a five year plan when it comes to closing the Wanamingo site. Ladies and gentlemen, what the school board fails to tell you is that they have the power to make it all happen for the 2025-2026 school year without a petition and/or special election. Why not now?

Finally, you need to remember that for every year they delay the inevitable, it is going to cost the school district untold amounts of money. When you consider the fact that Mrs. Giese was hired to get us out of statutory operation debt as soon as possible; and when you consider all the other concerns that have been identified, you come to the realization that the word "stall" has no place in the vernacular.

In conclusion, I want to thank our neighbors who stepped to the plate and signed my petition. While I knew many of them from years past, it was a privilege to meet new ones along the way. In the end, I had the chance to meet some of the nicest people I have met in my lifetime. Our children and grandchildren are fortunate to have community members who were willing to make a

stand on such an important issue. Futures are at stake!

Dr. James Russell Lehman
Kenyon, MN 55946-1405

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



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Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol



Question: Hello, we read your column every week. I've noticed more often lately on numerous occasions that when a school bus is stopped and dropping-off or picking-up kids, they do NOT have their red lights flashing or their STOP arm extended. The bus will only have the yellow lights flashing. When searching the internet for school bus rules/regulations I can only find information related to how other drivers are required to respond, rather I'm interested in what the bus driver is required to do. I was unaware that there are

potential scenarios where the bus driver is not required to force traffic to stop.

My question: What are the rules/regulations with respect to a school bus that is stopping to drop-off or pick-up kids, when are they required to activate the red flashing lights and extend the STOP arm, rather than just activating the yellow flashing lights?

Answer: Thank you for the question and I am glad to hear that you read the articles. When transporting children to and from school in most scenarios they are to use the red lights and stops arms. Here is a list according to state law, when school bus drivers shall not activate the prewarning flashing amber signals or flashing red signals and shall not use the stop arm signal:

- in special school bus loading areas where the bus is entirely off the traveled portion of the roadway and where no other motor vehicle traffic is moving or is likely to be moving within 20 feet of the bus;
- when directed not to do so, in writing, by the local school board;
- when a school bus is being used on a street or highway for purposes other than the actual transportation of school children to or from school or a school-approved activity, except



for regularly scheduled recreational or educational activity;

- at railroad grade crossings;
- when operating the bus under a "special event;" and
- when loading and unloading people at designated school bus stops where people are not required to cross the street or highway, while the bus is completely off the traveled portion of a roadway that has adequate shoulders. The driver shall drive the bus completely off the traveled portion of this roadway before loading or unloading people. A school bus stop is designated under this clause if the transportation director of the school district in which the bus stop is located, in consulta-

tion with the road authority, certifies the integrity of the shoulder and the safety of the location for loading and unloading people. Each designated school bus stop must be documented and approved by the school board.

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

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



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West Concord Historical Society



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Cannon Falls VFW S.A.V.E. Training



By Josh Smith, Goodhue County Health & Human Services

Goodhue County in 2023, and the suicide rate is significantly higher than any other county in Southeast Minnesota, and more than double the State of Minnesota's suicide rate.

The event, which was organized by Goodhue County Health & Human Services, the MPLS VA Health Care System, and representatives from VFW Post 4452 and American Legion Post 142 in Cannon Falls, featured Julia Pawlenty, a clinical social worker and Cannon Falls resident. She shared the significance of Veteran suicide, potential warning signs, and how to act with care and compassion when a Veteran is experiencing a mental health crisis. The training uses an easy to remember acronym, S.A.V.E.

S – Signs of suicidal thinking should be recognized

A – Ask the most important question of all
V – Validate the Veteran's experience

E – Encourage treatment and Expedite getting help

Julia also shared a few easy actions everyone can take to help prevent suicide, including limiting access to lethal means and seeking mental health support. Firearms account for 70% of suicide deaths, so keeping firearms locked and out of sight is a good way to prevent someone experiencing a mental health crisis from accessing them.

We are all responsible for preventing suicide and ensuring the people around us feel loved and supported. If you or someone you know is experiencing suicidal thoughts or a mental health crisis, call or text 988 or visit <https://988lifeline.org>.



More than 25 Cannon Falls Veterans and concerned community members gathered on Thursday, September 26th to learn about the warning signs of Veteran suicide and how to prevent it.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reports an estimated 22 Veterans die by suicide every day. It's not uncommon to meet a Veteran who knows at least one former soldier that has died by suicide. Suicide is not a Veteran-only problem. The Southern Minnesota Regional Medical Examiner's Office reported that 13 people died by suicide in

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Three Candidates for Kenyon City Council

The Messenger does not endorse any candidate, only to inform the readers of the choices on the ballot for this office.

There are two open seats for the Kenyon city council and three people have filed for the general election on November 5th. We have interviewed Mary Bailey and Elana

Brunner but the third candidate, Aaron Meyer, did not respond to be interviewed.

