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AUGUST 20, 2026

Volume 23 • Issue 8

Urgent Care Northfield moves to Jefferson Road Clinic

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By Northfield Hospital + Clinics

Northfield Hospital + Clinics' Urgent

Care Northfield will move into the new Jefferson Road Clinic from its location on Highway 3. *(continued on page 13)*

Oktoberfest in Dundas!

Join family, friends, neighbors, area businesses and non-profits as we celebrate the 4th Annual Oktoberfest! Last year's Celebration was a huge success with over 1500+ folks converging in downtown Dundas! So, make sure you plan to participate in the 4th Oktoberfest!



(continued on page 11)

Announcements

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

(continued on page 2)

51st Annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show September 4-6, 2026

Visitors can take a trip back in time with all the various exhibits and activities going on at the annual Rice County Steam & Gas Show just South of Dundas MN on Hwy. 3 Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 4, 5 & 6. *(continued on page 10)*

Free Fix-it Clinics Put Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Into Action

Handy volunteers will be at the ready at two upcoming Fix-It Clinics designed to help residents needing assistance with small repairs while keeping waste from the landfill.

(continued on page 5)



file photo

Kenyon Rosefest August 19-23

The Kenyon Rosefest is this week. Thursday August 20th the Kenyon Police Department and KW Community Ed will host the Bike Rodeo from 4pm to 5:30pm in the KPD parking lot. Starting at 6pm the Gopher State Garden Tractor Pull will be held on Langford Ave behind the CFS building.

Friday August 21st the citywide garage sales begin and run through Saturday. The Booster Club golf tourney starts at noon Friday at the Kenyon Country Club. The Kenyon VFW will hold their hogroast from 5 to 7pm followed by music indoors at no charge.

The Rose Fest Ambassador program will be held under the big tent beside the muni.

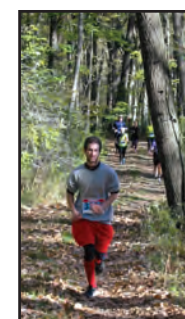
On Saturday the Kenyon Volunteer Fire Department will have a pancake breakfast from 7 to 10am. The muni will have a Bloody Mary bar from 7 to 10am. The First Lutheran will have rolls and coffee starting at 7am. *(continued on page 4)*



2026 Big Woods Run September 26

An organized run through the Big Woods State Park is happening again this year! St John's United Church of Christ is once again planning the Big Woods Run, a race that was first run in 1996.

The course takes runners through one of the best hardwood forests in southern Minnesota.



(continued on page 5)

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Announcements

(continued from page 1)

• **The Hiawatha Valley Genealogy Society meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Goodhue County History Center, 1166 Oak St., Red Wing, MN.** The society welcomes participants of all ages and genders who are interested in discovering, researching, or expanding their knowledge of their family's ancestors. Whether you are just beginning or have years of experience, the group offers a supportive environment to help you build your genealogy skills and connect with others who share your interest. Your first meeting is complimentary!

• **The Little Free Food Pantry is open and needs your donations. The Little Free Food Pantry is located by Dennison City Hall behind the big sign.** Paper products: paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex. Personal care items: soap, toothbrushes, pads/tampons, diapers/wipes, deodorant, chapstick, hats, gloves, scarves, hand-warmers. Nonperishable foods: boxed/bagged grains/beans, rice, couscous, quinoa, red beans, white beans, dry pasta, bagged pasta meals, mac 'n cheese, hot and cold cereal, snack crackers, dried fruits, granola bars.

• **The Nerstrand City Council** meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7p.m. at the Nerstrand City Hall. Office hours are: Wednesdays 9:30-11:30a.m. and Thursdays 6:00-8:00p.m. Other times available per request, 507-332-8000.

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

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

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

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

Difficulties of the Secret Place: You Don't Feel the Lord



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

I sit in the riverbank of your creation. With water flowing. And wind less than blowing.

Melody chirps in the air. Fragrance of peddles in the breeze.

Your world lies at my tips. But why the dam that interrupts belief. It's evident that you are the turning of the leaf.

Whirling, static, haze of mind. With looping,

cycling, and spinning that pays a fine. Feelings mimic this ride.

It's been strokes that I have felt you. Sensed you.

The gnats bite like the unbelief that I tread. Swarm and swarm is an understatement.

But even though I don't see you. I acknowledge, speak, pray to you. What would I do without you.

This has to mean something. The Bread even toasts, that I am blessed. John 20:29 will confess.

So, feelings and emotions. Take more than a rest, leave. Because I really do believe.

We are now in conclusion with the series of, "The difficulties of the Secret Place." The last few months we talked on how various things can keep us from the Secret Place such as feeling too messy, depression, and now today's article as alluded to in the above poem, you don't feel the Lord.

If the Secret Place is a new concept for you or need a friendly reminder of what it is, here you go: The Secret Place is partially your one-on-one time with Jesus, with your Bible and perhaps journal out, and at a much deeper level, it is a life that remains in the hiddenness of the Lord. It means you dwell, abide, and stay in all of Jesus's promises, truths, direction, and love for you—no matter what. You talk to Him at your inner core, and you do not stop.

There are times when I can sense the presence of the Lord, and it feels so amazing as tears fill my eyes and I am overtaken by Jesus's existence and holiness. I get emotional, but in the very best way. When I feel like this, the Secret Place is very easy to enter into and stay in! However, this does not always happen.

There are times when I do not feel Jesus at all. In fact, there was probably a three-to-four-year time period when I did not shed one tear of experiencing His majesty. I felt so numb. I remained in the Secret Place and talked to the Lord daily. He was still speaking, guiding, and encouraging me. However, I still felt like a dried-up well. I have walked this walk long enough to know that even though I may not feel the Lord, that does not mean He is not in the room.

If we are not feeling the presence of the Lord, does that mean He is not there? Of course He is there! **We cannot always lean into our feelings (or sensations) for guidance and assurance; we need to lean into the Word of God for our direction and validation.**

If we are not feeling the presence of the Lord, does that mean He is not hearing our prayers? No way! Of course He is hearing you and me! On the topic of being tired when you pray, I even heard one pastor say, "You might be tired, but the Holy Spirit is not tired." At times, if someone (or even yourself) is needing prayer for healing, deliverance, or anything, if we do not feel the Lord or if we are tired, we may think our prayers won't be as powerful.

