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SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

Volume 19 • Issue 9


City of Dundas Presents
TRUNK OR TREAT
6 TO 7 PM Friday,
October 24th
Memorial Park
214 1st Street South

The City of Dundas Parks and Recreation Board invites the community to a Trunk or Treat in Memorial Park. Area organizations and businesses will be there with decorated car trunks ready to hand out candy and prizes. Come join the fun!

Harvest Fiber Festival this weekend



Harvest Hill Acres will be hosting the 5th annual Fiber festival this Saturday September 27th at their farm near Sogn Valley. Admission is free and the event is open from 9am to 5pm.

Harvest Hills has been raising Romeldale sheep since 2015. The breed is known for their soft fleece which is easy to spin, knit or weave and is soft enough to wear next to the skin with micron counts ranging from 20 to 25.

There will be a pumpkin patch, face paint-



ing, food trucks, ten fiber vendors and great gift ideas for sale at the festival. The farm

also hosts a knit night event each month at the farm where people may bring their knitting or handcraft project for a fun evening of help, talk or just a chance to gather. The event takes place in the farm yarn store.

(continued on page 3)

Announcements

• As a reminder, the irrigation and watering restrictions run to **October 15th**. Please be mindful of which day to water your lawn!

• **Gol Lutheran Church Harvest Luncheon** will be held on **Sunday, October 19, 2025**. Hours for serving will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The menu includes homemade vegetable beef & barley soup, barbecues, potato salad, pie, coffee & milk. Take outs are also available by calling or texting Julie at (507)491-3505. All are welcome to the 10:30 a.m. church service before the luncheon. Gol is located 1 mile west of Kenyon on 1500 Hwy. 60 Blvd. Thrivent Action Team funds provided.

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

2025 Oktoberfest a Success



with local makers selling their wares along with a collection of cars that came for the Collectors Car & Motorcycle Roll-In. The Roll-In was new this year and brought to you by Dawn's Corner Bar along with Dundas Oktoberfest. The downtown parking lot was filled with local food vendors selling everything from German pretzels to charcuterie, from caramel apples to Black Forest Brownies, with some cheese curds on the side! The adult beverage tent was busy serving up local beer, cider, and wine.

(continued on page 4)

Tracie Vranich
Chair, Dundas
Oktoberfest Board

The Third Annual Dundas Oktoberfest was a big success again this year, and downtown Dundas was hopping! Mother Nature co-operated on Saturday with lots of people showing up to enjoy the beautiful fall weather and all there was to do.

Railway Street was lined

A Great Turnout for the 50th Annual Rice County Steam & Gas Tractor Show



(additional pictures on pages 8 & 9)

Plan Your Next Gathering at the Area's Newest Event Space!

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Saturday, September 27

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LOUNGE and
BAR

Pastors Corner The Fear of the Lord



By Jon Dudek, co-founder of
Isaiah Ministries, bringing
Biblical teaching to help overcome
life's everyday challenges.
www.isaiahministries.cc

Have you ever heard the words used by friends, family, or even your paster that we should have "the fear of the Lord"? Sometimes certain language can get us to scratch

our heads with confusion. Don't worry, you are not alone. Let's dig deep into the Word and see why the meaning of fearing the Lord as a follower of Jesus Christ isn't the same as the worldly definition of fear (to be in distress).

Psalms 112:1 says, "Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, Who delights greatly in His commandments."

Proverbs 1:7 speaks, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 9:10 declares, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

Proverbs 14:27 says, "The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death."

Proverbs 16:6b explains, "And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil."

Proverbs 8:13a declares, "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil."

For a follower of Jesus Christ, the fear of the Lord means to have respect, honor, and awe for Him. Another part of fearing the Lord is to repent from sin and then run into the Lord's arms with thanksgiving. Repent- ing might be another term some of us are un-

aware of. To repent is more than an apology; it means to turn away. I hope reading these verses gives you a better understanding of what it means to have the fear of the Lord. I also encourage you to ask the Lord to in- crease the fear of the Lord in your life. This increase is a beautiful thing because we not only get our eyes on Jesus but our gaze re- mains on Him, and this, my friends, is life-

transforming.

In conclusion and as noted, one aspect of fearing the Lord is turning away from sin, but there will be times we do stumble. For the times you mess up, which we all will do, re- member this verse in Proverbs 24:16a: "For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again."

Area Church Directory

Lost Sheep Blinded

... Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. — Luke 24:15-16

Does it seem unfair that these disciples were kept from seeing Jesus? I have heard people say that it seems Jesus was being tricky here. While Jesus walks along with them, the disciples think he is an out-of-touch stranger who has no idea what happened recently in Jerusalem.

But let's look at this from a different angle. From a teaching and learning perspective, Jesus makes a brilliant move. The disciples do not know Jesus is right there with him, so they can express their misunderstanding and frustration without being distracted. They have no need to try to act as they would if they knew he was there. They have room to hear God's story all over again and to begin learning anew.

We learn that they also asked each other later, "Were not our hearts burning within us as he talked with us . . . ?" Somewhere deep inside they sensed that their fellow traveler had remarkable understanding and authority as he spoke about the Scriptures, but first they needed to be in a space where they could be redirected. Jesus their shepherd had more than one agenda to attend to in order for them to grow as disciples who would be invited to share in his mission. While not being able to recognize him, they could begin to develop spiritual eyes of faith by which all new disciples would begin to see him.

