



KENYON • WANAMINGO Messenger

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OCTOBER 23, 2024

Volume 17 • Issue 15

Announcements

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

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

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

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

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

Honoring our POW/MIA

By Cheri Roshon

On Friday, June 29th, the Kenyon/Wanamingo second grade students, along with the Veteran's Honor Guard and the VFW Post 18, gathered together at the JV baseball field to dedicate a new flagpole on POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Second grade students Liza Van De Walker and Aubrey Kylo did the honor of raising the flag for the first time.

VFW Commander Gary Floan explained

the meaning of the flag to those who gathered in honor of our service men and women. The second grade students recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and Chaplain Larry Van De Walker read the POW/MIA poem. Larry Pederson was on hand to provide a few facts on the MIA recovery efforts, and Stu Hegseth honored the crowd by playing Taps.

A lot of thought, work, and generosity went into this project.

(continued on page 9)



Lurken Seeking First Term on KW School Board



Madilynn Lurken is seeking her first term on the Kenyon/Wanamingo School board.

Madilynn has her Masters Degree in education and has worked in education

for 13 years.

Madilynn expresses her views in her own

words about her desire to be elected to the K/W school board. "The next few years will be important for the Kenyon Wanamingo School District as we work to get on better ground financially. Our current superintendent, Mrs. Giese, has already proven to be a strong and sensible leader so this is a great opportunity to get our district back on track. I would like to be a part of helping create a strong and financially stable school district.

(continued on page 5)



Kenyon Fall Festival

By Cheri Roshon

Kim Helgeson and the Kenyon Park and Rec Department ordered up a perfect day to usher in my favorite season--- Fall!

I have to say a big thank you to all the Park and Rec volunteers who are the backbone of any organization. Park and Rec sponsors and orchestrates the Farmers Market in Kenyon on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from June to October every year, and it is growing.

(continued on pg. 8)

It's About Time!



By Cheri Roshon

In 2022, the City of Wanamingo approved a project that had been in the works since 2018. The project had three steps to complete it in a safe and viable way. Step #1 was to build a new water tower and remove the existing one that we all knew and loved.

(continued on page 6)

**HALLOWEEN ON MAIN STREET
TRICK OR TREAT**

SPONSORED BY THE COMMERCIAL CLUB
Thursday, October 31st - 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Main Street - Wanamingo
FREE - hot dogs, chips, & water available at The Spot Sports Pub & Grill
DRESS UP IN YOUR COSTUME & ENJOY THE FUN!

**THE SPOT SPORTS PUB & GRILLS'
HALLOWEEN PARTY**

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
COSTUME CONTEST, LIVE MUSIC,
GAMES & 2 FOR 1 POWER HOUR

SPOOK-TACULAR

HALLOWEEN
MINI PHOTO
SESSIONS

TRUNK OR TREAT
WANAMINGO
RIVERSIDE PARK
OCTOBER 26TH
10:30 AM-12 PM

\$10 PER PHOTO/SETTING
SINGLE CHILDREN,
FAMILIES, OR GROUP
PHOTOS WELCOME

NO APPOINTMENTS
NEEDED - JUST STOP BY!

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO KWHS AFTER
FROM COMMITTEE

Mark 10:17-31 & Psalm 146: Living the Faith and Having Enough

Enough. It is a word that gets very little attention these days. Knowing that one has enough, however, is liberating. John C. Bogle was the late founder and CEO of The Vanguard Group, one of the largest mutual fund companies in the world, and he created the Vanguard 500 index fund. Bogle tells the story of Joseph Heller, the 1940s author of *Catch-22*, a WWII novel, which was one of the great literary works of last century, who responded when someone pointed out that his billionaire party host made more money in a single day of hedge fund trading than Heller had ever earned from his book *Catch-22*. Heller replied: "Yes, but I have something that he will never have: Enough."

To know that one has enough allows others to have the same possibility. When one can say to oneself, "I have enough," the noisy, grinding gears of endless acquisition come to a halt, and we're drawn deeper into life with all its wonder and pain and beauty.

