



Mazeppa-Zumbro Falls Messenger™

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AUGUST 27, 2025

Volume 19 • Issue 9

Girls Volleyball Alumni Recognition Night is September 11

Submitted

A girls volleyball match between Dover-Eyota and the Zumbrota - Mazeppa Cougars on Thursday September 11 has been designated as Alumni Recognition Night.

(continued on page 8)



Zumbro Falls National Night Out

Submitted by Sandy Hein

The Zumbro Falls Lioness/Lions in conjunction with the City of Zumbro Falls and

Z-M Class of 2038!



Courtesy of Z-M Schools

In August, we welcomed our incoming kindergartners to school for Bridge to Kindergarten, giving them the opportunity to meet their teachers and become familiar with kindergarten.

(continued on page 9)



local businesses hosted a National Night Out event on August 5 in the city park. City leaders shared that the event hadn't been held in over five years due to declining attendance.

(continued on page 11)

Announcements

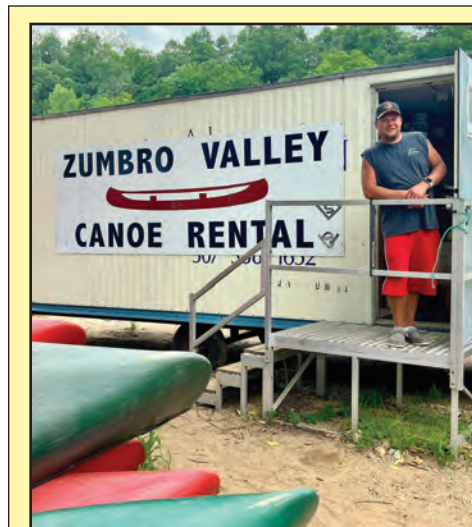
• **MAHS OPEN HOUSE-Sept. 13th-Noon - 3 pm.** Enjoy light refreshments and treats while learning more about the history of Mazeppa and tour our new building! Both buildings will open to see all of our treasures! Helen 507-250-6021.

• **Check out Historical Happenings on page 15** and guess who were the winners in the kiddie parade entries. Check your answers out at the History Museum.

• **Celebrate Recovery meetings every Sunday night at 5pm at South Troy Church, 56817 Highway 63 Zumbro Falls.**

• **The Zumbro Valley Food Shelf is located at South Troy Wesleyan Church, 56817 Hwy 63, Zumbro Falls, MN.** The hours are Tuesdays 11:00am-5:00pm and Thursdays 11:00am-6:00pm. Donations and volunteers are greatly appreciated. For more information contact Pastor Colleen Hoeft at 507-259-1442 or choeft52@gmail.com.

(continued on page 3)



Big News from the River

Zumbro Valley Canoe Rental has new owner. Chris Tetrich is now the owner of the business. They are open seven days a week starting at 9am.

Same beautiful seven miles float down the Zumbro River. Same awesome beach stops on the way. Still ends at Rock Bottom Bar.

Address is 61772 US 63 Zumbro Falls. 507-753-2568.



Mazeppa Community Trail to Sponsor Monster Dash5k- Walk/Run

The Mazeppa Community Trail is sponsoring a Monster Dash5k-Walk/Run on Sunday, October 26th at the Herb Vik Field in Mazeppa.

The event is open to the community, geared towards kids, but it will be a fun afternoon for everyone.

Plans are being made for a food truck, coffee truck, games, pumpkin decorating, exercise and lots of great costumes will be present. All proceeds will be used for matching grant funds. Registration slips available on the Mazeppa Trail Website. Mazeppaocaltrailconnections.com. More information to come!





Chris Olson
is ELVIS
www.majesty.com



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with
**CASH &
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~A Tribute Show to The King, Man In Black & Neil Diamond~

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Saturday, September 27

Tickets Available September 3rd

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The Fireside
RESTAURANT & BAR

SAINT PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MAZEPPA

Fall Bazaar

Sunday, September 21, 2025

HAM AND TURKEY DINNER 11A.M. TO 1:30P.M.

DINNER PRICE PER PERSON - \$15.00 • KIDS UNDER 5 ARE FREE

RAFFLE & COUNTRY STORE!

Wisdom Brings True Success



By Pastor Colleen Hoeft

“Only a fool hates wisdom....” I’m trusting none of us want to be found to be a fool.

I want you to consider the wisest person you know... maybe you are thinking of some famous person, or maybe it was your grandpa, or grandmother, maybe it was your father or mother. Maybe the people you are thinking of are wise for different things... wise in life, wise in relationships, wise in business, wise in fishing... Many of us can think of really intelligent people that make very foolish decisions- so we know that it isn’t intelligence that is necessary to be wise. One proverb says a “fool is wise in their own eyes.” Wisdom lives with good judgment. Wisdom shows us where to discover knowledge and discernment- (from God’s Word!) And I don’t know about you, but I can use all the knowl-

edge and discernment I can get. Only with God’s help can I truly discover and live out good, wisdom.

Focus your Spiritual eyes on Proverbs 8:12-16, “I, Wisdom, live together with good judgment. I know where to discover knowledge and discernment. 13 All who fear the Lord will hate evil. Therefore, I hate pride and arrogance, corruption and perverse speech. 14 Common sense and success belong to me. Insight and strength are mine. 15 Because of me, kings reign, and rulers make just decrees. 16 Rulers lead with my help, and nobles make righteous judgments.”

Solomon likes to give wisdom a human element. Wisdom lives with good judgement. One without the other isn’t truly wisdom. As we develop wisdom in our faith and in our life we will be able to discern God’s will and direction in our lives. Paul writes that we are to ‘work out our own salvation..’ That doesn’t mean we can save ourselves; it means that we need to do our part to live out the faith that we claim to have. When we have faith in God- we can rest in the fact that He is in control. He does know what is happening and no matter the outward circumstances or the human element involved we can trust Him. We need to work it out in our own lives- it is a gift, free and waiting, but we need to unwrap it and use it- otherwise we don’t really own it. When we claim something it isn’t ours until we pick it up and take it with us. Just saying the words- just going through the motions of receiving Christ- means nothing if we are not living it out. As we live it out- we discover that our spiritual discernment becomes stronger as we grow in wisdom and knowledge of God’s Word. Do

you want to become wise? You have got to do the work.

When we walk in God’s wisdom we will fear the Lord- (remember that’s the beginning of wisdom) The wise hate evil. It doesn’t read hate evil people; it says hates evil. We hate those things that Jesus hates. There are lists throughout scripture of the sins that God hates. Bottom line God hates sin. If you need a list here in one from Proverbs, “There are six things the Lord hates—no, seven things he detests: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, 18 a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.” Proverbs 6:16-19

As a new believer I had a very ‘gray’ line about what was right and wrong, so I began to pray that I would only hate those things that God hates. Every sin separates us from God. As Followers of Christ- how dare we continue to knowingly live in sin... it’s just as if you are spitting in the face of Christ at the cross. It’s just as if you were the one nailing Jesus hands again and again to the wooden beams. Do you love Jesus or don’t you? Jesus said, “If you love me you will obey my commands...” John 14:15. It doesn’t get much clearer than that.

If you want wisdom that brings true success in your life- hate those things that God hates- and love those things that God loves- mainly people! If we don’t love the people that God has created in His own image- how can we love God? “If someone says, “I love God,” but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don’t love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot

see? 21 And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.” 1 John 4:20-21.

When we strive for wisdom, it will treat us well. Wisdom blesses all those that strive to attain it. Often those that strive to live out their lives filled with God’s wisdom discover that they receive riches in this life- as well as store up riches in the next. I don’t think you can go wrong striving for Godly wisdom. Solomon prayed for wisdom and God gave him everything any king would desire. People like LeTourneau, George Washington Carver, Madame Curie; they all trusted God, worked to obtain Godly wisdom and God blessed their endeavors.

Not every wise person becomes famous or is remembered in history books, but there are people that will look up to them. And even better there are no regrets to have to apologize for. When our lives are focused on the wisdom of God- we don’t mimic the world’s way of doing things, we live out our faith and love God and love people. We seek His wisdom to guide and direct us so that we don’t lean on our own understanding, but only on God’s. Just like the worker in Timothy, that proves himself to be true to God’s word- we too will be remembered for our integrity, our justice, our love and our mercy.

Wisdom’s true success is found in the legacy we leave behind. Will you be a great and thoughtful thinker like Ghandhi? Or a merciful and compassionate leader like Mother Theresa? Maybe your faith and love will be something that your grandchildren will one day want to be like in their lives.. What legacy do you want to leave? What successes will you be remembered for?



Mazeppa-Zumbro Falls
Messenger

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TRINITY LINCOLN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Dan Reich
507-753-2576 • 35933 Cty. Rd. 17, Lake City, MN
Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.

ST. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

222 1st Ave S., Mazeppa
507-843-3885
Sunday Mass 10:00 a.m.

