

KENYON • WANAMINGO Messenger

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NOVEMBER 20, 2024

Volume 17 • Issue 17

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

Local Motorcycle Club Sponsors Toy Drive

The Nomads, a motorcycle club located in Kenyon is hosting a toy drive for kids this Christmas. *(continued on page 5)*

Christmas in Wanamingo Dec. 5

Wanamingo will host its annual Christmas In Wanamingo event December 5th. Santa will be at Workout 24/7 from 5 -7 pm.

Visitors can donate a non-perishable food item to any participating business in town and pick up a card to get stamped as you stroll thru town. Businesses will be serving treats and refreshments. There will be drawings for local gift cards. Simply get the card stamped at 10 local businesses and drop it off at the bank. A great way to kick off your holiday season! *(see ad on page 6)*



Veterans Day at K-W School



Members of the Wanamingo Veteran's Color Guard before a ceremony on November 11th at the K-W elementary school. The students planned a presentation honoring the local veterans. *(additional picture on page 7)*

Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools Honors Teachers of the Year:

Doug Thompson and Deb Hinrichs



Doug Thompson:



Deb Hinrichs

Kenyon, MN – Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools is proud to recognize two outstanding educators as Teachers of the Year for their exceptional contributions to the district and the lives of their students. *(continued on page 7)*

Stressed about HOLIDAY BAKING??
We got what you need!
SPECIALTY BAKED GOODS FOR EVERY OCCASION!
Cupcakes • Cakes • Pies • Cookies
Fudge • Muffins • Scones
Cheesecake

THANKSGIVING WEEK HOURS:
Monday, November 25: 10am-4pm; Tuesday, November 26: 6am-6pm
Wednesday, November 27: 8am-4pm

507-824-CAKE (2253) • 237 Main St Wanamingo

**Join Us for a
Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner**
Thursday, November 28 • Serving 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
(Final seating 3:00 p.m. • Bar open until 4:30 p.m.)
Serving Turkey or Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing,
Cranberries, Vegetable, and Choice of Salad & Dessert
~ Appetizers Available ~

\$24.99 per person • Kids 12 & under \$9.99, Kids 4 & under Free

RESERVATIONS STRONGLY SUGGESTED: CALL 507-645-9992

The Fireside
37540 Goodhue Avenue, Dennison, MN
Hours: Wed & Thurs 11:00AM-8:30PM; Fri & Sat 11:00AM-9:30PM; Sun 9:00AM-8:00PM
Bar Open Later

www.firesidelounge.net

Inside Out Kingdom

You are found guilty! You will pay all you owe to the last penny! The gavel comes down hard- the verdict is in- you and I are guilty as charged! "For the wages of sin is death..." Romans 3:23. You and I are sinners; you and I are guilty as charged- Satan stands ready to accuse each of us. Job 1 reads, "One day the members of the heavenly court came to present themselves before the Lord, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them."

In Matthew Jesus is speaking to a large crowd and teaching them the truth of the Kingdom of God and at the end of chapter 5 we read about the justice of God and His mercy. Trying to balance these principals can be difficult when you don't truly understand the love and character of God and His Son Jesus Christ.

In Matthew 5:17-20, (Living Bible) "Don't misunderstand why I have come—it isn't to cancel the laws of Moses and the warnings of the prophets. No, I came to fulfill them and to make them all come true. ¹⁸ With all the earnestness I have I say: Every law in the Book will continue until its purpose is achieved. ¹⁹ And so if anyone breaks the least commandment and teaches others to, he shall be the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But those who teach God's laws and obey them shall be great in the Kingdom of Heaven." ²⁰

"But I warn you—unless your goodness is greater than that of the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders, you can't get into the Kingdom of Heaven at all!"

Jesus wants us- you and me and all people to understand that He didn't come to throw the law away- to cancel the 10 commandments or even all the warnings of the prophets- but to be the fulfillment of them. What does that mean- Jesus came to not erase the law and its punishment, but to redeem the sinners. To pay the price of our sin- through His death.

God's justice and mercy can seem incompatible. After all, justice involves the dispensing of deserved punishment for wrongdoing, and mercy is all about pardon and compassion for an offender. However, these two attributes of God do in fact form a unity within His character.