(continued on page 3)

LUTHERAN

Dennison Lutheran Community Church
Pastor Dwaine Sutherland Office: 507-645-6042
P.O. Box 117, Dennison, MN 55018
Website: www.dennisonvang.org

Vang Lutheran Church
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www.dennisonvang.org
Rural Dennison
Weekly Sunday Service 9:00a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Finding Honey

If you find honey, eat just enough—too much of it, and you will vomit. — Proverbs 25:16

Late summer to early fall is usually the time when beekeepers "find" honey. At that time of year for bees, the days of gathering pollen and nectar are winding down. Wise beekeepers provide extra room in the hive, taking advantage of the bees' hoarding instinct and "tricking" them into making more honey than they need. A healthy hive will often have two to three times as much honey as the bees will need for winter. The beekeepers then take the extra honey, making sure to leave enough for the bees to survive on.

Finding honey is not so difficult with the hive boxes and removable frames we have today. In the wild, though, it can be a lot more challenging to find and gather this treasure. Through the centuries people have learned to search for honey in hollow trees, small caves, remote cliffs, and other protected spots that are near abundant varieties of flowering plants.

While honey is sweet, our proverb for today tells us to "eat just enough" and not too much. It makes good sense not to overdose on honey—or on any of the sweet things in life. Wisdom calls us to a healthy balancing act.

Sadly, the siren song of our world today is that "more is always better." But finding honey reveals the wisdom of enjoying sweet things in life within wholesome limits.

In what ways is the Spirit of God directing you to set wise limits in your life?

Thank you, Lord, for the sweet things in life. Guide us to follow you and to gain a heart of wisdom. In Jesus, Amen.

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Stanton United Methodist

Rev. Tom Countryman
Church Phone 507-321-3598
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507-789-6677
holdendalesecretary@gmail.com
Holden: 6949 County 30 Blvd, Kenyon
Dale: 9210 County 12 Blvd, Kenyon
www.holdenlutheranchurch.org
Holden Lutheran Church on Facebook
Worship Services
Aug 23: Dale 9:30
Aug 30: Holden 9:30
Sept 6: Dale 9:30

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



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Difficulties of the Secret Place

(continued from page 2)

Well, that is silly because it is not us doing the healing or deliverance—it's Jesus in us. We are the ones speaking; He is the one doing the work.

So please, whether it is in your own personal time or when you are with others, if you do not feel the Lord or if you are tired, that does

not mean He is not in your midst nor hearing you. HE IS THERE! HE DOES HEAR YOU! Remain in the Secret Place. Pray the prayer. Not only read the Word, but trust the Word. For example, you may not be feeling the love of Jesus, but guess what, the Bible says you are loved, SO YOU ARE LOVED, BELIEVE IT! The sensation of His presence will come again.

Perhaps you have never experienced the Lord as I described a couple paragraphs back. Feelings of awe and wonder as tears build up in the best way possible. Maybe you feel like a dried-up well too, and it's always been like that. If you do feel dry, no worries. Remember, the Lord is still answering prayers and working even if you're not sensing Him. With that said, if you are wanting to experi-

ence the Lord with more emotion, I would encourage you to ask Him.

I was talking to my husband right around the three-to-four-year mark of me feeling pretty dull, and I told him that I wanted to sense the presence of the Lord more.

He replied, "Pray that it comes back, even more than it has ever been." So I did, and it came!

It was a normal day as I grabbed my coffee and plomped on my couch with my Bible open. I picked up where I left off the day prior which was in Leviticus 9.

Then, when I got to verses 22-24 and Leviticus 10:1-7 I felt the presence of God.

All of a sudden, my mind was enlightened and eyes grew wide. Something clicked in my brain with the words I was reading and I said aloud, "There is something here!" Meaning there is something the Lord wants to teach me. He sure did have something to show me—He taught me about His holiness.

He did this by sparking a fire within my brain and I took that fire and studied the Scriptures by using a commentary. As I studied, revelation brewed. Oh guys, His holiness, may we grasp it and not forget it. God (Jesus) being holy means He is set apart.

Nothing is like the Lord God Almighty. NOTHING. We need to honor His holiness and not profane it. Once this exposure came, so did the tears. Oh, how I pray for more encounters and revelations like that one for both you and me!

I pray, in the name of Jesus, whoever is reading this will be touched by your presence in an overwhelming way, that they will experience your holiness and splendor. I pray they, too, will open the Word and revelation will fall. As they wait for it, God, let them know you are still ever so close and love them dearly. Amen!

Solution:

• You "not feeling" the Lord does not mean He is not there or working. HE IS THERE! Sometimes we will not always sense Him, and that is okay. Don't let that discourage you. Continue to press into Him. **Lean into the truths of the Word, not your feelings.**

• If you are wanting to experience the Lord at a more emotional level, then ask. Simply pray, "Jesus, I want to be overcome by your presence."

• As you wait for the Lord to reveal Himself in this matter, be patient. It may not happen right away. Stay in the Secret Place as you worship, pray, and get into the Word of God. A lot of spiritual endurance is getting produced in you as you do this, much more than you realize!

Although, "not feeling the Lord" may want to keep you from the Secret Place, do not let it. Feelings can lie. And guess what, you are even blessed when you believe and you do not see! Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. (John 20:29)

