

# THE KERKHOVEN Banner

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Volume 124, Issue 41

## Fiddlin' around in Sunburg

by Cormac Dodd

A fiddle workshop at Hope Lutheran Church in early April capped an eventful month of March for the Sunburg Heritage Arts Initiative, the ensuing concert permitting the participation of students and instructors alike.

Traditional fiddle tunes were executed by a litany of players across a variety of skill levels, filling the church with the sounds of Scandinavian melodies.

Dempsey Schroeder led the intermediate group into a jubilant Tennessee Waltz, followed by a performance by the advanced group, comprised of four guitarists and four fiddlers. Darlene Schroeder, project coordinator for the Sunburg Heritage Arts Initiative, did the writing for the South-

west Minnesota Arts Council grant the city of Sunburg won.

The thinking behind the application was to allow culturally relevant arts to flourish in a shared community space, bolstered by the grant dollars and expert instructors. Crucially, these ongoing workshops were culturally centered and worked as a springboard for community development.

"Most people of Scandinavian descent are familiar with these traditions but have never had the opportunity to practice them. The major intent with this grant was to make it barrier free and low threshold. Every one has the opportunity to drop in and try it out," Darlene Schroeder said.

The Sunburg Arts Initiative has exhausted what was planned for March, and is now considering future events they would like to host, in a process informed by the amount of interest they have observed in particular workshops. According to Darlene Schroeder, a continued interest in ongoing hardanger and rosemaling has been palpable.

"We'll try to get those back in the fall," she said. "We are thinking

about next steps, asking, 'Would you want an instructor for that workshop in the future?'"

She expressed satisfaction as to how the project in its first year has progressed. "It's actually working," Darlene Schroeder said. "Sometimes you have an idea and you are not sure if it will."

The workshops have drawn crowds from a number of communities, reaffirming the Initiative's goal of introducing others to the town of Sunburg as well as putting forth its arts, and coordinator Schroeder, eyeing a list of participants she takes in advance of the events, has been surprised by how far some have come for the workshops.

One fiddler from Minneapolis registered in advance, another from Fargo. The fiddlers in the program span a range of ages, including two five-year-olds. Darlene Schroeder articulated an outcome of the program she hopes for: to have strong fiddling ahead of their Scandinavian holiday, Syttende Mai.

"It draws community. A big part of the tradition is for people to play as a family. That's a vision here," she said.

At least 20 dedicated fiddlers live in the Sunburg area. Dempsey Schroeder, a former KMS student and Darlene's son, was one of the instructors on this particular day. Dempsey lives in Minneapolis but, when home, jams at Goat Ridge Brewing Company in New London. He began to fiddle in the fourth grade and eventually went on to earn a degree in music from Gustavus Adolphus College, winning a grant.

Ten of the tunes Dempsey Schroeder has written himself were performed. Another instructor, Cristina Seaborn, hails from St. Cloud and is a frequent workshop teacher.

"Bringing someone in from Minneapolis would have been more expensive. To feature local talent is also ideal," Darlene Schroeder said.

One of the songs Dempsey Schroeder wrote and performed at the concert in Hope Lutheran Church was "Long Road to Murdock."

Darlene Schroeder highlighted the importance of showcasing professionals or at least experts in these art forms, performance

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## Nearing retirement, Nelson has some words for Kerk Council

by Kari Jo Almen

City public works supervisor Woody Nelson's biggest concern for the Kerkhoven City Council at its meeting last week Monday was its progress, or lack thereof, in

finding someone to fill his role after he retires May 31. The city has advertised the position widely, but has found no one with the licenses required to operate the city's water and sewer systems. Nelson has said that he is willing to help the city af-

ter he officially retires but he can't work, even part time, for the city for 30 days after he retires. "I don't want to leave you high and dry, but I don't want to be coming in and out for two, three years," he said. Nelson estimated the work requiring

Class C licenses would take four to six hours each month.

Nelson said that Brian Sulier, the city's second maintenance employee, is learning how to operate the city's water and sewer systems, but he will need to work under some-

one with the necessary licenses for a year before he can be licensed himself.

Nelson said that a student at St. Cloud Technical College came to Kerkhoven and talked to him and

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## Golf course board asks Council to pay some property tax

by Kari Jo Almen

Kasey Van Heuveln attended the April 11 Kerkhoven City Council meeting representing the golf course board. He reported that the two greens which were rebuilt last season look good and inquired whether the city would be willing to pay the property taxes on a portion of the golf course property which hasn't been developed as a part of the course. Instead, it is rented to a local farmer.

The golf course board is planning to upgrade the remaining seven greens and would like the city to pay the taxes to free their funds for the improvements.

Van Heuveln explained that taxes on the property are about \$1900 every six months and that the rent almost covers the tax bill.

Councilman Andy Thorson opined, "I think there's a little more to it than just saying the city will pay."

Van Heuveln said that the change "wouldn't have to be forever, maybe 10 years."

City clerk Kim Harkema said that the city was nearing the end of its commitment to help Pillsbury Pool. "The pool was hard up, too. The city was paying their LP."

"So if they put that land into CRP," wondered Thorson, "would we not have to pay taxes? Kasey? Kordell?"



Kasey Van Heuveln was one of a group of Kerkhoven golf course members who rebuilt Green #9 last September. He was at the April 11 Kerkhoven City Council meeting to ask for assistance paying some golf course property taxes so the club could proceed with more new greens.

Mayor Kordell Van Heuveln is the brother of Kasey.

"We don't put land into CRP," answered one of the Van Heuvelns.

"If we're losing money on it..." continued Thorson.

In response to questions on the length of commitment required for CRP contracts Harkema said, "Ten or 20 years? You can take it out of

CRP."

"I always thought it made money, but if it's the other way..." said Thorson.

It was suggested that the golf course board ask the farmer if he would be willing to pay a little more rent on the property so that it would cover the taxes. It was noted that the land was poor ground for farming.

(Continued on page 3)

## To help stop spread of bird flu, store your birdfeeders this year

by Cormac Dodd

To help blunt the spread of bird flu, homeowners have been encouraged by the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota not to fill birdbaths or birdfeeders this spring.

Efforts to minimize the disease's threat should not be limited to waterfowl and commercial poultry, according to the Raptor Center. In the interest of HPAI mitigation, keeping songbirds from gathering in front yards could be crucial in slowing the virus's movement.

"During these unprecedented times, we recommend doing anything that we can to try and help our wild bird populations. Because the science is unclear on the role of songbirds in this current H5N1 out-

break, one consideration is to not encourage birds to gather together at places such as bird feeders or birdbaths," Dr. Victoria Hall, Executive Director and Veterinary Epidemiologist, wrote.

Waterfowl and raptors have suffered greatly from the disease. The Raptor Center has received bald eagles and great horned owls afflicted with fatal neurological illnesses from HPAI infections, in addition to severe illness from the virus in geese, ducks, blue jays and crows.

Wild turkeys, pheasants and song birds have been spared so far, but that could change. It is unclear the role such species play in transmitting the virus.

"Unfortunately, we have a lot of gaps in knowledge about the role of songbirds in HPAI outbreaks. We have some data from previous outbreaks around the world, but this outbreak is very different. With minimal viral surveillance being done with

songbirds, it is hard to measure the risk of transmission from songbirds to other birds," wrote Hall.

The lucrative and prominent commercial poultry industry in Minnesota continues to be a source of great concern after a devastating 2015 outbreak year.

Almost two million domestic turkeys and chickens have been impacted by the virus in Minnesota, leading to the euthanization of flocks and the shutdown of large operations. Statewide, infected flocks totaled 40 Friday, according to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health.

Still water in one's yard is attractive for migrating birds and should be minimized whenever possible, experts suggest. Pausing the use of birdfeeders is encouraged, especially in an area of high transmission.

A Swift County commercial meat turkey flock of 145,000 stands as one of the largest flocks yet diagnosed with HPAI. At least five flocks in Kandiyohi County have been confirmed as infected, including one with 21,250 breeder hens.

Poultry producers should hurry to uphold strict biosecurity principals on farms.



As enjoyable as it is to watch birds in your yard, people are asked not to fill birdbaths or birdfeeders this spring.



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# Ted Here.....

The pastor said on Sunday that Easter was a time of rebirth. Rebirth of faith, rebirth of convictions, rebirth of relationships.

We all need that on occasion, right? A re-setting of the personal temperature gauge. Sometimes we get too hot, sometimes way too cold.

I was thinking about that the other day as I crossed paths with someone who I'm pretty sure isn't a fan. In fact if I had to guess I think it would be that this person is angry at and has zero respect for me, a fellow member of the human race. The reason? Well, we just don't see eye-to-eye on some issues.

And that got me to wondering just how many times a day or week that same thing happens... meeting people who for some reason or another have taken offense at something said or written, and held onto that animosity like a bulldog on a steak. It's really too bad, and an awful way to walk through life, but it's also as common a theme in most all of us as is getting out of bed in the morning.

In other words, I've been guilty of it... have you?

As mentioned a couple of weeks ago here, I'm not the preacher my mother wanted me to be. But I have paid attention, and in the Good Book it talks about turning the other cheek. Too often... way, way, way too often... we read what it says and vow that we subscribe to it, but in reality it's about the farthest thing from how we behave. Turning the other cheek? Well, that's just for chumps and weaklings. We're going to get our pound of flesh.

Am I right?

And so we walk around with a huge chip on our shoulder, disassociate with those we deem to be against us, talk smack behind their backs, try to draft others to our negative perception... and in the end how has that served anybody any good?

If you are reading this and wincing,

it's time for a rebirth.

But I'm not going to point any fingers... for again, as our recounted Sunday School lessons taught, I'll try not mention the speck in someone else's eye while the log sticks out of my own. I am guilty.

Others are too, and we can improve life considerably for all guilty parties by just understanding that we're all different, we all have perspectives, they don't all align and, most importantly, that doesn't necessarily define a person as good or bad.

I was at the funeral of an uncle years ago where one of his closest friends got up to eulogize. In his exuberance, this fellow got carried away and exclaimed to the congregation as if he were at a convention that his dear friend was the leading Republican of such and such district, "...and you still are!" he practically shouted at the box in the front of the room.

No. My uncle had died. As his tired body lied there in a casket, a more important compass than any political or earthly affair had taken over. At that point, was there really any reason to hold on to old grudges or disagreements? At the end of the day, aren't we all facing that same circumstance?

It's a good thing to consider that life is too short to go around ruminating with anger. As the momentarily famous Rodney King stated more eloquently than he could have imagined back in 1992 amidst the rioting and rage that followed his nationally televised beating by police after a high speed car chase: "Can't we all just get along?"

Rebirth. Easter season or fishing season, it's always a good time to think about what's truly important, and what just isn't worth the distress. Following King's advice -- or that of the 'King of the Jews' -- is a lot better than walking under a cloud. Better for you... and better for your no-longer enemies.

## OTHER VOICES

### During Passover, honoring 'The Rabbi of Swat'

by Joe Guzzardi

In 1866, Lipman Pike became the first great professional Jewish baseball player when he signed a \$20-a-week contract to hold down the hot corner for the Philadelphia Athletics.

Lip, as Pike was known, was a dominant power hitter whose numerous home runs soared beyond outfielders' reach. When the popular Pike passed away prematurely at age 48, The Sporting News, baseball's Bible, published a tribute that includes these glowing comments: "Pike... was one of the few sons of Israel who ever drifted to the business of ball playing. He was a handsome fellow when he was here, and the way he used to hit that ball was responsible for many a scene of enthusiasm at the old avenue grounds."

Since Pike, many more Jewish superstars have excelled on the diamond. Most famous among them is Sandy Koufax, the Dodgers' Hall of Fame lefty who was the first pitcher to win three Cy Young Awards, and the only pitcher to capture the award when it was given to just one major leaguer. Koufax won pitching's Triple Crown -- wins, strike outs and ERA, in 1963, 1965 and 1966, and hurled four no-hitters, one of them a perfect game.

Hank Greenberg is another Jewish baseball standout, and a World War II hero. Greenberg's power statistics are on a par with Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Ted Williams and Jimmie Foxx. After enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Corps, Greenberg rose to First Lieutenant, and was active in the China-Burma-India Theater.

Al Rosen, a four-year World War II Navy vet and Cleveland Indians third baseman, is the only player to win both the Most Valuable Player, and the MLB Executive of the Year awards. Rosen, a suc-

cessful amateur boxer with a vicious right upper cut who described himself as "one tough Jew," unanimously won his MVP in 1953, and for his front office efforts that guided the San Francisco Giants' from first to last place in 1987, he was elected Executive of the Year.

In baseball circles, Koufax, Greenberg and Rosen are well-known. But the compelling 1923 tale about Mose Solomon, the "Rabbi of Swat," blends the long-gone Class C low minor Southwestern League's Hutchinson Wheat Shockers with early 1900s Jewish immigration to New York, the World Champion Giants, its manager John J. McGraw and his desperate but ultimately futile search for a slugger who could match Babe Ruth's home run power, thereby siphoning off Ruth-crazed bugs from the hated Yankees.

In his book, "The League of Outsider Baseball," Gary Cieradkowski wrote that when word reached McGraw that by September 1923 Solomon had blasted a then-professional record 49 homers, was hitting .421, leading the league in doubles, hits and runs scored, the Giants manager was convinced that the "Jewish Babe Ruth" would spearhead the Jints to financial success.

Within the blink of an eye, the Giants paid the Wheat Shockers \$4,500 for Solomon's contract, and soon thereafter "The Rabbi of Swat" was riding the rail toward New York. But McGraw soon realized he had no place in the lineup for Kansas' home run phenom. The Giants' first base position and its outfield were populated by future HOFers George "High Pockets" Kelly, Casey Stengel, Ross Youngs and Hock Wilson. While Solomon rode the pine, the very vocal cranks demanded that the Jewish Babe Ruth be put into a game.

McGraw gave in, and on the season's last home tilt

Solomon hit a game-winning double against the Philadelphia Phillies. Solomon got into one more game in 1923, and ended his season -- and his major league career -- with three hits in eight at bats, a .375 batting average. The Rabbi's problem was, as scouts said, "He could poke'em, but he couldn't pick'em," a reference to Solomon's 31 errors in 108 games in Kansas. Solomon was promptly dispatched back to the minors where he resumed his lusty batting prowess -- seven seasons of .300 or higher.

When Mose realized his baseball days were behind him, he took up semi-pro football, and played effectively until injuries sidelined him for good -- a lucky break for the Rabbi as things turned out. Solomon and his wife moved to Miami where he started a long, lucrative real estate business until his peaceful 1965 death.

