

Opinion

Tis' the season to be nice

Small Business Saturday on November 24 looked like it was well-received by a lot of people. I haven't seen First Street that packed on a Saturday in a long time. Cars lined the street, causing some to spill over into the side streets for the morning and majority of the afternoon.

It was good to see. Watching the news reports about the Black Friday frenzy, I couldn't help but feel sorry. I felt sorry for shoppers in the larger cities. I'm sure they are normally nice people, but that day transforms them into Black Friday crazies.

I felt sorry for the oblivious shoppers who had gone to the big box stores for milk and were trampled in the stampede of shoppers fighting for a new tv or wireless earbuds.

I felt sorry for said milkshopper who had to wait an

A young perspective

Wade Young
Editor



hour to check out due to the insane long lines.

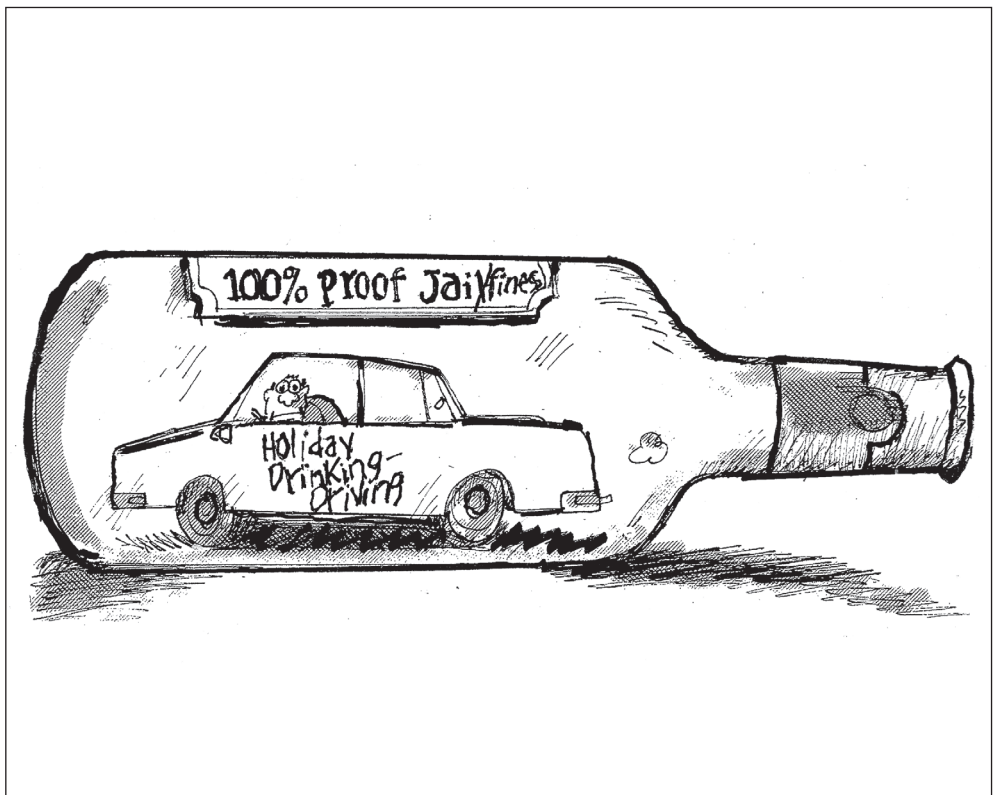
But I especially felt sorry for the employees of these big-city stores. Not only are they working hours crazier than the shoppers themselves, but they're not able to partake in the madness that is Black Friday. They bare the brunt of every shopper's impatience from standing in line and/or their anger over not winning the wrestling match for the latest gaming station.

During "the most wonderful time of year", people are less than wonderful. They can be

downright mean and nasty. I know. Before coming to the Messenger, I worked as an Operations Manager for a large retail store in the metro area. Some of the anger people displayed during the "season of giving" is seared into my memory.

One woman screamed at me, inches from my face, because we ran out of gift boxes. Another man verbally assaulted one of the cashiers for not ringing him out fast enough.

So, this holiday season and always, be nice to the cashier. Be kind to the waiter or waitress. (That one is especially important.) Even if you've had a long day, don't take it out on the sales person, because chances are, their days are even longer than yours.



Learning to Learn at TCU

Tri-City United students and teachers are now in the third year of our Empowering Learners Plan. The plan created by a task force including parents, students, teachers and administrators organized actions to design experiences to help students develop the skills to become future ready learners.

Part of this plan created the structure to increase student access to devices resulting in a take-home Chromebook program for 7-11th grade students this year. Next year this will expand to 7-12th graders having a school-provided individual device, which will support learning and creating products showing their learning.

This plan also focuses student experience to the ways in which students best learn. The internet has created more access to more information than any previous time, and TCU students and teachers are using strategies to use that information while developing skills to solve problems which can't be predicted.

One way TCU students are learning to learn is through a process of inquiry. In 2017-18 Tri-City United was recognized as a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) District

Matt Flugum

Teaching and Learning Coordinator



world of a character in a novel or short story gaining a new understanding of a struggle they may face in their own life. Research projects provide opportunities for students to find credible sources, identify how information can be clearly communicated and, give feedback to each other as they create a product to quickly represent their new knowledge using infographics, posters, and video. This active approach to learning looks different from past perceptions of a classroom where a teacher presented knowledge to be remembered. Through the process of inquiry students gain a deeper understanding of concepts which helps them remember material better.