Jesus wants us to see that being His follower

isn't going to be 'easier' He is requiring an entire heart change! To be changed from the inside out. To go the extra mile, to recognize that lust leads us down the wrong road long before adultery takes place. He corrects our foolish notion that we can treat people right while we hate them. He dispenses the idea that it is ok to hate some, to hold grudges, to obey the letter of the law without obeying the heart of the law. That's why the Pharisees and people of Israel failed so much- that's

why we fail so much when we try to follow the list, the rules, without truly having a heart change that allows for mercy and grace!

Without God's mercy and grace- we would be hopeless. There would be no hope of living a 'good life' despite all our rules and work to follow them. The Bible showcases the fact that God is merciful, but it also reveals that He is just and will one day dispense justice on the sin of the world.

Forgiveness is the bridge between justice

and mercy, allowing for the restoration of relationships and the healing of wounds. Justice, then, isn't solely about punishment, but also about restoration and reconciliation. It's through the connection between justice and redemption that God's ultimate plan for justice and mercy is revealed in the Bible.

Near the end of chapter 5 it reads, "The law of Moses; that was the law of the people of Israel.

(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
 November 24: 9:00a.m. Sunday School and Sacred Space; 10:00a.m. Worship at WLC
 November 27: 7:00p.m. Worship at WLC;
 *No Confirmation Class
 November 28: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

WANAMINGO LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
 130 West 3rd St., Wanamingo
 824-2457
www.TrinityWanamingo.org
 November 24: 9:00a.m. Sunday School and Sacred Space; 10:00a.m. Worship
 November 27: 7:00p.m. Worship;
 *No Confirmation Class
 November 28: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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
 D.J. Chatelaine, Pastor
 309 Forest Street, Kenyon
 507-789-5261
website: flckenyon.org
 Sunday Worship 9 a.m.;
 Noon-1:00p.m. Open Prayer Time,
 1st Tuesday each month

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

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Singing Our Gratitude to God

Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord. . . .

— Ephesians 5:18-19

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we begin to notice the fruit of the Spirit in ourselves. One of the Spirit's fruits is joy—a deep sense of contentment and gratitude in all things, even when life's circumstances are difficult. The early church had a rich practice of rejoicing through song: Paul indicates that they sang psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to the Lord with all their hearts.

What kinds of songs do you sing in your congregation? Psalms? Hymns? Songs from the Spirit? Why do you do this? And how does it affect your faith and life?

In singing, we express our gratitude to God for his great deeds, and we receive God's grace and edification in return. We bring God an offering of praise, but at the same time we hear him speaking to us and encouraging us. One could even say that singing praises to God can function similarly to prayer. Like prayer, singing can both support our individual faith formation as well as our corporate worship and fellowship with one another. When we sing together about the goodness and grace of our triune God, we grow in connection as a body of believers.

How does singing help you to express your gratitude to God? What psalm, hymn, or spiritual song has been particularly formative in your faith?

Holy Spirit, fill me with joy, that I may sing songs of praise today. Let everything that has breath join me in praising the Lord! 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.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Lora Sturm, Pastor • 507-330-0025
www.stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info
 19086 Jacob Avenue, Faribault
 Sunday School 9:30a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

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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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The Fireside
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 Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM-9:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM
 Bar Open Later
 507-645-9992 • www.firesidelounge.net

Colleen Virginia Hegseth

Colleen Virginia Hegseth, 93, of Wanamingo, passed away on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at the Pine Haven Community in Pine Island. She was born in Roscoe Township on December 3, 1930, to Melvin and Rachel (Hoseth) Myran. She attended



country school in Roscoe Township and graduated from Wanamingo High School in 1948. Colleen was united in marriage to Raymond Hegseth on September 20, 1952, at Lands Lutheran Church in Zumbrota. She worked as a secretary for the school in Wanamingo prior to her and Ray moving to Texas while he was in the Air Force. They lived in Texas for a few years, before moving back to Minnesota and making their home in Wanamingo. Colleen was a dedicated mother and homemaker in caring for her family. She was skilled at canning and was an excellent baker. She baked many things, but notable were her fresh bread and her chocolate chip cookies. She was an avid reader and enjoyed sewing, knitting, crocheting, and playing the piano. She was a longtime member of Wanamingo Lutheran Church. In her later years, Colleen lost her eyesight, and amazed everyone with what she was able to accomplish with her lack of sight, even continuing her hobbies of baking and knitting.

