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JUNE 25, 2026

Volume 11 • Issue 25

Sushi, Anyone?



By Cheri Roshon

I think most of us enjoy a night out to eat something different than what we normally eat. And having someone serve us and clean up after us is a treat as well! I was in Kasson recently, looking for articles for our newest Messenger location, and saw a Chinese restaurant at 25 West Main Street, so I had to go in and check it out.

It was beautifully appointed with Chinese decor and a sushi bar in the rear of the restaurant. I met Emily Yang who was behind the register, and asked if I could take a few minutes of her time. Fortunately for me, it was mid afternoon, and the restaurant was quiet.

(continued on page 5)

Evergreen Cemetery Gets New Entrance

The Evergreen Cemetery outside of Mantorville received a new and updated sign on June 10th. The original sign had been damaged last year when an Aspen Waste Systems garbage truck entered the cemetery and struck the overhead sign at the entrance.

Ron Papenfus of R & M Steel in Dodge Center was commissioned to build the new sign closely to the same design as the original. The fabrication of the sign took approximately a week of work over the period of a month and was installed on June 10th. The original lettering was reused after being removed and sandblasted by Sanson Enter-

prises. It was then positioned over expanded metal grate and welded on the new sign. The uprights are 4" steel pipe with a flat steel plate base anchored to a ten inch concrete pad five feet underground. Ron drilled ¾" lag bolts into the foundation to secure the posts before the holes were backfilled. The new sign is 16' high and should be safe from any future threat.

The footing was dug by Olive Excavating and the foundation poured by Dynamic Masonry. Minnesota Ag Group from Kasson, provided a boom truck to help install the structure on Wednesday afternoon. The sign



was painted twice before installation and then touched up after the erection was completed.

(continued on page 3)

Simply Tidy Cleaning Service



Bryan and Karen Marquardt

Simply Tidy was founded in 2018 by Karen Marquardt and has proudly served local families and businesses for the past eight years. Simply Tidy began as a way for Karen to provide for her family while giving back to others in the community. As a mother of three young children, two of whom have Autism, flexibility was essential since traditional daycare was not an option. What started as a small cleaning business quickly grew into a passion for helping busy families reduce stress and enjoy cleaner, healthier homes.

In January 2020, Karen's husband, Bryan, joined the business as Office Manager and Business Partner, allowing the company to continue growing while maintaining its family-focused values.

(continued on page 4)

Larger Than Life 2026



This weekend will be the Larger Than Life Outdoor Art Exhibit in Mantorville. The event takes place in Riverside Park on Saturday June 27th from 10am to 2pm.

(continued on page 6)

Announcements

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

Do you have an announcement?
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A Pattern for Passing on the Faith: Lessons from Psalm 78:1-8



By Pastor Johannes Marsland,
Church! Kasson and
Church! Mantorville

“Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose heart was not steadfast, whose

spirit was not faithful to God.” (Psalm 78:1-8, ESV)

In Psalm 78, the psalmist Asaph issues a solemn charge to God’s people. It is a divine imperative to pass the faith to the next generation. Failure in this task risks producing another “stubborn and rebellious generation” whose hearts wander from the Lord. Success produces God’s blessings not only on the generation that follows Him but upon the whole land.

Asaph teaches a practical method for fulfilling this most important of callings. Notice the deliberate order he follows in the Psalm:

1. First, share the testimony.

Asaph begins by calling attention to what has been “heard and known,” personal and generational experiences of God’s faithfulness: “things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us” (v. 3). He commits not to hide these from the children but to proclaim “the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done” (v. 4).

A testimony is powerful because it is personal and credible. It answers the question, “What has God done in your life (or in the life of His people)?” It is not abstract theology but lived reality containing stories of deliverance, provision, mercy, and divine power. In sharing the faith with a new generation and with people who do not yet know God, this remains the essential starting point. Before quoting verses or outlining doctrines, share the stories of God authentically. People are often drawn first by authentic stories of transformation, not polished arguments.

2. **Follow with a Story (Parable) That Il-

lustrates Principles

Asaph declares, “I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old” (v. 2). The remainder of Psalm 78 unfolds as a historical narrative, a parable-like retelling of Israel’s wilderness rebellions, God’s repeated acts of rescue, and the people’s forgetfulness. These “dark sayings” show the folly of unbelief, the patience of God, and the danger of a divided heart.

Put yourself in the stories, live them and experience them anew. This makes the truth memorable and relatable both to you and to those you share them with. Jesus would later master this same method, teaching profound kingdom realities through everyday stories. When witnessing to the lost, this step is crucial. After sharing your personal testimony, connect it to broader biblical stories or illustrations that reveal God’s character and our human need. A well-chosen story or analogy bridges the gap between “what happened to you” and “what this means about God and life.” It invites the listener to see themselves in the narrative and grasp deeper truths.

