

# COMMENTARY

## Gammel Dag Days

To the Editor,

I went to Gammel Dag Days on Saturday, June 22, and thought it was fun. I participated in the parade with the Scouts. There were numerous activities to choose from. The strawberry smoothie was the highlight for me, but I also enjoyed the music. My siblings enjoyed the horse rides, face painting, wool spinning, and flower crafts. There were many people in attendance, and I look forward to going back next year.

Beatty Darr  
Rushford, Minn.

## One Moment, Please... Your buying decisions

By Jason Sethre  
Publisher  
Fillmore County Journal  
jason@fillmorecountyjournal.com

Imagine if you owned an auto repair shop, and a customer came to you and asked you to give them a quote on repairing their vehicle.



Jason Sethre

The customer tells you they can't afford to get the repairs made at this time.

Within a week, that customer calls you, the auto repair shop owner, and says they went on the Internet and bought all of the parts needed for the repairs and they watched some YouTube videos to learn how to perform those repairs. But, they were stuck on a few things they couldn't figure out in the video, so they called your auto repair shop and asked you if you could walk them through it over the phone.

How would you feel if you were that auto repair shop owner? How could your business survive if you helped everyone for free?

Another customer walks in the door and tells you they bought some tires on the Internet and they'd like you to install them on their vehicle, and they tell you they won't pay over a certain price for installation.

You know that you can't survive on charging for labor only. You need to make a little money on the mark-up of products like tires.

When we talk about shopping local, we are not just talking about buying products. We also have to consider the service industries in our region who keep our dollars local.

Here's another one for you.

Let's say you own a heating and plumbing business, and you receive a call from someone who

would like you to install a faucet they purchased at a big box store in Rochester. Your plumbing business has a complete inventory of high quality faucets that have been tried and tested with thousands of local customers. The faucet this customer purchased from a big box store in Rochester is not the best quality, but you install what was provided by the customer.

Within one month, the faucet starts to leak and fails to perform as intended. The homeowner calls you because you performed the initial installation, expecting you to warranty the work on the lesser quality product. You know that your own faucets are better quality and you don't have problems because they are built to last. Yes, they may cost more, but you operate with the motto "you get what you pay for." What are you supposed to do? You are installing something that doesn't meet your standards of excellence, and trying to keep the customer happy.

And yet another one. Let's say you own an appliance store, and someone calls you to get your help installing an appliance you bought from a big box store in Rochester. You sell the same appliance they purchased elsewhere. If they would have purchased the appliance from your local family-owned store, you would have provided the delivery and installation free of charge. They trust you enough to install their appliance, but they won't buy it from your store?

These are just a few examples of stories I have heard over the past few years, as I have spoken with local business owners throughout our region.

These local family-owned businesses have expenses such as payroll, insurance, utilities, inventory costs, facility costs, and they also need to put food on the table for their families. With any local business owner, they are the last one to get paid in their business.

When locals spend their money in Rochester or somewhere outside of our small towns, that money is gone — never to return to our small towns. It usually ends up in the coffers of a corporation that doesn't care about our small towns and our schools.

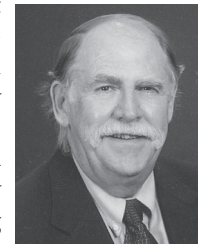
Our local businesses will generously donate to local chamber of commerce golf tournaments, booster clubs, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth sports, and other benefits for the community. Corporations in the big city will make NO DONATIONS to our communities. They will take our money and run.

Please consider the impact of your buying decisions. Your money spent locally will circulate in so many ways. Jobs. Taxes. Donations. Just to name a few.

## The professor forgot to tell us something

By Stan Gudmundson  
Peterson, MN

If I wanted to undercut, diminish, and/or destroy an opinion I didn't agree with, I might start with telling you all about my bon-a-fides. I would begin by highlighting my credentials. For example, I might point out that I am a Distinguished professor. In the College of Technical stuff. At the largest university in the state. In other words, I want everyone to know that I am really smart and am very accomplished in a challenging discipline.



Col. Stan Gudmundson

The opponent? Well, he could be very bright but he doesn't have credentials equivalent to mine to prove that. Therefore, as a reasonable person, you must conclude that what I say is more factual than what he says. I'm really smart you know and have got all that learnin' and a paper trail along with many diplomas to prove it.

I would then quote a source that would, of course, have as its tenets and goals positions emphasizing "non-partisanship and fairness, transparency of sources, transparency of funding and organization, transparency of methodology and open and honest corrections policy." Like, oh, let's say the "International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN)."

