



Serving the Triton Area

The Messenger

Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #2
Dennison, MN 55018

Postal Customer
ECRWSS

APRIL 16, 2025

Volume 11 • Issue 8

4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt planned at Green Shack

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held this weekend at the Green Shack property outside of Dodge Center from 1 to 3pm on Saturday April 19th.

Enjoy lots of fun events for the kids like a free petting zoo, picture opportunities with the Easter Bunny, baby rabbits, chicks and Easter cut Outs. There will also be free hot cocoa, cider and coffee donated by the Dodge County Salvation Army.

Punch cards will be sold for \$10.00 and include a dozen punches to redeem for crafts, games, cotton candy, popcorn and more.



(continued on page 5)

Meet the New Claremont Mayor



Jared Sultze

twenty-one years and have three grown children. Jared works as a technician at Spectrum and Jaime is a Regional Chef for Taher.

Jared enjoys being outside, traveling, and spending time with the family. He also enjoys helping people and has a wide plethora

of knowledge when it comes to construction, home repair/maintenance, and building/ construction work. He introduces himself and explains his outlook on the community here in his own words.

I never really involved myself with Claremont politics too much until really listening to my sister-in-law Krystal, who is a council member talk about the issues the council was facing and paying attention to what was going on in the city (the restaurant closing, losing the gas station at the service center, etc.) that I decided I needed to see if I could help in anyway. I started talking to my neighbors/ other residents of Claremont and asking what they see and how they think the council should decide. My wife and I began attending city council meetings regularly last July, and honestly, it was eye opening how

much false or misconstrued information was circulating around town about the council and the decisions being made, as well as rumors about city business. Then and there, I knew I needed to be part of the solution to get correct and accurate information to the residents and continue open communication between the city government officials and the people.

(continued on page 5)

2025 Triton Prom King and Queen



King: Steven Rodriguez
Queen: Macy Klejeski

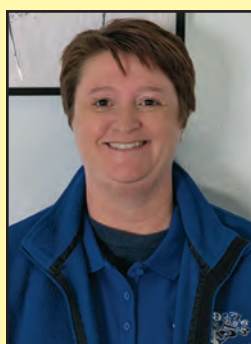
Announcements

• GriefShare support group meeting Mondays, 6:30-8:30 pm, at Anchor of Hope Church, 203 East Main Street, Dodge Center, MN. Contact Pastor Emeritus Dale Rood at 507-633-2772 for more information. Registration is available on the GriefShare website, by calling Pastor Rood, or at any session. This is for anyone experiencing the loss of a loved one, friend, or other significant person in their lives.

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

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

Triton Tutor Honored for Service



Maggie Purinton

inspired her to join MathCorps, so she could help more students in my community. She has been with AmeriCorps, specifically MathCorps for 4 years.

April is National Volunteer Month and as an AmeriCorps member with Math Corps, Maggie Purinton has focused on providing Dodge Center students extra practice and support to improve their math skills. Over the past four years, she has contributed 3,600 hours to helping students succeed!

Maggie has been a resident of Dodge Center for 20 years and lives here with her husband of almost nineteen years. They have two children, which attend Triton. Maggie loves to bake and go one road trips as a family.

When COVID hit, Maggie was a stay at home mom and had the ability to have her children stay home and do online learning through the district. Her son happened to be in 2nd grade, and with being home, she was able to help him with his school work and found great joy in helping him with that work. This

(continued on page 5)

LIVE MUSIC

FRIDAY, MAY 2

JAGGEDEASE

GAMES/CARDS APRIL 22 & 29

CARDS • GAMES (SCRABBLE ETC.) ARE AVAILABLE, OR BRING YOUR OWN!

2:00-5:00 PM • 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the Month

Watch for Music on Main this summer!

Annadine

Dodge County's Greatest Anodyne

16 West Main, Dodge Center • 507-273-9530

Follow Us on Facebook @THEANNADINE

OPEN MIC

April 17

May 1 & 15

Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 11th • Serving 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

Call 507-645-9992 for Reservations

- Reservations Highly Suggested -

- JOIN US FOR OUR SPECIAL BREAKFAST AND BRUNCH MENU -

Regular Menu Available 3:00-Close

The Fireside

LOUNGE & SUPPER CLUB

37540 Goodhue Ave., Dennison, MN

Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 AM-8:30 PM

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

Bar Open Later

507-645-9992 • www.firesidelounge.net

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOM

MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND

AVOID THE RUSH...

YOU CAN CELEBRATE WITH MOM FRIDAY OR SATURDAY TOO!

EASTER- Good News for Us

By Pastor David Brederland

Easter is good news. And it is also big business. According to John S. Kiernan, Wal-Mart Managing Editor in an article published on March 26, 2024, 3.1 billion dollars was projected to be spent on candy in 2024. 22 billion dollars was the total Easter-related spending expected in 2024. This works out to be \$177 per person celebrating.

Although there are lots of people celebrating Easter as a cultural event – complete with chocolate eggs, chocolate bunnies, jelly beans, and Easter baskets, how many miss the true significance of it? Easter is the celebration of God's raising of the crucified Jesus from the dead. The resurrection of Jesus is a

cardinal doctrine in Christianity. The fact that we serve a risen Savior is a claim that sets Christianity apart from other religions.

"The story of God's self-sacrifice...is the story with a cross at its center but not at its end: its plot moves toward the upsetting of all things, the Great Reversal in which the dead Jesus was raised from the tomb, and along with him our hope that death be swallowed up by life eternal."

Those words by Donald McCullough in The Wisdom of Pelicans remind us once again as we approach Easter, that it was the great reversal. One might dare to even characterize it as "The World's Greatest Upset." Certainly, Satan and his host experienced it as such.

Easter is a yearly reminder that God's plans cannot be thwarted. What he wills he will accomplish. Despite all the contraindications we may perceive, God's work gets completed. And we should be reminded of God's resurrection power, not just annually at Easter, but weekly, "on the first day of the week." Every Sunday when we gather for worship, we gather because of the accomplishment of the Great Reversal, that those who were formerly sinners, alienated from God, now can come as a child of God because of the saving work of the risen Jesus Christ.

The resurrection of our Lord Jesus is our hope for our participation in a great reversal against the sickness, decay and death in this

present world. The Apostle Peter writes: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, (1 Peter 1:3-4 NIV).

Trust the resurrected Jesus for your own reversal from a way of life that leads to death to one which leads to eternal life. We can live without chocolate bunnies, chocolate eggs, jelly beans, and Easter bonnets, but we can't really live without the resurrection of Jesus.

Organist Wanted



**Holden Lutheran Church
Rural Kenyon**

~

Interested contact:
holdendalesecretary@gmail.com

**Traxler Law
PLLC**


traxlerlaw.com

**Ann Traxler
Attorney**

PRACTICE AREAS

- Wills, Trusts, & Estates
- Farm and Business Transition Planning
- General Practice
- Probate

4359 Cty. 11 Blvd.
Kenyon, MN 55945
507-405-0420
ann@traxlerlaw.com



**Contact me for your
ATV/UTV quote today**

State Farm

**Shawn Christensen
Agent**

1903 S Broadway
Rochester, MN 55904-7924

Bus: 507-282-1500
shawn@sfrrochester.com
www.sfrrochester.com



Watch your ears!

Common age related hearing hazards:
Tractors without cab, grain dryers,
power saws & chain saws.

*Voted Best in
Mower County*

2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016,
2017, 2018, 2019
& 2020

AUSTIN
701 W Oakland Ave
507-433-4144

ROCHESTER
2150 2nd St. SW, Suite 130
507-322-4241

OWATONNA
685 Bridge St. Suite 1B
507-451-3879


WASECA
118 North State Street
507-521-2758

**FIND OUT IF YOUR
HEARING HAS ALREADY
BEEN AFFECTED BY
NOISE.**

Call us for a
free screening today!

**AMY SWAIN
HEARING
CENTERS**

www.amyswainhearingcenters.com



Serving the Triton Area

The Messenger
Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

MAIL

35 West Main Street, P.O. Box 33
Dodge Center, MN 55927

PHONE/TEXT 507-649-3327

FAX 507-645-9878

**For advertising information
call Terry at 507-951-7417
or email:
hometownmessenger@gmail.com**

**Keep It
Local**

Published in cooperation with Mainstreet Publishing Minnesota, Inc.
© 2025, Dodge Center, Claremont, West Concord Messenger. All rights reserved.

DODGE CENTER

Faith Lutheran Church
308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center
507-374-2174
Traditional Worship 9 a.m.; Fellowship 10 a.m.

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

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

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

St. John Baptist De La Salle
20 2nd St. NE, Dodge Center • 507-374-6830
Mass Saturday 5 p.m.

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

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

**Anchor of Hope Church,
a 7th Day Baptist Congregation**
203 E. Main St., Dodge Center • 507-374-6755
Saturday 10 a.m. Worship; 11:45 a.m. Sabbath School

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

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

Area Church Directory
Studying God's Word

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
— Psalm 119:105

Have you discovered the profound impact of studying God's Word? In my youth, I often underestimated its importance, seeing Bible study as merely a religious duty. But then came a time when I faced uncertainty and sought direction. And a wise mentor pointed me to Psalm 119:105, emphasizing that God's Word illuminates our path, guiding us through life's challenges and uncertainties.

Studying God's Word is not just about gaining knowledge; it's about encountering God himself. Through Scripture we discover God's character, his promises, and his will for our lives. God's Word provides wisdom for decision-making, comfort in times of distress, and hope for the future.

The Bible reveals God's redemptive plan and his unfailing love for humanity. It teaches us how to live according to his principles and align our lives with his purposes. As we explore Scripture with an open heart and mind, we invite the Holy Spirit to speak to us, transforming our thoughts and renewing our minds.

I am grateful for being able to study God's Word. It has deepened my faith, strengthened my relationship with Jesus, and equipped me to serve others with compassion and grace. Each passage has been a source of encouragement, correction, and inspiration in my walk with God.

May God's Word be a lamp to illuminate your path and a constant source of wisdom and strength.

Lord, may your Word guide and sustain us, leading us closer to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

CLAREMONT

1st Presbyterian Church
200 East Street, Claremont • 528-2320
Pastor Doug Walters
Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.

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

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY IS SPONSORED BY:

Fresh & Flavorful

Mexican Cuisine

**PLAZA MORENA
CAMPESTRE GRILL**

160 26th St NE, Owatonna
507-413-0819
Dining Room Open 7 Days a Week
11:00am-10:00pm
www.plazamorena.com

WEST CONCORD

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

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

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

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

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

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

Janice Louise (Dahling) Scherger

Janice Louise (Dahling) Scherger, 74 of Dodge Center, MN, passed away at her home Friday, April 4, 2025. She was born in Lake City, Minnesota, October 13, 1950, to Dahlbert and Bernice (Betcher) Dahling. Janice attended St. John's Lutheran school through 8th grade and graduated from Lake City High



School in 1968. She attended Winona State's administrative secretary program and worked as a secretary at Mayo Clinic in Rochester for 45 years. Janice married Arlen Scherger December 4, 1976, at St. John's Lutheran church in Lake City. They farmed outside Dodge Center for 48 years. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and the Ladies Auxiliary at the American Legion. She enjoyed her morning coffee, gardening, knitting, and playing cards. Janice especially looked forward to visits with her grandchildren, family, and friends. Janice is survived by her husband, Arlen; three children, Michael (Brandi) of Byron, Nathan (Lena) of Rapid City, SD and Emily


(Rodney) of Caledonia; grandchildren, Grant, Aubrey, Jack, Trevor, Ashley, Samantha, Kayleigh, and Gavyn; and three brothers, Richard (Joyce), Gerald (Roberta), and Ronald (Suzanne) all of Lake City; many nieces and nephews; extended family and former daughter-in-law, Karly Jackson. She was preceded in death by her parents. A funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 12, 2025, at Grace Lutheran Church, 404 Central Ave N in Dodge Center, MN. Pastor Elliott Malm officiated. Visitation was held from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Friday, April 11, 2025, at Grace Lutheran Church and one hour prior to her service on Saturday. Interment was in Riverside Cemetery in Dodge Center, MN. Memorials preferred to the donor's choice. To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 25 South St SW Dodge Center, MN 55927, 507-374-2155. Blessed be her memory.

Phoenix, Arizona where he met his future wife, Margie Bond. The couple was blessed with two children; Shannon and Michael. Kari was employed for many years as an inspector in the aerospace industry. After his retirement, the couple enjoyed living in four different states; usually relocating to be near loved ones. His greatest joy was spending time with his family. Kari enjoyed golfing with his son and visits with his daughter. He liked to travel, classic cars, long walks, and rooting faithfully for his beloved Minnesota Vikings and Twins. Kari is survived by his wife of 51 years, Margie; daughter, Shannon Cornwell; son, Michael Cornwell (Lisa Klingensmith); granddaughter, Kaitlyn Cornwell; mother, Joan Nott; cousins Brittany Yennie Ritcher and Shelley Yennie Voeltz; and his trusted dog, Sophie.

Kari John Cornwell

Kari John Cornwell was born in Owatonna, MN, on September 23, 1951. He went to be with his Lord and Savior on March 24, 2025. Kari spent his childhood in West Concord, Minnesota, and graduated from high school there in 1969. Soon after, he relocated to





Holly J. Burow
CPA, LLC
Certified Public Accountant
holly@hollyjcpa.com

**Business and Individual
Tax Preparation**
Bookkeeping Service
Payroll Service
211 Main Street • PO Box 585
West Concord, MN 55985
Office: 507-527-2898 Cell: 507-838-2970
Fax: 507-527-2445



EASTER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Faith Community Church, West Concord
Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm on April 18
Easter Service - 9:30 am on April 20.
(Light breakfast served from 8:15 - 9:00 am on Easter)

United Methodist Church of Dodge Center
April 18 Good Friday - Noon service
April 20 Easter Sunday - 8:15am service

Trinity Lutheran Church, West Concord
April 17 Maundy Thursday - 7:00pm service
April 18 Good Friday - 7:00pm service
April 20 Easter Sunday - 9:45am service

Concord Church of Christ
Thursday: 7:00 p.m. with a light meal following
Friday: 7:00 p.m. with a light meal following
Sunday: 7:30am Sunrise service
8:15am Breakfast
10:00am Regular Service

Grace Lutheran Church, Dodge Center
April 20th Easter Sunday service at 7:00 a.m.

Praise Fellowship Church Dodge Center
Good Friday Service on Friday, April 18th at 6:30pm
Resurrection Celebration Service on Sunday, April 20, at 9:30am

Zwingli United Church of Christ Berne
April 18, Holy Friday service, 6:00 pm, simple, intimate, full-meal Last Supper with a full reading of Christ's Passion
April 19, 1:00 pm, Easter Kids Day with egg hunt and activities
April 20, 10:00 am, Easter Celebration of the Resurrection

Claremont First Presbyterian Church
Easter service will be held at 7:30 am on April 20th, and we will be serving breakfast immediately after the service. All are welcome, there is no charge for breakfast. We will be accepting free-will donations at the door to help offset the costs.



WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



Timmy and Simone took the leap at the Grand Canyon on March 14, 2025.

Keeping your name in front of your potential customers is an essential part of marketing your business in todays competitive market.

Call Terry at 507-951-7417 or email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com to place your ad in the next Messenger

Dale Odegaard

Dale Odegaard (85) passed away March 19, 2025 at Our Lady of Peace Hospice in St. Paul, MN. He had several health issues over the last two years with a final diagnosis of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML).

Dale was born October 16, 1939 at the family farm home of Irvin and Hilda Odegaard in rural Kenyon, MN. He was baptized at Gol Lutheran Church in Kenyon, MN and confirmed at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN.

June 12, 1965 Dale married Ann Louise Ring at Wanamingo Lutheran Church in Wanamingo, MN. They enjoyed 58 years as a team.

Dale went to elementary school in the St. Paul, MN public school system, attended junior high school in Denver, CO, and graduated from West Concord, MN high school in the class of 1958. From there he went to the University of Minnesota where he graduated with a double major in European history and American literature in 1961. He obtained his master's degree from Winona State University in English education in 1968, and obtained an additional education certification from Mankato State University.

Dale taught English and/or History for over 30 years in Minneapolis, Caledonia, and Austin, MN public schools and drivers education through the Austin public schools for 20+ years. Dale was also an adjunct staff at Hamline University and Winona State University teaching a master's program in education for eight years.

In 1995 he retired from the Austin public school system. In 1965 Dale & Ann moved to Austin Minnesota, where they lived for almost 60 years. Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Austin was their church family and Dale was an active member in many facets of church life, particularly music. Dale was involved in many community organizations, including Northwestern Singers, multiple community choirs and the Mower County Horticulture Society. He worked with Ann in AAUW branch activities and was an election judge. He was on the boards of the Mower County DFL, Austin Meals on Wheels and the Friends of the Library, where he chaired library book sales. Dale & Ann were AARP lobbyists for over 20 years advocating for reducing prescription drug costs and organizing statewide activities. Dale was also active in the following education groups: REAM, SEREAM, NEA, MEA, and Austin Area Retired Educators.

Dale had numerous passions in life, including family, friends, neighbors, and live theater from Minneapolis to NYC and beyond. There was no theater too small or too large. Travel was an interest Dale shared with Ann over the years. They accomplished goals of visiting all 50 states, and all the presidential libraries then went on to see the world. Of the many travel destinations, some special places were China, Jordan, Egypt, eastern and western Europe, Caribbean islands, Chile, and Argentina.

Dale is survived by his son Davin (Jill) Odegaard and his daughter Darica (Jeff) Nelson. He is also survived by sister-in-law Vernice (Bernie) Bishop, brother-in-law Merlin (Janet) Ring, and many nieces and nephews.

Dale was preceded in death by his beloved wife Ann, in 2023; his parents Irvin and Hilda

Odegaard; his sister Ione Odegaard Hudalla; and brother Darrel Odegaard. In accordance with Dale's wishes, there will be no memorial service. There will be a private family interment at Grandview Cemetery in Austin, MN.

Sandra Ann "Sandy" (Weckerling) Jones



With hearts full of love and gratitude, we celebrate the life of Sandra Ann "Sandy" (Weckerling) Jones, who passed away peacefully on March 23, 2025, in [Phoenix, Arizona] at the age of 84.

Born on June 19, 1940, in West Concord, Minnesota, Sandy was the cherished daughter of Philip Edward Weckerling and Edna Elaine (Verness) Weckerling. She grew up alongside her two brothers, Kenneth and Craig Weckerling, both of whom preceded her in death. She also had four half-brothers: Paul Weckerling and Randy Scott, who are deceased; and Kent Weckerling and Mark Scott.

After graduating from West Concord High School, Sandy moved to Rochester and began working at the Mayo Clinic. On March 17, 1962, she married Melvin Lawrence Jones. Together they built a life centered around love and family. They welcomed four children: Erin (Jones) Bellah, Elizabeth Jones, David Jones, and Adam Jones (deceased). In 1963, Mel and Sandy moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where they began raising their family. In 1979, they relocated to Glendale, Arizona before returning to Rochester in 2000.

Sandy dedicated much of her life to being a full-time homemaker for her family. Once her children were older, she worked in the parts department at Des Moines Flying Service. After moving to Arizona, she joined Mervyn's Department Store in the fine jewelry department and later served as office manager and paralegal at Bellah & Harrian Law Firm. She retired in 1999.