Mary Bailey has served on the city council for four years. Mary has a business and lives in Kenyon and her children attend the Kenyon-Wanamingo School. She believes it is a great place to raise a family. Mary has served on other boards in the past and is currently on the EDA as well.

She recalls that the first few years of being on City Council are a learning experience. Government works slower than most organizations and is structured in a very unique way. It took me some time to get used to and to understand how things operate. Now that I understand this a bit better, it is easier to work through some of the issues we have. Like upgrading our downtown area, and making decisions about repairing our roads

and other infrastructure in town. I am also working with the city departments to hopefully implement some sort of trail system while fixing and expanding our parks.

Along with continual care for the city and it's infrastructure, her goal is to get a trail and park system started that could be expanded in the future.

Mary believes that the strength of our community is that we have almost everything we need in our little town and most of it comes in the form of small businesses that care for the rest of the community. "It would be nice to fill our downtown with a few more small businesses and that is happening right now. We are getting a new salon and a new restaurant and hopefully that will continue to grow. We need more businesses and residential living space. We are really working on filling the industrial park and filling the empty spaces downtown. There are many obstacles in doing this. Most of them financial but we are really trying to be creative in making them come to fruition".

Elana Brunner and her husband Matthew moved to Kenyon in April of 2015. They have a 2-year old daughter. Elana works for the state of Minnesota and Matt is a locomotive mechanic and a volunteer firefighter on the Kenyon Fire Department. They love the city parks and being outside and is willing to meet others to listen, learn and grow.

She is running for city council because since her and her husband moved here ten years ago they have appreciated the support and all the people they have met. She wants



Mary Bailey



Elana Brunner

to ensure the community remains a great place to live and raise a family. Elana has worked for local government and has seen how effective policies can positively transform lives and communities. She believes it is important that a city leadership team is responsive and transparent; actively engages residents; and effectively translates the visions, aspirations and concerns of the community into plans and actions.

She would like to continue to promote transparency, fiscal responsibility, equitable programs and policies that are in the best interest of all. She looks forward to meaningful conversations, building relationships and learning more about the city and how to continue to improve our community. Elana believes that by listening and remaining curious in disagreement, we can acknowledge that there are differences, but be open and honest, learn and grow from those variances.

Two Candidates for District 19A

(continued from page 1)

Keith and his wife Morgan have lived and farmed in the Wanamingo area for twenty years. Keith was born and raised on a farm near Eyota, Minnesota. They have two children. The Allens raise corn and soybeans as well as milk dairy goats. They sell caramel from the goats milk online and at local shows. Keith also sells seed corn and soybean seed as well as serving as a crop consultant. Morgan is a nutritionist for a company that makes animal milk replacer.

Keith received a bachelor of science from the University of Minnesota. He was a member of the Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership Class 8, he has served on the Minnesota Farm Bureau board of directors, Goodhue Board of Adjustment, Dale Lutheran Church Board President and is the Cherry Grove township supervisor. He is a member of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) and the NRA as well as a longtime member of the Goodhue County Republican Party.

Keith was inspired to run as a Republican for the office because of what he saw happening with the economy to businesses and taxes from what the DFL leadership has done in the state. The DFL controlled state has spent an \$18 billion surplus and proceeded to raise taxes. The direction the state is headed is unsustainable. He believes the politicians at the capitol in St. Paul are not listening to the people. The increasing taxes are causing senior citizens and businesses to move out of

state. The state mandates have resulted in the school boards to not listen to their constituents as well.

His priorities if elected will be to eliminate Minnesota state social security taxes on senior's retirement incomes. He will also work to equalize K-12 education funding for rural school districts. He will work to cut back and scrap mandates to schools and give the dollars back to school districts to be independent and allow teachers to teach the basics to students.

Keith grew up in southern Minnesota with strong work ethic, great sense of community and strong school system, all which are important to the fabric of America. He wants to use his leadership skills to give back to the good people of this state.

Jessica Navarro is the DFL candidate for House District 19A. She did not respond to our request for an interview. According to her website she was born in New York. She lives in Faribault with her two children. They moved to the area in the late 1990's to work for the Jennie-O-Turkey store. She has a bachelors degree in social work from MSU/Mankato and is employed by a non-profit connecting families to local resources and services.

Her priorities are affordable and accessible healthcare, affordable and accessible child-care and affordable and accessible housing. She sees public service as a means to address social issues and improve people's lives while creating positive change.



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Kenyon City Council Meeting September 10, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 10th day of September 2024. The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Bailey.