Not only would I have established my superior credentials, but I also would have added an impeccable source that supports not only my brilliance but also the positions on issues I hold. The argument is over. There is nothing more to be said. I and the unrefutable source have conquered.

In the 17 June 19 edition of the *Fillmore County Journal*, that is essentially what we got from a writer maligning an earlier editorial written by Jeff Erding. Except the author didn't tell us some important

details about the IFCN. Non-partisan and all that other fluff? Not quite.

Who runs the IFCN? Well that would be the Poynter Institute. That's funded by George Soros. IFCN also gets funding from the leftist Omidyar Network. Pierre Omidyar, founder of eBay, set that up. And that network has ties with the Open Society Foundation and the Tides Foundation, both funded by Soros as well. The Tides Foundation itself is about as extreme left as any organization can be.

If you know anything about Soros, you know that he does not have our best interests at heart. Yours or mine or Americas. He is a vile man with malign intentions and cannot be trusted. The same goes for what he supports and funds. A lot of what we have gotten, get, and will get from his organizations is just plain fake news.

By the way, journalist Andy Ngo recently suffered a brain hemorrhage when he was attacked by Antifa thugs in Oregon. Who do you think another Soros funded organization, Media Matters, stood up for? Andy Ngo or Antifa? They defended Antifa. Gives you a good indication of what sorts of organizations Soros funds and what kind of man he is.

Is IFCN credible? Really questionable. Unfortunately, the learned professor's faith in it and himself isn't entirely credible either.

## Government this week

### Monday, July 8

- Houston City Council, City Hall, 6 p.m.
- Spring Valley City Council, City Hall, 6 p.m.
- City of Rushford City Council, City Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Chatfield City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.
- Whalan City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.
- Wykoff City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.

### Tuesday, July 9

- Chatfield School Board, Forum Room, 7 p.m.
- Harmony City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 10

- Peterson City Council, City Hall, 6 p.m.
- Canton City Council, City Hall, 7 p.m.
- Mabel City Council, Community Center, 7 p.m.

### Monday, July 15

- Rushford-Peterson School Board, Forum Room, 5:30 p.m.
- Preston City Council, Council Chambers, 6 p.m.
- Kingsland School Board, SAC office, 6:30 p.m.

Schedule subject to change.

# FILLMORE COUNTY JOURNAL

"Where Fillmore County News Comes First"

**DO YOU NEED TO RUN AN AD IN NEXT MONDAY'S FILLMORE COUNTY JOURNAL?**

**THE ADVERTISING DEADLINE IS 5:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY THIS WEEK FOR NEXT MONDAY'S EDITION!**

Please send ad information to:

ads@fillmorecountyjournal.com  
or call 507-765-2151  
to place your advertisements.

www.fillmorecountyjournal.com



**Got a News Tip? Have a Story Idea?**

Contact the Fillmore County Journal

P: 507.765.2151 F: 507.765.2468  
E: news@fillmorecountyjournal.com  
www.fillmorecountyjournal.com



## FILLMORE COUNTY JOURNAL

136 St. Anthony St. • P.O. Box 496  
Preston, MN 55965  
507-765-2151 • 1-800-599-0481  
FAX 507-765-2468  
e-mail: news@fillmorecountyjournal.com  
website: www.fillmorecountyjournal.com

Publisher/Editor	Jason Sethre
Associate Publisher	Amanda Sethre
Creative Director	Jana Boyum
Assistant Editor	Ellen Whalen
Graphic Designer	Taylor Case
Website Administrator	Michelle Quanrud
Sales	Sherry Hines
Sports Director	Paul Trende
Photo Journalist	Barb Jeffers

Contributors: Mary L. Allen, Aaron Bishop, Tammy Danielson, Wenda Grabau, Jessi Jablonski, Barb Jeffers, Eric Leitzen, Annie Lewis, Julie Little, Kathy Little, Yvonne Nyenhuis, Karen Reisner, Sara Snipes, Mary Whalen, Rich Wicks, Hannah Wingert, Kirsten Zoellner

Published by Sethre Media Group, Inc. every Monday and mailed third class. Circulation: 12,142 FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS to zip codes served, 1,225 FREE STORE DISTRIBUTION and 200 PAID SUBSCRIPTIONS at \$55 per year, third class or \$105 first class.

DEADLINE for news & advertising is 5PM TUESDAY for the Monday Edition. © 2019

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday-Thursday 8am - 5pm  
Friday 8am - Noon  
Closed Saturday & Sunday