How has the good shepherd gotten your attention lately? What is he trying to teach you? *Lord, help us to learn anew and to be more attentive so that we can see you at work in the world today. Amen.*

CANVAS CHURCH

404 Schilling Drive, Dundas

Lead Pastor: **Jed McGuire** • www.canvaschurchmn.com

Sunday service 9:00a.m. and 10:45a.m.

YTH Wednesdays at 6:30p.m. Canvas Recovery Group meets Thursdays at 6:30p.m.

LITTLE PRAIRIE UNITED METHODIST 2980 130th St. E.

Pastor **Penny Bonsell** • pastor@littleprairieumc.org

507-663-6150 church phone • 651-503-4279 Cell

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship; Sunday School & Nursery; Adult Group 8a.m.

CITY LIGHT CHURCH 2140 Hwy. 3 South, Northfield, MN

Pastor **Pete Haase** • **507-645-8829** Call for service times

LIFE21 CHURCH 2100 Jefferson Road (just north of Target)

Pastor **Brent Bielenberg** • **645-7730** life21church.com

10:00a.m. Worship Experience

NORTHFIELD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 5600 East 110th Street

Pastor **Dan Runke** • **663-0133** • northfieldefc.org

9:30 a.m. Worship; 11:00 a.m. Christian Life Classes

HOSANNA CHURCH - NORTHFIELD 205 2nd St. S., Dundas

Pastor **Dean Swenson** • **507-664-9007** • www.hosannalc.org

Sunday: 9am & 10:45am Worship with Hosanna Kids Church ages 3-5th grade and Child Care for ages 6wks-3years at both services

Fellowship time with refreshments between services.

Wednesday: Middle School Ministry - doors open at 5:30; programming 6-7:15;

High School Ministry - doors open at 7pm; programming 7:30-9pm

MAIN STREET MORAVIAN CHURCH 713 Division St., Northfield

Tel: **507-645-7566** • Worship Services at 10:30a.m.

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www.gospeloflifechurch.org

Sunday 10:30a.m.; Wednesday 6:00p.m.

Sidewalk Pastor



Do we understand the meaning of God's Grace, and what it means to us. I know we often talk about this in church. When i studied this here is something I found out.

Grace is a blessing we dont deserve. We grow in God's Grace through prayer. God says he resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. (James 4:6)

Over the years God has blessed me many times. I am sure many of you remember my story I wrote about, years ago. I will write about it again in the near future.

I want to share with you something that has just happened to me. For two months I struggled with double vision, this had stopped me from driving. When my first story was put in the messenger I talked about how we need to be so grateful for Jesus, right after that, my double vision disappeared. Another gift from God. I am so grateful. We need to live our lives through Jesus Christ. I hope you all think about this. If you know me, get back to me. We will talk about this.

Your friend,
Larry Blood

Dundas Messenger

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Nerstrand United Methodist Church
Fall Festival
Saturday, Oct. 4th
10 am – 1:00 pm

Home and holiday décor
Puzzles
Silent Auction
Bake Sale
Produce
Thrift clothing
Vintage items

Lunch Menu:
 Hot beef Sandwiches
 Pasta Salad
 Chicken and wild rice soup
 Pie/Cake

Web page: Nerstrandumc.org facebook: Nerstrand United Methodist Church

WE'RE ONLINE!
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www.dundasmn.com

Everyone's Invited to our
TURKEY DINNER
 Sunday, October 26th
 at Dennison Lutheran Church
 Serving 11:00am-1:00pm

Menu:
 Turkey Roast,
 Dressing,
 Mashed Potatoes,
 Corn, and Pies

Adults \$13.00 • Children \$5.00
 Children Under 5 Years Free

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CVEC Annual Meeting September 28

Cannon Valley Elder Collegium (CVEC) will celebrate its successful year with a presentation from popular CVEC instructor Rod Christensen, MD: My Prescription: Read Some Fiction. CVEC will honor its instructors, and CVEC participants who have enrolled in many of its courses - from from fifty to eighty, and one outstanding participant who has taken over 120 courses! Pie and coffee will be served. The program is free and open to the public. Sunday, September 28, from 2 - 3:30 pm, St. John's Lutheran Church, 500 W 3rd Street, Northfield. See cvec.org for more information about Cannon Valley Elder Collegium.

For nearly 30 years, the nonprofit Cannon Valley Elder Collegium (CVEC) has offered affordable, noncredit, entry-college-level courses for learners aged 50+. CVEC participants come from throughout Minnesota's Cannon River valley region, and beyond.

Classes are offered in-person (typically in Northfield MN), and online via Zoom. For more information, go to www.cvec.org.

Harvest Fiber Festival this weekend

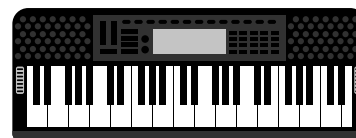
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Upcoming dates are October 24th November 14th and December 5th from 5 to 10pm. Call or e-mail to RSVP.

Harvest Hill Acres is located at 7477 400th Street, Dennison, MN. Phone number is 713,244-4184.

