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SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

Volume 11 • Issue 36

61st Annual Marigold Days This Weekend



Get ready to celebrate Marigold Days this weekend. The weather forecast predicts a warm and sunny weekend with highs near 80 degrees. There will

be plenty of selections of food vendors all weekend as nineteen units are expected to be serving your favorite fare.

The Dodge County Historical Society will be open for tours from 1 to 4pm Thursday thru Saturday.

There will be a pulled pork supper at the church located on 515 Walnut Street from 5 to 7pm Friday evening.

(continued on page 5)

Big Iron Classic 2026 returns to Kasson

The Big Iron Classic returns to the Dodge County Fairgrounds in Kasson this weekend September 11 and 12. There will be over 600 semi-trucks, tractors and custom trailers on display. Big Rigs come from all over to showcase their celebrate at the Midwest's premier "Working Class" truck show. These trucks spend all year on the road and get together for one weekend for fun.

The show opens to the public on Friday from 9am to 7pm and Saturday from 9am to 5pm for viewing the trucks. There are vendor booths open from 8am to 5pm both days with food, merchandise and related items. Activities continue until 11pm each day.

The beer garden will be open both days and features a live band each night from 9pm to 1am.

(continued on page 3)



Hayfield Community Ambulance Fundraiser



The Hayfield Ambulance department will be holding a Fall Festival fundraiser and celebrating 50 years of community service on Saturday September 26th. They will be raising funds for a new ambulance and Advanced Life Support Systems. They will have a car show from 9am to 12:30pm featuring cars, trucks, motorcycles, semis and emergency vehicles. Awards will be presented at 12:30pm. From 10 am to 11:30am the Dodge Center ALS Intercept car will be on display at the car show.

Vendors will be set up outside the Ambulance Station from 10am to 6pm. There will be fun kid's games and activities from 1 to 6pm. All day long you can meet the Hayfield Ambulance crew at the Ambulance Station. There will be free blood pressure checks, Ambulance Station tours and a Hayfield Ambulance History presentation. From 3 to 6pm there will be a book signing by Dave and Christi Dyke, from Racine for their new book, "Behind the Badge", which deals with PTSD in law enforcement personnel from the perspective of a Mower County deputy sheriff.

(continued on page 6)

Dodge County Historical Society



The Dodge County Historical Society began in 1948 and is located in the St. John's Episcopal Church which was built in 1869.

(continued on page 4)

Announcements

- GriefShare support group for anyone experiencing loss of a loved one, friend, or other significant person in their lives, meets Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, at Anchor Of Hope Church, 203 E. Main St., Dodge Center, MN. Contact Dale E. Rood, pastor emeritus, at 507-633-2772, or go to the GriefShare website.
- 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?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com

33rd Annual Turkey Dinner

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Sunday, September 20, 2026

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

St. John Baptist de la Salle Catholic Church

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Pastors Corner

Prayer That Seeks His Presence

By Johann Marsland

In an age of endless prayer needs like healing, provision, protection, and national revival, a deeper need is often obscured. Scripture and history reveal that prayer focused on seeking God and His presence, rather than to answered petitions, holds the key to revival and genuine cultural transformation.

King David captured this longing in Psalm 27:4: “One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.” He did not list grievances or demands. He desired presence. Moses refused to move without it: “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here” (Exodus 33:15). Jesus affirmed the same priority when He told Martha that Mary had chosen the better portion by sitting at His feet rather than busying herself with service (Luke 10:42).

This kind of prayer is not mystic meditation. It is the experience that precedes divine empowerment. James 4:8 promises, “Come near to God and he will come near to you.” When people stop treating God as a cosmic vending machine and begin treating Him as the living God whose presence and nearness is the ultimate superlative goal, everything changes.

Church history bears this out. In the Welsh Revival of 1904–1905, young Evan Roberts did not organize campaigns around petitions for national reform. He called people to gather

and wait for the presence of the Spirit of God. Meetings often began with simple, prolonged worship and confession. The result was not merely converted individuals but a transformed culture: taverns closed, crime rates plummeted, and the coal mines fell silent as miners sang hymns underground. Society felt the weight of God’s nearness.

A similar current ran through the Hebrides Revival of 1949. Duncan Campbell and local intercessors prayed not primarily for miracles but for God to “rend the heavens and come down.” When His presence arrived, entire villages were gripped by conviction. Bars emptied. Family feuds ended. The moral climate of the islands changed almost overnight. Observers noted that the atmosphere itself

seemed charged with a holy presence so that the whole community experienced the tangible love of God.

