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MAY 21, 2025

Volume 22 • Issue 5

## Hegland Awarded James W. Tracy Scholarship

Maria Hegland, a Randolph FFA member, has been awarded the James W. Tracy Scholarship. Mr. Tracy had a deep love for the land and farming and a desire to support youth, which led him to donate his farm to the Minnesota FFA Foundation.



Maria was presented with the scholarship at the MN State FFA Convention April 28-29, 2025.

## Russ Franek and The Biscuits to Headline Dennison Days



Summer festival season kicks off soon as area communities plan their summer events and festivals.

Dennison Days takes place this year Friday and Saturday, June 20 & 21,

2025.

The Gopher State Garden Tractor Pullers will return to Main Street Friday evening in Dennison, hosted by 625 Bar & Grill.

*(continued on page 19)*

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

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.A.T.P. 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](http://www.ricecountysteamandgas.com)



## 67-year-old Killed in Rice County Crash Wasn't Wearing a Seatbelt, State Patrol Says

*Courtesy of KSTP & MN State Patrol*

A 67-year-old man who was killed Friday after his vehicle collided with another on a wet road was reportedly not wearing a seatbelt.

*(continued on page 4)*



Craig Johnson

## Announcements

• **Wednesday Wear, Nerstrand United Methodist Church** hours are **Wednesdays 1 - 5 and Saturdays 9 - 12.** Women's, men's and children's clothing, shoes, accessories, linens, toys and books. All things are free with donations accepted. Come and see what we have!

• **Dennison City Council** meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

• **The Nerstrand City Council** meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7p.m. at the Nerstrand City Hall. Office hours are: Monday 8:30-11:00; Tuesday by appointment; Wednesday 8:30-11:00; Thursday 5:00-7:00; Friday by appointment. 507-332-8000.

• **Warsaw Township Meeting** is held the 2nd Monday of each month at the Warsaw Township Hall. Meeting time is 6:00p.m.

• **The Wheeling Township meeting** will be held on the second Monday of each month at 8:00p.m. at the Wheeling Township Hall. Contact Rebecca Vergin, Township Clerk.



## 2025 Goodhue County Dairy Princesses

Chloe Sjoquist,  
Jenna O'Reilly,  
Natalie Clemenson

*(2025 Goodhue County Dairy Ambassadors page 8)*

## HAVE A SAFE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Open Regular Hours

Friday & Saturday, May 23 & 24

Open Sunday, May 25 from 9am-2pm.

We will close at 2pm Sunday for staff maintenance.



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-6:00 PM

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## The Future Is Bright!

By Pastor Larry Grove,  
Hauge Lutheran Church, Kenyon

At the end of this month, young men and women will be graduating from high school all around this country. They will be leaving friends that they have spent years with and entering a new phase of life that, regardless of the path that they choose, will be exciting and often filled with wonder and apprehension.

My graduation day happened to land on my 18th birthday. The emotions that I felt that evening were all over the map. Excitement over what the future would bring my way coupled with the memories of teachers that had invested their time and efforts to pour knowledge and wisdom into my life flooded me with gratitude. The camaraderie with teammates that was fostered through all the sporting events over the years would prove to last a lifetime. The time to turn the page in my book of life had come. When I finally turned it over I found a clean, unmarked leaf that was waiting for me to fill it with the words in the next chapter.

We are blessed as a community to have a class of young people graduating this year that

are special and unique in so many ways. Having watched this group over the years it is obvious that wherever they might land, that locality will be enriched.

As we look across the landscape of our country and see all the turmoil and division happening before us, I find great hope in the words of scripture. Isaiah 59:19b says, "When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him."

It is my belief that the standard God is raising up is Godly young men and women. All around the world you can see young people taking a stand for Christ. My hope for this group is that they would join the ranks of those that are speaking out for morality and Biblical truth in the public square. Our country is in desperate need of warriors that are willing to be a part of that standard that God is raising up against the enemy of truth and righteousness.

Please pray for these graduates and encourage them in their walk. Their future is bright

and they are the hope we are passing the torch to.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," de-

clares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



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#### Summer Worship Schedule

During the summer months, there will be one combined service on Sundays. The June schedule is below.

Sunday, June 1: Vang - 9:00 AM  
Sunday, June 8 (Graduation Recognition): Vang - 9:00 AM  
Sunday, June 15 (Centuries of Music): Vang - 10:30 AM  
Sunday, June 22: Vang - 9:00 AM  
Sunday, June 29: Vang - 9:00 AM

**Gol Lutheran Joe Jorgensen, Pastor**  
507-838-2100  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Grace Lutheran, Nerstrand**  
Mike Ahrens S.A.M.  
Service 9 a.m.; Coffee Hour 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

**Emmanuel Lutheran**  
9:00a.m. Sunday School  
10:00a.m. Coffee Time 10:30a.m. Worship Service

**Hegre Lutheran**  
Pastor Chris Brekke  
Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

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

**First Ev. Lutheran, Kenyon**  
David J. Chatelaine, Pastor  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. worship

**Wangen Prairie Lutheran Church LCMC**  
Shannon Bauer, Pastor  
24289 Cty. 24 Blvd., Cannon Falls  
Sunday Worship at 9:00a.m. followed by fellowship.  
Thursday Bible Study at 9:00a.m.

### AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Thomas

*Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. — John 20:24*

I can understand Thomas's doubt. For whatever reason, he wasn't with the other disciples when Jesus first visited them after his resurrection, so he hadn't seen Jesus firsthand. Maybe he should have taken the disciples' word for it when they told him they had seen Jesus. Maybe he should have had more faith. Or maybe he was just an untrusting sort of person. Whatever the case, Thomas said he just couldn't believe Jesus was alive until he saw Jesus for himself.

When Jesus came again and Thomas could see him, Jesus was patient with Thomas. Jesus even showed Thomas what he said he needed to see in order to believe. But Jesus also noted that all who believe without seeing him will be blessed.

Today that includes you and me. Belief without seeing is the nature of our faith most of the time. We probably won't see Christ in person until we join him in eternity. Until then, though, we believe even though we have not seen.

We are called to have faith in Jesus for who he is, all he has done, and all he has promised. We believe because others have seen, because others have witnessed, and because their testimony is in God's Word to us, along with all of God's promises. We believe because the Spirit of God guides us into the truth of God's Word and gives us faith (see John 16:7-15; Ephesians 2:6-10). And in believing we are blessed.

*Lord, help us to believe even though we have not seen. By your Spirit, lead us to know the truth that brings life in you. Amen.*

### METHODIST

**Nerstrand United Methodist**

Gary Liker, Pastor  
507-330-0025  
Worship 9:00a.m.

**Stanton United Methodist**

Rev. Tom Countryman  
Worship 10:15a.m.  
Church Phone 507-321-3598

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525 Beverly St., Wanamingo  
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10:00a.m. Worship Service  
7:00p.m. Small Group Bible Studies - Sun.

### HOLDEN-DALE PARISH

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Email: holdensecretary@gmail.com  
Worship schedule found at:  
www.holdenlutheranchurch.org  
Holden/Dale Facebook

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

## Lloyd Norval Kunde

Lloyd Norval Kunde, 92, of Kenyon, MN, died on Friday, April 18, 2025, at United Hospital in St. Paul after a brief illness.



Lloyd was born in Goodhue, MN, on January 1, 1933, to Edward E. Kunde and Hilda A. (Berg) Kunde.

He graduated from Wanamingo High School in 1950, but his school

path took him to many locations including District 69 School, Goodhue Town School, Washington School in Red Wing, Dennison Grade School, Nerstrand High School, and finally Wanamingo High School.

While living in Dennison, he was active in the Boy Scouts and in later years, in FFA. He played football, basketball, and baseball all through his school years, including with the famous Dennison baseball team in the early 1950's. After his discharge from the Army, he was the catcher for the Kenyon baseball town team for a few years before switching to fast-

pitch softball. After his playing career ended, he kept his hand in the game as a high school baseball umpire. He had a life-long love for all Minnesota sports teams.

He was drafted into the Army in 1955, and stationed at Andrews AFD Headquarters, 75th AFB Missile Battalion until his discharge in 1957. While in the Army, he had a close encounter with President Eisenhower when they ended up shopping in the same store on base. He was always proud that he was able to salute him in person. Lloyd also had the opportunity to play basketball with future Hall of Fame player, Cliff Hagan.

After high school, he helped on the family farm. On May 2, 1959, he married Evelyn A. Nelson at Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon. They made their home in rural Kenyon and dairy farmed for 14 years before the farm was sold. At that time, he attended Dunwoody Institute and then opened K&M Plumbing, Heating, & Appliance Repair in Kenyon. He eventually went solo in the plumbing and heating business, later working with his son, David, until this retirement. Lloyd also sold monuments for over 40 years.

Lloyd is survived by his sons, David (Darcy) and Mark; daughter, Kathy, all of Kenyon; grandchildren: Brian Bartel of Zumbrota, Jennifer Kunde and her partner, Mike Wagner of Rochester, and Sage Kunde of Euclid, OH; great-grandchildren: Shontell, Joe, and Jaxson; great-great-granddaughter Juliet, all of Rochester; sisters: Elrene (Vince) Hamann, Adele Kunde, and Ilice Kunde, all of Minneapolis; sister-in-law, Peggy Nelson of Wanamingo;

along with numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 64 years, Evelyn (Nelson) Kunde; son, Steven Kunde; brothers, Harlan and Donald; sister, Ilene; brothers-in-law: Alvin Berg, Robert Ullevig, Harris Nelson, and Roger Nelson; sisters-in-law: Carolyn Kunde, Stella Berg, Gladys Ullevig, and Henrietta Nelson; nephew, Gary Berg; and niece, Susan Berg.

