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October 22, 2026

Volume 23 • Issue 10

Announcements

• Did you know that Dakota County has the largest 4-H program in the state of Minnesota? We have 3,608 youth and adults involved in project learning, after school learning, camps, day camps, and Youth Teaching Youth school programs and it's because of the amazing people involved. The people enrolled in 4-H are the future leaders of schools, business, government, families and communities. It's a great place to start. Contact mnext-dakota@umn.edu for more information on how to join.

• **Randolph Community Food Shelf**, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 289595 Randolph Blvd, Randolph, MN. 507-263-9182. Randolph MN Area Food Shelf. Monthly Food Shelf Hours: 1st Tuesday 8-9:30am. 2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesdays 4:30-6:30pm. Randolph Community Food Shelf is for anyone in need within the Randolph School District (Randolph, Stanton, Hampton, New Trier areas). We are here to help! Please pull around to the Southwest corner door for easy loading of your items.

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

RANDOLPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Proposed Local
Operating Referendum**

Public Information Meeting
Learn more and ask questions

Community Meeting
October 22
7:00 PM
School Commons

Randolph Tackle Cancer raises over \$74,000.00

Courtesy of Randolph School

Once again the support of the community and businesses helped raise funds for the annual Tackle Cancer fundraiser.

Randolph will send the funds to the Randy Shaver Cancer Research and Community

Fund. The Class of 2027 also raised \$14,600 for our annual Community Spotlight - Reighan Olson, a 16-year-old currently battling a rare bone cancer.

It was a successful evening with many community members coming out to support our

Halloween Events in Randolph Friday, October 30th



The Randolph Elementary School and The Randolph Historical Society will be hosting Halloween events on Friday October 30th. The Randolph Historical Society will open the doors at their building and wel-

come all kids to come and trick-or-treat from 4 PM - 6 PM at their building located across the street from the Fire Hall. At the school, The Randolph Halloween Spooktacular will also be happening from 6PM - 8 PM on Friday Night. Kids can enjoy bounce houses, games, treats and even a haunted house. Because Halloweenlands on Saturday this year, the community events will take place on Friday evening.



Homecoming and Tackle Cancer fundraiser. We couldn't have asked for a better night to celebrate!

Tackle Cancer Slime Fundraiser



During Homecoming Week, Randolph students, families, and community members raised money for Tackle Cancer through our Slime Fundraiser! Students brought cash to school and placed it in the bucket of the staff member they wanted to see slimed, while online donors could also contribute and name their nominee.

Thanks to the incredible support, we reached \$5,000 goal, which meant every staff nominee got slimed during K-12 Homecoming Pep Fest! It was a fun way to bring the entire school together while supporting a great cause.

Pictured to the left: Randolph Superintendent, Mike Kelley, got slimed as part of the Tackle Cancer Fundraiser.

Adopt a Family Holiday Program at Randolph School

Randolph Public Schools is once again offering the Adopt a Family Holiday Program to support Randolph families who may need a little extra help during the holiday season.



(continued on page 4)

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Spiritual Battle Plan



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

Eyes awaken; I see the bright rays of sun shining through the window. The exact opposite of the pain shooting through my abdomen. I quickly tell myself, "It will be okay, and it will pass." I scoop myself up and make my way to feed sweet Caleb, my beagle, her breakfast.

The cramping continues as I finish my morning routine. With slight frustration I con-

tinue to strengthen myself. "Ashley, not a big deal. It will be over before too long."

You see, I have been dealing with Crohn's disease and other gastrology stuff for about seven years now. I am very used to severe gas pains, bloating, and every possible bowel movement you can think of, manifesting many times throughout the day. Yeah, I know, gross, but those are the facts.

It all started after my dad's first bout with cancer, which is a story for another day. All I can say is that during the times I took care of my dad, the weight of his sickness affected my body, and affected it severely. Trauma and stress can do so much to the body.

I make my way to my couch with no creamed coffee, just water. I lay down and read a little of the Bible on my phone as I think, "If I just rest a little, my stomach will ease up." Hours go by, and the pain only increases.

I sprawl out on the floor trying to do anything I can to ease the pain. I start to cry. Emotions of all kinds stir up. "What caused it this time? I can't be sick. I have so much to do. The book, teaching prep, ministry stuff, meetings, ugh." I reach out for prayer coverage, and people start to intercede on my behalf.

The day ended, and I crawled into bed around 8:30 p.m. I eventually drifted off to sleep. I awoke to the physical pain a couple of times throughout the night but stayed calm and thankfully was able to fall back asleep. Morning came, and the sun rays shone in the window once again, and this time, the sunshine mirrored how I felt! My stomach was so much better, and the pain was practically gone!

"Thank you, Jesus!" I hopped out of bed, tested my tummy by pressing on it, and yep, my stomach had calmed down significantly. Jon awoke as well and made his way to the living room and said, "People must have been praying last night." I replied, "They sure were!"