She was survived by her loving husband of 72 years, Ray Hegseth of Wanamingo; five children, Stuart Hegseth of Wanamingo, Mary Hegseth of Zumbrota, Jane (Jerry) Wahlin of Cold Spring, MN, Dean Hegseth of Zumbrota, and Dan (Lisa) Hegseth of Ramsey, MN; 14 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren; one brother, Howard Myran

of Wanamingo; and sister-in-law, Yvonne Myran; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Karen Fredrickson; and siblings, Beverly Bakken, Lynda Underdahl, and Richard Myran.

Memorial service will be at 1 p.m. on Sat-

urday, November 23, 2024, at Wanamingo Lutheran Church with Reverend Dave Sorenson officiating. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service. Interment will be at the Wanamingo Lutheran Church Cemetery. Arrangements by the Mahn Family Funeral Home, Larson Chapel.

Vang & Dennison Lutheran Church Updates

- **Meatball Dinner and Advent Vespers with Holden:** Evening Prayer at the Dennison and Vang Community night on Wednesday, December 4. There will be a Norwegian meatball supper at 6:00 PM. A free will offering will go the Christmas Sharing program. At 7:00 PM there will be an Advent Vespers service featuring Kenyon/Wannamingo schools band leader Claire Larson and KW band students leading Holden Evening Prayer.
- **Christmas at Dennison and Vang:** Christmas Eve candle light services will be at 5:00 PM at Dennison and 8:00 PM at Vang.

Inside Out Kingdom

(continued from page 2)

This was the law that the Lord had commanded them to obey when they came out of Egypt and became their own nation. They were to be a nation of one God and His law. Jesus knew his audience and wanted them to recognize and identify the law and the consequences of disobedience.

Verse 38 says, the law of Moses says; an eye for an eye and hit back. But the new way was a total contradiction- if you are ordered to carry a burden for a mile- carry it two. If you are slapped on the right cheek- give them your left, if someone needs your shirt- give them your coat! Jesus says- we are changing the way we look at the 'law.' The law is still good- but now we have the law of the love of God. We have the joy of suffering with and for Christ. We are in pursuit of a better way- laying our rights down to further the cause of Christ. We are to choose love, not hatred. We are to choose mercy, not punishment.

I am a sinner saved by grace. I sinned, I made bad choices, I hurt the cause of Christ- but instead of hanging me out to dry- Christ redeemed me- he paid the price for my sin and ransomed me. I am saved by His blood. I am saved by His sacrifice on the cross.

I was His enemy- yet He loved me. He took my place, and He was good to me even when I was evil! As Jesus lived that out for my life- I am also to live that out daily in my own life- to love my enemy, to be friendly to those that are different from me- As a daughter of the King, as a daughter of Christ- with His spirit living in me- I too am to give mercy- to be long suffering, to forgive and to love even my enemy! I am to be perfectly-holy- as my Father in heaven is. AND I can- because He lives in me!!! You and I can be perfect in the sight of God because of the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Even though you don't deserve it- even though you deserve to die in your sins- God made a way through His Son Jesus Christ- to become pure and holy through the blood shed on the cross of us!

Have you taken that step- are you still holding on to the law to save you? LET IT GO!!! The law cannot save you- the law is there to show you that you are a sinner. Go to Jesus, Receive His forgiveness and begin a new life.

Please join us in a Benefit for Baby James Haugen "JJ"

Live Auction!!!

December 7th, 2024

Monetary donations can be made at Heritage bank Northfield or Dennison branches OR The State Bank of Faribault at both Faribault or Prior Lake branches to the James Jacob Haugen benefit fund



Nick and Danielle (Kawell) recently found out that their unborn baby boy, James Jacob, who will join us via c-section at the end of December has a rare genetic condition called XSCIDs (X Linked Severe Combined Immunodeficiency) and will be born without an immune system. Baby James will undergo a bone marrow transplant to give him a new immune system. JJ will have a long road ahead of him, spending the first half of his life in a hospital setting and in and out of appointments. During this time both Nick and Dani will be out of work to avoid the possibility of bringing any sickness into their home to keep baby James as safe as possible.

**Saturday December 7, 2024 from 1 - 5pm at
The Northfield Ballroom - 1055 MN -3, Northfield, MN 55057
Sandwiches and dessert provided - Cash bar available**

Please contact Camille for donations, silent auction or live auction items at 507-210-5056

Holly Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: November 30, December 7, 14

Sundays: December 1, 8, 15

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

Call 507-649-1009 to set up other dates and times to shop in our cabin.