A funeral service was held at 11 AM on Friday, April 25, 2025, at Holden Lutheran Church, rural Kenyon. Pastor Dustin Haider officiated. A visitation was held from 10 AM until the time of service. Lloyd was laid to rest at the church cemetery with full military honors.

## Craig Johnson

Craig Johnson, age 67, of Nerstrand, died on May 16, 2025.



Funeral services will be held at the Faribault High School, Nomeland Gymnasium on Saturday, May 24, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The Reverend Karen Bruins will officiate. Interment will be at the Nerstrand City Cemetery. Visitation will be held at the Faribault High School on Friday, May 23, 2025, from 4 – 7 p.m. There will be no visitation prior to the service on Saturday.

Arrangements are being completed by Boldt Funeral Home & Cremation Services,

Faribault.

Craig Eugene, the son of Clyde Johnson, Sr. and Beatrice (Gallion) Smoley was born May 8, 1958, in Britt, Iowa. He graduated from high school in Buffalo Center, Iowa – Class of 1976. On March 5, 1977, Craig married Teresa Dresback in Winterset, Iowa. They lived in Warsaw before moving to Nerstrand in 1989. For the last 26 years, Craig worked as a custodial engineer at the Faribault High School. He retired in January 2025. He also worked for Wolf Creek Dairy for 30 years. Craig had a passion for youth sports, especially umping and refereeing. He enjoyed reading and watching movies, his greatest love was his family.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Terri; children, Tracy (and George) Hemphill, Marcus (and Cassie) Johnson and Randall Johnson; grandchildren, Chandler Hopkins, Allison, Abbigail, Addilynn, Owen and Emma Johnson; siblings, Clyde Johnson, Jr., Kim (and Gene) Geopfert, Chuck (and Chris) Smoley and Jim Smoley; brothers and sisters – in – law, Rick (and Mindy) Dresback, Barb (and John) DeJoode and Gary (and Amy) Dresback; many nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

Craig was preceded in death by his son, Jeremy; his parents; stepfather, Ray Smoley; sister, Debbie Johnson in infancy; brother – in – law, Bob Dresback and parents – in – law, Deane and Shirley Dresback.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the family for a memorial to be determined later.

Visit [boldtfuneralhome.com](http://boldtfuneralhome.com) for information and guestbook.

(obituaries continued on page 4)

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**Class of 2025**





## William “Bill” Wayne Nelson

William “Bill” Wayne Nelson, age 73, of Northfield, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, Saturday morning, April 19, 2025, at his home.

Bill was born on October 23, 1951, in Albert Lea, MN to parents Harold and Marilyn (Sunde) Nelson. He graduated from Albert Lea High School in 1970. Bill was an accomplished athlete and sports enthusiast. In high school, Bill was the co-captain of the Albert Lea basketball and baseball teams and was named to the all-conference teams in both sports. He also pitched in all 3 games as Albert Lea finished 2nd in the 1969 state baseball tournament.



After high school, Bill attended Augsburg College where he received his BA in English. He then started working as a teacher at Kenyon Schools. At Augsburg, Bill was a two-time all-conference pitcher, co-captain, and led Augsburg to the conference championship in 1973 and runner-up in 1974. He was also an outstanding softball player and was a key member of the 1975 state championship team.

Bill was a major advocate of amateur (town-team) baseball. He started playing in 1970 with Hayward, Mn. In 1974, Bill joined the power-house team Dick's Place from Columbia Heights. Then in 1975, Bill joined the Dundas Dukes. He started as a player and later as the manager. During his over 30 years with the Dukes, Dundas won the Minnesota state tournament 4 times (twice as a player and twice as manager) and finished runner up 6 times. Bill was also the head baseball coach at Carleton College from 1994 to 2005 and

was elected to the Augsburg Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996, and to the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame in 2007.

Bill married Patricia Stanton on November 16, 1990. He was loved and will be dearly missed.

Bill is survived by his wife, Patricia Nelson; children Allan (Nicole) Gill of Northfield, Eric (Samantha) Gill of Nerstrand and Amanda (Cam) Edmonds of Northfield; grandchildren Sydney Gill, Dominic Gill, Michael Strandberg and Miranda Strandberg; brothers Bruce (Elizabeth) Nelson of The Villages, FL, Robert of Minneapolis, Byron (Sharon) of Lakewood WA, Greg (Sharon) of Dayton, OH, and John (Cindy) of Rogers; sisters and brothers-in-law Val Zweber of Prior Lake, Loriann Stanton of Shakopee, JoAnne (Ken) Egger of Spokane, WA, Colleen (Leo) Skluzacek of Northfield, Billy (Jan) Stanton of Dundas, Marcia Stanton of Northfield, Mary Ellen (Jerry) Jirik of Lakeville, Monica (Kevin) Lynch of Northfield, Tim (Christine) Stanton of Northfield and Michelle (Patrick) Fox of Lakeville;

nephews and nieces Jeff and Amy, Maridee and Mark; Eric; Jessica, Laura, Justin and Sarah; and Erin, Emily and Sarah. He was preceded in death by his parents; father and mother-in-law, William and Loretta Stanton; sisters-in-law Loretta Zweber, Donna Stanton and Diane Nelson; and brothers-in-law Donald Stanton, David Stanton and Mark Stanton.

Special thanks to neighbors and long-time friends that were there for Bill in his final journey, Rick and Pam. To his grandchildren, Dominic and Sydney Gill, Bill helped care for you when you were born early and needed extra special care, thank you for the extra special care you gave Bill, we love you.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to Dundas Baseball or Augsburg Baseball.

A dedication to rename the field at Memorial Park to Bill Nelson Field will be held at 1 PM on Saturday, June 28, 2025, at Memorial Park. A Celebration of Life will follow the dedication, at the Ballpark, until 4 PM.

Arrangements are with Bierman, Benson & Lanhough Funeral Home & Crematory. [www.northfieldfuneral.com](http://www.northfieldfuneral.com)

## Field Renamed to Bill Nelson Field at Memorial Park



Courtesy of KYMN Radio News

The Dukes are playing at the same ballpark but with a new name, recently approved by the Dundas City Council, to Bill Nelson Field at Memorial Park. The City Administrator of Dundas, Jenelle Teppen, noted Nelson's legacy as a fundamental part of the Dukes and Dundas:

“Certainly the biggest news in terms of you know the wider community and the support that the Dukes in particular received from Dundas”. – Jenelle Teppen, Dundas City Administrator on the KYMN Morning Show

Nelson worked for decades to improve the ballpark. He also played for the Dukes, helping them go to state three times in his time on the team, and is in the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame.

The Duke's field is considered one of the nicest ballparks in the state amateur baseball league, undergoing major renovations in 2021 and being featured in the book, Town Ball Parks of Minnesota. Duke's games are free to



attend, though food and drinks are served, and donations are appreciated.

The Dundas Dukes Baseball Club is an amateur baseball team located in Dundas, Minn. The Dukes have won five state championships and have finished runner up eight times.

A dedication to rename the field at Memorial Park to Bill Nelson Field will be held at 1 PM on Saturday, June 28, 2025, at Memorial Park. A Celebration of Life for Bill Nelson will follow the dedication, at the Ballpark, until 4 PM.

As the team would say: “Have Fun. You're in the Town of Baseball.”

## 67-year-old Killed in Rice County Crash Wasn't Wearing a Seatbelt, State Patrol Says

(continued from page 1)

According to the Minnesota State Patrol, Craig Eugene Johnson, 67, of Nerstrand, MN, was driving a 2014 Ford Escape in the eastbound lanes on Highway 246 around 1:42 p.m.

A GMC Yukon, driven by a 44-year-old woman from Kenyon, MN, was driving west on the highway when the two vehicles collided near 170th Street East.

The Minnesota State Patrol said Johnson was killed in the crash, and the other driver received non-life-threatening injuries and was taken to the hospital. She, according to the State Patrol, was also not wearing a seat belt.

## Celebrating You, Class of 2025

You've set a great example for tomorrow's graduates with your hard work and perseverance, and we hope you're as proud of your accomplishment as we are.

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## The Town of Bombay

By Cheri Roshon

I hope you all are enjoying this step back into the past of Goodhue County's beginnings. It has been a pleasure to unearth some of the names of our area's forefathers who are now passed. Many of the residents of this area will find their grand and great grandparents in these brief capsules of a time review. I hope the memories bring you joy!

Third on our list of "ghost Towns" is the only entirely new village founded in Goodhue County in the 20th century. Named Bombay by the railroad company that erected a depot there in 1903, the last major railroad construction in this county was by Milwaukee Railroad. This was an extension of the railway from Wabasha to Zumbrota in 1878 by Minnesota Midland's narrow-gauge line. The new line went from Zumbrota to Faribault and took 25 years after the completion of the Wabasha/Zumbrota line to bring to fruition. The grading for the line began in 1901 after extensive discussions about the most desirable route and the surveying of the land in question. Track was laid in 1903, and the trains were able to carry both freight and passengers from town to town. Another depot was built in Kenyon, and two more in Rice County in the towns of Ruskin and Epsom. Now, there was plenty of growth in this area of develop-

ment. Hader area had built a small community with general stores, a cheese factory, a mill and a few other businesses, and was prospering. An interesting side note is that because of the location of this line, both Wanamingo and Bellechester moved to new locations to be on the route.