Blessings my friends, Ashley



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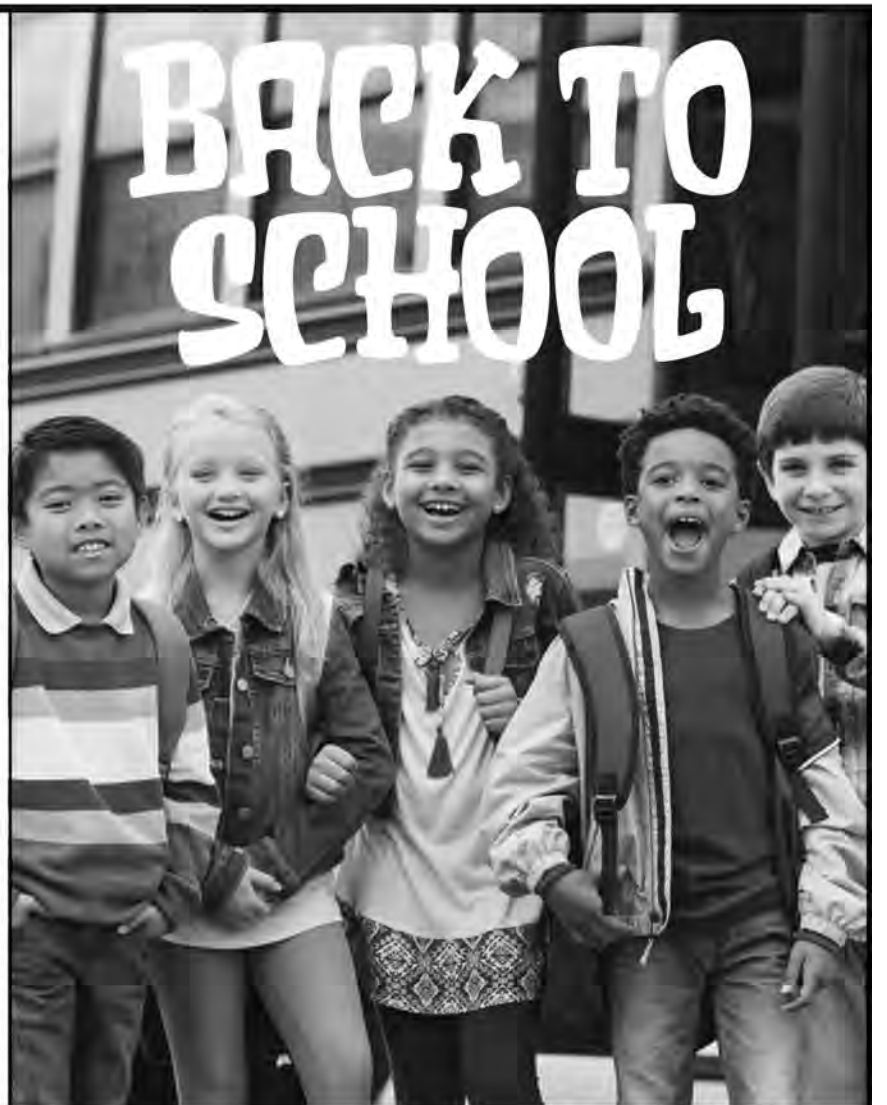
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Daniel Joseph Pumper

Daniel Joseph Pumper, age 70, of Northfield, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Friday, August 7, 2026.



Daniel was born on February 3, 1956, in Northfield, Minnesota, to Joseph Francis James and Dorothy Ann Malecha Pumper. He graduated from Northfield High

School and went on to attend Brainerd Vocational School, where he studied landscaping and design.

Dan worked for Switzer's Landscaping for several years before joining his father's plumbing and heating company in Northfield, where he worked for much of his life. He later worked for Dispatch, Inc. as a Stockroom Specialist until his retirement in 2020. In retirement, Dan enjoyed helping his brother Joel at Mechanical Systems with various tasks.

Later in life, Dan met and married Nancy Greene. They loved one another and enjoyed spending time at the lake, near Emily, MN, gathering around bonfires, and being outdoors in nature.

Family was very important to Dan. He loved his siblings and took great joy in being part of the lives of his many nieces and nephews. He was a gentle soul who always

took time to speak to new members of the family, as all of his nieces and nephews grew up and married. He will be remembered and missed by his family and friends.

Dan is survived by his siblings, Colleen (Tom) Weaver of Wisconsin Dells, Joel (Jeanne) of Northfield, Corrine (Fred) Beumer of Cannon Falls, Kaylene (Phillip) Little of Faribault, Keith (Nina) of Northfield, Laurie (Lance) Snesrud of Northfield, and Jeffrey (Shari) of Owatonna; sister-in-law, Donna of Northfield; stepdaughter, Jana Greene; three step-grandchildren, Kameron Hill, Kiya Hill and Amiya Greene; and many

nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy; brother, Craig; and parents.

A celebration of life will be held from 3-6 PM, Sunday, August 23, 2026 at L & M Bar in Dundas. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery in Northfield.

Arrangements are with Bierman, Benson & Langehough Funeral Home & Crematory. www.northfieldfuneral.com

Kenyon Rosefest August 19-23

(continued from page 1)

The Old Car and Truck Show will be held from 8am to 2pm on Forrest Street. A vendor and craft market will be set up on Forrest Street by the Bank. A tractor pull starts at 9am at the Hamilton-Maring lot on Hwy 56 north of Kenyon.

A kids pedal tractor pull will be held starting at 10am at St. Michaels Church parking lot. A road rally starts at 10am with the line up starting at CFS elevator. There is a \$20 entry per vehicle. The VFW Ladies Auxillary Lunch will be held from 10am to 1pm.

A Viking All School reunion will be held from 10am to 5pm at the KW High School.

Saturday will be family fun day at Depot Park. There will be caricature artists, face painting, laser tag and a free magic show for the kids. At 2pm the Rose Fest regatta will launch at the Kenyon pool. The United Methodist Church has a luncheon from 11am to 1pm. A beanbag tournament and family bingo will take place Saturday afternoon at the Muni and VFW respectively. At 8:30pm to midnight there will be a street dance with Mountain Ash and Chad Johnson Band.

Sunday August 23rd the Grand Parade will start at 1pm.

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Free Fix-it Clinics Put Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Into Action

(continued from page 1)

Both events are free and sponsored by Rice County Environmental Services.

Upcoming clinics are as follows:

• Saturday, Aug. 29 from 2-5 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 5785 Lons-

dale Boulevard E, Northfield

• Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Buckham Memorial Library, 11 Division St. E, Faribault.

Fix-It Clinics offer free, guided assistance from volunteers with the skills to disassemble, troubleshoot and (hopefully) fix small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more.

Items are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Participants may bring up to two items that need fixing or mending along with any tools or parts that might be helpful in the repair. All items must be clean.

Items commonly brought to clinics:

- Clothing or other textiles
- Small electric devices (lamps, clocks, radios, hair dryers)
- Countertop appliances (toasters, air fryers,

coffee makers, blenders)

- Toys
 - Vacuums
 - Jewelry
 - Items requiring minor carpentry repairs
- Learn more at www.ricecountymn.gov/807/Fix-It-Clinics.

2026 Big Woods Run September 26

(continued from page 1)

Saturday, September 26, 2026 is the date to pull on your running shoes and enjoy this scenic trek. The Big Woods should be in prime color for the runners and spectators.

The schedule of events includes a half marathon, 10k, 5k and a Kids Fun Run. The half marathon will take runners through beautiful wooded scenery with challenging hills. The 10k and 5k runners will enjoy a fairly flat wooded trail course. The half marathon and 10k races begin at 9:00am at St John's UCC, 19086 Jacobs Ave, Faribault. 5k runners will take a shuttle bus from the church to the starting line in the middle of the park. 5k runners must be on the bus no later than 8:40am. Kids Fun Run begins at the church at 10:30am. Runners can register online at www.finalstretch.com. Race day registration is 7:15am-8:45am at the church.