Later that afternoon I was reminded of a



Spiritual Battle for Health



1. Praise and Worship: Jesus, you are healer, counselor, and provider.

2. Specific Scriptures for What You are Facing:

But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips. Job 2:10

*But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel:
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by your name;
You are Mine." Isaiah 43:1*

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
But the Lord delivers him out of them all. Psalm 34:19*

3. Truth Statements/God Statements:

· You will be healed. You will not know when or how, but you will be healed. (What I sense is from Jesus.)
· I slept in the storm; you can sleep in the storm too. It will pass. It will pass. It will pass. (What I sense is from Jesus.)

4. Put on the Armor of God:

Ephesians 6:10-18
· Belt of Truth
· Breastplate of Righteousness
· Feet Fitted with the Readiness of the Gospel of Peace
· Shield of Faith
· Helmet of Salvation
· Sword of the Spirit



5. Thanksgiving: Jesus, thank you for this day. Thank you for your creation. Thank you that you hear my prayer and are working in the unseen!

verse I recently heard a pastor teach on:

"For when they say, 'Peace and safety!' then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape" (1 Thessalonians 5:3).

In my spirit I felt, "That is what happened with my stomach the last couple of days." The pain that was shooting up in my stomach and around the tummy, as well as into my back, was unlike any pain I have ever had, and it did come on suddenly.

I then felt the Lord say, "Remember the battle plan." "Yes, the battle plan," I responded in my inner core. Many years ago, I felt the

Lord place on my heart the importance of a battle plan for when the going gets tough. It was made up of various things to be remembered when I need strength.

We can be really good at reading the Scriptures, praising the Lord, and doing spiritual warfare when life is peachy, full of rainbows, cupcakes, and sprinkles. However, when the storm clouds roll on in and it gets dark, it can be really hard to call to remembrance the Lord's strength, love, guidance, and various Bible verses.

(continued on page 3)

Randolph Community Food Shelf

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
28595 Randolph Blvd.
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randolphmnfoodshelf@gmail.com
www.stmarkrandolph.com

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Jesus, Name Above All Names

God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow. . . .
— Philippians 2:9-10

There are a lot of big names out there: Zuckerberg, Apple, Xi, Trump, Oprah, AI. Does our world rise or fall with these names? Or how about some names closer to home: Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, A.L.S. Down Syndrome? Or what about labels that society might apply to us: divorced, disabled, addicted, infertile, fired, foreclosed, forgotten, paroled? Do any of these have the power to make or break us?

No. Our reading today proclaims that no name, whether it carries princely power or brings us problems or roadblocks, is greater than Jesus—not even light years close.

None of those names went down low, "taking the very nature of a servant" and "becoming obedient to death" to raise us up. None of those died on a cross to give us new life.

Jesus is the only One whom God gave the name greater than any other name. He is the only One we should bow to. We can take him more seriously than any other name or label, for he himself is God, and he rules over all things.

This month, let's reflect on the various names of Jesus and what they show us about him. Each one reveals something marvelous and matchless about Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom every knee and power and threat will bow, "to the glory of God the Father." We are in his hands, and he puts all things in their place.

Thank you, Jesus, for all you have done to give us new life and faith in the power of your name. May we honor your name above every name. Amen.

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Spiritual Battle Plan

(continued from page 2)

With that said, I felt a nudge from the Lord to create a battle plan template for me and you! This battle plan can be for things we are facing like health, marriage, legal issues, children, or school situations. The battle plan can be for emotional struggles like depression, anxiety, or loneliness. The battle plan can be for, as the true context of 1 Thessalonians 5:3 alludes, the end times (which we will discuss next month).

With the following five-step battle plan, you could copy these suggestions on a piece of paper, type them on your computer, or even enter them on your phone. Make sure to spend time and respond to the following recommendations now, so if crap does hit the

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fan, you have something to strengthen yourself in. Prior to writing out and doing the five steps, on top of your paper (or screen), state what you want the battle plan for.

Spiritual Battle Plan Template

Subject:

1. Do Praise and Worship When the Situation Arises. (Speak out Jesus's attributes and put worship music on.)

2. Read Specific Scriptures for What You Are Facing. (Find verses that you can eat, swallow, and digest to give you strength during this difficult time.)

3. Lean into Truth Statements/God Statements. (Ask the Lord what He says about the situation you are facing. If He presses something specific on your heart, record it.)

4. Put on the Armor of God. (You could draw it on a piece of paper too!) The Armor of God is made up of six pieces and is found in Ephesians 6:10-18. They are the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and sword of the Spirit.

5. Thanksgiving. (Tell the Lord what you are thankful for.)

I have an example of my battle plan for health below. Since I drafted this battle plan, I have used it around four times already. I pray I will never have gastrology complications again, but if I do, guess what I will go grab again?! That is right—my battle plan. I will encourage you to create a battle plan or even multiple ones for the various things in your life. Jesus has you. He so has you.