Take a drive in the country and shop in our log cabin filled with crafts and antiques!



Special Olympics in Minnesota

By Tyler Weeks

Few things are as freeing as sports. They're a time when someone can let go of their everyday anxieties to focus only on what's right in front of them- a ball, bow, racket, or even hand. While many view them as nothing more than entertainment, participating in sports can significantly improve an athlete's internal and external qualities, allowing them to build confidence and become strong leaders. Unfortunately, it is a constant struggle for those with intellectual disabilities to experience the same opportunities as other athletes. Only because of the efforts of organizations like the Special Olympics can these people build a more confident version of themselves by learning what it means to be an Olympian. Through providing access to dozens of sports, they have significantly improved the lives of five million athletes with intellectual disabilities worldwide.

With each step the organization takes to end discrimination, dozens more exist in local areas throughout Minnesota. Shrunk to an even smaller scale, the hundreds of volunteers pushing to fund these events become visible, whose goal is to build a more inclusive community through sports. Dave Stevenson is among these changemakers, helping to bring his love of bobsledding to the Rochester Flyers Special Olympics Team. His rides hosted in February of each year help fundraise money for the athletes while providing them with the experience of being on a horse-drawn bobsled. While this overview offers a glimpse into the impacts people like him make, Dave's two-decade commitment to the Rochester Special Olympics is illustrated best in the revised interview below. In response to a question to share about himself and his backstory, he provided the following statement.

Dave Stevenson: Before ever moving to the Zumbro Falls community, my family and I always had this idea of settling in the country with a couple of horses. But with our decision to go to southern Minnesota marking our eighth move in just 20 years, we weren't sure if this dream would ever become a reality. During this sporadic period, my commitment to Del Monte Foods caused us to dart around the Midwest several times to improve the company's plants. When a job for Seneca Foods didn't work out, the cycle would have likely continued had it not been for our decision to stay in Zumbro Falls and end the constant cycle of change. Finally, with the encouragement of my middle daughter, we could fulfill our dream of purchasing our first saddle horse.

After this initial buy, I purchased two more mounts from Joyce Atkinson and Gene Kris-

mer, the latter of who mentored me in driving horses alongside Lamar Johnson. One purchase soon led to another, and I eventually owned enough horses to have two teams and begin learning how to drive professionally. While it took a few accidents to catch on, I was soon operating a team of Belgians for annual festivals and building up my expertise as a driver.

Having mastered the ability to operate horses, Dave now helps host bobsled rides for the Rochester Flyers team every winter. With the help of John Davis and his wife Monica to organize the event, they provide Special Olympic athletes as far away as Wells, Minnesota, bobsled rides to help raise money for the organization. Due to the importance of the event, the three always ensure a date with nice weather and plenty of snow for the best bobsledding experience. Free coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies are available to whoever shows up, a service made possible by the free-will donations of community members. Since Dave's primary goal is to support the many athletes of Rochester's Special Olympics team, individual rides are provided rather than a competition between different teams.

"Oftentimes, the athletes prefer to run in the snow when the bobsled is hard to pull. It's very beautiful when the horses make the snow fly, because if there is a lot, a track is made for them and the bobsleds to ride through."

When asked what led him to start hosting this event, Dave responded that it provided him a window to talk about horses while offering his services to family and friends. In honor of close buddies, he has also done funerals to give them their "last ride" or offered trips to senior living homes. Red Wing and Hastings are where he next plans to offer rides on the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, followed by bobsledding this coming February. Apart from simply showcasing the beautiful nature of Minnesotan communities, Dave's contributions to the Special Olympics highlight one crucial thing. Everyone deserves a chance to do what uplifts, builds, and inspires them, no matter a person's so-called limitations. A stern determination and resilience against the societal norm is all it takes to reach what seems impossible. Athletes of the Special Olympics have done this very thing, reshaping their definition and showcasing the persistent spirit inside of them. As the Rochester Flyers has with sports and Dave Stevenson continues with his bobsled rides, these people have discovered what pushes them to be better people. Finding your calling is never easy, but everyone deserves a chance to pick up the phone and make a change.