3. Conclude with the Law (Clear Commands and Expectations)

Only after testimony and parable does Asaph reference the established “testimony” and “law” in Israel (v. 5). God commanded the fathers to teach these things so future generations would “set their hope in God... keep his commandments” (vv. 6-7).

The law here represents God’s clear revelation—His standards, promises, and instructions. It flows naturally from the stories and is grounded in the character and deeds of God already recounted. In evangelism, this

corresponds to presenting the gospel call: repentance, faith in Christ, and obedience to His Word. Prematurely hammering rules or doctrines without relational context or illustrative stories often leads to resistance or even open hostility. But when rooted in testimony and parable, the call to respond carries weight and urgency. It moves the heart from curiosity to conviction.

Applying the Pattern in Witnessing Today

This three-fold pattern Testimony → Parable/Story → Law is a God-ordained model for reaching the lost and discipling believers. It mirrors how the gospel itself comes to us: God’s people testify to what they have seen and heard; the Scriptures unfold the grand story of redemption (with Jesus as the ultimate parable of grace); and we are called to repent and believe, walking in obedience.

-In personal conversations: Begin with your story. Move to a biblical illustration (the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, or the Exodus). End with the clear invitation to trust Christ and follow Him.

-In family and church settings: Intentionally tell the next generation both your stories and the Bible’s stories. Ground them in Scripture’s commands so they “set their hope in God.”

-In a forgetful culture: Like ancient Israel, we live among people prone to stubbornness and rebellion. Our task is urgent: proclaim the glorious deeds so the coming generation does not repeat the failures of the past.

May we, like Asaph, resolve: “We will not hide them from their children.” As we follow this pattern, we participate in God’s generational work of building a faithful people who remember, believe, and obey.

Proudly Serving Dodge County

The Messenger

Claremont, Dodge Center, West Concord, Kasson, Mantorville, Hayfield

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KASSON

First Congregational Church
515 Walnut Street, Mantorville • 507-635-3011

Church of the Nazarene
Pastor Johannes Marsland • 507-721-2500
205 Mantorville Ave S, Kasson
Sunday 6pm worship

Community Celebration Church
Pastor: Steve Larson • 507-634-1463
27337 Co. Hwy 34, Kasson
Sunday worship 9am & 10:30am

First Baptist Church
Pastor: John Todor
305 4th St, Kasson
Sunday 9:30am Sunday school; 10:30am worship

Church of the Holy Family
Father John Lasuba • 507-634-7520
1904 Mantorville Ave N, Kasson
Sunday 8:30am Mass; Wednesday 9am Mass

St. Peter’s Episcopal Church
Pat Dee pastoral asst. • 507-634-6081
101 1st St, NE, Kasson
Sunday 10am worship; Wednesday 5:30pm community meal

Mount Sion Lutheran WELS
Pastor Karl Christie • 507-634-3183
600 8th Ave NW, Kasson
Sunday 9am worship

South Zumbro Lutheran LCMC
Pastors: Pete Wytenbach & Jeff Bernards
4830 120th Ave SW, Kasson
Sunday Worship 9:00a.m.

St. John’s Lutheran ELCA
John Welsenburger, Deborah Lyanga, Kristin Schlauderaff
507-634-7110
301 8th Ave NW, Kasson
Sunday 9am; Wednesday 6:30pm

Pleasant Corners Evangelical Church
Pastor: Jacob Hanson • 507-634-7823
21927 650th St. Kasson
Sunday 11am

Area Church Directory

The Eternal Word of God

“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”
— Isaiah 40:8

The prophet Isaiah contrasts the briefness of human life with the eternity of the Word of God. We are born, grow, mature, and die, but the Word of God remains forever. We come and go from history, but the Word of God remains alive, sovereign, and victorious from generation to generation.

Many have tried to discredit the Word of God, but its truths endure. Many unbelievers and skeptics have tried to stand against the credibility of Scripture, shouting with arrogance and claiming it is false, but the Word of God is the anvil that has broken their hammer every time. The Word of God has overcome all the fires of intolerance and remained victorious. It is inspired, inerrant, infallible, and sufficient. It does not need to be updated or redefined.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the Word of God will not pass away (see Luke 21:33). It is the truth. It is the sword of the Spirit. It is a lamp to our feet and a light for our path (Psalm 119:105). It is more precious than much refined gold and sweeter than honey.