Following Mel's passing in 2005, Sandy moved into Fountaine Towers where she embraced an active social life. Known for her quick wit and infectious laugh, she became a beloved presence within the community-serving on various committees and forming lasting friendships over coffee and competitive card games during her 20-year residency there.

In March of 2024, Sandy returned to Arizona to be closer to her immediate family after being diagnosed with dementia. No matter where life took them-from Iowa to Arizona to Minnesota-the Jones home was always filled with joy, laughter, and an open-hearted welcome for all who entered.

Sandy is lovingly remembered by her daughters Erin (Jones) Bellah of Arizona and Elizabeth Jones of Minnesota; her son David Jones of Arizona; three grandchildren: Alexandria (Bellah) McConnell, Alyssa (Jones) Volk, and Regina Jones; as well as four great-grandchildren: Ethan McConnell, Elijah McConnell, Ezaylea McConnell, and

Ezekiel McConnell.

She will be laid to rest alongside her husband at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis. Due to the geographic locations of Sandy's immediate family members, no memorial services are currently scheduled in Minnesota.

Sandy lived a vibrant life marked by kindness and generosity. Her warmth touched everyone she met. Above all else, she loved Jesus-and on March 23rd He welcomed her home.

Kathryn Sue (Gillen) Ness

Kathryn Sue (Gillen) Ness age 46, of West Concord, passed away on Monday, March 31, 2025. She was born on December 27, 1978, to George and Deborah (Dressel) Gillen, the second of four daughters. Katie graduated from Kenyon – Wanamingo High



School and continued her education at Rochester Community and Technical College where she followed her passion, earning an associate degree in horticulture. Katie's interest of flowers and plants brought her to work for different businesses that expanded her horizons. Most recently, Katie was working as a CNA at Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center taking care of the elderly. Katie's love for everything she did connected her with a lifetime of wonderful friends.

In 2011, Katie met Greg Ness, and they later married on November 11, 2022. The couple spent time vacationing together, playing a good game of Gin, and working together building and tearing down grain bins for Greg's company, Ness Construction. Katie had a broad range of interests; when she wasn't outside in her gardens or working with nature, she enjoyed collectible cars and loved her animals.

Katie is survived by her loving husband, Greg Ness; her parents, George and Deb Gillen; her step-children, Trevor (Serena) Ness and Kyra (Zach) Possehl; her grandchildren: Liam and Luca Possehl, Hazel, Conrad, and Croix Ness; her sisters: Betsy (David) Doolittle, Andrea (Robb) Finnigsmier, and Laurie (Adam) Kirschling; her nieces and nephews: Sawyer and Grace Doolittle, Bea, Hugo, and Ada Finnigsmier; her grandfather, Mark H. Dressel; her father and mother-in-law, Sharon and Lar Ness; and numerous cousins, extended family, and friends.

Katie will be greatly missed by her family, especially nieces and nephews as she was always known as the "fun aunt", always having an exciting activity, treat, or plan for them. She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Sally Dressel, and many other family

members.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 11, 2025, at Moland Lutheran Church, rural Kenyon. Pastor Robert Kaul officiated. A visitation was held on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at Michaelson Funeral Home in Kenyon from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with an additional visitation on Friday one hour prior to the service.

Norma Jane Behne

Norma Jane Behne, 89, of Owatonna, MN, passed away on March 31, 2025, at Owatonna Hospital.



Memorial Service was held at 11:00 AM, Thursday, April 3, 2025, at St. Joseph Church (512 S. Elm Ave, Owatonna). Friends greeted the family at the church from 10:00-11:00 AM. A parish rosary was recited at 9:30 AM. Interment was in St. Francis de Sales Cemetery in Claremont, MN.

Norma was born August 25, 1935, in Altamont, SD, to Joseph and Dorothea (Sueverkruepp) Hames. She graduated from Claremont High School. She married Robert "Bud" Behne on June 15, 1955, at St. Francis de Sales Church in Claremont. The couple had five children: Steve, Kim, Lori, Mary and Brad.

Norma had a career as a bookkeeper, working at Pamida and then Owatonna Tool Company. She and Bud loved to square dance and were part of the Square Dance Club. She also loved attending family activities, and especially enjoyed watching her children and grandchildren play sports. In her later years, she enjoyed participating in arts and crafts at The Brooks. She was a member of the Eagle's Auxiliary.

Norma is survived by her children: Steve (Julie) Behne, Kim (Doug) Hillson, Lori (Randy) Guenther, Mary (Jim) Krahling, and Brad (Cherie) Behne; 22 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; 5 great-great grandchildren; sisters, Irene and Ann; and brother, Jim.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bud; one child; two sisters; and three brothers.

Hanson Trucking TOWING

Car Starting & Auto Repair Service

310 State St. N, West Concord

527-2609



Got a Great Local News Story?

Tell us about it today!



Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Meet the New Claremont Mayor

(continued from page 1)

I believe it is imperative that correct information is being sent out to residents, and help dispel the rumors that are circulating around.

I tossed my name out as a write in candidate for the city council election last November (I missed getting my application in to be put on the ballot) to some residents and obviously did not campaign or get my name out there enough to win, but after the decision on Strivers candidacy for mayor was rejected, I just knew I had to apply for the open mayor seat. I had to put my money where my mouth is so to speak and get involved and make real change and real decisions to help the city's residents.

I personally have a deep love/ respect for the residents of Claremont, we work hard, we play hard, and for the most part, are a quiet and safe community to either retire in or raise a family. My family has personally seen this community come together and help one another and that is becoming rare. I'd like to keep the small- town feel, but bring in some much-needed conveniences such as a place to buy fuel or some basic groceries. Small town supported businesses would be welcomed and supported as well to help the town grow and add things that attract families to relocate here. We have lots that we are giving away to try and attract people to come live here, but no real job opportunities in town or conveniences in town make it a hard sell. The current economy as a whole doesn't help either, with inflation of general living skyrocketing.

As mayor, I'd like to bring a few businesses to town, like a place to buy fuel and possibly a small convenience store for basic groceries, some kind of manufacturing plant could bring in jobs and much needed revenue as well. With the council's help, continue to strive for as much open, honest communication between government and the people as possible. We work for the people, so encourage public involvement and welcome ideas and suggestions on what they want to see in town. We need the support of the community- get involved, support current and future businesses of Claremont, take pride in our town.

My long-term goals are the same as what I want to accomplish as mayor, just keep pushing to keep the cost of living as manageable as possible to give people a fighting chance to build something for themselves, their families, and our community. Bring in and support small business as a town would be great as well. I want to keep Claremont a family friendly community with the small town feel I think appeals to young families/ retirees. I want the city's residents to know I am free and open to hear their concerns or comments and will work hard with the council to try and grow the city.

Triton Tutor Honored for Service

(continued from page 1)

Maggie currently tutors students from Kindergarten through 3rd grade. Every school day, she meets with pairs of students for 20 minutes of math practice to help them build their skills. On her current caseload, she tutors 14 students. She does have some repeated students, but she has told them, "As you get older, the work gets harder and if they are able to come see me, we can work on that harder work together and grow."

Some of the biggest challenges for her personally, Maggie comments is, "I love helping the students and I want to help all of them but our day is limited and I sometimes am not able to reach all of the students that I wish I could teach".

One of her biggest rewards is watching a student who may have struggled in a process, all of a sudden understand what we have been working on, kind of like the saying, watching the lightbulb light up.

Tutors work one on one or in small groups with students who need extra help in building their skills. With volunteers like Maggie supplementing the teachers work in the class-

room, students have seen remarkable growth. She's been invaluable to our community, and the students have fun working with her.

With the school year drawing to a close it is good to acknowledge volunteers such as Maggie and all she's done to support our students - They play an incredible role as part of the school community. We're looking for more great people like Maggie to join our team as tutors. If you're interested, please visit join.readingandmath.org.

4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt planned at Green Shack

(continued from page 1)

The games include pom pom toss, pin the tail on the bunny, lollypop, duck & fishing games plus gem mining, cookie decorating, face painting, fun color hair spray, basket weaving, flower seed planting and puzzles plus much more.

The event is sponsored by the Kasson Legion Post #333 and the location is at 20658 County Highway 34 east of Dodge Center right behind Pine View Apartments.

Do You Have An Announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Specializing in Unique Jewelry, Clocks & Custom Trophies



Local Convenience | Hometown Service | Small Town Savings

TATGE JEWELRY

Celebrating 50 Years of Business in 2025

625 2nd Street, Kenyon, MN 55946 • (507) 789-6522 or 1-800-58-TATGE • tatgejewelry.com

Good Beer. Good Drinks. Good Times.

Pool, Darts, Pull Tabs, E-Tabs,
On & Off Sale

Harold's CLUB

33 E. Main Street
Dodge Center
507-374-9425



TRITON CLASS OF 2025

SENIOR
SPOTLIGHT

FAMILY

Alisson Velasco is a senior at Triton High School. Her mother is Carolina Castaneda.

ACTIVITIES

She is active in BPA, Student Council, theater and MHS. Alisson also played soccer.

HOBBIES

Outside of school she is active in her church. Her hobbies are painting, baking, writing, playing guitar, crocheting, drawing and reading. Her favorite music is pop and movie is LadyBug & Cat Noir: the movie.

FUTURE PLANS

After graduation she plans to get an Associate Degree in Nursing.

SPONSORED
BY

CLAREMONT SERVICE CENTER

111 West Front Street, Claremont, MN 55924
507-528-2233

That's the Latest



By Emery Kleven

Emery is now a retired farm broadcaster after starting at KDHL in Faribault in 1987. He's a 1971 graduate of West Concord High School. You can view past columns at his website RoadFarming.com. You can email him at emery@roadfarming.com.

To quote comedian Steven Wright; 'Whenever I think about the past, it brings up so many memories.' That line is so true when thinking about my grade school and high school days. The old assembly room above the gymnasium in the now West Concord Historical Society (WCHS) Museum, is where Mrs. Betty Osborn taught a morning class and an afternoon class of about 30 kids each for 6 weeks in the spring of 1959. It's funny how I can walk into that room and show you the very spot where a little pile of sand was laying on the floor outside the sand-box that we had in there. And to this day, I've never told anyone it was Doug who did it. I'm sworn to secrecy. We weren't banned from the sand but were told in no uncertain terms to not do it again.

In third grade we were out for noon recess on the playground in the spring of 1962. If you went to school there, you may recall how big icicles would hang from the edge of the roof from the melting snow. Well two teachers, Mrs. Marian Moreland and Mrs. Charlotte Roberts were on recess duty that particular day. It was a somewhat mild day and the snow on the roof was warming up. Again I can show you the exact spot I was standing when I happened to look up at the giant stalactites when suddenly, one of them broke loose and started to fall. The two teachers were standing in its path. The icicle turned a little so the point of it was not coming straight down. The bigger part of the icicle did hit Mrs. Moreland on the head and shoulder and she went down. It could have been much worse, but she did suffer a concussion from it but otherwise came through it okay.

My 4th grade teacher was Mrs. Elizabeth Stukel. She was in the first of two years of teaching in WC. After our class, I'm surprised she lasted a second year. Among our exploits was the many times I, along with accomplices Joel Sackett, Grant Ness, Merlin Moreland and Jim Monical would run down to the basement boy's lavatory when school was done for the day to climb out the little basement window. We had to get up on the top of the urinals and then grab some pipes to get to the window.

We did this several times and all was good until one day, one of our girl classmates told Mrs. Stukel that 5 boys were climbing out the basement window. So we were marched into our classroom which was upstairs on the west side and is today the fashion room. Well we got an 'old fashioned' talking to and we had to stay after school which led to more being 'talked to' at home.

Surprisingly, in the fall of 1963, I was advanced to 5th grade. My teacher this year was Mrs. Nina Noser. She was one of my favorite teachers when I think back to those school years. However, she kept discipline in her classroom anyway she needed to. Sometimes that would involve a little tugging of the ear. On this particular November day, two of my aforementioned window-climbing accomplices had their ears pulled because they did not come in during the noon recess for a previous infraction. She got their attention by yanking on their left ear and asking why they were not in their desk during recess. This was a day that will live in infamy but not because they 'forgot' to come in during recess.

Our classroom was on the upper floor on the southeast corner of the grade school. There is a door between the two rooms on the south. After the ear stretching exercise, we hear the other half of our class of 71, being taught by Mrs. Delzer, listening to the radio. At first we were jealous that they got to listen to the radio but then suddenly that door swung open and the radio was turned up a little more and we realize that they were listening to the news of the JFK assassination. That's a moment in time that we all remember where we were.

I mention some of these memories because I am so grateful I can still go into these rooms and generate so many memories of a place in time. In 1994, community leaders formed the WCHS and saved the old school from demolition. The pictures on this page illustrate that Kenyon students may have the school memories but they can't visit that room or walk on the wooden floors or go see where someone autographed the wall in the attic back in 1935. Yes those autographs are still on the wall at the WCHS Museum. All that's left for former Kenyon students is the sidewalk.

For West Concord Alumni, we have the ability to revisit our past. It has taken countless hours of volunteers; first to save the building, then transform it to a museum and to do a lot of maintenance work to keep it in good repair. Those many hours of volunteer work continue today. Speaking for the current board of directors and for many past directors and volunteers, we thank you for your support and hope you appreciate what our little town has, something Kenyon and several other small towns around the Midwest wish they had.

**Share Your Good News
with the Community!**

**Submit your engagement,
wedding or birth announcement**

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com



These icicles are similar to ones that formed on the old school in West Concord that Emery describes in his column.



All that remains of the old Kenyon school is this sidewalk and a grass lot. Kenyon alumni wish they could go back in their old school building like West Concord alumni can.



A wintertime picture from a couple of years ago of the west side of the old grade school where Emery saw a big icicle fall and strike an elementary teacher on the head and shoulder back in 1962.

Museum Musings



Something We Don't Like to Remember

By Colleen Sathrum Hayne

At 6:30 p.m. on May 12, Nancy Vaillancourt will be bringing her presentation, “Hooded History” to the West Concord Public Library. Co-sponsored by the West Concord Historical Society, Nancy will talk about what her research has revealed about the Klu Klux Klan’s presence in southeast Minnesota in the 1920’s,

Our first reaction to learning about Nancy’s program might be, “Hmmm, that could be interesting, but of course, it will have nothing to do with our West Concord.” We need to stop right there. Our Museum holds the original deed with which Klan Numbered 23, Realm of Minnesota, West Concord, Minnesota, Knights of the Klu Klux Klan Incorporated, purchased the North 60 feet of Outlet One (1), Westgate’s Addition to the Village of West Concord on November 21, 1927. This is the property on East South Street that would later become the home of the Northfield Milk Plant. The Klan held that property for three and a half years and in May of 1931 sold the property to Anderson Canning and Pickle Company of Dodge Center.

If the Klan was active in West Concord in the 1920’s, did the West Concord Enterprise ever mention it? The front page of the August 30, 1923 Enterprise led with this article: “Klu Klux Klan Lectured on the Street Saturday”. The column explained that West Concord residents awoke to find an advertisement in almost every tree in town announcing that the editor of the KKK’s weekly newspaper, “Call of the North”, was going to give a free lecture on Main Street that very evening. The Enterprise editor said townspeople were very curious about the event. The Enterprise itself made a point to be there early to interview the speaker because “we had never come in contact with members of this organization and had heard much about their methods that didn’t appeal to us.” The following are some of the questions the Enterprise asked:

How did you happen to come to West Concord to lecture?” “I came here by invitation of Klansmen of your village”, Mr. Orn replied.

“Are there members of your organization here?” “Yes, and in almost every other town in Minnesota,” he answered.

“Why did you put your bills up in town after dark on Friday night? It looked to many as though you were ashamed to do it in broad daylight.” “Nonsense,” replied Mr. Orn. “My advance man was requested to bill West Concord for the lecture. He came from Owatonna and must have got here late. No other town that I know of has ever been billed in the night, and upon my return I shall find out how it happened.”

“What is the membership of the Klu Klux Klan at the present time in the United States?” “More than 6,000,000.”

“What are you organized for?” Mr. Orn answered, “For white supremacy—we are opposed to the intermarriage of whites and blacks. The protection of pure womanhood. The separation of church and state. Upholding the constitution of the United States. Standing strongly for the public school, which we believe to be the rock of the American government.”

The band had stopped playing and it was now time for Mr. Orn to speak. Even though it was raining, the Enterprise remarked that “quite a crowd” stayed to hear the speaker who “received a very courteous hearing from all present.”

The July 17, 1924 Enterprise reported that a national KKK lecturer came to town and spoke to West Concord citizens from the bandstand following the Saturday night band concert. The editor noticed that many people picked up membership applications that night. “It is reported that the membership of this organization in this vicinity is somewhere around one hundred and fifty.”

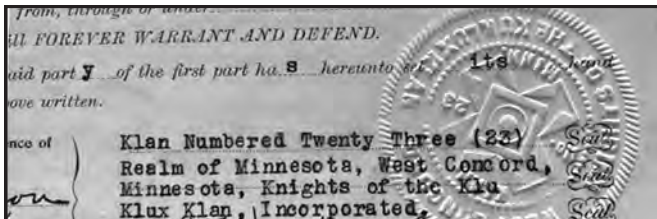
One event that the West Concord Enterprise did not cover, but both the Kenyon and Mantorville newspapers did, was what happened at the Concord Church on a Sunday evening in September of 1924. Reverend M.B. Meeks had just preached a sermon entitled, “One Hundred Percent Americanism” and the congregation was singing the closing hymn, “Onward Christian Soldiers”. Suddenly the front door opened and in marched over twenty Klu Klux Klan members dressed in their robes, but not hooded, and carrying an American flag. When the hymn finished the leader walked to the pulpit and gave Rev. Meeks an envelope of money, a gift from the Dodge County Klu Klux Klan. The leader obtained permission to talk to the congregation for a few minutes, explaining KKK ideals and goals and answering questions. Then, the Kenyon News reported, “the Klansmen marched out of the church and disappeared as mysteriously as they appeared.” The Kenyon article also mentioned that the KKK “burned a mammoth fiery cross after the fireworks” at the Dodge County Fair that week.

In October of 1924 West Concord’s Rex Theater presented two showings of the KKK propaganda film, “The Traitor Within”, one of the two movies that the KKK created to inform the broader audience of their ideals. The following weekend was “Community Days” in West Concord. As the band was playing their concert about 50 robed members of the Klan paraded Main Street and passed out literature. After the concert was over “quite a speech” was made from the bandstand by one of the KKK members. It was thought that those parading came from Rochester and Owatonna, as they were unknown to most people in town.

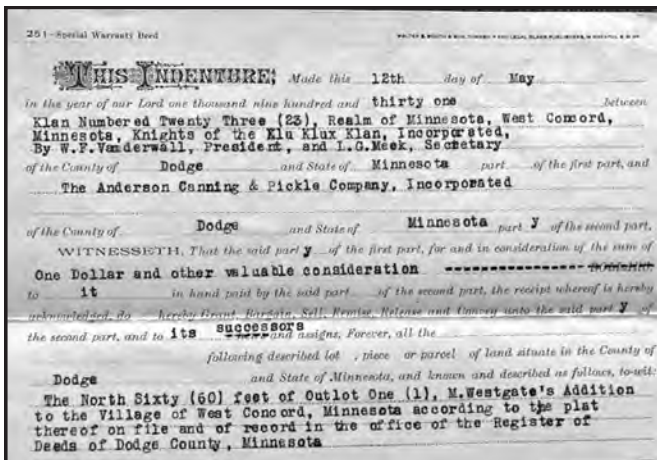
What were some of the themes beyond white-supremacy in the KKK’s resurgence in the 1920’s? Anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic, anti-alcohol, and anti-Semitic ideals were promoted. According to an article in the December 4, 2016 Atlantic magazine, the KKK “packaged its noxious ideology as traditional small town values and wholesome fun. Native born white Americans were led to believe that bigotry, intimidation, harassment and extralegal violence were all perfectly compatible with, if not central to, patriotic responsibility.”