You are loved!

Blessings, Ashley



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Adopt a Family Holiday Program at Randolph School

(continued from page 1)

Families in need of holiday gifts may apply by completing the electronic Google Form or by printing and returning the Adopt a Family Holiday Application to the school. Families will be asked to provide information about their children's interests, needs, and gift ideas.

Once applications are received, participating community groups and organizations will use these lists to purchase gifts for selected families.

To be eligible for the program, families must have a student currently enrolled in Randolph

Preschool, Elementary School, or High School. Individuals over the age of 18 who are no longer enrolled in school are not eligible to participate.

The identities of all families receiving assistance will remain confidential.

Please note that because of the increased need for assistance, families who have participated in the program in previous years are not guaranteed to receive gifts again this year. Every effort will be made to support as many Randolph families as possible based on available sponsors and resources.

Application Deadline: Friday, November 13, 2026.

Applications received after the deadline cannot be accepted, as wish lists must be distributed to sponsors in time for holiday shopping.

Gift Pick-Up: You will be informed when your gifts are ready to be picked up in the high school office.

If you have questions about the program or are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact the School Social Workers:

Lori Nicolai - nicolail@district195.org

Stephanie Groenke - groenkes@district195.org

Thank you to the families, organizations, and community members who help make the holiday season brighter for Randolph students and families.

Congratulations, Mrs. Banaszewski

Courtesy of Randolph School

Family and Consumer Science (FACS) teacher Amy Banaszewski recently had an original carnitas recipe selected for the Minnesota Department of Education's Cultural Recipe Collection for Family and Consumer Science Courses. Randolph Schools was one of just 17 recipes featured in this statewide collection.

It's exciting to see Randolph represented at the state level, and we are fortunate to have Mrs. Banaszewski providing our students with meaningful, hands-on learning experiences and practical life skills!



Randolph FFA is headed to STATE!