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Hall 507-753-2424, West Albany
Sunday Mass 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mass 7:00 p.m.

ST. JOHNS (BEAR VALLEY) LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Dan Reich • 507-753-2576
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (POTSDAM)

Pastor Dean Zemple
7134 Highway 246 NE, Elgin, MN
Sunday worship at 9:15 a.m.
(Bible class at 8:15 during the school year)



AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY What to Say?

“When they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit. . . .” — Matthew 10:19

Are you ever at a loss for words? I am, at times, in difficult or sensitive situations, where the cost might be high. In our reading for today, we see Peter and John living out a promise that Jesus had given them—that the Holy Spirit would provide them with words in difficult situations.

Jesus had commissioned his disciples to continue his ministry (Matthew 28:18-20), and now they were doing as he had taught them. They were healing people and proclaiming his forgiveness of sins and his resurrection from the dead.

But Peter and John were arrested and brought before the religious authorities in Jerusalem, and those leaders wanted to know how the disciples had the authority to heal a lame man. The critical moment had come, and Peter, “filled with the Holy Spirit,” proclaimed boldly that they had healed the man in the name of Jesus Christ, who had risen from the dead, and that salvation is found only in him.

Unlike Christians in parts of the world that are hostile to the church today, most of us have not been called to account for our belief in Jesus. We can be grateful, though, for the faithful witness of Jesus’ followers. And we can trust that the Spirit will give us what we need when we too may be called on to share the truth about our Lord and Savior.

Jesus, help us to trust you and the Spirit to help us speak with love and boldness when are called to do so in your name. Amen.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ORONOCO

10:00a.m. Worship
20 - 3rd St. SW, Oronoco, MN
507-367-4711 • www.oronocochurch.org

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Dave Neil
180 2nd Ave NE, Mazeppa • 843-4962
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

ZUMBRO COMMUNITY CHURCH

Dave Mohler
58354 Cty. Rd. 7, Zumbro Falls
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

SOUTH TROY WESLEYAN CHURCH

Pastor Colleen Hoeft
56187 Hwy. 63, Zumbro Falls
www.southtroywesleyan.org • 507-259-1442
Sunday 10:30a.m.
Sunday 5:00p.m. Celebrate Recovery -
5pm- meal, 5:45 large group and 6:30 small groups.
Wednesday Kids and Teen worship at 6pm -
meal at 6, followed by worship and small groups.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Dean Zemple
80 3rd Ave. S., Hammond, MN
Sunday worship at 11:00 a.m.
(Bible class at 12 noon during the school year)

ST. JOHN'S MAZEPPA

Pastor Al Horn • 507-843-5302
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to the
Mazeppa-Zumbro Falls Messenger at: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Obituary

Announcements

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

• **The Mazeppa Area Food Shelf, serving Mazeppa, Bellechester, and Zumbro Falls Area is open the second Thursday of the month from 9:30-11 am and 3:30 - 5:30pm, and the fourth Thursday from 3:30 - 5:30pm.** Food drop off locations are First State Bank of Red Wing, Mazeppa Branch, and Entry way to Mazeppa City Hall.

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

Barbara Renee Kennedy

Barbara Renee Kennedy, age 68, of Zumbro Falls, passed away peacefully on August 9, 2025, surrounded by family at her home. She was born on January 25, 1957, in Belmond, Iowa, to Craig and Virginia (Tillman) Larsson. The family moved from Iowa to Chicago in 1965 and landed in Minnesota in 1972 where Barb graduated from Mazeppa High School, married Daniel Muenkel and together had two children, later divorced and Barb married Howard, celebrating 35 years prior to his passing.

Barb worked as a waitress in several establishments including Pheasant Run in IL, Golden Fox and Fisherman's Inn, MN before eventually partnering up with her mother, when they opened up Gin and Barb's Broadway Cafe in Zumbro Falls in the 1980's. This was home to the famous Friday night fish fry's where the line could be seen leading out the door and down the sidewalk of customers waiting to get in. In addition to her work in the cafe, Barb also supporting her husband's businesses, Kennedy Bus and



Coaches by bookkeeping and tour-guiding. A beacon of resilience and courage, Barbara shone brightly with her unshakeable determination and unwavering conviction. As a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, her absence will be deeply felt, particularly in her cherished activities of gardening, home improvement projects, baking, riding horse, enjoying coffee with friends, sitting on the deck with her beloved dog, Millie, family gatherings up north, and winters spent in Texas.

She is survived by her children, Christen (Roger) Archer of Lake City and Kyle (Sarah) Muenkel of Zumbro Falls; stepchildren, Marilyn (Mike) Wiebusch of Rochester and Tim (Pam) Kennedy of Zumbro Falls;

grandchildren, Cole Muenkel of Faribault, McKenna Meyer, Kylin, and Kale Muenkel of Zumbro Falls, along with her step-grandchildren, John Wiebusch, Mandy Kurth, Sara Blakstad, Christopher Kennedy; eight step great-grandchildren; two brothers, Steve (Debbie) Larsson of Marion, IL and Craig (Jonathan Campbell) Larsson Jr. of Minneapolis.

Barbara was preceded in death by her husband, Howard; brother, Joel Larsson; nephew, Eric Larsson.

Barb will be remembered as a selfless, devoted, wife, and mother, who always persevered no matter what challenges lay ahead. After being diagnosed with stage four cancer back in December 2024 until her passing into heaven, she lived every moment she was given with style, grace and dignity. She was a force to be reckoned with and dearly missed.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Friday, August 15, 2025, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Mazeppa. Reverend Alan Horn officiated. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the church. A private family burial will take place at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery - Bear Valley at a later date. Arrangements by Mahn Family Funeral Home, Anderson-Peterson Chapel

Celebrate Recovery

A COMMUNITY OF HOPE

A Christian 12 Step Program
Join us on Sundays at
South Troy Church

We meet Sundays at 5 pm
South Troy Wesleyan Church
56817 Highway 63 Zumbro Falls, MN

Schedule for meetings:

- Supper at 5:00 pm
- Large group meeting: 5:45 - 6:30 pm
- Small group meeting: 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find healing for your hurts, hang-ups and habits.
Begin your journey today!

Questions?
Contact Pastor Colleen Hoelt at celebraterecovery@southtroy.org or 507-259-1442
Visit southtroywesleyan.org for more information.

WE'RE ONLINE!
www.mazeppamn.com
www.zumbrofallsmn.com



Heather Layne

in Concert

(Free Admission)

Sunday
September 14th, 2025

5:30 p.m.
Dinner at 5:00pm

South Troy Church
Celebrate Recovery
56817 Highway 63
Zumbro Falls, MN

Heather Layne is a Singer/Songwriter, who tells her story during her concerts, of how she overcame domestic abuse and the effects of trauma. She and her Nashville Music Label released another song in 2025 over Country Radio.

When her life hit bottom, she felt lost, confused, and wondered why she was even breathing... Her lowest point became a turning point...

"Heather Layne's music is filled with feeling and compassion that comes from the soul. 'Close Your Eyes', her first single, creates a warm, serene atmosphere that is rare in songs these days. Heather's music is more than just entertaining. She helps change lives with her music in her 12-step recovery and Christian-based ministries. With Heather, it's all one package, and that's what makes her music so special." Jerry Duncan, President (Jerry Duncan Radio Promotions, Nashville, TN)

Seen and heard over Television and mainstream Radio, across the U.S. and overseas, Heather Layne has a heart for the broken. Her soul-stirring voice, music, and story continue to reach people from all walks of life.

"I was suffering from the scars and buried pain of severe domestic abuse I endured earlier in my life. As I worked the 12 steps of recovery, God worked in my heart, and my life started to untangle. I realized God wasn't mad at me, and He had a plan for my life. God's purpose began to surface... and a dream that had always existed in my heart... to sing and play guitar... became a reality. Songwriting became my therapy and my connection with God. - Heather Layne

www.HeatherLayne.com

The Annual
Lutefisk and Norwegian Meatball Supper
Vang Lutheran Church
2060 County 49 Blvd
Dennison MN 55018
Saturday, October 4th 2025



Menu:

Lutefisk with melted butter, Norwegian Meatballs with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Cole Slaw, Fruit Soup, Lefse and Norwegian baking's

Join us for our annual supper, buffet style

New for 2025; Continuous seating no reservations needed: 11:00am, thru 1:00pm seating times and 4:00pm thru 6:00pm seating times.

Home or business delivery by reservation

11:00-2:00pm/4:00pm-6:00pm

Please call 507-789-5189 (leave message) or email at vanglutefisk@gmail.com

Ticket price \$26.00 each; payments by check or cash on October 4th

#507-789-5186 vanglutefisk@gmail.com

Fresh Feathers: Pillow Cleaning Service Coming to Goodhue

By Beth Brekke

Loved your feather pillow but it shed its filling all over the room so you banished it to a garbage bag in the bottom of your closet? Maybe you have a foam pillow whose stuffing is stuck in a wad? Is your polyester pillow still comfortable but the covering has seen better days? It's time to send them all to pillow rehab!