When the Bombay Depot was built, the L. M. Loomis Company from Minneapolis decided to build a grain elevator near the depot. Not long after, the Milwaukee Elevator Company also built an elevator in the vicinity. Both companies began taking in grain in 1903. About the same time, the railway went into business.

The next spring, John Otterness along with Marcus and Jonas Charlson who had conducted business in Sogn, opened a general store just north of the Loomis Elevator. Established farmers in the area wanted a cheese factory in the area as well, but it took many years for that dream to come true.

By the way, nobody I spoke to and in no records of the past is there a solid explanation as to why Bombay was the name given to a small town in a mostly Norwegian area. Speculation was that possibly one of the railroad's managers came from Bombay, New York, or it was chosen randomly as a tribute to a town in India. The owner of the land the railroad passed through was John Davidson, and some of the people in the area petitioned to name the town Johnson, or Davidson, but that never happened. The people finally gave up trying to change the name, and to this day it remains.

A small freight shed was constructed as the first "depot" in Bombay, but in August of



1904, the new town was booming, and the railroad company announced they would replace it with a larger shed. The new depot was 16' by 36', and 14 feet high. There was an office and a waiting room on the west side and express and freight rooms on the east side. The Charlson brothers and John Otterness handled the freight business there for a while.

The elevators enjoyed a thriving business,

and local farmers wanted to form a cooperative and purchase one or both elevators. Negotiations began in 1906, but it wasn't until 1909 that they finally formed a cooperative and purchased the Loomis Elevator. The new Bombay Farmers Mercantile and Elevator Company organized in April of 1909 was able to purchase the Loomis Elevator with \$10,000.00 in capital.

(continued on page 6)

# MAY AT



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## The Town of Bombay

(continued from page 5)

They made O.J. Wing its first President, R.H. Wickum was the Vice President, Helmer Voxland the Secretary, and John Davidson the Treasurer. By the end of 1909, the co-op had also purchased the Milwaukee Elevator, as well as a lumberyard. In 1916, the elevators were moved closer together for convenience and remain there to this day.

1909 was also the year the Bombay Cheese Factory started operations with Dave Kunz, a cheesemaker from Pine Island, who opened and ran the factory until 1913. Later it was run by the firm of Sherz & Heigle. The farmers and organizers of the elevator co-op purchased the factory and organized the Bombay Dairy Company for \$3,000.00. The Cheese Factory was never very profitable and closed in 1920. The Bombay Dairy Farm is now a 2 generation family business run by Wayne Lexvold.

Other changes were also happening. In 1908, John Otterness bought out his partners the Charlson brothers and ran the Bombay store by himself for the next 4 years.

In April of 1912, he sold it to Michael Davidson, son of John Davidson, and also one of the incorporators of the Bombay Dairy Company. Although many people ran the store, it remained in the Davidson family until it closed. In 1913, the Wanamingo firm of Swanson & Roe bought the lumberyard, and Charles O. Roe came to manage it and the el-

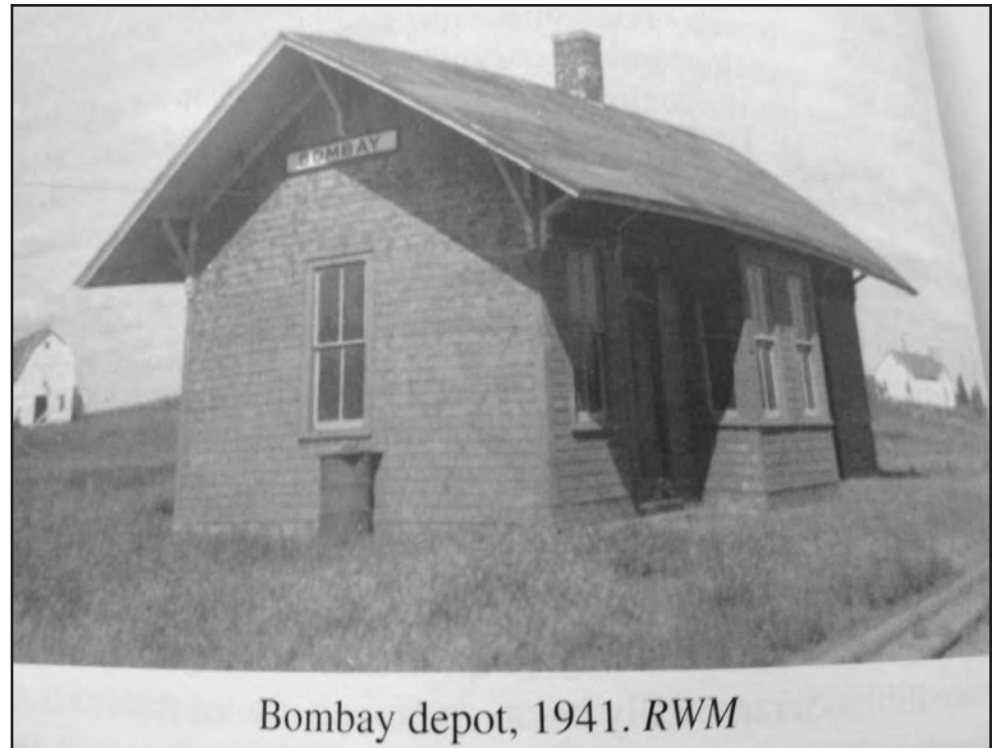
evators.

Bombay reached its peak during World War I, between 1914 and 1918. In 1919, William Shepard of Kenyon was able to buy enough stock in the elevators to be the major shareholder, and appointed his son Frank the manager. Frank remained as long as the corporation existed. In 1924, the elevators could no longer support its operations and were sold to Fleischmann Malting Company of Red Wing, who kept the management local. When the company was moved to Skyberg, Martin J. Ruud succeeded Frank as manager, and with his son Arnold, also ran the store. His daughter Mabel was the store clerk.

The Cheese Factory closed down in 1923 and the building was sold to Ole Yngsdal who opened a garage and ran it until 1939 when his brother Elmer took over until it was no longer profitable. The building was torn down in 1997.

In 1927, Carl Langness took over management of the Bombay store and his wife Signora and her sister ran it for the next 3 years. In 1930, due to a decrease in business because of the Great Depression, the store closed, selling its inventory at a 10% discount. That same year, the Bombay depot was suspended as railroads everywhere were retrenched. D.D. Day remained on as custodian for the next 15 years.

Despite blows to the economy, Bombay remained. In 1932, a road was constructed between Zumbrota and Faribault and passed by the Bombay Store. As traffic increased, Michael Davidson restocked and opened the store. From that time until its closing in 1992, the Davidsons kept the store open. It was managed by Claremont and Esther Skillestad for the last few years. I remember my



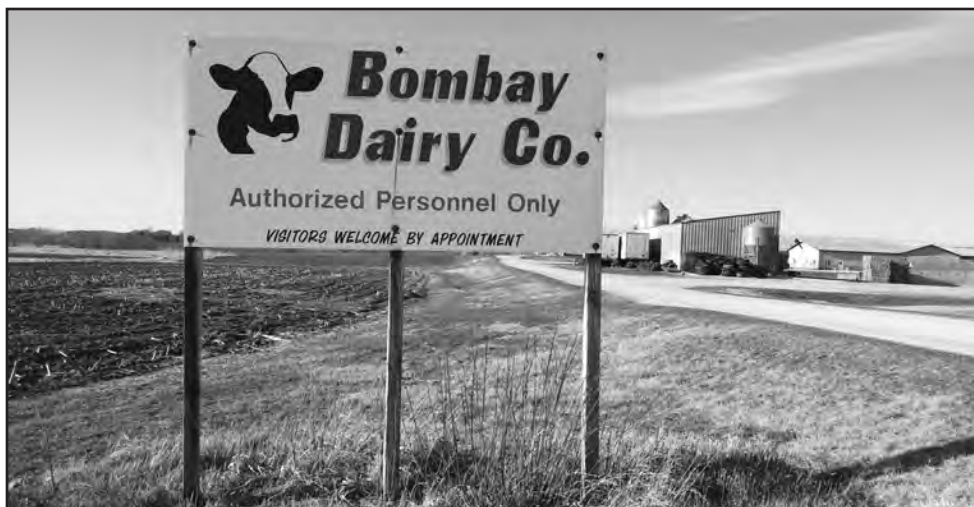
Bombay depot, 1941. RWM

grandpa Clarence Carlson going to Bombay to sit with the local farmers who would gather to have coffee and pass the time playing cards and talking about the events of the day. The Bombay Store is now a residence owned by Obert and Kathy Flikke.

In 1944, Fleishmann sold the elevators to Commander Elevator company in Minneapolis, a division of what is today Archer Daniels Midland. The Farmers Union Grain Terminal Ass'n acquired the elevators in 1960, operated it until 1990. It was sold, and has had

several owners since then. The depot stood until 1941. In 1979, the Milwaukee abandoned the Zumbrota line, and Bombay lost the railroad that brought it to be.

Currently Bombay still has the elevators, the dairy, and 5 homes, including the former store, so it is not officially a ghost town. Surprisingly enough, it never had a post office because it was founded about the time of the RFD (Rural Free Delivery). A sign along the highway shows motorists where a town once stood.