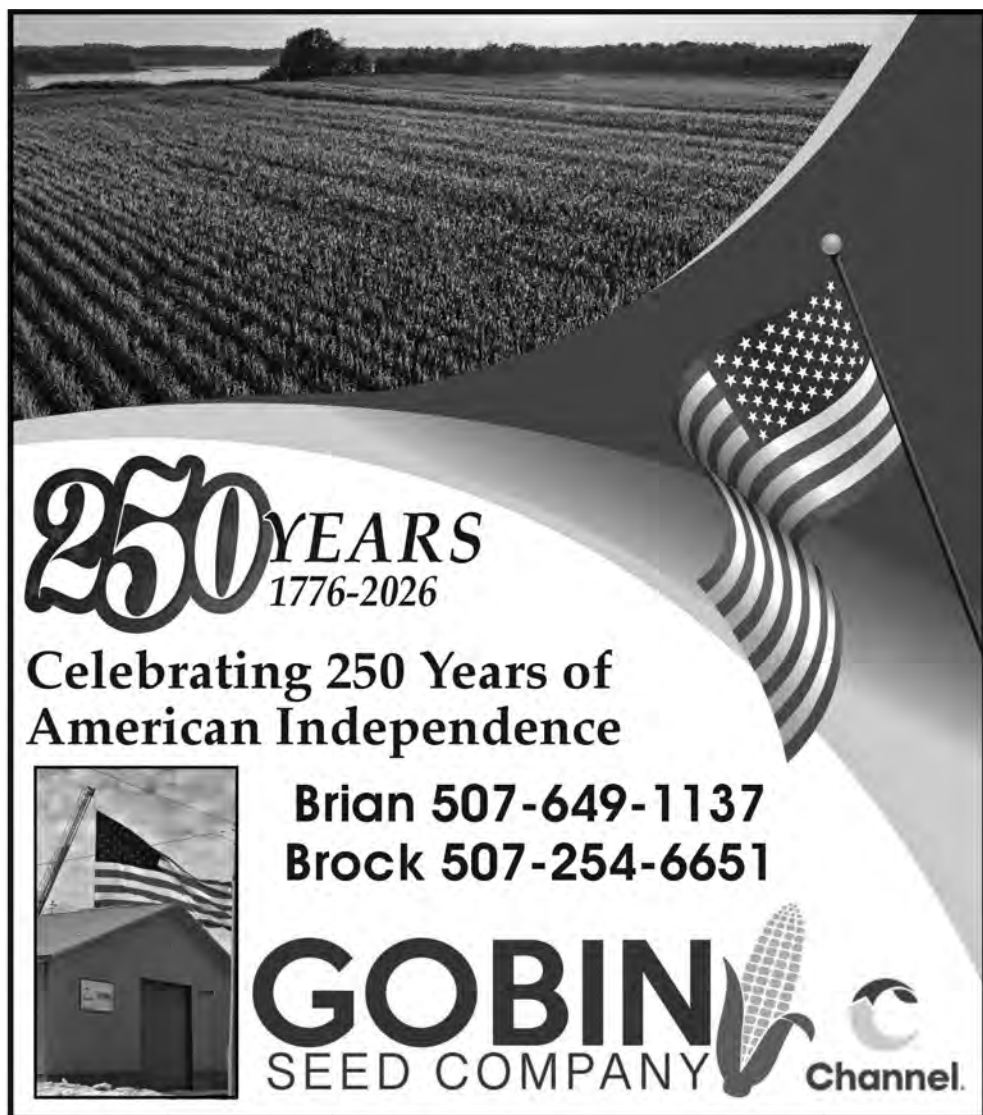
Courtesy of Randolph School

Congratulations to our Randolph FFA members on an outstanding performance at the

UWRF State Qualifier! All THREE teams qualified for the State Contest in April!
Horse Judging: 7th Place Overall
Dairy Judging: 10th Place Overall
General Livestock: 7th Place Overall
Poultry Practice Contest: 1st Place Overall!
(Grady Taylor – 1st Place Individual)

We are so proud of the hard work and dedication of our FFA members! Now it's time to keep practicing and preparing for State in April!

Way to represent Randolph!



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Farm Girl Chatter

Fall Is Around the Corner... and So Is the Hay

By McKell Lemmerman

Normally, this is when farmers start getting ready for harvest and thinking about the long winter ahead. But this year, Mother Nature apparently decided to turn the faucet off.

The pastures are starting to look more like the African safari. Grass is drying up, growth is slowing down, and the cattle and other livestock are getting hungrier after each bite.

This means now that some livestock producers are being pushed into feeding hay much earlier than normal. Those bales that were supposed to sit perfectly stacked in the shed until winter are getting rolled out sooner than planned.

Farmers have enough on their plates already.

Soon the combines will be rolling, trucks will be hauling, and now somebody has to remember to feed hay too. It's a wonderful time of year when the days get shorter but somehow the to-do list gets longer.

For now, we'll keep watching the sky, praying for rain, and counting the hay bales.

Around here, we may not be able to control the weather, but we'll sure find a way to work around it.

Well folks, it's that time of year again. Fall is creeping around the corner, which means harvest is coming, cattle work is picking up, and before we know it, we'll be wondering where the heck summer went.

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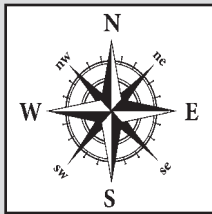
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes

Oh Canada



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.

We took a trip up the North Shore in September to spend a night in Thunder Bay, Canada. The scenic drive was spectacular as the leaves were turning color and the weather was perfect. One of the stops we made both coming and going was Betty's Pies at Two Harbors. Betty's started in 1958 and sells 700 pies a day during the peak summer rush. The food was great as well as the pies.

I have always considered Canada to be just like northern Minnesota. I used to go skiing in Thunder Bay in the 1970's. The people seem just like us, only friendlier. We stopped at Grand Marais and exchanged our Ben Franklin's for some Canadian currency. The exchange rate was \$133 Canadian for \$100 American. But the Canadian money is so col-