Proceeds from the Big Woods Run are donated to local charities. Over \$150,000 has been distributed in the 30 years of the event!

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Dennison Days



Dennison Days

August 20, 2026

- MAINSTREET MESSENGER -

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*The members and volunteers of the
Dennison Lions Club thank everyone
for their time, friendship and
financial support of
Dennison Days and other Lions Club
events and activities throughout
the year!*



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*If we missed your name, please accept
our apology. Your support is appreciated.*

Dennison Days





Thank you to all of our sponsors, vendors, volunteers and partners for making the 2026 Goodhue County Fair a success!

See you in 2027!

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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

Stories about Spirits in Bottles



By Terry Campbell

This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell. Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when it's warm here and Tennessee when it's cold here.

Growing up I used to find old bottles around the farm. There were buildings dating back to the turn of the last century for me to explore. I found many interesting bottles, some having the lettering cast into the glass. A few still had an aged cork stuck in the mouth. What a story they could tell.

My grandfather had a story that displayed his dry wit. This tale would have taken place

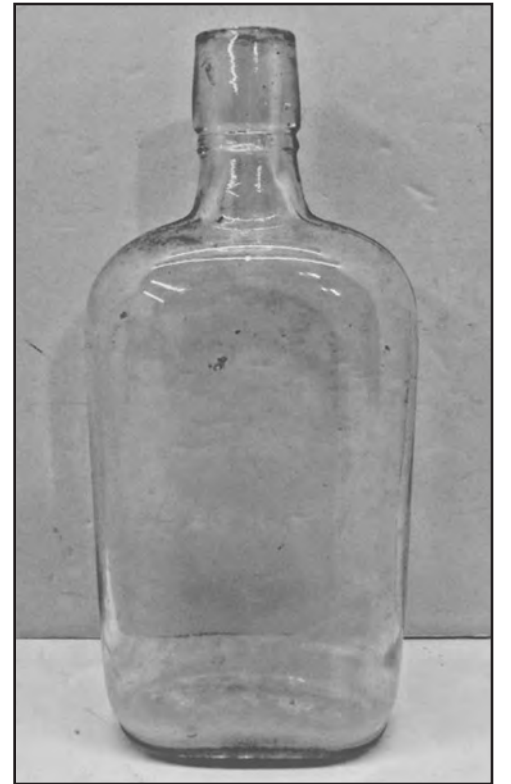
around 1920. He was not a drinker so this was an unusual story about a dry fella. My grandfather, as the story goes, was heading to Mantorville with the horse and wagon for supplies one morning. He asked the hired man if there was anything he wanted from town. Mantorville was five miles south of the farm but with a horse drawn wagon that would take over an hour and a half each way. There would be some livestock minerals, farm supplies and household goods to return with. Is quite interesting to think of Mantorville as a shopping destination where one could purchase everything needed for a farm family.

The hired man usually wanted a plug of chewing tobacco and a bottle of whiskey brought back on the weekly trip. A hired hand would usually live in a small shack or a simple room inside the farm house. Prior to the 1920's radio had not been introduced to rural America, and electricity was still a decade away. Probably not much to do for entertainment after a long day of work on the farm.

My grandfather picked up a bottle of whiskey for the hired hand, before he left town and proceeded homeward. My grandfather loved to talk. He stopped at a number of the farms along the way home to visit with the farmer and let his horse get a drink at the stock tank beside the windmill. Being a social and friendly guy, he also offered his host a nip from the bottle. At the last farm he realized that the bottle was getting about half empty. The solution was to refill the bottle from the well pump and press the cork in like nothing had happened. Once home he delivered chew and the whiskey to the hired man.

The next week when he inquired what he could pick up for the hired man in town he received the same order, but with one caveat. Please get different brand of whiskey than you brought home last week. That one was quite weak.

When I was a young lad, it was customary to give Christmas gifts to the milk hauler for the holiday. My mom usually made Christmas sugar cookies and fudge wrapped in a festive looking box. That Christmas the Maple Island milk hauler left a bottle of wine as a gift. Now my parents were teetotalers as well so the bottle was put in the back of the cupboard in the house. My curiosity got the best of me. To avoid suspicion, I knew I couldn't drink the bottle and dispose of it so I came up with a plan. I carefully opened the bottle, drank the contents and then refilled it with grape soda, sealed the cap and put it back in the cupboard. No one was every the wiser. Forty-five years later at a family gathering my sister confessed to my mother that she had opened the bottle of wine and tried it, only to find it totally disgusting. Wine may get better with age but grape soda definitely doesn't.



A Minnesotan: Jello Salad



By RosaLin Alcoser

My family has exactly one tried and true Minnesotan in it; that would be my husband. He is also the only real midwestern in the family. Since the rest of us are really transplants from the South.

Proportionally I have been here the longest of my family since I was a small child the fall of 1999 when we first came this far north. However, I am still a transplant as can be seen in my high heat tolerance and how I pronounce many words.

My husband on the other hand is born and raised Minnesotan. So you can imagine our shock when we found out that he, the man who loves hotdish, had never the other tried and true Minnesota food staple. Jello salad.

Now I have seen Jello salad's of all kinds on a pot luck table over the course of my life. Even when we would go visit family back south you would see the pink or green modeled one— you know the one with the marshmallows that was popular with the elderly who had been adults in the 1950s— on the table. Never as many as here in Minnesota, but they would be there.

I can remember whole tables of just Jello salad being out when I was little. And somehow growing up in the same state my husband had never had a Jello salad. Until my mom made one for church when she knew he'd be there.

Now like the rest of us Minnesotans he has had a Jello salad. It was one of the classic mandarin orange ones. Which he did like, mostly because he likes orange Jello and mandarin oranges. However, he did tell me afterwards that he would not count it as a salad.

Thank You for Supporting Nerstrand Fire & Rescue



Courtesy of Nerstrand Fire & Rescue

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came out and supported Nerstrand Fire & Rescue at our pancake breakfast! We appreciate everyone who stopped by for breakfast, visited with our firefighters, and continues to support our department.

As of right now, this was our last big event of 2026...but don't worry—we're already thinking about 2027. And it's going to be a BIG one.