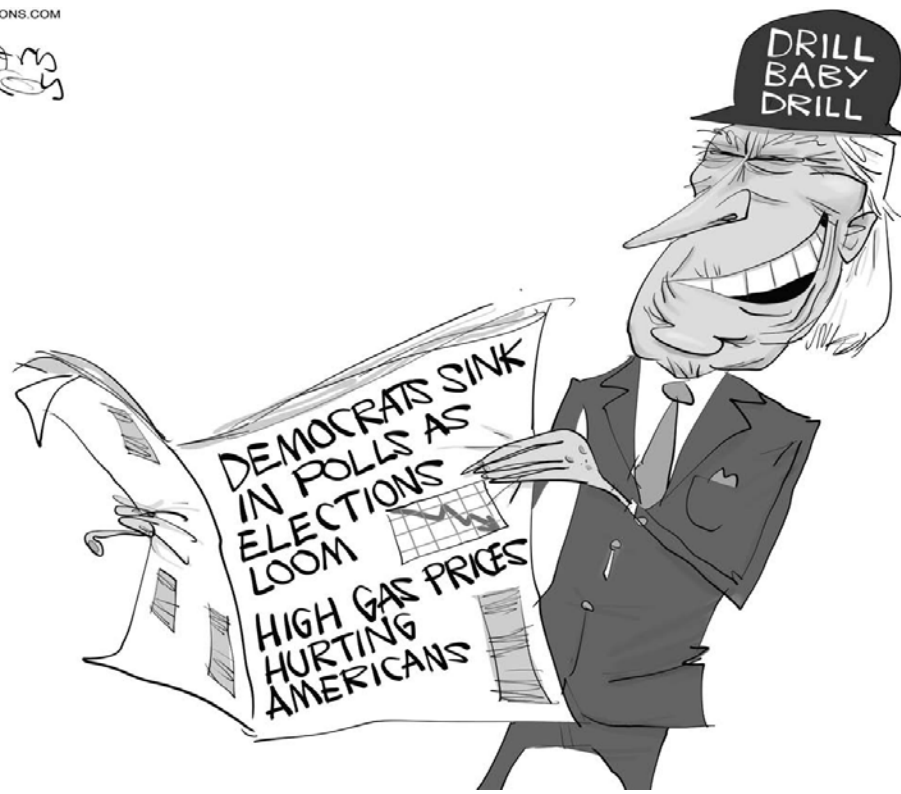
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Joe Guzzardi is a Society for American Baseball Research and Internet Baseball Writers' Association member. Contact him at guzzjoe@yahoo.com.

(Editor's note: Joyous Passover to my friends Ron and Drew Zamansky. Shalom.)

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Email kbanner@tds.net; mail to Banner, Box 148, Kerkhoven, MN 56252; or simply drop off at the office.

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## OTHER VOICES

### Confessions of an ink-stained wretch...



### From corn crib to crib sheet: a look at Ukraine's world importance

by Lee Egerstrom

Major media from across America and in Europe are doing a great job in explaining Ukraine's importance to the world's economy and to the world's food supply. This comes after decades when it was under colonial rule of the Soviet Union and its uniqueness was mostly ignored by Americans.

My intent going back a month or more was to offer Banner readers a look at what I would have been writing if I was still employed fulltime as an agriculture and international trade writer. I'm doing that today by offering a "crib sheet" on Ukraine.

That is a collection of facts that you most likely wouldn't know unless you are active in agricultural organizations or are a news junkie monitoring breaking news from around the world.

Let me explain a crib sheet. Another name for it widely used by students is a "cheat sheet." Please ignore that term. It implies you are doing something unethical. A crib sheet is simply a list of facts or information helpful to keep close at hand if you are researching and writing, or, if a student, preparing for important tests.

This farm boy turned journalist from Kerkhoven grew up with corn cribs that kept his family's crops close at hand for timely feed use or marketing. A female farm writer once told me she preferred "crib sheet" as well although it had different meaning to her as a young mother.

But now, as we are bombarded daily with horrific news about Russia and Ukraine, a crib sheet might be useful for people in the "breadbasket" areas of west-central Minnesota.

World hunger and the threat of massive starvation are again in the news. Access to trade is affected by Russia's war in Ukraine and by distribution problems resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Against that backdrop, international trade data show

15 major exporting countries provided 92.6 percent of the wheat shipped around the world in 2020 - the last year with complete figures.

Russia's assault on Ukraine has stopped export trade from both countries. It further threatens the world supply of the bread baking and pasta grain by preventing Ukraine farmers from getting fields ready for another growing season.

This has terrible consequences for the global population.

Trade data for 2020 show Russia was the largest wheat exporter that year by providing 17.6 percent of total trade volume. U.S. farmers came in second with 14.1 percent, and our good friends in Canada -- predictably -- came in third with 14 percent of volume.

France was next up with 10.1 percent of wheat sales. Here is where the world food supply gets real shaky. Ukraine was in fifth place with eight percent of trade.

This should explain much about the current war in Europe to trade savvy agriculturalists. It means that Russia will account for more than 25 percent of global wheat supplies most years if it puts Ukraine back in an expanding Russian empire.

It also means Russia will have significant power over food supplies for many food-deficit countries in the Middle East, parts of Africa and drought-threatened areas of Asia.

To fill out the crib sheet, the other major players in the 2020 world wheat trade included Australia (6 percent), Argentina (4.7 percent), Germany (4.7 percent), and then former Soviet republics or nation states formerly under Soviet control. They include Kazakhstan (2.5 percent), Poland (2.3 percent), Romania (2.1 percent), Lithuania, (2 percent), Bulgaria (1.6 percent), Latvia (1.4 percent) and Hungary (1.4 percent).

A March 21 New York Times article, by Jack Nicas, took a longer look at agricultural trade data to show how frightening the current mess is to food supplies. For the past five years, he reported, Russia and Ukraine accounted for 30 percent of wheat exports, 17 percent of corn, 32 percent of



barley, and 75 percent of the world's shipments of sunflower cooking oils.

Argentina and several other exporting countries are now holding back trade to shore up domestic food supplies, anticipating weaker 2022 harvests. Russia is the largest export supplier of key agricultural fertilizers. This threatens new crops on all continents.

David Beasley, executive director of the United Nations' World Food Program, told news reporters in a pitiful assessment of food supplies, "We are now taking food from the hungry and giving it to the starving."

It will only get worse. Russia's economy is heavily dependent on exports of oil, gas and derivative products from those commodities. And, as data show, it is trying to seize greater influence and control on world food supplies.

For those of you who may want to keep a crib sheet, take another look at the top 15 wheat exporters listed above.

Media has focused much attention in recent weeks on how Russia's president Vladimir Putin is trying to reassemble the old Soviet empire into a new Russia empire. The trade data show why the Baltic nations of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, along with neighboring Finland and Sweden, are feeling threatened.

Putin already has friends and followers in power in Hungary and Belarus. He doesn't need many more such disciples, or handmaidens, to put a stranglehold on the world's food.

Kerkhoven native Lee Egerstrom, of Maplewood, is a mostly retired journalist and research fellow/author of books and research papers dealing with various aspects of economic development. He will write occasional pieces for the Banner about his experiences covering politics and economics for Knight Ridder Newspapers.

# THE KERKHOVEN Banner

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An entrant in the Sunburg Tractor Pull poured the coals to it in this 2018 photo.

# Rules for 2022 Sunburg Tractor Pull

by Cormac Dodd

Rules have been announced for Sunburg's 2022 Syttende Mai Tractor Pull, a main-stage event in the town's annual Norwegian heritage celebration held on Sunday, May 15th, hinting at what will be an exciting event for the community.

This day, warning horns will caution tractors that exceed a speed of three or six miles per hour, maximums determined by the class tractors enter. A second horn effects disqualification.

Several of these stipulations may appear foreign to those unfamiliar with the showing of antique tractors in competition, but they permit the novice a view of the details relevant to the much-loved farm country pastime and thus

a modicum of comprehension. Radical tires violate a set of rules drawn up by the Sunburg Commercial Club ahead of Syttende Mai 2022.

During the tractor pull at the Glacial Plains grain site, a compliant tractor according to these laws may pull up to four classes, once in each class -- and torques, described as the amount of work an engine can perform, may be used for all categories.

That said, engines must be factory models, with only factory turbos allowed.

These are the maximum tire sizes as distinguished by the class:

0-4500# class-	13.6 x 38,	
	14.9 x 28	
4501-6500#class-	14.9 x 38,	15.5 x 38,
	16.9 x 34	
6501-8500# class-	16.9 x 34,	18.4 x 38,
	16.9 x 38,	18.4

x 28.

In the rules, drivers are cautioned that any item falling from the tractor while hooked to the skid will end in a disqualified tractor. Drivers must be seated, and alcohol is not allowed in the pit area.

Draw bars cannot exceed 20" in height. Draw bars cannot be fewer than 18" from the center of the rear axle to the hooking point.

No cut tires will be permitted.

All are excited about the upcoming Syttende Mai, slated for May 15th. The cost is \$20 a hook, registration beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Tractor pull viewers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, as there will be no available bleacher seating at the elevator site.

# New to Medicare Virtual Class

Learning what to do when you become eligible for Medicare can seem overwhelming. This class is for people who will be new to Medicare and would like to learn about Medicare Parts A, B, C and D. Topics will include a comprehensive introduction to Medicare including what Medicare covers, supplemental insurance and Part D prescription coverage. During the class you will learn the Medicare enroll-

ment details, how to get the most from your benefits and how to research your Medicare plan options using the Medicare.gov site.

The 'New to Medicare Virtual Class' will be held Thursday, April 28 from 8:30 am - 10:30 am. Please visit: <https://bit.ly/3L9TRNz> to sign up for the class, as space is limited.

The Senior LinkAge Line is a service of the Minnesota Board on Aging in partner-

ship with Minnesota's local area agencies on aging. It is the state's federally designated State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP). Call the Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or visit [www.MinnesotaHelp.info](http://www.MinnesotaHelp.info) to chat with a specialist during business hours.

# Nelson's words of advice

(Continued from page 1)

was given a tour of city operations. This person will graduate June 1 and will have Class D water and sewer licenses and would also have to work under someone with Class C licenses for a year before be-

ing eligible for the higher license.

Councilman Andy Thorson asked, "Do we have to get someone in for a month (until Nelson could return to work on a part-time basis) to

look over the books and sign papers?"

Nelson said he would make some phone calls to determine what it would require to get someone with Class C licenses to work for the city for a month.

# Golf course taxes

(Continued from page 1)

Selling the property was mentioned, but those present did not know if that was an option under the terms the land was given to the city by the late George and Phyllis Engh. Also, if the land was sold, it would no longer be available should an expansion of the golf course be desired in the future.

Harkema noted that property taxes were not the only expense associated with the property. The city also pays a solid waste fee and for ditch cleaning.

"If we do that (pay the tax-

es)," Thorson said, "we're going to have to raise the levy."

Kasey Van Heuveln offered, "We have 24 teams on Thursday nights, almost 50 people coming to town. Also on weekends, people coming from other towns."

"If you're going to come and ask," suggested councilor Naomi Baker, "it would be nice to have facts and figures."

"I just wanted to throw it out there and see what you guys think. I do appreciate what your guys are doing," said Kasey Van Heuveln as the discussion closed.

In other business Nelson expressed frustration with the unkempt appearances of certain properties in the city. He said to the council, "You have been sending letters to some places for three years, and it's not getting better." The meaning of what he said next was that the city was going downhill.

City clerk Kim Harkema added, "You guys are going to have to get tough."

"Well," said Thorson to the rest of the council, "let's get the county attorney involved. What do you guys think?"

"For two years we've sent letters and it has not gotten better," said Nelson. "In some cases it's gotten worse."

The council as a whole was frustrated with the slow process of sending letters, allowing time for improvement, sending more letters, and having to allow more time for change.

At the close of the meeting councilwoman Naomi Baker offered, "I feel like there's a low morale in Kerkhoven and COVID didn't help. Is there something we can do to build it up? I feel unless we consciously decide to do something, it's going to continue to go downhill."

"They got the same letter last year," noted Harkema.

"We have to follow through," said Thorson.

"We shouldn't have to tell people to be respectful," offered Baker. "There's a pride that used to be here that isn't here anymore."

# THREE BUNS AND a HURRICANE®

BY ALISON NELSON



## Bull

I've enjoyed time at home this weekend with our family, mostly indoors due to the incessant winter weather. Damn you, Old Man Winter! Get out of here already.

As I sit and write, the men are at the table playing cards. I think they're still riding the coattails of the previous night's fun. It's not often we play cards in the middle of the day.

The kids asked if we'd play with them the other night and said we could pick the game - with that offer we had to accept! We never get to pick the game. For our choice the night before, we pulled out Pit. I had found it at a garage sale for fifty cents a few years ago and was so excited to share it with my family, as I had fond memories of playing it myself when I was a kid.

The kids love games, as most kids do, I suppose, especially ones that involve shouting. Pit gets loud and intense, and is a quick play (unlike stupid Monopoly, that drags on for what feels like years). It can hold even the shortest attention spans, and since it involves grain trading they think it's even more fun.

So we played Pit for a while, and got on the topic of bluffing. Suddenly the game

Bullsh\*\* popped into my mind and I said we should teach them that game. With a name like that, the boys were intent to learn.

I learned to play Bull in a ninth grade study hall in the school lunchroom. It was quite a random assortment of people who played, freshmen to seniors, boys and girls, jocks and smokers and band nerds, and it was the highlight of my day. I don't know who had the deck of cards or how it even started, but we played every day for weeks.

Also lost on me is how it came to an end, but I remember the teacher, Mr. Barner, who for many weeks didn't care that we played, suddenly and angrily put a stop to it. Then it was just a regular boring study hall where we were expected to study.

Back to my kids. They found a new deck of cards for the new endeavor and we shuffled them up, explaining the rules as we went. We discovered that while they enjoy games where shouting is a natural part of play, they also love games that make it acceptable to accuse people of lying and laughing at them when they get busted for those lies.

It seems our kids also need to learn how to hold cards. I don't know if it's because their hands are small, or they

haven't had enough practice, but each time they pick up a handful of cards it's like they've never done it before. Their cards in hand are all jagged and disheveled looking, they're piling some up next to them, or laying them face down on the table and picking up each one to look at it and see what they have - that really throws off the pace of the game.

Playing cards is also a great way to find out who is a good loser. When emotions are high and things go south, a couple of them get pretty upset. The others brush it off easily. Related to their wacky card-holding, another player got a glimpse of that kid's cards and then he flew off the handle. Then we got to talk about holding cards close, or at least so they're not so easily visible to others. And even if it's easy to see another player's cards, should you look? Is it their fault you saw? It's a low-level moral dilemma.

I think I might stick that deck of cards in my purse . . . we can pull it out when we're waiting somewhere, or in a hotel room, or in need of a little distraction. They can also work on their card-holding, keeping emotions in check, and lie-detecting. So many lessons in one little portable game.

# Kerkhoven holds Board of Review

by Kari Jo Almen

The City of Kerkhoven held its annual Board of Review just prior to its regular city council meeting last week, Monday evening. Joe Tschida, Swift County assessor, and Darla Schwendemann, an appraiser in the assessor's office, were in attendance.

came to the meeting to discuss their property tax liabilities.

Tschida told council members that there were seven residential sales in Kerkhoven in 2021. Based on those sales, valuations in the city were raised five percent to more accurately reflect the prices home owners would likely receive if their property was sold. He said that houses, ga-

rages and decks were the big drivers of prices. He guessed that perhaps housing prices in Kerkhoven had "topped," but said that there were a lot of months left in the year.

Of Swift County agricultural land, the valuation of which was raised 20% county-wide to reflect actual sale prices, Tschida said he wouldn't be surprised to see another increase.



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**Scrambled Egg/Pancake Breakfast**  
Sunday, April 24 • 9 am to 1 pm

KMS High School Commons  
Menu:  
Scrambled Eggs,  
Pancakes, Sausage  
Links, Beverages

**Free Will Donation**

Sponsored by the KMS BPA Chapter to help defray expenses to the national convention in Dallas, Texas this spring.



# Church & Social News

from parishes all around the area

April 20-27

### Baptist

**BETHEL CHURCH**  
**Kathy Weckwerth, Pastor**  
**Wednesday:**  
 6:30 pm Prayer Meeting  
**Thursday:**  
 1 pm Knitting Needles Bible Study  
**Sunday:**  
 9 am Sunday School  
 10:30AM Service  
**Monday and Tuesday:**  
 NCD Annual Mtg. @ New Hope EFC  
**Wednesday:**  
 10:30AM LBS  
 6PM Choir  
 6:30PM KFK  
 6:30PM Youth Grp.