Jesus first taught this pathway of divine presence when He said, “Seek first the kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added...” (Matthew 6:33). Cultural transformation does not begin with strategies or even with lists of requests. It begins when a people decide that the presence of God is more valuable than the answers they want from Him. In that atmosphere, hearts are transformed by God’s love, sin loses its appeal, holiness abounds, and communities are reordered from the inside out.

The modern church has largely inverted the order. We pray for revival as a product rather

than desiring God’s presence from which all other things flow. We measure success by miracles and answered prayers rather than by the weight of glory resting on a people. Yet the record of Scripture and the testimonies of past awakenings remain clear: when believers learn to seek and prefer the manifest nearness of God above every other good, everything changes.

The invitation still stands. Will we pray for things, or will we pray to be near Him? The difference is not merely personal faith. It is civilizational transformation.



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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

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church
 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 Schlauderarff
 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 Heart Command

I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." — Romans 7:7

Most people agree that the commandments we have been discussing lately—about promoting justice, honesty, respect for others and their property, and more—offer clear, practical boundaries for living together in society. Guidelines like these are found in all kinds of societies around the world.

We might even think, like many of God’s people in ancient Israel did, that keeping these commands is possible. But the law doesn’t satisfy God’s requirements for our hearts. The apostle Paul painfully realized this when he wrestled with the darkness in his own heart. Though he thought he had been able to keep these commandments through his actions, he was cut to the heart when he read, “You shall not covet.” God commands that we show love not only through our actions but also with our hearts. By this standard, we are all guilty of failing to love others.

Thankfully, our heart problem can be solved. “While we were still sinners,” Paul writes in Romans 5:8, “Christ died for us.” Jesus is the only one who could ever satisfy the demands of God’s law for perfect obedience and love. And since we are forgiven through Jesus’ sacrifice for our sake, the Holy Spirit gives us new hearts directed toward loving God and our neighbors.

Our new life in Christ moves us beyond mere outward obedience. By trusting Jesus, our restless hearts find true satisfaction in him alone, so that we can truly love others.

Jesus, thank you for rescuing us. By your Spirit, fill our hearts so that we can love others as you have loved us. 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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Obituaries

September 10, 2026

- DODGE CENTER, CLAREMONT, WEST CONCORD, KASSON, MANTORVILLE, HAYFIELD MESSENGER -

Page 3

Mary Jane Kroulik

Mary Jane Kroulik, 75, of Kasson, MN passed away on Monday, August 24, 2026.



Mary Jane Malone Kroulik was born on October 2, 1950, in Stambaugh, Michigan, to Deloris (Anderson) Malone and Peter Malone. She graduated from Stam-

baugh High School and went on to proudly serve her country in the United States Navy. She attended Yeoman School in Newport, Rhode Island. Upon graduating, she received her orders to Pearl Harbor Naval Base in Honolulu, Hawaii. A slight shock to the family, her mother responded, "You must be mistaken, my dear." She proudly served as an E5 Second Class legal secretary in the US Navy JAG Corps. It was in Honolulu that a handsome fella named Ivan Kroulik caught her eye and she fell in love.

On the island of Oahu, Mary Jane and Ivan began their life together and welcomed their first daughter, Molly. They eventually returned to the mainland, where Mary Jane attended college in Moorhead, Minnesota, earning a degree in Stenography.

The family later settled in Kasson, Minnesota, where Mary Jane and Ivan planted their roots and welcomed two more daughters, Katie and Patricia. She created a home filled with love, laughter, creativity, fun messes, music, and homemade caramel rolls. The door was always open, all were welcome, and countless memories were made.

Mary Jane had an extraordinary gift for working with children. Her gentle nature, patience, and ability to make children feel welcome and valued left a lasting impression on every child she worked with. She was instrumental in starting the KM Nursery group, where she shared her love of learning and her belief in the importance of giving children a caring place to grow. She continued her work with children in Early Childhood Special Education at Kasson-Mantorville Community Education. She was dedicated to the children she worked with. Her colleagues called her

their "wise old owl".

Faith was also an important part of Mary Jane's life. She was an active and devoted member of her church, serving as a eucharistic minister and Sunday School teacher. Her faith was reflected not only in her church service but in the compassion she showed to others and the many ways she made a difference in their lives.

Mary Jane was a true believer in giving back to her community. She volunteered often and unselfishly shared her time. Some of her favorites included driving for the Veterans Association, serving as an election judge for local elections, and delivering for Meals on Wheels. Whether serving her country, church, community, or her family, she gave of herself freely and without seeking recognition or anything in return.