Fortunately, Carlson Pillow Cleaning Service is coming to town and can revive, re-fluff and give your pillows the spa treatment they deserve.

The mobile service unit will be at the Goodhue Depot parking lot on North Broadway Tuesday September 9th from 6 pm to 8 pm and Wednesday September 10 from 7 am to 3 pm.

Carlson Pillow Cleaning Service is again coming to Goodhue thanks to the effort of Deb Gnotke. Carlson started coming to Goodhue over 20 years ago after a local woman asked Deb to look into a pillow cleaning service. The biannual event has been used as a fundraiser for the MS Society, supporting research for-and people with-Multiple Sclerosis like Deb's husband, Dave who has lived

with the disease for more than 50 years.

Working out of a mobile trailer, a machine cleans, disinfects and deodorizes pillows using germ-killing, ozone emitting ultra-violet light. Tumbling brushes rotate and fluff feathers without removing any of their oil, extending the life of the fill. The tumbling removes dust and chaff and the feathers are then transferred into a new material covering of your choice. More feathers and goose down can be added if desired. The process is completed in a short time and pillows returned to you the same day. Crushed foam pillows can also be cleaned and polyester pillows can be recovered. Carlson also sells new pillows of various sizes and feather and down composition. He will work with other down items such as comforters but that is not same-day service. The mobile unit will be clearly marked while parked at The Depot lot.

Contact Deb Gnotke at 651-764-5587 or ddgnotke@sleepyeyetel.net. For specific information on the pillow cleaning service, contact Mike Carlson at 320-212-5811 or check his website: www.carlsonpillow.com.

Got a Great Local News Story?

Tell us about it today!

Email:

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Share Your Good News!

Submit your engagement, wedding or birth announcement.

Email us at:

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Mazeppa Monster Dash Run/Walk Event

This 5k event is a fundraiser for the Mazeppa Trail in town!! It will also benefit the safe route for schools initiative. It is being run in coordination with the Trunk or Treat event in Mazeppa. The Trunk or Treat, hosted by the Business Women of Mazeppa, will follow the Monster Dash. Halloween costumes are encouraged. Show us your best costumes!!



Course

The Mazeppa Monster Dash Run/Walk will feature a 3.1-mile route. The route will start at Herb Vik and will be multiple laps.

Time Limit

The course will be set up for 1 hour. Timing will be provided but not for competitive purposes.

Post-Race

Join us for music, free water, bananas and granola bars during and after the race.

For Fun

Face Painting. Costume contest (prizes for the best costumes 18 or under). Pumpkin decorating (until gone). There are other fun events in the works!

Parents/Students

Please be sure to turn in your permission slip ASAP. Deadline is 10/05/2025 for a T-shirt.

Date & Location

Sunday, October 26th, 2025
Herb Vik Field in Mazeppa

Events

Check in Time: 1:00-1:45 P.M.
Start Time: 2:00 P.M. End Time: 3:30
Trunk or Treat: 3:30-5:00 P.M.

Registration

Turn into the school offices only.

K-12 Student Registration: \$25
General Registration: \$35

Cash or check payable to Mazeppa Trail. The registration fee includes run/walk registration, snacks, water, and a t-shirt! *Only guaranteed if you sign up before October 5th!

<https://MazeppaMonsterDash5k.eventbrite.com>

Mazeppa Monster Dash Run/Walk Entry Form

Full payment due by 10/05/2025 to guarantee a t-shirt!

Turn in to the office or send to Zumbrota-Mazeppa Elementary School ATTN: Ben Sand

Date: _____ Name: _____

Additional Name: _____

Additional Name: _____

Additional Name: _____

Additional Name: _____

Email: _____

T-shirt Size: **SELECT ONE** (or more if multiple people signing up on this form)

YOUTH Small Medium Large XL **ADULT** Small Medium Large XL 2XL 3XL

Signature: _____

Note: For the safety of all participant skateboards, scooters, and skates of any kind are prohibited in this event. Waiver of Liability: In consideration of my entry being accepted, I waive any and all claims for myself, my administrators, and my heirs against all officials, sponsors, and organizations connected with the Mazeppa Monster Dash Run/Walk for injury or illness that may directly or indirectly result from my participation in this event. I attest that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event, and am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event.



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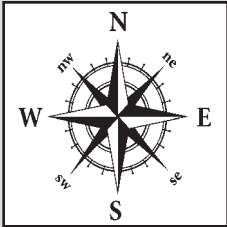
CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION



507-732-5151



Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes I Was Born a Cowboy



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.

I have always loved horses. My dad bought my older brother a Welsh pony when I was in Third grade. It was my first hand me down horse. We only rode it bareback. It was a good trainer horse. I learned how to fall off and survive. I found that to be very important in life.

In Fifth grade I bought a cob horse from my best friend for \$100 and a new saddle from Wayne Abbey's tack shop in Pine Island for \$40. Best starter horse ever. In seventh grade I bought a quarter horse gelding for \$400 and

put thousands of miles on him. The Dodge County Saddle Club would have trail rides each month starting at the Bringgold farm. I would ride him up there and join everyone for a couple hour ride through Buehler's Woods, and then after a late night hot dog roast I would ride him three miles back home in the dark.

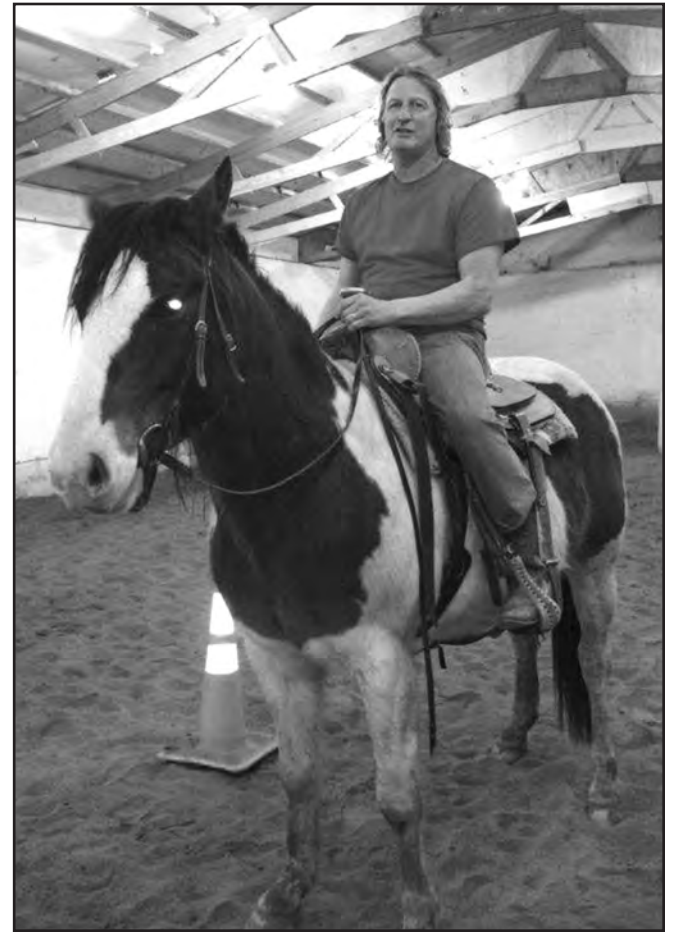
Every horse has a warm place in my memory. A 3 year-old un broke Appaloosa I bought from my best friend was my project in the mid 80's. I broke him to ride in a couple weeks and he never gave me a bit of trouble. He was a cow horse and when it was time to cut cattle he knew exactly what to do. If there were beef to herd you learned to have a firm grip on the saddle horn when your foot hit the stirrup or he was going to accelerate right out from under you.

I got the idea I wanted a draft horse to ride and bought a 5 month-old Clydesdale about 2005. That was the first time I had to halter break a colt that outweighed me by a couple times. He walked right over me for the first month before he learned to respect the lead rope. I ended up riding him bareback most the time because I couldn't get my foot high enough to reach the stirrup.

In 2007 I traded a cob horse for a 5 year-old un broke Paint gelding. His name was Mayson and he was beautiful. Not being under a saddle for 5 years presented a challenge. We went through a month during training where he did his best to shed both saddle and rider. I won and he became a terrific horse.

But my best horse story happened when I was 18 years old. I found a quarter horse for sale outside of Zumbrota. My dad and I went to check it out. It was a college girl selling her horse after winning a blue ribbon at the Goodhue Fair. My brain shut off when I saw her. The girl, not the horse. Instead of listening closely that this was halter class only, I said I wanted to ride it. They had no saddle and only an old bridle with twine string reins. My teenage boy brain still didn't get it. It was a pretty girl and I was clearly not thinking about the horse. Ignoring common sense, I pulled the reins up, grabbed the mane and vaulted onto its back. We headed down the drive and up the ditch. Once out of sight of the girl I began to understand the situation I was in. This horse did not respond at all to the bit or the reins. After a short way down the road, the horse decided to head back to the farm at a full gallop. After thundering down the driveway and skidding to a stop in front of the surprised family, I dismounted and said they were asking more than I was interested in paying.