As we look forward to hosting the Special Olympics USA Games in 2026, an event that will bring 100,000 people to Minnesota, our primary goal is to continue growing our mission and impact. To do this, we must expand our coaching network. More coaches mean more opportunities for athletes to develop their skills, build meaningful relationships and experience the joy of sports. We invite you to consider becoming a coach or encouraging others to join our coaching community. Our volunteer coaches are essential



Dave Stevenson gives people a ride at the History Center of Olmsted County years ago.

to the success of our athletes.

Special Olympics is a movement happening 365 days a year. We host nearly 100 events every year that range from sports competitions to inclusive health fairs to the Polar Plunge and more!

Special Olympics is for everyone. Our programs are available for all ages and all abilities. This inclusive movement is made up of many roles: volunteers, coaches, team assistants, athletes, Unified partners and more! While sports are at the core of Special

Olympics Minnesota's mission, we also provide health & wellness, leadership, and school programs that focus on community inclusion.

Special Olympics events are competitive and athletes train and compete in sports to showcase their skills, abilities, and determination. We foster an environment of fair competition, allowing athletes to challenge themselves and strive for personal bests. Athletes earn awards for placing in 1st-8th place.

Happy Thanksgiving

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Made with Care

By Tyler Weeks

Think about how different your community would be without the local shops that make it up. It's easy to argue that the Walmart down the street is all we'll ever need, but that has never been so far from the truth when contrasted with local businesses viewed for a town's character. More than a corporate brand only seeking to branch out into new locations, these small firms have a story and mission that travel far beyond the monopolistic goals of corporations. They encourage love, caring, and a sense of community higher than any chain gas station or supermarket. While it's hard to imagine a town without the contributions of these businesses, we don't realize their true importance until their impacts are understood on a smaller level. Such a case is apparent in the example of Breka's Desserts, a small family bakery that serves delicious Mexican sweets. Through their offerings of tres leches cake, regular and chocolate flan, empanadas, Mexican conchas, cinnamon rolls, and many more edibles, they help to unify the southern Minnesotan region and bring a local, traditional flair to the areas of Owatonna, Medford, Faribault, and Albert Lea. To understand more about Breka's Desserts, read the following revised interview

summarizing their inspiring backstory and additional information leading up to today.

When Karen and Brenda started this business in 2020, they mainly intended to create authentic Mexican recipes from home. But after fusing the first few letters of each of their names, they settled on the title of Breka's Desserts and began working hard to ensure fulfillment of the community's cravings. Their strive to continue baking traditional Mexican sweets earned them a spot from May to October at the Owatonna Farmer's Market, where they set up shop every Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Since they entered the event in 2021, Breka's Desserts has created incredibly personalized cakes for any party or special occasion. From birthdays and weddings to Thanksgiving and

Christmas, no scenario is off-limits, and one can rest assured that they make each dessert with a sense of love and care. Being the first two Hispanic women to sell Mexican desserts at the market, Brenda and Karen used their expertise to deliver sweets to many people, boosting their popularity and improving their growing support. Only through the help of loving clients have they been able to work for four consecutive years, valuing love, effort, and dedication to fight for their dream over any margin or sales.

"Unfortunately, in the middle of this year, we went through an unpleasant situation where we lost everything we had achieved leading up to this moment. Even though we had to start again, we believe we can achieve even greater heights through God's guidance."

From the beginning of their ventures,



Breka's Desserts has been encouraged by a loving family that supports the two unconditionally. The duo's parents, Santy and Antonio, husbands Arturo and Josué, brother Gadiel, and children have all played a vital role in the business's success. Without their help and encouragement, they could not have achieved so much. When asked what they enjoy most about the shop, they responded that the opportunity to meet so many great people personally attached to the business is something to be eternally grateful for. Knowing they've contributed to someone's special occasion through a delicious dessert turns regular buyers from just clients into lasting friends. However, it's working as a family and maintaining a close relationship with their children that Breka's Desserts deems the most valuable. Such things simply can't have a price tag put on them.

To give a word of encouragement to the people interested in getting into baking, the duo jointly provided the following response: "Our best advice would be to face your challenges with dedication, reject fear, and maintain trust in God. He always opens doors and inspires the right people at the right time. No matter what you do, do it with love and treat others the way you wish they would to you."