# CONGRATS

*to the Class of*

# 2025

*We wish you all the best!*



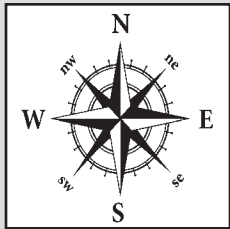


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## Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

### My First Mini Bike



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.*

Growing up a farm boy, I was intrigued by anything with an engine. Tractors, combines, swathers, skid loaders, etc. Grease and gasoline smelled wonderful to me. And diesel fuel smoke was the best. So, anything that was not foot powered had my attention. My dad had a Harley-Davidson Type 74 before he had a family, so maybe the idea of a two-wheeler was in my blood.

In the 1960's many companies made mini-bikes. Basically, made of a leftover lawnmower engine and wheels. But they were fun

to zoom around on. I already had horse, but a mini-bike didn't require any feed when not in use. One day I looked at the hardware flyer from Beaver's Hardware in Kasson, and there was a new in box minibike for sale that week. My father took me in and we ordered it. I was so excited and couldn't wait for it to come. I had heard that some people go to the factory to see their vehicle assembled and I got to do the next best thing. I convinced him to let me ride along in the truck to bring it back.

My dad would drive a large cattle truck to the twin cities to haul freight back to the local retailers when he wasn't busy farming. I loved to ride along with him whenever I could. He would load livestock at local farms and deliver the cattle or hogs to the South Saint Paul Stockyards. Next the truck box was blasted clean with a high-volume water hose at a truck wash. Then he would drive all over the twin cities loading on freight for Kasson and Rochester retailers. It was so much fun to ride from warehouse to warehouse getting the truck filled with huge boxes. Every week there was a shipment hauled back to the hardware stores in Kasson. There was the Gambles Store, Erickson's Our Own Hardware and Beavers Hardware.

The shipment was rather anti-climactic. Except for a small picture on the side, one wouldn't know what was inside the large brown cardboard box. It was partially disassembled and completely in a box. And we still had to bring it home from the store and unpack it. Once the handle bars were installed, oil added to the crankcase and fuel tank filled, it was ready. A couple pulls on the



recoil start and it roared to life.

I drove that mini bike all over the farm. In the woods, through the creek and out to the field. It crossed the river and went up every hill just to prove it could be done. My dad was quite the stickler for obeying the law and explained that I must get off and push the mini-bike across the highway. It wasn't street legal and I was expected to abide by man-made rules. At least when he was watching, anyway. But that smooth asphalt road was so much better to ride on. If I looked both ways and there was nothing approaching, I would head right down Highway 57 to the field drive, instead to riding down the road ditch.

Soon I learned a few things about that little gas engine. I still have a scar on my wrist from where I touched the exhaust pipe as I checked the oil on a hot engine. I also dis-

covered that touching the spark plug while the engine was running was a shocking experience. I could override the governor and that little 3 1/2 horse power engine would double the top end speed. I would just put my foot up and push governor over and that thing would fly. I never thought about the little Tecumseh engine flying apart from the high rpm's. Coming back down the field drive I felt like I was flyin'.

One day I was heading back from the hog barn and I realized too late that the electric fence gate was closed at the driveway. I locked up the brake and laid the mini-bike down, sliding right under the wire. To my amazement I came back up on two wheels and continued on. That little blue mini-bike gave me hours of fun as a kid.

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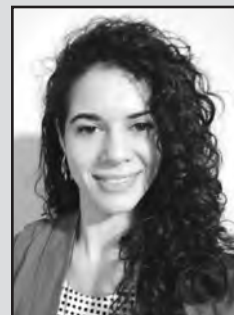
**Judging begins at 11:00AM - Awards at 1:00PM**

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## A Minnesotan: Mother's Day



By RosaLin Alcoser

May is here which means Mother's Day is once again upon us. I for one am looking forward to spending time with my own mother this Mother's Day.

Now that we're adults my mom generally spends one year with me and the other with my sister. Partly to be fair, but mainly because we live in two different states with Iowa in the middle. So unless one of us travels to the other she only gets to see one of us at a time. And she always insists on coming to us. I think it is mainly a ploy to get us to take her out to different ice cream places then she has where she lives. Which is besides the point.

These days mother's day typically means I take my mother out to brunch if she's visiting me or sending her something I know she'll enjoy if she's with my sister. But

when I was little it meant making cards, little tinkety things that we picked out for mom and homemade gifts. My mom even has a couple of the tissue paper flowers I made for her one year.

However, every once in a while when I was a child we would get her a nice gift. Which often meant doing something with my older sister or our dad getting involved. I was probably about eight the year I decided to get her a really nice gift all on my own.

After months of saving up to buy her something really nice. I managed to talk my dad into taking me into town to buy mom's Mother's Day gift at the JC Penny in Rochester. Where I picked out a pair of tiny opal earrings for her; which she still wears every Mother's Day.

I picked those earrings out from the jewelry counter at JC Penny's. Not from one of the display tables, from the counter. I looked into the case and told the lady working the counter which ones I wanted to buy. Then I paid for them all by myself.

Those earrings cost eight year old me about \$30; which is a lot of money if you're an eight year-old circa 2005. But I was so excited to give them to her, because I bought them myself without any help from my dad or older sister.


While taking my mom out to brunch doesn't have the same thrill of giving her my first big deal gift I had bought her myself. I am still looking forward to getting to spend this Mother's Day with her.



# 2025 Goodhue County Dairy Ambassadors



Leetta O'Reilly, Eleanor O'Reilly, Liesl Veiseth, Garrett Pearson, Hanna Gudknecht, Troy Clemenson




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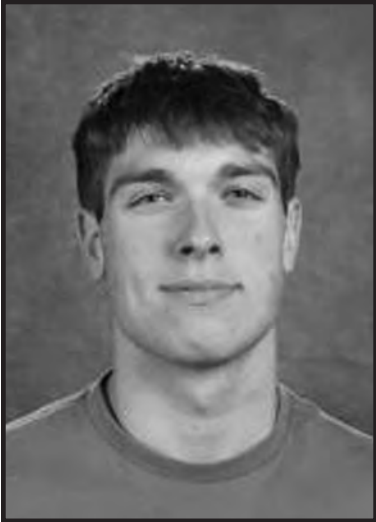
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Asher Dean Moore



Carmen Marie Nerison



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Class of


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I wish you much happiness,  
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future endeavors.

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**Todd Greseth**  
Goodhue County District 3 Commissioner



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Reed Nathanael Sommer



Dustin James Stanaitis



Destiny Eva Torres



Taya Alice Veal



Jack Donald Vierling



Kyle David Vukelich



Noah Wayne Wallaker



Brady Allen-James Wetzstein

Not Pictured:  
Thomas Alan Carlson

  
**K-W Class of 2025  
Graduation**  
Sunday, June 1, 2025  
1:00 P.M.  
Kenyon-Wanamingo  
Middle/High School Gymnasium

CLASS MOTTO:  
"A great accomplishment shouldn't be  
the end of the road, just the starting  
point for the next leap forward."  
Harvey Mackay

CLASS FLOWER: Pink Tulip

CLASS COLORS: Purple


CLASS SONG:  
"Here for a Good Time" by George Strait


GOWN COLOR: Black

TASSEL COLOR:  
Black, Red,  
and Silver

## Congratulations & Best Wishes

We wish all of this year's  
hardworking graduates good luck and great success  
as they start the next chapter.





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## Nerstrand Fire & Rescue Members Attend Grain Bin Rescue Training

*Courtesy of Nerstrand Fire & Rescue*



Last night, Nerstrand Fire & Rescue held a grain bin rescue training. These hands-on drills are vital for preparing our team to respond safely and effectively during farm emergencies — especially grain bin incidents, where every second counts.

Grain bins can be extremely dangerous. A person can become trapped in seconds, and without the proper training and equipment, rescue is difficult and dangerous.

A few important safety tips for farmers and workers:

- Never enter a grain bin alone — always have someone nearby and maintain communication.
- Shut down and lock out all augers and equipment before entering.
- Use a safety harness and lifeline anytime you enter a bin.
- Watch out for crusted or bridged grain, which can collapse suddenly.
- Talk regularly about safety with family members and farm staff.



***We're also looking for new members!***

If you live or work in the area and are available during the day, we need more daytime responders. It's a great way to serve your community, and all training is provided. If you're interested or just want to learn more — we'd love to talk.

***We're proud to serve our community and stay ready for whatever comes our way.***

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## Two Fire Responses on May 15, 2025

Courtesy of Nerstrand Fire & Rescue



At 4:30 PM, Nerstrand Fire was dispatched to a log pile on fire in Holden Township. Firefighters arrived within 8 minutes to find three large timber piles



fully involved, along with a brush fire approximately 10 yards away. Crews quickly contained the flames and discovered embers had ignited the siding of a barn 30 yards from the original fire. All fires were extinguished, and crews cleared the scene by 7:00 PM.

While still working in Holden Township, at 5:06 PM Nerstrand Fire was requested for a structure fire in Dennison. Incident command deployed an engine and brush truck

from their initial scene, with mutual aid from Northfield Area Fire & Rescue Service. Crews arrived in 11 minutes to find a tree had fallen onto a powerline and home, causing an electrical short and filling the structure with smoke. Firefighters investigated and ventilated the home clearing the scene at 6:21 PM.

Great work by all crews involved for their swift response and teamwork in protecting lives and property.

## Make a plan for SEVERE WEATHER

Being prepared for severe weather and its aftermath is the best way to protect lives and property from the unpredictable. Don't get stuck with an expensive liability claim after a severe storm. Speak with your local agent to learn how to be prepared.