The Word of God restores the soul, enlightens the eyes, gladdens the heart, and gives wisdom to the simple. It is living and active. It is powerful. God’s Word endures forever!

Lord God, remind us that although our lives fade, your Word stands forever. Plant your eternal truth in our hearts. May your Word guide our steps, strengthen our faith, silence our doubts, and anchor us in your unchanging victory. Amen.

KASSON

Grace Methodist Church
Pastor: Jacob Hanson • 507-634-7823
801 5th Ave NW, Kasson
Sunday 9am worship; 10am fellowship
10:30am Sunday school

First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Loren Olson • 507-634-7481
101 6th Ave NW, Kasson
Sunday 10am worship; 11am fellowship

Kasson Church of Christ
Pastor: Dale DePeel • 507-254-7258
901 8th Ave NW, Kasson
Sunday 10am worship
Wednesday 7:30pm prayer service

HAYFIELD

Cedar Creek Church
Pastor Barry Durkee • 507-477-2255
30 East Main Street, Hayfield
CedarCreekChurch.org
Worship 10:00a.m. Sundays

West St. Olaf Lutheran, ELCA
Pastor Paul Thompson • 507-365-8222
West: 70640 260 Ave, Hayfield • WestStOlaf.org
Worship 10:00a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Pastor Kristen Anderson • 507-477-2248
104 1st St SE, Hayfield • churchoffice@trinityhayfield.com
Sunday Worship 9:00a.m.; Sunday School 10:00a.m.

Email your church announcements, schedule, etc.
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United Way
Announces
\$20,000 in
Funding for
Local Dodge
County Programs

Dodge County, MN – The United Way of Southeast Minnesota Board of Directors re-

cently approved \$20,000 in funding for four local nonprofit programs in Dodge County, in addition to funding organizations in Olmsted and Fillmore Counties. United Way is supporting Dodge County partners working to help families stay housed, access early childhood care, and receive school readiness services.

In Dodge County, funding will support Kasson-Mantorville Care and Share’s Community Hardship Fund, which will help households experiencing financial hardship remain stably housed; Semcac’s Kasson Contact Center, which connects community members with essential local resources; Salvation Army Dodge County’s Transportation Assistance; and NAMI Southeast Minnesota’s Dual Diagnosis Support Group, which supports those living with mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

These investments are made possible by people across our region who choose to give through United Way. Their support allows United Way to respond to what communities say they need most and direct resources toward local solutions in Dodge County.

“Strong communities are built by listening

2026-2027 United Way Program Partners:

Local Nonprofit Partner	Program Receiving United Way Funds
Kasson-Mantorville School District	Kasson-Mantorville Care and Share's Community Hardship Fund
NAMI Southeast Minnesota	Dual Diagnosis Support Group
Salvation Army Dodge County	Transportation Assistance
Semcac	Kasson Contact Center

first and investing where families feel the most pressure,” said Jerome Ferson, President of United Way of Southeast Minnesota. "When families have a safe place to live and

can access resources, they are better positioned to work, care for one another, and build stability. We’re proud to invest in local programs that help make that possible.”

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Evergreen Cemetery Gets New Entrance

(continued from page 1)

Ron added a touch to the previous design by making two pine trees and a heart on the top of the arch. The cemetery board told him not to mount them permanently until the made a decision on them. After seeing the completed sign the board heartily approved them. Appreciation was expressed to all those who assisted in rebuilding and installing the new entrance to the cemetery.



Ron Papenfus setting posts

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be handing out free ice cream!



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Simply Tidy Cleaning Service

(continued from page 1)

They currently employ approximately 27 team members and serve approximately 200 residential and commercial clients throughout their service area. The majority of their clients are on recurring schedules, including weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly cleanings. They also provide one-time cleanings, move-in/move-out cleanings, deep cleans, and carpet cleaning services!

Simply Tidy serves communities throughout Rochester, Kasson, Owatonna and everywhere in between. The services include carpet cleaning and residential cleaning, commercial and janitorial cleaning, deep cleaning, move-in and move-out cleaning, vacation rental cleaning, and customized cleaning services designed around each client's specific needs and priorities.

They are also proud partners of Cleaning for a Reason, providing free cleaning services to individuals and families undergoing cancer treatment. Additionally, they have expanded opportunities within their company to help create meaningful employment for individu-

als with disabilities who want the opportunity to work and succeed.