10am Mamrelund Worship  
**Wednesday:**  
 6:30-8:00pm ACT Parish Confirmation at Hope

**MONSON LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Wednesday, April 20:**  
 6pm Sunday School at Monson Lake  
**Wednesday, April 27:**  
 6pm Sunday School at Monson Lake

**NORWAY LAKE PARISH**  
 Rural New London  
 Rev. Wayne Kopitzke  
**Wednesday:**  
 6:30 PM Confirmation for 7th & 8th Grades - FL Family Room  
**Thursday:**  
 7:00 PM Joint Education & Youth Committees Meeting - FL  
**Sunday: Easter 2 - Holy Communion - Quilt Dedication Sunday**  
 8:45 AM Worship at ENL, Sunday School kids sing  
 9:45 AM Sunday School at ENL  
 11:00 AM Worship at FL  
 12:00 PM FL Special Congregational Meeting  
 1:00 PM Parish Roadside Clean-up - FL  
 1:30 PM Pastor leads Worship at Glen Oaks  
**Wednesday:**  
 5:45 PM Handbell Choir Practice - FL  
 6:30 PM Confirmation for 7th & 8th Grades - FL Family Room

### Lutheran

**BUFFALO LAKE LUTHERAN, BETHESDA LUTHERAN PARISH**  
**Pastor Carlton Nelson and Nancy Carlson, Lay Leader**  
**Sunday:**  
 8:15 Buffalo Lake Worship  
 9:15am Bethesda Sunday School  
 10:00 Bethesda Lay Led Worship  
**Tuesday:**  
 C&C at Bethesda:  
 9am Food  
 9:30am Bible study

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Sunburg, Minnesota  
**Pastor Michelle Kleene**  
**Sunday: Camp Sunday**  
 8:45am Breakfast  
 9:15am Music/Coffee  
 9:25-9:55am Sunday School  
 10:00am Worship  
 11am Ditch Clean-up  
**Monday:**  
 9:00am Quilting

**KERKHOVEN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Pastor Michael Buller**  
**Sunday:**  
 9:00 am Worship service  
 10:00 am Sunday School  
 10:00 am Fellowship

**MAMRELUND & ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Pastor Michelle Kleene**  
**Wednesday:**  
 4:30pm Mamrelund's Women's Bible study  
 6:30-8:00pm ACT Parish Confirmation at Hope  
**Sunday:**  
 8:15am St. John's Worship

**SUNBURG FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Rural Sunburg  
 Rev. Ron Knutson, Pastor  
**Sunday:**  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School/ Adult Bible Class  
 10:30 a.m. Worship

**NOTICE TO ALL CHURCH SECRETARIES:**  
 The Banner prints church schedules as a free service. We MUST have all church notes in the Banner office by **NOON Friday** to make it into the next issue.

### Catholic

**AREA CATHOLIC CHURCHES**  
 Sacred Heart, Murdock  
 Fr. Jeremy Kucera  
**Saturday:**  
 5:00 pm Mass

### Covenant

**SALEM COVENANT CHURCH**  
 Rural Pennock  
**Pastor Jonathan Wilson and Don Ruffenach, Director of Youth & Children's Ministry**  
[saalemcovennock.org](http://saalemcovennock.org)  
**Wednesday:**  
 5:45-6:15 PM Supper  
 6:30-7:55 PM AWANA and Youth Group  
 6:35-7:30 PM Prayer Meeting  
**Friday:**  
 7:00 PM Roatan Honduras Mission Trip meeting at Salem  
**Confirmation Sunday:**  
 9:15 AM Sunday School  
 10:30 AM Confirmation Service  
**Wednesday:**  
 5:45-6:15 PM Supper  
 6:30-7:55 PM AWANA and Youth Group  
 6:35-7:30 PM Prayer Meeting

### Evangelical Free

**KERKHOVEN EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
**Joshua Hamm, Pastor**  
**Nathan Kveene, Youth Pastor**  
**Wednesday:**  
 10:30AM LBS  
 6PM Choir

# Asatru Folk Assembly removes cross from former Calvary Lutheran Church

by Cormac Dodd

Members of the Asatru Folk Assembly's Northern Plains region removed the cross at Baldrshof April 15th in Murdock, one of the final steps in the controversial Nordic Heritage group's conversion of the former Calvary Lutheran Church into a pagan temple.

In the takedown of the cross, a construction lift was used.

The AFA has hosted monthly worship in Murdock since the city granted them a conditional use permit in late 2020, generally with about 20

members included in services. Local food giveaways accompany these meetings.

The AFA are considered to be a Neo-Völkisch hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center and a hate group whose whites-only ideology attracts those who espouse white supremacy.

They are a whites-only organization.

The old Lutheran church was built in 1905 and active until 2014, when it became shuttered due to a dwindling congregation. In its latter years, the church was a part of the Area Churches Together parish.

A great deal of local push-back occurred when the AFA purchased the un-used church and spawned a series of protests in the town of 300. More than 120,000 Minnesotans signed a petition to keep the AFA, which is an international organization that has three hofs open in the U.S., from using the building.

In a 2021 interview, group leader Matthew Flavel said the AFA intended to donate the cross as well as some of the other ornamental features of the church that are traditionally Christian.



Eight Sr. High Choir students sing at West Central Industries

On Monday, April 11, eight KMS Choir students sang at WCI in Willmar, MN. They provided about 15 minutes of music, including sing alongs where everyone could join in.

Those singing, left to right, above, were: Collin Johnson, Alex Call, Justin Rosenboom, Ely Johnson, Kalli Anders, Karla Padilla, Amber Rosemeier, and Hayley Demuth.



## Five to sing with ACDA Jr. High Honor Choirs

Five KMS seventh grade students have been selected into the prestigious ACDA Honor Choirs. Colin Peters, tenor; Eli Ahrndt, tenor; Kayleigh Finstrom, Soprano; Isaiah Rosemeier, tenor; and Sophia Haase, Soprano II. Colin, Eli, and Isaiah will be singing in the Boys ACDA Honor Choir, and Kayleigh and Sophia will be in the Girls ACDA Honor Choir. Both choirs rehearse and perform on Saturday, May 7 at the beautiful St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, MN.

## Live Well, Age Wisely

With Laura Thomas, Director of Aging Well at Prairie Five Community Action Council

If you have asked about me about writing a will or have been thinking that it would be a good idea to get that legal document in place, I have great news for you! Last week I received an email from Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) about a new partnership they have formed with FreeWill, an online tool to write a legal will at no personal cost. SWIF is an independent community foundation whose mission is connecting people, investing in ideas, and building communities. They support many initiatives in our region, in fact, my position at Prairie Five is funded in part with a grant from SWIF.

In the email, they explain that they "believe all people and families deserve opportunities to thrive including building financial security. Planning ahead is critical to protecting who you love and what you care about, and increasing access to estate planning breaks down barriers that might stand in the way of this important task." It goes on to say, "this resource helps you protect your families and friends, plan beneficiaries for your assets, and support the causes and communities you love. With FreeWill, you can get peace of mind and leave a lasting legacy in just 20 minutes."

The FreeWill web site is found at [www.freewill.com](http://www.freewill.com) and is very user friendly. In fact, as I was walking through the site, I decided to go ahead and create my own will. It's easy to think that we will always have time later but in truth none of us knows what tomorrow may hold. If you would prefer to finalize your will with an attorney, the site can still be used to as a prepa-

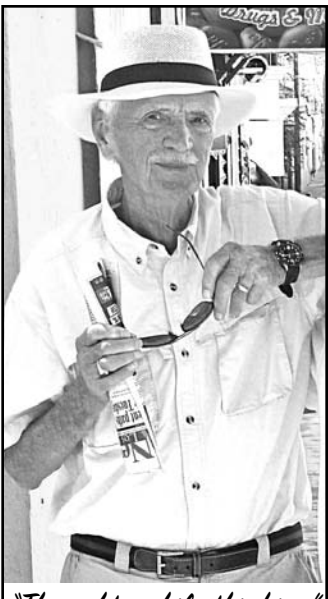
ration tool to create a list of documented wishes beforehand.

The will is one of three important documents that a person should have in place, the others are the Advanced Healthcare Directive and the Power of Attorney form. Both of these can be found online, don't take a great deal of time to complete, and are necessary to ensure that what you want to happen if you are unable to communicate for yourself is what actually happens.

I have seen the fallout of a lack of planning and can't stress enough the importance of taking care of these matters while you are able! I would love to help you in whatever way you'd like. I can mail a Planning Ahead booklet that walks a person through each of the documents and gives additional information on where these documents should be kept and who should receive copies. I can mail or email examples of the Advanced Healthcare Directive and Power of Attorney form. We can meet and walk through any of these forms together and get them completed. Maybe you just have some questions. I can



be reached at [laura.thomas@prairiefive.org](mailto:laura.thomas@prairiefive.org) or 320-226-8861. Let's get this taken care of! I understand that thinking about our own end-of-life and death isn't the most enjoyable thing but it sure brings peace of mind once everything is in place.



"Thoughts while thinking" of **James Harlow ("Jimmy") Johnson** (7/11/32-4/20/20) WE MISS YOU!!! Love, Cynthia Louise & Marilynn

# Play Ball!



PLEASE CHECK WITH THE SCHOOL CALENDAR TO SEE WHEN YOUR KMS FIGHTING SAINTS WILL BE OUT ON THE PLAYING FIELD. AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL OUR ATHLETES!

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## To the rhythm of the music

by Alma Contreras Lopez

Dancing is, without a doubt, one of the things I enjoy the most in life. I am not that good of a dancer, but one thing I can assure you is that if I listen to music, my body, especially my feet, start to move to the rhythm of the music.

A few weeks ago, while looking for some presentation options for the Conexiones Day event in Morris on June 25 (mark the day on your calendar). I found out that there is a place where you can go dancing and that it has a variety of events from swing, jazz, and last Saturday, salsa.

This search led me to Alison Nelson, who led me to Bethany Lactorin from New London. That chain of people led me to the Little Theater Auditorium website. In my search, I am happy to say I found a salsa event in New London, and I loved it.

So, I invited my daughter, my husband, and a friend to dance salsa to the rhythm of the Latin/Caribbean band Malamanya. Something I loved was that at the beginning, there were some salsa lessons by Studio Jeff. So, there we managed to learn a few steps.

The music that the group Malamanya played are songs that I have listened to and danced to at family parties and even doing my housework. So, I must say that I am guilty of dancing from the beginning of the event until the end. Although salsa is a Cuban genre, Mexico has adopted this dance as part of its repertoire.

Although there is no record of where and when the word began to be used to describe this genre, it is well known that words such as 'salsa,' 'azúcar' (sugar), and 'Sabor' (flavor) have been used in Caribbean music as a means of

expression of joy and folklore.

At the end of the day, salsa is a rhythm that moves the world, a cultural expression that defines the identity of millions of people. Plus, anyone can move to the rhythm of salsa. If you, like me, didn't know about the Little Theater Auditorium, now you do. You can go have a good time dancing or if dancing is not your thing, you can go as a spectator.

**Word of the week:** middle Spanish: medio Pronunciation: meh-dee-oh

*Comments or story ideas? Alma Contreras can be reached at [almagbym@hotmail.com](mailto:almagbym@hotmail.com)*



Alma Contreras Lopez

## Al ritmo de la música

por Alma Contreras Lopez

El baile es sin duda una de las cosas que más disfruto en la vida. No soy tan buena bailarina, pero algo que puedo asegurar es que,

si escucho música, mi cuerpo, especialmente mis pies se empiezan a mover al ritmo de la música.

Hace unas semanas mientras buscaba algunas opciones de presentaciones para el evento de Conexiones Day, en Morris, para el 25 de junio (anotar el día en su agenda). Me enteré de que existe un lugar donde se puede ir a bailar y que tiene una variedad de eventos desde swing, jazz y, el sábado pasado salsa.

Esta búsqueda me llevo a Alison Nelson, lo cual, a su vez me llevo a Bethany Lac-

torin, en New London. Esa cadena de personas me llevo a la página web del Little Theater Auditorium.

En la búsqueda, me complace decir que encontré un evento de salsa en New London y me encanto.

Así que me lleve a mi hija, a mi esposo y a una amiga a bailar salsa al ritmo de la banda latina/caribeña Malamanya. Algo que me encanto fue que al inicio hubo unas lecciones de salsa por el Studio Jeff. Así que allí logramos aprender unos cuantos pasos.

La música que el grupo Malamanya toco son canciones que he escuchado y bailado en fiestas familiares y hasta haciendo los quehaceres de mi casa. Por lo que debo decir que soy culpable de bailar desde el inicio del evento, hasta el final. Aunque la salsa es un género cubano, México ha adoptado este baile como parte de su repertorio.

Aunque no hay registro de donde y cuando empezó la

utilización de la palabra para denominar este género, es bien sabido que palabras como 'salsa', 'azúcar'(sugar) y 'sabor' (flavor) se han utilizado en la música caribeña como un medio de expresión de alegría y folclor.

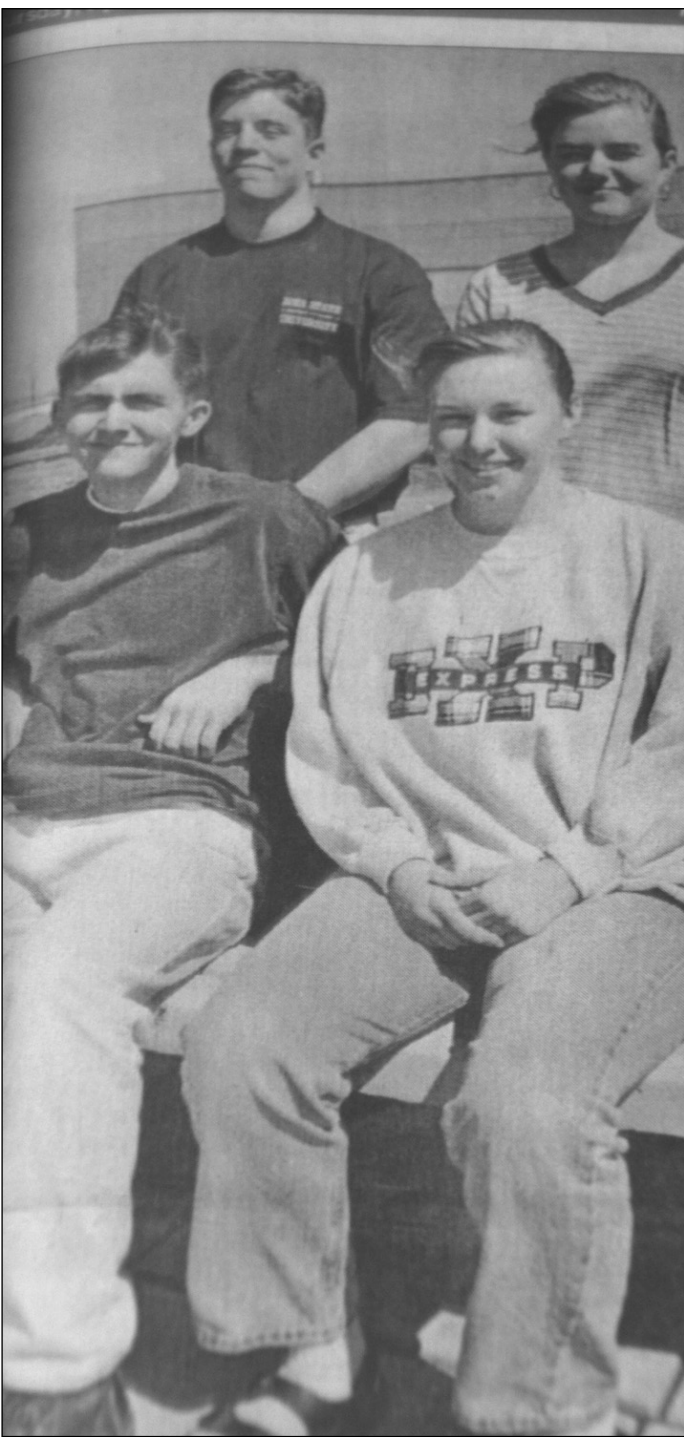
Y es que la salsa es un ritmo que mueve al mundo, una expresión cultural que define la identidad de millones de personas. Y, cualquiera se puede moverse al ritmo de salsa. Y si como yo, usted no sabía de la existencia del Little Theater Auditorium, ahora ya lo sabe. Y puede ir a pasar un buen rato bailando o si la danza no es lo suyo, usted puede ir de espectador.