We got back in my truck and headed home. Once we turned onto the road my dad began



to laugh uncontrollably. He said family was shocked that I would even consider mounting the horse as no one had ever ridden it before. They were certain the horse was going to return without the rider. He wasn't sure himself that I was coming back. Unfortunately, I knew a lot more about horses than girls.



Berne Doodle Puppies
Male & females,
family raised, dewes removed
and first vaccination
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MAZEPPA, MN

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A Minnesotan: Canning Season



By RosaLin Alcoser

Now that Fall is rolling around and the county fairs have come to an end. Or if you live anywhere near a lake the cabin people have started to go home. That means one thing in rural Minnesota. It's nearly harvest time.

I grew up in rural Minnesota, but I was not a farm kid. So outside of my family's massive garden, I never participated in harvest. I did, however, grow up between farms so there was a time or two in my teen years that I was called upon to watch younger children during harvest. Outside of that late Summer and early Fall usually

meant something very different at my house. It meant it was canning season.

As previously mentioned my family had a massive garden and my father was very good at procuring large quantities of apples. Looking back at it all, the amount of apples he was able to get a hold of was extremely impressive. Which did mean we spent a good portion of the Fall canning nearly all of the vegetables from the garden but also making everything apple that could be canned. We're talking applesauce, apple butter, apple pie filling, and apple jam. Now if you've never made any of these things I can tell you that it is a long and time consuming process. Which can also be quite explosive.

Once when my older sister was a teenager she was keeping an eye on a round of apple butter that was in the middle of the canning process. It was in the pressure cooker when it exploded, getting apple butter all over the kitchen. All the way up to the ceiling; which was quite impressive, considering it was a 9 foot ceiling.

Needless to say that the apple butter explosion of 2005 is probably part of the reason she doesn't can or make apple butter. Not that I do either of those things, but my apartment also doesn't have the counter space. Nor do either of us have our father's gift for being able reasonably to get that many apples at once.

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Zumbro Falls Area



50th Annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show August 29, 30 & 31



Visitors can take a trip back in time with all the various exhibits and activities going on at the annual Rice County Steam & Gas Show just South of Dundas MN on Hwy. 3 Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 29, 30, 31.

Attendees can expect to see many of the familiar attractions as they have in the past including the operating sawmill, corn shelling, thrashing, blacksmithing, and more. The annual flea market will take place on the grounds and additional exhibits are many, including antique tractors, classic cars and trucks along with draft horses.

Vintage Machinery, both horse drawn, and tractor driven, will be on display and used in various exhibits on the grounds.

The tractor parade takes place at noon each day.

Breakfast is served daily on the grounds as well as other food stands offering food



file photo

throughout the day.

The kids pedal pull is Saturday after the parade, and the tractor pull is Sunday at 9:00 AM. For the annual fundraising raffle, a Club Car Golf Cart is the Grand Prize this year. Raffle Tickets are just \$5.00, with the drawing Sunday at 4 PM.

A petting zoo will also be available for visitors, presented this year courtesy of Windy Willow Farm Adventures.

There will be live music all three days and a non-denominational church service will take place Sunday at 8:00 AM.

General admission is just \$10 for the entire weekend and all events are free for ages 12 and under.

Celebrating 50 years of shows, the all-volunteer group works hard to preserve history, maintain the grounds and bring new pieces



The Charlie Sticha Band
from 1 pm to 4 pm!

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Old Country Boys on Friday,
August 29th from 5 pm to 8 pm!

of history to visitors every year. The newest building acquisition for the club was the former Waterford, MN schoolhouse and township building, which was moved to the grounds from its original location in Waterford (Just North of Northfield). Photos of

the historic move are available on the Rice County Steam and Gas Facebook page.

Complete information and event listings are available on the group's Facebook page and website at ricecountysteamandgas.com

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***TRACTOR PULL - Sunday 9:00 am**
***KIDS PEDAL PULL - Saturday 2 PM**
***RAILROAD TRAIN RIDES - DAILY**
***SUNDAY 4:00 pm* RAFFLE DRAWING**

LIVE MUSIC & BEER GARDEN

FRIDAY
 1:00 - 4:00 pm Charlie Sticha Band
 5:00 - 8:00 pm Old Country Boys

SATURDAY
 10:00 - Noon Marv Gohman
 1:00 - 3:00 pm Square Dancing
 1:00 - 4:00 pm Dave Horejsi - Drentlaw House
 4:00 - 8:00 pm Dakota Ramblers Band

SUNDAY
 8:00 am Non-Denominational Church Service
 10:00 - Noon Marv Gohman
 1:00 - 4:00 pm Czech Area Concertina Club

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 (Located South of Dundas on Highway 3)

Minnesota Dairy Community Crowns 72nd Princess Kay of the Milky Way

Malorie Thorson (Thor-son), a 20-year-old college student from Waverly, representing

Wright County, was crowned the 72nd Princess Kay of the Milky Way in an evening ceremony Aug. 20 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

Thorson will serve as the official goodwill ambassador for the nearly 1,800 Minnesota dairy farm families. She is the daughter of Andrew and Colette Thorson and attends South Dakota State University.

Ten county dairy princesses from throughout Minnesota competed for the Princess Kay of the Milky Way title. Alexis Hoefs (Hayfs) of New Prague, representing Le Sueur County, and April Klaphake (Claw-paw-key) of Sauk Centre, representing Stearns County, were selected as runners-up.

Hoefs, Natalie Clemenson (Klem-en-sun) of Zumbrota, representing Goodhue County, and Nicole Hauschildt (Hawshelt) of Zumbro Falls, representing Wabasha County, were named scholarship winners. Lauren Steffl (Stef-el) of Sleepy Eye, representing Brown County, was named Miss Congeniality.

Throughout her year-long reign as Princess Kay of the Milky Way, Thorson will make public appearances to help connect consumers to Minnesota's dairy farm families. She will work to bring dairy to life through conversations, classroom visits and various speaking engagements about the nutritional benefits of dairy and dairy farmers' continual commitment to environmental sustainability.

Thorson's first official duty as Princess Kay will be to sit in a rotating cooler in the Dairy Building (located at the corner of Judson Av-

enue and Underwood Street) to have her likeness sculpted in a 90-pound block of butter the first two days of the Minnesota State Fair – Thursday, Aug. 21, and Friday, Aug. 22. Minnesota artist and butter sculptor Gerry Kulzer will be carving Princess Kay and the finalists.

Other finalists are scheduled to have their likenesses sculpted as follows:

Wednesday, Aug. 27: Natalie Clemenson, Zumbrota, representing Goodhue County

Thursday, Aug. 28: Heidi Montag, Sauk Rapids, representing Benton County

Friday, Aug. 29: Nicole Hauschildt, Zumbro Falls, representing Wabasha County

Saturday, Aug. 30: April Klaphake, Sauk Centre, representing Stearns County

Sunday, Aug. 31: Haylie Wielenberg, Long Prairie, representing Todd County

Throughout the fair, Princess Kay and the other finalists will make appearances near the Butter Sculpture Booth in the Dairy Building. Princess Kay's Facebook page and Instagram will provide regular updates and photos of each completed butter sculpture.

Princess Kay candidates are judged on their general knowledge of the dairy industry, communication skills and enthusiasm for dairy. Midwest Dairy sponsors the Princess Kay program, which is funded by dairy farmers through their promotion checkoff.



72nd Princess Kay Malorie Thorson
photo by Matt Addington and Midwest Dairy

Martin's Mums

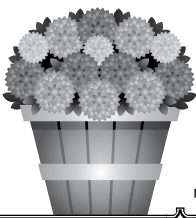
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John Maki
Deb Klatt
Tracy Gadiant
Cindy Knauff
Sharon Moore
Sara Fox
Laura Sathre
Kari McMartin

Winners may pick up their two pack of tickets at the Fireside in Dennison.
Tickets are good August 23, 24, 30, 31, Sept. 1, 6, 7 & 26.



Zumbrota-Mazeppa High School Receives \$5,000 from T-Mobile's Friday Night 5G Lights

T-Mobile is proud to announce that Zumbrota-Mazeppa High School has been selected as one of the first 450 schools nationwide to receive a \$5,000 prize through the T-Mobile Friday Night 5G Lights program — a major initiative investing in small-town high school football communities across America.