The average cleaning generally takes between 2 and 5 hours, depending on the size of the home and the level of cleaning requested. The standard rate is about \$75 per labor hour for residential cleaning. A standard cleaning typically includes dusting, vacuuming, mopping floors, sanitizing bathrooms, cleaning kitchen surfaces and appliances, wiping down high-touch areas, emptying trash, and general tidying. They pride themselves on tailoring each cleaning to the client's priorities while maintaining a thorough and consistent standard of care.

One of the things that sets Simply Tidy apart is their commitment to quality and professionalism. Every cleaner undergoes a background check and completes a comprehensive training program that includes hands-on field training before working independently. This ensures every team member is equipped with the skills, tools, and knowledge needed to provide exceptional service.

"At our core, we believe in improving the lives of those around us—whether that's helping a busy family reclaim valuable time, supporting someone facing a difficult diagnosis, or creating meaningful employment opportunities within our community".

Simply Tidy's office is located at Suite 102, 11 East Veterans Memorial HWY Kasson, MN 55944. You can reach them at 507-440-9245 or find them on the web at www.simplytidyclean.com.

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- Mutton Busting/Calf Dressing
- Fireworks to Follow
- ★ Stock Car Racing
- ★ Auto Cross Races
- ★ Trailer Races
- ★ Demolition Derby

Carnival Advance

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Carnival Tickets



JULY 15 - 19

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★ FEATURE EVENTS ★

- ★ Antique Tractor Display
- ★ 4H & FFA Shows
- ★ Brad Weston Comedy Stunts
- ★ Speed Puzzle Contest July 16th
- ★ Accentra Adult & New Kid
- Bean Bag Tournament July 17th
- ★ Hall of Fame Program
- NEW TIME 11 am July 19th
- ★ Neon Arrival Band
- ★ 2U Foam * N * Fun
- ★ Anchor of Hope Church

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Registration Day Monday, July 12th

12:00 PM to 8:00 PM

NEW! Online Registration opens June 1st

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Entertainment at 11:00 AM by Scotty Night Productions

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- ★ Old Country Boys
- ★ Alex Zachary
- ★ JT & The Gunslingers
- ★ Booz * N * Tuna

TOWNSHIP SQUARE FEATURES

Fair Prince & Princess Contest

Wednesday, July 15th at 5:00 PM

Minnesota State Amateur Talent Contest

Saturday, July 18th at 12:00 PM

Registration starts at 11:30 AM

More information for both events are on our website.



For complete schedules, entry forms and sponsorships, visit us at:

www.dodgecountyfreefair.com

Sushi, Anyone?

(continued from page 1)

The current Yang family who now own the space moved here from Philadelphia 3 years ago when Emily's aunt and uncle decided to sell, due to an injury to her aunt that kept her from the strenuous work in a restaurant. Emily is the hostess and the server, and her husband Yu is a specialty sushi chef, and will make your sushi fresh to order. I believe that

is preferable to buying sushi from a gas station or a grocery store. Her sister Gina and brother-in-law Cao do all the cooking in the back. I noticed there was something missing, and realised there was no buffet. When I asked Emily about that, she said they prefer fresh made when it comes to any of the food on their menu, instead of steam trays with food sitting in them for hours at a time. Good choice!

I wanted to know why people should come to Haku Asian for dinner, and she replied, "A person shouldn't have to drive to Rochester for Chinese food. We want quality for our customers right here in Kasson. Everything is made fresh when ordered, and we serve large portions for very good prices. Most of our customers can order one meal and it will

feed two people, or they can take the rest home to enjoy later.

The family felt very welcomed by the Kasson community, and have their home here, too. Emily's niece goes to school here, and they love the community of a small town.

If you want to try out some of the food on the menu, you can come in, or call in your order for pick up. To browse the menu, go to www.hakuasian.com. You can also call in your order at (507) 634-6818 or (507) 634-6808, and they will have it ready when you get here. To dine in, their hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 11am to 8:30pm, Friday and Saturday from 11am to 9 pm, Sunday from 11am to 8pm, and they are closed on Monday. Their menu consists of soups, salads, appetizers, sushi bar, many variations of

rice, noodles and entrees. There are added Chef's specials, combination plates, cooked rolls, raw fish rolls, vegetable rolls and sushi bar entrees. Add some sushi, sashimi, house special rolls, a maki lunch, and lunch specials for a mere \$10.25!

Are you hungry yet?

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Live Music & Open Mic Resumes in September

Thank you for a wonderful 25-26 season, see you in the fall!

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CARNIVAL!
LIVE MUSIC!

Larger Than Life 2026

(continued from page 1)

There will be an artisan fair starting at 10am where you may shop for gift items created by local crafters. The Larger Than Life unveiling will take place at 11am and you can meet the artists as well as see the artwork for the very first time.