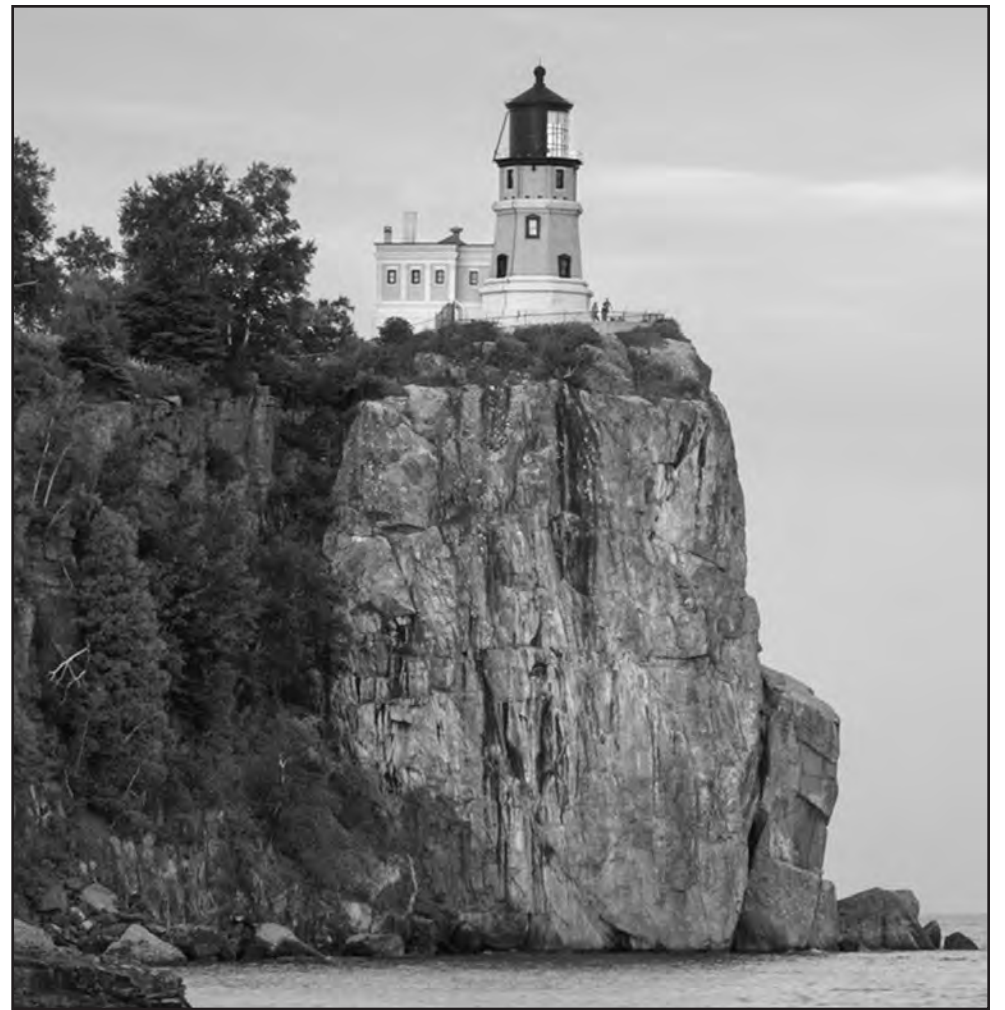
orful. There is a different color for each denomination. And it is a durable plastic coated material with a transparent reflective band in it. The one-dollar coin has a picture of a Loon and is called a "Loonie". The two-dollar coin has a picture of a Polar Bear and is called a "Toonie".

We had to stop at a Tim Hortons as soon as we arrived. We bought a box of "Timmies", which are the donut holes. Next was supper at a Pizza parlor where we enjoyed pizza and my wife was able to watch two hockey games at the same time on the tv monitors. We stopped at a grocery store where my wife bought "Shreddies". I thought they were Wheat Chex, but north of the border they are gourmet breakfast cereal. One is allowed to return to the states with up to \$200 in groceries and we put that rule to the test.

We stopped at Split Rock Lighthouse on the way home to tour the world's most famous lighthouse. There was a movie presentation about the reasons for building the lighthouse. In 1905 there were 29 ships wrecked on the lake and the State appropriated \$75,000 to build a lighthouse, 187' above the waterline to warn ships away from the rocky shores. The 1,000 watt lightbulb cast a beam that was visible 25 miles across the water. At the time there were no roads in the area and all materials and supplies were shipped in on boats. It was completed in 1910 and the road was built in 1924. Quite impressive to tour the lighthouse and see how the staff kept the beam shining across the waves every night to protect the big ships on Lake Superior.

It was quite sobering to realize the number of ships and sailors who were lost in storms on Lake Superior. Since 1816 over 240 ships have been sunk due to storms on the world's largest freshwater lake. The last one was on November 10, 1975 and was immortalized by Canadian Gordon Lightfoot's song "The Wreck of the Edmond Fitzgerald." The winds reached 60 mph with waves up to 35' high that fateful night.

The Edmond Fitzgerald was the largest ore boat on Superior when it was built in 1958. 729' long and carried 27,402 tons of iron ore mined in Minnesota and loaded at Silver Bay. The ore boat made 748 round trips to Detroit Michigan traveling over a million miles. A round trip took 5 days. The ship's hold could be loaded with taconite pellets in 4 1/2 hours. Unloading took fourteen hours. It could reach 16 mph even when fully loaded. The Edmond Fitzgerald had luxury staterooms which accommodated first class passengers



who were guests of the shipping company. There was no one but the 29 man crew on board on the final trip.

It was a 74 degree day and before leaving we took the hike down to the lake to admire

the sight from the water's edge. My wife couldn't resist taking a swim in Gitche Gumee, an Ojibwe word for "big sea". Had to prove the world's most dangerous lake was no match for her.

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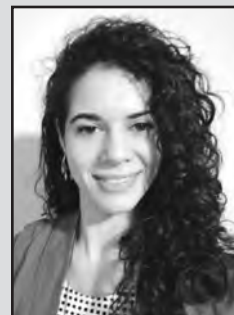


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A Minnesotan: Decorations



By RosaLin Alcoser

As the days get shorter, the nights longer, and the air gets colder fall start to bring in the end of the year. While some might be eager to skip over the fall months and go straight to the Christmas holiday season fall holds my favorite month of the year. Which is of course October, because I love Halloween.