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*Congratulations, and best wishes to all of this year's graduates!*



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 <p>LWB w/180 degree rear door, white, 2.5L 4 cylinder, FWD, 100,007 miles #10555X</p> <p><b>\$14,499</b></p>	 <p>AWD, gray, cloth interior, 2.5L 4 cylinder, 80,841 miles #10601X</p> <p><b>\$14,999</b></p>	 <p>7 passenger, AWD, silver, cloth interior, 3.5L V-6, 112,176 miles #10458X</p> <p><b>\$23,999</b></p>



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*presents*  
**Russ Franek  
& The Biscuits**  
7:00PM-Midnight



Saturday Schedule of Events

- 8-11a.m. **All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast** Under Mainstreet tent. Hosted by Nerstrand-Dennison Fire Dept., and Dennison Community Church. \$12 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 & under, 3 & under FREE. Includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee, juice, milk
- 8a.m. **Farmers Market Downtown**  
**Citywide Garage Sales**  
**Classic Car Show on Mainstreet** Presented by Clutchmen Car Club. Registration \$10. Trophies at 1p.m. Contact Jason Aldorfer 612-203-4172
- 8:30a.m. **Euchre at Fireside Lounge** For information, contact Jen Eggum 507-649-0602
- 9:00a.m. **Scavenger Hunt - \$100 Cash Prize!** Meet and sign up at the tent. Hunt will begin at 9am.
- 10a.m. **Antique Tractor Pull Begins on the Hill** Sign up begins at 8:30a.m.  
**Cow Milking Contest** Main Street, hosted by David Flom Dairy
- 11a.m. **Food Stands Open**  
**Kids Pedal Tractor Pull on Mainstreet (At Mainstreet intersection)** Sign up begins at 10:30a.m.
- Noon **Kids Bingo** Under the tent. Presented by Dennison Lions. Ages 3-11  
**Kickball Tournament** Hosted by 625 Bar & Grill. Sign up at 625 Bar & Grill
- 1:00p.m. **Car Show Trophies Awarded**
- 1-3p.m. **Kids Carnival**
- 1:30p.m. **Parade Downtown - A Kiddie Parade Leads Off Main Parade** (Ages 12 & Under)  
**\$100.00 Prize for Best Parade Entry!** Sign up at Noon. South Mainstreet. Call 507-645-9992
- 2:30p.m. **625 Bar & Grill Bags Tournament - Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place!** Sign up at 625 or call 507-782-9061
- 4:00p.m. **Purse & Gift Card Bingo** Presented by Dennison Lions & Fireside Lounge
- 6:00p.m. **Pie Eating Contest - \$250 Cash Prize!** Under the tent. Sign up at 625 Bar & Grill
- 6:30p.m. **Keg Toss - \$150 Cash Prize!** Across from Fireside Lounge
- 7:00p.m.-12a.m. **Live Music - Russ Franek & The Biscuits** 18+ event. No Cover Charge. 21 to drink.  
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For updated info. go to [www.dennisondays.org](http://www.dennisondays.org)



## Spring Projects and Wetland Protection: What Landowners Need to Know



By Al Henderson,  
Rice SWCD Resource Specialist

Spring is starting to make an appearance here in Minnesota. The trees are starting to leaf out, flowers are beginning to bloom, and the birds are chirping! For many, spring is a busy time to start projects around your property, whether you're getting ready for the crop season, wanting to start a new construction project, or maintaining existing projects after the long winter months.

It is important as a landowner to know the regulations involving your land. One of the regulations to consider is the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). The WCA was enacted

in 1991 and designed to protect wetlands in Minnesota. Wetlands provide several benefits to the environment including, but not limited to, flood control, wildlife habitat, and improved water quality. The protection of these unique ecosystems is done by regulating draining, filling, and excavating activities in a wetland area.

While some wetland areas have long periods of standing water and aquatic vegetation, other wetland areas aren't as obvious. As planting season kicks into gear, many Rice County farmers and rural landowners are out preparing fields, repairing tile lines, or planning new construction. But before digging, ditching, tiling, or filling any low-lying areas, it's important to consider potential wetland areas. It is a good practice to contact the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District before starting any earthwork on your property. Rice SWCD Staff can help determine if a wetland is present and offer technical assistance on next steps for wetland permitting and applications.

Another great resource available to landowners is the Rice County Beacon online mapping system. By visiting the Beacon website, you can search for the property in question and turn on the Wetland layer under the Water Resources Tab. Once activated, the map will highlight potential wetland areas in blue, giving you a visual reference of where wetlands may exist on your land. While this tool doesn't provide one hundred percent accurate wetland boundaries, it's a helpful first step in identifying areas that may require further review. If you notice those blue wetland areas on your property map, it's a good idea



**Before you dig, ditch, tile, fill, or excavate, it is important to identify the wetlands on your property and obtain the proper permits.**

to follow up with the Rice SWCD to determine if a formal wetland determination is needed before starting any earthmoving projects.

Whether you're new to rural landownership or have been farming for decades, understanding how wetlands interact with your

land is key to avoiding surprises. If you're planning a project this spring, no matter how small, give Rice SWCD a call. We're here to help you stay compliant and make the most of your land! For more information about wetlands, visit our website at [www.riceswcd.org/wetlands](http://www.riceswcd.org/wetlands).

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Geri Geiken ([geri@freebergins.com](mailto:geri@freebergins.com))

## Russ Franek and The Biscuits to Headline Dennison Days

(continued from page 1)

More information is available at [www.gsgtp.com](http://www.gsgtp.com).

Following the Pull, 625 will host live music from Andy Tackett.

A full schedule of events will take place Saturday. Kicking off the days will be the annual pancake breakfast, hosted by the Nerstrand Fire Department and Dennison Church. The Farmers Market is scheduled to return along with The Classic Car Show.

Trophies will be awarded for the Car Show at 1 PM.

Euchre will take place at The Fireside at 8:30. New this year is a Scavenger Hunt at 9 AM. Those wishing to participate should sign up at the Mainstreet Tent to learn about the search area. The First person to find the treasure will win \$100.00.

The Antique Tractor Pull begins on the hill at 10 AM. The Cow milking Contest hosted by Flom Dairy will be at 10 AM downtown.

The Kids Pedal Pull will take place at 11 AM, and Kids Bingo under the tent will be at noon. A kickball tournament will be at Noon in the city park area. The kids carnival will be from 1-3 PM, with the parade on mainstreet at 1:30. Be a part of the parade!



**Andy Tackett will perform during Dennison Days Friday, June 20th at 625 Bar & Grill**

Best Parade entry can win \$100.00 A Bags tournament will start at 2:30 hosted by 625 Bar & Grill.

Other activities on the afternoon calendar include Purse & Gift Card Bingo at 4 pm, a Pie Eating Contest, with a \$250.00 prize at 6 pm.

The Keg Toss returns at 6:30 across from Fireside, and the day rounds out with local musicians, RUSS FRANEK and THE BISCUITS playing entertaining for the evening. A Full Schedule is available at [www.dennisondays.org](http://www.dennisondays.org).

Also watch for any updates on the website and on Facebook!



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**SMIF Announces  
Benya Kraus  
as next  
President  
& CEO**



OWATONNA, Minn – Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is proud to announce the appointment of Benya Kraus as its next President and CEO, effective June 16, 2025. Benya succeeds Tim Penny, who has served the Foundation with distinction for nearly two decades.

A nationally recognized rural leader and social entrepreneur, Benya brings a deep personal commitment to southern Minnesota and a career defined by advancing rural vitality across the country. As part of a sixth-generation family native to Waseca County, she embodies what it means to choose to live and work in rural Minnesota as a powerful, intentional commitment to community and opportunity.

“Benya represents not just the future of SMIF, but the future of rural philanthropy across Minnesota and beyond,” said Shawn Vogt Sween, SMIF Board Chair. “She brings an extraordinary combination of vision, humility, operational excellence, and a deep personal tie to our region. We could not be more excited for this next chapter.”

Benya most recently served as Network Advancement Director at Resource Rural, supporting a national portfolio of rural development organizations in securing nearly \$300 million in federal and state grants over the last year. She previously co-founded and scaled Lead For America, a nationwide non-profit investing in emerging rural leaders, and led strategic partnerships that secured over \$60 million for broadband expansion, early

childhood initiatives, and small-town revitalization projects. She holds an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business with concentrations in finance and entrepreneurship.

Reflecting on her new role, Benya shared, “SMIF has built deep roots by investing in entrepreneurs, supporting young children and families, and strengthening the communities that define this region. I am excited to listen, to learn, and to help plant the seeds for an even stronger future — one rooted in belonging, innovation, and possibility for all who choose this beautiful region as their home.”

Later this summer, Benya and Tim will embark on a listening and relationship-building tour across SMIF’s 20-county region. This series of community conversations and storytelling sessions will spotlight the energy, innovation, and leadership thriving across southern Minnesota. The tour will celebrate how rural philanthropy, through SMIF and the broader Minnesota Initiative Foundation network, is helping to shape the future of Greater Minnesota.

“Southern Minnesota’s future is bright because of leaders like Benya,” said Tim. “The next generation of leadership is going to define the success of this region. Now, as I step into retirement, I am excited to turn this important role over to Benya who carries the same deep commitment to strengthening our rural places.”

SMIF’s President & CEO search was conducted by Ballinger | Leafblad, an executive search firm dedicated to serving the civic sector, partnering with foundations and non-



profits to identify and recruit exceptional leaders.