You can check out the website at harvesthillacres.com

Organist Wanted



Holden Lutheran Church
Rural Kenyon

Interested contact:
holdendalesecretary@gmail.com

E-mail your engagement, marriage or birth announcement to the Dundas Messenger
hometownmessenger@gmail.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

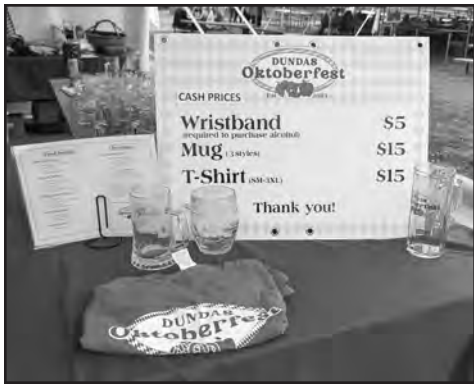
#507-789-5186 vanglutefisk@gmail.com

2025 Oktoberfest a Success

(continued from page 1)

Attendees could visit with local nonprofits at various booths, and check out the playhouse being raffled off by Ruth's House, a women and children shelter serving area residents. And then there was the big tent overflowing with German music, dancing and lots of Oktoberfest revelry - including a stein holding contest!

The official event was from noon to 6:30, but the party didn't end then, with people heading to the two downtown bars. L&M Bar and Grill hosted the After-Party from 6:00-8:00 with live music on the patio and discounted drinks if you came in with an Oktoberfest wristband. Dawn's Corner Bar rocked into the night with "Dundas After Dark" Street Dance from 8:00 to midnight.



Awesome to see all the people in downtown Dundas throughout the day and into the night!

Dundas Oktoberfest is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and run by a volunteer board of directors, with numerous event sponsors and the City of Dundas providing financial support. All coming together to put on this family-friendly and affordable event - for Dundas and surrounding area residents, and for those that simply enjoy a great small-town authentic Oktoberfest! It's held the 3rd weekend after Labor Day each year, so put on your calendar for 2026 to come to beautiful downtown Dundas for Dundas Oktoberfest.

Learn more at dundasoktoberfest.com.



Oktoberfest

September 24, 2025

- DUNDAS MESSENGER -

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Eighty-five classic cars, trucks and motorcycles were on display on Railway Street for the Dundas Oktoberfest Roll In

photo courtesy of Dawn Kruse



Smokescreen played for the streetdance this past weekend for Oktoberfest in Dundas

photo courtesy of Dawn Kruse

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Northfield Farmer Shares Practical Tips for Interseeding Cover Crops in New Conservation Video

By Rice Soil and Water Conservation District

A new conservation video released this week highlights how Northfield farmer Mike Peterson is making cover crops work on his row crop and hog operation by timing their establishment with weed control and nutrient application.

Produced by the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District, the video takes viewers to the Peterson farm where Mike, his wife Kay, and their two sons raise corn, soybeans, and hogs. Mike explains how they interseed cover crops into corn while also applying nitrogen—a strategy that saves time, builds soil, and supports long-term sustainability goals.

“We try to time the interseeding of the cover crop with our weed control, and before the corn is too close to canopy,” said Mike. “As late as you can wait in the year for your con-

tact herbicide to get those emerging weeds, and still give your cover crop a little time to get established, that’s the sweet spot.”

The video outlines Mike’s equipment setup, including the use of saddle tanks and a three-point mounted interseeder that allows them to dribble nitrogen—specifically 32% nitrogen mixed with ammonium sulfate—next to the corn row while planting cover crops. This dual-purpose pass not only helps justify the operation cost but also sets the field up for stronger soil health.

Mike also emphasizes the importance of consulting with an agronomist when planning cover crop establishment, especially when it comes to herbicide selection.

“You don’t want your investment in weed control killing your cover crop,” he explains. “Contact herbicides work best if you want your cover crop to succeed.”

The video is part of a broader effort to promote practical conservation practices that improve soil health, reduce erosion, and protect water quality in the Cannon River Watershed.

Watch the full video here: https://youtu.be/MK_1mkuSLGI?si=XE-boKFKYZcpNpFQ7

For more information about cover crops and conservation practices, contact the Rice SWCD at 5070332-5408.

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All Ages Performance of “TIGRE! TIGRE!” at Keepsake Cidery September 27

The FOX & BEGGAR THEATER presents its eighth feature-length production, “TIGRE! TIGRE!”, a new show about humankind’s absurd relationship to technological progress at Keepsake Cidery (4609 135th St E, Dundas), September 27 from 7-8:30p.m.

Cost is free/pay-what-you-can, suggested \$20. Bring a lawnchair/blanket to sit on.

Our story begins at the dawn of the Scientific Revolution, where a pair of Medieval two-dimensional paper dolls are building the first thing to exist in the next dimension-- a human.

Combining puppetry, traditional clown theater, and a live score influenced by everything from Medieval court music to Gilbert & Sullivan, “TIGRE! TIGRE!” explores humanity’s relationship to technology while asking the fundamental question: what drives us to perpetually open new doors that we know we won’t be able to close?

We are excited to visit Keepsake once again for our third Fox & Beggar performance at the cidery! Come catch an unticketed performance atop our spectacular mobile theater as part of their Oktoberfest celebration.

“TIGRE! TIGRE!” was partially devised by twelve artists over three weeks at the Acreage in Osceola, WI under the working title of “The Paper Operetta.” The project returns in Fall 2025 to tour across Minnesota and Wisconsin, including stops in St. Croix Falls, Stillwater, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Northfield, Viroqua, Eau Claire, Hayward, and Bayfield.



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FINALLY FRIDAY - All You Can Eat Fish Dinner

SATURDAY

Hand Battered Jumbo Shrimp or Slow Roasted Prime Rib

SUNDAY

Enjoy Our Sunday Breakfast Beginning at 9a.m. and Sunday Supper Features, including 1/2 Price Bottles of Wine (after 4p.m.)