The following members were present: Acting Mayor Mary Bailey, Council Member Lee Sjolander

Via Teams: Molly Ryan

Absent: Doug Henke, Kim Helgeson

Also present: Interim Administrator Frank Boyles, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Finance Director Whitney Kylo, Engineer Derek Olinger, Public Works Director Wayne Ehrich, City Attorney Scott Riggs, Officer Brian Homeier, Officer Dan England, Police Chief Jeff Sjoblom, Don Kirchmann, Kevin Anderson, Harris Haugen, Rick Vance, Clinton Christensen, Isaac Ramsey, West Concord Police Chief Shannon Boerne

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENT ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Lee seconded by Bailey to approve the agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Ryan seconded by Bailey to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers 76289 through 76462; 5101E through 5127E.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS Masonic Lodge of Cannon Falls presentation to Kenyon Fire Department, West Concord Fire Department, and Kenyon Police Department

Rick Vance, District Representative of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Minnesota, Clinton Christensen of the Grand Lodge, and Harris Haugen of the Cannon Falls Masonic Lodge explained that the Masonic Lodge's goal is to put a fire suppression tool in every police car in the state. The Masonics are sponsoring a program, which receives a break from the manufacturer, so the cost was \$300 instead of the normal \$1,500 for each device. The Kenyon Relief Association funded the purchases of six fire suppression tools that were presented to the Kenyon Fire Department (2), West Concord Police Department (1), and Kenyon Police Department (3). This tool allows the first person on the scene of a fire to deploy the tool which suppresses the flames and lowers the temperature without water damage or removing the oxygen.

ENGINEERING

Pearl Creek & Gates Avenue Utility Improvements

Engineer Olinger stated that work this past month included final paving, full disconnection from the old Pearl Creek sewer main, fine grading and seeding. The contractor still needs to finish final testing of the pipelines but is waiting for parts to arrive.

Pay Application #8 to BCM Construction

Motion by Bailey second by Sjolander to approve pay request No. 8 to BCM Construction in the amount of \$66,188.50 for work completed through August 30, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

2025 Street and Utility Improvements Review Feasibility Report

Engineer Olinger summarized the feasibility report for the 2025 Street and Utility Report including the project need, existing conditions, proposed improvements, project costs, funding, and overall feasibility of the project. The consensus of the council was to follow past practices by assessing 30% of the project costs to the property owners.

Resolution 2024-20: Receiving Feasibility Report and Calling on Improvement

Motion by Sjolander seconded by Ryan to adopt Resolution 2024-20 with the addition of the sidewalk on 5th Street.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 5-0-0.

LEGAL

Temporary Waiver of City Code for Downtown Kenyon Fall Festival

Interim City Administrator Boyles stated that a Fall Festival is planned for Saturday, October 12 in the business area of Kenyon. No action is needed. This item was approved in the consent agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-21: Adopting the 2025 Preliminary Budget & Levy

Finance Director Kylo stated that the proposed budget and levy was reviewed at the Council work session on August 29. The levy was set at a maximum of 9.55%. The preliminary maximum levy certification resolution must be submitted to Goodhue County by the end of September. The final levy must be adopted by the end of December. The levy can be lowered between now and the end of the year, but it cannot be increased.

Motion by Ryan second by Bailey to adopt Resolution 2024-21 adopting the 2025 preliminary budget and levy, which is a maximum of 9.55%.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion by Bailey second by Ryan to set the Truth in Taxation meeting for December 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

Resolution 2024-22: Approving a Cooperative Snow Removal Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation

Interim City Administrator Boyles stated that the city is required to approve a cooperative agreement every five years with MNDOT concerning snow removal. The agreement sets annual compensation and reimbursements to the city that will not exceed \$19,742.47 total in the five-year agreement for snow removal assistance in the downtown area.

Motion by Bailey second by Sjolander to adopt Resolution 2024-22 approving a cooperative snow removal agreement with the MN Dept of Transportation.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

KMU Meeting: Tuesday, September 17 @ 4 p.m.

EDA Meeting: Friday, September 27 @ 8 a.m.

Planning Commission Meeting: Tuesday,

October 1 @ 6:00 p.m.

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 8 @ 7 p.m.

COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL COMMENTS

Council Member Sjolander thanked the First Responders for responding to his relative's gas leak. He thanked Wayne, Jeff, and Randy for all they do.

Motion by Bailey seconded by Ryan to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

Roll Call Vote: Bailey- Aye, Sjolander – Aye, Ryan – Aye Motion carried 3-0-0.

Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant Mary Bailey, Acting Mayor

City of Wanamingo Regular EDA Meeting Monday September 9, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Wanamingo City Council Chambers 401 Main Street Wanamingo MN

PRESENT: Annette Fritz, Brian Gudknecht, Becky Haugen, Ryan Holmes, Laurie Musselman, and Josh Schaefer

ABSENT: Jim Kittelson

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Boulton and Brad Kennedy

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

Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ADOPT AGENDA: Schaefer motioned, seconded by Musselman to adopt. Approved 6-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA: Haugen motioned, seconded by Schaefer to approve. Approved 6-0-0.