125 YEARS. 1902–2027.

Next year marks the 125th Anniversary of Nerstrand Fire & Rescue, and we're starting to put together some ideas for a celebration worthy of 125 years of serving our community. We're not ready to give away all the details just yet... but we have some ideas.

And we'd love to hear yours!

If you, your business, organization, or band have an idea, would like to participate, sponsor something, provide entertainment, or help make the celebration even bigger, send us a message on Facebook or talk with one of our firefighters.

125 years only happens once. Let's make it one to remember!



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51st Annual Rice County Steam and Gas Tractor Show Sept. 4-6, 2026

(continued from page 1)

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

Vintage Machinery, both horse drawn, and tractor driven, will be on display and used in

various exhibits on the grounds.

The tractor parade takes place at noon each day.

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

The kids pedal pull is Saturday after the parade, and the tractor pull is Sunday at 9:00 AM.

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

General admission is just \$15 for the entire weekend and all events are free for ages 12 and under.

Celebrating 51 years of shows, the all-volunteer group works hard to preserve history, maintain the grounds and bring new pieces of history to visitors every year.

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



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From the first day to the last, we're wishing all of our community's amazing students, parents and teachers a happy and successful school year.

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51ST ANNUAL SHOW
September 4-6, 2026

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- * CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
Saturday Afternoon, North side @ Music Bldg
- * PARADE OF TRACTORS - DAILY @ NOON
- * TRACTOR PULL - Sunday 9:00 am
- * KIDS PEDAL PULL - Saturday 2:00 pm
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SATURDAY
10:00-Noon *Square Dancers*
1:00-4:00 pm *Bent Highway Band*
4:00-8:00 pm *Dakota Ramblers Band*

SUNDAY
8:00 am *Non-Denominational Church Service*
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Bill Becker 507-581-1225
Jeremy Sevcik 507-403-1614
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***Registration** of all golf carts & ATV's will be required. Proof of Insurance. No cycles.

***Golf Cart Rentals:** West Exhibitors Gate
Contact: Sheryl Trebelhorn 612-245-8722

INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK:
ricecountysteamandgas.com

Rice County Steam & Gas Showgrounds * 11988 Faribault Blvd * Dundas, MN 55019
(Located South of Dundas on Highway 3)

Oktoberfest in Dundas!

(continued from page 1)

Oktoberfest will be held rain or shine on Saturday September 19th in downtown Dundas! So, pull out and dust off your lederhosen, dirndls, tracht's and bollenhut's and join us!

We'll have a new Oktoberfest mug...our fourth style! Make sure to collect all four mugs!

Or bring back any of the mugs you previously purchased before! Have fun and drink out of a festive mug! Beverages include Chapel beer [FestBier, low ABV Raddler, German Style Kolsch, and IPA], Keepsake cider, white and red wine, NA beer and NA cider, soda, sparkling water or Martha's lemonade! This will pair nicely with your pretzel, brat (meat and vegetarian), hot German potato salad, German beans, sauerkraut and much more! The Dundas Dukes will once again have their world-famous cheese curds and merchandise for sale! Belle's Coffee Bar Food Truck will also be back as will Ruth's on Stafford!

Downtown Dundas will be lively with the sounds of German Music all day! German music begins at noon and goes until 1:30 pm with the Liechtenstein Nein! Then a subset of the Bavarian Musikmeisters will serenade you until 3:00 pm. The Bavarian Musikmeisters, a 35-member wind instrument German Band takes the stage at 3:00 pm! Enjoy and revel in a sense of Gemütlichkeit as you enjoy a full complement of events planned from noon until 6:30 pm! There will be something for everyone, from German and non-German themed foods and beverages to child

friendly activities such as pumpkin painting, face painting and crafts, numerous Makers and vendors, barrel cart rides, and horse drawn carriage rides!

Oktoberfest has grown in popularity over the past three years and to keep up with the demand, we're upping our game with children's activities! We are grateful to Little Prairie Church for sponsoring the children's activities for the past three years! This year the children's activities are moving into their own Craft Tent with expanded offerings! Also new this year, the Craft Tent is brought to you by The City of Dundas!

Calling all car and motorcycle aficionados! If you own a classic or muscle car or motorcycle and want to show it off, we've got an activity for you! Bring it on over for the Roll In! The Roll In runs from noon - 4PM and is brought to you by Dundas Oktoberfest and Dawn's Corner Bar! For more information contact either Dawn at Dawn's Corner Bar, Rik Stockey or go to our website dundasoktoberfest.com.

At the Marktplatz, we have a wide variety of Makers but have room for more! We have some talented craftspeople who will be sampling and selling their items! These talented artists are local and have items made from wood, clay, fabric, wax, leather, stone and glass!

If you are part of a non-profit organization and would like to showcase your organization and the work you do, we have a place for you! There is no fee to have a booth, and we would love to help spread the word on what you do!

Oktoberfest ends at 6:30 pm, but there is no need to go home! After Oktoberfest ends, the local bars and restaurants continue the fun! Head on over to the L&M Bar for the after-party with Free Ranger! Free Ranger plays upbeat Blues, Swing and Rock covers and originals on electric guitar, harmonicas and



vocals! The L&M will have music on the patio and drink specials! Once the streetlights come on, the party moves onto the street in front of Dawn's Corner Bar. Smokescreen was such a huge hit last year at Oktoberfest they're coming back this year! So come enjoy "Dundas After Dark" with Smokescreen, hosted by Dawn's Corner Bar! You'll be dancing in the streets with this high-energy band who play a variety of rock, country and pop music! A can't be missed event!

Oktoberfest in Dundas is brought to you by a small but dedicated group of volunteers from Little Prairie Church, Chapel Brewing, Keepsake Cidery, Dundas Historical Society, City of Dundas, local businesses and residents. This is truly a community event, which runs on volunteers giving their time and talent to make this a success! Several Dundas area businesses also sponsor and/or participate in this event. There is still time to sign up



to be a Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum level sponsor!

We're always looking for a few good folks to volunteer! As the saying goes... the more the merrier! So, if you are interested in volunteering or having a booth, let us know! You can contact us at dundasoktoberfest.com.

Whatever you're interested in...we've got you covered! We look forward to seeing you in downtown Dundas on the 19th!

For more information about Dundas Oktoberfest, please visit dundasoktoberfest.com.