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Between Land and Water: Buffers for Healthy Streams



By Al Henderson, Resource Specialist
Rice SWCD

The Minnesota Buffer Law was put into law in 2015 to promote healthy bodies of water in Minnesota. Perennial vegetative buffers have been shown to improve many different aspects of water quality. Buffers, also known as riparian filter strips, aid in filtering out nutrients and sediment from runoff, as well as provide bank stability and habitat for aquatic life.

Within Rice County, properties with public waters adjacent to their land are monitored and reviewed by Rice SWCD staff every three years for buffer width requirements. The buffer compliance standards are set by the

Board to Water and Soil Resources. For public ditch systems, the buffer width requirement is 16.5 ft, and DNR public waters require a 50-foot average, 30-foot minimum.

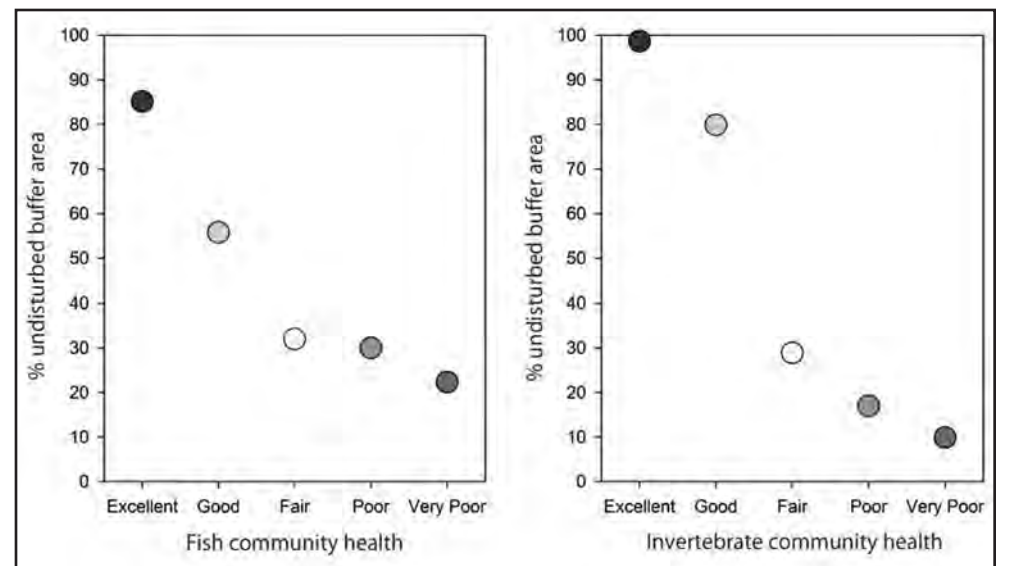
It is important to be mindful of our impacts on the land and to have established buffer strips for properties adjacent to public watercourses. Unfiltered runoff causes excess nutrients to enter our bodies of water, leading to eutrophication, or an overproductive water system. When nutrient levels become excessive, algal blooms form, reducing dissolved oxygen and negatively affecting aquatic life and the health of the water system.

Buffers also impact bank stability by preventing soil loss, additional runoff issues, property damage, and overall degradation of the land's soil health. Having a stable bank also provides habitat for aquatic life, such as shelter and breeding grounds for fish, birds, and other wildlife.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) reported on collected data regarding stream health and buffer quality in 2015. They found that in streams with the majority of the buffer intact, the water quality, bank stability, and macroinvertebrate species were significantly better than in streams where the buffers were not established and intact. When performing their stream surveys, the MPCA used the Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) to determine where on the index scale the quality of the stream fell. The higher the index score, the higher the quality of the stream. For example, Caddisflies and Dragonfly larvae are more sensitive to pollution and will typically be found in higher quality



An established buffer adjacent to County Ditch 4 in Rice County.



Buffer quality compared to the health of the fish and invertebrate communities for more than 3,500 monitoring sites. Figure taken from the MPCA report on buffers improving water quality (2015).

streams. Meanwhile, leeches, black fly larvae, and snails are more tolerant of pollution and can be found in streams that may be more degraded.

In 2024, the DNR announced that they would be conducting surveys to begin the process of redetermining the public waters inventory in Minnesota over the next several years. The DNR recently shared the first four counties, and the order of counties will be processed in a quasi-alphabetical order. This process will begin this year, and they are projecting to have twelve counties completed a year for the next eight years. There are several phases to this process as the project con-

tinues; you can find more information, subscribe for updates, and track the progress of this project on the MN DNR website under the "Public Waters Inventory Update Project."

The DNR Public Water Inventory Update Project will be making adjustments to designated public waters. If you have a watercourse adjacent to your property, these updates may be relevant to you. To learn more and stay informed, please reach out to Rice SWCD at 507-332-5408, subscribe to updates on the DNR website, or send an email to the Public Water Inventory Update email address: pwi.update.dnr@state.mn.us.

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NEW! Wicked Wand Workshop
NEW! Ninja Warrior Challenge

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2025 Minnesota Renaissance Festival

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Rice County Steam & Gas Tractor Show



photos courtesy of Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Inc.

Two of the original charter members were given enlarged show posters from the early years. These were presented by Pres. Bill Becker & Vice Pres. Jeremy Sevcik. Congratulations Larry Malecha & Butch Malecha!