Last month, T-Mobile announced year two of its commitment to small-town sports by announcing \$4 million in total prizes — including a grand prize football field technology makeover — as part of this nationwide campaign. In total, T-Mobile will award:

One \$1 million grand prize for a complete

field tech upgrade, a renovated weight room from Gronk Fitness, an all-expense-paid trip to the SEC Championship and more

25 \$25,000 finalist prizes for football programs

450 \$5,000 prizes for schools like Zumbrota-Mazeppa HS is not only among the first to receive this support — they're now in the running for the \$1 million grand prize, which would transform the school's football experience and ultimately benefit the entire community.

Here's how last year's winner in Inola, OK won the grand prize: <https://www.t-mobile.com/news/un-carrier/t-mobile-crowns-inola-high-school-champion-in-friday-night-5g-lights-competition>

How the Community can Support:

Community engagement is key to winning the grand prize! The more local participation the more it can help elevate Zumbrota-Mazeppa High School's chances to win. Learn more at:

www.FridayNight5GLights.com

***** Submission deadline: September 12, 2025*****



Girls Volleyball Alumni Recognition Night is September 11

(continued from page 1)

All former Zumbrota Tiger, Mazeppa Indian, and Zum-Maz Cougar girl varsity volleyball players are invited to attend. Admission will be charged but you are asked to attend to visit with old

team members. All coaches from the past 50 years are also asked to attend.

Tiger, Indian, and Cougar girl volleyball players will be introduced in their groups. Junior High, Grade 9, and JV coaches will be introduced as a group. Head Coaches will be introduced as individuals.

Wayne Anderson, a local sports historian, has located all the old varsity photos of all the girls teams from the past 50 years of girls volleyball. They will be on display in the hallway in the Zumbrota gym. All former girl volleyball players are asked to contact their former team members to help celebrate 50 years of girls volleyball. Make phone calls, text, use Face Book, and other means of social media to get the word out. The Grade 9 C match is at 4:30 and the JV match is at 5:45. Right after the JV match is the special program to honor the volleyball alumni and coaches. After the program the varsity match will take place.



Tanner Jennebach Accepted Into the Minnesota All State Band

Courtesy of Z-M Schools

Congratulations to Tanner Jennebach for being accepted into the Minnesota All State Band!

Tanner will be a featured soloist with the ZM Band at our own winter concert on Tuesday, December 16 at 7 PM.

Tanner will also be performing with the Minnesota All State Band at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis on Saturday February 14th, 2026.

Announcing Auditions for this Year's Musical, "The Magician's Elephant"



Who: Any 5th - 12th grade student who is interested!

When: Monday, September 8th: 3:30 - 5:30 PM or Tuesday, September 9th: 3:30 - 5:30 PM (only need to attend 1 session)

Where: MS/HS Auditorium

What to expect: Script reading, singing, and dancing.

*No need to prepare anything ahead of time.

Performance Dates

November 21st @ 7:00 PM

November 22nd @ 7:00 PM

November 23rd @ 2:00 PM

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Z-M Class of 2038!

(continued from page 1)



The students had so much fun learning about kindergarten, including school breakfasts, classroom learning and play, meeting their teachers and peers, and a bus ride to the park.

They were lucky enough to bring home a bag of learning activities, as well as information and a book provided by our PTO.



Z-M Class of 2038

Page 10

- MAZEPPA-ZUMBRO FALLS MESSENGER-

August 27, 2025



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Zumbro Falls Night Out

August 27, 2025

- MAZEPPA-ZUMBRO FALLS MESSENGER -

Page 11

Zumbro Falls National Night Out



(continued from page 1)

Club members were cautiously optimistic that we could spark interest in the community to gather with their neighbors for a few hours on this one evening. Local businesses were contacted to help share the information. With their support, the club was able to offer prizes for games and give door prizes throughout the evening. We were fortunate to have representation from the ZF Fire Department, local EMS, and county and state law enforcement at the event. We want to thank everyone for attending and hope you enjoyed the event. We didn't know what to expect, but we were definitely thrilled to see so many families and neighbors in attendance!

Special thanks to the City of Zumbro Falls and the following businesses/individuals for their donations: All Craft Exteriors, BP Zumbro Falls, Buck Wild Bar & Grill, Finley Lawn Care, Jenny's Greenhouse, Josh's Auto Repair, Kennedy Transportation, MotoProz, Neptune Bar, Nutriflex AG Nutrition Services, Paul Czaplewski, Sawdust Savage Arbor Co. LLC, Shamrock Salt, Valley Bodywerx, ZF Tapper Trailers, Zumbro Falls Cemetery Association, Zumbro Falls Fire Department, Zumbro Falls Winery, Zumbro Falls Sportsman's Club, Zumbro Falls Veterinary Clinic, Zumbro Liquor, Zumbro Valley Snowmobiler's Association

The ZF Lioness/Lions Club meets the second Tuesday of the month. Location varies. If you are interested in learning more, feel free to contact me at bshein93@hotmail.com.



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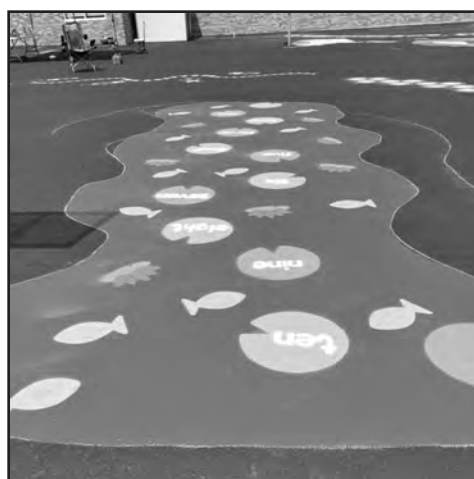
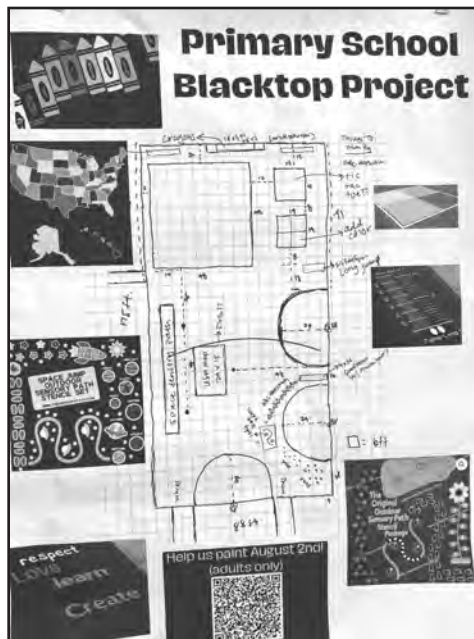
Primary Building's Blacktop Area Transformed

Courtesy of Z-M Schools

Teamwork was in full force! The primary building's blacktop area was transformed!

We thank the PTO, staff and all the volunteers who gave their time to create an engaging space where our students can move and learn.

We are grateful for the generous donations from the ZM PTO and a family in memory of a loved one. THANK YOU!



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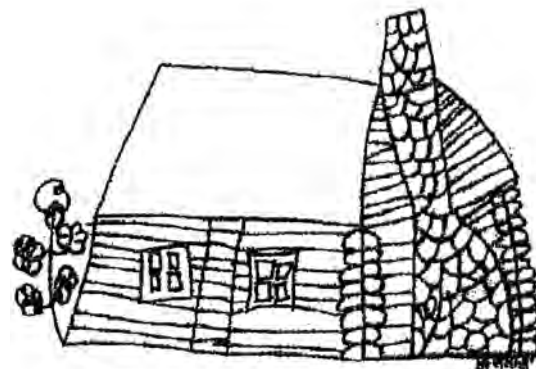
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Harvest Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25

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

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



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Is Your Skin Aging Prematurely? Heart burn pills are Bad!



By Shauna Burshem, D.C.

Use your senses: Expiration dates are more about quality than safety. Labels like "sell by" and "best before" indicate peak freshness, not when food becomes unsafe, leading Americans to toss out billions of pounds of perfectly good food. There's no universal rule—states set their own policies, and companies use different methods, which is why similar products can have varying labels. The only federally regulated dates are for infant formula. Health experts warn that raw meat, seafood, unpasteurized dairy, and baby food pose the biggest risks, but for most other items, trust your senses—appearance, smell, and taste are better indicators. Until labeling becomes consistent, a little common sense can go a long way in reducing waste and staying safe.

Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), commonly used to treat heartburn, have been

linked to significant health risks, including a 16% higher chance of heart attacks and double the risk of dying from cardiovascular events, even in individuals without prior heart disease. While these drugs are marketed as a quick fix for acid reflux, they suppress stomach acid production entirely, which is problematic since most reflux is actually caused by too little stomach acid, not too much. This suppression exacerbates the underlying issue, leading to fermentation, bloating, and pressure that pushes acid into the esophagus. The risks extend beyond the gut, as PPIs interfere with nitric oxide production, a molecule essential for healthy blood vessels, increasing the likelihood of heart-related complications. Examples of PPIs include esomeprazole (Nexium), lansoprazole (Prevacid), omeprazole (Prilosec), pantoprazole (Protonix), and rabeprazole (Aciphex).