*About Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation*

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is a donor-supported foundation investing for economic growth and community vitality in the 20 counties of south central and southeastern Minnesota. Since 1986,

SMIF has invested more than \$170 million in the region, supporting entrepreneurship, early childhood development, and community vitality initiatives. SMIF is part of the Minnesota Initiative Foundations, a nationally recognized model for rural philanthropy and regional development. Learn more at [www.smifoundation.org](http://www.smifoundation.org).

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## The Life-Changing Benefits of Working at a Christian Summer Camp



By Emmarie Moon  
Director of Discipleship  
and Recruiting at Camp Victory

Every summer, my job is to convince young adults to trade traditional internships or seasonal jobs for something more meaningful: working at a Christian summer camp. While camps are known for offering children and teens a place to grow in faith, friendships, and

fun, the staff behind the scenes often experience just as much—if not more—personal and spiritual transformation. Whether you're considering it for the first time or returning for another summer, there are many reasons why working at a Christian camp might be one of the best decisions you ever make.

### 1. Spiritual Growth

At a Christian camp, faith is woven into the daily routine—through morning devotionals, chapels, small group discussions, and prayer. As a staff member, you're not just facilitating these activities for campers; you're also participating and growing spiritually alongside them. This experience deepens your relationship with God and strengthens your ability to lead others in faith.

Being responsible for the spiritual guidance of young campers is a humbling and formative role. You'll learn how to lead Bible studies, pray publicly, and share your testimony. These are valuable skills that will serve you in church, school, and future leadership positions.

### 2. Building Lifelong Friendships

The bonds formed at camp are often among the strongest you'll ever make. Living and working in close quarters with like-minded peers—often through late nights, challenging days, and incredible highs—creates a unique environment for authentic connection. Many staff members leave camp with friends who feel like family and a support system that lasts long after the summer ends. This is the most common reason why staff come back to work at Camp. They love the community.

Even after moving states and into my young adult years, I am still friends with people I worked at camp with eight summers ago. From different states, weddings, kids and jobs, the bonds formed at camp are strong.

### 3. Making an Eternal Impact

Few jobs give you the opportunity to make such a direct and lasting impact on someone's life. As a counselor or staff member, you're a role model, mentor, and spiritual guide to the campers in your care. Whether it's through a late-night conversation by the campfire, a moment of prayer, or simply being a consistent source of kindness and encouragement, your influence could help shape a young person's faith for life. This is the reason many campers return to camp to work on staff, their life was impacted by a summer staff member and they want to give that experience to campers too.

### 4. Developing Real-World Skills

Christian camps provide hands-on training in areas like communication, conflict resolution, teamwork, time management, and adaptability—the top 5 most sought-after skills in the workplace. From organizing events and leading activities to handling unexpected situations, the job pushes you to grow in confidence and competence. A camp alumni and area school principal says this of camp staff: "When you see camp experience on an applicant's resume you pay attention. Camp staff are energetic problem-solvers, and the ultimate team players. They have an attitude of joy that comes from serving a higher purpose. That skill set raises their ap-

plication to the top of the list."

Plus, many camps offer certifications in areas like first aid, lifeguarding, or ropes course instruction, which can be valuable resume additions for jobs beyond the summer.

### 5. A Break from the Digital World

Unlike many jobs that revolve around screens and office spaces, working at a camp immerses you in nature and face-to-face interaction. The simplicity of camp life—free from technology and distractions—gives you space to reflect, connect with others, and be fully present.

### Final Thoughts

Working at a Christian summer camp is more than just a job—it's a calling and a journey of transformation. It challenges you, grows you, and blesses you in ways few other experiences can. Whether you're drawn by the opportunity to lead, grow in your faith, or serve others, one summer at camp could leave an eternal mark on your life—and the lives of others.

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Dependent



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS  
Licensed Nutritionist

There is a strong drive within many of us to be able to do an activity without the assistance of another. Perhaps this started when you discovered how much more of the world you could explore when you learned to walk, or maybe when you learned to ride a bike without someone holding on to you. As we move into May, many young people will graduate from school and take on new responsibilities and new adventures. We use phrases like “spreading their wings” and “gaining independence.” While it cannot be denied that knowledge and practice lead to new abilities, some reflection will note there are things we are dependent on that should not be forgotten.

Being dependent on something is not a sign of weakness. Recognizing what we are dependent on can give us greater clarity and wisdom on the essentials of life. For exam-

ple, you are dependent on oxygen. We take this for granted until we get “the wind knocked out” of us, or when we find ourselves in a hospital bed with an oxygen mask. You are dependent on pure water. When you were born, your body was 70% water. How important that you keep pure water flowing through so that you do not become a “stagnant pond” growing all kinds of unhealthy things. The general guideline is half your body weight in fluid ounces, so a 200 pound individual should be drinking around 100 ounces of water a day, which is about 12 cups.

You are also dependent on vitamins and minerals. Most of the vitamins were discovered in science observations during the first part of the 1900s. They were first described as “vital amines” noting the vital role these nutrients played in providing health and vitality. With each vitamin there is a list of deficiencies noted when the vitamin is absent in a person’s regular diet. Deficiencies point to our dependence on these essential nutrients. When Vitamin A is absent, you may notice night-blindness, or some kinds of skin disorders like eczema or psoriasis. When B vitamins are absent, you will notice mood swings, fatigue, or mental health challenges. When Vitamin C is absent, illness increases and sores develop in the mouth and on the skin. When Vitamin D is absent, illness increases, weight can increase, and insomnia can increase. These are just the beginning of the ABCs and Ds of vitamins.

Minerals are essential for a healthy immune response, promoting energy, and helping the body muscles to function properly. Most

Americans do not consume enough magnesium each day. Magnesium is essential for helping you to relax as well as helping the body to produce energy. Zinc is used in more than 300 different reactions in the body, aiding the proper activation of the immune system and helping the digestive process. Iodine is the key mineral for the hormone produced by the thyroid that keeps your metabolism in balance. This mineral tends to be deficient in many clients living in the Midwest region. Minerals and vitamins work as a team to complete the perfectly designed function of your body.

Knowing you are dependent on vitamins and minerals for healthy living should help you to consider the best way to acquire these nutrients each day so that you can be more independent on other activities. Will taking a multi-vitamin or mineral tablet work best for you? Can you identify those foods that are the best source for these nutrients and make sure to eat them regularly? You will note our great grandparents were strong and lived active lives without supplements, so getting your nutrients from food is possible. In today’s world of convenience foods and fast eating, the nutrient value has signifi-

cantly declined requiring us to take a closer look at the sources of our food.

If you choose to take vitamin supplements to help maintain a healthy life, make sure to identify a quality supplement that obtains its vitamins from fruits and vegetables. There should be ingredients listed that mention fruits and vegetables on the nutrition label. A simple test on the quality of the supplement is to place a tablet in a glass of water and return one hour later. If the tablet has fallen apart in the water then it is a tablet your body can easily absorb. If the tablet has not fallen apart and remains whole there is a chance you are not getting any nutrients from that vitamin.

I am available to review your questions about supplements, testing, and food plans. Contact me to discuss your health goals for the coming year. I can help you realize greater health freedom in 2025. You can contact me at [nutritionproportion@gmail.com](mailto:nutritionproportion@gmail.com), or check out my website at [www.nutritionproportion.net](http://www.nutritionproportion.net)

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

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## Public Health Spotlight

### Rabies Prevention and Control

By Tammy Fiedler, BSN, RN, PHN & Dr. Sarah Fries, DVM

Rabies is a fatal neurologic disease caused by infection with Rabies Lyssavirus. In the U.S., people can be exposed to rabies by coming into contact with wild animals carrying the virus or through their pets, if the pet has encountered a rabid animal. All warm-blooded animals and humans of all ages are susceptible to rabies. Rabies infection is transmitted



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by the saliva from a bite of an infected animal, by aerosol (inhaled) in caves populated by bats, and rarely from the scratch of an infected animal. People who are exposed to rabies should seek medical care immediately.

In the United States, cats are the domestic species most frequently reported to be rabid, with 200 to 300 cases per year. Worldwide, dogs are the predominant domestic animal to be infected by rabies. Wildlife is the main source of human infection in developed countries. Common carriers in the U.S. include raccoons, skunks, bats, and foxes. The best way to avoid rabies in the U.S. is to keep your distance from wildlife. Never approach injured animals; instead, contact animal control for assistance.

Pet owners can lower their risk by keeping pets up to date on rabies vaccines. For cats and dogs, the first rabies vaccine is given at 16 weeks of age. The rabies vaccine is then repeated one year later. After these first two rabies vaccines, dogs and cats are usually vaccinated for rabies every two to three years. Large animals can also be vaccinated for rabies. To reduce risk of rabies exposure, keep your pets away from wild animals and unfamiliar pets as much as possible. Pets that are exposed are quarantined for ten days to six months or euthanized and sent for testing. Testing to detect rabies infection is always done post-mortem. If you have questions regarding rabies exposure and your pet, call your veterinarian.

If you suspect you have been exposed to rabies or if you have been bitten or scratched by an animal, wash the wound immediately with soap and water, then call your health care provider. You must wash and seek medical help right away. Mammals infected with rabies typically die with 10 days of onset of clinical signs.

Your healthcare provider will be able to guide you on whether you need treatment. The treatment after rabies exposure is called post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP). This treatment is highly effective if it's given as soon as possible after exposure. Delaying PEP can lead to an untreatable rabies infection and death.

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612-698-9547



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507-323-0319



## Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,  
Minnesota State Patrol



**Question:** Are trailer hitch load extenders legal? Occasionally I haul some lumber that sticks out beyond my tailgate and would like to know if I can use this.