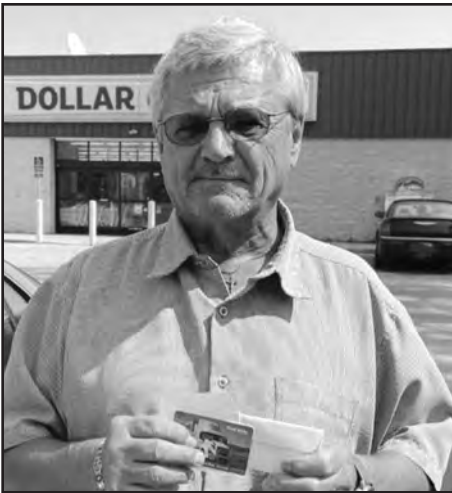


Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Inc. Tractor Show Raffle Winners



1st prize, 2025 Golf cart - Jesus Sanchez, Medford Mn.; 2nd prize, two \$500 fuel gift cards; Fritz Sticha, New Prague Mn.; 3rd prize, \$500 cash - Foster Transburg, Northfield Mn.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!!
Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets.



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Rice County Steam & Gas Tractor Show

September 24, 2025

- DUNDAS MESSENGER -

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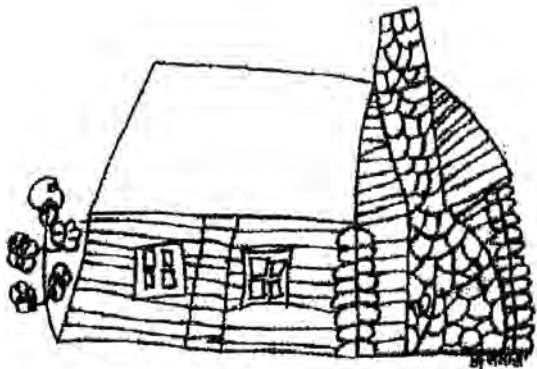


Harvest Thyme Craft Show

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

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

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



Place:
Lori & Darwin Amy
2290 County 49 Blvd. Dennison, MN 55018
Phone: 507-649-1009
Email: cabincrew@frontiernet.net



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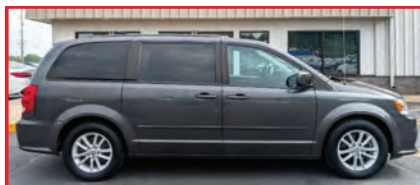
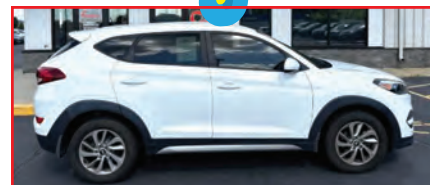
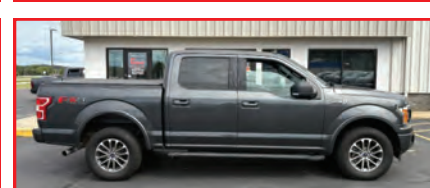
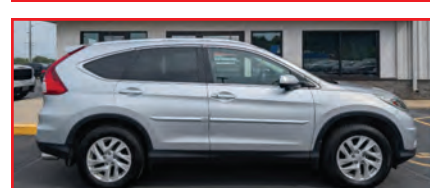


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Apples



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS
Licensed Nutritionist

You probably have heard the rhyme, “An apple a day keeps the doctor away.” But what does an apple really do for you? Does any apple work, or only certain kinds? Let’s dig a little deeper.

Medications - A 2015 study published in JAMA Internal Medicine by Davis et al observed that those who consumed one apple a day required less prescription drugs. Those who eat one apple a day probably make other healthy choices as well that contribute to this positive association between apples and reduced drugs.

Heart Disease - A 2017 study published in Molecular Nutrition Food Research by Bon-donno et al compared apples high in flavonoids, which are found in the apple skin, with apples low in flavonoids and observed improved blood flow through the brachial arteries when the high flavonoid apples were eaten. In other words, these apples improved

the blood flow through the body. The apples with high flavonoid content will typically be darker red apples that are not too sweet.

Cholesterol - The healthy control of cholesterol has also been improved with an apple a day. A 2017 study in the Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture by GC Tenore compared modern apples with the Annurca apple and observed that two small Annurca apples a day significantly lowered the bad cholesterol and increased the good cholesterol. The Annurca apple is known for its higher flavonoid content. Older, heritage apples typically have high flavonoid and polyphenol content.

Blood Sugar – Those individuals who had a daily intake of apple polyphenols, which are from the skin of the apple, had an improved ability to manage blood sugar compared to individuals who did not consume the polyphenols. This observation was reported in a 2017 study published in Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice by Shoji et al. One possible reason for this improved sugar control is the polyphenols seem to reduce the sugar absorption ability of the intestines by closing the primary “door” that sugar uses to pass through the intestines, according to Schulze et al in their 2014 published study in Molecular Nutrition and Food Research.

Colon Health – The ability of the polyphenols of apples to “close the door” on sugar transport to cells is one of the pathways to stop the growth of cancer cells in the colon, as observed in a 2016 study by Lin et al in the Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry. A cancer cell has many more “doors” to bring in sugar to accelerate growth, so polyphenols help to close these doors and inhibit the



growth of cancer cells. The peeling of the apple contains the highest content of effective polyphenols with antioxidant activity, antibacterial activity, and anti-cancer activity, which was documented in a 2016 study by Lin et al in the Journal of Food Science.

The older apple varieties that have high polyphenol content include – Braeburn, Jonathan, McIntosh, Gravenstein, and Annurca. Avoid the newer varieties that have been bred for increased sugar content and size.