Mary Jane found joy in the simple, meaningful things in life. She loved traveling and learning about history, listening to music, baking, gardening, and most of all, spending time with family and friends. She was a proud member of the MN Historical Society, The American Swedish Institute, MPR, National Parks, Dodge County Historical Society among others. She had a creative spirit, a generous heart, and a way of making the people around her feel cared for and loved.

Above all else, Mary Jane was a mom. Our Mom Bomb. Her daughters were at the center of her world, and her love for them was unwavering. Her family will remember her not only for all that she did, but for who she was- the warmth she brought into a room, the stories she shared, the traditions she created, and the love she gave so freely. Any dreams we had, she supported. She truly believed we could be anything we wanted to be. Proud

president of our fan club, there were no dreams too big.

Mary Jane leaves behind a legacy of service, faith, creativity, kindness, and love that will continue on through her family and all those fortunate enough to have known her.

She is survived by her husband, Ivan Kroulik; daughters, Molly Kroulik-Bigelow and her husband Patrick Bigelow, Katie Kroulik and her husband Tim Supol, and Patty Kroulik; grandchildren, Andrew Patrick Bigelow, Elizabeth Margaret Bigelow, Kate Patricia Bigelow, Ruby Jane Malone Supol, and Henriette Agnes Supol; sister, Patty Cowell (John Cowell); and many extended family members and dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Deloris (Anderson) and Peter Malone; mother-in-law, Pat Kroulik; father-in-law, Ted Kroulik; and her birds, Crackerjack, Lucky, Lucky 2, and Ndege.

A funeral mass was held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, September 4, 2026, at Holy Family Catholic Church, 1904 Mantorville Ave N in Kasson, MN. Father John Lasuba officiated. Visitation was held one hour prior to her mass at the church. Interment was in Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Preston, MN.

For those attending the mass, the family encouraged you to dress casually or wear your favorite polo shirt. In lieu of flowers, the family invites memorials to the Dodge County Food Shelf and the Jeremiah Program.

To share a special memory or condolence please visit www.czaplewskifuneralhomes.com, Czaplewski Family Funeral Homes, 801 7th St SE Kasson, MN 55940 (507) 634-6510. Blessed be her memory.

Big Iron Classic 2026 returns to Kasson

(continued from page 1)

Saturday will also feature a parade of Big Rigs through Mantorville during Marigold Days there. There will be a truck pull at the fairgrounds grandstand with multiple classes including "King of the Hill" and "Antique Run". Tickets are sold at the gate starting at 4:30pm Saturday for \$10.00 each. Kids 12 and under are free with a paid adult.

The Big Iron Classic event is a major toy donor in the region, encourages attendees to contribute to collections. It is open free to the public for all activities both days, except the truck pull which requires tickets to be purchased.

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Hegre's Annual Fall Swedish Meatball Supper

~ Take out and curbside pickup orders only ~

Wednesday, September 23rd 2026 serving 4pm -7:00pm

Menu includes: Swedish Meatballs, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cole Slaw, Corn, Cranberries, Dinner Roll & Apple Dessert

Cost: \$18 per meal (all meals are adult sizes). Cash or checks only.

Call or text orders are recommended by Friday, September 18th to guarantee meals.

Please include name, number of meals and time of pick up.

Drive up meals available the day of the supper until food is gone.

Picnic tables outside for anyone to use.

Please stay in line until reaching the cashier on the east side of the church.

Call or text
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Dodge County Historical Society

(continued from page 1)

The museum in the church archives many historical items from Dodge County through the founding years beginning in the mid 1800's. The museum is open from 1 to 4pm Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. Admission is free but donations are encouraged.

Currently the DCHS maintains a number of buildings including the Ashland School house and Old Settler's House in Mantorville. The Ashland School house was built in 1885 and brought to Mantorville in 1964. The Old Settler's House was built by the brewmaster in Mantorville in 1856. Each summer during the Dodge County Fair they have exhibits at the Log Cabin which originally served as the Fairgrounds office. Other Dodge County Historical Places include three in Wasioja, including the Seminary Ruins, Civil War Recruiting Station and the Wasioja Township School building.

Upstairs at the old limestone church building there are collections on display from 150 years ago. There are many more items catalogued and stored by the staff. Most items are accessible through the digital archive and may be viewed by computer. Downstairs is a very interesting collection of military items from the Civil War on through the Second World War.