Tri-City United students and teachers will focus on the skills students will need to succeed in an unpredictable future using inquiry and project-based learning to uncover the connections that school experiences can have to the real world. This future ready focus and the skills uncovered by continuing to grow as a learner by taking on challenges help all Tri-City United students to become Empowered Learners.

of Distinction, one of two districts in Minnesota to receive this recognition. PLTW uses a process of inquiry and collaboration to develop the skills they will need to be successful throughout their lives. Students are presented with problems, which occur in the real world and are guided by their teachers to finding solutions through multiple attempts.

Learning through problem solving extends to other subjects as well. Students work together in math classes to find multiple ways to solve problems, identify what does and doesn't work, and connect with each other to test their ideas. Teachers have begun designing lessons for students to experience different periods of history then connect that experience to the concepts students can now apply to their own knowledge.

These types of experiences help students to see into the

Ask a Trooper

Question: Other night my coworker got pulled over and was given warning about ride height. It was not slammed to the ground but the trooper said that it was illegal. What is the MN state law for ride height?

Answer: Minnesota law states that if a vehicle's suspension has been altered by more than 6 inches either higher or lower, it is illegal, unless the bumper is modified to within the 6 inches of the original manufactured bumper height.

All passenger vehicles must be equipped with front and rear bumpers that do not exceed a height of:

- 20 inches on any passenger automobile or station wagon
- 25 inches on any four-wheel drive multipurpose type vehicle, van, or pickup truck, when the vehicle is being op-

Sgt. Troy Christianson

Minnesota State Patrol



erated on a public highway.

The height of the bumper shall be determined by measuring from the bottom of the bumper, excluding any vertical bumper attachments, to the ground.

A vehicle which has an original bumper and does not exceed a height of 30 inches, may be modified by attaching a full width bumper to the original bumper to meet the height requirement. The attached bumper must be at least 4.5 inches vertically, be centered on the vehicle's

centerline, extend at least 10 inches on either side of the frame, and be attached to the frame in at least four places with angle braces at no less than 45 degrees so that it effectively transfers impact to an extent equal to or greater than the original bumper.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)



Contact your city council



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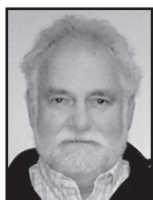
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Messenger Memories

100 years ago November 29, 1918

The two sons of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tuma, of Shieldsville Township, Henry, age fifteen years, died on Sunday; and John, age nineteen years old, died on Tuesday. Both had been suffering with influenza and pneumonia.

The city council is providing for a destitute family on the East Side.

The public school opened again Monday after being closed for a period of three weeks on account of influenza.

John Morris of Shieldsville Township, hauled considerable wheat to this city this week. Montgomery has the best wheat market in the county.

The city received a couple of carloads of cinders from the M. & St. L. Railroad Company this week, which are being used for filling up low spots in the streets.

When a fractious young team, which Thomas Snorek of Shieldsville Township was driving, became unmanageable, and while attempting to hold them by the bridle bits, the unfortunate man was thrown down. He was hauling hay from an adjoining farm, and his two sons were with him when the accident occurred.

80 years ago November 25, 1938

The members of the Lanesburg Star 4-H Club gathered at the home of Wm. Novotny for the regular meeting. Eighteen members were present and answered the roll call with something that they were thankful for. Raymond

Dietz told of the things for which the members should be thankful.

Monica Loula, who is attending the College of St. Benedict at St. Joseph, Minn., was among the freshmen taking in the dramatic program presented at the college.

60 years ago November 27, 1958

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The holder of ticket No. 7773 failed to make an appearance at the local bank for his 100 Montebucks jackpot prize in the drawing Saturday evening, bringing the total up to 175 Montebucks.

40 years ago December 7, 1978

The prospect of favorable milk prices over the next 3-4

years makes this a good time for above average managers to consider expanding their facilities, a University of Minnesota agricultural economist says.

Timothy G. Knapper, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin D. Knapper, of rural Montgomery, and a senior at Montgomery-Lonsdale High School, has completed candidacy requirements and was accepted for enlistment in the Navy's Nuclear Power Program.

20 years ago November 26, 1998

Thanksgiving is next week, which can only mean the Christmas season is right around the corner. Montgomery celebrates the season with many activities for young and old. There is something for everyone to enjoy this season, including the Holiday Gift and Craft Fair, Torchlight Parade, Festival of Trees, Roving Brass, Christmas in Montgomery Holiday Program, Medallion Hunt, Holiday Drawings and more.

Farm-City Week is now a page in the history books, and it will be listed as one of the more successful events in the history of Montgomery. The week began with school visits which were designed to bridge the gap between farm and city. A banquet was held at Holy Redeemer School. Guests included WCCO Radio personalities from the Good Morning Show, Good Neighbors Leonard and Joan Ouradnik, and the Montgomery Farm Family, Jim and Donna Hoefs. A traditional Czech meal of pork and dumplings was served to a crowd of 265 people.

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