**Answer:** Yes you can. Note that when the load upon any vehicle extends to the rear four feet or more beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there are some requirements. At the extreme rear end of such load a red, yellow or orange flag or cloth not less than 16 inches square shall be displayed.

At the times when lighted lamps on vehicles are required, a red light or lantern plainly visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the sides and rear shall be in addition to the rear light required upon every vehicle.

Another good reminder is to always make sure any and all items you are transporting

are properly secured.

**Question:** The other day I came across a railroad crossing sign with the word "EXEMPT" placed on it. What is that all about?

**Answer:** An X-shaped sign identifies a railroad crossing. If there is more than one track, a sign below the crossbuck indicates the number of tracks.

Warning signs, pavement markings, gates and flashing red lights are positioned at most railroad crossings. Pavement markings include a stop line, an "X," and the letters "RR" painted on the pavement in front of the crossing.

An "exempt" sign means that bus and truck drivers, who are usually required to stop at railroad crossings, may proceed without stopping. However, drivers still need to look in both directions for trains.

**Question:** In one day, Monday I had three incidents where cars did not yield right of way when they had a flashing left turn



arrow. I have observed several other incidents involving other drives as well. It seems of late people seem to think the flashing arrow gives them the right of way.

**Answer:** A flashing yellow light or arrow means "caution." Proceed through the intersection with caution. Yield the right of way to vehicles and pedestrians already in the intersection. If you are turning left or making a U-turn, you must yield to oncoming vehicles that are close enough to be an immediate hazard.

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

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



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## Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management Announces Date for Cannabis License Application Lotteries

*Lotteries for social equity  
and general applicants  
set for June 5*

ST. PAUL, MINN. – The Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) announced it will hold license application lotteries on June 5 for social equity and general applicants for three license types critical to establishing the supply chain in the state's emerging adult-use market: cannabis cultivator, cannabis manufacturer, and cannabis mezzobusiness. The office will also hold a lottery for social equity applicants (SEAs) applying for a cannabis retailer license on June 5, preserving some of the advantages to SEAs envisioned in legislation. A lottery for general applicants for the cannabis retailer license—which includes a second chance for social equity applicants not selected in the first lottery—will follow this summer.

"The office has prioritized the review of applications for the license types necessary to successfully stage the market," said OCM Interim Director Eric Taubel. "Today's announcement reflects the office's goal to license the supply chain from the starting points in order to foster an equitable cannabis

market that prioritizes public health and safety, consumer confidence, and market integrity."

The lotteries mark a significant milestone in the state's work to launch a legal adult-use cannabis industry that is expected to mature over the next several years. In order to qualify for the lottery, each application was rigorously reviewed to ensure consistency with statutory requirements and baseline standards of readiness. In reviewing applications, OCM assigned half of its reviewers to focus on the four license types limited in quantity by state statute, prioritizing those essential to building up the cannabis supply chain—cultivator, manufacturer, and mezzobusiness—followed closely by retailers.

The other half of reviewers focused on license types available in unlimited quantities, beginning with testing facilities – another type essential to the launch of the state's cannabis market. They then turned to applications for microbusiness and medical cannabis combination businesses to support cultivation capacity and continuity of access to medicine for medical patients. Finally, reviewers will focus on cannabis wholesaler, transporter, and delivery service license types, which represent downstream market services. Applications for cannabis event organizers and lower-potency hemp edible manufacturers and retailers will follow later this year.

"In the coming weeks, more and more applicants will be notified that they are advancing to the application lotteries. They will soon join the hundreds of qualified social equity applicants who are already deep in the process of completing application requirements," said Jess Jackson, OCM's director of social equity. "It's exciting to see the entrepreneurial spirit of our applicants as they get



closer to having a license in hand and prepare to open their doors for business."

### Following the lotteries

The license application lotteries will be livestreamed for members of the public and the media via the office's YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/@MNCannabisManagement](https://youtube.com/@MNCannabisManagement). Results will be posted to OCM's website and shared with applicants after completion. OCM is partnering with Smart-

play International, Inc., a recognized leader in digital lottery drawing systems, and Baker Tilly, an advisory tax and assurance firm, to conduct the lotteries. Both vendors have conducted cannabis license lotteries in other states. OCM has also engaged idream.tv Location Images, a local provider of video production and video streaming services, to assist in managing the lottery livestream on June 5. For more information, visit [mn.gov/ocm](https://mn.gov/ocm).



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Goodhue County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule 2025		
Tuesday, May 6	Kenyon Goodhue Co. Shop 1005 Hwy 60	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, May 20	Wanamingo Casey's - Hwy. 60	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, June 24	Zumbrota Park-N-Ride Parking lot	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, July 8	Pine Island Pine Island High School	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, July 15	Goodhue Community Center	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, July 29	Cannon Falls Lake Bylesby Park	2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

COMPLETE HHW INFO ONLINE: [goodhuecountymn.gov](https://goodhuecountymn.gov)  
HHW HOTLINE: 651-385-3107

We will NO LONGER be collecting Fluorescent Bulbs at the Hazardous Waste Collections. The Goodhue County Recycling Center accepts fluorescent bulbs Monday-Friday, year-round. We are very sorry for the inconvenience.

A Household Hazardous Waste drop-off is available at the Goodhue County Recycling Center in Red Wing, from the first Monday in May through the last Friday in October. Hours of operation for the drop-off will be Monday through Friday (except holidays), from 8am until 3pm. Please utilize the drop-off as much as possible in order to prevent large crowds at the collection events listed above. There is a 10 gallon per person per day limit at the Red Wing drop-off. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Goodhue County Recycling Center is located at 3745 Highway 61 N in Red Wing (across Highway 61 from the Red Wing Shoe Factory).

For safety, place waste products in a box when transporting  
Questions? Call the HHW Hotline: (651) 385-3107  
We will no longer collect Fluorescent Bulbs at the HHW Collections

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection Do's and Don'ts

#### DO BRING:

**Paint/Stain/Thinner Etc.-**  
Bring unusable paint products to the collection.

**Pesticides/Herbicides (Non-Agricultural, Non-Commercial Grade) -**  
Products designed to kill weeds, bugs, rodents, mold and fungus.

**Automotive Products-**  
Bad gas, cleaners, anti-freeze, fuels, grease, lead-acid batteries.

**Household Products-**  
Drain opener, strong cleaners, spot removers, adhesives, acids & bases.

**Exotic Batteries-**  
Ni-Cad rechargeable, Button, Lithium, Mercury, other unusual batteries.

**Mercury Devices-**  
Thermometers, thermostats, mercury switches.

**Aerosol Cans-**  
Partial or plugged pressurized spray cans of all types. Empty, depressurized cans can be disposed of in trash.

Please limit quantities to 10 gallons per person per event, as space is limited at collections.

#### DO NOT BRING:

**Business or Agricultural Hazardous Wastes-**  
Business wastes will be refused. Businesses should contact the Olmsted County Hazardous Waste Facility at 507-328-7078.

**Electronics-**  
City of Red Wing Waste Campus 651-385-3658

**Prescription Drugs-**  
Contact: Goodhue County Law Enforcement Center 651-385-3155

**Empty Containers-**  
If a container is empty and dry, it is no longer hazardous. Recycle or dispose of in trash.

**Fluorescent Tubes-**  
Bring them to the Goodhue County Recycling Center.

**Non-Hazardous Products-**  
Soaps, regular light bulbs, broken glass or ceramics, recyclables, trash.

**Waste Oil, Oil Filters-**  
Engine oils and filters can be recycled through local sources.

**Medical Wastes/Sharps-**  
Contact your local clinic or hospital for disposal information.

**Explosives and Ammunition-**  
Contact local law enforcement on their non-emergency number.

**Appliances- No appliances.**  
**Solar Panels- No solar panels.**



## Goodhue County Sheriff's Office

Open House  
Monday June 16th  
5:30-7:00 PM  
Rosie Park, Goodhue



Please join us for this FREE family fun event!

Meet our deputies and see and learn about our resources and partnerships within Goodhue County.



**City of Nerstrand  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
April 8, 2025,  
221 Main Street, Nerstrand, MN  
7:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Mayor Todd Evavold, Council Members John Harris, Karla Ingersoll, Betty Voge, Pam Caron  
**ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk LeAnna Anderson-Speiker, Interim Clerk Jeanette Baalson, Public Works Steve McDowell, and New Staff member Jacob Payne

**GUESTS:** City residents

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Council Mayor Todd Evavold made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Council member Betty Voge. All approved.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Payment of Claims dated April 8, 2025.

B. Minutes from March 11, 2025

**MOTION:**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion made by Council Member Karla Ingersoll and second by council Member John Harris. All approved.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

• Late fees will begin in May.

• Bank reconciliation is not available this month due to a few minor errors we need to address.

• Shut off notices have been sent. It has been worked out between the clerk and Steve.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

• New City Clerk Resolution- City clerk LeAnna Anderson-Speiker and Deputy Jeanette Baalson. Motion to approve made by council member John Harris and second by

council member Pam Caron. All approve.

• New Water/Sewer Operator Resolution- Jacob Payne has been selected. Motion to approve made by John Harris and Mayor Todd Evavold seconds. All approved.

• Waterford Warrior Resolution-A \$1000 dollar donation was donated to the Fire Department. Motion to approve Betty Voge and second by Pam Caron.

• Lawn Contract Discussion- Cody current agreement ends this year. By September they would like to start posting for a contractor for snow removal and February for the mowing in 2026.

• Library Discussion- The library will be open to the public to check out books and we rely on the honor system for their return.