**Palabra de la semana:** en medio

Inglés: middle Pronunciación: mérol

*¿Comentarios o ideas para nuevas historias? Puede contactar a Alma Contreras a través de este correo elec*

## Looking Back



### 25 years ago...April 1997

#### Staters named

The Kerkhoven Legion and Auxiliary Posts have named their Boys and Girls Staters. Selected this year were, seated, Chris Nelson, son of Carlton and Marsha Nelson of rural Kerkhoven, and Kelly Simmonds, daughter of Robert and Patricia Simmonds of rural Murdock. Alternates named were Michael Yost, son of Mike and Sandy Yost of rural Murdock, and Sara Shuck, daughter of Bruce and Denise Shuck of rural Sunburg.

### 50 years ago... April 1972

#### 'Select' band plays here Today

SIX numbers will be on the bill of fare at today's (Thurs-

day's) 10:30 a.m. Honor band concert at Kerkhoven school auditorium. The public is invited to the affair.

The 105-piece band will be composed of select musicians from the schools here and from Atwater, Murdock, Ray-

mond, Paynesville, New London, Belgrade and Brooten.

Musicians from the Kerk band who will perform include: flute, Laurie Schutt; clarinet, Karen Johnson; bassoon, Colleen Malquist; bass clarinet, Reid Johnson; French horns, Julie Schutt, Brad Hagen and Joan Carlson; trumpet, Steve Gulsvig; alto saxophone, Mary Sue Gunnufson; tenor saxophone, Dan Deruyter; baritone, Greg Hagen; sousaphone, Randy Broberg and trombone, Dean Peterson.

Numbers to be played are: "Band of Gold," "Kentucky 1800," "Bellerophon Overture," "Choralle and Capriccio," "Rock ala Bach" and "Rainy Days and Mondays."

### 75 years ago... April 1947

#### DYNAMITE DITCHING DEMONSTRATION AT GUSE FARM

A demonstration in ditching with dynamite has been arranged by County Agent V. L. Baldwin for April 25th at 11 a. m. on the Herbert Guse farm in Swenoda Township.

This is the culmination of nearly two years efforts by Mr. Baldwin to secure the service of H. J. Gould, representative of the Dupont Company for a demonstration of this kind.

Farmers and others interested in this type of demonstration are invited to set aside the forenoon of April 25th to attend this demonstration. More information about this will be available at a later date.

#### THE BATTLE'S STILL RAGING

The controversy between Benson and Appleton continues on its vitriolic way, although somewhat diminished as a result of the secession bill's demise. Here is an editorial as it appeared in the Appleton Press recently:

#### A NEUTRAL'S DIAGNOSIS

A prominent West Bank farmer visited The Press office recently and urged that the people of this area continue their efforts to secure a separation from Swift county. Roughly his statement was this: "I have no personal interest in Appleton, nor in Benson. My farm, nor my township, is not in the area that would be affected by the change you are seeking. However, I think your case is sound and your actions

justified and I know quite well what has gone on over a long period of years.

"The thing that impresses me most and makes me feel as I do is that residents of the county seat have never proposed participation by the rest of the county in the cost of anything but those things on which they know they will lose money. If the hospital were to be a paying venture they would not ask the rest of the county to share it. If they ever secure a municipal saloon, and they want one there if they can get it, they would not offer to share the profits with the rest of the county. They are entirely selfish in their point of view and they have never looked upon any county-wide expenditure other than in the light of its benefit to their own city. We get the same treatment from them you do. It is time this was changed."

This neutral's diagnosis of the case is interesting, and accurate. Brushing aside all of the single items that have built up the existing bad feeling between the county seat and west-end citizens and the desire of the latter to get away, the fact is simply that those who run things in Benson seem to have the idea the rest of the county is a part of it for taxing purposes only. And the way to establish their case is to belittle and abuse those who disagree with them. They have never shown an inclination to discuss problems on a county wide basis nor as far as other citizens are concerned on any basis, except their own. So long as they maintain that attitude the fight will continue, no matter what the result of battles along the way.

#### KERKHOVEN

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Henjum and son Chardean spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Henjum of Arc-tander. Also a visitor was their son, Pfc. Wilbur Henjum who arrived from Fort Bliss, Texas to enjoy a furlough at his parental home.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lindgren, Mrs. Wm. Doering and son Dennis spent Sunday in Minneapolis and were guests of Miss June Lindgren. Mr. Lindgren also attended the sportsmens show.

#### MURDOCK DEPART-MENT

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pothen and daughters visited Sunday at the Rose Pothen home. Mrs.

Bill Kennedy and Mrs. Jack Kennedy, Jerry and Kay also called on Mrs. Rose Pothen Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kennedy and daughter Barbara Jean and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kennedy of Benson visited at the John Krattenmaker home Wednesday evening.

Word was received here of the death of Mrs. Walter Frederickson in St. Paul Sunday, April 6. Funeral services were held Wednesday with interment at Sunset Memorial cemetery. Mrs. Frederickson was 52 years of age and would have celebrated her 35th wedding anniversary on May 1st. Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Frederickson of Kerkhoven, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Egerstrom, Mr. and Mrs. Ardel Egerstrom, Lester Egerstrom and Rudolph Frederickson were among the ones from here attending the funeral. They returned home Thursday.

#### LOCAL NEWS

Saturday evening visitors at the Wallace Loven home were Mr. and Mrs. Ludvig Loven and family and Emil Loven of Pennock and Hedvig Loven of Willmar.

Gail Carlson of Pennock spent the weekend with Marjorie Loven.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Wahlstrom Wednesday, April 10 at Rice Memorial hospital in Willmar.

### 100 years ago... April 1922

#### DAIRY SHOW AND RAILROAD PARK IN PROSPECT FOR THIS PLACE Commercial Club Back of Both Projects and They Will Be Pushed Energetically

Three matters of importance were taken up at special meeting of the Commercial Club Monday evening, i. e., that of having part of railway right-of-way through village parked, putting on dairy show next fall and securing Kerkhoven name plates for automobiles.

Permission has been secured to park portions of the railway right-of-way and this will be done if sufficient funds can be raised for the purpose. A landscape gardener is to be called in to make plan for the work and estimate cost of what is to be done this year. The work of soliciting the necessary funds was delegated to

J. J. Johnson, O. G. Hough and Albert S. Anderson. We hope to be able to give full details of plan decided on in next week's issue of the Banner.

To help stimulate interest in dairying in this section, it had been suggested that a dairy show be put on here next fall, and the matter being brought to the notice of the club the members decided to get behind the proposition and appointed Albert S. Anderson and A. T. Archer committee to confer with and assist County Agent Hargrave formulate plan for such a show and make estimate of its probable cost.

Both the railway park and dairy show matters will be further discussed at regular meeting of the Commercial Club to be held this (Friday) evening. County Agent Hargrave and Mr. Boyd, the Benson nurseryman and landscape gardener, are to be at meeting this evening and will be able to give us some idea of what they will cost and work they will involve. Everyone in the village and community who is interested in these matters is invited to attend this meeting and participate in this discussion. Meeting will be held in the Commercial Club rooms in basement of the Thonvold store building and is scheduled to commence at 8 o'clock sharp. Farmers, especially, are urged to attend. If they will do so they may possibly be able to help accomplish something that will be a great boon to dairying in this section.

At Monday evening's club meeting the secretary was instructed to order 50 pairs of automobile name plates carrying the name of our town, "Kerkhoven". These are to fasten on front or rear of automobiles with license tags (with which they harmonize in color) and will no doubt prove valuable advertising for the town. They are to be sold at price of 50c each or \$1.00 per pair and more can be secured when supply ordered has been exhausted. It is to be hoped that every auto in the community will be carrying one or a pair of them in the very near future. The supply ordered is expected to arrive the second week in May. Dave Egerstrom and M. E. Chambers were appointed committee to sell them. See one of these gentlemen at once and place order for your plates.

Please support quality journalism in your KMS Community by SUBSCRIBING to the Banner... we need you! Call 320-264-3071 to get started, or to sign up a friend or family member.

# Swift County moving toward redetermination of ditch systems

by Reed Anfinson

Swift County has taken the next step toward conducting a redetermination of benefits on its county and judicial ditch systems.

At the April 5 meeting of the Swift County Board of Commissioners, it officially convened the county's ditch authority board. That board is made up of the five commissioners and has authority over actions taken regarding county ditches.

Once it was convened, the ditch authority proceeded to unanimously approve a motion to proceed with the redetermination of benefits on all 36 county and judicial ditch systems using H2Overviewers. Ditch authority board members Gary Hendrickx, District 1-Appleton, Eric Rudningen, District 5-Kerkhoven, Joe Fox, District 4-Hegbert Township, Ed Pederson, District 2-north Benson and Benson Township, and Pete Peterson, District 3, south Benson and Torning Township voted in favor of the motion.

Now the challenge will be to finalize how the redetermination will be paid for and whether or not it will proceed with all 36 ditch systems in a single year. That decision was put off until the April 19 county board meeting.

"The drainage authority needs to order the redetermination for one of two reasons: To bring land values up to current day standards, and, or, to make sure that all land that

should be assessed is being assessed," Kurt Dieter, Swift County's drainage legal counsel with Rinke Noonan law firm of St. Cloud told commissioners.

"Usually, there is no question on the land values," Dieter said. "They are usually very outdated." His comments were an understatement considering the county has ditch systems that are over 100 years old that have never had a redetermination of benefits conducted on them.

"The number one reason for a redetermination of benefits is that the original benefits no longer reflect the current market values," Bryan Murphy of H2Over Viewers told the county board at its December 21 meeting.

"You have a ditch system today that currently has \$5,000 worth of benefits. When we get done with redetermining that, likely it will be \$30 million in benefits. That is not to say you are going to do a \$30 million project, but the benefits show what is really happening in real time at today's values," he said.

In March, the county board approved hiring H2Overviewers for \$728,591 to conduct the redetermination of benefits on county and judicial ditches. However, that price is based on doing all 36 ditch systems in the same year. That should not be a problem for the company since it did all 65 of Renville County's ditches in a single year.

While conducting the rede-

termination is not cheap, the more expensive component is paying the damages to landowners for the buffers along ditches on their land.

For the purchase of the buffer easements on the county ditches, the estimated cost, using a land value of \$6,000 per acre, would be \$3,393,600.

The purchase of the easements for the judicial ditches is estimated at \$1,595,760. The total easement purchase price is estimated at \$4,989,360.

How to address that expense is what the county board will address at its April 19 meeting.

The cost of purchasing those easements is going to get steadily more expensive as land values continue to rise.

"Costs are going up. They are not making more land, so land prices are going to continue to go up," Fossom told commissioners last month.

It is a little bit of a liquid number with land values somewhat dependent on the price of commodities, Fossom said. However, the land prices are not going to fall back to where they were in 2017 when the state's buffer law was established, he added.

If buffer cost per acre goes up, if the cost per acre in the watershed goes up, it will have an impact on the charges to the systems for a redetermination if the county keeps "kicking this down the road," he told commissioners.

If the county board wants to proceed with a redetermination, it would order it based on

those two findings, he said.

None of the joint county ditches are being considered at this time since they would take the action of the multi-county ditch boards that oversee them, Swift County Drainage Supervisor Kody Fossom said.

Drainage supervisors in neighboring counties have been notified of Swift County's intent to proceed with redetermination of the benefits on its ditches, he said. They have the option of Swift County if they would like to pursue redeterminations on the ditch systems on the joint systems.

To move forward with the redetermination order, the county board first has to call to order a meeting of the county's ditch authority, Fossom said. He then listed the 36 ditch systems that should be included in the redetermination under state statute for land value and for benefited watershed acres that are not currently assessed that should be assessed, he said.

Fossom then recommended the following ditch systems for redetermination of benefits: ("Red." stands for redetermined and refers to the date the last redetermination was done on the ditch system. In many cases none has been conducted.)

The county can do a motion for all the ditch systems together rather than having to do them one at a time, Dieter told commissioners.

At Fossom's recommendation, Board Chair Fox then called to order a meeting of the

Ditch systems proposed for redetermination

Ditches	Est.	Red	Years since	Acres
County Ditch 1	1901	1984	37	3,006
County Ditch 7	1907	None	114	3,396
County Ditch 7 LA	1977	None	44	2,088
County Ditch 8	1908	None	113	2,077
County Ditch 9	1909	None	112	508
County Ditch 10	1910	1995	26	18,745
County Ditch 13	1913	None	108	3,276
County Ditch 14	1914	1985	36	8,050
County Ditch 15	1915	None	106	1,484
County Ditch 16	1916	None	105	779
County Ditch 17	1917	None	104	615
County Ditch 18	1918	None	103	302
County Ditch 19	1919	None	102	762
County Ditch 23	1923	1981	40	5,260
County Ditch 24	1924	None	97	1,202
County Ditch 52	1952	None	69	2,404
County Ditch 55	1955	1988	33	1,914
County Ditch 58	1958	None	63	8,498
County Ditch 58 LA	1990	None	31	438
County Ditch 59	1959	None	62	288
County Ditch 60	1960	None	61	4,485
County Ditch 61	1961	None	60	4,514

ditch authority.

Since some of the members of the ditch authority have an interest in some of the ditch systems to be considered for redetermination, Commissioner Rudningen asked, "Do we need to disclose that first?"

"On this particular motion, you are not getting any different economic impact than anybody else," Dieter told the ditch authority board. "So, you don't have a conflict of interest in this particular motion."

Rudningen then moved the ditch authority ask for the redetermination of benefits for the 36 ditch systems and appoint H2Overviewers to conduct the redetermination. Pe-

terson seconded the motion.

Hendrickx noted that there were no citizens in the room to ask questions about the board's action on the redetermination decision. "I think all of us have gone out and spoken to people, or asked landowners about this," he said. "I have had very little comments either way, so you feel they must be satisfied with the direction the board is going."

Rudningen said he has received several calls asking that he support the redetermination process. He has also had conversations with people who are very supportive of it. "The folks I've talked to are excited about this happening," he said.

# County commission districts not changing for years 2023-2032

by Reed Anfinson

Even though Swift County's five commission districts will not be changing, the county board is still required by statute to approve the boundaries drawn based on the 2020 Census. The districts will be in place for county board terms between 2023 and 2032.

With no changes in the district boundaries, the election cycle remains the same as it has been over the past decade. Two county commission seats will be on the ballot this fall as the four-year terms of District 4 Commissioner Joe Fox, Hegbert Township, and Ed Pederson, District 2, north Benson and Benson Township, expire at the end of the year.

