

COMMENTARY

Letter about sorrow...

To the Editor,

When I was much younger, the injustices of society made me angry, now they make me sorrowful. These sorrows come at all levels: international, national, and local.

Internationally we have wars in the Ukraine, Myanmar, Yemen, the Sudan and Ethiopia. We can not imagine the suffering these wars are causing. And the refugees created! It is estimated that there are 90,000,000 on this planet at this time. Ninety million people with nothing: no homes, no possessions, no future. Most of these refugees have been created by conflict, some climate related and some economic.

Also there is the poverty, illness and the ill treatment of women and children.

I need not go abroad to find great reason for sorrow. Look around us. Look at the poverty in so many people's lives. What does this do to one's mental health? Will I have enough money for rent, elec-

tricity, heat in the winter, food for the day or a repair if my car breaks down? There is so much. We know this disproportionately affects the Indigent and other people of color.

Another very serious reason for sorrow is the great increase of hate. Most every day we hear evidence of it, but also every day we are aware of it even close to home. Even I have experienced hate talk and hate mail.

It felt very undeserved and hurtful.

How can this be? Most of us have been taught that we are made in the image of God. We Quakers believe that there is that of the Divine in every person.

When we see the Divine in every person, it is very difficult to hate or harm them.

Long ago my best friend gave me the book entitled "Let My Heart Be Broken By Things That Break the Heart of God." I myself am in that stage now.

In sorrow,
Harvey Benson
Harmony, Minn.

RUSHFORD

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vens Avenue, is in the amount of \$20,078.

"Our pool of money is not endless, of course. Do we know where that's at?" asked Councilor Jim O'Donnell. The total approved since the start of the program is \$167,551 and the program was initially approved for up to \$300,000 in loans. According to City Clerk Kathy Zacher, Sencac is utilizing state grant funding first. The terms of the loans, filed as a lien on property tax rolls, do not require them to be paid back until the home is sold. "The revolving part could be very slow, but I like the program. It's increasing value and generating more taxes" added O'Donnell. The program will be reviewed this fall to see if it should be extended.

"This opened the door a little bit," said Mayor Terri Benson. "It's good to see improvements to our community."

Donations in the amount of \$1,400 were also approved. The donations come from American Legion Post 94, Rushford-Peterson Booster Club, Valley Crest Riders Snowmobile Club, and Rushford Lions Club and will be utilized for the Rushford Music Series. The series kicks off in August.

Lastly, the council unanimously approved a resolution allowing for a Minnesota Department of Transportation Agreement for Federal Airport Expense Reimbursement to be carried out. The funds are available through the American Rescue Plan and the Federal Aviation Administration provides oversight of all eligible expenses.

"It's one of those extra pots of money," explained Zacher. "When we file our normal maintenance costs, if we go over, we have to eat the difference. With this, we might get reimbursed on some of those operat-

ing expenses.

Items also touched on during the meeting included a letter of support from the city council for efforts of the Rushford Area Historical Society (RAHS) in applying for grant funding. The purpose of the funding is for structural improvements to the Southern Minnesota Depot which serves as a community museum and office space for the Rushford Peterson Valley Chamber of Commerce.

"Even though routine maintenance has been on-going, the age of the structure and the damages caused by the 2007 flood event in our city has taken its toll on the building," stated the letter. "The Depot building

is an integral part of the historical fabric of our community. The building serves as an important stop along the Root River State Bike Trail, bringing many visitors to our area. For these reasons, the city has provided both monetary and logistic support for the endeavors."

An update on the Highway 30/West Stevens Avenue was also provided. The project shifted to Phase 2, including the west end, including residential area reconstruction, July 11. Access to the city via Stevens Avenue will no longer be available.

The next regularly scheduled council meeting is Monday, July 25, at 6:30 p.m., at city hall. The public is encouraged to attend.

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FILLMORE COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S

Ribeye Sandwich Supper



Thursday, August 4, 2022

Serving 5-7:30pm

South of Odell Lee Agency on Fillmore Ave., Mabel, MN

All Proceeds to Mabel Ambulance



\$15.00 Ribeye Sandwich • Cheesy Potatoes • Chips

Tickets Sold by Mabel Ambulance Crew Members

Carryouts Available

\$4.00 MOOMOBILE SHAKES

Served by the Mabel Ambulance Crew



Soft Serve Ice Cream Available

By Winneshiek County Dairy Promoters

PILOT MOUND LUTHERAN CHURCH

47th ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Featuring the Chatfield Brass Band

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022

Serving @ 6pm | Music @ 7pm

Barbecue, pie, ice cream, pop and coffee will be served.

PLEASE BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS

Join us for a First Time Ever

Summer Peace Brunch

JULY 31, 2022 10 AM - 2 PM

ADULTS \$25 - CHILDREN 5-10 \$10 UNDER 5 FREE

LUTHER COLLEGE - PEACE DINING ROOM
DAHL CENTENNIAL UNION (2ND LEVEL)
DECORAH, IOWA

Buffet items include Salads, Pastries, Bagels, Oreo Fluff, 2 kinds of Potato, Scrambled Eggs, Apple Pecan Baked French Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits & Sausage Gravy, Eggs Benedict, Apple Butter Glazed Ham, Cheesecake, Cupcakes, Pies

Beer, Wine and Mimosa Bar available.

Reservations are required at tickets.luther.edu

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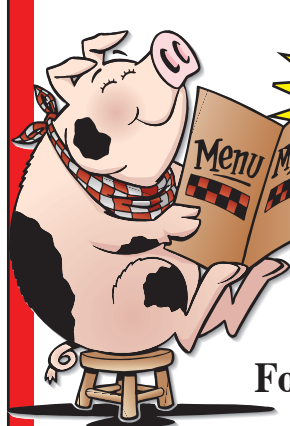
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Featuring: Thick, Juicy Windsor Pork Chops, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Milk



Tickets \$15

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Serving 5 - 8 pm

Fountain Community Center,
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Fillmore County Pork Producers