We have a lot of choices in our lives. There are many options for us to take given by our abundant society—even as we right now feel there are shortages all around us... in our pocket books, trying to keep ourselves and our family healthy, and provide our children with what we had when we were their age. Yet, there is still abundance in our midst. I walk across the room at home and pass two television sets and three computers in the process. I know I am not the only one who experiences this, but rather takes this far granted. I take several bags of clothing to Goodwill and other charitable places each year. It follows from what a former Lutheran bishop told me he did with his family the last week of every year. At year's end, they culled the clothes and the books and the kitchen items they had not touched in many years, and gave them away. It is a good practice. A kind of "holy shedding" of things not needed. It is an act that states that reveals that we have more than "enough" right now.

The rich man in Mark 10:17-22 questioned Jesus on what he must do to inherit eternal life. In his response, Jesus pointed the rich man rather to having treasure in heaven. Jesus replied, "follow the commandments" to

which the rich man said he had. And then Jesus said, "Go, sell what you own, give the money to the poor, and then you will have treasure in heaven; then come and follow me." The rich man was shocked at what Jesus said at the end, so much so that he walked away grieving.

It is important here to remember that Jesus loved the rich man. Jesus knew what would bring true contentment and peace to this man's heart, so it was not a harsh response by Jesus to the rich man at all. Yet ill-found

perspectives of what is "enough" don't always take good news as good, as the rich man was worried over his many possessions.

There will always be a wideness between our notions of what "right living" is for us and what God's will is for our right living. This is why, for Christians, the flow of God's activity is a kind of "down and out" activity:

God's will for right living flows down upon believers who, inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit, live out such right living through our various actions that benefit our

neighbor.

"The Lord lets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous."

It is tempting to interpret these Biblical texts from Mark 10 and Psalm 146 to mean that God wants endless gain for us and that we do not need to consider the destructive consequences of endless acquisition nor take responsibility for our own financial circumstances or debts. (continued on page 3)

DENNISON/VANG LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor Paul A. Graham
(C) 507-269-5997 • Office: 507-645-6042
P.O. Box 117, Dennison, MN 55018
Website: www.dennisonvang.org
You can join us for Worship online at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/167136242800>

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

301 2nd Avenue, Wanamingo
824-2155

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 26:

Trunk or Treat 10:30a.m.-Noon

October 27: 9:00a.m. Sunday School; Sacred

Space at TLC; 10:00a.m. Worship at TLC

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.emmanuelaflc.org

9:00a.m. Sunday School;

10:00a.m. Coffee Time

10:30a.m. Worship Service

FIRST EV. LUTHERAN

David J. Chatelaine, Pastor

309 Forest Street, Kenyon • 507-789-5261

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

GOL LUTHERAN

Joe Jorgensen, Pastor • 507-838-2100

Sunday Worship 8:30a.m. Sept.-Dec.



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



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Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM-9:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM
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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

2010 Jefferson Rd, Northfield - Sunday 10:30a.m.

507-259-2644

Wanamingo - Wednesday 7:00p.m.

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Lora Sturm, Pastor • 507-330-0025

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19086 Jacob Avenue, Faribault

Sunday School 9:30a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NERSTRAND

Mike Ahrens S.A.M.

Service 9am. Coffee hour follows @ 10 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

HAUGE LUTHERAN

Larry Grove, Pastor • 507-271-9761

302 Bullis Street, Kenyon

Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.

with lunch following

LANDS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

David Krinke, Pastor

16640 Hwy. 60 Blvd.

www.landslutheran.com

Wednesday 6:15 p.m.

Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. at Everson Park

STORDAHL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Pastor Kathleen Lowery

15049 Cty. 12 Blvd., Zumbrota • 732-5711

Sundays 10:30 a.m. Worship

HOLDEN/DALE

Pastor Dustin Haider • 507-789-6677

Email: holdendalesecretary@gmail.com

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

Reverend Daren Flinck

429 4th Street, Kenyon • 507-951-1271

Worship 9:30 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Cory Rohlfing

Deacon Newell McGee

108 Bullis St., Kenyon

Sunday Mass 8:00a.m.