An apple a day is the eighth guideline in the Foundation to Thrive program, a whole food lifestyle program providing personal coaching to help you succeed in your goal to live a healthier life. This program provides a personalized meal plan based on your unique

blood chemistry. Those who have followed their personal plan have observed blood sugar levels become controlled, cholesterol levels improve, inflammation decreased, acid reflux disappear, and the body shifts to a healthy weight.

Every health challenge you face in the year ahead has a nutritional answer to it. Your health challenge can be successfully addressed with a quality nutrition plan. 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, or check out my website at www.nutritionproportion.net**

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

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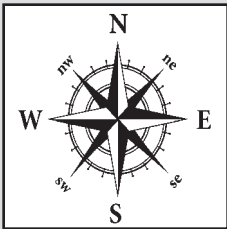
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes I Was Born a Cowboy



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.

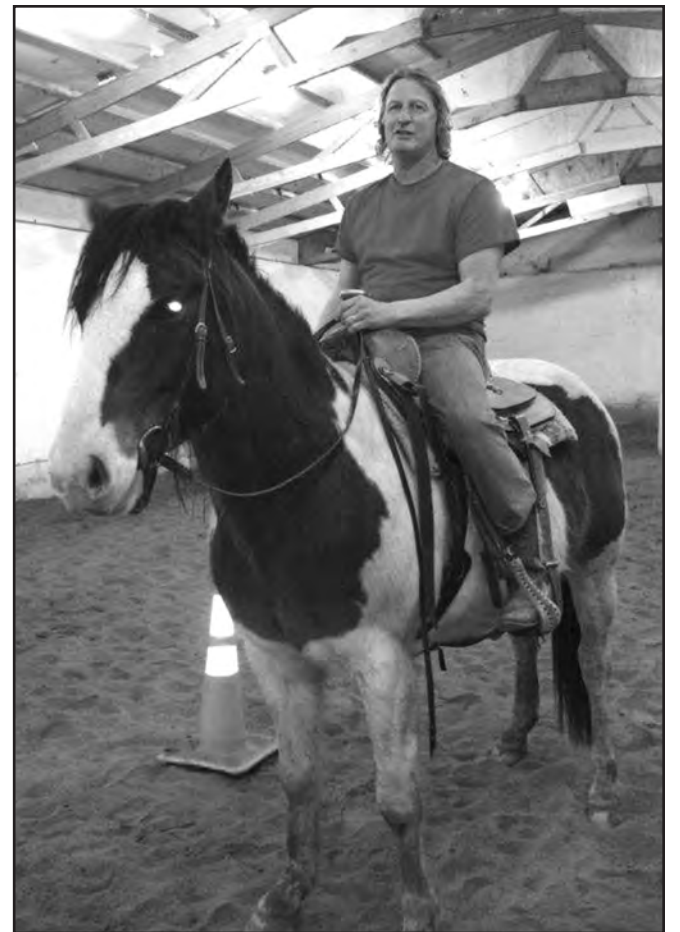
Every horse has a warm place in my memory. A 3 year-old un broke Appaloosa I bought from my best friend was my project in the mid 80's. I broke him to ride in a couple weeks and he never gave me a bit of trouble. He was a cow horse and when it was time to cut cattle he knew exactly what to do. If there 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.

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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.

MnDOT Presents County, Engineer its 2025 Partnership Award

By Rice County



When Mark Schoenfelder was asked to consider a nominee for the Department of Transportation's Partnership Award, Rice County immediately came to mind.

"Rice County is a strong transportation partner," MnDOT District 6 Transportation Engineer Schoenfelder told the Board of Commissioners during its Aug. 12 meeting.

The statewide award, which recognizes entities and organizations MnDOT officials consider highly collaborative, is given annually.

While Schoenfelder understands, and recognized all Rice County staff and its Board of Commissioners when presenting the award, he singled out County Engineer Dennis Luebbe, now in his 24th year with the county.

"He fights hard for the county's interests as well as looking out for transportation as a whole and within the region," said Schoenfelder, listing several recent collaborations between his office and Rice County to support his nomination.

This fall, Rice County will finish paving County Road 46/Hazelwood Avenue, the final section of two Interstate 35 frontage roads –

one east, one west -- that run from the Dakota County line to Faribault. These roads not only serve as an additional north/south corridor and alternate route should the interstate close, but are expected to help drive industrial/commercial growth.

Last year, the county completed a six-legged roundabout at the I-35/Hwy. 19 interchange, a long-awaited safety improvement. It was Luebbe who accelerated the project by cobbling together funding from five different sources, including three state grants, to pay for what normally would have been a state-led project.

As county highway engineer, Luebbe often works with township and city officials in Rice County to assist in developing and maintaining a strong transportation network. Currently, he's collaborating with Faribault city leaders on developing a new I-35 interchange at County Road 9, just west of several industrial facilities including Daikin, Trystar and Met-Con, and is working with officials in Dundas and Northfield on road projects in those cities.

State Sen. John Jasinski, who in 2021 helped deliver state funding for a study of the proposed interchange and is currently ranking minority member on the Senate Transportation Committee, praised both Luebbe and Schoenfelder.

"These guys are great assets to have here in Rice County," he told the commissioners. "You guys should be grateful."

Pictured to the right: Mark Schoenfelder, MnDOT District 6 Transportation Engineer, right, congratulated Rice County Highway Engineer Dennis Luebbe who accepted the statewide Partnership Award in August on the county's behalf.



Save lives. Buckle up your little ones, too

Rice County Public Health and Rice County Safe Roads Coalition remind drivers about the Seat Belts and Child Restraints Campaign Sept. 21-27

Driving in Greater Minnesota can be a welcome contrast to metro driving. What isn't different is the need to buckle up and ensure children are in the correct car seat!