What led to the demise of the KKK comeback in the 1920’s, also known as the “second wave”? One shock to the KKK’s system came when national KKK leader, D.C. Stephenson was found guilty of murder in 1925 after savagely raping a young woman. That many of the Klan’s fear mongering predictions didn’t come true was also a factor. The onset of the depression quieted the movement, too. The KKK would return for a third wave from 1954 through the mid-60’s when the Civil Rights Movement was in full swing. Today U.S. KKK membership is under 5,000, but sadly there are many other “hate” groups in our country. Our hope lies in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King:

“I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.”



From the deed for purchase of the KKK lot in West Concord — note the KKK seal



Cover of the KKK National Magazine from the 1920's



Mayor Jeff McCool's Spring Update!

We are excited to share some updates and upcoming events happening in West Concord! Our ongoing efforts to strengthen partnerships with local organizations, county, and state offices continue to bring new opportunities to improve services and secure grants to support our goals.

Spring Fling & City-Wide Clean-Up Day: Our dedicated local non-profits have planned the 4th Annual Spring Fling fundraiser on Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 4 PM to 7 PM. In conjunction with this, the City will host the 4th Annual City-Wide Clean-Up Day from 8 AM to 11 AM. We encourage everyone to continue beautifying their properties to help keep our community looking its best.

Tree Planting Event: Join us for Tree Planting on the morning of Saturday, April 26 beginning at 8am. Thanks to the "Protect Community Forests by Managing Ash for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Grant" from the MN DNR, we will plant 50+ trees in public spaces to replace EAB-infected trees and enhance green spaces. Volunteers are welcome! Contact City Hall to sign up so we can provide the necessary materials and refresh-

ments.

City Compost Site: The City Compost Site will be open daily again this year to assist with your yard clean-up efforts. Residents will need a permit, available for purchase at City Hall for \$15. This fee helps maintain the site for continued use.

Facility Rentals: Residents can rent the Bell Tower Center (401 Main Street), an ideal venue for graduation parties, family gatherings, and weddings. Outdoor options include the park shelters. For rental inquiries, please contact City Hall. Additional rental options include the West Concord American Legion & West Concord Historical Society. Contact them directly for more information.

Library & Pool: We encourage everyone to take advantage of our community's library and swimming pool. Both offer wonderful opportunities for family fun and enrichment. Summer programs are available at the library, and swimming lessons are offered at the pool. Early bird pool passes are available at City Hall until June 11th at a reduced rate.

Stay Connected: For immediate concerns or questions, City Hall is open Monday through

Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. You can reach us at 507-527-2668. If you have additional concerns, suggestions, or wish to discuss ideas for improving our community, please feel free to email me directly at wcmayor@yahoo.com or leave a message at City Hall.

We encourage everyone to participate in City Council meetings, typically held on the third Thursday of each month at the Bell

Tower Center. Updated meeting notices are posted in the City Hall front vestibule, accessible 24/7 and on our website at www.westconcordmn.com.

Together, we can continue to make West Concord a vibrant and welcoming place to live. As our city motto proudly states: "A Proud Heritage, A Bright Future."

Join us for Book Group at the West Concord Library Saturday, May 10 from 9-10am *The Art Thief* by Michael Finkel

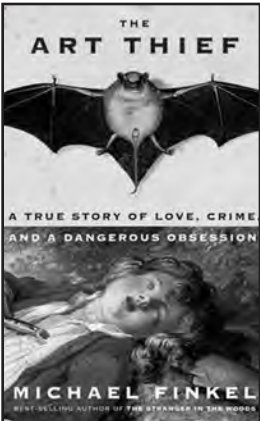
In this spellbinding portrait of obsession and flawed genius, the best-selling author of *The Stranger in the Woods* brings us into Breitwieser's strange world—unlike most thieves, he never stole for money, keeping all his treasures in a single room where he could admire them.

For centuries, works of art have been stolen in countless ways from all over the world, but no one has been quite as successful at it as the master thief Stéphane Breitwieser. Carrying out more than two hundred heists over nearly eight years—in museums and cathedrals all over Europe—Breitwieser, along with his girlfriend who worked as his lookout, stole more than three hundred objects, until it all fell apart in spectacular fashion.

In *The Art Thief*, Michael Finkel brings us into Breitwieser's strange and fascinating world. Unlike most thieves, Breitwieser never stole for money. Instead, he displayed all his treasures in a pair of secret rooms where he could admire them to his heart's content. Possessed of a remarkable athleticism and an innate ability to circumvent practically any security system, Breitwieser managed to pull off a breathtaking number of audacious thefts. Yet these strange talents bred a growing disregard for risk and an addict's need to score, leading Breitwieser to ignore his girlfriend's pleas to stop—until one final act of hubris brought everything crashing down.

This is a riveting story of art, crime, love, and an insatiable hunger to possess beauty at any cost.

Genre: Nonfiction, True Crime, Art History
First Published: June 2023, 224 pages (hardcover)

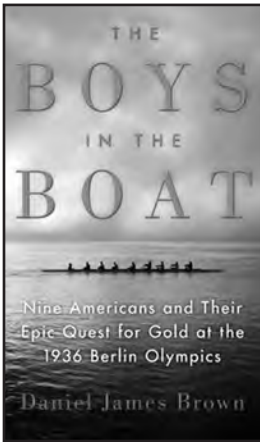


Join us for Book Group at the West Concord Library Wednesday, May 14 from 4-5pm *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown

For readers of *Unbroken*, out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.

It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man's personal quest.


Genre: Nonfiction, Biography
First Published: June 2013, 404 pages (hardcover)



WEST CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

ALL AGES WELCOME!

**HIDDEN IN
PLAIN VIEW:
CEMETERIES
OF MINNESOTA**




*with Historian and
Photographer Doug Ohman*

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025 at 6:30 PM

WEST CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

**180 E MAIN STREET
WEST CONCORD, MN 55985**

507-527-2668



**CLEAN
WATER
LAND &
LEGACY
AMENDMENT**

Find more library events in the SELCO region at legacy.selco.info/calendar



NEW HOURS

The new hours at the WCHS office are:
Monday through Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm

Spring FLING

MAY 10TH

AT W.C. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4:00 PM- 7:00 PM

TICKETS: \$15 ADVANCED

\$20 AT THE DOOR

PROCEEDS SUPPORT PARKS,
RECREATION, EDUCATION, & HISTORY
PRESERVATION IN WEST CONCORD

Join us for the ultimate Spring
Fling—a celebration of sunshine,
fun, and new beginnings!

Bring your friends and family for a
day of laughter, community, and
springtime magic.

Tickets available at City Hall.

- PLANT SALE
- SILENT AUCTION
- BAKE SALE
- LIVE MUSIC
- DELICIOUS FOOD/CASH BAR
- KIDS ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Events in West Concord

West Concord is a vibrant community with lots of activities
happening. If you haven't checked out one of our events,
why not get involved in 2025!

Library Events

- May 12: Minnesota's Hooded History – the KKK in 1920s Minnesota at 6:30 PM (in conjunction with the WCHS)
- June 11: Summer Reading Kick-off with "Will Sings Songs" at 10:00 AM
- July 26: National Eagle Center Presentation (as part of Survival Days; presentation in Historical Society Gym) at 1:00 PM
- July 30: Raising Hope Ranch: Parrot Facts & Big Laughs at 10:00 AM
- August 12: Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo Performance & Workshop at 1:00 PM
- September 25: Folky Duck Painting Workshop at 5:00 PM

Community Events & Celebrations

- April 19: Easter Egg Hunt at Lion's Park
- April 26: Tree Planting around the City (tentative)
- May 10: Community Clean-up and Spring Fling
- May 17: Burger Night with the Fire Department
- June 19: Open Swim at Memorial Park
- July 24-27: 40th Annual Survival Days
- August 5: National Night Out
- September 20: 4th Annual OktoberFest
- December 6: Christmas in West Concord



2025 HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE

April	21-23
May	19-21
June	23-25
July	21-23
August	25-27
September	22-24
October	20-22
November*	17-19

*Weather Dependent

West Concord 4th Annual Cleanup Day

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025 | 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Drop Off Location: Public Works Building (north of softball field)

Help clean-up West Concord and make our small city look welcoming to all
residents and visitors!

This service is for West Concord Residents ONLY. Please be sure to bring your I.D. Cash or
Check Only. Please make checks payable to West Concord. Thank You!

Accepted Items include:

Demolition Loads	\$25.00/load	
Appliances*	\$15.00 each	
Water Heaters	\$20.00 each	
TVs, Computers, Monitors	\$20.00 each	
Small Electronics	\$5.00 each	
Tires (based on size)	\$5.00 - \$10.00 (car); \$25.00 (truck); \$65 (tractor)	
Carpet (with or without pad)	\$15.00 each	
Propane Tanks	\$10 & up	
Batteries (car)	\$5.00 each	
Furniture, Mattresses, Box Springs, Recliners, Couches	Varies (\$12.00-\$30.00)	
Over-the-Counter & Prescription Medications	No Charge	
Paint	No Charge	

*There is no charge for the following Appliances: Refrigerators, Freezers, Dehumidifiers

Chat with your neighbors while enjoying FREE coffee, donuts, hot dogs, and water!

Be sure to say "THANK YOU" to City Council & Staff for making this clean-up day happen!

Hey!

West Concord Business Owners

The Façade Improvement Program is now Available.

This initiative offers 0% forgivable loans to businesses within city limits to support street-facing exterior improvements. Details about loan awards and the application process can be found online at www.westconcordmn.com/economic-development-authority-eda

The Hunt Is On!

A Surprise May "Hop" On By

Saturday, April 19th, 2025

10:00 am

West Concord Lions Park

Rain
Snow
or Sunshine!

First Come First Serve,
No Slotted Times for
Different Ages. When
They Are Gone They
are Gone!

You Keep the Eggs

*Please Limit
Each Child to six
(6) Eggs So
There Are
Enough For All

Sponsored By:
Cardinal Club of WC
City of WC
WC Historical Society



AUDITIONS!

May 5 & 13, 7 pm

Doors open at 6:30

For 3 Melodramas & Student Show



Student-led Show:
AUGUST 22-24
Whole Latte Love
by Todd Wallinger
directed by Cooper Worden

JUNE 13-29 *Peril at Pumpernickle Pass* by Tim Kelly
directed by Beth Regener

JULY 11-27 *One Last Train to Nowhere* by Cheryl Frarck
directed by River Claire

AUG 1-17 *Road to Wasioja*
by Tom Gall directed by Jen Gall

Audition for the Summer Shows
at one time.
Melodramas: you may be
asked to sing.
*Bring your calendar and
your enthusiasm!*
Opera House, 5~5th St

mantorvilletheatrecompany.com • mantorvilletheatre@gmail.com

Quality that extends beyond our windows and doors.



We invest our time in quality windows and doors, so you can have more quality time.

At Probuilt Construction LLC, we're proud to offer Marvin solutions designed to support your well-being, from fresh air to connections to the outdoors. Together, we're focused on every aspect of product quality to make sure every moment you spend surrounded by Marvin windows and doors is quality time.

Explore Marvin's product collections with an expert at Probuilt Construction LLC arranged by degree of design detail, flexibility, and customization



©2022 Marvin Lumber and Cedar Co., LLC. All rights reserved.
®Registered trademark of Marvin Lumber and Cedar Co., LLC.



PROBUILT
CONSTRUCTION LLC

**DISCUSS YOUR PROJECT
WITH A MARVIN EXPERT**

Probuilt Construction LLC
1359 Bluff Street
Dundas, MN 55019
507-200-1545
www.probuiltnm.com
BC807868

Rice County Steam & Gas Annual Flea Market & Swap Meet May 24th & 25th



The Rice County Steam & Gas Show has announced their annual Swap Meet and Flea Market for May 24th & 25th.

Annual Swap Meet & Flea Market
Consignment Auction 9am Saturday
S.E.P.T.A. Tractor Pull 9am Sunday
Miniature Railroad Train Rides

Free admission, held rain or shine.

Check out their website and facebook page for more information. www.ricecountysteamandgas.com

SAVE THE DATE!

DENNISON DAYS

JUNE 20 & 21, 2025

CLASSIC CAR SHOW
TRUCK & TRACTOR PULL • BINGO
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
& MORE!

Watch www.dennisondays.org for updates to the schedule

2nd Annual Vintage Road Trip!

Th, Fri, Sat • May 8, 9, 10
10am-5pm

GRAB YOUR GAL PALS and HIT THE ROAD!
"Road Trip" through the beautiful countryside and see the cool barns and unique shops that contain the treasures you've been looking for!

YOUR DESTINATIONS:

WHITE BARN Boutique
3175 122nd St W, Faribault 55021 (Millersburg)

Crabby Wren
17857 Cannon City Blvd, Faribault 55021 (Cannon City)

RR REVIVAL/ RUSTY RABBITQUES
104 Railway St. NW, Lonsdale 55046

Wool & Vintage Market
3435 Lonsdale Blvd E, Northfield 55057

Potpourri Mill
Log Cabin Crafts & Antiques
2290 County 49 Blvd, Dennison 55018

The Junk Monkey
Antiques • Home Decor • Cool Junk
sale hrs: th&f 12-5, sat. 11-3
32 4th St. NW, Faribault 55021

Weathered & Worn Vintage Market
sale hrs: th, f, sat. 9-5
13720 240th St E, Miesville 55009

MAP NOT TO SCALE

Shop unique one-of-a-kind gift ideas for Mother's Day Sunday, May 11!

Join Us for Our Special Easter Brunch Menu

Sunday, April 20th
Serving 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
(Last seating 3:00p.m. - Bar open later)

Reservations Strongly Suggested
Call 507-645-9992 to Make Your Reservation

- REGULAR MENU NOT AVAILABLE EASTER SUNDAY -

Happy Easter From All of Us at The Fireside!

The Fireside
37540 Goodhue Ave., Dennison, MN
Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 AM-8:30 PM
Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM-9:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM
Bar Open Later
507-645-9992 • www.firesidelounge.net

WE WILL CLOSE AT 4:30PM EASTER SUNDAY SO OUR STAFF CAN ENJOY THE EVENING WITH THEIR FAMILIES



**Happy Easter and best wishes
for a fun-filled Spring!**

Thanks for being such good customers and friends.



www.mbtbank.bank

Austin | Blooming Prairie | Dodge Center | Hayfield | Mantorville | Rochester





SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

MUSIC IN MANTORVILLE



 RIVERSIDE PARK IN MANTORVILLE

 EVERY TUESDAY

 4:30 - 5 P.M.
5 - 8 P.M.
5:30 - 7:30 P.M.
4 - 8 P.M.

YOGA
FOOD VENDORS
LIVE MUSIC
FARMERS MARKET

DATE	LIVE MUSIC	SPONSOR
JUNE 3	BRANDON & JOHN FROM SIX MILE GROVE	KMTTelecom
JUNE 10	LOST FACULTIES	Honda Improvement Professionals
JUNE 17	BECKY SCHLEGEL	Dynamic Masonry Products
JUNE 24	BRYAN AKERVIK	MBT Bank
JULY 1	ROCKIN' HEP CATS	Bigelow Homes
JULY 8	CLAY FULTON	NextEra Energy Resources
JULY 15	UPTOWN JAZZ	Hawkins Ash CPA
JULY 22	VINTAGE TONES OF SPIELZEITEN UND PAU	Refined Heating & Cooling
JULY 29	ROSIE DAZE BAND	Mantorville Restoration Association
AUG. 5	COULEE REGION STEEL BAND	Pura Rock Studios
AUG. 12	NANCY TOBIASON	Midwest Floor Solutions & The Grind
AUG. 19	NATHAN'S JAZZERS FT. MARIAH	Mrs. Patti's Sweet Treats & KUG
AUG. 26	CLAY FULTON	The Hubbell House

 @MusicInMantorville

Music in Mantorville Plans Summer of Fun

The Riverside Park in Mantorville will be the place to enjoy Tuesday evenings this summer. A new band stand has been constructed in the park and offers a relaxing grassy place to watch and enjoy the music during the live performances.

The summer concert series kicks off on

June 3rd with events for the whole family. The Farmer’s Market is held every Tuesday from 4 to 8pm in the shelter just behind the bandstand. There will be YOGA from 4:30 to 5pm. Food vendors will be on hand serving your favorite items to eat from 5 to 8pm. The live music begins at 5:30pm and runs until 7:30pm. All are free to the public.

Each week a different act is scheduled to perform including Lost Faculties, Rockin’ Hep Cats, Clay Fulton, Uptown Jazz, Nancy Tobiason and many more. Look for a schedule to be published in May and June. Each week is sponsored by one of the many generous local businesses, so come out and enjoy the summer with fun activities and live music.



Dog Shedding: What To Expect and How To Manage It

Some dogs, like Labrador Retrievers, Newfoundlands, and Pekingese tend to shed a lot. Others, like Dachshunds, Poodles, and Border Terriers may seem to be almost shed-free. There are reasons why some dogs shed and others don’t shed at all. But how do you deal with dog shedding?

Different dog breeds shed in different amounts: Some shed seasonally, while others shed year-round. This depends on the type of coat your dog has. A Golden Retriever, for example, has a thicker double-coat, which makes it more likely to shed year-round.

For dogs that shed seasonally, you’ll notice that most shedding occurs in the spring and fall. In the spring, your dog’s coat will become lighter, in preparation for the warm weather. Similarly, in the fall, in preparation for winter, you’ll see a change in your dog’s coat and a higher incidence of shedding.

For dog’s who shed often, it’s important to brush them – sometimes weekly, sometimes a few times a week, or sometimes daily during periods of heavy shedding. Even if your dog is not a big shedder, it’s still important to brush and groom dogs regularly, but how often you groom depends on their coat.

Choosing the right brush can help in your grooming process, especially if your dog sheds frequently.

For dogs with shorter coats (think Beagles, Pugs, or German Shorthaired Pointers), you can do a fine job of loosening dead hair and setting it free with a natural-bristle brush or even a grooming glove with bristles on the palm.

First, brush the coat in the opposite direction of hair growth, to pull dead hair out. Next, brush in the direction of hair growth to remove it. Repeat this process a few times to get out all the hair and to distribute the natural oils from the skin all over the coat.

If using a hound mitt or glove, massage the coat in a circular motion to loosen hair. Then, “brush” (i.e., “pet”) in the direction of hair growth. Repeat a few times, especially when shedding is heavy.

For dogs with longer coats, such as Pomeranians, Collies, and Pembroke Welsh Corgis, you need a tool that can reach down under that outer coat to grab the downy undercoat and pull out the dead hairs. Slicker brushes are excellent tools for such dogs, especially for double-coated dogs. Go over the coat in both directions a few times, until you’re pulling out less and less hair from the brush.