PRESENTERS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Administrator Boulton provided a memo on the Wanamingo Medical Center, OMC air conditioner and furnace unit. The maintenance staff have had Reliable Heating & Cooling recharge the OMC air conditioning unit twice in the last two months at the Medical Center. Reliable found the crack up in the coils of the air conditioner. It was estimated to cost \$3,000 to replace the coils and eliminate the crack in the air conditioner.

The air conditioner and furnace for the OMC suite is original from when the building was constructed in 2003. Both are aging with service call expenses and deterioration. Last fall the furnace was replaced for the unit at the back suite at Medical Center, costing roughly \$5,000.

Reliable Heating & Cooling suggested replacing the air conditioner, evaporator coil, and furnace for the OMC suite at the Medical Center. Staff obtained quotes for two difference furnace units with the same 5-ton Carrier air conditioner unit from Reliable. Both furnaces are Carrier 80,000 BTU furnaces, but one is 2-stage and the other is one-stage.

The 2-stage furnace unit is \$13,171 and the one-stage furnace unit is \$12,148. Schaefer Heating & Air also suggested replacing the air conditioner, evaporator coil, and furnace for the OMC suite at the Medical Center. Staff obtained two quotes from Schaefer Heating and Air. One quote is for a Bryant 5-ton A/c and 80,000 BTU furnace for \$12,146.83. The other quote is for a Payne 5-ton A/C and a 78,000 BTU furnace for

\$9,114.86

Boulton stated that the replacement expense will push the facility to have more expenses than income in 2024. It was projected to have a slight net income (\$3,000-\$5,000) and will now have a negative operating balance of (\$5,000-\$10,000) with the expenses of the air conditioner service calls and replacement costs.

Brad Kennedy stated that the Bryant furnace option from Schaefer Heating & Air is the best option that Bryant offers (10-year parts & warranty). The Payne furnace option from Schaefer Heating & Air has a 10-year parts & 5-year warranty. Both Carrier options are 10-year warranty and 5-year parts. Kennedy stated that both Schaefer Heating & Air and Reliable Heating & Cooling could install the furnace and air conditioners within the week. Kennedy stated that OMC was without air conditioning Friday and Monday. OMC has had to have the doors open because the suite gets so hot. Kennedy stated that OMC is aware that a decision would be made by the EDA Board tonight. Gudknecht stated that Bryant, Payne, and Carrier are made by the same manufacturer. Kennedy stated that Reliable Heating & Cooling has had great response time and service since Route 60 Plumbing & heating sold out. Schaefer stated that he would abstain from discussion and voting since Schaefer Heating & Air is owned by his cousin, Tylor. Kennedy stated that his uncle, who is in heating and air conditioning industry, said that Payne is just as good of a product as other options on the market. He also stated that he would install one in his home. Musselman stated that the Payne option is \$3,000+ cheaper and is hard not to choose being the other brands are similar. Kennedy stated that the lines will stay in place. The lines will be cleaned out when the new furnace and air conditioner is installed. Kennedy stated that both Reliable Heating & Cooling and Schaefer Heating & Air stated that it would be a waste of money to replace the lines. Fritz moved to approve the Schaefer Heating & Air Payne Furnace and Air Conditioner estimate for \$9,114.86, seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-1 (Schaefer).

A 2024 Goodhue County Economic Development Summit flyer was discussed. The summit is put on by CEDA (Community and Economic Development Associates), which are contracted to economic development actions by Goodhue County. The Summit is scheduled to take place September 18th at the Red Wing Ignite building (419 Bush Street) from 8:30AM-12:00PM. The theme this year is "What is Happening in Goodhue County?" Boulton stated that each City has been asked to provide an update. The North Zumbro Sanitary Sewer District is planning a presentation as well. Boulton asked if any of the EDA members wished to attend. Josh Schaefer and Annette Fritz volunteered to attend. Boulton stated the he would register himself, Schaefer, and Fritz for the summit.

OLD BUSINESS:

There being no further business Schaefer made a motion seconded by Musselman to adjourn the EDA meeting at 6:21PM. Approved 6-0-0.

Brian Gudknecht, President
Michael Boulton, Director

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**CITY OF WANAMINGO
City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2024 7:00 P.M.
Wanamingo City Council Chambers –
401 Main Street
Wanamingo, MN**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Holmes.
PRESENT: Council: Eric Dierks, Rebecca Haugen, Ryan Holmes, Jeremiah Flotterud, and Stuart Ohr

City Administrator: Michael Boulton
Deputy Clerk: Karen Masters

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kennedy, Brandon Theobald – WHKS, Stephen Kingsbury, Julie Mettelle-Steberg, Goodhue County Sheriff Marty Kelly, Christine Lundin, Shawn Anderson, Todd Greseth – Goodhue County Commissioner, Bobby Stewart – Highland Sanitation, Goodhue County Deputy Dan Englund, and Daren Strobel – Kenyon Leader.