The man on the DCHS logo is Henry Dodge, whom the county is named after. Dodge was the governor of the Wisconsin Territory, which included all of Minnesota in 1838. Few white men ventured into this area prior to 1840 since it was a disputed territory between the Sioux, the Sauk and the Reynard Indian Tribes and a very violent place to travel into. The first white hunters who came to Dodge County prior to the 1840's were part of hunting parties comprised of large number of Sioux Indians. Henry Sibley, who became Minnesota's first governor, hunted elk and buffalo with a Sioux hunting expedition in 1840. The group was accompanied by over 250 Sioux braves who were harvesting and drying meat for winter.

There is one person on staff, and twenty volunteers, of which eight are Dodge County Historical Society board members.



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61st Annual Marigold Days This Weekend

(continued from page 1)

A street dance with live music from “In the Fields” will be held at the Mantorville Saloon

from 8pm to midnight.

Saturday there is a pancake breakfast at the Mantorville Fire Hall from 7 to 10am. The flea market be open from 8am to 5pm in Riverside Park. A kid’s fishing contest will be held at Goat Island from 8:30 to 10:30am Saturday. The flower show at the Greek Revival House opens at 9am Saturday and Sunday and runs all day. The Quilt Show is held at the Mantorville Opera House from 9am to 5pm all weekend as well.

The Mantorville Saloon will host a bean bag tournament starting at 11am Saturday. The beer garden opens at the Fire Hall at noon. The street dance will be held at the Fire

Hall Saturday evening from 8pm to midnight featuring live music from “Junk FM.”

Log Cabin tours will be held both days from noon to 4pm at 540 North Main Street. The Field of Flags will have a ceremony at 1pm on Saturday at the ballfield on Highway 57. The Big Iron Classic truck parade will pass through Mantorville at 3:30pm Saturday afternoon.

Saturday evening at 7pm will be the Miss Mantorville crowning and awards on the music stage at 4th Street and Clay. The Lyle Hoagland Fireworks will begin at dusk over Goat Island.

On Sunday morning the Jack Ruport Memorial Car Show will take place from 9am to noon. A Sunday morning church worship service will be held at the Riverside Park Band Shell at 9:30am. The Mantorville Marigold Days Grand Parade will start at 1:30pm and the Fire Department water fights will follow directly after.

The music stage at 4th Street and Clay will feature live music starting at 10am Saturday with five bands scheduled during the day.



61ST ANNUAL MANTORVILLE Marigold Days

SATURDAY LIVE MUSIC	SUNDAY LIVE MUSIC
10 AM - Wilkinson James	11:30 AM - Stryker
Noon - Backup Sound System	2:00 PM - LP and the 45s
2:00 PM - B and The Sting	
4:00 PM - Uptown Jazz	
6:00 PM - Fever Pitch	

September 12th & 13th

Rain or Shine!

There will be two more bands again on Sunday at 11:30 am and at 2pm.

September is National Preparedness Month

Elder Network is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit that was formed in 1988. We have been serving Dodge County since 2022, and are working to provide the community with supportive services and information for older adults and caregivers. We want to take the time to bring awareness to preparing and planning for emergencies as September is National Preparedness Month. This month promotes natural disaster planning throughout the year to ensure safety for individuals and families. We also know that medical crises like hospitalizations can cause stress to families and their loved ones. Sometimes a caregiver can get into a situation where they are unable to take care of themselves and their care receiver.

That’s why Elder Network is hosting a free 2-hour workshop called, “A Caregiver’s Guide to Planning for the Unexpected” on Thursday, October 22nd, 2026 from 1-3pm at the Dodge Center Public Library (13 1st Ave NW, Dodge Center, MN 55927). Attend this workshop to learn more about caregiver-specific emergency planning and hear from Mayo Clinic Social Workers and Home Health Agencies. Pre-registration is required by October 18th. Our Dodge County staff member, Pa Cha Vang, is available to contact to register for the workshop, caregiver support, educational opportunities, and referrals. Feel free to contact Pa Cha at 507-285-5272 or pachav@elder-network.org.

Funded in part by the SEMN Area Agency on Aging.