The statewide Click It or Ticket campaign from Sept. 21-27 helps enforce the life-saving seat belt law and reminds motorists to drive smart.

Most Minnesotans make the decision to buckle up, but in 2024 preliminary data indicate 106 unbelted motorists died on Minnesota roads, unfortunately an increase from 79 in 2023. And restraint use among children is associated with the driver's seat belt use. Parents and caregivers need to set a good example by always wearing their seat belt and ensuring that passengers are transported correctly!

Rice County Public Health and Rice County Safe Roads Coalition remind everyone that Minnesota law states that drivers and passengers in all seating positions must wear seat belts or be in the correct child restraint.

Parents need to take time to make sure their child is properly restrained and that they are using the correct car seat or booster seat for their child's size and age.

"We are asking parents to take time to review recommendations so car seats and boosters are properly installed. It's important they are using the correct restraint for their child, and to be a good role model for their child and buckle-up. We want everyone riding in vehicles to be as safe as possible," says Deb Purfeerst, Rice County Public Health Director.

Minnesota Child Passenger Safety Guidelines:

- Birth to at least 2 years old: Rear-facing in an infant or convertible child safety seat
- At least 2 years old AND has outgrown the rear-facing seat with internal harness by height or weight: Forward-facing with an internal harness
- 4 years old AND has outgrown the forward-facing seat with internal harness by height or weight: Ride restrained in a belt positioning booster seat using the lap belt and shoulder belt
- 9 years old or has outgrown the booster seat AND the child can pass the five-step test that demonstrates the seat belt fits correctly: Ride restrained with a lap belt and shoulder belt secured correctly on the vehicle seat
- Children under 13 years old must sit in the back seat if possible

Requirements to pass the five-step test:

1. The child sits all the way back against the vehicle seat
2. The child's knees bend over the edge of the vehicle seat
3. The lap belt fits snugly across the hips near the top of the child's thighs, not the abdomen
4. The shoulder belt snugly crosses the center of the child's chest and shoulder, not the neck
5. The child sits correctly, without slouching, for the duration of the ride.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to visit the Minnesota Department of Public Safety website for Child Passenger Safety at: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/child-passenger-safety/Pages/default.aspx> for more information.

Rice County Public Health has a limited supply of car seats available for families who lack financial resources to purchase a car seat, and certified car seat technicians are on staff to help answer questions. Give our car seat coordinator a call at 507-333-3818 if you would like your seat checked or have questions.

Seat belts save lives. Buckle up every time!



Sheriffs' scholarships for students pursuing law enforcement available



**Jesse Thomas
Rice County Sheriff**

Rice County Sheriff Jesse Thomas announced the 2025 Law Enforcement Scholarship Program.

The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association Board of Directors established the scholarship fund and will award up to 18 - \$2,000 scholarships later this year. These scholarships are due to the coordinated efforts of the 87 Minnesota sheriffs.

MSA members give special recognition to the financial needs of students attending the peace officer skills course, or one of the two- or four-year law enforcement degree colleges.

"Training for those who choose to go into law enforcement is critically important for them and for the communities in which they will serve. These scholarships are an important way the Sheriffs' Association can support our future law enforcement officers," said Thomas.

MSA recognizes the importance of pre-entry training for people considering law enforcement as a career. It also recognizes some students need outside help in meeting the costs of such training, even though they excel academically.

The Scholarship Committee, in making the awards, intends to achieve representation from all geographical areas of the state. Scholarship awards will be announced by Dec. 30.

Scholarships are only available to students currently enrolled in one of the following:

1. Mandated POST Skills Program
2. In their second year of a two-year law enforcement program.
3. In their third or fourth year of a four-year college criminal justice program.

In order to qualify, students must have completed at least one year of the two-year program or two years of a four-year program.

Students meeting these criteria are invited to obtain a scholarship application form and a statement of procedures from the Rice County Sheriff's Office or online at www.mnsheriffs.org. The deadline to submit an application to the Rice County Sheriff's Office is 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025.

Ask A Trooper

By Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol



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

School Bus Safety

Summer is coming to an end for students across the state, which means that Minnesota school buses will start making about 10,000 trips each day. Although a school bus is one of the safest vehicles on the road for students, we all need to work together to ensure that everyone makes it home safely.

Stop for School Buses: It's the Law!

State law requires all vehicles to stop for school buses when the bus driver activates the flashing lights and has the stop arm fully extended.

Drivers who violate the law face a \$500 fine.

Drivers can face criminal charges for passing a school bus on the right, passing when a child is outside the bus, or injuring or killing a child.

Motorists:

On undivided roads, motorists traveling both directions must stop at least 20 feet from a school bus that is displaying red flashing lights and an extended stop arm.

Traffic traveling the opposite direction on a divided roadway with a separating median such as a cement wall or boulevard is not required to stop.

Motorists should slow down, pay attention and anticipate school children and buses, especially in neighborhoods and school zones.

Students:

When getting off a bus, look to be sure no cars are passing on the shoulder.

Wait for the bus driver to signal that it's safe to cross.

When crossing the street to get on the bus or to go home, make eye contact with motorists before proceeding.

You can do your part by knowing the School Bus Stop-Arm Safety law. And students can do their part by keeping themselves safe outside and inside the school bus. Working together, we can drive Minnesota toward zero deaths.