ADOPT AGENDA: Dierks motioned to adopt the agenda, seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA: Haugen motioned, seconded by Flotterud. Passed 5-0-0.

PRESENTERS:

A) Brad Kennedy reported on:

1) Cleaned off the asphalt path down to the pier at Riverside Park. Replaced a couple of missing boards on the pier. Other permanent work will be completed to the damaged pier with the FEMA money.

2) Downsized the Hockey Rink in order to center the rink on the lights on a level surface. This will help to create and maintain ice easier and longer in the winter season.

3) Swimming Pool is shut down and has been winterized for the season

4) Replaced manifold on the Caterpillar 938H Pay Loader

5) Worked with Jason's Sewer Sucking & Excavation to replace a section of subdrain line that was plug with tree roots behind the back of the curb. The line is located between 525 and 531 5th Street E

6) Main Street curb was poured by Noah Grove. The section of curb was taken out during the repair of the watermain break on the 500 Block of Main Street.

7) Brought in black dirt, leveled off, and seeded where the repair storm sewer pipe on the corner of Hill Avenue and 2nd Street E and 5th Street E subdrain line was replaced.

8) Well House project new building and generator slab were recently poured. The pre-fab building will be sent toward the end of September.

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

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

B) Marty Kelly – Goodhue County Sheriff, reported on:

1) Presented the second draft of the 2025-2027 policing contract. The first draft had drawn cost concerns by all five of the contract communities.

2) The contract and the hourly policing rate have been worked on for over a year.

3) Goodhue County took over Wanamingo

policing services in the 1990's after Terry Mosher retired.

4) Have been working with the County Board on the hourly rate formula. The costs have significantly increased since the last contract. The last contract did not cover the actual costs, but the percentage increase was capped at 4% each year. The County Board approved the final hourly rate which originally included 10% administrative costs. Recommended removing the 10% administrative cost after all five contract communities pushed back and did not want to sign contracts. The County Board compromised on a three-year phase in of the administrative costs (0% in 2025, 5% in 2026, and 10% in 2027).

5) The contract reflects a reduction from six hours to five hours per day of service. The hours will be assigned at the discretion of the County Sheriff's office.

Flotterud appreciated the Sheriff recommending no administrative cost to the contract. Flotterud stated that the phased in administrative cost from 0% in the first year up to 10% in the third year was the best that the contract communities, including Wanamingo, were going to get from the County Board. Kelly stated that policing costs are not getting cheaper. The next contract will see increases. Flotterud asked if the five hours per day minimum could be any lower. Kelly stated that the five hours per day covers extra patrol time along with 24-hour coverage for all calls. Without a minimum the of five hours, based upon the standard formula, it would be difficult to cover Wanamingo's needs. Kingsbury asked if calls outside of the contract were covered. Kelly stated yes, calls are covered 24-hours per day. Holmes stated that the City of Wanamingo and Goodhue County Sheriff's office has enjoyed relationships in the past. It was too bad that what happened with changes from the County Board in cost, the drawn-out contract discussion time, and significant increases had to happen together. Kelly stated that he let the County Board know that relationships had been damaged and would need to be repaired with the contract cities.

C) Brandon Theobald – WHKS, reported on:

1) The sump pump inspection program is well underway.

A) 70% of the City has been scheduled for inspection. In other communities with programs that WHKS has conducted we usually see 35%-45% scheduled with the first letter. B) 136 inspections have been completed to date with six failures.

Kingsbury asked how compliance was going to be kept up after all of the inspections are completed. Theobald stated that a point of sale has been discussed. The Council will need to consider a program for future compliance that would take place at the time of sale when utility bills change names. Theobald stated that the County can not stop sale of property to enforce ordinance. This is similar to septic systems and drain fields with the County at the time of the sale. The compliance would be the seller's obligation at the time of the sale. City staff could complete the follow up compliance inspection and sign off, if in compliance or direct

changes to come into compliance. The updated compliance program will be brought up for future discussion as the program winds down and nears completion.

2) Emerald Valley II Addition Proposed Development Agreement and Proposed Plans

A) Council will consider approval of Resolution 24-052 for proposed development agreement and Resolution 24-053 for proposed plans

B) The proposed development agreement includes the possibility of phasing the project. The developer indicated that he wants to build out the entire development. The only reasons to phase are a cost and negotiating tactic with other parcel owners.