Commissioners Gary Hendrickx, District 1-Appleton, Pete Peterson, District 3 - south Benson and Torning Township, and Eric Rudningen, District 5-Kerkhoven, are in the second year of their four-year terms. Their terms do not expire until 2024.

The 2020 Census resulted in the five county commission districts remaining relatively the same in their percentage of the county's population with one small exception.

Based on the 2020 Census, the ideal Swift County commission district would have 1,968 residents. That ideal district size is hard to reach because of how districts are drawn. As a result, state law provides some leeway. "No district shall vary in population more

than 10% from the average for all districts in the county, unless the result forces a voting precinct to be split," Minnesota state law says.

Based on the 2020 Census, only one district was out of compliance with the 10% percent requirement - District 3. It includes the south precinct of the City of Benson and Torning Township. With 2,166 residents, its population is at 110.1% of the average.

The stage was set for the current dilemma facing the county and city when in 2016 the City of Benson annexed the property belonging to the Heartland Girls Ranch as it extended city services to the facility.

The annexation resulted in part of Torning Township cut off from the rest of the township. State statute says that precincts should be contiguous pieces of geography - meaning they should not have islands of land separated from the main precinct area.

By Torning Township agreeing to allow the City of Benson to annex the Mooberry property both the population problem and the non-conforming precinct issue were solved. In taking the small number of people living on the Mooberry property into the city's north side precinct, they were now relocated from Commission District 3 to District 2, dropping District 3's population below the 110% limit.

It also solved the problem of Torning Township being a non-contiguous precinct. "We are very fortunate that Torning Town-

ship and the City of Benson worked together on annexing property out of the township and into the city limits," Administrator Kelsey Baker said.

Fox has announced he will not seek re-election in District 4 in November. Filings for the county board start May 17 and end May 31 at 5 p.m.

County Commission District Populations based on 2020 Census

District	2010	2020	Change
District 1	1,901	1,864	- 37
District 2	2,015	2,029	+ 14
District 3	1,999	2,166	+ 167
District 4	1,941	1,831	- 110
District 5	1,927	1,948	+ 21

Gary Hendrickx term 2020-2024  
District 1 2022 - 2032

City of Appleton  
City of Holloway  
Appleton Township  
Edison Township  
Moyer Township

Ed Pederson term 2018-2022  
District 2 2022 - 2032

Benson Ward 1 (North side)  
Benson Township

Pete Peterson term 2020-2024  
District 3 2022 - 2032  
Benson Ward 2 (South side)  
Torning Township

Joe Fox term 2018-2022  
District 4 2022 - 2032

City of Danvers  
City of Clontarf  
City of Murdock  
Cashel Township  
Clontarf Township  
Dublin Township  
Fairfield Township  
Hegbert Township  
Marysland Township  
Shible Township  
Six Mile Grove Township  
Swenoda Township  
Tara Township  
West Bank Township

Eric Rudningen term 2020-2024  
District 5 2022 - 2032

City of Kerkhoven  
City of DeGraff  
Camp Lake Township  
Hayes Township  
Kerkhoven Township  
Kildare Township  
Pillsbury Township

# Valuation of ag land in Swift County increased by 20 percent

by Reed Anfinson

Farmers and landowners throughout Swift County have now had a chance to look over their new, much higher agricultural land valuations.

They knew land prices were going up, so they probably knew their valuations would be jumping as well, but they may not have expected a 20% increase in a single year.

"With the market increasing like it did, we had some big changes," Swift County Assessor Joe Tschida told the county board of commissioners in March. "I thought it best to give you guys a heads-up on that. I am sure you will get phone calls on this, too."

The valuation of the agricultural land in Swift County had a "pretty significant" increase in values, Swift County Assessor Joe Tschida told the county board of commissioners at their March 15 meeting. "We did a 20% increase across the county on that. Increases like that have been pretty typical in the state, just based on the ag market."

A look at the sales history of deeded agricultural acres in Swift County from late December 2020 through the end of December 2021 tells the story of why those valuations went up as much as they did.

Of the 53 deeded acre sales that took place during the last assessment year, 45 sold for more than their market value while eight sold for less. None of the sales that were over \$1 million saw land sell for less than its market value.

Last year, 6,357.71 deeded acres sold were sold in Swift County with sales totaling

\$43,320,905. The average sale price per acre was \$6,814. The market value on those acres was \$34,120,045. That was \$9.2 million below the price that the land sold for. The market value of the land per acre was \$5,337, or \$1,447 per acre below what it sold for last year.

It would have taken a nearly 27% increase in ag land values to equal the value that sales were occurring at last year.

The state mandates that sales within a county fall between 90% and 105% of a property's assessed value. Sales values were closer to 80% of their assessed value, relying solely on Swift County values.

Values placed on Swift County properties don't rely solely on the sales history of county properties, Tschida explained to county commissioners March 15.

The state has its own calculations that come into play as it looks at what a property would have sold for as of January 1 compared to what it has sold for in the previous October to September period. From that, it creates a trending value ratio for the properties, he said.

If Swift County would have had to go just by its own sales figures, and the state trending number, it would have seen much higher increases in valuations. However, this past January, Tschida appealed the state's trending numbers that were based solely on Swift County. He asked that they be averaged using sales in neighboring Kandiyohi County as well.

By averaging Swift County with Kandiyohi's smaller

trending increase, he was able to keep the increase in property tax valuations on ag land in the county down to 20%. "If we had lost that appeal, we would have probably been looking at a 25% increase this year to get within compliance," he said.

The 20% increase implemented for next year's valuation of tillable acres in Swift County brought that ratio up to 92.95%, Tschida told commissioners.

There were 18 sales in the last assessment period that were for more than \$1 million with the highest coming in at \$1,687,500. There were two

sales that fell just short of \$1 million.

When he started with the county assessor's office a number of years ago, there were one to three sales a year at \$1 million or more, Tschida said. Now it is seeing more than that in a single month, he said.

Among those sales that were over \$1 million, the average paid per acre was \$8,031. The highest price paid per acre among the sales was \$10,394.

However, the highest price paid per acre for land last year was \$10,964 per acre on an 80-acre parcel in Tara Town-

ship. Tara Township is west of the City of Clontarf.

Based on the 20% increase in valuations for 2023 taxes, Dublin Township, which sits south of DeGraff and includes Murdock in its northeast corner, has the highest priced land in Swift County. Its average acre of tillable land is valued at \$8,462 per acre.

Pillsbury Township, just to

its east, is second with its average tillable acre of land valued at \$7,760.

Camp Lake Township, which includes Swift Falls and Camp Lake, has the lowest valued tillable acres at \$4,632. Its land is hillier and sandier than soils to the south.

The average acre value for the 20 sales that ranged from \$995,463 to \$1,687,500

(Continued on page 9)

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# Dan Burns running for Kandiyohi County Sheriff

by Ralph Dickerson  
Lakes Area Review

Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Deputy/Court Security Officer Dan Burns tossed his hat into the ring to run for Kandiyohi County Sheriff. He joins current Sheriff Eric Holien and Eric Tollefson as candidates for the office. According to Burns, he worked 37 years in law enforcement in Kandiyohi County.

"In my career I have been a dispatcher, worked patrol, worked as a detective, been on the SWAT team and currently work court security," Burns said. "About the only thing I haven't done is work water safety and run this department."

Burns said his platform consists of two issues: mental health and community involvement. Burns said the current pandemic creates incredible mental stress on everyone involved from first responders to regular people. He said social distancing, distance learning and anything that separates people damages mental health.

"People experiencing a mental health crisis currently quite often end up in our jail for lack of a better solution," Burns said. "(It is) very unfair to our corrections staff who are now asked to be mental health workers on top of their current duties."

Burns said he has several ideas on how to properly address people undergoing a mental health crisis.

In addition, Burns said his second objective is community involvement. Burns said transparency in law enforcement is extremely important, and the key to transparency is for community members to trust officers in uniform.



Dan Burns

"As sheriff, it is very important to get out and meet the people that elected you," Burns said. "But even more important, is that they get to meet you and perhaps you can teach them to look past the uniform and get to know you as a fellow human being."

Burns said he grew up in the New London-Spicer area, and graduated from NL-S in 1982. He and wife Toni raised six children, and they graduated either from NL-S or MAC-CRAY schools.

Burns entered into the law enforcement profession shortly after graduation. He worked in the Clarkfield Police Department for six months before moving back to Kandiyohi County in 1984. He worked as the first civilian dispatcher for the Sheriff's Office. In 1985 he became a Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Deputy.

"My heart is always going to be right here in this county," Burns said.



## Cornhole tournament

KMS High School held a Cornhole tournament recently. Above, Masyn Olson gave it a toss in the title match. More details about who won the tourney will appear next week.

## Kevin Steinhaus to be inducted into Minnesota Wrestling Hall of Fame

by Steve Ricard

Kevin Steinhaus, a 2009 graduate of KMS High School and three-time Minnesota Class A state champion wrestler, will be inducted into the Minnesota Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Steinhaus was a three-sport athlete in high school, leading his football team to a state title in the fall of 2008, and also running on the track team. He was a five-time entrant in the state wrestling tournament, achieving a prep record of 246-12. He placed second as an eighth grader (losing to future Gopher's teammate Zach Sanders), third as a freshman, then won three consecutive

state titles (145 lbs. as a sophomore, 152 lbs. as a junior and 160 lbs. as a senior, going undefeated during his last three years.)

Steinhaus was a four-year captain of the Fighting Saints wrestling team, and also led his KMS team to a state team title in 2009. He excelled in freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling as well, winning the Northern Plains Greco-Roman title in 2008, and winning the Freestyle in 2009. Steinhaus achieved All-American status in Freestyle at Junior Nationals, placing fifth in 2009. He was crowned Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association 'Mr. Minnesota' in 2009, along with being a co-winner

of the 2009 West Central Tribune's Hengstler-Ranweiler Award for the area's best male athlete. Steinhaus was also named the Dave Schultz High School Excellence Award recipient for Minnesota in 2009.

Steinhaus attended the University of Minnesota where he was a three-time All-American, (8th, 5th and 5th) and Big Ten champion wrestler. He was a five-time letterwinner and was team captain for the Gophers for three years. His record in college was 123-30. He was also named to the Academic All Big Ten team and received recognition as a Big Ten Distinguished Scholar. He was voted the Vern Gagne Leadership Award winner his

junior year, and was voted the Most Dedicated Wrestler of the Year his sophomore year. Upon completion of his collegiate career he helped work out with his teammates, and entered the Last Chance Qualifier in 2016. In this tournament he teched former NCAA champion Bo Nickal from Penn State.

Today Steinhaus works for Athletes In Action, returning recently from Puerto Rico where he and his wife Bree were stationed for several years. The couple resides in Seekonk, MA, where they work for AIA at Brown College.

## KMS to purchase small acreage

by Cormac Dodd

The Project Oversight Committee of the KMS Board of Education has been meeting to see to completion the district's purchase of additional land near Murdock Elementary. For that land acquisition -- 7.8 acres of land described as an open field in its current state for \$52,000 -- the district is waiting on a few details to close the deal.

"We've had some dialogue with the FFA for what we could do with this property once it is acquired. One angle we could take is working on getting alfalfa fields," board member Tom Walsh said.

In a February board meeting, the KMS District School Board unanimously approved the purchase of the property.

## Teacher Contracts 2022-2023

The board's Negotiations Committee arrived at an agreement with the teachers' union for 2022-2023 teacher contracts.

Tom Walsh reported nothing was unusual about this year's negotiations.

There has been slightly over a four percent salary increase per year.

"The teachers were satisfied. There's been a jump in wages in the last six years in order to be competitive with neighboring districts," vice chair Todd Rudningen said.

"We did a little more on the longevity side than on the bottom base this year," said chairman of the school board Jeremy Winter.

## New scoreboard under consideration for high school

by Cormac Dodd

The KMS school board Activities Committee brought a proposal to the greater board last week Monday concerning the potential purchase of a Daktronics scoreboard for the high school gymnasium, where volleyball and basketball games are played.

If purchased, the scoreboard would be positioned on the east side of the gym and would have the potential to run replays and to flash the advertisements of local companies, while further utility could include the streaming of events or the playing of educational films for students during the school day.

The cost of the high-capability Daktronics scoreboard would be \$137,000. Ideally, the new technology would be paid for via sponsorship in no more than half a decade.

The current scoreboard lacks any of the exceptional technologies offered by the Daktronics model. Daktronics further offers control console accessories in conjunction with this technology as well as other enhancements.

"You could pay it off in five years with the money from advertising. After the board is paid for, the money we earn could be earmarked to go back into other activities," said board vice chairman Todd Rudningen.

When asked about the specifics of ad representation, he continued, "You would have three advertisement sections that would change throughout the game. You could have a super sponsor for the night, and each time a player made a three-pointer, that sponsor

would flash across the screen."

The five-year payoff plan was suggested by Dectronics who worked to assemble a package feasible for a district based on the specifics of school size and the community that surrounds the district.

Sponsorship anchors would then play a pivotal role in the project's potential for reaching fruition.

"It's a small community. We've had challenges with securing sponsors in the past. That would be my only fear as a board member," board member Harmon Wilts said.

He pointed out \$30,000 a year is what the district would be striving for in terms of funds raised, according to the five-year plan proposed by Daktronics. Rudningen said they would have flexibility in the payment plan, so saying that, if it took the district six or seven years to reach the \$137,000, that would be fine.

The KMS school district would have to pay that cost up front, a factor confirmed after the question was posed by another board member.

Chris Wenisch, another member of the Activities Committee, said the committee would host an open house to gauge the interest of the community and its local businesses.

"We want to make sure interest is secure. Prior to the purchase, we'd secure the sponsors to pay for the board within a five-year period. If we are unable to find the sponsors necessary, we won't move forward with it," Wenisch said.

Ultimately, all were in favor of the purchase, provided the interest of local sponsors is deemed sufficient.



# PUBLIC NOTICES

"BECAUSE THE PEOPLE MUST KNOW"

## Swift County Court Report

Swift County Sheriff

Susana Y. Arredondo Barajas, Benson, speeding - exceed limit 79/55. \$230. Juana T. Almaraz Gutierrez, Benson, driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. \$190. Eyan Z. Beatrez, Willmar, drivers license - driving after revocation. \$290. Theron Begay, no MN DL within 60 days. \$150. Speed 1-10 miles per hr over the limit 77/60. \$100. Tahomasena R. Genia, Morris, no MN DL within 60 days. \$190. Jerry M. Mcfee, Benson, driving after suspension. \$290. Speed 15-19 MPH over the limit 47/30. \$60.

Peyton D. Young, Benson, speeding - exceed limit 70/60. \$130. Cayden P. M. Wiggins, Greenville, MS. Illegal Transportation of firearm in motor vehicle. \$340 and 30 days. Stay 30 days for 6 mo. Probation - Adult (unsupervised probation, 6 mo.). Condition - Adult (no same or similar).

## Felonies

Michelle R. Mikkelsen, Benson. Fleeing officer in motor vehicle (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. Stay of Imposition Pursuant to M.S. 609.135. Probation - Adult (supervised probation, 3yr). Local confinement (4 days. Credit for time served: 4 days). Condition - Adult (Conditions, other - Abstain and Test. Attend MADD Impact Panel, within 6 months, pay for costs, and

provide proof of completion to probation agent. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing. Do Not Enter Bars or Liquor Stores, other than work purposes. No driver license violations. - No driving without valid drivers license. No same or similar. General Conditions of Probation. \$890.00.