When shedding really picks up, especially with the double-coated breeds, switch over to a coat rake or shedding tool. They all work a little differently, but basically, you pull the tool along the coat in the direction of hair growth, then pull up and away. For shedding tools with blades, don’t press too hard. If you run across any tangles or mats, pick these out with a steel comb or use a mat splitter.

Sometimes underlying endocrine disorders, such as hypothyroidism, or congenital problems, such as follicular dysplasia, can cause excessive shedding. It’s also possible your dog may have allergies, which can cause skin and shedding problems. If you think your dog may have a skin problem, talk to your veterinarian.

Otherwise, the most effective method to combat shedding is to remove dead hair with regular brushing, combing, and the use of shedding-controlling shampoos and baths. Some dogs even enjoy being “vacuumed”!



915 N. Mantorville Ave., Kasson
634-6781
M-W-F 8am-5pm; Tues-Thurs 8am-7pm;
Sat. 8am-Noon



Dodge Vet Clinic

17 Airport Road N.
Dodge Center, MN
374-2125
M-F 8am to 5pm; Sat. 8am to Noon

The Power of Camp: Transforming a Child's Life



By Samuel Smith
Overnight and Marketing Director
at Camp Victory

Each summer, thousands of children embark on an adventure that changes their lives forever—camp. Away from screens, school pressures, and the daily routines of home, camp provides an environment where kids can grow, explore, and thrive in ways that are simply not possible anywhere else. Whether it's a weeklong overnight experience or a summer of day camp, the impact of camp on a child's development is profound and lasting.

Building Confidence and Independence

One of the most significant benefits of camping is the confidence it instills in children. At camp, kids are encouraged to try new things, from learning how to swim, tackling a ropes course or performing in front of their peers. These challenges push them outside of their comfort zones in a safe and supportive environment, leading to newfound self-assurance.

Independence is another invaluable skill developed at camp. Being away from home, even for a short period, teaches children how to manage responsibilities, make decisions, and take care of themselves. From organizing their belongings to navigating friendships and daily schedules, campers gain a sense of autonomy that fosters personal growth.

Developing Social Skills and Friendships

In an age where children's interactions occur online, camp offers a rare opportunity for face-to-face socialization. Without the distraction of digital devices, campers engage in genuine conversations, learn conflict resolution, and develop deep, meaningful friendships. The bonds formed at camp often last a lifetime, as children share experiences and overcome challenges together, creating a sense of community and belonging.

Camp also encourages teamwork and collaboration. Whether it's working together to build a shelter, paddle a canoe, or perform a skit, campers learn the importance of cooperation, communication, and empathy. These skills are invaluable, not only during childhood but throughout life.

Encouraging a Love for Nature and Adventure

Many children today have fewer opportunities to engage with nature. Camp reintroduces kids to the great outdoors, fostering an appreciation for the environment and a sense of adventure. From hiking and canoeing to stargazing and campfire storytelling, campers develop a connection to nature that is both refreshing and educational.

Outdoor play and adventure also contribute to physical well-being. Instead of being sedentary in front of screens, campers spend their days running, swimming, climbing, and exploring, promoting a healthy, active lifestyle. These experiences not only improve physical health but also enhance mental well-being by reducing stress and increasing happiness.

Cultivating Resilience and Critical Thinking Skills

At camp, children inevitably face challenges—whether it's homesickness, learning a new skill, or navigating social dynamics. These obstacles teach resilience, as campers learn how to cope with setbacks and push through difficulties. Instead of relying on parents or teachers to solve problems for them, campers develop critical thinking skills and a growth mindset, understanding that failure is a steppingstone to success.

By overcoming small struggles at camp, children build the confidence to tackle bigger challenges in life. This resilience serves them well in school, friendships, and future careers, helping them adapt to new situations

and persevere through hardships.

A Lasting Impact

The magic of camp extends far beyond the summer. The skills, friendships, and memories gained shape a child's future, instilling values of responsibility, perseverance, and kindness. Many former campers look back on their camp experiences as some of the best times of their lives that built character, inspired passion, and created a lifelong love for learning and adventure.

For parents wondering if camp is the right choice for their child, the answer is a resounding yes. Camp is more than just fun and games; it is a powerful, transformative experience that equips children with the tools they need to succeed in life. Whether they return year after year or only experience it once, the impact of camp is undeniable and everlasting.

So, as summer approaches, consider giving your child the gift of camp. It's an investment in their happiness, growth, and future gift that truly lasts a lifetime.

Got a Great Local News Story?

Tell us about it today!

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Serving the Triton Area
The Messenger
Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

Camp Victory

ZUMBRO FALLS, MN

SUMMER CAMP 2025

**WEEK LONG SUMMER DAY AND
OVERNIGHT CAMPS
OPTIONS FOR GRADES K-12
AVAILABLE JUNE 15-AUGUST 15.
REGISTER TODAY!**

FAITH. FRIENDS. FUN!
CAMPVICTORY.COM
507.258.3200



Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

Hillbilly Dinner Show



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.

Tennessee has all the social events of any big city, even in the backwoods. They may be a little crude but they still exist. Big Sandy is one of those places on the banks of the Kentucky Lake. It is a little rough around the edges but they do have a Barbeque place we like to visit. Kid Rock and Hank Williams Jr. like to eat there as well when they are in the area, so I guess that could tell you something. This Barbeque Shack is just that. A small cook shack with a large carport attached to

keep off the rain or sun, and depending on the day it might be both. The smoker is right beside the carport so the aroma of brisket and barbeque is quite delicious.

One of their specialties is a huge baked potato smothered in cheese and barbequed pork. It is a favorite of ours and quite a meal all by itself. We decided late one afternoon to make a run down there and enjoy the meal. We didn't know we would be treated to an impromptu side show with our meal.

When we pulled up, we were the only ones there, but seconds after we arrived a woman walked around the side of the cook shack. The Barbeque stand is right beside the local VFW and the owner frequents the bar there so if you show up and no one is cooking, they will soon appear.

It turned out that they were not open, but the woman worked there and had just stopped by to get something for herself. She offered to open up and serve us. She knew we were friends with the owner, but I think she would have done the same for anyone. She said it would just take 15 minutes to heat up the food and we would get our meal. That was where the evening took quite a turn.

She kept saying how this had been just a terrible day, the worst ever, and she was also exhibiting signs of some level of intoxication. As she was cooking, a guy who was her boyfriend, showed up and she asked him if she could make him a burger. He stormed off. We soon learned his role in the story. After she served our food, she sat down and regaled us with the day's events.

It seems she had driven her boyfriend up to



the casino in Kentucky, early that morning. She dropped him off at the door and went to park. She drove into the employee parking lot and promptly ran out of gas. She went looking for gas, while the casino security went looking for the person who parked in the restricted area. Her boyfriend came looking for her when he had burned through his gambling funds. She tried begging fuel off everyone she met, to no avail. With security threatening them for parking in an off-limits zone, they finally got some gas from a guy mowing the grounds.

Off they went for home with him mad and her in tears. Along the way she turned into a Tennessee Watershed restricted area, by her account to show the boyfriend some construction site along the river. She didn't see the NO TRESPASSING signs. Along comes

the TWA officer and threatens to arrest them for entering a restricted area. Sure enough, when she tries to start the car, it was out of gas again. Lesson Two is don't gamble away your gas money.

So, the guy heads out hiking looking for gas again while she takes her dog down under the bridge. At that point she learned that her next mistake was going into a restricted area after just being warned prior to not trespass again. The boyfriend finally procured another can of fuel and they arrived back at Big Sandy. This one-person play ended with another day shot and one player mad and the other in tears. As we sat for half an hour listening to the sad tale, I couldn't help thinking that less alcohol and more common sense would have been very beneficial to these two actors. But the burgers and the hot potato salad were pretty good.

A PLAN FOR EVERYONE

- Life
- Health
- Annuities
- IRA's
- Employee Benefits
- Long Term Care
- Medicare Supplements/Part D

Providing our clients with the best coverage and value for their insurance needs for more than 50 years.

FAHNING & ASSOCIATES LLC

Beth Hanggi

35 W. Main St., Dodge Center • 507-374-6342 • www.fahningandassocs.com



A Minnesotan: Eggs



By RosaLin Alcoser

Back in my day, eggs were so cheap we could dye them without eating them; or throw them at people's houses. Along with similar phrases are all things that I have recently said while being mad about the price of eggs while at the store. While I never threw an egg at anyone's house in my youth, I have dyed my fair share of eggs.

I have many fond memories of watching the little dye tablets dissolve in the vinegar. Taking a little clear wax crayon to draw designs on some of my eggs before dipping them into the colors. Sometimes carefully dipping one end of the egg into one color, before carefully turning it on my wire to dip it into a different color. Just to

make a two toned egg.

Not that it always worked the way I meant it to. Since I also remember many times when the egg would fall off the wire and into the second color. Which did still make a two toned egg, just never in the way that I had meant it to.

The Easter when I was seven years-old is still the most amount of Easter eggs that I've ever seen; outside of large scale egg hunts of course. It was 2003 and eggs were just a little over one dollar that year.

My mother got us three dozen eggs to dye. Then two of her friends also bought and dyed a combined four more dozen. None of which was done in a coordinated attempt. It was the year of seven dozen Easter eggs.

I was in childhood heaven. We had so many eggs to find that year. It was also the only year, in my memory, that my older sister did not insite that the eggs had to be hidden three and four more times. Mostly because that was also the year that my mom's friend's then 25 year-old son hid them without remembering where he hid them. Nor thinking about where a 12 and seven year-old were not allowed to go on the property and without any regard for how hard he hid them.

Making the year of seven dozen eggs also the year that we did not find all of the eggs on Easter. Which meant that year we were still finding them until after the Fourth of July.



From the simplest residential closing, to the more complex commercial or farm real estate transaction, Dodge County Land Title Company is committed to providing real estate transactional expertise and personal customer service.

DODGE COUNTY LAND TITLE COMPANY

38 W Main St, Dodge Center • 507-633-6355
Email: dclandtitle@kmtel.com • www.dclandtitle.com

The Savvy Senior How to Protect Yourself from Identity Theft Scams



By Jim Miller

Dear Savvy Senior,

I am very concerned about Elon Musk and the so-called DOGE team getting access to my Social Security number and personal financial information through their government office raids. What can I personally do to help protect myself from this identity theft mess? — Worried Senior

Dear Worried,

It's a great question! I've been hearing from many older readers around the country that are deeply troubled by the news that the Elon Musk-led Department of Government Effi-



ciency (DOGE) has been granted access to millions of Americans' Social Security records that include highly sensitive personal information.

The major concern among data privacy experts is what could happen if your Social Security number, bank account information or tax records somehow gets leaked or breached in all the data shuffling. If your information gets in the wrong hands it could lead to identity theft, which means scammers could use your personal information to open credit card accounts, bank accounts, telephone service accounts, and make major purchases – all in your name.

If you're concerned about the privacy of your personal information, the best way to protect yourself is to put a "fraud alert," or better yet a "credit freeze" on your credit file.

A fraud alert is a notification placed on your credit report that signals to potential creditors to take extra steps to verify your identity before extending credit in your name.

(continued on page 17)

Green Funeral Options

Brought to You By

Circle Drive Manor Assisted Living, LLC

"Quiet Country Living Close to Home"

www.cdmassistedliving.com

56733 State Hwy. 56, West Concord, MN 55985

Contact Bryan or
Melissa
Christianson at
507-527-2424



Dear Savvy Senior,

What can you tell me about green funeral options? At age 80, I would like to preplan my funeral and make it as natural as possible.

— Old Environmentalist

Dear Environmentalist,

Great question! Green funeral options are becoming increasingly popular in the United States as more and more Americans are looking for environmentally friendly alternatives to traditional funerals. Here's what you should know about "green burial" and "green cremation" options, along with some tips to help you locate services in your area.

GREEN BURIAL

If you wish to be buried, a green/natural burial will minimize the environmental impact by forgoing the embalming chemicals (which is not required by law), traditional casket and concrete vault. Instead, you'll be buried in either a biodegradable container or shroud with no vault, and you won't be embalmed. This allows the body to decompose naturally and become part of the earth.

If you want to temporarily preserve the body for viewing or a memorial service, instead of embalming, you can request dry ice or Techni ice, a refrigeration unit, or a nontoxic embalming agent.

You'll also be happy to know that green burials are much cheaper than traditional funerals, which average around \$8,000 in 2025. By scrapping the coffin, vault and embalming, which are expensive, you'll save yourself several thousand dollars on your funeral costs.

To find green burial services in your area, a good first step is to see if there's a certified green funeral home in your area and contact them. The Green Burial Council offers an online directory of providers and other resources at GreenBurialCouncil.org.

If there isn't one nearby, your next step is to contact several traditional funeral homes to see if they offer green funeral service options – many do.

You'll also need to find a green cemetery. There are nearly 100 green cemeteries throughout the U.S., along with more than 300 traditional (hybrid) cemeteries that offer green burials too. To find them, the New Hampshire Funeral Resources, Education and Advocacy website has a list at NHfuneral.org. Or, if you own rural property you may be able to have a home burial there, if your state and county allow it.

If, however, there are no green cemeteries nearby you can still make your burial more environmentally friendly by not being embalmed. And, if the cemetery allows, using a biodegradable casket or shroud and skipping the vault. If a vault is required, ask to have holes drilled in the bottom, or use a concrete grave box with an open bottom so the body can return to the earth.

GREEN CREMATION

If you would rather be cremated, you have some green choices here too. While cremation has always been touted as being more eco-friendly than a typical burial, a traditional cremation, which uses high heat to incinerate the body, does emit greenhouse gases into the air.

A green cremation, however, uses water and potassium hydroxide to reduce a deceased body to its basic element of bone ash within a few hours. This green technique, which is known as alkaline hydrolysis, is a little more expensive than traditional cremation but, unfortunately, it's not legal in every state. Contact some local funeral providers to find out if this is available in your area, or do a Google or AI search – type in "aqua or water cremation" followed by your city and state.

Another green consideration is deciding what to do with the remains. Instead of scattering, which can be harmful to the environment, there are a wide variety of biodegradable urns that dissolve into the earth or water over time, and memorial urns that will grow a plant or tree in combination with your ashes.



TRITON
CLASS OF
2025

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Ashley Romero

FAMILY

Ashley Romero is a senior at Triton High School. Her parents are Jaime Romero and Nereyda Machado.

ACTIVITIES

She is active in Business Professionals of America, Minnesota Honor Society, Student Council and backstage theater crew. Ashley also plays girls soccer.

HOBBIES

Her hobbies are playing the guitar and she is passionate about art and design. Her favorite entertainment is rock music and RomComs.

FUTURE PLANS

After graduation she plans to attend Mankato State University for a STEM major and a minor in graphic design.

#WeAreTriton

SPONSORED BY

ELLINGSON
— FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1970 —

TRENCHLESS
AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE
CONTROLLED DRAINAGE
DRAINAGE ENGINEERING

www.EllingsonCompanies.com | 507.527.2294 | 56113 State Highway 56, West Concord, MN

How to Protect Yourself from Identity Theft Scams

(continued from page 16)

While a credit freeze completely restricts access to your credit report, essentially preventing anyone from opening new accounts in your name without your explicit authorization.

A credit freeze provides much stronger protection than a fraud alert, but there is a drawback. When you freeze your credit, you won't be able to open new credit cards or get a new loan while the freeze is in place. It does

not, however, prevent you from using the credit cards you already have open.

If you do need to get a new credit card or some type of loan, you can always lift the freeze on your account until you get the card or loan approved, and then refreeze it.

You'll also be happy to know that a credit freeze is completely free to put in place and lift, as are fraud alerts. And neither action will affect your credit score.

FRAUD ALERT SET-UP

To set up a fraud alert, you'll need to contact one of the three major credit reporting bureaus – Equifax, Experian and TransUnion – either by phone, online or by mail. You only need to contact one of these agencies, and they will notify the other two. Here's the phone and website contact information for each of the three bureaus.

Equifax: 800-685-1111 or Equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services

Experian: 888-397-3742 or Experian.com/help

TransUnion: 888-909-8872 or TransUnion.com/credit-help

If you haven't been a victim of identity theft, you'll need to set up an "initial fraud alert," which lasts for one year, although you can renew it for additional one-year periods.

CREDIT FREEZE SET-UP

To set up a credit freeze you'll need to contact each of the three previously listed credit reporting bureaus – Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. A credit freeze lasts until you unfreeze it.

But remember, before you apply for new credit card or loan, you'll need to temporarily lift the security freeze by following the procedures from each of the credit reporting bureaus where you placed the freeze.

If, however, you don't want to set up a fraud alert or credit freeze, you can still keep an eye on your credit file by reviewing your credit report regularly. You can get a free credit report each week from Equifax, Experian and TransUnion by going to AnnualCreditReport.com.

HORSE BUGGIES

Holland Auction

TRACTOR TRAILERS

LARGE FARM ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY APRIL 26th 2025 • 9:30 AM

Location: From Medford, MN, 5 miles east on Steele Cty. 12, then 1 mile NE on Steele Cty. 161, then 1/2 mile north on 49th Ave.

Auctioneers Note: A very good auction to attend, with some nice horse and farm equipment. Only a partial list of items to be sold. – Tracy Holland



**I.H. 1486 • I.H. 650 DIESEL • I.H. 574 – M-H • I.H. TD 15C DOZER
J.D. MOWER • SEMI • FEATHERLITE LIVESTOCK TRAILER
9 HORSE BUGGIES/WAGONS • MUSTANG 441 SKID LOADER**

- I.H. 1486, 18.4-38" tires, rockbox, 2 Hyd. tach shows 2922 hrs., S.N. 34893
- I.H. 574, 16.9x28" tires, gas, 3-pt., WF, shows 6,192 hours, w/ Schwartz hyd. Loader, SN 103285
- I.H. 650 Diesel, 18.4-34" Tires, S.N. 4211
- Farmall M, WF, 16.9x38" tires, SN 99406
- Farmall H, 12.4x38" tires, NF, SN 174498
- International TD 15C crawler dozer
- OMC Mustang 441 skid loader, diesel, 56" bucket, forks, bale spear, shows 5,917 hours
- 2007 Freightliner semi, single-axle, Mercedes Benz engine, 10-speed, shows 901,083 miles
- 2010 Chevy Colorado, 3.7 liter, 2-wheel, 187,521 miles, automatic

- 2007 Ford F-150 Northland Edition, 4x4, ext. cab, 5.4 engine, 130,750 miles
- 2002 Featherlite Model 8120 Livestock Trailer, 7'x30', Gooseneck, Tandem axle, 2-dividing gates, rubber mates
- 6'x14' Stock Trailer, Tandem axle, Divider, bumper hitch
- 6'x14' stock trailer, tandem axle, divider, bumper hitch
- 2015 6'x10' single-axle utility trailer w/ramp
- 2023 John Deere Z330R zero-turn mower, 110 hrs., 23hp, 54" deck
- Polaris 250 Trail Blazer ATV, 2-wheel
- 8'x22' H.D. trailer, tandem axle



HORSE BUGGY • CARTS • WAGONS • SLEIGHS • CORRAL

- Buckboard surrey wagon, brakes, Built by Yoder's Wagon Works (NICE)
- Single-horse sleigh, removable cushions, retractable wheels • High-wheel show cart
- 2 Pony carts, single & double
- 3 working horse carts

- 6'x14' two-horse parade wagon w/transport tongue
- 5 1/2' x 10' two-horse parade wagon w/transport tongue
- Horse & livestock corral, 12 panels, 1 ride-through gate



MISCELLANEOUS

- Woods Model 306 belly mower, 72" • N.H. 495 mower conditioner • New Idea Model 456 round baler • Kasten 325 manure spreader, tandem axle • 3-pt. rotary mower, 6' • Sulky 1-bottom plow • Misc. steel wheels • Various horse eveners • Huskee 18" walk-behind tiller • Clean Machine power washer, 2300 PSI • Craftsman 10" radial arm saw • Hitachi air nailer framing

- 3 1/2" • Craftsman 11" band saw • 2 drill presses • 10" table saw • 16" scroll saw • Ryobi chop saw • Clarke metal bender • Twin-cylinder air compressor; 20" anvil • Acetylene torch w/cart • Lincoln 225-amp welder • 20-ton press • Misc. I.H. wheel weights • Tool boxes • Old tractor & machinery manuals • Misc. cat toys • Amana upright freezer • Misc. woodworking tools



LIVE ON-LINE bidding available at

www.proxibid.com/holland

MSAA
MINNESOTA STATE AUCTIONEERS ASSOCIATION



TERMS: Cash or Good Check, & Picture ID Required. 5% buyer's fee applies on all items. No Property removed until fully settled for. Sales Staff & Owners Not Responsible for accidents. Any verbal announcements made day of auction takes precedence over print. Lunch and restroom services available on site.