At noon there will be live music at the Pavil-

lion where you can listen or dance to the local musicians "Orchid Jane". Food will be available from 11:30am to 1:30pm served up by the Kasson/Mantorville Lions and Mrs. Patty's Sweet Treats.

You may purchase tickets for the Artist Raffle for a chance to win an original artist's creation for only a dollar per ticket, between 10am and 2pm.

DODGE COUNTY FREE FAIR
NEW FOOD VENDORS 2026

Bubba Lou's BBQ
Texas Sweet Tea
Delicious Potato Skins and More
Dippin' Dots
Stage Coach BBQ & Grill
Travelin' Tom's Coffee

JULY 15-19, 2026

ELLINGSON
HARD HAT STICKER CONTEST

Get creative and design a safety themed sticker. It can have a fun safety saying, drawing, or anything that you think would look cool on a hard hat that will be a reminder to stay safe.

DUE JUNE 30TH

Please send submissions to Lhill@ellingsoncompanies.com

We will also feature some submissions on Social Media!

Please have name and contact information on the back of the sheet submitted.

2026 Sportsmans Raffle



The Kasson Fire Department benefit Relief Association is holding a raffle this year featuring cash prizes, sporting goods and firearms. The grand prize is a Franchi SG Affinity 12 ga. shotgun. There are a number of hunting rifles, handguns and plinkers as well. Also included in the prize list are Blackstone griddle packages, a Traeger grill, a bonfire and a tailgate package and a \$1,000 cash prize, \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200 and \$100 cash prizes. The raffle tickets are available from any KFD member and the drawing will be held Sunday August 20th. There are only 1,750 tickets sold at \$20 each. You do not need to be present to win but need to be 18 years of age or older to purchase.

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SATURDAY JUNE 27, 2026

ART FAIR
Meet talented artists, browse original works, enjoy live music, food, and family-friendly fun!
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

ART UNVEILING
Join us as we unveil a stunning new large-scale artwork created especially for our community!
11:00 AM

RIVERSIDE PARK MANTORVILLE, MN

ART OUTSIDE. COMMUNITY INSIDE.

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CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

2026 LARGER THAN LIFE
Outdoor Art Exhibit
FREE

UNVEILING AND ART FAIR!

RIVERSIDE PARK MANTORVILLE, MN SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH 10 AM - 2 PM

10 AM ARTISAN ART FAIR BEGINS
SHOP LOCAL ARTISTS FOR GIFTS OR FOR YOURSELF

11 AM LARGER THAN LIFE ART UNVEILING!
SEE ARTWORK REVEALED FOR THE FIRST TIME! MEET THE ARTISTS!

12 NOON MUSIC BY "ORCHID JANE"
DANCE AND LISTEN TO LIVE MUSIC FROM LOCAL MUSICIANS, "ORCHID JANE"

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM FOOD SERVED UP BY K-M LIONS AND MRS. PATTY'S SWEET TREATS
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JUNE 17	BECKY SCHLEGEL	Dynamic Masonry Products
JUNE 24	BRYAN AKERVIK	MBT Bank
JULY 1	ROCKIN' HEP CATS	Bigelow Homes
JULY 8	CLAY FULTON	NextEra Energy Resources
JULY 15	UPTOWN JAZZ	Hawkins Ash CPA
JULY 22	VINTAGE TONES OF SPIELZEITEN UND PAU	Preferred Heating & Cooling
JULY 29	ROSIE DAZE BAND	Mantorville Restoration Association
AUG. 5	COULEE REGION STEEL BAND	Pure Rock Studios
AUG. 12	NANCY TOBIASON	Midwest Floor Solutions & The Studio
AUG. 19	NATHAN'S JAZZERS FT. MARIAH	Mrs. Patty's Sweet Treats & KLG
AUG. 26	CLAY FULTON	The Hubbell House



@MusicInMantorville



Survival Days 41st Anniversary

THURSDAY, JULY 23
8:00 am - City Wide Garage Sales begin - List available in WC Messenger Newspaper, City Hall, & Facebook.
9:30 am - 5:00 pm - Library Annual Book Sale
7:00 pm - Guns vs Hoses Charity Softball Event (Police, Firefighters & EMS) *Donations will be made to Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention*