The dangers of PPIs don't stop at cardiovascular risks. Long-term use has been associated with kidney damage, weakened bones, and impaired nutrient absorption. Chronic kidney disease, acute kidney injury, and even end-stage renal disease have been linked to these medications. Additionally, the suppression of stomach acid hinders calcium absorption, leading to fragile bones and a higher risk of fractures, particularly in older adults or those with pre-existing bone conditions. Stomach acid also plays a critical role in defending against harmful pathogens, and its reduction makes PPI users more susceptible to severe infections like *C. diff*, pneumonia, and *E. coli*.

For those relying on PPIs, it's crucial to understand that these risks can accumulate even with standard doses or over-the-counter use. The FDA advises limiting PPI use to no more than three 14-day treatment periods per year, a guideline often overlooked. A safer alternative is famotidine (Pepcid), an H2 blocker that reduces stomach acid through a different mechanism and doesn't carry the same car-



Chiropractic Health Tip of the Week

"Keep your spine happy by maintaining good posture throughout the day—whether you're sitting, standing, or sleeping. Regular stretching and movement can help reduce tension and improve spinal alignment, especially if you spend long hours at a desk. And don't forget to stay hydrated—your spinal discs need water to stay healthy and cushion your movements!"

diovascular risks. Famotidine also helps block excess serotonin, which can disrupt energy levels and drive inflammation, making it a more holistic option for managing reflux.

If you're currently using PPIs, transitioning off them requires a gradual tapering process to avoid rebound acid production. Full recovery of stomach acid production and digestive function can take months or even years, necessitating targeted nutritional support to rebuild gut health. With over 60 million Americans experiencing heartburn monthly, it's vital to address the root cause of reflux rather than masking symptoms with medications that may do more harm than good. For all natural symptom relief, we have successfully used Zypan in our offices. Zypan is a whole food supplement that reduces and prevents acid reflux (from Standard Process).

Is your skin aging prematurely? Your skin is a dynamic, multi-layered organ that serves as a protective barrier and reflects your overall health and lifestyle choices. Its structure, comprising the epidermis, dermis, and hypodermis, is designed to shield against external threats, regulate internal stability, and support immune and metabolic functions. The epidermis forms a water-tight barrier, while the dermis provides strength and flexibility through collagen and elastin. The hypodermis, rich in fat and blood vessels, cushions the body and regulates temperature. This intricate system communicates with the body through nerves, hormones, and bioactive compounds, but its ability to repair and protect diminishes with age, making consistent dietary support essential for maintaining its resilience.

Skin aging is influenced by two overlapping processes: chronological aging and photoaging. Chronological aging is an internal, ge-

netically driven process that slows cell turnover, reduces collagen and elastin production, and alters hydration levels, leading to fine lines, sagging, and thinning skin. Photoaging, on the other hand, results from external stressors like UV exposure, pollution, and smoking, which create oxidative stress and inflammation that degrade skin structure. While sunlight is often blamed for skin aging, the real issue lies in the skin's nutritional preparedness. A well-supported diet can enhance the skin's ability to recover from UV exposure and other environmental stressors, reducing visible signs of aging.

Diet plays a pivotal role in skin health, influencing its hydration, repair, and structural integrity. Nutrients like vitamin C, omega-3s, carotenoids, and fermented foods strengthen collagen networks, improve hydration, and bolster antioxidant defenses. Conversely, diets high in trans fats, sugars, refined carbs, and additives accelerate aging by promoting glycation, disrupting the microbiome, and weakening the skin's repair capacity. Poor dietary choices, particularly those high in linoleic acid, make the skin more vulnerable to UV damage, amplifying the effects of photoaging. This underscores the importance of a nutrient-rich diet in supporting the skin's natural defenses and maintaining its youthful appearance.

External factors such as pollution, harsh weather, smoking, and irritants like strong soaps further strain the skin's barrier, generating free radicals and triggering inflammation that impair its renewal capacity. While the skin is designed to interact with sunlight and even benefits from it in terms of vitamin D synthesis and energy regulation, its ability to handle exposure depends on its internal nutritional state. A well-nourished skin barrier is better equipped to withstand daily wear and environmental stressors, highlighting the critical connection between diet and skin health. By prioritizing a balanced, nutrient-dense diet, you can support your skin's ongoing regeneration and resilience against aging.

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

Wabasha County Public Health Spotlight National Preparedness Month 2025

By Brenda Tomlinson, Wabasha County Emergency Management



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Since September 2004, National Preparedness Month has been held every September to help people become more aware about the importance of preparing ahead of time for a disaster or emergency that could affect you, your home or your community.

Here are some ways you and your family can plan ahead:

Get ready for any event – With the numbers of natural disasters rising year after year, it makes sense for every person to prepare themselves. Visit websites like Ready.gov and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness to learn more about ways to be prepared in the event of any major disaster.

Run mock safety drills – Test out your home safety plan, build a disaster kit with all the essentials, and run your loved ones – especially the kids – through what to do if a disaster hits. This can give you the best chance of emerging on the other side with everyone safe.

Support community preparedness – Look around and you will find multiple ways to get involved in your community long before disaster strikes. You can volunteer with Red Cross, work with or start a Neighborhood Watch, or visit the Citizen Corps website to get a better sense of how your talents can be used.

Other Ways to Plan Ahead:

- Sign up for local alerts and warnings (available on the county website)
- Make a plan for what you would do when an emergency occurs
- Practice emergency drills and where your family would meet up if separated
- Test your family communication plan and how you would be in contact
- Assemble or update supplies in a disaster kit

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Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol



I was recently issued a 2024 Dodge Durango, replacing my 2019 Dodge Charger. Dodge discontinued making the Dodge Charger for a few years but is supposed to be coming back. State Patrol's main squads are Dodge Durango or the Ford F-150. The State Patrol issues new squads to troopers when the vehicle reaches approximately 120,000 miles. The retired squads are then auctioned off on-line to the highest bidder.



2024 Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD
Highlighted features:
5.7L V8 Hemi engine with 360 horsepower/390 lb-ft torque
Transmission 8 speed Torqueflite Automatic
Axle ratio: 3.09
Tire size, load, speed rating 255/60R 108-V (Firestone)
Ground clearance 8.1
Brakes: Dodge Factory Police BR9 dual piston front single rear
Fuel capacity 24.6 gallons

Top speed 130 + MPH
Top speed of 800 MHZ police radio= 186,000 miles per second
Question: It seems like we have been seeing a fair amount of rain along with flash flood warnings. Can you talk about what motorists should do if they encounter such a thing?

- Answer: Flooding can happen when streams and rivers overflow, dams or levees break, snow melts rapidly, or during heavy rainfall. Floodwaters can cover roads, bridges and low areas. Flash floods can come quickly and without warning, within minutes or hours of excessive rainfall.
- Do not drive through flooded areas. If you see a flooded roadway ahead, turn around and find another route.
 - Be cautious, especially at night when visibility is limited.
 - Remember, 6 inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control or possible stalling.
 - 2 feet of moving water can carry away most vehicles, including SUVs and pickup trucks.
 - Even if the water appears shallow, do not attempt to cross a flooded road. Water can hide dips or damage roadways by washing away the surface.
 - If there is no other route, proceed to higher ground and wait for the waters to subside.
- Question: I have a new driver in the house and they asked a question that got me thinking. If someone has a crash and hits a power pole, what should they do in that situation?*
- Answer: If your car comes into contact with a utility pole, wire or power box, you should:
- Stay in your vehicle and call 911.
 - Only get out of the vehicle if it is on fire.
 - If you must get out, jump from the vehicle with both feet together and shuffle your feet on the ground as you move away from the scene.
 - Always assume all wires and equipment are electrified.

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) Twitter: MSPPIO_SOUTH

NEW MN OHV/ATV Seat Belt Law

A new Minnesota law concerning off-road vehicles (OHVs) and All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) went into effect July 1, 2025. This new law is simple – if an OHV or ATV comes equipped with factory-installed seat belts, all occupants must wear them when operated on or within the right-of-way of a public road. By following the new seat belt law, we can collectively contribute to a safer riding environment for everyone. The Minnesota Safety Council and Minnesota Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS) developed a resource to help riders understand the new law. Please share with family and friends to help promote a culture of safe, responsible riding.

Off-road vehicles are popular for both work and fun, but they can present some serious dangers if not operated safely:

Limited protection: Some don't have the same safety features as a car, like seat belts and airbags, so there is little to protect you in a crash.

High speed and stability issues: These vehicles can go fast, making them difficult to control on uneven ground. They can also tip over easily, especially on paved roads where they don't grip well.

Safety risks: A significant number of injuries – about 26 percent of all ATV-related injuries happen to children under 16.