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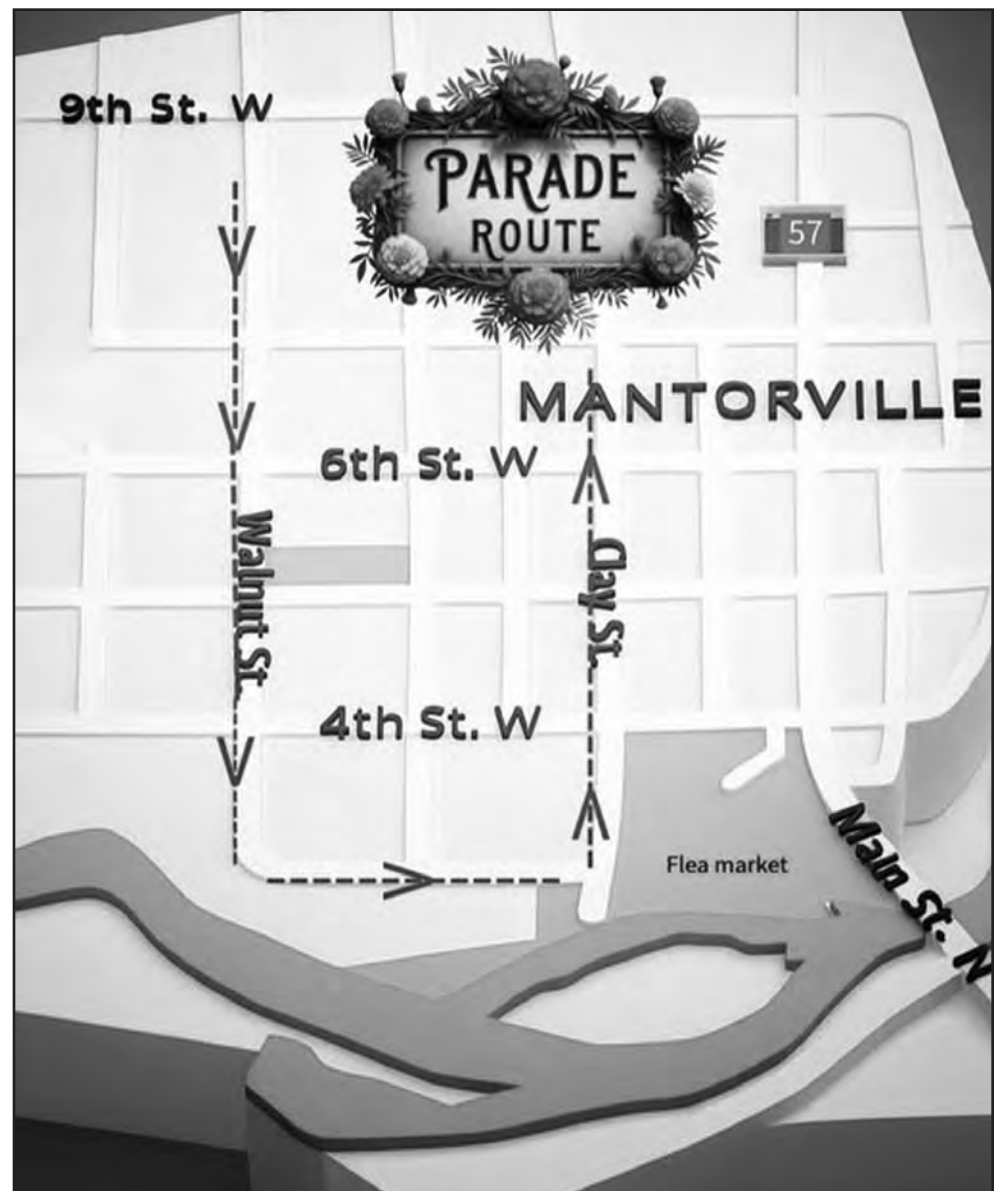


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Hayfield Community Ambulance Fundraiser

(continued from page 1)

From 4 to 8pm there will be a pulled pork meal with the fixin's, including hot dogs for the kids. The cost is a free will donation.

The Hayfield Ambulance was founded in 1975 by ten community members back in 1975. They first started with a converted hearse as an ambulance and later acquired a truck. They purchased their own ambulance after a decade of service. The ambulance department has grown to nineteen members over the years. They are separate from the Hayfield Fire Department but the Fire De-

partment members will help on calls and some of them are CPR certified.

Currently the Service is looking to replace the ten-year old ambulance and the funds are going toward the new vehicle which will cost about \$250,000 fully outfitted. They also are looking to purchase a paramedic response vehicle with ALS equipment including a cardiac monitor. That vehicle would cost about \$100 ,000.