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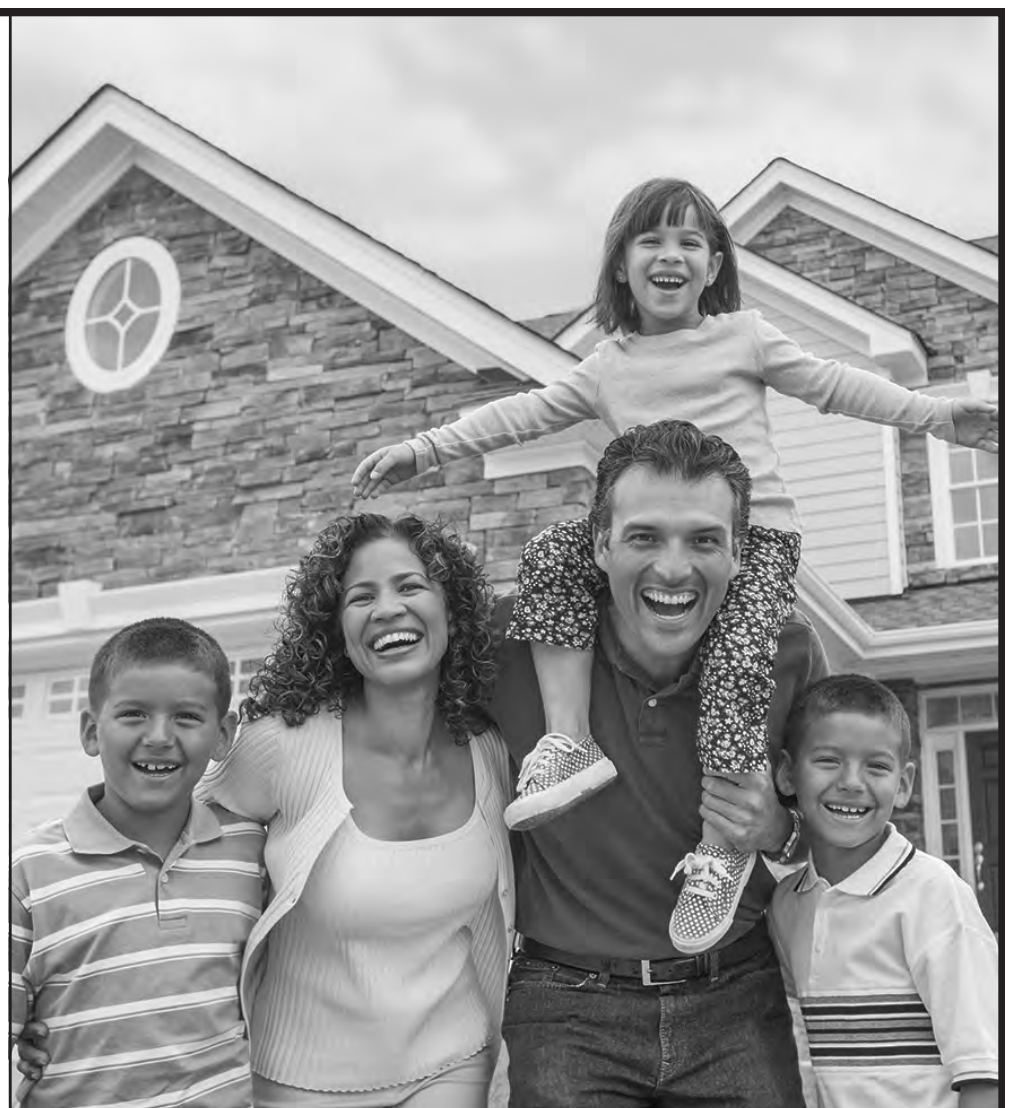
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Sen. Lieske calls for refocusing on student fundamentals after test scores again show little progress

The Minnesota Department of Education released updated MCA test scores on Friday. For the third year in a row, the numbers remain nearly flat: only 45.2% of students are meeting grade-level standards in math, and 49.6% are meeting standards in reading.

Senator Bill Lieske released the following statement:

“When half of Minnesota kids are not meeting basic standards in reading and math, it’s a clear signal we need to get back to the fundamentals. Parents send their children to school to gain the knowledge and skills that will prepare them for life. That should be our focus every single day.

“As a legislator and a dad, I want to see classrooms where kids are learning the basics that they need, teachers are supported, and

families know their children are being set up for success. It is time to refocus on the core skills students need, reduce the mandates that are putting schools in impossible positions, and move away from political debates in the classroom. It is time to put students first.”





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Dennison, MN is currently accepting bids for snow and ice removal for the 2025–2026 winter season. Bids will be accepted for hourly rates for the contract period of October 1 to March 31. Bids must include a schedule of all available equipment and the applicable hourly rate, as well as a copy of the certificate of insurance showing current worker’s compensation coverage and a general liability policy with an aggregate limit of at least \$2,000,000.

The minimum equipment required is:

- Snow Plow - truck with plow, wing and sander with a minimum 5 yard box.
- Road Grader for Plowing Snow - grader with a V-plow and wing with a minimum 150 horse power.

Bids will be accepted at City of Dennison PO Box 56, Dennison, MN 55018 or email to clerk@cityofdennisonmn.com. The deadline for submitting bids is Thursday October 2nd, by 5 pm. Bids will be opened at that time and prepared for consideration by the city council. Bids will be considered at the monthly Council Meeting held at the Dennison City Hall on Thursday, Thursday October 2nd, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Snow removal map and contract is located on city website:
<https://www.cityofdennisonmn.com/> or contact Jessica Page Dennison City Clerk at 507-990-4150.

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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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