Wednesday Mass 5:00p.m.

NEW LIFE CHURCH

525 Beverly St., Wanamingo

507-824-3019

10am Worship Service

office@nlcwanamingo.org

Website with online services which are live

at 10:00a.m. or can be viewed at anytime:

<https://nlcwanamingo.org/>



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Rene Adell Jenness

Rene Adell Jenness was born January 27, 1926, on the Fenne family farm near Skyberg, MN, in Cherry Grove Township to parents Karen Christine (Grove) and Louis Fenne. She attended rural school at District #120 and was a graduate of the Class of 1943 of West

Concord High School. She continued her education at Mankato State University and the University of Minnesota receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education.

Rene Adell taught elementary students in several districts including St. Paul, Rochester, and Northfield, MN, for forty years. After retirement, she earned an Associate in Applied Science Degree at Rochester Community Col-



lege. She especially enjoyed a trip to New York City with the class for a tour of the fashion and garment industry. She owned the Oak Boutique gift shop for eight years at her home and later in Kenyon, MN.

She was a lifelong member of Dale Lutheran Church, where she was baptized, confirmed, and married to Maurice V. Jenness, Jr., of Northfield. He died in 1970. She served as a teacher and superintendent of the Sunday School at Dale and was a member of the church council.

Rene Adell was proud of her Norwegian heritage and enjoyed speaking the language with relatives in Voss and Bergen during her five trips to Norway. Rene also traveled to France, Monaco, Italy, Germany, and England, and enjoyed cruises to Alaska, Australia, and Hawaii.

She was active in the Kenyon Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW Post #141, where she served as President several times. She was a member of the Kenyon Community Theater,

Retired Teacher Organizations, Kenyon Senior Citizens, Faribault Senior Center, and the Paradise Center for the Arts.

Rene Adell was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her brother Lyle Fenne, and her sister-in-law, Grace Fenne. She is survived by a cousin, Ronald Fenne, and by numerous extended Grove and Fenne relatives and many dear friends.

The memorial service for Rene Adell will take place on Friday, November 1st, at 1 pm at Dale Lutheran Church at 9210 County 12 Blvd; Kenyon, MN 55946. Visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at 12:00 noon, with a reception to follow the service.

Memorials are preferred to Dale Lutheran Church.

Mary Anne (Ericksen) Skundberg

Mary Anne (Ericksen) Skundberg, 83, of Kenyon, died Sunday, September 29th, 2024 at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis.



She was born on July 26, 1941 to Katherine (Juil) Ericksen and Raymond Ericksen in Minneapolis, MN. As a young girl

Mary enjoyed speed skating, camping, Girl Scouts, reading, playing the piano, and keeping up with her two older brothers. At age 15, Mary went to Norway as an exchange student.

Mary graduated from Patrick Henry High School in Minneapolis, MN before attending Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. There she received her B.A. and teaching degree in English and German. She also met her husband, Gary Skundberg while attending Luther. They were married on August 17th, 1963.

The couple lived and taught in Iowa and Minnesota prior to coming to Kenyon in 1967. Mary taught piano lessons in their home while their girls were young, and then went back to teaching English and German at Kenyon High School until retirement.

During retirement Mary and Gary enjoyed traveling as guides on trips to various countries; their favorite and most frequent was Norway. They were members of Sons of Norway. Mary also enjoyed playing cribbage,

reading, cooking, and sharing her Norwegian cookies and cakes. Most of all, she cherished spending time with her family and friends.