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DUNDAS Oktoberfest

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Smokescreen

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NOON-4PM

STREET DANCE
8PM-MIDNIGHT

Live Music by
SMOKESCREEN

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Farm Girl Chatter Long Hot Summer Days

By McKell Lemmerman



That's right. Seems fitting for the time of year when you step outside and already have sweat in places you don't want it. Livestock hover over the water tanks and shove each other out of the shade trees like little kids trying to be first

your boots feel like they're full of soup, the tractor's seat could fry an egg, and the steering wheel feels like it was forged in a blacksmith shop.

The cows stand belly-deep in the pond with that look that says, "If you need me, I'll be here until October." The horses have perfected the art of planting themselves under the one shade tree in the pasture, swishing flies and refusing to move unless grain is involved. Even they have enough sense to know when it's too hot to do anything productive.

The flies, on the other hand, always have the best summer of their lives. They don't care how much fly spray you buy or how fancy the tag in the cow's ear is—they're back before you can put the cap on the bottle. By lunchtime you've burned more calories, swatting flies than you've burned stacking hay. The livestock swish and kick at the little flying demons only to realize they're just using them for a free ride around the pasture. And don't even think about leaving the pickup windows down unless you're looking to start your own fly sanctuary.

Speaking of hay, whoever came up with the phrase "make hay while the sun shines" clearly never throws square bales in July. Nothing builds character quite like hugging 60-pound bales in 95-degree weather while itchy hay dust super glues itself to every drop



of sweat you've got.

By supper time, everyone's moving a little slower. The dogs have dug themselves a hole to China just to find cool dirt. The livestock are parked around every water tank like its happy hour, and you're on your second or third glass of iced tea wondering if sweating counts as cardio. "It's not the heat... it's humidity," like that's supposed to make anyone feel better. Still, once the sun finally drops below the trees and a little breeze rolls across the farm, it's hard to complain too much. The cicadas and frogs are singing. The best friends of the flies, yup, the mosquitoes are filing flight plans. The kids smell like sunscreen and dirt. And the sunset reminds you why you put up with the heat, the dust, the flies, and everything else summer throws at

a farmer.

Because before long, we'll be standing in chore boots three sizes too big with three layers of socks, wishing for one more long, hot summer day.



Share Your Good News!

Submit your engagement, wedding or birth announcement.

Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Corn Maze After Dark at Windy Willow Farm

Ready to get lost in the dark?! Join us at Windy Willow Farm for a whole new way to experience the corn maze!

October 10, 11, 23 & 24

7:30 PM – 10:00 PM

\$5 per person

Ages 12+

Grab your friends, bring your own flashlight, and see if you can make it through the maze after dark!

Important: Please bring a regular flashlight — NO phone flashlights will be allowed.

Last maze entry is at 9:30 PM.

Think you can find your way out?

Windy Willow Farm is located at 9748 110th St E, Northfield. 507-581-9248.



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Fatigue



By Noel Aldrich, PhD, CNS
Licensed Nutritionist

This time of year, the outdoor temperatures are rising higher and the need for some cool, refreshing beverage is obvious. The human body is about 70% water, and maintaining this level of water in the body becomes a life-long practice. Water is important for all the chemical processes that are happening in the body every minute. When water concentration decreases the chemical process will slow down waiting for the right amount of water to be available. One of the primary causes of fatigue and lack of energy may be the lack of water inside the body.

Brain function and clarity of thinking can decrease when not enough water is consumed. A study published by BMC Medicine in 2023 followed almost 2000 participants who were 55 – 75 yrs old. Eighty percent of

the participants met the standard for adequate water intake, but the measure of water in the blood serum of fifty-six percent of the participants were at dehydration levels. There was a strong association between dehydration and lower brain function.

This study shows us that even though water was consumed, there were not enough minerals in the water to help properly balance the water inside the cells of the body compared to outside the cells. The difference in the amount of water inside the cell compared to outside the cell is controlled by the electrolytes. When the electrolytes are provided through quality foods and seasonings, the water balance will reach optimum levels that result in energy production. Energy cannot be produced without a proper water balance.

While water is the primary molecule in the body, there is a balance of minerals in the water that make the chemistry work. Calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium, and carbon dioxide are the primary minerals used in the body for healthy cell communication. These electrolytes are very carefully controlled by the body because an imbalance of any of these minerals can cause communication problems between the cells of the body. Electrolyte imbalances are related to heart problems, kidney problems, and brain disfunction as noted in the study above.

Some will reach for coffee or a caffeinated drink to achieve an energy boost. While a brief boost will be generated from the body's urgent response to get rid of the caffeine, the long-term result will be greater dehydration. Coffee and caffeinated drinks cause the body to become more dehydrated over time be-



cause these drinks do not provide water but stimulate the kidneys to get rid of more water. Over time fatigue increases with greater dehydration.

To promote greater energy and hydration, consider the following points:

- Make a habit of drinking water throughout the day. A general guideline is to drink half of your body weight in fluid ounces. (A person weighing 128 pounds would drink 64 oz = 8 cups)
- If your urine is dark yellow, this is a sign of dehydration. More water is needed
- Consume fresh foods that contain water like cucumbers, melons, berries, and salads
- Consider quality salts – Himalayan, Celtic, Sea salt – to be added to foods or water

- Identify an electrolyte mix that contains calcium, magnesium, sodium, and potassium without any added sugar. This electrolyte mix may be used once a day to improve electrolyte balance and water absorption inside the body

If you are struggling with fatigue and lack of energy, I can help identify the cause and provide support for improving your quality of life. Contact me to discuss your health goals for the coming year. Nutrition is designed for healing. I can help you reach greater health freedom in 2026. 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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Urgent Care Northfield moves to Jefferson Road Clinic

(continued from page 1)

Urgent Care begins in the Jefferson Road Clinic on Thursday, September 17. The move is part of NH+C's purchase of the Jefferson Road Clinic from Allina Health.

Urgent Care Northfield - 1400 Jefferson Road

Mon - Fri: 8:30 am-7:30 pm; Sat - Sun: 8:30 am-3:30 pm

Urgent Care will be in a bigger space with a broader range of services, and convenient referrals for follow up care.

"We know we've got large demand for our urgent care services in Northfield, and this will allow us to increase that capacity," says NH+C CEO Zander Abbott.

Another benefit: Jefferson Road Clinic is on the Northfield-Hiawatha Land bus line, so this move puts Urgent Care on the Northfield bus line. "We're excited about making our Urgent Care location even more accessible," Abbott says.

Urgent Care will be closed Sept. 15-16 for the move.