Enforcement and penalties:
A fine of \$25 per violation may be issued.
Drivers are responsible for their own violations and for any violations committed by passengers under 15 years old.
Drivers looking for additional resources on off-road vehicles should go to buckleupmn.org for more information. RIDE SMART. HELMET ON. BUCKLE UP.



NEW Seat Belt Requirement for ATV Riders

ALL operators and passengers of a Class 2 ATV with factory-equipped seat belts **MUST** wear the seat belt, including both the shoulder and lap belt (if so equipped), at all times when operated on or within the right-of-way of a public road. (Statute 169.686, subd. 1)

What is Required for Riders?

- HELMETS**
Class 1 and Class 2 ATVs:
A helmet approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety is required for **ALL riders under age 18** when riding on public land, public waters, or on private property.
- SEAT BELTS**
Class 2 ATVs Only:
If the ATV has factory-installed seat belts, **ALL operators and passengers** must wear them when operated on or within the right-of-way of a public road.
- | Class 1 ATVs | Class 2 ATVs |
|-------------------------|--|
| Width 50 inches or less | Width greater than 50 inches but not more than 65 inches |

What is the Right-of-way?

Driving the ATV either directly on a public road or within the area that is legally designated as part of the road, known as the **right-of-way**. The right-of-way includes the road itself, shoulder, ditches, sidewalks, etc.

Enforcement & Penalties:

- If you are **15 or older** and violate the law, you can be fined **\$25**.
 - If you are the **driver** of the vehicle, you are responsible for:
 - Your own violations.
 - Any violations committed by passengers under 15 years old.
- You can be fined **\$25 per violation**.

RIDE SMART!
HELMET ON. BUCKLE UP.
It's the Law & Could Save a Life.

Window Tint - Safety Over Style

There are various reasons people want window tint for their vehicles, and many of them go beyond simple aesthetics. It can be a mix of style, privacy, glare reduction, UV protection and an overall sense of a vehicle being a personal space. Minnesota's window tint law aims to strike a balance, allowing for some tint to reduce glare and protect from UV rays while prioritizing the safety of everyone on the road.

Here's why:

- Visibility: Illegal tint can make it difficult for drivers to clearly see other cars, pedestrians or road hazards, especially at night.
- Safety: During a traffic stop, officers need to see into the vehicle. Illegal tint makes this impossible, which can create a dangerous situation for everyone.
- The general rule is that your windows must let in at least 50 percent of the light. Here are the details:
- Front windshield: No tint is allowed.
 - Passenger cars: All side and rear windows are limited to the 50 percent rule.
 - Pickups, vans and SUVs: The front side windows must let in at least 50 percent of the light. There is no limit for the rear side and back windows (behind the front seat).
 - Other vehicles: Certain vehicles, like squad cars and limousines, have different guidelines.
- The law might seem minor, but by following these simple guidelines, we can help drive Minnesota toward zero deaths.



The Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council (SEMAC) Announces New Partnership with Spring Board for the Arts to Offer Business Skills Workshops

SEMAC is excited to partner with Springboard for the Arts this fall to offer three of their Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists workshops virtually for individual artists and culture bearers living in SEMAC's 11-county region. These workshops are FREE to attend, and you can sign up for one, two, or all three.

Springboard's Work of Art program is a professional development curriculum designed

to teach business skills to artists and culture bearers in all disciplines - visual, performing, and literary arts. It starts with career planning and moves through topics such as pricing, marketing, funding, and business plans. Work of Art can be helpful if you are just starting your creative career, or if you need a refresher as you advance your work.

The curriculum is available as a free workbook (in English and Spanish) and downloadable from the Springboard for the Arts website as a helpful reference during or after the workshops. To download the workbook and for more information about Springboard's Work of Art program, go to springboardforthearts.org/professional-growth/work-of-art-program/.

The three workshops being offered this fall by Springboard in partnership with SEMAC are:

Career Planning

Where do you want to be both artistically and professionally? Learn how to define your values, identify key choices and develop a plan to achieve your career goals.

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 / 6:00-9:00p CT

To register:
springboardforthearts.org/events/work-of-art-career-planning-semac/
Time Management

Discover analytical and tool-based approaches to managing your time. These tools will help you tackle hurdles related to efficiency, flexibility, and structure to help you reach your artistic goals.

Wednesday, October 1, 2025 / 6:00-9:00p CT

To register:
springboardforthearts.org/events/work-of-art-time-management-semac/
Portfolio Kit

Your portfolio is the core of your promotional materials and serves as your professional calling card. Focus on the essential elements: sharpening your artist statement, tailoring your artistic resume, and curating and formatting your work samples.

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 / 6:00-9:00p CT

To register:
springboardforthearts.org/events/work-of-art-portfolio-kit-semac/
Please note that these sessions will not be



recorded. Automated Zoom captions will be available. Contact sharon@semac.org, (507) 281-4848, 711 TTY with questions, and use Springboard's registration form for accessibility requests.

This activity is supported in part by the State of Minnesota through a grant from The Office of Small Business Development, Department of Employment and Economic Development.

SEMAC serves Region 10, which includes Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona Counties, including the Prairie Island Indian Community.

SEMAC's activities are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

For more information, visit semac.org or contact the office at 507-281-4848.

Mazeppa Historical Society Fundraiser

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Mazeppa-Zumbro Falls
Messenger



Historical Happenings

Compiled by
Helen Reiland

THE MAZEPPA JOURNAL,
Editor and Publisher: Barbara and Reider Tommeraas
FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1956

County Dairy Days Celebration Brings Crowd of Thousands to Mazeppa Sat. & Sun.

Two parades, contests and a colorful ceremony crowning Wabasha county's dairy princess were highlights of a most successful County Dairy Days celebration here Saturday and Sunday.

Ideal weather conditions drew a crowd here numbered in the thousands.

Names Wabasha County's representative in the regional "Princess Kay of the Milky Way" contest was Miss Janet Cravath of Plainview, 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Cravath. After a great deal of suspense on the part of Master of Ceremonies Lew Conlon, Minnesota manager of the American Dairy association, Miss Cravath was crowned by Miss Ruth Marie Peterson of Lansing, reigning as Princess Kay and also as America's Dairy princess, at the village park Sunday afternoon. Names as her attendants were Miss Bernetta Seipel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Seipel of Mazeppa, and Miss Bernitta Rupkalvis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rupkalvis of Theilman.

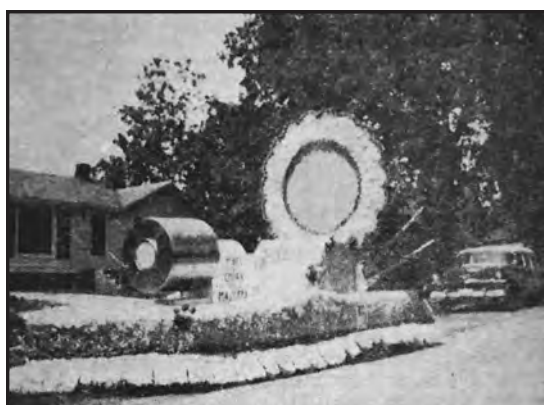
GUESSING CONTEST

Also announced from the stage were winners in the guessing contest from the stage were winners in the guessing contest held during the cooking school, Saturday afternoon. Contestants guessed the combined weight of all girls and women in attendance. Joyce Mehrkens came closest guessing six tons, 656 pounds and was given a package of cheese.

Mrs. Lester Howatt was second with six tons 200 pounds and won a pound of butter. The correct figure was six tons 656 pounds.

MILKING CONTEST- See next month's Historical Happenings.

Historical Happenings are taken directly from the archives of the original papers as printed. Any discrepancies need to be taken up the Editor and Publisher of the said papers, who are deceased.



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JB'S TAVERN

**Special Meeting of the
Mazeppa City Council
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

The special meeting of the Mazeppa City Council was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Chris Hagfors.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Present: Mayor Chris Hagfors. Council Persons Steve Liffrig, Michael Hammes, Dustin Wiebusch, and Erica Young.

Others Present: Holly Leitner, Wanda Schafer, Holly Leitner, Katrina Hagfors, Ashley Hudson from Bolton & Menk, City Engineer Matt Mohs and City Administrator-Clerk Karl Nahrgang.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Young to approve the agenda. All in favor, none opposed.

Carried.

Motion by Young, second by Wiebusch to approve Resolution 2025-26 granting a temporary off-site liquor license to Rumors Bar and Grill. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Hammes, second by Wiebusch to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM.

Administrator-Clerk

**Working Session Meeting of the
Mazeppa City Council
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

The Working Session of the Mazeppa City Council was called to order at 6:03 PM by Mayor Chris Hagfors.

Present: Mayor Chris Hagfors. Council Persons Steve Liffrig, Michael Hammes, Dustin Wiebusch, and Erica Young.