**STEVE E. HUNT ESTATE
– NANCY HUNT, OWNER**

**7483 NE 49th Ave.,
Medford, MN 55049**

507-213-4495 (Karl)

**HOLLAND AUCTION
507-684-2955
www.hollandauction.com
Holland & Associates
Ellendale, MN
Tracy Holland
(507) 456-5182 (cell)**

HAPPY Easter

Delivering our thanks and warmest wishes to you this Easter season!

Serving the Triton Area
The Messenger
Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord

Phone 507-649-3327
Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Legal Notices

DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, March 10, 2025

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the March 10, 2025, Dodge Center City Council regular meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Mayor Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Paul Blaisdell, Marianne Sobeck, John Fox, Melanie Leth, City Attorney, Representatives from Xcel Energy/Northern States Power Company, Dodge County Sheriff's Office and Kathy Freeman

Absent: Braedon Dostal

City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda to include: Minutes from February 24, 2025 City Council Meeting and February 3, 2025 Planning & Zoning Meeting; Appointment of Del Steen to Planning & Zoning Commission; Freezer purchase for Aquatic Center; Hire Kirsta Olson – Paid-On-Call EMT and Payment of Bills;
 - Resolution 2025-008 A Resolution Approving a Conditional Use Permit for Northern Sates Power Company to include two conditions;
 - Authorizing TDKA to apply for two grant requests and combining them into a single grant request;
 - Authorizing staff to waive two thirds (2/3) of penalty charges placed on resident account;
 - Approval of manager of Aquatic Center and one lead at a wage of \$20.09/hour.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, March 24, 2025

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the March 24, 2025, Dodge Center City Council regular meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

Present: Mayor Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Braedon Dostal, Lee Mattson, John Fox, Mark Barwald, Jeremy Dostal, Meredith Brose, Dodge County Sheriff's Office Craig Britton and Daren Meier - Wideth and Kathy Freeman

Absent: Paul Blaisdell

City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda to include: Minutes from March 10, 2025 City Council Meeting; First Responders Aquatic Center Swim Passes; Sump Pump Permitting; Aquatic Center Water Zumba and Water Aerobics Classes and Payment of Bills;
 - Resolution 2025-009 A Resolution Adopting Assessment;
 - Owner of 104 2nd Ave SW has until April 7, 2025 at 5:00 pm to clean property. If property not brought up to code by April 17, 2025 at 5:00 pm, it will be abated;
 - Approval of Resolution 2025-010 Accepting the Bids for the 2025 Road Improvement Project and Awarding of the Project to Schumacher Excavating, Inc in the amount of \$1,249,270.43. Council was reminded the sidewalk extension is to be included. The motion was amended as follows: Approval of Resolution 2025-010 Accepting the Bids for the 2025 Road Improvement Project and Awarding of the Project to Schumacher Excavating, Inc in the amount of \$1,290,628.43.
 - Approval of quote received from Wideth/Nero Engineering in the amount of \$795,000 for full project design of the wastewater treatment plant..
- Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-0401

CITY OF CLAREMONT

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CLAREMONT CITY CODE SECTION 2.57 TO ESTABLISH THE PROCEDURES AND TIMING OF SPECIAL ELECTIONS TO FILL DECLARED VACANCIES IN ELECTED OFFICES

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLAREMONT, ORDAINS:

1. Claremont City Code Section 2.57, is hereby amended to read as follows (additions are underlined; deletions are ~~crossed-out~~):

SEC. 2.57. CITY ELECTION.

Subd. 1. Date of Election. The regular City election shall be held biennially on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in every even-numbered year beginning with the 1996 election.

Subd. 2. Terms and Transition. Two Council members shall be elected for four-year terms at each biennial election commencing in 1996. Two remaining Council members shall be elected for a four-year term at the 1998 city election. The Mayor shall be elected for a two-year term at each such election commencing in 1996.

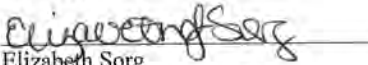
Subd. 3. Special Election. After a vacancy is declared on the City Council and a person is appointed to fill the vacancy, a special election shall be held prior to the general election if there are more than 365 days remaining until the next general election. The city council may by resolution establish the date of filing affidavits of candidacy for the office, the time for absentee balloting, and the date of the special election, as well as other provisions for the effective administration of the special election. The special election must be held on one of the uniform election dates pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 205.10, subd. 3a.

2. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication and shall apply to all vacancies that exist as of the date of passage of this ordinance and all vacancies that may exist in the future .

ADOPTED this 1st day of April, 2025, by the City Council of the City of Claremont.

By: 
Jared Sultze
Mayor

ATTEST:


Elizabeth Sorg
City Administrator/City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission of Dodge Center, Minnesota, will meet in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building, on Monday, May 5, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. to consider a request for a fence variance made by Wendy Norlin at 14 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

All people desiring to be heard with reference to the above-named request should attend this meeting or submit written comments to the Community Development Technician. Written comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2025, at the Dodge Center City Hall, c/o Planning and Zoning, 35 East Main Street, PO Box 430, Dodge Center, Minnesota, 55927.

We've Got Your Family's Back

Personalized insurance solutions
to protect your family's future
and security, no matter what.



www.vsgmi.com

COMMUNITY
GROWN INSURANCE
...you're covered!



Trust in Tomorrow.

Kalass Agency

242 Main Street
Zumbrota, MN
Phone: 507-732-7614
Email:
kalassagency@kalassagency.com

Sviggum Agency

133 Main Street
Wanamingo
Phone: 507-824-5105
Email:
agent@svigguminsurance.com

Insurance Brokers of Byron

505 Frontage Rd NE
Byron MN 55920
Phone: 507-775-7280
Email: a.sanders@insurancebrokersmn.com

North Risk Partners Rochester

2048 Superior Drive, Suite 100
Rochester, MN
Phone: 507-288-7600
Email: jesse.stenke@northriskpartners.com

**CITY OF CLAREMONT
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 4,
2025
7:00 P.M**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Claremont, Minnesota was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at Claremont City Hall.

Members present: Mayor Jared Sultze. City Council Members: Deb Ellis, Donna Gregory, and Krystal Sultze. There is 1 vacant city council seat as Council Member Ryan Hedberg resigned effective May 3.

City staff and others present: City Administrator Elizabeth Sorg, City Attorney Mark Rahrlick, Bret Nordstrom, Timothy Hudson, Jamie Sultze, Elle Leeper, Ethan Johnson, Hannah Behnken, Carter Behnken, Nick Sultze, Lisa Martinez, Jeff Smith, Tom D, Greg Peterson, Alec Vaughn, Jim Zylstra, and Ryan Hedberg.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

Motion by Sultze to approve the agenda with the addition of Council Member Hedberg's resignation and the deletion of the Audit Presentation, seconded by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. Due to the weather the Audit Presentation will be April 1.

**RESIGNATION OF
RYAN HEDBERG**

Motion by Sultze to accept the resignation of Council Member Ryan Hedberg effective March 3, 2025, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ryan Hedberg asked if council members should be treated differently than the public. Hedberg showed pic-

tures of a council member's property that had multiple city code violations, including a dilapidated garage. Another resident had to tear down his garage due to the condition of it. Hedberg believes that council members need to show a higher level of standards. Hedberg also mentioned to the council about the legitimacy of the petition that was turned in to the council, the signatures on line 36, 37, & 38 look like the same person signed all 3 lines. The council member in question responded that she knows she has an issue with her garage, and they need to address it. The council member also replied that they should not be singled out, all violations should be addressed. That said council member brought up that Hedberg has more vehicles than allowed on his property. Hedberg replied that he is compliant with the city ordinance, and he is not parked on any grass.

Alec Vaughn wanted to know if there could be a more orderly format put together so that all the complaints could be in one area. Vaughn believes if the properties were taken care of, it would be of tremendous value to the city. Council Member Ellis responded by saying that there are complaint forms at City Hall for residents to fill out. Administrator Sorg would check out the complaint and if accurate she would follow city code for compliance. Administrator Sorg mentioned that she does not feel comfortable going around town and looking at properties because she would be accused of singling residents out. If you see something that you believe is in violation, please fill out a complaint form.

Jim Zylstra mentioned that he was at the chamber meeting and Andy Arseneau of the Claremont Pub has a complaint about the park not having bathrooms. Arseneau thinks the city should put porta-potties in the parks. The Pub is getting tired of people wanting to use their restrooms. The parks would probably get used more if there were restrooms in place.

Tim Hudson said there needs to be accountability for how the council is handling the empty council seats and mayor's seat. Mr. Hudson asked if the council creates their own ordinances to suit themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included: Minutes of the February 4, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting, Minutes from the February 24, 2025 Special City Council Meeting, and Resolution No. 25-07: Resolution Accepting and Appreciation of a Donation. Motion by Sultze to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE**

Nothing at this time.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Ellis to approve the financial reports, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**PUBLIC HEALTH &
SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Motion by Ellis to approve fire contract renewals for Claremont, Ripley, and Aurora Townships, seconded by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sultze and Administrator Sorg attended a meeting with the townships and 4 cities regarding the Dodge County Ambulance. There was not much of an update as one city still wants to have 2 or more votes when the other 3 cities only have 1 vote. There will be more meetings hoping all can come to an agreement. If the cities can come to an agreement, it is estimated that it would be \$63 per household. If the ambulance service goes away, the residents would have to wait for help from Owatonna or Rochester.

**PLANNING & ZONING
COMMITTEE**

Nothing at this time.

EDA

Nothing at this time.

**MAINTENANCE
DEPARTMENT**

Nothing at this time.

PARKS COMMITTEE

Nothing at this time.

PEOPLESERVICE

Nothing at this time.

CITY ENGINEER

Nothing at this time.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR
REPORT**

Administrator Sorg received a request from a resident who graduated from Claremont School to borrow the trophies from upstairs for the All School Reunion. Being it is questionable how many people will continue to go to these reunions, they would like them there for this event. Also, the resident is requesting to post in the newsletter that anybody who has any school memorabilia to bring it to City Hall and it will be put upstairs. If the city ever gets a museum or history center, it would all be there. The council agreed with this.

At the Fire Hall, one of the fire trucks didn't get the emergency brake applied and

it rolled into one of the garage doors. Thompson Overhead Doors will be replacing it. It is covered by insurance with the \$500 deductible.

Administrator Sorg has found someone new for water operations and another for wastewater operations. It will cost a little more than the previous person the city had lined up. Administrator Sorg and Maintenance Supervisor Dahl will contact both parties and set up a time to review the contracts.

CITY ATTORNEY

Mark Rahrlick went over the new cannabis regulations. The City will delegate registration and enforcement of licenses to the county and create zoning designations with city ordinance. The operation of a cannabis business will be prohibited within 1000 feet or more from any school, 500 feet from any day care facility, residential treatment facility, and any public parks or trails, this includes any playgrounds and athletic fields. The ordinance will require a public hearing on the ordinance, and then go to the council for approval.

Motion by Sultze to approve Resolution No. 25-08:

A Resolution Delegating Registration Responsibility for Cannabis Licensing to Dodge County, second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Rahrlick went over the facts of the council seats and mayor seat. The mayor seat was filled by the council from applications that were submitted, following the law. The mayor seat will be up for election in 2026. The council will take applications for the vacant council seat (Hedberg's) and will appoint someone to that council seat in April or May. The seat will be held by that person until a special election which will be held in August. The winner of the election will hold that seat for the rest of the term which would be through 2026.

Motion by Ellis for Attorney Rahrlick to make an ordinance in regard to Special Elections, second by Sultze. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

The council created an advisory committee to research microphones and recording meetings. The advisory committee will be: Greg Peterson, Ethan Johnson, Alec

Vaughn, Tim Hudson, and Tom D.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Sorg drafted a City Council Code of Conduct. The council will review and discuss at the next meeting. Attorney Rahrlick explained that the only person able to call on someone from the public would be the mayor. The other members of the council do not have that authority.

Lester Trapp said he would like to buy a park bench in his brother's name as a memorial and would like it in Memorial Park. He will need the city maintenance guys to assemble it as he does not have a heated garage, and he would like the city to store it inside in the winter.

The Hogfest Committee submitted a request to use Front Street for the Gopher State Garden Tractor Pulls as they have in the past. The council has no problem with it as long as they get permission from Dodge County.

Administrator Sorg showed information on membership to MN Association of Small Cities. The council discussed this and chose not to become a member.

Terri Schuette submitted a proposal for the city flowers as she has done in the past. She asked for a volunteer to help water the flowers if she is unable to. Ryan Hedberg volunteered since he has the equipment for watering. The estimated cost is not to exceed \$850. The Claremont Chamber will pay half and the city the other half. Council approved.

THE FINAL WORD

Time was given for the public to finish any questions they had. There was a 3-minute limit per person. The was more discussion on council seats, the petition and election. Also, it was brought up asking if a city ordinance was in place for any businesses that leave town to make sure their property is safe for other businesses to use that area in the future.

Motion by Sultze to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m., second by Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Deb Ellis,
Assistant City Clerk
Jared Sultze, Mayor

McMartin Electric Inc.

507-528-2578

64005 130th Ave.
Claremont, MN
55924

**Industrial
Trenching
Residential
Commercial
Agricultural
Wiring or Rewiring
Bucket Truck Service
Repairs or Troubleshooting
Electrical Design and Design Builds**

**Concord Township
Residents**

Chloride application forms and stakes will be available at the town hall starting April 21, 2025. Forms and payment must be returned by May 9, 2025 to: Gregory Hayne 21746 570th St. Dodge Center, MN 55927

Chloride application date will be dependent on weather and rock spreading.

Your Community Bank Rooted in Agriculture



We pride ourselves on flexible financing solutions, competitive rates, fast decisions and personalized service to help you grow your business today and preserve it for future generations.

Be Patient With Our Farmers on the Road this Spring



HERITAGE — B A N K —

www.heritagebankmn.com

WEST CONCORD: 181 Main Street 507-527-2236

NORTHFIELD: 1520 Clinton Lane 507-645-6736

DENNISON: 37470 1st Ave. Ct. 507-645-5929



Member
FDIC

A Huge Thank You From the Dodge County Sheriff's Office Chaplains

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office Chaplains would like to express a huge thank you to the people of Dodge County for the tremendous support for the Chaplains Fundraiser. Your generous donations will help the Chaplains to be better trained and better equipped to serve our Sheriff's Office and the Emergency Services Agencies of our County. The Fundraiser was a huge success, including some very generous donations by the Dodge Center American Legion, the Dodge Center Lions Club, and many individuals. We are also very thankful for the Dodge Center Fire Department for use of their facilities and help in set up and clean up. And finally, a big thank you to Praise Fellowship Church for



sponsoring the event with the food supplies and the people to serve. The Chaplains are blessed to serve in this great County of Dodge!



11th Annual Timmay 5K: Honoring a Legacy, Saving Lives



ROCHESTER, MN – On Saturday, April 26, 2025, the Tim Rasmusson Foundation (TRF) invites the community to participate in the 11th Annual Timmay 5K at Silver Lake Park in Rochester, Minnesota.

This cherished event honors the memory of Tim Rasmusson, who tragically passed away on April 9, 2014, from an aortic aneurysm at just 26 years old. Known as "Timmay" to his friends, Tim's legacy lives on through his generous eye, tissue, and organ donation, which impacted many lives.

The Timmay 5K is more than a race—it's a movement. With the slogan "Target Donor Awareness," the event raises awareness about organ, eye, and tissue donation, inspiring participants to become registered donors and help save lives.

Funds raised from the event support the Gift of Life Transplant House in Rochester, which provides affordable accommodations and support for transplant patients and their families. The event also aligns with National Donate Life Month, amplifying the need for organ donors as more than 100,000 people currently await life-saving transplants. By joining the Timmay 5K, participants contribute to a cause that changes lives.

How to Participate:

- Register Online: Visit Timrasmussonfoundation.com to sign up by April 24, 2025.
- Join Us in Person: The race will take place at Silver Lake Park on April 26, 2025, at 9:00 AM. Same-day registrations are welcome.
- Join Us Virtually: Can't attend in person? Register to race virtually, and we'll ship your race tee and swag to you.
- Added Bonus: There will be a Race Day Raffle featuring exciting donated prizes! Tickets will be available for purchase in advance or on race day—follow our social media for details. You do not need to be present at the drawing to win.

Whether you run, walk, volunteer, or donate, your participation in the 11th Annual Tim-



may 5K helps keep Tim's spirit alive and supports those in need of life-saving transplants. This event is a testament to the power of community, generosity, and remembrance. Sign up today, and be part of something truly meaningful. Together, we can honor Tim's legacy and inspire change.

About the Tim Rasmusson Foundation

The Tim Rasmusson Foundation was created to honor Tim's memory and uphold his spirit of generosity and community. What started as an idea for a 5K race quickly grew into a full-fledged foundation, thanks to the dedication of Tim's friends and family. The foundation's mission—Targeting Togetherness to Help Others—reflects Tim's passion for traditional archery, community, and giving back.

Osteoporosis



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS
Licensed Nutritionist

You and I are very dependent on our bones to hold us up and to keep us going. Your muscles are important too, but those muscles are only helpful if they have a bone that they can move. We can take our bones for granted. The bones have held you up for decades, so why should you be concerned? Osteoporosis is a weakening of the bones from the inside out. In the same way that you might think about termites in the framework of the house, your bone framework could be slowly “eaten” away and you don’t even know it.

Bone is made of protein fibers called collagen which are coated with mineral deposits of calcium, magnesium, boron, strontium, and other trace minerals. These protein fibers and mineral deposits will change and adapt to the stress and work that you go through each working day. The more stress and work that you put on the bones, the more the bones will reshape and strengthen to be able to handle the stress being applied. Your bones are constantly being remodeled. Just as a building contractor can go through a house and remodel the structure by taking down some walls and building up other walls, your bones are constantly being remodeled to adapt to your living conditions. This constant remodeling of bone means that you have an entirely different bone about every seven years.