If you need urgent care those two days:

Northfield Clinic (on hospital main campus):

same-day appointments 7:30 am – 5 pm, 507-646-1494

**Urgent Care Lakeville: 12 pm - 7:30 pm,
text 509-253-1916 for wait times**

Morning Urgent Care Farmington: 7 am - 12 pm

**Emergency Department (Northfield Hospital):
open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

First Half Mobile Home Property Tax Payments Due Aug. 31

By Rice County

First half property tax payments for mobile/manufactured homes are due this year on Monday, Aug. 31.

Property taxes may be paid online at the Rice County website, www.ricecountymn.gov, or by phone at 877-690-3729 using the jurisdiction code 3321. Paying from a checking or savings account is free of charge. A convenience fee does apply to all credit/debit card payments.

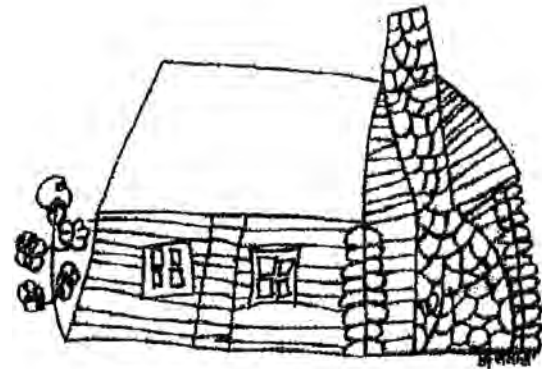
Property tax payments can continue to be mailed to the Rice County Property Tax & Elections Office. Anyone paying in person may do so via cash, check or money order at the Property Tax & Elections Office, 320 Third St. NW, Faribault, MN 55021. Hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon on Friday.

Harvest Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: October 3, 10, 17, 24

Sundays: October 4, 11, 18, 25

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



Place:

Lori & Darwin Amy

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CITY OF NERSTRAND, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 14th, 2026
7:00p.m.
221 Main Street, Nerstrand

1. Call to Order/Pledge Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Pam Caron, Betty Voge, Gretchen, Todd Evavold, and Karla Ingersoll
3. Public Hearing: N/A
4. Public Forum: No one requested the floor for discussion.
5. Consent Agenda
(All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and have been made available to the City Council in advance of the meeting. The items will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from this agenda and considered in normal sequence.)
 - Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9th, 2026
 - Special Meeting Minutes of June 23rd, 2026
 - Payment of Claims

A motion made by Karla and voted on approved by all.

6. Guest Speakers-Representative Keith Allen attended our meeting. He gave a brief presentation of what is going on in our government and that real progress was made despite the divide. Also, he mentioned that there was a reduction in property taxes and the cost associated with tabs was also less this year. He did mention there is a very important vote coming up. The government would like to use funds associated with land trusts to give back to the public schools.

Following Keith we had Zach from Bollig in attendance to discuss our way forward in seeking grants. They pivoted the city from Rural Development grants to MN Public Facilities grants. The pivot occurred because there seemed to be more funding available under the MN Public Facilities route than the Rural development. It will be beneficial for Zach to return again and be more in touch

- with council and the on goings.
7. Staff Reports
Clerks-Clerk completed extensive EPA training for the Grants.
3 past due letters are being sent to residents and 1 shut off- Resident submitted payment before shut off
ACH is in progress. But we need to discuss the fees associated.
Clerks Hours
Water damage around city hall seems to be growing.
Audit-There was an extension request per the Auditor.
Preparing for the Budget. What dates would you like to use?
Budget Nights are scheduled for Aug 25th and Aug 26th (Please note a 6 pm start time)
Work Session-CANCELLED
PW Director-One of the two trees that had been on our radar to remove was hit by mother nature. So, we had a jump start on it being taken down. They are also working on taking down another one next to the Fire Department. Also, Steve, Jacob, and LeAnna worked with Rural Water and reviewed our water and wastewater system and put together and Emergency contact list. Rural water is going to assist with a rate study and any other documentation they can assist our grant hunting progress. We also met with the EPA point of contact to have a introduction on who we are going to be working with there.
 8. Ordinances-N/A
 9. Resolutions
A. 2026-23 Donations for the Banners
A motion made by Betty and voted on and approved by all.
B. 2026-24 Donations for the Park from Dennison Lions
A motion made by Karla and voted on and approved by all.
 - 2026-25 Donations for the Fire Department from Dennison LionsA motion made by Gretchen and voted on and approved by all.
 10. New Business
A. Snow Removal

- Council reviewed the two bids that clerks received and discussed. They decided to move forward and accept the bid from RHC out of Faribault for the City snow removal needs.
- A motion was made by Karla and voted on and approved by all.
- B. Meeting Change Request
Council agreed to shift our September meeting to September 15th. Our October meeting to October 6th and are November meeting to November 4th.
- Adult Library
Council has discussed and decided to remove the “Adult” portion of the library at City Hall.
A motion was made by Todd and voted on and approved by all.
 - Staircase for Second Floor
The Mayor has found prefabricated stairs for the second floor project. He has asked council to give him the purchasing power to buy if he saw them at the right price.

- Garbage Contract is done at the end of the year.
This was just an FYI to council to have it on their radar.
- Cemetery Tree Removal
This item was pushed to the cemetery committee to review. The Mayor is getting bids. The contractor has asked that we delay until harvest is complete so he can access the cemetery through the fields.
- Budget Prep
Again, this was a heads up to council to start thinking of planning on projects. Looking at the year ahead.
- 11. Unfinished Business
- 12. Adjourn
A motion was made by Karla and voted on and approved by all.
Next City Council Meeting is scheduled for TO BE DETERMINED, 2026, at Nerstrand City Hall.
Todd Evavold, Mayor
LeAnna Anderson-Speiker, City Clerk

To the Editor:

Sad to read the owners of The Kenyon Market grocery store might close down. With the Dollar Store competition cutting sales by 10%, it certainly would spotlight the economic decline of Kenyon. Like the Sunset home closure, it speaks to the difficult population trends in small town Minnesota. The enrollment decline in all public school districts in southern Minnesota is hitting all communities, and of course the incredible billion “Feed My Children” fraud in Minnesota and the DFL legislature blowing about \$15 billion over the last two years only make things worse.

But there is also good news. The former Peterson Ford building is now home of A&J Design, doing metal work for data centers and FEMA and Daiken in Faribault, and they are now up to 60 employees. Ashley and Jon Meyers are creating a wonderful success story, along with good paying jobs.

When I come to Kenyon for a haircut, I now make it a point to stop at the Kenyon Market.