Part of what I've always liked about Halloween— and most other holidays— is decorating. And yes, my Halloween and Fall decorations have been up since per season Football started. Because if my husband is going to be watching the Vikings play in August I get to have my leave garlands and skeleton out at the same time.

Decorations are a key part of Halloween. Because decorations are part of the magic that makes Halloween magical and in some cases terrifying.

When I was a child going out to trick-or-treat, after dark it was the decorations that separated the scary houses from the none scary houses. Since even a house decorated in a way that is terrifying after dark isn't too scary during the light of day. Most houses in the area where not the scary and where easily approachable in the dark. There was one house though that scared me enough that I ran away from it crying.

I don't remember what I was that year or how old I was. I do remember wearing a jacket so it was a typical Halloween in Minnesota. What I can remember is that the whole yard was decorated like a grave yard with skeleton hands sticking up out of the ground and colored lights leading up to the grange door. Where I was terrified out of my mind by a Zombie which I fled from abandoning any promise of candy. In reality was a teenager in costume, who did feel bad about scaring me so badly that he did give my sister and extra candy for me.

If I saw that same yard display now I would think it was cool, however, then I was terrified enough to flee the seen and temporarily halt my goal of obtaining candy. Because decorations are holidays matter and at Halloween the decorations separate the mundane from the magical and the down right terrifying.

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RANDOLPH REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 12, 2026

Call to order:

The regular Randolph City Council meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Mayor Marie Jacob

Roll Call:

Present were Mayor Marie Jacob

Council Members Tony Price, Randy Ferguson and Keith Sande, Treasurer Sandy Nicolai and Clerk Mary Haro.

Also, in attendance was Bolton & Menk engineer, Brian Hilgardner.

Approval of Agenda:

We will add the addition of the fire department after Bolton & Menk Proposal for Services to agenda. Motion to approve the agenda with the addition was made by Price and seconded by Haro. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Public Comments:

None

Prior Meeting Minutes

A motion by Jacob and seconded by Price to approve the July 8, 2026 Planning Commission and Regular Council meeting minutes with the correction on the Planning Commission minutes of the approval of the agenda was made by Jacob and seconded by Ferguson and the adjournment was made by Sande and seconded by Ferguson.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

A motion to approve the July 15, 2026 special council meeting minutes was made by Ferguson, seconded by Sande.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion

passed 5:0.

A motion to approve the August 6, 2026 special council meeting minutes was made by Ferguson, seconded by Sande.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Motion to approve the payment of bills with the addition of the \$1200 reimbursement for the variance to the Randolph School District was made by Price, seconded by Ferguson. Four checks did not print so Sandy will reprint them and we will need to sign them after she gets them reprinted.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Old Business

Dead Tree Removal

Mayor Jacob discussed the dead trees that are in the right of way. A citizen asked that we share the cost of one of the trees on their property and indicated that every city does it but we found out that is the not the case. Cannon Falls does take care of ones in the right of way. Faribault does not. City of Dundas manages dead trees but they bill the homeowner and assess it to their taxes if they do not pay for it. Vermillion does not pay. Hampton does pay in between the sidewalk and the street but no more than 50% and if they have no sidewalk, then 3 feet from the curb line. The city does have 1 tree in the park and the 2 stumps that need to be ground that belong to the city. Most of them belong to residents. If it becomes a hazard, we may have to discuss what to do – do we take it down and assess them. We should send letters to resident to ask them to take the dead tree down. There are 8 trees

on 291st Street that should be removed. We should take them down and pay 50% of the cost and have the two homeowners pay the other 50%. Also, some of the trees are along County Road 83 so we should contact Dakota County to ask them about removing them. We can take some down and budget for future removal and grinding the stumps.

A motion to have Northwoods remove the 8 trees along 291st Street between Dawson and Dickman with a 50/50 cost share with the city and the two property owners and also the 1 in the city park by only removing the trees and not doing the stump or the dirt work this year, seconded by Ferguson.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

We need to prepare an ordinance regarding dead trees so we will discuss this with our legal counsel. Also, we should let other homeowners know that Northwoods will be in the city to remove trees and they can contact them if they want theirs removed at their own expense.

Parking on Divers Path

Mayor Jacob made a motion to approve Otte Excavating on flattening out the area next to the road and putting down gravel on Divers Path, seconded by Sande.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

New Business

Randolph School District – House Permit

Superintendent Mike Kelly came before the council for approval of a permit for the new house to be built on the vacant lot at 29122 Cynthia Path. He has meet with Mark, our building inspector, regarding the permit and

has submitted two sets of the plans to him. They are going to wait on the septic in case they can hook up to city sewer. Motion to approve the house permit for the Randolph School was made by Haro, seconded by Price.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

He also had a permit for a deck for Bob and Regina Wernimont that the school will be building. Mayor Jacob made a motion to approve the deck permit for Bob and Regina Wernimont, seconded by Sande

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Comprehensive Plan Committee

The Met Council is going to assist us with our comprehensive plan that needs to be renewed every 10 years. Clerk Haro would like someone to assist with the process. Councilmember Randy Ferguson has volunteered to assist.