When such narratives reveal the uplifting and encouraging nature of businesses like Brenda's and Karen's, it becomes more evident that small shops are essential to a town's character and community. Consequently, it's up to the people to support them as best they can. If you're urged to purchase one of their sweets or have one of their carts present at your event, head to their online Facebook page: Breka's Desserts. Their mission to continue to serve desserts and sweets to the local community wouldn't be possible without the

help of its supporters. Through these methods of encouragement from clients and supporters, Brenda and Karen can take their beautiful business to the next step, ensuring they have the necessary resources to continue serving people. Pure dedication is the framework of a shop's success, but only through the community's support can it truly build.

Local Motorcycle Club Sponsors Toy Drive

(continued from page 1)

The Nomads are a chapter of the Warlords motorcycle club started in Winthrow in 1972.

They started about three years ago in Faribault and just got the building for their clubhouse in the spring of 2024. Many of the members are from the area and they have received a lot of support from the Kenyon area are looking for ways to give back.

They participated in Kenyon Rose fest activities this summer and were part of the trick or treat this fall with a couple bikes handing out candy to the kids at Halloween. For Thanksgiving they are holding a turkey give away, providing frozen turkeys for some families who are experiencing hard times this holiday season.

The donations may be dropped off on Monday, Wednesday or Friday evenings from 6 to 8pm at the Nomads clubhouse located on 637 2nd Street Kenyon beginning on November 29th. They will also be accepting items during Christmas in Kenyon on Saturday December 14th. Unwrapped gift items of any amount will be appreciated and directed to families in the area.

The motorcycle club bring their families to Kenyon often and participate in local events to be a positive community influence and help change the perception about motorcycle clubs.

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Cratchit! That is—catch it! A Dickens of a Christmas mystery!

*“A Sherlock Carol” runs
Nov. 22-Dec. 8 at the
Mantorville
Opera House*

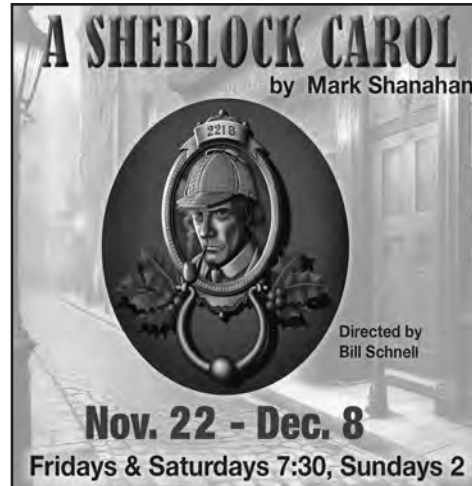
Moriarty, Sherlock Holmes’ nemesis, is dead to begin with. Depressed, Holmes has lost his purpose—his motivation for sleuthing. But “ding dong merrily,” along comes Dr. Timothy Cratchit—that’s right, a grown-up, “God bless us, every one” Tiny

Tim! Dr. Cratchit asks Sherlock Holmes to investigate the murder of his dear friend and benefactor—formerly Mr. “Bah, humbug!”—Ebenezer Scrooge. Now the once-despondent Sherlock Holmes is intrigued and inspired: “The game’s afoot!”

This heartwarming production by the Mantorville Theatre Company promises festive cheer and mystery—a perfect holiday treat!

Under the expert direction of Bill Schnell, a talented cast of six brings beloved characters from Arthur Conan Doyle and Charles Dickens to life. Jerry Casper plays Sherlock Holmes and Nick Mezacapa is Ebenezer Scrooge. Greg Miller portrays Dr. Timothy Cratchit and other characters. Becca Messick plays Emma Wiggins and additional roles. Ryan Frank is Dr. Watson and more. Lindsay Herr plays Martha Cratchit, Abigail Fezziwig and others. Cheryl Frarck portrays various characters.

“A Sherlock Carol” is written by Mark Shanahan and was originally produced by



Raymond Bokhour and Drew McVety.

Secure your seats now at mantorvilletheatrecompany.com or leave a message at 507-635-5420. The play runs Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m., Nov. 22-Dec.8. Send any inquires to mantorvilletheatre@gmail.com.

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during school year

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or Louise Severud 623-695-3813.



Christmas in Wanamingo

Thursday, December 05, 2024

Drawings for Local Gift Cards

1st prize: \$100.00



2nd Prize: \$50.00



3rd Prize: \$25.00

MUST bring in a non-perishable food item or cash donation and receive a card at any business.

MUST have 10 different business stamps to qualify for the drawing. Place it in the drawing box at the bank by 7:00 pm (Drawing held the following day)

Treats at Businesses

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm at Industrial Park & 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on Main Street

Visit with Santa at Workout 24/7!