Others Present: Holly Leitner, Wanda Schafer, Holly Leitner, Katrina Hagfors, Natalie Gifford

Ashley Hudson from Bolton & Menk, City Engineer Matt Mohs and City Administrator-Clerk Karl Nahrgang.

Motion by Hammes, second by Young to approve the agenda. All in favor, none opposed.

Carried.

The working session was to discuss progress on planned walking/biking trails and funding sources.

City Engineer Matt Mohs from Bolton and

Menk reported on 2 grants that the City has received from the Minnesota Department of Transportation for the proposed trail project. Safe Routes to School and Local Partnership Program grants have both been awarded to the City for phase 1 of the trail project.

Engineer’s Estimate stated that \$390,200 would be covered by a combination of these 2 grants. Ineligible cost to be borne by the City would be \$113,800.

The City has flexibility in what budget period the grants would be issued in. The date for engineering work will be autumn 2026 with work to be completed by June 30, 2027. This will give the City, and the Trail Committee volunteers time to dedicate City funds and to solicit outside funds for the project.

Administrator Clerk Karl Nahrgang shared the balances in park/trail reserves. And estimated what could be added from the 2025, 2026, and 2027 budgets, if no other major repairs or projects presented themselves.

Motion by Hammes, second by Liffrig to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM.

Administrator-Clerk

**Regular Meeting of the
Mazeppa City Council
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

The regular meeting of the Mazeppa City Council was called to order at 6:02 PM by Mayor Chris Hagfors.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Present: Mayor Chris Hagfors. Council Persons: Steve Liffrig, Erica Young, and Dustin Wiebusch.

Others Present: City Attorney Luke Lamprecht, City Engineer Matt Mohs from Bolton & Menk, Public Works Director Scott Ellingson, Wabasha County Sheriff’s Deputy Paul Kruger, MMLS Manager Todd Ihrke, Project Engineer Luke Lunde from WSB, and City Administrator-Clerk Karl Nahrgang.

Present via electronic meeting: Holly Galbus from the News Record and Tom Wiener from WSE/CMS.

Absent: Council Person Mike Hammes.

Motion by Young, second by Liffrig to approve the agenda and addendum. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Young, second by Liffrig to ap-

prove July 9, 2025, regular Council meeting minutes, they July 30, 2025, Council Special Meeting minutes, and July 30, 2025, Working Session meeting minutes. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Wabasha County Sheriff’s Deputy Paul Kruger gave the ICR for July. Deputy Kruger said that Mazeppa Daze was calm for the size of the crowds attending the event. He said staffing at the Sherriff’s Department at full strength and a couple of permanent part-time Deputies have completed training and will be filling in to patrol soon.

Public Works Director Scott Ellingson gave the Public Works report.

Administrator Clerk Karl Nahrgang gave the Fire Department report.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Liffrig to accept the resignation of Shelly Schultz from the Mazeppa Volunteer Fire Department. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

MMLS Manager Todd Ihrke gave the Liquor Store report.

City Engineer Matt Mohs gave the Engineering update.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Liffrig to approve WWTP project pay application #9 to Wapasha Construction for \$185,003.00. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Young to approve Street Utility project pay application #2 to Schu8macher Excavating for \$241,984.23. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Young, second by Liffrig to approve Amendment #3 to the Owner-Engineer Agreement Draft pending USDA Rural Development approval for engineering services for additional updates to the street utility project. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Luke Lunde from WSB shared photos from the progress of vegetation on the Riverbank project and report that survey work and planning is underway for phase 2.

Administrator Clerk Karl Nahrgang reported on City Hall Activities.

Motion by Young, second by Wiebusch to approve building permits. 25-18-0016, 656 3rd Ave. NE – re-roof. 25-18-0014, 568 Oak St. NE – cell tower add-on. 25-18-0018, 180 Oak St. NE – re-roof. 25-18-0020 356 1st Ave. S -furnace-A/C. 25-18-0021, 990 River Bluff Rd. SE – re-roof. 28-18-0019, 1371 River Bluff Rd. SE -deck. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Young, no second was offered to table the LaRoche Lookout Driveway agreement with the City of Mazeppa. Motion rescinded.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Liffrig to approve LaRoche Lookout Driveway shared agreement with the City of Mazeppa. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Tom Wiener from WSE/Construction Management Services presented the new electronic building permit management system that most of the communities they serve have adopted. The new system would also reflect a new rate schedule for building permits. The City of Mazeppa is still using the same schedule established in 1997. The City cannot make money on building permits, but the uniform rate schedule would get the City back to the break-even point and would be easier to track in the year-over-year budget.

Mr. Wiener also announced that Jay Kruger is retiring from CMS. The City should update its appointments to name Tanner Young as the City’s Building Official.

Motion by Young, second by Liffrig to approve Resolution 2025-27 approving a Legal Gambling permit for the Lion’s Club at W.D.’z 2. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Young, second by Liffrig to approve a transfer of \$241,984.23 from City reserves to the operating fund to the pay for a portion of the agreed City contribution for the Street Utility project. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Young, second by Wiebusch to approve Resolution 2025-28 Accepting a donation for Mazeppa Daze Costs from the Mazeppa Lion’s Club. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Liffrig to accept the bid of \$24,595.15 from Maverick Construction to repair the center roof portion on the City. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Young to approve Resolution 2025-29 issuing a temporary off-site liquor license to Rumor’s Bar and Grill. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Liffrig to pay the bills and claims. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

City Attorney Luke Lamprecht informed the Council that the rates for criminal prosecution would need to be increased for next the next budget year. Attorney Lamprecht said that these cases take more time than his current staff can cover. He suggested the City contact the Wabasha County Attorney to check for costs prosecuting these cases. The Wabasha County Attorney’s office prosecutes cases for most of the other communities in the County.

Council members wanted to announce the next Community Market on Thursday, August 21, 2025, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, and its Kids Night”. They also thanked Cole of Next Level Excavating for donating the installation of the cement pad and bench overlooking the river near the Maple St. Bridge and thanked all of the all of the volunteers that worked to make Mazeppa Daze a success and to the organizations that contributed with more volunteer hours and funds to present all the events.

Motion by Wiebusch, second by Liffrig to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, none opposed. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Administrator Clerk
Next Meeting: September 10, 2025
date to be determined.

The City has been overwhelmed with construction projects in progress during Summer 2025. City residents in different areas of the community have dealt with water shut-offs, unpaved streets (sometimes, no street at all), off-site mail delivery, dust, noise, and the side effects from construction projects. The residents have also been very patient and understanding. Very few calls have come to City Hall regarding the inconvenience of the projects. This is a credit to the residents. City staff, the contractor, and the City’s engineering firm, have all went to great effort to make information available and answer questions about the project.

Infrastructure replacement is messy, disruptive work. The City also put off road repair on some of these areas for years because we knew this project was coming. I think after all is completed and we are driving on new pavement and grassy areas have been repaired in these areas of the community; it won’t take long to forget the inconvenience that we have had to deal with. But for right now, we appreciate the patience and understanding that those dealing with construction projects in you front yard.

CLERK CHATTER

By Karl Nahrgang
Administrator Clerk,
City of Mazeppa

Mazeppa
**community
market**

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1. Bothersome one
2. *Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Graham
3. Molokai party
4. Leeches, alt. sp.
5. R2-D2, e.g.
6. Declares to be true
7. *College, home to football's Nittany Lions
8. *Football intermission
9. Paella pot
10. Addict
11. *What the NFL's Jim Brown famously did
13. Fixed up
14. Bleated
19. Hoagie, alt. sp.
22. Bathtub hooch
23. Green side
24. Accustom
25. Imitate
26. *Quarterback's downfall
27. The N of U.S.N.A.
28. Move smoothly
29. Mister in Madrid
32. ____-view mirror
33. What Harry and Sally did
36. *Pre-championship games
38. Work the dough
40. High tea vessel
41. Bucolics
44. Gustatory sensation
46. Hook, line and sinker person
48. Coffin holders
49. Rekindled
50. Type of ski lift
51. Drift like aroma
52. Type of fish net
53. Like acne-prone skin
54. Climber's destination
55. It's more, to some
56. Don McLean: "A long, long time ____..."

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



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Students & Teachers a

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SCHOOL YEAR

Follow these important rules on the school bus for your safety and the safety of your fellow passengers.

- Arrive at your bus stop at least five minutes early. Running to catch the bus is very dangerous.
- Stand at least three giant steps away from the curb when you see the bus approaching your bus stop.
- Stay put until the bus stops, the door opens and the driver tells you it's okay to enter the bus.
- Always use the handrails when entering and exiting the bus.
- Never walk behind the bus. If you must cross the street, cross in front of the bus. Walk on the sidewalk alongside the bus at least five giant steps before crossing in front of it, making sure you and the driver can see one another.
- Stay seated and wear your seatbelt the entire time the bus is moving. Avoid yelling or loud talking that could distract the driver.



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