• Moving Offices in City Hall discussion- The middle room and back room will be cleaned up. The furthest office will be made into the Mayor's office and the middle room will be made into the Public Works office area for holding equipment and such. Files from the furthest room will be relocated to the Clerk's office area to grant easier access.

• Discussion of new attorney-Gdo Law would be our potential new attorney. The council voted to table this discussion until next month.

• Nerstrand Food Truck License-

• Food trucks are to be considered to be transient merchants. Discussion application and definition. Applications will be completed 14 days prior to City Council meeting and application will be reviewed and agreed upon by council.

• Fees associated with the application was tabled for future discussion.

• A motion to approve the four forms to be completed by the food truck vendor was approved by council member John Harris and second by Betty Voge.

• Mulch discussion- The playground is needing mulch. We need to find kid friendly mulch. Tabled until next month.

• Street Paving discussion- Several streets need paving. Oak and Farm street are identified as the priority. Discussion on reaching out to our accountant on if a certain account was set up for just this purpose. Or should we potentially set up an account for future use and only have it for street maintenance.

• Jill and Rick Swenson Hydrant usage and fees- Steve will reach out to the homeowner for discussing their request. Residents mistakenly thought the meeting occurred another date and time.

• Dennison Lions Resolution- They donated \$625 to our Fire Department. Council member John Harris made the motion and it was second by Karla Ingersoll.

**Old Business**

• RFP Resolution- Bollig was the company to submit and they were accepted to represent the city. Council member Karla Ingersoll approves and seconds by Pam Caron.

• Update regarding cannabis ordinance – Headway is being made on the ordinance. Council reviewed a document from Kennedy and Graven. Questions were developed and Mayor would be asking to the potential new city attorney. Tabled until next month.

• Update regarding liquor ordinance and permitting. – It has been agreed upon by council to let Wildwood have alcohol at their establishment as long as they are not serving

it. If they are wanting to have alcohol served they will need to hire a company with a catering license who is licensed to serve. Tabled to resume discussion as ordinance develops

**Reports of Officers**

• Public Works Director –

• Welcoming of new hire Jacob and an explanation of roles.

• The tree trimming along the streets was completed.

• A request for quotes for paving Farm Street will be sent out to possible contractors.

• Hydrant flushing is coming. Last two weeks in April.

• Mayor –

• Mayor is having a phone call with GDO Law to go over items discussed at tonight's meeting for clarification to bring to council next month.

• Four keys were made for the park. 2 went to the Fire Department and 2 in the office.

• Remove snow fence

• Fire Department – Did not attend.

• Council Members - Council members would like the clerk hours posted.

**MOTION ADJOURN:**

MOTION: Motion by Council Member John Harris second by Todd Evavold to adjourn. All Approved.

Todd Evavold, Mayor

LeAnna Anderson-Speiker, City Clerk  
Next City Council Meeting is scheduled for May 13th, 2025, at Nerstrand City Hall

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## City of Dennison Meeting Minutes April 3rd, 2025

The April Dennison City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeff Flaten on Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilors Nichole Schloesser, Caleb Voight, Heidi Cooke, and Diane Ruddle, and clerk Jessica Page.

Councilor Ruddle moved to approve the Meeting Minutes from the March City Council meeting. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0. Councilor Schloesser move to accept the minutes from the Public Hearing held on March 6th. Councilor Voight second. Motion passed 5:0.

Councilor Voight moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

### Goodhue County Sheriff:

Discussion on 21 Gun salute for Sean Kyllø's dad.

**Todd Greseth:** Todd stopped by to see how things were going. He noted that they ended up at 6% at the County for levy increase. Other Counties were looking at 10-15% increases. Goodhue County tries to stay in the 3-5% range. There is a large Data Center that is potentially going in around the Pine Island area.

### Utilities:

1. Update from Nate: Training went well. He is now current on training hours. He stopped at the USA Bluebook booth and met the rep, and they are working on getting the DO meter figured out, to get the correct probe. Travis said we can borrow his again if needed. Hopefully will get it figured out with the rep soon. She is aware of situation. Would prefer not to open the probe as it can't be returned once it's opened.

2. Jeff Hasse water quality issues. Mayor talked with MRWA and Paul's Plumbing about solutions to correct the problem. MRWA estimated about 50 gallons of water in the 500 foot service line leading up to Jeff's building. Because not much water is being used, there's a rotten egg/sulfur-like smell when he runs the faucet. To keep the water from stagnating, running a faucet a couple of times of week, 5-10 minutes at a time, should help alleviate the situation. Paul's Plumbing recommended installing a water softener and filtration system. The City was given a contact for Jeff Hasse to use to resolve his issues. The previous council meeting, Nate suggested using a flushing hydrant to move water/resolve the rotten egg smell in the service line. MRWA questioned the effectiveness, considering flushing wouldn't be done during the winter months, and to resolve the issue was a matter of moving water more frequently. Council discussed the merit of the various options, along with Nate. Nate will talk to Jeff H. about the suggested potential solutions that were suggested by the professionals.

3. The gate valve box at the bottom of hill, 374th and Second Avenue, north of K. Nygaard's house, snapped off during the last time Bill Deutsch plowed early March. The valve box is full of dirt and will need to be dug up and replaced. Ask Bill to do it when the other repairs are being made. Gate valve is cracked on top. By Katy's house. Can first three feet be replaced? Nate and Dan will look at it.

4. Free trainings that Nate wanted to go to. Fire hydrant training but wasn't able to go.

## Old Business/Committee Reports/Building Permits:

Dean Larson\LDohmen parcel boundaries changes. Clerk looked back and although the Council agreed that the changes to the boundaries of the parcel where he wants to build were ok, there was no specific motion to approve them. They are trying to get the sale of the parcel going, and will need approval from the City Council. Councilor Schloesser move to approve the boundary line adjustments for parcel number 62.180.0011. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 5:0.

### Administrative Issues:

1. 21 gun salute for Sean Kyllø's dad at Joe Amy's new business "The Event Center" on April 12th for his memorial service. He asked if they would need a permit or anything? No permits needed according to Sheriff's office, but they did ask that we call the Sheriff's Dept. shortly before it occurs. Can also put on FB or post a notice so people will be aware of it if needed. Councilor Cooke moved to uphold Ordinance #32 stating that no firearms are allowed to be discharged within the City of Dennison. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion passed 5:0.

2. New City Cannabis Ordinance discussion. Draft version of a Moratorium Ordinance was provided to the City by the City attorney. Passing this would give the City one year to work on updating the Zoning Ordinance. Does Council want to proceed with this? This would only address the Zoning parts of the new Cannabis Ordinance that would be included in the moratorium. Council still needs to complete the Cannabis Ordinance for the City. Councilor Ruddle move to enact Ordinance #88 imposing an Interim Ordinance for the City of Dennison establishing a Moratorium on the Establishment of Cannabis Retail Sales Pursuant to MINN. Stat. Ch342. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion passed 5:0.

The Council is going to have planned work group meetings on the third Monday of the month at 6 to work on the Zoning Ordinance. First meeting will start with the first meetings being May 19th., June 16th, July 21st.

3. The 6 CD's for \$50,000 each were all put in place a couple weeks ago.

4. Spring Clean-Up day is tentatively set for May 17th, between 9 AM – 10:30AM.

5. Missing gray chairs from City Hall. Individuals contacted regarded missing chairs responded and they were going to get a hold of

Charlie to arrange for a time to return them to the City. Still haven't gotten a hold of Charlie. He is going to remind Bebee's

6. 100 trees purchased by the City. Discuss plans to distribute and plant them. Mayor talked with the elevator to see if they are willing to allow trees to be planted on the west side of their property line as a wind break. No response back from them yet. Tentative date of pickup is April 24th 12-5 and the 25th from 8-5. Can possibly tap into Thrivent Action Team Funds as there is a Council member who is eligible to request them. They are meant to assist with volunteer activities and help provide seed money for an event. There are certain guidelines that need to be followed, including a minimum two week time for requesting the kit and funds and having a plan for the volunteer activity.

Should Council look for boulevard areas that need trees planted? Make those the first priority. A couple in the park and by the pump house. Who is going to decide what is needed. Councilor Cooke will go look at where trees are needed in the City.

7. Mayor is recommending cutting down more trees this spring. There's an ash tree on the south side of 377th street (across from the well house) which was trimmed by Xcel Energy last fall. One dead tree in the city boulevard by Justin Cormican's house. Also, about three pine trees on the north side of Larson's house should probably be removed. On March 15th, a tree on the east side of the

street came down. Mayor Flaten will get a bid from John Minar. Talk to Xcel about pine trees.

8. Discussion about dealing with chickens/roosters in town. It's currently in the Zoning Ordinance, so can be looked at in the upcoming review. In order to do anything further regarding verbal complaints, a formal complaint form needs to be submitted to the City, and then Council can go from there.

9. Discussion about buying or constructing barricades for the City. Right now, street barricades aren't available for City officials to use in case of emergencies, i. e. trees blocking a city street or construction reasons. Councilor Ruddle was going to review prices and option from different companies and send out what she finds.

10. Street sweeping. Charlie Terpstra quote: \$925 to complete the street sweeping for the City of Dennison. Councilor Schloesser move to accept his quote. Councilor Cooke second. 5:0

### Citizens Issues:

### Mayors Issues:

Councilor Cooke move to pay the bills. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion passed 5:0.

Councilor Cooke moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Schloesser second. Motion was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Next meeting: Regular meeting is Thursday May 1, 2025 at 7:00.

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