Mary was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She is survived by her 3 daughters Anne Skundberg Haugland (David Haugland) of Waconia, Sara Skundberg Koehler (Scott Koehler) of Northfield, and Kari Skundberg Franz (Scott Franz) of Northfield; grandchildren Marya Haugland, Sophia Haugland (fiancé, Matthew Staver), Erik Haugland, Katherine Koehler, Sidney Koehler, Jay Koehler, Emma Torstenson, Sam Torstenson, Matthew Franz, Tanner Franz, Stephanie Franz; brother John and Ahna Marie Ericksen of Chippewa Falls, WI, sister-in-law Judy Ericksen Larson of Great Falls, MT, sister-in-law Rachel and Conrad Favor of Stevens Point, WI, sister-in-law Cheryl and James Thompson of Goose Creek, SC, and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Gary, brother Joel Ericksen, and nephew Daniel Favor.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 4th, 2025, at 1 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenyon, MN. A reception following the service will be held until 5:00 p.m. in the church basement.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to the family to establish a memorial in Mary's name via Kari Franz, 11678 Kane Ave, Northfield, MN 55057.

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

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.

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



Mark 10:17-31 & Psalm 146: Living the Faith and Having Enough

(continued from page 2)

It is easy to interpret these Biblical texts in these ways, but such interpretation requires suspending any sense of personal responsibility. It is also a perverse distortion of "God's care."

I'm still working on my faith, as I am sure you are too. It is a never-ending process until we take our last breath in this life. Faith development for all of us is a work in progress—especially when it comes to money. Faith is knowing that God provides all that we need. And every now and then we can taste—you and I—the glimmer of joy, clarity, and contented generosity that is God's gift of "enough."

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) 789-6677
Email:
holdendinner@gmail.com

National School Bus Safety Week is October 21-25

Urge Drivers to Stop Illegal School Bus Passing

National School Bus Safety Week is October 21-25, 2024. The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is urging drivers to slow down and be aware of school buses in their communities. Although school buses are one of the safest modes of transportation, injuries and fatalities do occur outside of or near the buses. Most often, these tragedies occur because a motorist has failed to slow down and obey the bus's stop sign, or to follow local traffic laws. Nationally, school bus passing is illegal and it is a deadly risk to bus riders and their caretakers. Drivers should always come to a complete stop when a school bus stop-arm is extended and the red lights are flashing.

From 2013 to 2022, there were 1.5 times more fatalities among pedestrians (169) than occupants of school buses (111) in school-bus-related crashes. A total of 111 school-age children (18 and younger) died in school-bus-related crashes during that period, either as occupants of school buses or other vehicles, or on foot or bike. Of the 111 deaths, 25 were children who were walking. From 2000-2022, there were 55 fatalities in crashes that involved a driver illegally passing a stopped



school bus. Almost half of those fatalities (25) were pedestrians who were 18 years old or younger.

"When a school bus's red lights are flashing and the stop-arm is extended, drivers must slow down and come to a complete stop," said Lorin Pohlman of Held Bus Service. "This is not a suggestion — it's the law." In fact, yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. This is when motorists should begin to slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles. "Motorists may begin moving only when the red flashing lights are turned off, the stop-arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins to move. School bus riders and their caretakers are relying on drivers to follow the law to keep them safe," said Pohlman.

Respect the "Danger Zone"

The school bus loading and unloading area is called the "Danger Zone." Specifically, this is any side of the bus where the bus driver can't see the child and, therefore, the child is in the most danger. These areas include:

- 10 feet in front of the bus, where the driver may be sitting too high to see a child
- 10 feet on either side of the bus, where a child may be in the driver's blind spots
- Behind the school bus

For more information about school bus stop safety, please visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/school-bus-safety#the-topic-bus-stop-safety>.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Join the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) safety initiative to educate the public about the importance of school bus safety. While the school bus is one of the safest modes of transportation, illegal school bus passing is a significant threat to children and their caretakers. NHTSA is sharing the following information about illegal school bus passing to help raise awareness about this very real danger.



Illegal School Bus Passing

- In every state, it is illegal for vehicle drivers to pass a school bus while the school bus stop-arm is extended and the red lights are flashing. Failing to stop could result in injury or death to child pedestrians or their caretakers. Vehicle drivers must always come to a complete stop when a school bus stop-arm is extended and the red lights are flashing.