Doug Jones, Rural Nerstrand

**Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of The Messenger.*

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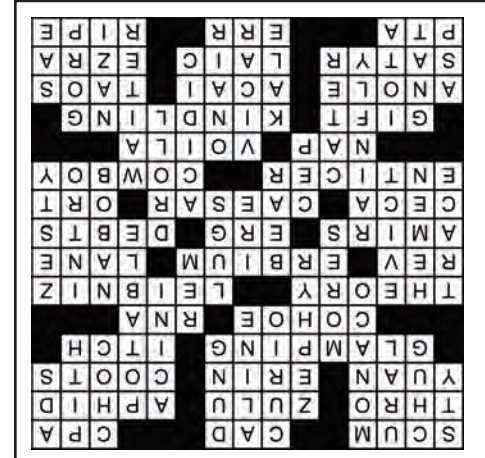
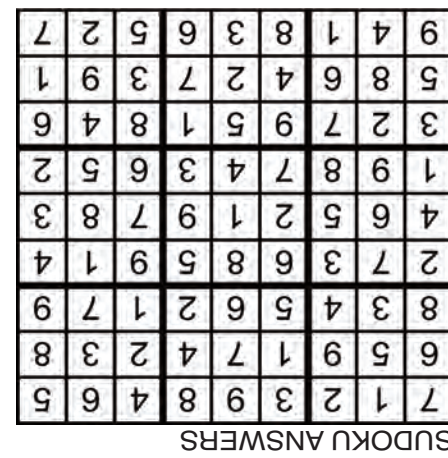
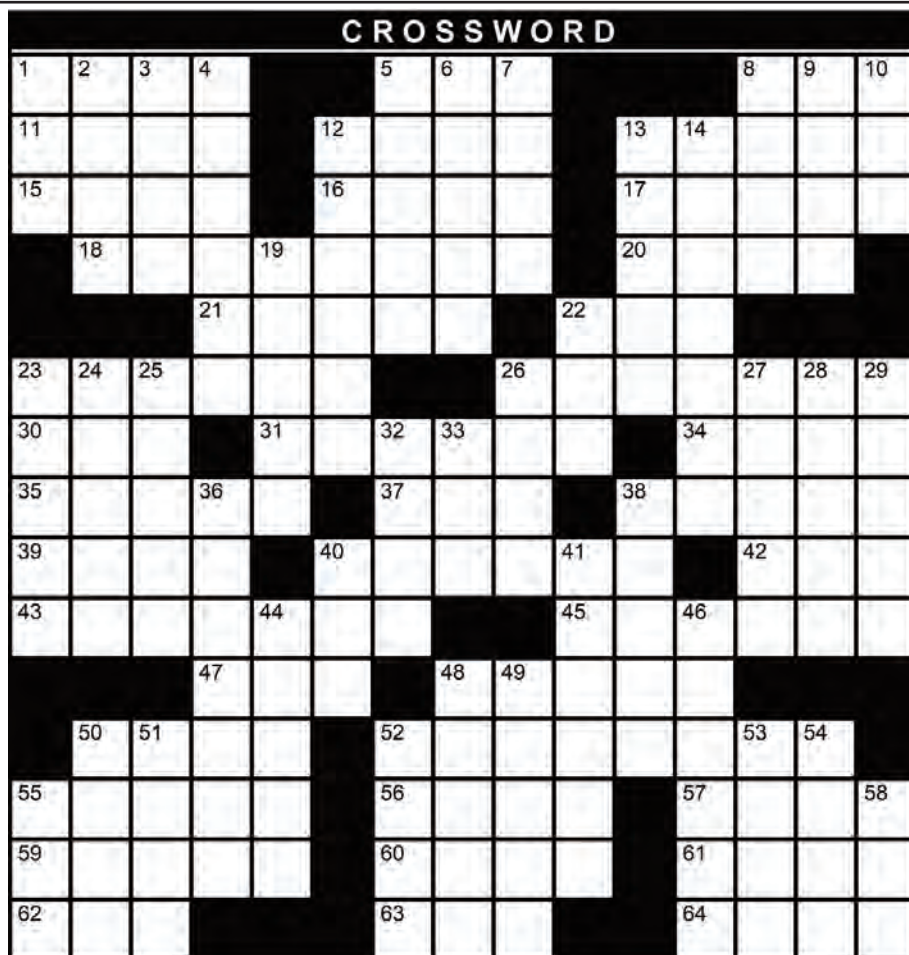
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11. Through, to a poet
12. Z, NATO phonetic alphabet
13. Garden pest
15. Chinese monetary unit
16. Sportscaster Andrews
17. Certain water birds
18. *Luxury camping
20. Scratch's target
21. Same as coho
22. DNA transmitter
23. Explanation backed by evidence
26. Gottfried ____, calculus co-creator
30. R in rpm
31. Er on Periodic table
34. Bowling ball path
35. Arabic VIPs
37. .0000001 joule
38. Financial woes
39. Cecum, pl.
40. "Et tu, Brute?" speaker
42. Food morsel
43. Siren, e.g.
45. *____ camping, or camping without shelter
47. Siesta
48. "There it is." ‡ Paris
50. Gold or frankincense or myrrh, e.g.
52. *Fire starter
55. American chameleon
56. Antioxidant-rich berry
57. New Mexico art colony
59. Nymph chaser
60. Nonclerical
61. Poet Pound
62. High school parent org.
63. Be off base
64. Ready for picking

DOWN

1. Eye infection
2. College party chant
3. Russia's ____ Mountains
4. Western European city-state
5. Collectible in a cabinet
6. Skirt shape
7. Animal waste
8. Chocolate candy, to a Brit
9. Essence
10. Marketing creations
12. Gentle breeze
13. Raspberry drupelets
14. *Like drinking water
19. Customs and conventions
22. "Losing My Religion" band
23. *Leave no ____
24. Egyptian falcon god
25. Put out on a curb
26. Totes or tugs
27. Orient's bigwig
28. Preface, e.g.
29. Piquant
32. *____ bag or ____ canister
33. Rage
36. *Waterproof cover (2 words)
38. Funny
40. Large edible mushroom
41. Of low pH
44. Serve food at events
46. Restaurant staff member
48. "The ____ of Wakefield"
49. On the radio (2 words)
50. *Annoying biting fly
51. Tiny quantity
52. Leafy green
53. Like Hitler's Germany
54. *Good Ol' Raisins and Peanuts
55. Venomous snake
58. Greek letters on campus



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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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