FRIDAY, JULY 24
7:00 am - 11:00 am - American Legion - Coffee & Homemade Doughnuts - Legion Hall, Main St
8:00 am - City Wide Garage Sales begin - List available in WC Messenger Newspaper, City Hall, & Facebook
9:00 am - 1:00 pm - West Concord Historical Society Open House
9:30 am - 5:00 pm - Library Annual Book Sale
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm - WC Chiropractic open house
5:00 pm - Food Stands & Beer Garden Open
6:00 pm - Garden Tractor Pull - South on Front Street
6:30 pm - Bean Bag Tournament Registration w/7:00pm Start Time- - Grass lot By Legion (If rain, held in Fire Hall)
6:30 pm - Miss West Concord Pageant, Mayor's Key, Citizen of the Year and Baby Contest - Inside Trinity Lutheran Church
8:00 pm - 12:00 am - Live music under the big tent - "Chad Johnson Music" - Admission \$10 or a Button
10:00 pm - FIREWORKS - Location behind Gochbauer Dairy Barn (rain day - Saturday)
12:30 am - Last call, 1:00 am Beer Garden Closes

SATURDAY, JULY 25
8:00 am - City Wide Garage Sales Continue
8:00 am - Fire Department Burnto Breakfast (while supplies last) - Legion
8:00 am - 12:00 pm - Scott Hodgman Classic Car & Bike Show - Main Street
8:00 am - Softball Tournament Starts
8:00 am - 5k Run/Walk - LaMae's Bright Light 5k - 7:00am Registration - Start/Finish Lions Park
9:00 am - Sand Volleyball Tournament begins
9:00 am - 1:00 pm - West Concord Historical Society Open House
10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Open Pickle Ball Play - Memorial Park
10:00 am & 1:00 pm - CPR & First Aid Training by WCFD - next to Bell Tower
10:00 am - 3:00 pm - Kids Activities, Bounce Houses, Face Paint, & FURever Friends - WC Historical Society Yard
11:00 am - Food Stands Open
11:00 am - Treasure Hunt at the Swimming Pool - ages 2-12 are welcome, bring a swim suit
11:30 am - Foam Party - West Concord Historical Society
1:00 pm - Library Program - Dazzling Dave Yo Yo Show - West Concord Historical Society Gym
2:00 pm - Beer Garden Opens
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Family Bingo - Hosted by WCHS - Under the tent on Main St
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Wife Carrying Competition - South of Hyland
4:00 pm - Fire Department Mock Crash Demo - Main St and Front St
7:30 pm - Excavator Rodeo - East end of Main St
8:00 pm - 12:30 am - Dance under the tent - "JT & The Gunslingers" - Admission \$10 or a Button
12:00 am - Ticket Sales End, 12:30 am Last call, 1:00 am Beer Garden Closes

SUNDAY, JULY 26
9:00 am - Softball & Volleyball tournaments resume
9:30 am - Community Worship Service - Lion's Park - Bring a lawn chair- (Rain Site - Bell Tower Center)
11:00 am - Food Stands Open
11:00 am - 1:00 pm - Open Pickle Ball Play - Memorial Park
12:00 pm - Beer Garden Opens
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Trinity Lutheran Pie & Ice Cream Social - Under the tent
1:00 pm - Grand Parade - Route: ST (Main/Front > Main > Third > Eugene > First > Olive > Front > Main)
2:00 pm - Firefighter Water Fight & Kids splash zone - East end of Main Street
4:30 pm - Beer Garden closes

Support Local - "Celebrate & Buy a Button" - While supplies last
at local West Concord Businesses

THANK YOU! -To All Sponsors Who Donated to Make Survival Days a Success!

For More Information call City Hall (507) 527-2668 or visit our facebook page
All Events Subject To Change or Cancellation



WATCH FOR MEDALLION HUNT CLUES ALL WEEK!

Clues can be obtained at City Hall or Facebook Page

Mantorville Art Guild Hosts

Heirloom Fire: Czech Glasswork

A Cultural Heritage Presentation
by Andrea Turini

Minnesota jewelry artist Andrea Turini brings audiences inside the living traditions of Czech glass and beadmaking. Her presentation, Heirloom Fire: Czech Glasswork, draws on firsthand experiences in Jablonec nad Nisou, a region long recognized as a world center of bead and button production.

(Free Presentation)

Sunday, June 28th, 1 p.m.

Mantorville Art Guild

512 North Main Street, Mantorville

**Summons
State of Minnesota
County of Dodge
District Court
Third Judicial District
Court File # 20-FA-26-337**

Case Type: dissolution with children

In Re the marriage of:
Alexis Jade Smrcka,
Name of petitioner
And
Michael Robert Smrcka,
Name of respondent
Summons without Real Estate

The State of Minnesota to the above-named respondent:

Warning: Your spouse has filed a lawsuit against you for dissolution of your marriage. A copy of the paper-

work regarding the lawsuit is served on you with this summons. This summons is an official document from the court that affects your rights. Read this summons carefully. If you do not understand it, contact an attorney for legal advice.