- Obey all traffic signs and signals. More injuries and fatalities occur outside of or near a school bus because a motorist has failed to obey the stop-arm warning or has failed to follow local traffic laws.

- Although school buses are statistically the safest way to transport school children, fatalities still happen. This is why it is critical that drivers follow all driving laws.

- A driver in a school-bus-related crash could be charged with one of the following:
- A violation for passing a stopped school bus
- A related factor of passing a school bus when prohibited by posted signs, pavement markings, or school bus displaying warning not to pass, and the crash was school-bus-related.

- The most dangerous part of the school bus ride is getting on and off the school bus.
- The school bus loading and unloading area is called the "Danger Zone." Specifically, this is any side of the bus where a child may not be seen by the bus driver and, therefore, is in the most danger. These areas include:

- 10 feet in front of the bus, where the driver may be sitting too high to see a child
- 10 feet on either side of the bus, where a child may be in the driver's blind spots

Young children are most likely to be struck because they:

- Hurry to get on and off the bus
- Act before they think and have little experience with traffic
- Assume motorists will see them and wait for them to cross the street

Safety Reminders for Parents and Caregivers

- Arrive at the bus stop five minutes early.
- Stand at least 5 giant steps (10 feet) away from the edge of the road.
- Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says it's okay before stepping onto the bus.
- Be careful that clothing with drawstrings and book bags with straps or dangling objects do not get caught in the handrail or door when exiting the bus.
- Walk in front of the bus; never walk behind the bus.
- Be sure the bus driver can always see you, and you can see the bus driver.
- Before crossing the street, stop and look left-right-left before crossing.

Safety Reminders for Motorists

- The overall best practice is to "always stop if there's a school bus."
- Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.
- Motorists may begin moving only when the red flashing lights are turned off, the stop-arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins to move.
- Never pass on the right side of the bus, where children enter or exit. This is illegal and can have tragic results.
- The greatest risk to a child isn't riding a school bus, but approaching or leaving one. That's why, as a vehicle driver, it is especially important to pay attention. Students' lives are on the line.



- Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood. Watch for children playing and gathering near bus stops.
- Don't drive distracted. Be alert. Children arriving for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- Watch out for young people who may be distracted and not paying attention to the traffic around them.

KENYON-WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS of the WEEK



NOBLE KNIGHTS OF THE WEEK FOR OCTOBER 11, 2024

Front Row: Jackson Falenschek, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Adeline Strand, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Beau Bailey, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Nola Otte, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Tyler Greseth, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Oliver Miner, Gr. 2, Mrs. Megan Jordan. Back Row: Eleanor Johnson, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Kain Wood, Gr. 3, Mrs. Sandy Bohaty; Jaxsyn Bauer, Gr. 4, Mrs. Chloe Gohman; Hudson Otte, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing

Paul Clauson, K-W School District, receives the 2024 Minnesota Educational Facilities Management Professionals Association (MASMS) Facilities Management Professional of the Year Award

Paul Clauson, Director of Building and Grounds for the Kenyon-Wanamingo District was awarded the 2024 Facilities Management Professional of the Year on October 3, 2024 at the annual MASMS conference.

Each year MASMS awards their highest honor to a member who exhibits professionalism, leadership and service in their career and life. This award is in recognition of Mr. Clauson's contributions to MASMS, his school district, his community and his profession.

As part of this award, a \$1000 scholarship will be given to the Kenyon Wanamingo ISD in Paul Clauson's name.

The Minnesota Educational Facilities Management Professionals (also known as MASMS) is a professional organization committed to promoting excellence in the operation and care of educational facilities. It is a



group of over 900 individuals in the areas of facilities/grounds/health & safety/operations for Minnesota K-12 and Higher Education or-

ganizations. It is a member-oriented, problem solving, professional group committed to facilities management.