C) Developer owns twenty-five of the fifty parcels in Emerald Valley II Addition. The City owns three parcels and developer has an agreement in place with owner of thirteen other parcels

D) The proposed plans call for all water and sewer service lines to be installed. The developer is required to install lines to outside the curb/gutter area so that the road will not need to be disturbed in the future. The developer has requested that the City not issue building permits on parcels that have not come to a payment agreement with the developer.

E) Developer is required to obtain written right-of entry agreements with other parcel owners as part of proposed development agreement. It will be in the developer's best interest to work with parcel owners on payment agreement at the same time as right-of entry agreement.

F) The developer has requested to be able to construct new homes before the road is completed, but after utilities are installed as part of the development agreement.

G) There will be sidewalks and pedestrian sidewalk ramps installed on the north side of 3rd Street in the proposed plans.

H) The proposed development agreement will have the developer install the second lift of asphalt the year after completing the installation of utilities, curb/gutter, and 1st lift of asphalt.

I) The City owns three parcels that are part of Torkelson Park. The City has agreed to pay share of development costs for the parcels with one water and one service line installed on the north side of the three lots. The costs of the parcel improvements will be offset by engineering and attorney costs in-

curred by the city for plan review, construction observation, and development agreement costs.

J) The proposed development agreement has the City obtaining easements on the storm water ponds from the owner.

K) The developer will be required to provide a 110% letter of credit. The letter of credit would be accessed to finish any improvements that were not completed if the developer started and did not complete the work. The 2nd lift of asphalt is a common improvement that cannot be left uncompleted by developers.

L) The City could lead the project as another option. The City could receive the cash up front from the developer and any other property owners. The City could then assess the remaining parcels for the improvements. The City would then have to wait for assessments to be paid back to cover the bond payments. It is advantageous for the City to not take on the risk of up front costs and waiting to be paid back through special assessments.


Shawn Anderson and Christine Lundin had concerns on what the cost per parcel would be calculated. Boulton stated that the developer is required to obtain right-of-entry agreements with each parcel owner, which are intertwined with cost. Theobald stated that it would be in the best interest of the developer to work through costs with parcel owners or the developer would be paying the cost up front and have a difficult time recouping costs. Theobald stated that a sunset clause of ten years on the City enforcing no building permits on parcels that have not compensated the developer for the improvements cost would be beneficial. The City should not enforce this clause forever, due to concerns such as the developer passing away. Flotterud stated that the water and sewer service lines stubs need to be installed behind the back of the curb and out of the street. The owner should pay fair share of costs to enjoy the improvements and connect to the water and sewer. Flotterud was surprised that the developer was not at the meeting to answer questions. Boulton stated that the developer indicated that he would attend the meeting and not sure why he is not present.

Anderson stated that there are no costs for the project presented and potential share for parcel owners is unknown.

(continued on page 25)

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Wanamingo City Council Meeting

(continued from page 24)

Anderson stated that he wished to see costs before the Council approve the development agreement or else his lot could be held hostage and not be allowed to be built on. Boulton stated that the developer was obtaining pricing from contractors and should have numbers soon. Theobald stated that other developers and the City had looked into constructing out the necessary improvements over the last few years. The cost of the improvements did not pencil out well compared to the going rate of lots in Wanamingo. The developer can not afford to eat costs for non-participating parcel owners. Theobald recommended tabling each of the resolutions. Holmes agreed that the resolutions should be tabled. Holmes further stated that staff should reach out to the developer asking him to meet with each of the effected parcel owners and have a range of costs. Boulton stated that the City could offer the use of the community center or city council chambers to facilitate meetings with the effected parcel owners. Theobald stated that the developer has significant land cost and engineering involved in the project and will not walk away from the project due to this delay.

D) Julie Mettelle-Steberg, Swimming Pool Manager, reported on:

1) Operations did not go smoothly in 2024. The first half of the season had several rain-outs. Lessons occurred during the first half of the season causing staff to scramble to get them in for students.

2) Thanked City staff and council for support they provided

3) Attendance for both passes and lessons were down. Luckily, there were a good number of pool parties.

4) Had twelve life guards and struggled to fill shifts, especially in August. Maybe half of the staff will return for 2025.

5) Bria Miller should be back as the WSI (water safety instructor) instructor for 2025. Need to encourage younger staff to think about obtaining WSI for future certified swim instructor.

6) There were a number of complaints. Next year there needs to be a responsible adult present during all shifts. In past years Dillon Steberg, Danny VanEpps, and Katie VanEpps were present as the adult during the shifts and it worked well. This year's eighteen-year-olds were not as responsible in calling out behavior and dealing with the public. It might be nice to have multiple adults managing the swimming pool in 2025.

7) Julie will not be back as the swimming

pool manager in 2025. She is willing to help the new manager get started and possibly teach water aerobics. Jake Wieme has expressed interest in managing the swimming pool in 2025

8) There are concerns with 2025 wages. Pine Island pool wages increased significantly in 2024 and it may be hard to compete.