Maria S. Hall, Hancock. Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 - Not Small Amount marijuana (Not applicable - GOC). Guilty. Stay of adjudication. Local Confinement (3 days. Credit for time served: 3 days). \$590.00. Probation - Adult (supervised probation, 3yr). Condition - Adult (Give a DNA sample when directed. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed, see separate order regarding authorization of medical marijuana. Random testing, pay costs. Do Not Enter Bars or Liquor Stores, with the exception of grocery or convenience stores and stay out of places where illegal drugs are present or being used. Mental Health Evaluation, follow recommendations and aftercare; sign releases for probation. Chemical dependency evaluation/treatment, and follow recommendations/aftercare; sign release of information. Conditions, other. Do not leave the State of Minnesota without permission from your probation agent as required by the Interstate Compact. No same or similar. Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed.

Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you have, contact with law enforcement. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are, charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Cooperate with the search of your person, residence, vehicle, workplace, property, and things as directed by your probation officer. Sign releases of information as directed. Do not use or possess firearms, ammunition or explosives.

## Minnesota State Patrol

Katie N. Winters, Benson, hands-free law - engage in cellular phone or video call. \$140. Scott M. DeMarais Foley, speed 60 zone 72/60. \$140. Ames G. Hines, Brainerd, speed 60 zone 77/60. \$150. Driving after suspension. \$200. Mary L. Carroll, Andover, speed 60 zone 89/60. \$290. Reed D. Noor Murdock, seat belt required - driver and passengers must use. \$115.

Shelby M. Hooth, Milbank,

SD, speed 60 zone 73/60. \$140. Joy K. Waterfield, Redwood Falls, speed 60 zone 72/60. \$140. Megan L. Wulf, Hancock, speed 60 zone 72/60. \$140. Sandra K. Koerner, Morris, hands-free law - engage in cellular phone or video call. \$140. Sean C. Vaala, Madison, driver fails to stop for stop sign. \$140. Khader M. Jaffal, Moorhead, speed 60 zone 75/60. \$150. John G. Larson, Milan, hands-free law - engage in cellular phone or video call. \$140. Richard J. Humeston, Brunswick, OH, speed 60 zone 72/60. \$140. Jayden L. Stevenson, Akeley, speed 60 zone 70/60. \$130. Kevin W. Hammer, Benson, hands-free law - access video content/images/games/software applications. \$140. Jason R. Hermanson, Foley, speed 60 zone 73/60. Continued for dismissal. Adult (unsupervised probation, 1 yr.). Condition - adult (no moving violations). James A. Brown, Racine, WI, drivers license - driving after revocation. \$290. John L. Jefferson, Omaha, NE, no MN driver's license. \$190. Open bottle in MV (consume). \$100.

## MN DNR

Lyle A. Mosher, Rockford, trespass - permission required to enter agricultural land for outdoor recreation purposes. \$190. James R. Hunt, LaCrosse, WI, game and fish - licenses - must have in personal possession. \$115.

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

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## Swift County Court Report

### Benson Police Department

Luis A. Lopez, Benson, driving after suspension. Statutory stay of adjudication. Continued. \$290. Probation - Adult (Unsupervised probation, 6 Mo). Condition - Adult(Do Not Drive Without a Valid License). Michael A. Schaffer, Benson, disorderly conduct - Offensive/Abusive/Boisterous/Noisy/Obscene. Convicted. Local Confinement (90 Days, Stay 87 Days For 1 Yr Credit for time served: 3 Days). \$345. Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 1 Yr). Condition - Adult(Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing, pay costs. No violations of an Order for Protection, or restraining orders, current or future. Complete diagnostic assessment, mental health and anger issues, follow recommendations. Participate in Individual Counseling, Conditions, other. Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you have, contact with law enforcement. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are, charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Sign releases of information as directed. Give a DNA sample when directed.) Frank L. Grecco, Kent, WA, snow emergency parking. \$37. Walter Orozco, Morris, driving without a valid license. \$190. Steven J. L. Horton, Lino Lakes, driving after revocation. \$290. Daniel J. Aarhus, Benson, public nuisance - refuse/junk violation. \$190. Jerrod Q. Ambrose, Benson, Obstructing Legal Process, Arrest, or Firefighting (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. \$490.00. Condition - Adult(Complete Chemical Assessment, Follow all recommendations. If assessment recommends abstinence then must random test. Mental Health Evaluation, and follow recommendations. No use or possession of firearms or dangerous weapons. While on probation. Write letter of apology, to officer involved in this incident. 30 days to complete. No same or similar. No assault. Follow all conditions set forth in the Probation Agreement. Remain law-abiding. Keep court/attorney informed of current address, also update agent, must do this within 72 hours of change. Sign releases of information as directed. Advise Agent prior to changing employment and/or residence. Notify Agent if arrested and/or issued a summons. Report to Agent as directed. Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 2 Yr) Local Confinement (365 Days, Stay 353 Days For 2 Yr. Credit for time served: 12 Days) Austin A. Benavides, Willmar, expiration of drivers license - provisional license. \$190. Blaze T. L. Carey, Danvers, tint - illegal. \$140. Day M. Htoo, Benson, snow emergency parking. \$37. Jason R. Christie, Willmar, possession of small amount of marijuana(pm). \$140. No proof/owner fail to provide insurance. \$200. Joe E. Fox, Appleton, hit and run - fail to stop/unoccupied vehicle. \$440 and 30 days, stay 30 days for 6 mo. Adult(unsupervised probation, 6 mo.). Condition - Adult(remain law-abiding, pay restitution, in the amount of \$250 (added to financial obligations). Kayla R. Walker, Sauk Rapids, fail to yield to right of way when approaching intersection. \$140. Nathan G. Bolduc, New London, unreasonable operation, \$130. Velisa E. Cotten, St. Cloud, instruction permit violation - person over 18 years - requirements. \$140. Sophia L. Richardson, Benson, driving after revocation. \$290. No insurance - driver violation. \$200. Anthony D. Klucas, Benson, DWI 2nd degree -- .08 or more. Convicted. Amended Court Decision. Local Confinement (365 days, stay 305 days for 2 yr. Credit for time served: 5 days). Comment: - 60 days to be served as follows: - 20 days to begin no later than 2/4/22 (report by 7 p.m.) - credit 5 days. - 20 days to begin no later than 11/13/22. - 20 days to begin 11/13/23. \*This segment of jail may be deferred if defendant is in full compliance with all conditions of probation and defendant gets probation agent to write to the Court recommending deferral. \$815.00. Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 2 Yr) Condition - Adult(Chemical dependency evaluation/treatment, and follow recommendations. Attend MADD Impact Panel, pay costs, show proof of attendance, complete within 6 months. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing,

pay costs. No driver license violations. No same or similar. Conditions, other, do not leave the State of Minnesota without permission from your probation agent as required by the Interstate Compact. General Conditions of Probation, - Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. -Contact your Probation Officer as directed. -Tell your Probation Officer within 72 hours if you have contact with Law Enforcement. -Tell your Probation Officer within 72 hours if you are charged with any new crime. -Cooperate with the search of your person, residence, vehicle, workplace, property and things as directed by your Probation Officer (applicable to felony cases only unless otherwise ordered by the Court). -Sign release of information as directed. -Give a DNA sample when directed. - Do not use or possess any firearms, ammunition or explosive (applicable to felony cases only unless otherwise ordered by the Court). -Do not register to vote or vote until discharged from probation and your civil rights are fully restored (if sentenced to a Stay of Adjudication, this condition should not be ordered/applicable to felony cases only). -If subject to random urinalysis testing: arrive at each Corrections appointment ready to provide such a sample. If on prescription medication, one must bring the bottle(s) indicating current dosages to each appointment. -6W Community Corrections, the Chemical Use Assessor, and all other treatment and service providers are authorized to release and exchange information as deemed necessary for supervision of this case. Electronic monitoring, 30 days: 15 days to begin on 11/13/22 if jail segment is deferred; 15 days to begin on 11/13/23 if jail segment is deferred; this EAM segment may be deferred if defendant is in full compliance with all conditions of probation and defendant gets probation agent to write to the Court recommending deferral. Do Not Drive Without a Valid License, and drive within any restrictions if authorized. Sign all releases of information.

### Appleton Police Department

Laura AnnMaree Ojanen, Virginia, Disorderly Conduct - Offensive/Abusive/Boisterous/Noisy/Obscene. Convicted. Local Confinement (60 Days, Stay 57 Days For 1 Yr Credit for time served: 3 Days). \$190.00. Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 1 Yr). Condition - Adult(Anger management, assessment; follow recommendations. No disorderly conduct. No assault. Sign all releases of information. Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are, charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Sign releases of information as directed. Give a DNA sample when directed. Larry W. Johnson, Appleton, seat belt required - driver. Stay of adjudication. \$115. Adult(unsupervised probation, 1 yr.). Condition - Adult(no same or similar). Amy L. Seelye, Appleton, running at large, \$140. Eli Emiis, Appleton, driver who is not owner must later produce proof of insurance if required. \$290. Driving after suspension, \$200.

Todd W. Brown, Appleton, Domestic Abuse No Contact Order - Violate No Contact Order - Misdemeanor. Convicted. Local confinement (90 Days, stay 88 Days For 1 Yr Credit for time served: 2 Days) \$290. Probation - Adult (Unsupervised probation, 1 Yr) Condition - Adult(No violations of an Order for Protection, DANCOs or restraining orders - both future and current. No same or similar. Sonti Joseph, Appleton, Assault in the Fourth Degree- Peace Officer (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. Local Confinement (365 Days, Stay 244 Days For 2 Yr. Credit for time served: 121 Days). \$140.00. Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 2 Yr). Condition - Adult(Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing, pay costs, do not refuse to test. Mental Health Evaluation, follow recommendations. No assault, or disorderly conduct type behaviors. Conditions, other, do not leave the State of Minnesota without permission from your probation agent as required by the Interstate Compact. Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed. Tell your probation officer within 72

hours if you have, contact with law enforcement. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Sign releases of information as directed. Give a DNA sample when directed).

Kelly A. Hanson, Appleton, driving after cancellation. \$290. Kaleb Brown, Appleton, operate vehicle with expired registration. Stay of adjudication. \$105. Adult(unsupervised probation, 1 yr.). Condition - Adult(no same or similar). Snowmobile training required. Continued for dismissal. Adult(unsupervised probation, 1 yr.). Condition - Adult(conditions, other, must file verification of snowmobiling training with State; and/or must complete the training and have it on record with the State within the year). No MN registration. Stay of adjudication. \$175. Adult(unsupervised probation, 1 yr.). Condition - Adult(no same or similar, no driving without motorcycle endorsement). Tyson S. Braaten, Appleton, no insurance - owner violation. \$290. Jeremy S. Perry, Madison, illegal covering of head/tail lamps or reflectors. \$115. Adult(unsupervised probation, 6 mo.). Condition - Adult(no same or similar). Jonathan L. Roberts, Clara City, driving after revocation. \$290.

### Felonies

Jason D. Rusthoven, Benson, Domestic Assault by Strangulation (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. Amended Court Decision. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections - Adult(MN Correctional Facility - St. Cloud, 36 Mo, Stay For 4 Yr) Local confinement (228 Days. Credit for time served: 152 Days). \$1,090. Probation - Adult (supervised probation, 4 Yr). Condition - Adult(Domestic No Contact (DANCO). Do not use or possess firearms, ammunition or explosives, & don't reside where present. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing, pay costs. Do Not Enter Bars or Liquor Stores, with the exception of grocery or convenience stores. Stay out of places where illegal drugs are present or being used. Give a DNA sample when directed. Take medications in the prescribed dosage and frequency. No violations of an Order for Protection, or restraining orders - current or future. Complete Chemical Assessment, Follow recommendation and aftercare; Per agreement, complete licensed residential treatment program, long-term recovery program, and leadership program at MN Adult & Teen Challenge. Domestic abuse counseling/treatment, as arranged by probation agent. Mental Health Evaluation, follow recommendations. Cognitive skill training, as directed by agent. Obtain Permission from Agent before leaving the State. Sign all releases of information. Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you have, contact with law enforcement. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are, charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Cooperate with the search of your person, residence, vehicle, workplace, property, and things as directed by your probation officer. Sign releases of information as directed. Do not register to vote or vote until discharged from, probation and your civil rights are fully restored.

### Swift County Sheriff

Antonio Rodriguez, Appleton, driving after cancellation. \$290. Possession of small amount of marijuana(pm). \$50. Cody R. Amundson, Wheaton, driving after suspension, \$290. Driving after suspension, \$290. Shannon M. Job, Milbank, SD, driving without a valid license or vehicle class/type; multiple licenses proh., \$190. No insurance - owner violation. \$200. Joshua D. Manzke, Benson, driver fails to stop for STOP sign. \$140. Local confinement: 10 days; stay 10 days for 6 mo. Adult(unsupervised probation, 6 mo.). Condition - Adult(pay restitution, County Attorney shall certify restitution within 30 days, if any. No moving violations. Scott D. Nelson, Benson, driving after revocation. Continued for dismissal. \$200. Adult(unsupervised probation, 6 mo.). Condition - Adult(no driver license violations).

## Online program to order at-home rapid COVID-19 tests now open

Minnesotans can now place orders for free at-home rapid COVID-19 tests as part of the administration's efforts to make it easier to access testing.

Minnesotans can order two test kits per home (for a total of four tests) at Order your free at-home rapid tests. The website includes information on at-home rapid testing, a video demonstration and FAQ on how to use the iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test, and a link to place orders with the state's fulfillment partner, Care Evolution.

Minnesotans can also place orders through the Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 Public Hotline at 1-833-431-2053 Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Language assistance is available.

The Minnesota Department of Administration has secured 500,000 test kits (for a total of 1 million at-home tests) and the program will be available until all the test kits are ordered. If the program proves successful and valuable, Minnesota will use this program as a model for providing more access to COVID-19 rapid testing in the months ahead.

"We know the importance

of being able to deliver tests quickly and efficiently," said Department of Administration Commissioner Alice Roberts-Davis. "The easy online ordering site developed in partnership with Care Evolution is proven and scalable to meet the needs of Minnesotans who are experiencing symptoms and want to ensure the health of themselves and those around them."

### When to get tested

Even though fewer Minnesotans are getting sick with COVID-19, testing continues to be important for preventing the spread of the virus.

To keep COVID-19 from spreading, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends people should use testing if:

They have symptoms of the virus.

They have had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

They are returning from international or domestic travel.

They attended a high-risk event.

They work in a setting that has regular, close contact with many people.

Minnesotans can find up-to-date guidance on when to get tested at COVID-19 Test-

ing.

### Other ways to get a test

Minnesotans have other options to access COVID-19 testing.

Through the federal government, Minnesotans can order free rapid at-home tests at CovidTests.gov. Food banks, local public health agencies, community groups, and other community health organizations may also have free tests available.

Costs for over-the-counter at-home COVID-19 tests are now required to be covered by health plans offered by insurance companies, employers, and groups under actions taken by the Biden Administration. In some circumstances, Minnesotans can receive free tests by showing their insurance card at a store. Minnesotans should check with their health plan prior to purchasing at-home tests to ensure they are following the steps necessary to have costs covered.

Anyone can walk in or schedule an appointment for a test at one of the state's free COVID-19 Community Testing sites or find a testing option near them through the state's Find Testing Locations map.

## "ASK A TROOPER"

by Sgt. Jesse Grabow of the Minnesota State Patrol

**Question:** I have heard some talk about HEAT patrols that the State Patrol is a part of. Can you explain what this is?