Lurken Seeking First Term on KW School Board

(continued from page 1)

I would also love to see our enrollment and academic opportunities continue to grow in the next few years."

"There is a lot of pride, investment and support from our communities", she continues. "One of our greatest strengths is that the people that make up these communities are people who want to be here. We know that we have families that have generations of history in Kenyon and Wanamingo and I think that helps create value. If you look at our schools, many of the teachers are either graduates of K-W or have been a part of the district for 5, 10, 15+ years! I think that speaks volumes to the positive community we have created here."

She states she will always be an advocate for more opportunities for students and staff and a lot of those are limited because of our current financial situation. And if we could get our district into a better place financially, we could really open up what we can offer to our community.

Madilynn currently lives just outside of Kenyon with her husband and four children. Two are presently enrolled at KW and two will be when they reach school age. She teaches 8th-grade English in Owatonna, MN, and have been in education for 13 years. Her husband is a teacher and coach for KW schools so they are frequent supporters at sporting and community events. She grew up in Kenyon and the surrounding communities. Madilynn also had the privilege to teach at KW for two years, with some of the best teachers in the business, and remains an active advocate of KW.

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It's About Time!

(continued from page 1)

We all saw the water tower come down with mixed emotions, but everything has a time and a season, and the water tower had served us well for a long long time, and it was at the end of it's season. Although it was a Wanamingo icon, it was time for a more functional and cost effective water system to be put in place.

The second phase of development was to add new water lines, called looping. The water main looping areas that were necessary were the land around the sewer plant, Prairie Ridge development, and the Cenex Industrial Park businesses. The improvements increased the water pressure by 15 psi, and got rid of areas where the water would pool and hold sediment. The sediment gets flushed twice a year, but it was becoming clear (pun intended) that more had to be done in order to keep the system running efficiently.

The third phase of development was the new well house, which was only recently dropped into place by a huge crane. The old well house was a one room block building, and no longer up to code. New building codes call for separate rooms for storing the 3 chemicals used in the system, namely chlorine, flouride and a polymer that causes rust and metal in the water supply to sink to the bot-



tom where it gets flushed.

The city decided the best way to bring everything up to code while continuing to save the tax payer's money was to re-utilize the emergency well house by replacing old casings and components with new ones to keep the costs down. The old well house was manually driven. The wellhouse at the ball-field was already automatic with the Mingo View tower. Michael Boulton, our City Administrator said, "The new system was necessary to increase water pressure where it was too low, and add redundancy to the systems, and add water capacity. Also, the maintenance of the old system was all manpower, and is now fully automated, saving our city money."

(continued on page 7)

CRAFT SALE

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food item, or personal care item
for the little pantry if you are able!

It's About Time!

(continued from page 6)

The new well house is located where the old well house was on the site where the old water tower was. The footings were put in place, and a slab poured. Next, the new one was placed on the slab. The new well house is a prefabricated building three times bigger than the old one, with the electrical components, piping and automated controls already in place. This is huge, because it has sensors to

read the individual meters, and it is all done with the push of a button, once a month, saving manpower and gasoline for the vehicles. By the way, a lot of thought and work went into acquiring the best costs for all three phases, and took 3 separate companies to get it all done. One for the tear down of the old water tower, one for the water line upgrades and one for the well house. Thanks to our city officials for their work in obtaining the best costs all around!

So, the original plans were drawn up in 2018. Once COVID hit, there was a huge delay in procuring the necessary electrical components to complete the project, as well as many other supply and demand issues, so the project was on hold for a time. Another issue was that the water tower had to be removed, and the new one installed. This in-



creased the town's water capacity from 165,000 gallons of water to 250,000 gallons.

With the updates and increased holding capacity, Wanamingo is now ready for the anticipated growth and should last for many years to come.

Another bonus to the upgrade is that with the new well house comes a natural gas back up generator that is fully automated in case of a power failure. This means when the power goes out, you will still have water. More than just a convenience, this means if the power does go out, and a fire started, we still have the means to put it out!