Saturday, September 19th

3:00 - 7:30 pm

Under the Tent at the West Concord Muni
124 Main Street, West Concord, Minnesota

- Visit and snap a picture with our "Bavarian" Llamas!
Watch them complete an obstacle course. Llama photos Available 4 - 7pm.
- Check your strength at the Strongman Challenge
Sponsored by Kratos Athletic Center. Challenges held throughout the event.
- Join in on the Beer Run at 5pm and win prizes!
- Coloring Pages for the kids
Sponsored by Ready Set Learn of Dodge County!
- Come in your German costume - contest judging at 6pm!
Prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place, both Men & Women
- Drink Specials & More

Purchase a Limited Edition Mug for \$20 and Draft Beer Refills are \$5 during event

The West Concord American Legion will be serving Brats, Kraut, German Potato Salad or Chips and non-alcohol drink for \$12 (4-7pm)



The Dan Stursa Band

FOOD SHELF MANAGER

Semcac is currently accepting applications for a Food Shelf Manager, 24 hours per week, at the Kasson Contact Center.

Must be able to multi-task, complete paperwork, lift and stock items, do food rescue and provide support to clients.

A positive attitude, networking with community organizations and groups, working with volunteers, and computer skills required.

Applications and more information available at www.semcac.org, or by contacting Robyn Steffens at robyn.steffens@semcac.org or 507-864-8272.

EOE



The faces of Hayfield Community Ambulance

Cruisin' MAIN STREET AT THE MUSEUM



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENING!

Help us raise funds for our new display rooms! Stroll through our newly created Main Street exhibit and relive the charm and memories of days gone by. We also invite owners of classic cars to cruise in - be sure to stop by and collect your complimentary beverage when you arrive! Classic car parking will be reserved in the field on the west side of the Museum.

- Appetizers provided • Cash bar available • \$25 per person •

Dress the Part! (optional) Come dressed in your favorite 1950's or 1960's attire for a chance to win our Best Costume Award!

Saturday, September 26
4:00-7:00 p.m.

West Concord Historical Society
806 West First Street
West Concord, MN 55985

To make reservations, please send \$25.00 per person to: West Concord Historical Society, Box 58, West Concord, MN 55985 by no later than Friday, September 11 or stop by the WCHS office to make a reservation. Reservations are non-refundable.

Name(s) _____
Phone # _____
☐ I can't attend, but I would like to donate: \$ _____

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Dodge Center Foundation Seeks Grant Applications

The DODGE CENTER FOUNDATION is a non-profit organization established to serve the greater Dodge Center community by providing leadership and funding to qualified projects that enhance the quality of life for area residents. The Dodge Center Foundation promotes philanthropy and raises funds to meet these goals.



Local organizations interested in seeking funding from the Dodge Center Foundation should fill out a Grant Application and submit it to the Dodge Center Foundation's Secretary, Diane Page, at dpageno2@gmail.com. Or mail the completed application to the Foundation at P.O. Box 276, Dodge Center, MN 55927. The deadline is September 21, 2026. Grant Application forms may be picked up at Dodge Center City Hall, 35 East Main St., Dodge Center, MN 55927.

The Dodge Center Foundation only funds projects that meet requirements of community development, such as maintaining or creating community assets in areas such as recreation, arts, education or personal health. The Board of Trustees of the Dodge County Foundation would like to encourage all organizations interested to submit an application for consideration.

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Benefiting the 1918 Kasson Historic School

SEPTEMBER 19th 5:00-8:00 pm

light appetizers - music by Neon Arrival

Beer Garden Bldg.

Dodge County Fairgrounds

\$35 in advance \$45 at door

Tickets can be purchased at Mantorville Square or call 507-259-1775 or 651-380-1246





























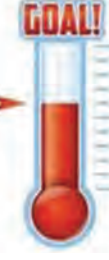




You're Invited!!!



Help us reach our fundraising goal!



Join us for our Annual Fundraiser Community Dinner

Suggested \$15 donation
(Open to all in the community)

Pork Loin

Mashed Potatoes & gravy

Green beans & Dinner roll

Choice of dessert: Bars

DINE IN & takeout available (no pre-sales)



United Methodist Church
20 1st Street NE
Dodge Center, MN
September 16, 2026
5:00 - 6:00 pm (serving until gone)

Local Tutors
Needed to
Support Students
with Reading
and Math
3 Tutors Needed in
Dodge County



As students head back to school this fall, tutors are needed across the state to help them build stronger reading and math skills. According to the Kids Count Data Book released by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in June, 31% of the state's fourth graders are proficient in reading, and 34% of eighth graders are proficient in math. To help bridge this gap, AmeriCorps programs Reading Corps, Math Corps, and Early Learning Corps are recruiting more tutors to serve at local schools to provide extra practice and skill-building to help more students succeed. The additional support yields incredible results – students who receive support from a Reading Corps, Math Corps, or Early Learning Corps tutor make faster progress and greater gains. During the 2025-26 school year, tutors served more than 30,000 students across the

state. This year, the goal is to support 35,000. “Working closely with our school partners, we’re determined to help more students build strong skills,” explains Christine Fankhanel, who leads the programs in Minnesota. “The extra boost from tutors sets students up for success in the classroom and community.”