**Answer:** HEAT stands for Highway Enforcement for Aggressive Traffic (HEAT). Motorists will see a significant State Patrol presence on freeways around the state through August as troopers focus on excessive speed enforcement and criminal activity. The patrols begin in the Twin Cities metro area and have continued in greater Minnesota.

In addition to troopers on the freeway, the State Patrol will increase its aviation support during the HEAT patrols to ensure that a driver attempting to flee from a traffic stop will be located and held accountable.

"The first HEAT patrols last month were successful in stopping speeding drivers and, with the help of our aviation resources, we were able to catch people who chose to flee police. We will continue this effort around the state through the summer," said Col. Matt Langer, chief of the Minnesota State Patrol. "In addition to State Patrol troopers, we hope to have local agencies working with us to increase the presences of law enforcement on Minnesota highways and freeways."

The new HEAT patrols will also focus on traffic safety while also provid-

ing an increased law enforcement presence in areas with public safety concerns.

The HEAT patrols are one way the State Patrol is expanding its efforts to support local law enforcement agencies as they address crime in their communities.

### Question:

With spring being here and the melting snow, can you talk about what a person should do when coming across water on roads?

**Answer:** Flooding can occur when streams and rivers flow over their banks, when dams or levees break, when there is run-off from deep snow or any time there is heavy rainfall. Floodwaters can be found on roads, bridges and low areas. Flash floods can come rapidly and unexpectedly. They can occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall.

• Do not drive through flooded areas. If you see a flooded roadway ahead, turn around and find another route to get to your destination.

• Be cautious, especially at night, when the visibility is limited.

• Remember, six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control or possible stalling.

• Two feet of moving water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks.

• Even if the water ap-



pears shallow enough to cross, do not attempt to cross a flooded road. Water can hide dips, or worse, floodwaters can damage roadways by washing away the underlying road surface.

• If there is no other route, proceed to higher ground and wait for the waters to subside.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow - Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO\_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

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# FARM NEWS & VIEWS

from Extension Agents and others in Agriculture

## Anhydrous safety should be top concern this spring

Many farmers and applicators will soon apply anhydrous ammonia (NH3) prior to planting or sidedress after planting. Even with a rush against time and weather, safety should never be compromised. Accidents involving anhydrous ammonia have proven how dangerous and deadly the chemical can be when not handled properly.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is providing the following tips to farmers and applicators so they can safely apply anhydrous ammonia.

Always wear appropriate goggles and gloves. Never wear contact lenses.

Be sure to have a clean, adequate emergency water supply of at least five gallons.

Exercise caution when making connections and disconnections as if lines contain anhydrous ammonia.

Stand upwind when connecting, disconnecting, bleeding lines, or transferring NH3. Also, close, bleed, disconnect, and secure valves and transfer lines when taking breaks or disconnecting lines, and be sure to handle the hose end valve by the valve body.

Position equipment away and downwind from homes, people, and livestock.

Safety is also key to those maintaining anhydrous ammonia equipment. Never assume NH3 lines are empty, always wear proper protective equipment, and have access to safety water.

When towing a nurse tank down the road, drive sensibly. Do not go any faster than 30 miles per hour, display a slow-moving vehicle (SVM) emblem visible from the rear, and be sure the tank is secured to the tractor or truck with two separate, independent chains that supplement the hitch pin/clip.

If an accident or spill occurs, immediately call 911 and then the Minnesota Duty Officer at 1-800-422-0798 or 651-649-5451.

You can find more safety, storage, and transportation information on the MDA's website at [www.mda.state.mn.us/mh3](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/mh3).

## Radio series highlighting farmer stress expands

## reach

Prompted by the many sources of stress affecting farmers and ranchers, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), Linder Farm Network, and the Red River Farm Network (RRFN) have joined forces to expand a radio series called "TransFARMation" throughout the state. The series profiles people in agriculture who have coped with challenging situations and highlights sources of support.

"Farming is a stressful business even during the best of times" said Linder Farm Network owner Lynn Keltelsen. "Right now, crop prices are surging, and the pandemic is waning, but many producers are experiencing high input prices, high feed costs, livestock disease, and challenges related to retirement and farm succession."

The series was a big hit with listeners when it debuted on RRFN in 2019. Starting the week of April 18, 60-second prime time radio stories will be heard on all 40 Linder Farm Network stations in central and southern Minnesota, as well as RRFN's 21 stations further north. In addition, 10-15-minute companion podcasts can be found at [www.linderfarmnetwork.com/podcasts](http://www.linderfarmnetwork.com/podcasts) and <https://www.rfn.com/transFARMation>.

"Many people are struggling, and they need to know they're not alone," said Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. "It's powerful to hear farmers talk about some of the strategies and solutions that helped them when things got tough."

TransFARMation is supported by funding from Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Program award no. 2021-70035-35461 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the MDA, and a growing list of sponsors. For underwriting opportunities, call Jeff Stewart at 507-456-6970 or Don Wick at 701-795-1315.

Broadcasts are solely the responsibility of the creators and do not necessarily represent the official views of the USDA or MDA.

If you or someone you know is struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, or other problems, the free and confidential Minnesota Farm & Rural Helpline is available 24 hours, seven days a week at 833-600-2670 or text farmstress to 898211.

## Students chosen as top agricultural education achievers

The Minnesota FFA Association will recognize 121 students as finalists in various areas of Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs) during its state convention April 24-26. The convention will be held at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus and 3M Arena at Mariucci.

The top student in each category will be named during general sessions throughout the three-day event which is expected to draw more than 4,000 FFA student members as well as teachers, supporters and guests.

"These finalists have earned Proficiency Awards in

areas that relate to agriculture, and developed skills they can apply to their future careers," said Lavyne Rada, Minnesota FFA program manager. "SAEs are part of the agricultural education programs and help them to apply academic and career skills within areas of agriculture, food and natural resources pathways."

An SAE can involve entrepreneurship, placement or internships in a business, research, exploration, service learning or school-based enterprises. In Minnesota there are 47 areas for which awards can be given, including both placement and entrepreneurship projects.

In addition, those who have earned and productively invested at least \$2000, or worked at least 600 hours, can earn the Minnesota FFA Degree if they also complete a variety of other requirements. Nearly 350 Minnesota students will be recognized with State FFA Degrees at the convention.

KMS finalists for the top Proficiency Awards in their category are as follows:

Agricultural Mechanics, Design and Fabrication – Lance Sawatzky

Agricultural Services – Jacob Walsh

Agriscience Research – Integrated Systems -- Katelynn

Marquardt  
Goat Production – Matthew Lingbeek

The Minnesota FFA Convention is offered in partnership by the Minnesota FFA Association, the Minnesota FFA Foundation and the Minnesota FFA Alumni. Throughout the convention, content is available on the Minnesota FFA website, the Minnesota FFA YouTube Channel, on the organization's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages and on the Convention app available on both Google and Apple app stores.

## Swift County ag land values

(Continued from page 6)

was \$7,930. That was \$2,056 above the market value of \$5,874 on the properties.

Sale prices "just rocketed this past year," Tschida told the county board, with prices remaining strong going into 2022. "It is not uncommon now to see sales of \$8,000 to \$10,000 an acre, especially in certain areas. Last year we might have had \$7,000 to \$7,250 for the high water mark on our tillable acres," he said. "A lot of these are big auction cash sales," Tschida said. "They are getting money from somebody."

There have been reports of a recent sale of tillable acres in Swift County, not yet registered with the assessor's office, for \$13,500 an acre. That would be a record. Last fall's sales are the most recent the assessor's office is working with for valuations for 2023, Tschida said.

### 2022 valuations for 2023 taxes

Township	Ave/Acre
Dublin	\$8,462
Pillsbury	\$7,760
Tara	\$7,585
Cashel	\$7,343
Fairfield	\$6,989
Kildare	\$6,967
Torning	\$6,929
Swenoda	\$6,859
Marysland	\$6,499
Hegbert	\$6,073
Hayes	\$6,036
West Bank	\$5,771
Moyer	\$5,684
Shible	\$5,519
Six Mile Grove	\$5,515

Benson	\$5,358
Edison	\$5,045
Kerkhoven	\$4,884
Appleton	\$4,744
Clontarf	\$4,729
Camp Lake	\$4,632

### Swift County land sales December 2020 to December 2021

Acres	Sale price	Per Acre	Market Value
240	\$1,687,500	\$7,031	\$1,597,300
156.4	\$1,625,677	\$10,394	\$1,101,100
160	\$1,568,000	\$9,800	\$1,109,200
160	\$1,387,000	\$8,669	\$983,600
160	\$1,358,640	\$8,492	\$900,700
160	\$1,319,294	\$8,246	\$869,300
181.42	\$1,316,738	\$7,258	\$887,900
140.4	\$1,310,353	\$9,333	\$970,200
153.5	\$1,303,445	\$8,491	\$1,026,500
160	\$1,296,000	\$8,100	\$1,091,800
160	\$1,260,720	\$7,880	\$807,800
157.49	\$1,219,236	\$7,742	\$894,000
146.67	\$1,148,206	\$7,828	\$985,500
155.24	\$1,177,216	\$7,583	\$943,700
156.49	\$1,141,281	\$7,293	\$781,500
160	\$1,088,000	\$6,800	\$1,063,700
150.37	\$1,081,500	\$7,192	\$804,900
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140	\$995,463	\$7,110	\$590,100

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

"BECAUSE THE PEOPLE MUST KNOW"

## Swift County Court Report

### Benson Police Department

Juan D. Reyes, Benson, public nuisance - refuse/junk violation. \$190. Katie M. Hanson, Benson, driving after revocation. \$290. Steven L. Ascherman, Benson, public nuisance - refuse/junk violation. \$190.

Deanna M. Jaeger, Benson, obstructing legal process, arrest, or firefighting (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. Local confinement (90 days), Stay 36 days for 1 yr. Credit for time served: 54 days) \$75.00. Probation - Adult(supervised probation, 1 yr). Condition - Adult(follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Sign releases of information as directed. Give a DNA sample when directed. Psychological evaluation/treatment, and follow recommendations. Cognitive skill training. Write letter of apology to Officer James Faulkner and have it approved by probation. No same or similar. Do not leave Minnesota without written court approval.

Chelsea A. Swagel, Benson. Disorderly conduct - offensive/abusive/boisterous/noisy/obscene. Convicted. Local confinement (30 days), stay 29 days for 1 yr. Credit for time served: 1 day) \$190.00. Probation as above. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. No mood-altering chemicals. Random testing. Remain law-abiding. No same or similar. Do Not Enter Bars or Liquor Stores, unless for work purposes. Conditions, other, - Comply with recommendations made by Swift County Social Services for programming needs. - No further threatening or assaultive behavior. Psychological evaluation/treatment, and follow recommendations. Obtain Permission from Agent before leaving the State.

Melvin L. Flickinger, Benson. Fourth Degree - DWI - operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Convicted. Local Confinement (90 days), Stay 88 days for 1 yr. Credit for time served: 2 days) \$515.00.

Officer by a means other than a motor vehicle (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. Local Confinement (90 days, stay 36 days for 1 yr. Credit for time served: 54 days). Probation, as above. Conditions, other, Must complete additional 10 hours of Community Work Service within the next 60 days. Psychological evaluation/treatment, and follow recommendations. Cognitive skill training. Write letter of apology to Officer James Faulkner and have it approved by probation. No same or similar. Do not leave Minnesota without written court approval.

Travis L. Magney, St. Cloud, drugs - 5th degree - possess schedule 1,2,3,4 - not small amount marijuana (not applicable - GOC). Convicted. \$390. Local confinement: 365 days. Credit for time served: 244 days. Driving after cancellation - inimical to public safety. \$300. Local confinement: 365 days. Credit for time served: 84 days.

Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 1 yr). Condition - Adult(Chemical dependency evaluation/treatment, and follow recommendations. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing, pay costs. Sign releases of information as directed. Electronic monitoring, EAM for 15 days; to begin 10/10/22; pay costs. Attend MADD Impact Panel, to be completed within 6 months, pay costs, show proof to probation agent. No same or similar. Do Not Drive Without a Valid License. Conditions, other, Do not leave the State of Minnesota without permission from your probation agent as required by the Interstate compact. Follow all State and Federal criminal laws. Contact your probation officer as directed. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you have, contact with law enforcement. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you are, charged with any new crime. Tell your probation officer within 72 hours if you change, your address, employment, or telephone number. Give a DNA sample when directed.

Travis L. Magney, St. Cloud, drugs - 5th degree - possess schedule 1,2,3,4 - not small amount marijuana (not applicable - GOC). Convicted. \$390. Local confinement: 365 days. Credit for time served: 244 days. Driving after cancellation - inimical to public safety. \$300. Local confinement: 365 days. Credit for time served: 84 days.

son, speeding - exceed limit 75/60. \$150. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. \$100. Joshua D. Fischer, Benson, drivers license - driving after revocation, \$290. Octavius M. Barlow, Minneapolis, speeding - exceed limit 73/60. \$140. Driving after revocation, \$200. Stanley M. Ellefson, Benson, expiration of drivers license - over 21. \$190. No insurance - driver violation. \$200. Registration - expired registration. \$30.

Scott W. Larrabee, Wakpala, SD, driving after revocation. \$290. No proof of insurance - driver. \$200. Jeremy R. Monn, St. Paul, driving after suspension. \$290. Davisha T. Traylor, Milwaukee, WI, driving without a valid license or vehicle class/type; multiple licenses prohibited. \$190. Exceed limit 55 mph where appropriate 71/55 \$60.

Derik T. Peterson, Willmar, motor vehicle registration - operate vehicle with expired registration. \$120. Michelle R. Mikkelson, Benson. Traffic - DWI - Refuse to submit to chemical test; Breath or test refusal or failure (Not applicable - GOC). Convicted. Stay of Imposition Pursuant to M.S. 609.135. Local Confinement (365 days). Stay 361 days for 3 yr. Credit for time served: 4 days). Probation - Adult (Supervised probation, 3 Yr). Condition - Adult(Attend MADD Impact Panel, within 6 months, pay costs, and provide proof of completion to probation agent. Do not use or possess alcohol or drugs except as prescribed. Random testing. Do Not Enter Bars or Liquor Stores, other than work purposes. No driver license violations, No driving without valid driver's license. No same or similar. Conditions, other, - Abstain and test - Conditions are concurrent with Count 1. General Conditions of Probation. \$525.

**Swift County Sheriff**  
Ricardo R. Martinez, Ben-

PUBLIC NOTICE

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) is considering a request for Federal assistance from Swift County, MN to construct the Appleton Area Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park Improvements Project located approximately one mile northeast of the city of Appleton in Swift County, Minnesota for the purpose of making improvements to the existing OHV park. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, EDA is conducting an environmental assessment (EA) of the proposed project.

The project consists of developing a day-use beach area, walking trail, improvements to the main trailer parking lot area, wells, construction of permanent restroom facilities, vehicle wash areas, improved signage and improved spectator areas. The project will be located at the Appleton Area OHV Park located approximately one mile northeast of the city of Appleton, MN along U.S. Highway 59. The purpose of the project is to improve the amenities offered at the park and to make the OHV park a recreational destination for outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Project information is available for review at the Swift County Administration Office, 301 14th Street North, Benson, MN 56215; phone - (320) 314-8399.

If you have any information regarding potential environmental impacts associated with this proposed project, please provide it in writing to:

- Kyle Darton
Environmental Specialist
US Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Chicago Region
kdarton@eda.gov

A copy of the NEPA/NHPA decisional document will be available upon request at the above EDA Regional Office.

Comments received in the EDA Regional Office by 5:00 pm on May 12, 2022 will be considered.