2027 Budget We have to approve our preliminary budget at our September meeting. Clerk Haro will have Ehlers assist with the budget. Clerk Haro will find out when Kyle is available for a meeting and then we will schedule a work session to go through the budget.

Change Order and Work Change Directive

With regard to the change order from NGE, we have had recommendations on how to handle it. Our legal counsel made her recommendations and we have had two closed meetings regarding it. We were considering them in default.

(continued on page 11)

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RANDOLPH REGULAR COUNCIL

(continued from page 10)

There was a meeting with legal counsel and the surety bond company. Mayor Jacob made a motion to deny NGE's proposed Change Order No 11, seconded by Price.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

The work change directive basically tells them to go back to work and we'll negotiate

the costs later. Mayor Jacob made a motion to approve the work change directive with a contract time of 0 days (not yet estimated) and with a start date of Monday, August 17, seconded by Price.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

It will legally demand them to go back to work and if they don't get back to work, then we declare them in default.

Bolton & Menk Proposal for Services

Bolton & Menk's contract is over the allotted amount and they are asking for additional construction administration fees (Task 10) and additional funding coordination fees (Task 11 which is overseeing the work at the ponds). Bolton & Menk are trying to save as much money as possible. A normal federal project of this size typically will have soft cost upwards of 20% of the project amount and right now we are at 12%. They want the city to be able to spend as much money on improvements than on overhead. Task 11 is overseeing the work that NGE will be doing at the ponds. This task is just to verify that they are working and how long each day but we want to make sure the ponds get built correctly. We do not have to pass this but it is based on 40 hours a week for 7 weeks at \$152 an hour to oversee NGE which is approximately \$42,000 for 7 weeks. We asked if we can take this on a week-by-week basis and Brian indicated that we could as we think having someone there for the whole 7 weeks is not necessary. Brian indicated that we can get creative and allow them a certain number of hours or money. Task 10 is for fees already incurred by Bolton & Menk. If we pass this

task, it will get us whole with them.

Motion to approve Task 11 for 4 weeks at 40 hours, starting August 17th, with weekly updates to allow modifications to this task until our next meeting and then we will reassess this task at that time was made by Jacob, seconded by Price.

All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Task 10 is for time that Bolton & Menk have already worked and earned. We will table this until our next meeting.

Randolph Hampton Fire Department

Keith Sande indicated that the yellow lines on the cement slab in front of the fire department were to be repainted as part of the sewer project. They asked if the curbs and the no parking area could be painted yellow. They will check with Dakota County to see if they will paint the curbs and if they won't do it then we will discuss this. We can put the painted lines on the cement slab to the list of items not completed for NGE to complete.

Sewer Project

There is nothing new to report.

Council Member Reports

Sande reminded everyone that the Chicken BBQ is this weekend and the road will be closed at noon until 12 am. Bingo starts at 3 pm and the vendors will be in front of the post office area.

Randy went to the watershed meeting and went to Chub Lake and the Mount Olivet Retreat. Clerk Haro noted that 82 people voted at the primary. General election will be November 3rd. The new election equipment worked great. Mayor Jacob noted that a resident indicated that the business that was

going to purchase her property is no longer going to purchase it so it will be putting it on the market. She wanted to make sure that her driveway was fixed and it did get completed with the road project.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Price, seconded by Ferguson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0. Respectfully submitted, Mary Haro

HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

The Hampton City Council met on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at Hampton City Hall for the Regularly Scheduled Meeting. Present were Mayor John Knetter and Council Members David Luhning Erica O'Connor. Council Members Jerry Huddleston and Nick Russell were absent. Also present were Chris Meyer, Treasurer, Brad Fisher, Madison Richard and Greenlee Dahle of Bolton & Menk, and various Residents.

Regular Meeting Called to Order – Mayor Knetter called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Disclosure of Interest – None

Approval of August 18, 2026 Special Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes – Motion by Luhning, seconded by O'Connor, to approve the August 18, 2026 special hearing and regular meeting minutes. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3-0.

(continued on page 12)

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The request represents approximately 3% of the district budget and would support day-to-day school operations.

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Minnesota's General Education formula has not kept pace with inflation. For FY 2025-26, the inflation-adjusted allowance would be \$8,901 per pupil, compared with the actual \$7,481 - a \$1,420 gap per pupil.

- W** Why Now
State funding has not kept pace with rising costs.
- O** Operating Referendum
Voter-approved local revenue supports school operations.
- R** Relief During COVID
Enrollment growth delayed the need for a referendum.
- K** K-12 Enrollment
Graduating classes and student participation are changing.
- S** Sustainability
The plan supports programs and financial stability over time.

Special Election • Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Sources: Randolph Public Schools; Eilers operating referendum analysis; MDE CPI estimates.