Becoming a Tutor

Tutors receive free training and ongoing coaching – no teaching experience is required. Candidates may choose to tutor full-time (35 hours per week) or part-time (20 hours per week). All tutors are paid a stipend every two weeks – about \$19 per hour served. They also qualify for up to an additional \$3,697 that can be used for college tuition or student loans. Tutors 55 or older may choose to gift those funds to their child, grandchild, stepchild or foster child. Those tutoring full-time also qualify for free individual health insurance.

Whether you are a recent graduate, someone returning to the workforce, or a retiree – you can make a difference for local students. Apply by September 19 at Join.ReadingandMath.org to begin supporting students this October.

About Reading Corps, Math Corps, and Early Learning Corps

Reading Corps, Math Corps, and Early Learning Corps are evidence-based AmeriCorps programs dedicated to helping all children become strong learners. Tutors, placed in local schools, work in small groups with students to help improve their skills. Rigorous third-party evaluation has consistently

shown that students who have Reading Corps, Math Corps, and Early Learning Corps make greater gains and faster progress. Building on success in Minnesota, the programs are now replicated nationally and have helped more than 690,000 students. For more information, please visit ReadingandMath.org.

About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is the federal agency connecting individuals and organizations through service and volunteering to tackle the nation's most pressing challenges.

Pancake Breakfast to benefit the Dodge Center Ambulance Service

Hosted by Eden Progressive Gophers 4-H Club



Hot Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Fruit Milk, Juice & Coffee

Same price Same great 4-Hers

Date: Sunday, September 20, 2026
Where: West Concord American Legion
Time: 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Suggested Price: \$8 for 5 yrs old - Adults
4 years old & under free

University of Minnesota EXTENSION | Dodge County 4-H

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

To the Editor:
Remembering Generation 9/11: “Children of the Ash and Light”
By Brad Trom

Born into shadows cast before their first breath,
They grew in the footprint of sudden loss and death.
Children of a morning when the sky fell down,
Carrying a quiet weight through every town.
No memories of the sirens or the dust in the air,
Only a framed portrait, a father not there,
A mother’s steady voice when the story was told,
An aching gap left where a hand was meant to hold.
Yet they are more than the tragedy that marked their start,
They are voices of resilience, each a beating heart.
Woven through the fabric of a world transformed,
Navigating the era where the modern storm was formed.
A global aftermath written in their blood and bone,
Finding common strength in never standing alone.
From the ashes of September came a rising light:
A generation stepping forward into the open night.

Submitted by: Brad Trom, PO Box 757,
Blooming Prairie MN 55917-0757 USA, (507)583-7718, trom.brad@gmail.com



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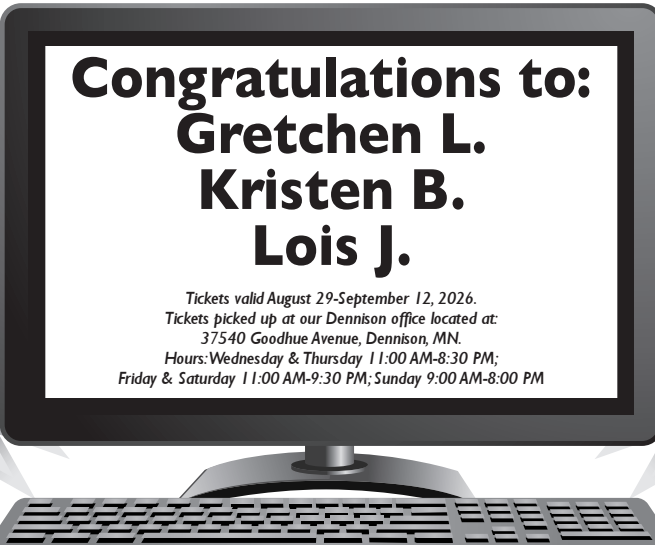
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2026 Minnesota
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Kristen B.
Lois J.**

Tickets valid August 29-September 12, 2026.
Tickets picked up at our Dennison office located at:
37540 Goodhue Avenue, Dennison, MN.
Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 AM-8:30 PM;
Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM-9:30 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM-8:00 PM