This remodeling is not easy work. There are

specific cells (osteoclasts) that break down old bone material and other cells (osteoblasts) that put on the new bone material. So if the bones are constantly being remodeled then why does Osteoporosis happen? Great question.

Osteoporosis happens when the cells that break down bone material are doing more work than the bones that build up bone material. When everything is working in balance, the old bone material is being recycled as fast as the new bone material is being built in. But there are conditions that can increase break down of bone and slow down the build up of new bone material. Here are some lifestyle practices that contribute to a decrease in new bone material:

Acidosis – a condition of eating foods that promote an acid reaction in the body without eating foods that cancel the acid reaction. If you have ever taken TUMS or Rolaids for heartburn you are familiar with using this calcium tablet to reduce the acid in the stomach. Some of the foods we eat produce an acid reaction and your body will call on the calcium reserves in the bone to help neutralize the acid reaction. Soda pop, white sugar, bread, beef, chicken, and hard cheeses are examples of foods that create an acid reaction. Some of these are healthy sources of nutrients, but we need to balance these foods with other foods that will neutralize the acid. Spinach, cucumbers, green beans, carrots, lettuce, green tea, and avocados are examples of foods that will neutralize the acid reaction. In other words, every plate at mealtime should have some vegetables to help balance the digestion so your body does not need to take more calcium from the bones.

Vegetable Oils – Corn oil and soybean oil are very high in omega 6 fatty acids. While your body does need some Omega 6, Americans tend to get five times as much as they need. Most of this excess comes from deep fried foods, chips, and commercial salad dressings. Make an intentional shift to extra virgin olive oil, flaxseed oil, butter, and co-

conut oil to reduce your intake of Omega 6 fatty acids.

Vitamin D deficiency – Vitamin D is an essential nutrient that stimulates the body to absorb more calcium. Living in the northern states, obtaining Vitamin D through sun tanning is not an option. To check for a deficiency, you can ask for a simple blood test to evaluate how much Vitamin D your body has. For building bone tissue, the recommendation is a measure of 60 – 80 ng / ml of Vitamin D. This level of Vitamin D will help to ensure your body is absorbing the calcium you are getting in your food.

Vitamin K2 deficiency – Vitamin K2 is an important nutrient that activates the transport of calcium to the bone tissue. Frequently, someone may start taking a calcium supplement for their bones but the calcium will not get to their bones if Vitamin K2 is not present. Calcification of arteries and muscle tissue can happen when calcium is not delivered to the bone. You can find Vitamin D and K2 together in some supplements.

For more information on preventing or reversing Osteoporosis, you can check out the book, “Healthy Bones, Healthy You” by Lara Pizzorno. This book is a great resource to address the causes and remedies for osteopenia and osteoporosis.

Join me on Saturday, May 10, 2025 for the Northfield Holistic Health Summit. The theme this year is “Healthy Nerves, Healthy Brain.” Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Jeff Kotulski presenting “Mind Games” – addressing cognitive health as we age. Nine

additional speakers and multiple vendors will be part of the day. Tickets are \$45, which includes a healthy lunch catered by Café Shawn. More information is available at <https://www.nutritionproportion.net/health-summit2025>

Contact me to discuss your health goals for the coming year. I can help you establish a food plan that will strengthen your bones and increase your energy allowing you to realize greater health freedom in 2025. 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.*

the one
K Y M N 95.1 FM 1080 AM

For something different
Tim McNiff Weekday Mornings
www.kymnradio.net

KENYON

Spring Boutique

You're sure to find unique hand crafted gifts for someone special or yourself!

MAY 2, 3, 4,
MAY 9, 10, 11
2025
10 am - 7 pm

Mother's Day May 11
Father's Day June 15
Birthday
Wedding

HANDMADE IN THE USA
Restocked Often!

Curt and Marlene Morrow Residence
45986 Hwy. 56 • Kenyon, MN
507-789-6223

Like us on Facebook
Morrows Gifts

TRITON CLASS OF 2025

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

FAMILY

Katerina Wheeler is a senior at Triton High School. Her parents are Stuart and Oksana Wheeler.

ACTIVITIES

She has been active in BPA, theater, band, choir, yearbook, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, student council and MHS. She played in JV soccer and varsity golf.

HOBBIES

Outside of school Katerina has volunteered at Paws & Claws and play in the Rochester Community Band. Her hobbies are playing piano, guitar, saxophone and ukelele. She enjoys creating art in all mediums including digital. Her favorite music is by Marina and the Diamonds, Mitski, Lana Del Ray and TV Girl. She enjoys the series Glee, Attack on Titans and Stranger Things.

FUTURE PLANS

After graduation she plans to attend Dunwoody College of Technology for a degree in Architecture and Design and receive her architectural license.

#WeAreTriton

SPONSORED BY

WELSH EQUIPMENT, INC.

DODGE CENTER, MN 507-374-2261

Judy's 7777**

Submitted by Bob Duncan: scribed@aol.com

A lady friend of many years died of cancer. Every Thursday I'd relieve her husband, sit by her sofa and we talked. She told me she had no fear because she knew she would be with God. I wanted to write something as a memorial. This is it. She was too weak to read it asking me to. When I finished she said, "I like it." At her request the family reprinted it into a hand-out pamphlet at her funeral Easter Sunday, 2006.

Judy's First Conversation with God

God Hi Judy. Have a coffee mug!

Judy Who are you?

God God.

Judy Is that your real name?

God I'm called many names.

Judy If this is heaven, it's just as I dreamed it would be.

God "The plans of the heart belong to man..." Proverbs 16.1.

Judy Is there a hell?

God As you choose.

Judy Is there a nothing?

God Nothing does not exist.

Judy How old are you?

God Same as you.

Judy Why do people die?

God All living organisms have a shelf life.

God Next? Give me a hard one.

Judy Okay. Are you married?

God Was my only begotten son born out of wedlock?

Judy Why am I here?

God Your record shows that other than the pack of Wrigley's Spearmint you stole in the third grade, you were honest. You made things more better. You lied only when the truth would hurt someone. Your love was pure, never strayed.

Judy I listened to that little voice in the pit of my stomach.

Judy Why are you laughing?

God That little voice was from your soul.

Judy How can eternity be continuous?

God It's a circle.

Judy Did your divine hand write the Bible?

God What do you think?

Judy Which religion is the best?

God Sunshine or rain, pick one.

Judy Why are there so many?

God Faith, belief and acceptance are free to everyone.

Judy I think you're taking the 5th.

God Not at all. Concepts of heavens and the spirit worlds are custom made by their owners, free will, and held dear... streets paved with gold?, chandeliers imported from Italy? "Answers about the ethereal are the same for all peoples," as they hope them to be.

God Here, look in the mirror.

Judy It's you and me.

God "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells in you." 1 Corinthians 6:19

God You believed in me and helped others without asking anything in return. Except for one itty-bitty difference, we are one in the same.

Judy Do I get another coffee mug?

God One per customer.

God The soul is born here, in the sight of God. In the mantle of Man, it fulfills its destiny, returns home, leaving behind its temporary earthly form as a forever reminder of its one-time presence.

Judy Why all the bad stuff?

God Free will.

Judy You make all of this sound so simple.

God It is. Man makes it complicated. Too many cooks ruin the stew.

God Bottom line, Judy... "Omne quod creditis, fuit, est et in aeternum erit" "All is as ye believe...was...is...and forever will be."

God So, look around. I understand your old friends have a welcome home party waiting in the wings. Speaking of wings, you must see our remodeled wings kiosk. We have the traditional flappy-flappy ones with seven new colors, including a soft and delicate pastel. The fixed wing wings are for soaring only. Blaze orange. Locator beacon.

Judy One last question. Earlier you said that You and I are the same except for one itty-bitty difference. What is it?

I'm the one who gives out the coffee mugs.

I ♥ JUDY

Dangers of Popular Weight Loss Medications



By Shauna Burshem, D.C.

The recent popularity of weight loss medications like Ozempic and Wegovy, originally developed as treatments for diabetes, has sparked both intrigue and concern. These drugs, which belong to a group of medications called GLP-1 receptor agonists, have been hailed by some as quick fixes for weight loss, despite providing modest results. Their rise to global fame has even led to shortages, leaving diabetics without access to essential medications. But beyond their limited weight-loss benefits lies a troubling narrative

MomCo

(Formerly known as MOPS)

Mom's & Children's Programs

(nursery provided)

Faith Community Church, West Concord

Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 9:30am to 11:00am during school year

CONTACT: Cindy Breederland 507-272-2600 or Louise Severud 623-645-3813.



77501 Time Cutter MAX

50" iron forged deck

23 hp Kawasaki Twin engine

5 gallon fuel tank

3 year warranty

\$3,899.00

Thru April 30th 2025 - Free 60 volt battery powered lawn tool with purchase of ZTR mower!

TRAXLER

POWER & EQUIPMENT

502 Huseth St., Kenyon

507-789-6321

Check out our full line of 60v Lithium Ion cordless tools and accessories.

Includes: string trimmers, edgers, chainsaws, hedge trimmers & more



of side effects, risks, and misplaced dependency.

Using these drugs comes with a range of unpleasant and serious health risks. While research has shown that GLP-1 receptor agonists can reduce conditions such as seizures and substance addiction, they simultaneously increase the risk for 19 other health issues. These include gastrointestinal disorders, fainting, kidney problems, thyroid cancer, and acute pancreatitis. Common and immediate side effects like nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain further make their use a challenging trade-off for users. The question arises—are the risks truly worth the rewards?

Many are quick to buy into the “magic pill” mentality, which promises effortless weight loss, but what we’re seeing is a cycle fed by two powerful industries. Pharmaceutical giants such as Novo Nordisk, Ozempic’s manufacturer, raked in \$40.6 billion in revenue, capitalizing on a society heavily reliant on ultra-processed food and quick-fix solutions. This cycle perpetuates unhealthy habits, rather than encouraging individuals to address the root causes of their weight issues. A truly sustainable and health-focused solution lies not in bypassing the hard work but in shifting focus to the basics—improving diet, avoiding harmful oils, and nurturing gut and mitochondrial health.

Weight loss is a complicated, personal, and emotional challenge for many people. It’s tempting to take the easier route when promised shortcuts like these, but the risks associated with weight loss drugs raise an important question about priorities. Supporting overall health through conscious, informed choices might take more time and patience, but the rewards extend far beyond the number on a scale—they’re a commitment to your long-term well-being. If you're struggling, remember that real, lasting health comes from focusing on the bigger picture, not quick fixes.

The Anti-Aging Vitamin You Most Likely Do Not Know About: If you’ve never given Vitamin K2 much thought, don’t worry—you’re in good company. To be honest, I overlooked it myself for years. But once I discovered its amazing health benefits, especially for the heart and bones, I knew I had to share it with others. This unsung nutritional hero plays a critical role in keeping your body running smoothly, working behind the scenes in ways we often take for granted.

(continued on page 24)

Dangers of Popular Weight Loss Medications

(continued from page 23)

One of the most impressive things about Vitamin K2 is how it protects your heart. It acts as a kind of traffic controller for calcium, guiding it into your bones where it belongs, instead of letting it build up in your arteries. Left unchecked, this calcium build-up, known as vascular calcification, can lead to stiff arteries and even an increased risk of heart disease. But Vitamin K2 steps in to keep things in balance. And the science backs this up—studies show that higher levels of Vitamin K2 are linked to significantly lower risks of peripheral artery disease, Type 2 diabetes, and high blood pressure. Those numbers don't lie, and honestly, it makes you stop and think about just how powerful this little nutrient is.

Beyond the heart, Vitamin K2 is a champion for your bones. It activates proteins that bind calcium to your bones, helping keep them strong and resilient. If you're like me and occasionally wince when someone takes a spill, thinking about how fragile bones can be, you'll appreciate how Vitamin K2 works

to stave off fractures and conditions like osteoporosis. It's like giving your bones a protective layer of strength to better handle whatever life throws at them.

And here's where the dynamic duo of Vitamin D3 and Vitamin K2 truly shines. While Vitamin D3 makes sure your body absorbs all that calcium goodness, Vitamin K2 steps in to play traffic controller, directing the calcium to where it really belongs—your bones and teeth. Without Vitamin K2, that calcium could end up lingering in places it shouldn't, like your arteries or other soft tissues, which can lead to some pretty serious issues down the line. This perfect partnership not only strengthens your bones but also lends a helping hand to keeping your heart in tip-top shape. It's amazing how much a little coordination can do for our overall health.

Adding Vitamin K2 to your life doesn't have to be complicated. You can find it in foods like aged cheeses, fermented dishes like natto, egg yolks, and grass-fed dairy or beef. These are such simple, delicious ways to fuel your body with something it really needs. Ever since I started paying closer attention to Vitamin K2, I've felt a sense of assurance knowing I'm doing something proactive for my heart and bones. It doesn't have to be a grand overhaul—just small, mindful choices can add up to a big difference over time. Your body will absolutely thank you.

Chiropractic Care and Exercise / Workout Performance: If you're an athlete or fitness enthusiast engaged in activities like bodybuilding, CrossFit, or powerlifting, you

already understand how demanding these exercises are on your body. The strain from intense workouts, heavy lifts, and perfecting your technique places significant pressure on your muscles and joints. Chiropractic care could be the game-changer you didn't know you needed, optimizing your performance and aiding your recovery in ways you never imagined.

Chiropractic care focuses on spinal health and its impact on your overall performance and well-being. Your spine serves as the foundation for all physical activities, and proper alignment ensures you can handle the demands of heavy lifting and high-intensity workouts. Chiropractors address specific biomechanical issues, helping you move better, recover faster, and avoid injuries. By improving your posture, alignment, and mobility, chiropractic care sets you up for success in achieving your fitness goals.

The benefits of regular chiropractic care for active individuals are vast. It can enhance performance by correcting imbalances, improving mobility, and engaging muscles properly for more powerful lifts. Additionally, chiropractic adjustments play a crucial role in preventing injuries by ensuring that your joints, muscles, and ligaments work together effectively. Athletes often find their recovery time is reduced as adjustments stimulate blood flow and decrease inflammation, helping you bounce back quickly from challenging gym sessions. On top of that, it provides a non-invasive solution for managing pain, addressing its root causes rather than masking it with medication.

If you're passionate about your workouts and want to optimize every aspect of your training, chiropractic care could be an essential addition to your fitness routine. From improving posture and unlocking the potential for gains to enabling pain-free movement and faster recovery, the advantages are substantial. Whether you're crushing personal records in powerlifting, perfecting poses in bodybuilding, or pushing yourself to the limit in CrossFit, chiropractic care can help you stay on top of your game and continue reaching new levels of performance. Don't wait for an injury—take proactive steps to support your body and elevate your training.

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

Do you need help with your toenails?



Registered nurse and certified foot care nurse will trim your nails in your home.

Joyful Feet Footcare

Phone: 507-475-1434 (okay to text)

Email: joyfulfeet@yahoo.com

Count on us for quality workmanship and trusted advice in handling of your electrical troubleshooting, repair and installation needs.

- Residential, Commercial & Ag
- New Installation
- Electrical Repair
- Electrical Inspections

- Locally Owned/Licensed Electrician -

RIPLY ELECTRIC
507-421-3268

1 Year Labor Warranty



LAD Recycling, Inc.
Scrap Iron & Metals

West Concord, MN

507-527-2408 LDRECYCLING.com

Monday - Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

WE BUY

- Scrap Iron
- Farm Equip
- Vehicles
- Appliances
- Batteries
- Radiators
- Copper
- Brass
- Aluminum
- And More

TRITON CLASS OF 2025

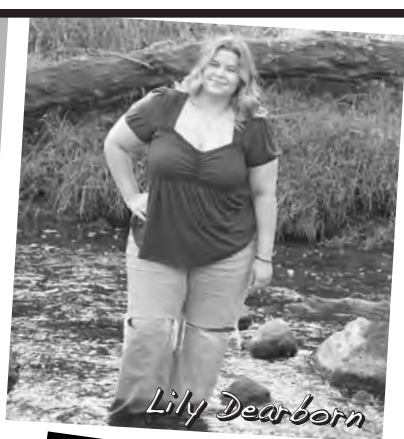
SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

FAMILY

Lily Dearborn is a senior at Triton High School. Her parents are Amy Dearborn and Alan Poore. She has one sister, Lucy.

ACTIVITIES
She is active in Student Council and theater.

SPONSORED BY



HOBBIES

Outside of school she loves to read and listen to music. Her favorite pastimes include spending time with friends and quality time with the people she loves. Her favorite music is Olivia Rodrigo and Billie Eilish. She loves watching crime/horror movies and early 2000's movies.

FUTURE PLANS

After graduation she plans to take a year off and work to see what her passion is.

McNeilus Steel, Inc.
1948-2023
75 YEARS

Family Owned for Over 75 Years

- Metal Products
- Steel Processing
- Fabrication
- Scrap Metal Recycling

702 2nd Avenue SE, Dodge Center
507-374-6336



Triton Volleyball Team Hosts “Give Back Night”



Playing sports is not only about the wins and losses. It can also be a platform to help others. The Triton Volleyball team hosts a “Give Back Night” at one of their home games each season. On March 17th, players and coaches were able to help at the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester assembling and delivering over 50 spring gift bags to families staying there. We also brought our donation of \$275 that was raised at our Give Back Night last fall.

Wizard of Oz a Success at THS!



The cast and crew of The Wizard of Oz just finished a successful run of shows at Triton High School. The show, which ran from March 26-29, had impressive crowds each night. The 53 high school students involved, as well as the directors, can now take a much-needed break.

(continued on page 32)

Cobra Communications



Craig Schlichting
Superintendent

I appreciate the great feedback that I have received from my previous articles. When you know you have an audience and people are reading what you are writing, it is great to hear. One of the biggest questions that I have heard is, “what can we do?” This is a great question, and I will say that communication with your house and senate representatives is a great place to start. I realize that the budgets are tight, but one simple thing that would help school districts is to allow them more control over the money they have. This is often one of the items that you will hear school districts discuss when they mention local control. Every district is different, and we all have different needs, so

giving school districts the ability to allocate the money that they have to the areas of need is important. One of the biggest challenges that school districts face in this regard is that ability to use the funding we receive where we need to use it.

I have written enough about the legislation and all the uncertainty and frustration that it can bring. If that is all I thought about, I don’t think I could do this job. I have come to the realization that I only have a few more opportunities to write my articles as the superintendent of Triton Public Schools, and I would like to focus on what really matters the most, our students!

This time of year, is an interesting time, we are in the final quarter, and there is a ton of activity. We just had our school’s prom, and I am so thankful to all the people that put in the extra time to make that such a special event for our students. I know all the work that is happening behind the scenes and throughout the year to provide this opportunity and experience for our students, and I

am thankful for seeing another safe event for our students.

We also have a few competitive opportunities that are winding up at this time of year. We have a record number of participants that qualified for nationals in the state BPA program, we have another impressive group that is participating in our FFA program. These two programs continue to produce such amazing results with our students. Another program that is catching on is our Super-mileage Car. They have produced quality cars that last couple of years after the revitalization of the program, and have been working all year on upgrading and preparing for the competition this year.