Our Mayor, Ryan Holmes concluded, "It is exciting to see this project come to completion. In a few more weeks, everything will be in place. Both well pumps can now be utilized, and are approved by the Minnesota Department of Health." (continued on page 10)

WORKING TOGETHER FOR AGRICULTURAL SAFETY

We have worked with farmers for decades to protect what matters. This fall, we encourage farmers to think safety first. Be sure all equipment is serviced and operates properly, and keep a first aid kit and cell phone with you at all times.



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Kenyon Fall Festival

(continued from page 1)

I think all the hard work in organizing and being present every other week is underestimated, and too little appreciation is given, so here is a shout out to all of the volunteers who make it happen, and I am certain all the vendors will agree that we really do appreciate all of you!

This year's Fall Festival was celebrated on the Main Street of Kenyon on October 12 in the bank's parking lot, and along the street. There were vendors from the farmers market, and a few new faces, too. The Kenyon Police Department and Fire Department were there to meet with the Festival goers, and did drawings throughout the afternoon. Stickers and hats were given to those who stopped by to register for a few fire extinguishers, and the fire truck was pretty cool, too! There were games for the kids, temporary tattoos, baked goods and artwork, produce and fresh juicy apples. Twisted Chicken food truck was there to feed the people. At 4 pm when the fun was done, the Park & Rec Dept. sponsored a painting class where folks learned how to paint a gnome.

On the Main Street, many merchants participated in a fall decorating contest. Cash payments were given to 4 lucky winners. Festival go-ers were offered punch cards that businesses would add stickers to once you visited



their stores, and completed cards were turned in to Kim Helgeson from 1 to 4 pm, and to

City Hall after it was over. The cards were placed into a bucket, and one lucky winner

was drawn for \$100.00.

(continued on page 9)

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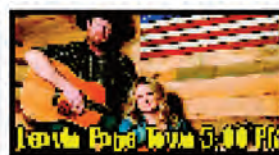
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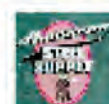
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Saturday,
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Honoring our POW/MIA

(continued from page 1)

The flagpole was paid for by the Wanamingo Veterans Honor Guard and VFW Post 186, with assistance from Jeff and Leon Nereson of B & N Construction. People's Energy Co-op donated \$1,000.00 from their Project Roundup, and Scott Shane from Shane Electric donated the anchor (\$650.00) and labor to install the spotlight. Lee Herrald from Herrald Flags in West Concord donated both flags to "top it all off".

Our Community really comes together to honor others. Having the second graders be a part of the ceremony and dedication will remain a learning experience for them for the rest of their lives. Honoring our men and women in service to our country is an ongoing commitment that we can all be proud of, and a part of, everyday. Thank you to all the benefactors, volunteers and members for showing our love and pride for those who serve, and have served. And be sure to check out the new flagpole as you attend the ball games this year!



Kenyon Fall Festival

(continued from page 8)

Various merchants offered up daily specials on their stock, some had activities to participate in, and goodies to hand out.



10-20-30-40-50-40-30-20-10-

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It's About Time!

(continued from page 7)

It increases the efficiency of the town's water system so we now can feel confident

about the capacity for future growth and development. We were reaching our max capacity, so it was time. We now know our fire department's needs to suppress fires is enough to protect our citizens, and to continue to provide enough water pressure for both residential and commercial needs."

So, there you have it! Yet another upgrade to our town to save us money and keep us safe!



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Question: I was driving through town the other day and a driver opened their car door as I passed by. I had to swerve to avoid hitting their car door. Obviously, it was a safety issue but isn't there a law about this? I'd appreciate

any info you can share. Thank you.

Answer: Correct, there is a Minnesota state law about this issue. When you are stopped or parked on the side of a road, do not open any doors until you have checked to make sure it is safe and will not interfere with other traffic. Look for vehicles, motorcycles, bicyclists, and pedestrians that may be approaching your vehicle. Do not leave any door on the side closest to moving traffic open longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.

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.

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