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on Main Street - Wanamingo

Fundraiser for Fireworks

\$5.00 per entry for a drawing on one of 3 water towers.

Now through Christmas in Wanamingo at Security State Bank of Wanamingo on Main Street

Salvation Army Donation
Sponsored by Lions Club

Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools Honors Teachers of the Year

(continued from page 1)

Doug Thompson: A Legacy of Innovation and Dedication

Doug Thompson's journey as an educator spans an incredible 49 years, including 15 years of devoted service at Kenyon-

Wanamingo Schools. A cornerstone of the district's Industrial Technology program, Mr. Thompson has inspired countless students through courses such as Woodworking, CAD, Robotics, Carpentry, and more.

Known for his energy, passion, and unwavering commitment to his craft, Mr. Thompson creates a classroom environment where students feel supported and engaged. His impact extends beyond the classroom as he served as the Robotics Coach at K-W for 14 years, fostering teamwork and innovation.

This year, Mr. Thompson embraced a new challenge by leading a Carpentry class tasked

with building a Habitat for Humanity house. His willingness to adapt and take on meaningful projects exemplifies his role as a team player and mentor. "Mr. T," as he is affectionately called, remains a beloved figure among his students and colleagues.

Deb Hinrichs: Inspiring Excellence in Elementary Education

Deb Hinrichs, a 2nd-grade teacher at Kenyon-Wanamingo Elementary, and since joining the district in 1992, Ms. Hinrichs has become a pillar of excellence in education, combining creativity, compassion, and innovative teaching to inspire generations of learners.

Ms. Hinrichs is known for her ability to connect with each child, fostering academic and social growth in a classroom environ-

ment that is both engaging and nurturing. When you walk in her room you will see hands-on learning, and she always seems to find new ways to enhance her students' experiences.

"We are proud to honor Ms. Hinrichs for her decades of dedication to the Kenyon-Wanamingo community, she is simply amazing" said Superintendent Giese.

Doug Thompson and Deb Hinrichs represent the heart of Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools. Congratulations to our 2025 Teachers of the Year and thank you for your outstanding contributions to our district and community!



KENYON-WANAMINGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS of the WEEK



NOBLE KNIGHTS OF THE WEEK FOR NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Front Row: MaKenna Dressel, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Oakley Fleming, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Violet Sjoblom, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Ava Cline, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Haddie Schwering, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Malia Evenson, Gr. 2, Mrs. Megan Jordan; Jade Wrolson, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Adaline Richards, Gr. 3, Mrs. Sandy Bohaty; Maya Ramirez, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing



NOBLE KNIGHTS OF THE WEEK FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2024

Front Row: Arianna Harthan, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Renata Serna Aguilar, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Reyna Dressel, Gr. 1, Mrs. Katie Benbrooks; Scott Hogy, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Brecken McCabe, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Karlie Kerr, Gr. 2, Mrs. Megan Jordan; Brookelynn Cato, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Nathan Barraza, Gr. 3, Mrs. Sandy Bohaty; Hunter Mae Wetzstein, Gr. 4, Mrs. Chloe Gohman; Lily Knott, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing

Veterans Day at KW School



Larry VanDeWalker and Mrs. Jordan's Second Grade students on Veteran's Day

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**Saturday,
July 12**



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Thursday, November 28

Serving 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

(Final seating 3:00 p.m., Bar open until 4:30 p.m.)

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Dakota City Christmas in the Village December 7, 8, 14, 15, 2024



All ages will enjoy the many displays and buildings that reflect the sights, sounds, and scents of the season! The buildings are heated and horse-drawn

trolleys will be available to take visitors throughout the village. Hot chocolate, apple cider, hot soups and ice cream are available in the Drug Store. Cookies, apple cider donuts and popcorn will also be available. Cozy firepits and benches will be set up outside the fire barn.

Parents may choose to bring their children's letter to St. Nicholas in a self-addressed envelope (not sealed) to the event. After the event, children will receive a letter in the mail from St. Nicholas. Saint Nicholas will be visiting with children in the Depot. The popular model engine train display (scale G) will be back this year again in the library.

Choir groups and musicians will be sharing music in the Church. Sing along Christmas Carols will also be available there.