Another program that has been going on for a few years is the celebration of our students and staff being recognized for representing the characteristics of the Profile of a Graduate. These characteristics were developed by a group of community and school representatives, and every other month, we have a program before school to recognize individ-

uals that have been nominated by staff for modeling and representing these characteristics. Each staff member that nominates a student then gets up and describes why they are recognizing the recipient for the award. It is great opportunity to hear about the amazing students and staff in our district. A huge thank you for everyone that takes the time to acknowledge the amazing people in our district.

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

Go Cobras!
#WeAreTriton

Project Lead the Way at Triton Elementary School



Landyn Tindal, Gracylynn Streff and Erika Torres- Rivera, Design a paintbrush challenge

We are in our first year of implementing Project Lead the Way (PLTW) at Triton Elementary. PLTW is a non-profit organization that offers project-based, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education curricula. Our elementary school is specifically using the LAUNCH program which is designed for students in PreK-5. It focuses on exploration and discovery through hands-on activities and projects. Triton has a three-year plan in place to ensure that 100 percent of our elementary students are involved with PLTW lessons by 2027. This initiative aligns with our district's mission to inspire and prepare learners for life by providing educational opportunities in a safe, caring, and respectful environment.

This winter, our Kindergarten students kicked off their PLTW learning with "Structure and Function: Exploring Design". This module introduces young learners to the design process and the role of engineers in shaping the world around them. Students were asked to explore how the design and structure of objects relate to their intended functions. Some of the key experiences for our students

were as follows:

Identifying Designed Objects: Students examine everyday items to understand how engineers consider structure and function in their designs. If the object was made by a person instead of made in nature – what problem was is designed to solve? For example, students were asked to draw a picture of something that holds water. Students came up with ideas well beyond, “a cup”. This small example provided an amazing opportunity for students to collaborate and learn from each other.

Understanding the Design Process: Through storytelling, students were introduced to a design challenge where they helped a character design a new paintbrush. This narrative encourages them to apply the engineering design process—asking questions, observing, and gathering information—to solve real-world problems

Our students and teachers enjoyed their first experiences with PLTW. Teachers are excited to continue with additional modules where they can foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills at this early age.




TRITON

EDUCATION MINNESOTA

MEMBER

Spotlight



KARLYN BUCHANAN

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN TEACHING?

5 years

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT TRITON?

1 year

WHAT AREA/GRADES DO YOU TEACH?

Title One Interventionist (K-5)

WHY DID YOU BECOME A TEACHER?

I had a very positive experience in school growing up. I knew they had a great impact on me and served as mentors I could always turn to if needed. I wanted to work in a profession that helped kids grow academically and socially.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT TEACHING AT TRITON?

My favorite thing about Triton is the people I get to see on a daily basis. Whether it is a student, teacher, support staff or community member, I appreciate all of these relationships and the support I receive in cultivating them.

WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

Fun fact about me is I am a fan of Indycar racing. I've been to the Indianapolis 500 twice and plan on attending it again with my family in 2026. The pageantry, recognition and support for our military is what I find really special about it.

“KARLYN IS A DEDICATED AND ENTHUSIASTIC FIRST-YEAR TITLE TEACHER AT TRITON WHO BRINGS JOY AND POSITIVITY TO HER ROLE EVERY DAY. SHE HAS A NATURAL ABILITY TO CONNECT WITH ELEMENTARY STUDENTS, MAKING LEARNING BOTH ENGAGING AND ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL. HER WARM AND SUPPORTIVE APPROACH FOSTERS CONFIDENCE IN HER STUDENTS, HELPING THEM ACHIEVE THEIR ACADEMIC GOALS. KARLYN ALSO COLLABORATES SEAMLESSLY WITH FELLOW TEACHERS, ALWAYS EAGER TO SHARE IDEAS AND CONTRIBUTE TO A POSITIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT. HER PASSION FOR EDUCATION AND COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SUCCESS MAKE HER AN INVALUABLE PART OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.”

”





Triton Times


Craig J. Schlichting, Superintendent

Triton Public Schools: 813 West Highway Street, Dodge Center, MN 55927
Office – 507-418-7530 • Fax – 507-374-2447
schlich@triton.k12.mn.us

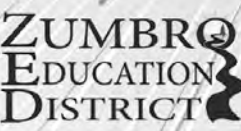
Produced and published for Triton School District by Mainstreet Publishing
P.O. Box 1, West Concord, MN 55985
E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com
Phone/Text: 507-649-3327 • Fax: 507-645-9878



SCIENCE



Ethan Wolf, Jayce Vagt, Knox Thiemann, Eleanor Ryg, Tanner Powell, Isaac Criddle, Sophia Snyder, Camille Curran, Irie Fate, Olivia Dupey, Adelyn Schnell, Zander Van Zuilen, Autumn Terwilliger, Izzy Axt, Jessa Buhl, Harper Matejcek, Harper Laue, Aria McQueen- Groll, Clayton Klug, Evelyn Johnson, Ellie Wondra





TRITON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#WEARETRITON #SOMOSTRITON



TRITON ELEMENTARY

NATURE- BASED KINDERGARTEN



Outdoor Focus
Child-led Exploration
Environmental Education
Play- Based Learning

SPRING CLEANING?

Keep the Health office in mind when you clean out your closets!

The Health Office always accepts:

- Boys/Girls Pants (size 5T-14)
- New or nearly new underwear (any size)
- Tennis shoes (size kids 1 - adult 10)

Donations of:

- Lysol/Clorox wipes
- Facial Tissues
- Baby Wipes
- Aquaphor or Vaseline tubs
- Greatly appreciated too!



Triton Public Schools
www.triton.k12.mn.us

TITLE
FAMILY FUN
NIGHT

APRIL
29TH 5:30pm- Walking Tacos
6:00pm- The Fun Starts!

TRITON ELEMENTARY
813 W. HWY ST
DODGE CENTER

FREE FOOD | FUN GAMES | PRIZES

Elementary Family & Friends!!

We raised over \$15,0000
The school's profit is: \$14,443!!!!!!

The biggest question out there is: What were we raising money for? And the answer is- the media center or what our students know as the library. Raising funds for our media center/library will benefit every single student in elementary school.

With the funds that we raised we will purchase new materials for our S.T.E.A.M. classes & for Project Lead the Way. Our students thrive with these classes & we want to make sure that we have the best materials to teach them. We will also update our non-fiction book section along with a couple of furniture pieces!

We want to send a big THANK YOU to all of our elementary family & friends who were able to donate! Big or Small- It helps! Our Media Center/Library will get a make over and its all because of your help! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



Triton Students Embark on Adventure to Eagle Bluff

In March, the 6th grade class embarked on an unforgettable adventure to Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center, diving into nature, learning new skills, and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

From the moment they arrived, students were immersed in hands-on experiences designed to challenge their minds and bodies. One of the biggest highlights of the trip was the high ropes course where students climbed, balanced, and zipped their way through the treetops, building confidence and teamwork skills along the way.

The trip also included a nature hike through Eagle Bluff's scenic trails, where students learned to identify local plant life, observe wildlife, and appreciate the natural beauty of southeastern Minnesota. The peaceful walk turned into an exciting learning opportunity as students discovered how ecosystems work and how humans can help protect the environment.

In Survival School, students got a taste of wilderness living—learning how to build shelters, start fires without matches, and stay safe in the wild. This hands-on class helped students appreciate the value of preparation, resilience, and resourcefulness.

Another exciting highlight was the reptile class where students got up close and personal with live snakes and turtles. They learned about different species, habitats, and the important role reptiles play in the ecosystem.

Students also traveled back in time during an engaging lesson about the Ice Age where they learned about glaciers, woolly mammoths, and how ancient geological changes helped shape Minnesota's landscape today.



Of course, none of this would have been possible without the amazing support of the 6th grade team and all the parent chaperones who gave their time away from family, energy, and encouragement throughout the trip. A huge shout-out goes to Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Bermea whose tireless planning and dedication made the entire experience smooth, educational, and full of fun. We also want to thank all the families that donated snacks for the kids to eat while there!

The Eagle Bluff trip was more than just a few days away from the classroom—it was a chance for students to challenge themselves, bond with classmates, and grow in ways that only nature can inspire.

Here's to the Class of 2031—future scientists, adventurers, and leaders in the making!



Triton Middle School Honor Rolls - Quarter 3

A HONOR ROLL		B HONOR ROLL	
6th Grade		6th Grade	
Beauchamp, Josie	Burt, Clara	Austin, Gavin	
Fate, Finley	Dupey, Bryce	Bulow, Lily	
Felix, Nicole	Fate, Jaxon	Dostal, Norah	
Hanegraaf, Blakely	Floen, Ronan	Duenes, Elijah	
Klein, Anya	Flowers, Addison *	Erler, Laryssa	
Marquardt, Addelynn	Henslin, Charlotte	Finger, Braden	
Ortiz, Izabella	Klein, Liam *	Garness, Garet	
Saxton, Griffen *	Koss, Kinsley	Hamm, Hudson	
Thiemann, Adelynn	Lutterman, Isabella	Hodgman, Olivia	
Wernecke, Taytum	Reyes, Jema	Johnsen, Brody	
Wilson, Wyatt	Scanlan, Clay	Johnson, Olan	
Wondra, Kaiven	Schley, Layla *	Knott, Kaitlynn	
7th Grade		7th Grade	
Axt, Emma *	Snyder, Griffin *	Krekelberg, Adam	
Becker, Garrison	Wolf, Rebecca *	Lorentzen, Kellen	
Blanchard, McKinly		Louks, Colton	
		Medina, Regina	
8th Grade		<i>Denote a 4.0 GPA</i>	
Fate, Jayln			
Felix, Cinthia *			
Frederick, Natalie			



Pearson, Claire	Hall, Myles	Vanegas, Isaac	Froyum, Coy
Peterson, Kyrie	Heaser, Brooklynn	8th Grade	Gonzales, Landyn
Randall, Alexis	Korbisch, K'stin	Adreon, Kaiden	Hernandez, Sophia
Rohwer, Morgan	Kruckeberg, Scarlett	Cain, Cruz	Himli, Whitney
Strand, Charlie	Kunz, Adriana	Chable, Darvelia	Kubat, Mavric
Tufte, Josie	Lyke, Dominick	Curran, Alayna	Laue, Aubrey
Van Wyhe, Dawson	Marquardt, Quinn	Davis, Patrick	Laue, Peyton
Weatherly, Phoebe	Milner, MacKenzie	Deml, Sawyer	Marquardt, Eli
Wilks, Brielle	Phillips, Camdyn	Dickie, Brinley	McNeilus, Andrew
7th Grade		Dominie, Aiyanna	Olevson, Bode
Atencio, Austen	Phillips, Carter	Dupey, Kayleah	Price, Samuel
Cochran, Leighton	Richardson, Reilly	Edge, Maurice	Rongve, Brady
Dickie, Brock	Rosenau, Ryan	Erler, Preston	Sanson, Kimber
Freiderich, Lillie	Schleusner, Connor	Fate, Dylan	Scheppmann, Alyvia
Groe, Raelynn	Sherman, Kaecyn	Freerksen, Josslyn	Sletten, Bristol
	Vagt, Josiah		Thomas, Logan

Attention TMS/THS Girls

The Dodge Country Club Ladies League would like to scholarship one girl who lives in Dodge County with a 2025 golf season pass to the Dodge Country Club. Those interested should contact the DCC Ladies League at: dccladies@gmail.com by May 17. Please include your name, grade, school, contact information, and why you want this membership.

**Sponsored by DCC Ladies League**

GIRLS GOLF SCHOLARSHIP

for a 2025 season membership to the Dodge Country Club


Qualifications:

- Live in Dodge County
- Must NOT be included in a Family Membership at the DCC

DUE MAY 15TH



If interested, contact dccladies@gmail.com

Please include your name, grade, school, contact info, and why you want this membership.

**2027**

EUROPE

Trip



Venice

Lake Como

Paris

LOTS OF FUNDRAISING CHANCES AVAILABLE
AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 7 - 10
\$200 DISCOUNT ON TRIP FOR MEETING ATTENDEES

INFORMATION MEETING: APRIL 23 @ 6:30PM, ROOM 617 IN M.S.
RSVP TO MEETING - <https://bit.ly/4kWHxST>

Cleaning Up the Nature Center – One Litter Bit at a Time!




On Friday, March 28th, the high school Nature Studies class, along with their second-grade nature buddies in Mrs. Wohlfiel’s class, worked together to clean up the Triton Nature Area. Together, they helped to make our school grounds a cleaner place!

• H A P P Y •

Easter

**WISHING YOU
AND YOURS A
Wonderful
HOLIDAY!**

**Craig Schlichting, Superintendent
Teachers and Staff
Triton Schools**



The MHS Hygiene Drive is Another Clean Success!



Pictured (from left to right) are MHS members Camila Medina Romero, Olivia Weber, and Macy Klejeski displaying the array of donations received

The Minnesota Honor Society recently concluded its annual hygiene drive promoted throughout the school. In total, close to 200 items were donated! These items will be given to our local Dodge County Salvation Army chapter, which will distribute them to people in need in our community. “Different situations bring about needs for supplies like these. Seniors on fixed incomes, a family experiencing a recent house fire, single-income parents – there are many reasons as to why these items are needed within our community,” stated Tanya Young, the lead liaison for the Dodge County Salvation Army chapter.

MHS would like to thank all those who donated to the drive. It is astounding what can be accomplished when we work together to support those in need!

Wizard of Oz a Success at THS!

(continued from page 27)

In reflecting on the experience, junior Brylee Reniker, who played one of the Lullaby League, stated, “The musical was fun! I liked that I was able to talk to people I normally wouldn’t. It got me out of my comfort zone.” Overall, the performances were very meaningful for director Anne Wotherspoon. She commented, “We got so close to performing this show in 2020 before the world shut down. To be able to have successfully seen it through now feels like a full-circle moment.”

Thanks to all the audience members who came to see the show.



Wizard of Oz a Success at THS!



THS Seniors Were Certified in CPR on April 8 as a Part of Their Senior Seminar Classes

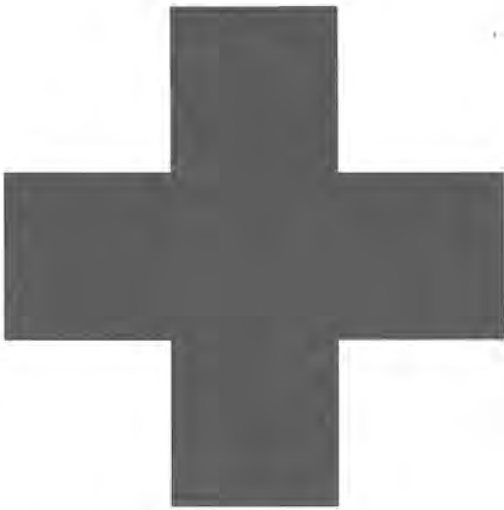


Triton Public Schools www.triton.k12.mn.us
#WeAreTriton #SomosTriton



Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.
American Red Cross



**Blood Drive
Triton High School**

Gym
813 Highway 14 West
Dodge Center, MN

**Friday, April 25, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Triton HS to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RedCrossBlood.org



Thumbs up for saving lives! Come to give blood April 14
to 30 for a NEW Red Cross T-shirt, Ltd. qty!



Scan to schedule
an appointment

2025 Triton Prom Held April 12



Senior class



Junior class



Prince Hunter Garness
Princess Nola Behne

Growing Our Own Through Concurrent Education



Introduction to Education Careers class is one of the many concurrent course offerings provided at Triton. In this course, juniors and seniors explore all different aspects of teaching through collaboration with the University of Minnesota at Mankato. From shadowing different educational environments and teachers in each of the three buildings of our school, to hearing from a variety of guest speakers encompassing all aspects of education, to going on various field trips – this course provides students with the opportunity to see if a career in education is something they might be interested in exploring further. As senior Macy Klejeski stated, “Taking this course has helped me decide to finalize my decision of becoming an educator. This course is very experience-based, which makes it very beneficial. I have seen a variety of subjects being taught with many different teaching methods. Overall, this is an amazing course to take and I have a great insight as to what it's like to be an educator now!”

Most recently, the class toured the Zumbro Education District to see what programs ZED offers. This provided students with an opportunity to tour the entire facility. Additionally, the class most recently spent the day meeting with the College of Education at Winona State University. This field trip gave students a first-hand account of what a degree in education entails, as well as a tour of the WSU campus.



ZED trip 2025

Currently, students in the course are beginning their student teaching experience. For the final quarter of the year, students will be working with a classroom teacher of their selection 1-2 days each week. During this time, students will get the opportunity to shadow and learn more about teaching through collaborating with their cooperating teacher. As Sam Storlie, a cooperating teacher, noted, “These hands-on classroom instruction experiences provide authentic opportunities for potential future teachers to get a feel for what day-to-day education looks like in the classroom.”

This is the third year this course has been offered at Triton. Each year, the class has grown in terms of what is incorporated, but also in terms of tailoring the course to meet the needs of the students enrolled. As Mrs. Horejsi, the teacher of the course, mentioned, “It is neat to see the array of student interests embodied in this class. Last year, the students in this course were all interested in exploring early childhood. This year, however, they are all student-teaching at the secondary level in either a middle school or high school setting. The hope is that we can continue to grow our own through courses such as this!”

TRITON COMMUNITY ED'S ANNUAL OUTDOOR CRAFT AND VENDOR MARKET

DODGER DAYS 2025!

Saturday, June 14

Noon-5PM

at the Dodge Center North Park

VENDORS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING SHOULD CONTACT

KRISTY FABER AT TRITON COMMUNITY ED:

KFABER@TRITON.K12.MN.US OR 507-418-7550

Cobra Track Athletes Breaking Records Early in the Season

The Cobra Track and Field team has only had 3 complete meets, but the hard work the athletes are putting in is paying off already in great performances. This week, over 80 personal records fell!!


Several junior high athletes finished in the top-3 in their events at Tuesday’s meet at Elgin. Leading the way was Siri Wennes, who won the shot put and placed 3rd in the discus. Matias Jara also had a great day in the hurdles, with a 2nd place finish in the 100 meter hurdles and a 3rd place finish in the 200 meter hurdles. Sophia Hernandez added a 2nd place finish in the shot put. Other 3rd place finishers for the Cobras were Yeray Valdez in the 100 meter dash, Oscar Orozco in the shot put, and the boys 4x200 meter relay team of Brock Dickie, Jaxon Fate, Urijah Carline, and K’Stin Korbisch.

The varsity team was also on the road Tuesday, in Kenyon. The Cobra boys team won the meet as a team behind solid performances from a number of athletes. Triton athletes claimed five event titles on the day, with Pierce Petersohn winning the 400 and high jump, Brady Staub winning the shot put and discus, and the girls 4x200 relay team (Romina Medina, Aidree Van Beek, Olivia Weber, and Avere Henslin) took home a victory (and champion t-shirts!), as well.

Weber added a pair of second-place finishes in the 100 and 300 hurdles, and Autumn Froyum and Angel Mata Colin each finished as runners-up in their respective 1600 meter runs. Avere Henslin (200) and Craig Knutson (shot and discus) both added individual second place finishes, as well. Rounding out the runners-up were the boys 4x200 and 4x400 relays.

A number of Cobras claimed third place finishes at Kenyon, as well. This included Van Beek (100 hurdles), Zae Jackson (110 hurdles), Gare Jensen (100), Miguel Martinez (400) and Mason Noaeill (200 + long jump).