9) The Wanamingo swimming pool was built in 1973 and opened in 1974. 2024 was the 50th anniversary.

10) Guard tubes need to be replaced and the interior bathhouse needs to be painted before next pool season.

E) Todd Greseth, Goodhue County Commissioner, reported on:

1) Police Contracts are now settled. The contract pricing was set in July. At the August meeting the County Board approved a phased in 10% administrative cost, easing the increase over three years.

2) The County Board set the preliminary County tax levy at 4.61%. The final levy can not increase, but should decrease.

3) Lisa Hanni retired from the County. Lisa led six divisions and may need to be replaced by at least two new staff

Holmes thanked Greseth for his work to reduce potential policing contract costs. The City was hoping to reduce the costs further, but understood that the votes on the County Board were not there. The City appreciated that phased in administrative costs.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION:

24-051 = Adopting 2024 4th Quarter Maintenance Work Plan: Haugen moved to approve, Seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

24-052 = Approving a Development Agreement with Metro East Commercial Real Estate Services for Emerald Valley II Addition: Flotterud moved to table, Seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-0.

24-053 = Approving Emerald Valley II Addition Plans: Flotterud moved to table, Seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-0.

24-054 = Approving Joint Powers Agreement for Snow Removal Between the State of Minnesota and the City of Wanamingo on Trunk HWY 57 Within the City for 2024/2025 Through 2028/2029 Snow Seasons: Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Dierks. Passed 5-0-0.

24-055 = Authorizing and Approving a 2024-2025 Lobbyist Contract for the Proposed North Zumbro Sanitary Sewer District State Capital Request: Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Haugen. Passed 5-0-0.

24-056 = Approving 2025-2027 Policing Contract with Goodhue County Sheriff:

Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Holmes thanked Stephen Kingsbury for attending the last County Board meeting and being a member of the Wanamingo Police Workgroup. Flotterud was grateful that the administrative costs were phased in and that the City could reduce patrol time by one hour per day. Keeping the same policing costs in 2025 as 2024 (\$127,873) will take pressure off 2025 levy. Flotterud stated that the Council could potentially lower the Final levy from the proposed levy. Flotterud asked Boulton what the policing budget was presented to the Council compared to the contract. Boulton stated that the proposed budget for policing was \$170,000. The actual budget price for policing is now \$129,275 for 2025. Flotterud stated the Council can consider slightly more in 2025 so that 2026 is less of a policing increase when the cost moves to \$145,246. Boulton stated that without growth any increases to the levy go directly onto the existing tax base. Flotterud hypothetically asked if Wanamingo needs patrol, rather than on-call only. Flotterud stated that calls would be answered. Flotterud stated that if Kenyon Police Department goes to 24-hour coverage that on-call might be a better long-term answer. Flotterud asked if the City of Wanamingo could get out of this contract. Kelly stated that the contract has 180-day notice to opt out. Passed 5-0-0.

24-057 = Approving Pay Request No. 5 to The Joseph Company, Inc. for the Well House Portion of the 2022 Utility Improvements:

Ohr moved to approve, Seconded by Flotterud. Theobald stated that the pay request is for demolition, concrete work, insulation, well work, and electrical. The total pay estimate is for \$155,000.10. Theobald stated that project completion is expected October 15th. Passed 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 24-058 – Approving Residential and Commercial Solid Waste and Recycling Hauler Proposal:

Ohr moved to approve, seconded by Haugen. Boulton stated that the committee had reviewed the proposals again since the August meeting. The proposal was written for both residential solid waste and recycling along with Commercial solid waste and recycling. The current ordinance states that the hauler has exclusive franchise to both. If the Council wished to separate out haulers for residential and commercial a new RFP should be approved and sent out. The Council would also need to re-write the ordinance. Each of these actions would take at least two months. The

committee recommended approving the lowest combination proposal rather than delaying the process at least two months. The committee removed LRS' proposal from consideration due to potentially high automatic fuel surcharges. The lowest combination proposal was Highland Sanitation. Highland was significantly cheaper on residential solid waste and recycling. Waste Management was slightly cheaper on commercial solid waste and recycling. Over the life of the contract, Highland Sanitation would be \$74,580 cheaper than Waste Management. Stewart stated that disposal costs have some flexibility to keep costs down. Flotterud stated that commercial costs are higher with Highland Sanitation but as an aggregate would be the cheaper exclusive franchise contract. Boulton stated that the City has learned a lesson for the next contract which include tracking tonnage of solid waste for commercial and residential, ensuring that containers are picked up when contract complete, and putting together proposals that are combination residential/commercial and stand-alone residential/commercial. Passed 5-0-0. Stewart stated that he would be reaching out to individual commercial accounts to check on needs and set up billing information.