Randolph Public Schools • ISD 195

Prepared and paid for by Independent School District No. 195 (Randolph Public Schools), 29101 Dawson Avenue, Randolph, MN 55065.

HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

(continued from page 12)

They stated that the company intended to limit visibility through building placement, trees, and privacy fencing; minimize lighting and signage for security purposes; and use odor mitigation measures. They described the business as a small, locally based operation and stated that the proposal could create approximately 25 to 50 higher-paying jobs. They also stated that the company would use natural growing methods, would not conduct solvent-based extraction or manufacturing at the site, and would compost appropriate plant material on-site.

Planning Commission members and Council members also provided comments. Marlin Reinardy and Neil Hoadley stated that the Planning Commission had recommended against the proposal and expressed concerns regarding community opposition, the City's comprehensive plan, the number of ordinance changes required, and the continuing revisions to the applicant's plans. Council members discussed the potential for economic growth as well as the challenges of changing multiple land-use regulations and addressing concerns about impacts such as lighting and odor. Erica O'Connor stated that she remained neutral but expressed concern that some potential impacts could not be guaranteed until the operation was actually in place.

Mayor Knetter stated that, although he was prepared to make a decision, the Council was

missing two members and he believed it would be fair to allow the full Council to participate in the decision. Luhning made a motion to table the matter until the following month, with O'Connor seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the applications were tabled until the next meeting when a full Council could consider the matter.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees:

Engineer Report – Brad Fisher provided updates on three projects. He reported that the City completed the annual lead service line inventory required by the Minnesota Department of Health and notified property owners with galvanized or unknown service lines. The inventory identified two galvanized services and 56 services that remain unknown on either the public or private side. Required notification letters were mailed, and the City submitted certification confirming compliance. Fisher stated that the City is currently awaiting further guidance while monitoring potential funding opportunities to address known non-lead services and investigate unknown services. He also reported that significant progress has been made on the water tower improvement project, with approximately two punch-list items remaining. One item involves vegetation at the new water tower site, which will be addressed when conditions are appropriate. Project closeout paperwork and the final pay applica-

tion are anticipated later this fall or during the winter, after which the project will enter the warranty period. Finally, Fisher provided an update on the MnDOT Highway 50 project, noting changes to the traffic-control plan that will result in two project segments being closed simultaneously while maintaining local and business access. The change is intended to help MnDOT meet its substantial completion deadline this fall.

Water / Sewer Report – Mayor Knetter reported that there were no additional water or sewer issues to report but noted that the City recently experienced an extended power outage lasting approximately 20 hours. The backup generators at the sewer lift stations operated successfully throughout the outage, allowing the system to continue operating without interruption. Knetter noted that the City does not currently have a backup generator connection for the well pump but has received a grant to install a transfer switch and plans to apply for a fully funded grant next spring to cover the installation of a generator for the water tower. The outage demonstrated the importance of the backup systems, and the City did not run out of water due to its available capacity. Knetter also explained that each lift station requires backup power to pump sewage to the treatment ponds and that grants have been secured to fund backup generators for the lift stations, replacing the former practice of manually transporting and monitoring generators during power outages.

Park Report – Councilman Russell was absent.

Street Report – Councilman Luhning reported that the City approved a quote for more than 27 tons of material to repair potholes and other road issues throughout the City. The contractor will be scheduled to complete the work.

Social Media/Website – Councilman Hudleston was absent.

Unfinished Business – Anna Yunker reported that she will prepare two options for an email data policy based on feedback from the League of Minnesota Cities and present them to the Council for consideration at the

next meeting.

Neil Hoadley addressed the Council regarding a request for reimbursement for a water heater that failed following the water main break. Hoadley stated that he was present and assisting at the water main break and that his water heater failed shortly afterward. The Council discussed information obtained from the League of Minnesota Cities and an engineering review by Bolton & Menk. Engineer Brad Fisher reported that the water tower was being brought online, resulting in a gradual increase in normal system pressure, while the water main break was attributed to deterioration of the pipe from acidic soils. Fisher stated that there was no indication the system operated outside normal pressure conditions or that the water main break caused the water heater failure. Hoadley disagreed and expressed concerns that pressure changes associated with the break and subsequent valve operations may have contributed to the failure. The Council discussed the increase in system pressure from approximately 40 to 58–60 pounds as part of the water tower project and noted that the City has experienced numerous water main breaks over the years with few reported water heater failures. No further action on Hoadley's reimbursement request was identified at the meeting.

New Business – The Council considered the purchase of a new office printer, which required Council approval because the cost exceeds \$250. After reviewing the options and noting that the higher-priced printer offers lower-cost ink and includes an estimated three-year supply of ink, the Council approved the purchase of the higher-priced printer. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment - Motion by Luhning, seconded by O'Connor, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Roan

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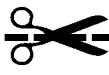
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