(continued on page 11)

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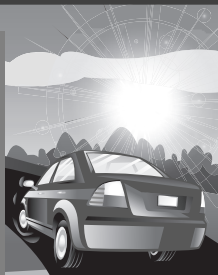
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Dakota City Christmas in the Village

(continued from page 10)

Some of our choir groups enjoy caroling outside and walking through the village as

they sing! Demonstrations will take place in the Carpenter shop, Harris House, McMenomy House and the Blacksmith Shop.

Be sure to check out the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 7 at 6 pm at the Bandstand. Farmington's High School's New Dimension choir will share their holiday music and Saint Nicholas will lead the tree lighting count down.

Admission price is \$5 with children under 5 free.

Tickets are available online at dakotacity.org

or at the gate.

Please enter the Dakota County Fairgrounds on Second Street off of Ash Street/Hwy 50.

Questions?

Comments? Suggestions? Please call our office at (651) 460-8050. Please leave a message if you get our voicemail. We are probably out in the village, preparing for the event! You can email us also at info@dakotacity.org

Check us out on Facebook!



photos courtesy of Dakota City Heritage Village



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The Christmas in the Village Event

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Winter Hazardous Awareness Week November 18-22

As winter approaches, it's critical to prepare for extreme cold, snow, and icy conditions. These storms can last a few hours or several days and cut off heat, power, and communication.

Winter storms create a higher risk of car crashes, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, residential fires, and heart attacks from overexertion.

To ensure that you and your loved ones are prepared follows these steps:

Create an Emergency Kit: it should have essential items like food, water, blankets, winter clothing sand or cat litter, phone charger, and flashlights. Be sure to have one in your home, car, and at work.

Stay fire safe: keep combustibles away from wood stoves and space heaters. Have fireplace and wood burning stove chimneys inspected and cleaned prior to use, extinguish candles before leaving room. Stay in the kitchen when cooking.

Be alert for CO: Carbon monoxide is an odorless, tasteless, and invisible byproduct of

fuel and wood burning appliances and vehicles. Install CO alarms on every level of your home and in each sleeping area. Consider adding a CO alarm in your ice fishing shelter as well. Signs of CO poisoning includes headaches, nausea, fatigue, vomiting, and disorientation.

Give snowplows room to work: check road conditions on 511mn.org before heading out. be patient and stay five car lengths behind the plow. Slow down to a speed that's safe for current conditions and give yourself plenty of time to get to your destination. Buckle up and ensure your young passengers are in the proper seat for their age and stage of development. Avoid unnecessary travel if road conditions are poor.

Enjoy the outdoors safely: There is no such thing as 100% safe ice; carry ice picks



and know how to self-rescue if you fall through. Wear layers of loose-fitting warm clothing, hat, and mittens. Be alert for frostbite and hypothermia. Protect your back and listen to your body when shoveling. If some-

thing doesn't feel right or you are tired take a break and reevaluate how you feel before shoveling again.

Prepare early to ensure your family's comfort and safety.

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Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol



Question: As a visitor from Canada, can I use my studded tires in Minnesota. Specifically, driving from Canada to Minneapolis to catch a plane then to drive home again a

week later.

Answer: According to Minnesota State Statute 169.72, "Every solid rubber tire on a vehicle must have rubber on its entire traction surface at least one inch thick above the edge of the flange of the entire periphery. No person shall operate or move on any highway any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, having any metal tire in contact with the roadway, except in case of emergency."

An exemption includes the occasional use of studded tires by nonresidents under the following conditions:

- A person operating a motor vehicle licensed and registered in another state or province of a foreign country that authorizes the use of metal studs or wire embedded tires on its highways may use such on our state highways while occasionally within the state.

Use of a vehicle in MN for less than 30 days in any consecutive six-month period would be considered occasional.

- The metal studs shall not exceed 5/16 of an inch in diameter including the stud casing with an average protrusion beyond the tread surface of not more than 7/64 of an inch. The number of studs in a tire shall not exceed two percent of the total net contact area.

A person whose regular place of employment is within the state or who is a student at an educational institution located within the state shall not operate a vehicle, regardless of its place of registration, upon any highway within the state if such vehicle is equipped with tires which would be unauthorized were the vehicle registered in this state.

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)

Have a Happy
THANKSGIVING

We'd like to wish all of our neighbors a Thanksgiving Day that's wonderful in every way. May it bring all the best to your table and an abundance of good fortune to last the whole year through.

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