Enforcement Process – Mead Johnson - Reckitt – 270 day written letter toward meeting goal of waste pH – Boulton stated

that the City had received a letter from Mead Johnson – Reckitt. Mead Johnson – Reckitt pH of wastewater discharge was within range during most of the month of August, except labor day weekend. The frac tank was installed and incorporated into their process back in March. Mead Johnson – Reckitt goal is to install a new lift station with pH treatment. The project has been funded and is proceeding through the final engineering design phase. Boulton stated that the Wanamingo staff are still monitoring the wastewater discharge from Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The pH levels of the wastewater discharge are being adjusted before being sent to the wastewater treatment plant. Prior to December 2023, results have regularly shown extremely low and at times high pH levels along with the presence of high levels of QAC (Quaternary Ammonium Compounds) have been sent to Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The pH levels should be within 5.0 and 9.5. City Staff have been working with Reckitt-Mead Johnson toward the achieved solution of pH levels within the limits. The City appreciates the open dialogue and work, to date, from Reckitt-Mead Johnson. The City continues to keep the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency informed during this process, including Carolle Ternus the new Municipal Wastewater Compliance and Enforcement staff member. Boulton stated the Enforcement Process would remain on the monthly agenda until November 2024, or when the action items are completed. Boulton stated the Reckitt-Mead Johnson would be required to provide written monthly updates to the City Council.

*Next City Council meeting on 10/14/2024
Adjourn: At 8:33 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Flotterud and seconded by Ohr. Passed 5-0-0.

Signed: Ryan Holmes, Mayor

Attest: Michael Boulton, City Administrator

Commissioner Corner

Greetings, elections are right around the corner and I would encourage everyone to get out and vote. Please do your own research on your candidates, we are responsible for who we put into office.

Fall is one of my favorite times of the year and I hope everyone can get out and enjoy the beautiful scenery that is here in Goodhue county and in our State. As farmers are busy in the fields, please remember to allow enough time on the road just in case they are moving equipment.

Road construction is nearing completion for this year, but as we know we will always have road construction in Minnesota and please give our workers plenty of space to do their work.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. GO VIKINGS!
Todd



Todd Greseth
Goodhue County
Commissioner
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SUDOKU ANSWERS

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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THEME: FAMOUS WORLD SITES
- ACROSS**
1. To grab meat off a grill
 5. Tire meas.
 8. Flock member
 11. Hollywood sidewalk mark
 12. Architect's drawing
 13. Muhammad's teachings
 15. *Leaning Tower city
 16. Co-eds' military org.
 17. a.k.a. Pleasant Island
 18. *Angkor Wat country
 20. Like some Christmas sweaters
 21. Walt's Mickey
 22. Blunder
 23. Emerge
 26. "Midsommar" flower arrangements
 30. *Avenue des Champs-...lysEes, technically
 31. Plural of stria
 34. Prescribed food selection
 35. On pins and needles
 37. Knee-related acronym
 38. Fur of the marten
 39. Hissy fit
 40. Political "shelter"
 42. The night before Christmas
 43. Eyewash vessel
 45. Food tester
 47. King Kong, e.g.
 48. Milk quantity
 50. * _____ Verde National Park
 52. *Black Hills' Mount _____ National Memorial
 55. Short-trunked ungulate
 56. Geometric calculation
 57. Barbequed anatomy
 59. Not upright
 60. Mountain lake
 61. *Easter Island statues
 62. Short for detective
 63. Follow ems
 64. "Mr. Roboto" band

- DOWN**
1. Recipe amt.
 2. Related to ear
 3. U.S. space agency, acr.
 4. Gram, in Great Britain
 5. Walks weary
 6. Composer of "GymnopÉdies" fame Erik _____
 7. *Machu Picchu empire
 8. Twelfth month of Jewish civil year
 9. On one's guard
 10. Ostrich-like bird
 12. Marcel of "Remembrance of Things Past" fame
 13. Harden
 14. * _____ Familia, Spain
 19. Autocratic
 22. Earlier in time, archaic
 23. Use blunt end of pencil
 24. Sack fabric
 25. Change shoelace knot, e.g.
 26. *China's Great attraction
 27. *Mt. Everest's northern slope location
 28. Tool handle
 29. Ranch grazer
 32. Poison ivy woe
 33. * _____ Strait, Alaskan cruise destination
 36. *Famous onion-domed cathedral's namesake in Russia
 38. Ingratiating behavior
 40. Gobbled up
 41. Relating to Utah
 44. Like exes
 46. Violent weather, pl.
 48. #13 Across' sacred writings
 49. Site frequenters
 50. First one on a ship
 51. Long narrative poem
 52. Loan attribute
 53. Heavy metal's Quiet _____
 54. E-commerce website
 55. Sylvester, to Tweety
 58. Broadway musical about wives of Henry VIII



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