- The petitioner (your spouse) has filed a lawsuit against you asking for a dissolution of your marriage (divorce). A copy of the Petition for Dissolution is attached to the Summons. There should also be a copy of Petitioners Financial Affidavit attached.

- You must serve upon Petitioner and file with the court a written answer to the Petition for Dissolution of Mar-

riage and your financial affidavit. You must pay the required filing fee. Answer forms and the Financial Affidavit form are available from the Court Administrator's Office. You must serve your answer and Financial Affidavit upon Petitioner **within Thirty (30) days** of the date you were served with this Summons, not counting the day of service. If you do not serve and file you Answer and Financial Affidavit, the Court may give your spouse everything he or she is asking for in the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage.

- This proceeding does not involve real property.

Notice of Temporary Re-

straining Provisions

Under Minnesota law, service of this summons makes the following requirements apply to both parties to the action, unless they are modified by the court or the proceeding is dismissed.:

- Neither party may dispose of any assets except (a) for the necessities of life or for the necessary generation of income or preservation of assets, (b) by an agreement of the parties in writing, or (c) for retaining counsel to carry on or to contest this proceeding.

- Neither party may harass the other party.

- All currently available insurance coverage must be maintained and continued without change in beneficiary designation.

- Parties to a marriage dissolution proceeding are encouraged to attempt alternative dispute resolution pursuant to Minnesota law. Alternative dispute resolution includes mediation, arbitration and other processes as set forth in the district court rules. You may contact the court administrator about resources in your area. If you cannot pay for mediation or alternative dispute resolution, in some counties, assistance

may be available to you through a nonprofit provider or a court program. If you are a victim of domestic abuse or threats as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 518B, you are not required to try mediation and you will not be penalized by the court in later proceedings.

If You Violate Any Of These Provisions, You Will Be Subject To Sanctions By The Court.

Notice of Parent Education Program Requirements

Under Minnesota Statutes, Section 518.157, in a contested proceeding involving custody or parenting time of a minor child, the parties

must begin participation in a parent education program that meets minimum standards promulgated by the Minnesota Supreme Court within 30 days after the first filing with the court. In some Districts, parenting education may be required in all custody or parenting proceedings. You may contact the District Court Administrator for more additional information regarding this requirement and the availability of parent education programs.

Dated 5/26/2026
Alexis Smrcka
Petitioners signature
Name: Alexa Smrcka
City/State/Zip: Claremont, MN 55924

**NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING FOR 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION
CITY OF WEST CONCORD, MINNESOTA**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Minnesota Statute 205.13; Subd 2, that candidate filings for the City of West Concord elected offices will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, and end at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2026.

Candidates for the following offices file with the West Concord City Clerk/Administrator, 180 Main Street, PO Box 435, West Concord, Minnesota 55985.

CITY OFFICES

Regular Municipal Election to elect:

- City Councilmember (2 seats) for a Full-term of four years each.

Paula Even Trenda
City Clerk/Administrator
City of West Concord, Minnesota

**CITY OF DODGE CENTER
COUNTY OF DODGE
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**NOTICE OF FILING
2026 GENERAL ELECTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a filing period will be held for candidates seeking election to municipal offices at the general election to be conducted on November 3, 2026. The filing period will open on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. and will close on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Affidavits of candidacy for the following offices must be filed at Dodge Center City Hall located at 35 East Main Street, Dodge Center for the following seats:

Mayor for the term of four (4) years
Two Council members for the term of four (4) years

A filing fee of \$2 or filing a petition in accordance with MN Statute 205.13, Subd. 3 & 4, to the Clerk-Administrator is required in order to have the candidate's name placed on the municipal election ballot.

Candidates may withdraw from the ballot by filing an affidavit of withdrawal at any time during the filing period and through Thursday, July 30, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

For more information about the filing process, please contact Lee A. Mattson, Clerk-Administrator at 507-374-2575.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2026

Lee A. Mattson
Clerk-Administrator

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission of Dodge Center, Minnesota, will meet in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building, on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. to consider a request made by Thomas Donohue, at 1218 Highway Street NW, for obtaining an Interim Use Permit for his home occupation.

All persons desiring to be heard with reference to the above-named request should attend this meeting or submit a written comment to the Community Development Technician. Written comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, July 6, 2026, at Dodge Center City Hall, c/o Community Development Technician, 35 East Main Street, PO Box 430, Dodge Center, Minnesota, 55927.