We rounded out the week hosting a 10-team varsity invitational at Triton on Friday night. The girls finished third, boys fourth, in team scoring. Highlighting the evening was Brady



SCHOOL RECORD!

BRADY STAUB

DISCUS

152-8

4/11/2025 @ TRITON

Staub’s 11-foot personal record in winning the discus, which was enough to claim the school record from teammate Craig Knutson. Pierce Petersohn added a pair of wins in the 400 and high jump.

Autumn Froyum had a great night in the distance races, racing to personal records in both the 800 (2nd) and 1600 (5th) before teaming up with Henslin, Van Beek, and

Weber to clock a great 4x400 – the 7th fastest in Triton history to finish as runners-up and secure the 3rd-place team finish.

We’re looking forward to continuing the momentum as the weather warms! Join us at Triton for home junior high meets Tuesday, April 22 and Friday, May 2. We are also hosting a varsity meet Friday, May 16 before we gear up to host the Section 1A Champi-

onships May 27 and 29. If you want to get involved in the action, we’re always looking for folks to help make meets happen – reach out to Coach Kim Swanson at kswanson@triton.k12.mn.us if you can help!!

Follow the Cobra Track and Field team on Facebook (@TritonTrackandField).

GO COBRAS!!

100 meter dash – HS boys			
1	Caleb Rissman	10.79	2008
2	Ben Johnson	10.98	1997
3	Leif Bungum	11.23	2017
4	Fernando Bugarin	11.24	2019
5	Zach Haltvik	11.46	2011
6	Garet Jensen	11.48	2025
7	Mike Ackerman	11.50	1986
8	Ben Johnson	11.55	1997
9	Jaxon Sackett	11.57	2021
10	Damian Johnson	11.62	2012

Garet Jensen
100 - 11.48
3/28/25 @PEM

NEW COBRA

ALL-TIME TOP-10



4 x 400 relay – HS girls

1	B Schultz, J Hornung, J Brossard, E Selthun	4:11.9	1996
2	B Schultz, J Hornung, J Brossard, E Selthun	4:15.9	1997
3	Geers, Maes, Weber, Cummings	4:17.00	2023
4	Graham, Petersohn, Jensen, West	4:17.38	2017
5	Henslin, Coffman, Cummins, Foote	4:19.38	2007
6	Petersohn, S Gilliland, Graham, A Gilliland	4:21.10	2015
7	Henslin, Van Beek, Froyum, Weber	4:21.15	2025
8	Petersohn, S Gilliland, Graham, West	4:23.22	2015
9	Strom, Weber, Costal, Jensen, Jaxon, Jaxon	4:23.22	2023
10	West, Jensen, Jaxon, Jaxon, Jaxon	4:23.90	2016

NEW COBRA

ALL-TIME TOP-10

Avere Henslin **4:21.15**
Aidree Van Beek **4/11/25**
Autumn Froyum **@ TRITON**
Olivia Weber



Triton Grads: Where are they now?

By Christi Runnells

Once the senior class graduates, I always wonder where they end up and what they're doing these days. This school year I'd like to showcase some of our awesome Triton alums!

Student: Mariah Busch

Graduation Year: 2023

Current City: Dodge Center, MN

Mariah Busch was a student who was heavily involved in many aspects of Triton High School during her time here. She was a student athlete who participated on several different volleyball teams, she was involved in groups like student council, SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and BPA (Business Professionals of America), she was a mentor in Big Brothers Big Sisters and excelled in academics showcased by her participation in Minnesota Honors Society and PSEO and Concurrent coursework. She credits her involvement in all of these clubs and groups to exposing her to "many different opportunities that allowed her to learn and grow and prepare for life outside of high school." Being so involved also allowed her to create many fond memories of high school. In particular, she remembers BPA as one of her favorite memories of Triton High School, especially when she earned a trip to Nationals

two years in a row with Ms. Goossens. She also shares that Mrs. Wotherspoon was her favorite teacher because "she was always so dedicated to helping all students while having fun, making jokes and always having a positive attitude." But her favorite classes were Pre-Calculus and Calculus because she loved math and Mr. O'Brien was a great teacher who made learning math lots of fun.

Two short years later, Mariah has already graduated from nursing school from Rasmussen University with her RN and will soon begin working at Mayo Clinic. She advises current Triton students to "take advantage of every opportunity given to you and have fun!" Congratulations on your degree, Mariah and best wishes as you begin the next step of your journey at Mayo Clinic!

Triton Public Schools

www.triton.k12.mn.us

#WeAreTriton

#SomosTriton



SUMMER PRESCHOOL

Join Mrs. V for a Summer Filled with Fun, Learning, and Exploration!



Highlights:

- Outdoor Adventures
- Fine Motor activities
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Fun with Friends
- Snacks provided!

\$210 per session

8:30-11:30am daily

- Session One: June 16, 18, 20 & June 23-26
- Session Two: July 21-24 & July 28-31

Limited scholarships available.

Register at triton.k12.mn.us/page/preschool

More Information: 507-418-7550

TRITON PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION



Class options 2025-2026

- 3 years old -- Tuesday and Thursday 8:00-10:30am \$105/month
- 4 & 5 years old -- 3 mornings/week--Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8-10:30am \$145/month
- 4 & 5 years old --4 afternoons/week Monday through Thursday 12:30-3:00pm \$185/month
- 4 & 5 years old -- 5 half days/ week Monday-Friday 8-10:30 am OR 12:30-3:00pm \$225/month

\$50 non-refundable registration fee for all students. This covers registration, snack and milk for the year.

All children must potty trained!

Scholarships are available.

Registration opens March 17th!
Link will be posted at <https://www.triton.k12.mn.us/page/preschool>

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

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



We are more than just a flower store!

Gifts • Cards & More for All Occasions

ORDER TODAY! CALL 507-789-5700

Roses, Mixed Arrangements, Flower Bunches and More!



524 Second St, Kenyon
507-789-5700
marysrusticrose@outlook.com
marysrusticrose.com





FOR COMMUNITY RELEASE

Dakota County Sheriff's Office
Joe Leko, Sheriff

Bulletin #24-4
10/01/2024

REWARD OFFERED

ENDANGERED MISSING PERSON

Nicole "Nikki" Anderson

- 5' 10"
- 135 lbs
- Last seen wearing a long grey sweater and camouflage pants.

Nicole Anderson was last seen in Randolph Township in Dakota County the morning of Saturday, July 6, 2024.

She was on foot and does not have her cell phone, wallet, or medications.



Last known image of Anderson ^ on 7/6/2024 at 08:54 hours.

The Dakota County Sheriff's Office is offering a reward of \$5,000 for information regarding Nicole Anderson's whereabouts or the prosecution of those involved in her disappearance. Private parties have pledged an additional \$40,000 reward to be distributed independently of the Sheriff's Office. Only tips received through the Dakota County Sheriff's Office or Crime Stoppers that lead to the location of Nicole Anderson or the prosecution of those involved in her disappearance are eligible for the reward.



1-800-222-8477

Anyone wishing to provide a **completely anonymous** tip may contact Crime Stoppers at, 1-800-222-TIPS, or www.CrimeStoppersMN.org

Reference DCSO Case # 24-000819

**Dakota County Sheriff's Office | 1580 Highway 55, Hastings, Minnesota 55033
651-438-TIPS(8477)**

A legendary musical experience

★ ICONIC FEST ★

EST. 2015

EARLY BIRD TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

**Friday & Saturday
JULY 11 & 12, 2025**

For More Information & to Order Tickets Go To
www.iconicfest.com

**Friday,
July 11**



Rumbleseat 7:00 PM



Diamond Rio 9:00 PM

**Saturday,
July 12**



Noah Alexander Music 3:00 PM



Wade Hayes 7:00 PM



Leavin Page Town 5:00 PM



The Bellamy Brothers 9:00 PM

2 DAY OUTDOOR MUSIC FESTIVAL!
*Held at the Green Lantern
9 miles East of Brainerd on Hwy. 18*



AREA DINING & ENTERTAINMENT



PLAZA MORENA
CAMPESTRE GRILL

DINING ROOM
Open 7 Days a Week 11:00am-10:00pm

5% OFF MEAL PURCHASE

Expires April 30, 2025. Does not include alcohol. Not valid with any other offer.

160 26th St NE, Owatonna • 507-413-0819
www.plazamorena.com

NEW! GRAB N GO LUNCHES

YUM!

Don't Let Your Hurry Come Before Your Hunger!

Available Weekdays 11am-1pm

TOREY'S
RESTAURANT & BAR
TOREYS.NET

PICK UP ONE OF OUR DELICIOUS SALADS OR WRAPS!

LOCATED NEAR THE BACK ENTRANCE OF THE RESTAURANT AT 208 N. CEDAR, OWATONNA

BOOK YOUR FALL & WINTER EVENTS! Banquet Hall, Seating Up to 300

CHECK OUT OUR MANY NEW LUNCH & DINNER MENU ITEMS!

507-455-9260
MON-TUES-WED-THURS 11AM-9PM
FRIDAY 11AM-9PM
SAT 3:00PM-9:00PM • SUN CLOSED



10% OFF With ad Good February 16th through May 1, 2025

Cahill Bistro & Bar
Latin American Fusion

Breakfast served weekends 9am to 2pm
Happy Hour Sun.-Thurs. 3 to 5:30pm
Mon.-Thurs. 10am - 9pm; Fri.-Sun. 10am - 10pm
632 2nd street Kenyon, MN
507-623-1001 • www.cahillbistrobar.com



SAKER'S
SPORTS BAR & GRILL

EASTER BUFFET
Sunday, April 20
10:00AM-2:00PM
Reservations needed, not required.
\$26.99 Ages 11-64
\$15.99 Ages 6-10 & 65+
Beverages not included.
Call for reservations 507-634-7400

BUCKET OF BEERS
\$17.00
During Happy Hour

1/2 OFF TUESDAYS-THURSDAYS
3:00-6:00PM
Onion Rings, Pickle Spears, Cauliflower and Mushrooms
In house only as a courtesy to our drinking customers.

401 8th Street SE, Kasson, MN • 507-634-7400
Hours: Closed Sundays & Mondays; Tuesday-Saturday 11am-Close

Fresh Bites
SUBS, SALADS, BOWLS & MORE

Good Food, Fast!

CARRY OUT OR DINE IN

701 2nd Street, Kenyon
Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Closed on Sunday
507 -789 -9000



PLAZA MORENA
CAMPESTRE GRILL

DAILY SPECIALS!
Noon Buffet 11am to 2pm

5% OFF MEAL PURCHASE WITH THIS AD

ORDER ONLINE!
WWW.DODGEPLAZAMORENA.COM
Sunday-Thursday 11:00am to 9:00pm
Friday-Saturday 11:00am to 10:00pm
411 W. Highway St. Dodge Center
507-374-9555



TAMMY'S PLACE
Restaurant & Bar
Kasson, MN

DRINKS • APPETIZERS • SANDWICHES
BURGERS • SALADS • WRAPS • DESSERTS

DAILY SPECIALS

Closed Mon.; Tues-Thurs 11am-9pm; Fri-Sat 11am-10pm; Sun 11am-8pm
111 West Main Street, Kasson, MN
507-634-3133



SANDWICHES • BURGERS • BBQ

THE SMOKIN' SILVERBACK

504 Mantorville Avenue South, Kasson
507-634-7427 (RIBS)
Monday-Thursday 11am-8pm
Friday-Saturday 11am-9pm; Sunday 11am-7:00pm

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

**BURGERS, ESPRESSO
HOTDISH, PIZZA
ICE CREAM**

TRY OUR DAILY SPECIALS!

635 2nd Street, Kenyon
Hours:
Tues.-Sat. 7am to 8pm; Sunday 8am to 6:30pm
Closed Mondays
507-789-1100

ANGIE'S
EST. 1972
Restaurant

facebook

East Wind
東風
Buffet

15% OFF Wednesday, Thursday with ad
10% OFF Friday, Saturday, Sunday with ad

MENU OR BUFFET
Cannot be used with other offers.

Hours: Monday: 11am-10pm; Tuesday: Closed; Wed.-Sun.: 11am-10pm
507-451-9666

1015 W. Frontage Rd., Suite 103, Owatonna • South of Lowe's • Dine In Only • Expires April 30, 2025



Center Restaurant
FAMILY
507-633-3333
Thank You

30 Main Street
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Generous portions, friendly service and delicious homestyle cooking anytime!

TRY OUR DAILY SPECIALS!

BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY!

10% OFF With this ad
Good Monday-Friday. Expires April 30, 2025.
Hours: Sunday-Thursday 7am-3pm; Friday-Saturday 7am-8pm
507-633-3333

facebook

OPENING SOON!



JB's TAVERN

Check Facebook for latest information.
112 Main Street Wanamingo, MN

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.



Business Link

• Bellechester • Castle Rock • Claremont • Dennison • Dodge Center •
 • Dundas • Goodhue • Hampton • Kenyon • Mazeppa • Nerstrand •
 • Randolph • Wanamingo • West Concord • Zumbro Falls •

DODGE COUNTY LAND TITLE COMPANY

* Over 40 Years Experience
 * Residential
 * Farm
 * Commercial

Use Dodge County Land Title Company for your next real estate transaction or loan closing.

38 W Main Street, Dodge Center, MN
 Ph: 507-633-6355
 Email: dclandtitle@kmtel.com

MANTHEI SEPTIC SERVICE

• Pumping • Flushing
 • Maintenance • Tank Locator
 • Inspection • Drain Cleaning

24 HOUR Service

507-753-2408
507-951-1691

LODERMEIER'S
 STEEL & WOOD FRAME BUILDINGS

• Machinery Storage
 • Commercial
 • Livestock Buildings
 • Garages

38241 County 6 Blvd, Goodhue
651-923-4441
 Lodermeiers.net

JOHNSON'S GENERAL STORE

Artisan Products
 Handmade Soaps
 Chocolate Shoppe Confections
 Handcrafted Candles
 Amish Made Items

211 West Main St.
 Kasson
 507-634-4184
 Wed-Fri 10-6
 Sat 10-2

GREAT GIFT IDEAS!

BASIC HANDGUN SAFETY CLASS
 For Those With No Handgun Experience

- Learn handgun safety fundamentals
- Individual classes available
- Learn to shoot safely & properly
- You can fire a variety of handguns

NRA Instructor with 24 Years Experience
CALL TO SET UP YOUR CLASS TIME, SCHEDULED AT YOUR CONVENIENCE
507-951-7417

COUNTRY GOODS

GIFT IDEAS • COLLECTIBLES
 INSPIRATIONAL ITEMS
 CALENDARS • WIND CHIMES
BIGGEST GIFT STORE IN SO. MN!

Right across freeway from Cabelas
 Sunday 12-5; Mon - Sat 9-7
 4515 NW 22nd Ave, Owatonna
 507-451-5661

All Your Printing & Sign Needs

D&S Banner, Sign & Print

All Your Printing and Sign Needs
 In House Graphic Design
 Large Format Graphics for Vehicles and Trailers
 Installation services

113 Forest Street, Kenyon, MN 55946
507-789-4611
 dandsbannersignandprint.com

L&D Recycling, Inc.
 Scrap Iron & Metals

Steel, Farm Machinery,
 Car Bodies, Aluminum,
 Copper, Batteries,
 Appliances, E-Scrap

55976 State Hwy. 56, West Concord
 Monday-Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm
 June-October
 Open Saturdays 9:00 to 11:30am
 507-527-2408
 www.lcrecycling.com

MANTORVILLE SQUARE
 ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Largest Antique Store
 in Dodge County

416 N. Mantorville Ave, Mantorville
 507-635-5554
 Facebook@
 MantorvilleSquareAntiques

ROVLAND
 Auto Service

- Tires
- Wheel alignments
- Steering & suspension
- Brake repair
- A/C maintenance
- Batteries

641 S Main Wanamingo
507-824-2710

AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE
 HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILLING
 ON-SITE WASTEWATER COLLECTION & TREATMENT
 PIPE REHABILITATION
 GIS MAPPING

ELLINGSON
 EST. 1970

EllingsonCompanies.com | 507.527.2294

R&M STEEL

Full Line of Square Tubes,
 Channels, Angle,
 Flat & Pipes

Shearing, Cutting and
 Bending

61154 190th St Dodge Center
507-374-2524

Tatge Jewelry

Awards By Tatge
 Celebrating 50 Years
 of Business in 2025

625 2nd Street, Kenyon, MN
 (507) 789-6522

fw

Flat Water Futures, LLC
 Grain and Livestock Hedging

Todd Ryan
651-764-5590
 tryan@flatwaterfutures.com

Goodhue, MN
 Branch Office

KAHN Tile Supply LLC

Schaeffer
 SPECIALIZED LUBRICANTS

AGRO POWER

Bruce Freerksen
(507) 273-9110
 brucewithschaefferoil@gmail.com
 West Concord, MN

SIFT (SAVE IT FROM TRASH)
THRIFT STORE

26 RED WING AVE Kenyon, MN

Hours: Thur & Fri 12 to 8pm,
 Saturday 9am to 5pm

DOUG AND MARY KLATT
www.sift4you.com
Call us today! 507.259.2386

Mantorville Chocolate Shoppe

420 Main St.
 Mantorville, MN 55955
 507-635-5814

OVER 100 CHOCOLATE
 DELICACIES HANDMADE
 IN STORE!

UNIQUE CANDIES
 SWEETEST PLACE IN TOWN

Tues-Sat 11:30-5:00; Sun 12:30-5:00

SPECIALTY BAKED GOODS
 FOR EVERY OCCASION!

Cupcakes • Cakes
 Pies • Cookies
 Fudge • Muffins
 Scones • Cheesecake

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

Let's talk fence

Alpacas, Apples, Beef Cattle, Deer, Dairy Cattle, Elk, Emus,
 Gardens, Goats, Grapes, Gorillas, Horses, Lions, Llamas,
 Ostriches, Ponies, Raccoons, Sheep, Trout, Tigers, Yak

K FENCE

62411 386th Ave., Zumbro Falls, MN
 Phone 507-753-2943 • www.kfence.com
Free Estimates • Free Catalogs

Our unique skid steer and utility tractor snow plow feature a floating face plate and an innovative "cross draw" design, with a dual direction hydraulic cylinder, which allows this plow to sit much closer to the machine and faceplate than a traditional A-frame style plow with a dual ram set-up. Because of our proven design, these plows have substantial amount of free movement or "walk" when going over uneven terrain like a dirt road, side hills, around a pond, a loading dock or handicap ramp. These plows include a cross over relief valve to help protect the hydraulics from damage.

Lightweight plow (up to 35hp)	5' to 6.5'	starting at \$2,475
Std Duty plow (up to 65hp)	5' to 7.5'	starting at \$2,575
Heavy Duty (up to 85hp)	5' to 10'	starting at \$2,775
Industrial/Commercial Duty	6' to 10'	starting at \$3,775

Minnesota Implement

West Concord, MN • 651-269-5688
 See all our products
 @ www.minnesotaimplement.com

Hope Stump Grinding

No job too big,
 no job too small.

John Hope
612-327-5980

Lake State Paintless Dent Repair

We Fix Hail Damage and
 Dents on Vehicles

We can come to your home
 or place of business.

507-319-5714
 taylorlolanpdr@gmail.com

PLACE YOUR AD ON THIS PAGE
 Call Terry at 507-951-7417
 or Email:
hometownmessenger@gmail.com