Legal Notices

September 10, 2026

- DODGE CENTER, CLAREMONT, WEST CONCORD, KASSON, MANTORVILLE, HAYFIELD MESSENGER -

Page 9

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Certificate of Assumed Name Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: Sam's Tree Service
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 73211 130th Ave., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
APPLICANT(S): Samuel Hierlmaier
Address: 73211 130th Ave., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document.
If the attachment conflicts

with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment. By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both

capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota

Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.
SIGNED BY: Samuel Hierl-

maier
MAILING ADDRESS: 73211 130th Ave., Blooming Prairie, MN 55914
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: s.hierlmaier86@gmail.com

NOTICE OF BIDS – GARAGE DOOR

The City of West Concord is accepting sealed bids for the sale of the overhead garage door at the Fire Hall.
Condition: The door is sold AS IS. The City of West Concord makes no warranties, express or implied, regarding the condition or usability of the door.
The door is approx. 9x11 and 2 years old.
Removal: The successful bidder will be responsible for all costs and arrangements associated with moving the door from city property by October 1, 2026.
Bidding Deadline: All bids must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2026. Winning bidder will be announced by the September 17, 2025 Council Meeting.
Minimum bid is \$250.
Submission Requirements: Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked "GARAGE BID" and delivered to:
City of West Concord
180 Main St.
P.O. Box 435
West Concord, MN 55985
The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Join us: Hwy 57 roundabout public meeting

You're invited to learn about the final design, detour plans, and construction details for the Hwy 57 and Dodge Co. Rd. 16 roundabout project north of Mantorville.

When: 4:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026

Where: Dodge County Administration Building, 721 North Main Street, Mantorville, MN 55955 – Conference Room B
Please use the entrance on the south side of the building.

Project: In 2027, MnDOT will build a roundabout at Hwy 57 and Dodge Co. Rd. 16 north of Mantorville. A section of Hwy 57 will be resurfaced from 9th St. in Mantorville to Dodge Co. Rd. 16. Drainage facilities will also be improved.

Learn more at:

<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/hwy57-cr16-roundabout/index.html>



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NOTICE OF ROAD ALTERATION AND VACATION HEARING CONCORD TOWNSHIP, DODGE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the town board of Concord Township, Dodge County, Minnesota will conduct a public hearing on the 10th day of September, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the Concord Town Hall located at 55319 201st Avenue, Concord, MN for the purpose of considering and acting upon a petition it received calling for the alteration and/or vacation of the following described road:
Alter: Platted width of 554th St. is 100'. Alter the platted width to the standard township 66' from 201st Avenue east to the hamlet of Concord east border.
Vacate: All of the alley located in Block 19 between Commerce Street and Park Street, Original Plat, Concord, Dodge County, Minnesota.
All persons interested in this matter are encouraged to attend the hearing.
Dated: August 15, 2026
Michael Jones
Concord Township Clerk

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sample

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JAMIE SULTZE of Claremont, MN!*

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday September 11

Dodge County Historical Museum 1 to 4pm
Pulled Pork Supper - St. John’s Church at 515 Walnut St.
Street Dance - Mantorville Saloon 8pm to midnight

Saturday September 12

Pancake Breakfast - Fire Hall 7 to 10am - free will donation
Flea Market - Riverside Park 9am to 5pm
Flower Show - Greek Revival House 9am to 5pm
Kid’s Fishing Contest - Goat Island 8:30 to 10:30am
Bean Bag Tournament - Mantorville Saloon 11am
Beer Garden - Fire Hall noon to 8pm
Restoration & Log Cabin Tours - 540 North Main Noon to 4pm
Field of Flags - Ball field 1pm
Dodge County Historical Museum 1 to 4pm
Big Iron Classic Truck Parade - Hwy 57 3:30pm
Miss Mantorville Crowning & Awards - Music Stage 7pm
Fireman’s Dance - Fire Hall 8pm to Midnight band: Junk FM
Lyle Hoaglund Memorial Fireworks - Goat Island at dusk

Sunday September 13

Flea Market - Riverside Park 8am to 4pm
Jack Ruport Memorial Car Show 9:30am to noon
Church Worship Service - Riverside Park Music Stage 9am
Quilt Show - Opera House 9am to 4pm
Flower Show - Greek Revival House 10am to 4:30pm
Restoration & Log Cabin Tours - 540 North Main Noon to 4pm
Grand Parade 1:30pm
Marigold Jam Session - Park Band Shell 2:30pm
Fireman’s Water Fight - Fire Hall after parade

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Noon - Backup Sound System
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4:00 PM - Uptown Jazz
6:00 PM - Fever Pitch

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