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Nearly 900 Students From Across the State Graduate From Minnesota Connections Academy

Dodge County residents among online public school program graduates

More than 880 graduating seniors from throughout Minnesota recently received their high school diplomas as members of Minnesota Connections Academy's Class of 2026. The tuition-free, online public school program serving students in grades K-12 across the state recently celebrated the graduates during an in-person commencement ceremony at Roy Wilkins Auditorium in St. Paul.

"Supporting student success is at the core of our work as educators and one of the most rewarding aspects of what we do," said Minnesota Connections Academy Executive Director Brad Swanson. "These graduates have consistently met expectations and, in

many cases, exceeded them. It is an honor to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026 as they reach this important milestone, and we look forward to seeing the impact they will make in their communities and beyond."

Graduates from Dodge County* included:

**Alexis Clement of West Concord
Johnathan Evans of Dodge Center
Joshua Freeburg of Hayfield**

The commencement ceremony featured remarks from student speakers including Elliott Morris of Beaver Creek, Campbell Foust of Savage and Asmaa Anshuur of Minneapolis.

The Class of 2026 is the 18th graduating class for the virtual school program and they have a wide range of post-graduation plans. Among this year's graduates, 44 percent plan to attend a two- or four-year college or university. Others will join the military, participate in performing arts pathways, or take a gap year as they prepare for their next chapter.

Minnesota Connections Academy offers a comprehensive virtual school experience that keeps students motivated and engaged with a strong circle of support and a deep sense of belonging. The school's team of supportive and experienced educators, specially trained in online instruction, establish meaningful connections with students, helping them achieve their full potential and reach their goals. Parents and caregivers are involved in the learning journey as their child's Learning Coach, serving as their mentor and guide throughout the school day.

Minnesota Connections Academy prepares

students for life after graduation through its established College and Career Readiness program. Available to middle and high school students, the program blends core academic coursework with industry aligned, career-focused pathways, including IT, business, health sciences, and marketing. Students also build durable skills such as leadership, critical thinking, and teamwork, while gaining access to career exploration and industry networking opportunities that help them build confidence, make connections, and clarify their future goals.

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 academic year is currently open for students in grades K-12. Minnesota Connections Academy is

hosting online information sessions for families interested in learning more about virtual education. For more information about Minnesota Connections Academy or to begin the enrollment process, please visit www.MinnesotaConnectionsAcademy.com or call 1-833-591-0251.

SURVIVAL DAYS GARAGE SALES

If you are planning to have a garage sale during Survival Days, contact Kim Jones at jones.kim@frontier.com or private message via Facebook.

Your ad will be placed in the WC Messenger paper for no charge, listed on the Survival Days Facebook page, and added to a list of all sales that will be available at City Hall.



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03 JUNE	CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN 5 PM - The Lost Faculties 6:30 PM - Brad Boice & the Big Wave	22 JULY	5 PM - The Chubs 6:30 PM - Incognito
10 JUNE	5 PM - Stryker 6:30 PM - Legacy of the Loud	29 JULY	KIDS NIGHT WITH ZOLLMAN ZOO 5 PM - Capital Sons 6:30 PM - Ladies of the 80s
17 JUNE	COUNTRY NIGHT 5 PM - Foster Grand 6:30 PM - JT & the Gunslingers	01 AUG	SATURDAY NIGHT SOUL REVIEW 5 PM - Retro Soul & the Westside Horns 7 PM - The Soul Train
24 JUNE	5 PM - The Local Hooligans 6:30 PM - Chase and Ovation: Salute to Prince	05 AUG	CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN 5 PM - Amateur 6:30 PM - Six Mile Grove
01 JULY	CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN 5 PM - JoJo Green 6:30 PM - Nite Shift	12 AUG	5 PM - Neon Live: Elton John Tribute 6:30 PM - Collective Unconscious
08 JULY	TRIBUTE BAND NIGHT 5 PM - Crazy on You: A Tribute to Heart 6:30 PM - The Crown Jewels: A Tribute to Queen	19 AUG	SXSE BREWFEST 5 PM - The New Feral Cats 6:30 PM - fABBAulous
15 JULY	ARTISAN MARKET NIGHT 5 PM - Old Country Boys 6:30 PM - County Line Drive	26 AUG	5 PM - Orchid Jane 6:30 PM - Branded: Hot Country

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Serving Up **THANKS** *to Our* **Dairy Producers**



Dodge County Dairy Princesses (left to right): Elyssa Robinson and Josie Sauder

During June Dairy Month, we celebrate all that you bring to the table. From fresh products that nourish our bodies to the jobs and revenue generated for our communities, dairy farms are essential in keeping our community healthy and strong.



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