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF LOURISTON TOWNSHIP

Louriston Township Board will have their May Meeting Tuesdays May 17th at 8pm at the Louriston Dairy Red Barn 6008 90th Ave NE Murdock MN 56271.

All monthly meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Louriston Dairy Red Barn at 8pm.

Kayla Kelm
Clerk

SWIFT COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

March 15, 2022

All members present.

Chairman Fox called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. Also present: County Administrator Kelsey Baker, Parks and Drainage Supervisor Kody Fossum, Auditor Kim Saterbak and HR Coordinator Amanda Ness in the audience.

Commissioner E. Pederson moved and Commissioner Hendrickx seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider approval of Minutes from March 1, 2022 Regular Meeting

Consider approval of 2021 County Feedlot Officer Annual Report

Consider approval of a Memorandum of Agreement-AFSCME Courthouse Unit
Consider approval of Hearth Homes LLC Contract

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner Hendrickx seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hendrickx moved and Commissioner E. Pederson seconded to approve the Commissioner Warrants and review Auditor Warrants. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner warrants are as follows: Revenue: \$256,721.54; Solid Waste Fund: \$23,186.68; County Road & Bridge: \$85,747.66; County Health Insurance: \$436.00; State Fund: \$1,735.50; which includes the following bills over \$2,000. Anoka County Treasury Office, \$2,000.00; Arnolds of Willmar, \$18,160.30; Campion, Barrow & Associates, \$2,300.00; Center Point Energy, \$2,402.27; CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, \$6,562.50; Comm of MMB, Treasury Division, \$2,469.50; Counties Providing Technology, \$6,907.00; Geyer Recycling, \$6,473.00; Glacial Plains

Cooperative, \$3,534.96; HP Inc., \$5,340.50; Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Department, \$3,974.65; Kerkhoven Banner, \$3,853.50; Kris Engineering, \$3,634.04; Little Falls Machine Inc., \$2,208.66; Motorola, \$18,617.00; Northern Lights Trail Snowmobile Club, \$31,810.00; Performance Kennels Inc., \$16,795.00; Pflipsen Trucking LLC, \$12,385.52; Pioneerland Library System, \$36,311.75; Safe Avenues, \$3,250.00; Sussner Construction Inc., \$94,414.42; Towmaster Inc., \$44,755.29; Ziegler Inc., \$2,047.77.

Commissioner P. Peterson reported on 6W Corrections and Countryside Public Health. Commissioner E. Pederson reported Annual Township meeting, Soil and Water Conservation District and the Redetermination Committee. Commissioner Rudningen reported on AMC Legislative Conference, AMC Extension Committee and open house for Kerkhoven Housing Association. Commissioner Hendrickx reported on AMC Legislative Conference, 6W Corrections, PrimeWest meeting and the RDC Revolving Loan Fund. Chairman Fox reported on the Redetermination Committee, Pomme de Terre, RDC Revolving Loan Fund and the Well-being Committee.

Administrator Kelsey Baker reported on the AMC Legislative Conference, Kerkhoven Housing Association meeting, Personnel update, Benson High School Job Fair, Chili cookoff and planning the road and ditch tour.

Chairman Fox asked for citizens comments. There were none.

Parks and Drainage Supervisor Kody Fossum requested approval to bond and award H2Overviewers the Redetermination of Benefits Contract.

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner P. Peterson seconded to approve the County ditches and Judicial ditches that are in control of Swift County for the Redetermination Project to H2Overviewers. The start date will be determined on funding. A lengthy discussion was held. Motion carried unanimously.

The board recessed at 10:23 AM.

The board reconvened at 10:33 AM.

County Assessor Joe Tschida updated the board on land values of Swift County.

Human Service Director Catie Lee updated the board on the Financial Summary and Human Services update.

Highway Engineer Andrew Sander requested bids on a Mower Tractor and a Disk Mower.

Commissioner E. Pederson moved and Commissioner P. Peterson seconded to approve the bid on the John Deere 6140M Mower Tractor for \$139,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner Hendrickx seconded to approve the bid on the Massey Ferguson DM 255 Mower Disk for \$12,857.00. A brief discussion was held. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Fox adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

WITNESSED:
Joe Fox, Chair

ATTEST:
Kelsey Baker, County Administrator
B41c

SWIFT COUNTY BOARD MINUTES Record of Special Session

March 30, 2022

Date Convened: Tuesday, March 30, 2022

Time Convened: 9:00 AM.

Time Adjourned: 9:08 AM.

Members Present: Commissioners Fox, Hendrickx, Edward Pederson, Peter Peterson, and Rudningen

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Kelsey Baker, County Administrator Devon Savage, Drainage Technician

Chairman Fox called the special session to order at 9:00 AM. with all members present as well as County Administrator Kelsey Baker to consider approving the DNR Resolution 22-03-20.

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner Hendrickx seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks and Drainage Supervisor Kody Fossum and Devon Savage requested approval of Resolution 22-03-20 to support

the Grant to the Department of Natural Resources.

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner E. Pederson seconded to approve Resolution 22-03-20 to support the 50/50 Grant to the Department of Natural Resources. Brief discussion was held. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Fox adjourned the meeting.

Special Session adjourned at 9:08 AM.

WITNESSED:
Joe Fox, Chair

ATTEST:
Kelsey Baker, County Administrator
B41c

KERKHOVEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The Kerkhoven City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6:00pm in the city council rooms with Andrew Thorson, Bob Kappes, Leif Bagent, Naomi Baker and Kordell Van Heuveln present. Mayor VanHeuveln presided at the meeting. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Tschida and Darla Schwendemann were present from the Swift County Assessor's Office for the Board of Review. They updated the council on valuations and changes in the city. No one was present from the public or written requests were received at the City Office. The Board of Review meeting convened at 6:30 pm.

It was moved seconded and carried (Thorson/Bagent) approve the agenda with the following additions: Golf Course.

It was moved seconded and carried (Baker/Thorson) to approve the minutes of the March 28 meeting.

It was moved seconded and carried (Baker/Bagent) to pay all the bills audited for payment.

City Maintenance, Woody Nelson, was present to inquire from the council of their plans on finding a licensed operator during the time period that he will not be able to assist the city after his retirement. A licensed operator for water and wastewater will be needed to do testing, samples and submit the necessary paperwork to the MN Department of Health and the MN PCA. A licensed operator is needed to put in six hours of work for a month, according to the MN PCA. The council asked if Nelson would check with other operators to see if anyone would be willing to contract with them during that time. Nelson also informed the council that a potential graduate from the Environmental program at St Cloud Technical School reached out to him and toured the city with him. Maintenance Worker, Kevin Sulier, will be attending the certified pool operator classes April 20-21 to get his license. Nelson discussed with the council the lack of enforcement of nuisance properties that have progressively gotten worse over the last couple of years. The council agreed to send letters to Lester Peterson, the North Mobile Park, and both properties of Rick Kidrowski. Nelson informed the council that a street survey map from Widseth Smith Nolting should be completed by the next council meeting. Nelson has contacted MN Rural Water to update the water and sewer maps and the contractors are coming to measure for the parts needed for the settling tank.

Golf Course member, Kasey Van Heuveln, was present to inform the council that the new green was put in last year and held up well during the winter. Van Heuveln discussed with the council the amount of taxes that are paid for the rented 30 acres and the golf course. They have run about \$200 short the last couple of years from what they are charging for rent versus the amount of taxes paid. The Golf Course Board was wondering if the council would pay the taxes for the golf course and 30 acres to help free those monies up for the golf course. The taxes for 2022 would be roughly \$3,800, this would be in addition to the \$2,000 that the city has budgeted to donate to the golf course. Council member Thorson suggested looking into putting the acres into CRP land instead of renting.

Council member Baker discussed the nuisance properties and property issues in the city. Baker stated that she has noticed a low morale in the city right now and asked what can the city do to build that back up. Council member Thorson added that he hoped with being able to attend regular functions like Town and Country Days and civic group fundraisers is helping. Another suggestion that was made was trying to make a conscience effort to talk to neighbors and other members in the community.

It was moved seconded and carried (Baker/VanHeuveln) to adjourn at 7:00pm.

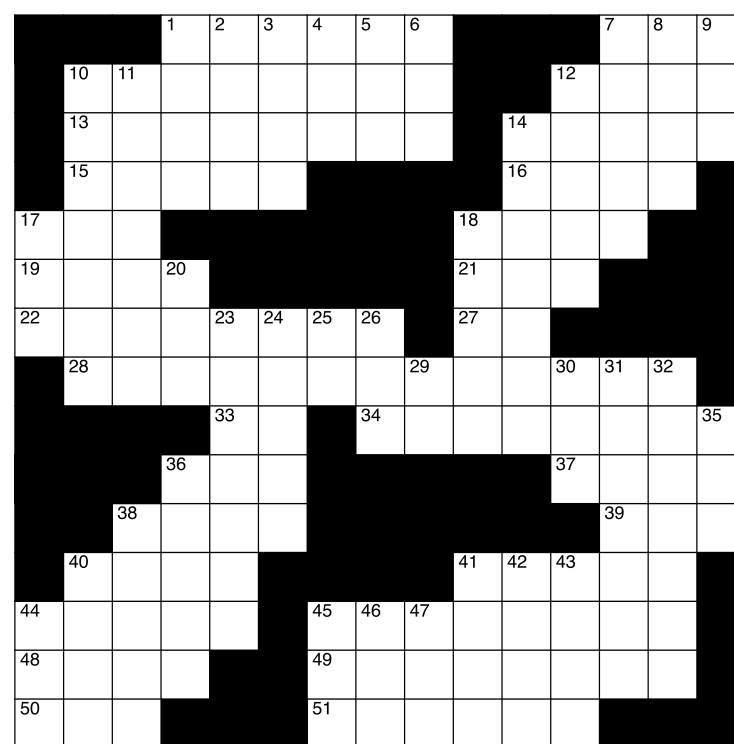
Kordell Van Heuveln, Mayor
Kim Harkema, Clerk-Treasurer

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A woman of refinement
7. Body part
10. One who imitates
12. Tropical Asian starlings
13. A type of delivery
14. W. Australian capital
15. Many wombs
16. Wings
17. Expression of amusement
18. Brews
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
21. Mild expression
22. Solitary
27. Distance to top
28. The rebirth of a soul in a new body
33. Police who investigate police (abbr.)
34. Begrudged
36. Popular sports league
37. Autonomous republic of Russia
38. Double-headed drum
39. Type of light bulb
40. Czech River
41. Male servants (Span.)
44. Previously
45. Minor
48. Metrical foot
49. Days that follow Mondays
50. Small European viper
51. News shows have one

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Inspiration
2. Resembling wings
3. Form of Persian
4. Consumed



- 5. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
6. Sea eagle
7. Jaguarundis
8. Poker stake
9. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
10. South American nation
11. A colorless, odorless gas
12. Disturbance
14. Artist's tool
17. Polish peninsula
18. Ottoman military leaders
20. Bird-like dinosaur
23. Drinking glass
24. Central Florida city
25. One's mother
26. To do it is human
29. Atomic #10
30. Used to write
31. The branch of medicine concerned with the ear
32. Adversaries
35. Have already done
36. One of conspicuous wealth
38. It flies over sporting events
40. Geological times
41. Net
42. Musical phrase
43. Chadic dialect
44. Private Internet Access (abbr.)
45. Lizard genus
46. Woman of the church
47. Having ten

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SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled: Row 1: [ ] [4] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]; Row 2: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [4] [ ] [7] [1] [ ]; Row 3: [5] [ ] [ ] [2] [ ] [3] [ ] [8] [ ]; Row 4: [ ] [5] [ ] [1] [ ] [7] [ ] [ ] [ ]; Row 5: [1] [ ] [ ] [ ] [8] [ ] [2] [3] [ ]; Row 6: [3] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [9] [ ]; Row 7: [9] [ ] [ ] [ ] [2] [ ] [8] [7] [ ]; Row 8: [ ] [ ] [7] [6] [4] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]; Row 9: [ ] [ ] [3] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Level: Advanced

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N V E C T O R F S E A A I R E T C A B R
W R O E A C N N E C R E H S E Y R V F C
J D W V H C V H O V V V D N T Y F D U S
U L I I F V H V F I E Y T A M F G L U J
Y S L S S R Y E I T K T R E R I P O G I
Y L W R E E V D E S I A E G U G T F I J
S V M R B A N E T S I B T M I S N F T T R
H I Y S A G S B H J H M T M S Y W S A L
F C I L O D G E T D A K O A A T S U F V
V K N C G W I U G F A T H M R L I S T L
S H F H K B Y C K Y P B L E M R F C L E
W T E A E D Y T U M C I W H W G K A K M
E N C A N A E S Y L S T J T F Y H A I S
L I T V Y I D S S F O E U Y A J T F Y K
L O I S N D P A B A M P C R C T V O O S
I J O V L D M E C Y R C A E M R K S G B
N S N R H D T V L H P G R T H N D H C E
G V K D I G I K Y D E I T D H C M B T N
G J S I T I L U C S A V S K O Y T S L F
H I Y H H S A R T U W O O D E D M N O K

WORDS

- ACHES
BACTERIA
BITE
CHILLS
COGNITIVE
DISEASE
ERYTHEMA MIGRANS
FATIGUE
FEVER
GRASSY
HEADACHE
INFECTON
INFLAMMATION
JOINT
LYME
RADICULOPATHY
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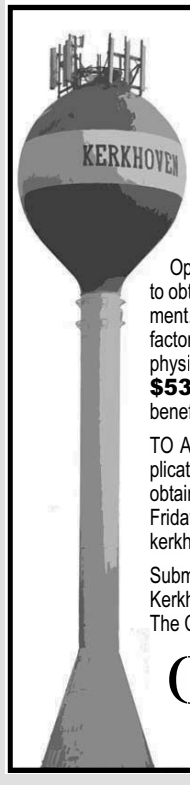
**KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS** has a Speech Language Pathologist teaching position available at KMS Public Schools beginning August 2022. Qualifications: Current MN Education Licensure. Application Procedure: External applicants apply online at [www.kms.k12.mn.us](http://www.kms.k12.mn.us). Attach required documents: Letter of interest, resume, transcripts, three letters of recommendation and a copy of education license. B41 & 42c

**KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS** has a full-time Director of Bands position available at KMS Public Schools beginning August 2022. Qualifications: Current MN Education Licensure. Application Procedure: External applicants apply online at [www.kms.k12.mn.us](http://www.kms.k12.mn.us). Attach required documents: Letter of interest, resume, transcripts, three letters of recommendation and a copy of education license. B41 & 42c

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Minimum requirements: Possess a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License and able to obtain a Class B Driver's License within 6 months of employment. Have a valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. **Starting wages \$53,830-\$71,780 per year/DOQ**, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

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A group of fiddlers young and older gave a concert at Hope Lutheran Church in Sunburg following a workshop on the art, presented as part of the Sunburg Heritage Arts Initiative. The project was made possible by a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council which the city of Sunburg had won.

# Fiddlin' around

(Continued from page 1)

or otherwise, to gin-up even more excitement among young people and for inspiration.

"In fiddling, we'll have resources coming in to inspire. It's important for beginners to know what it sounds like. And for the young players to say, 'I want to play like him or her,'" she said.

**Hardanger, Rosemaling**  
Only God is perfect, according to practitioners of a traditional Norwegian hand-craft known as hardanger.

That is a tenet students in the Sunburg hills abided by as 14 individuals learned the ins and outs of the much-celebrated embroidery back on March 4th, in the Sunburg Community Center during one of the several workshops to be put on by the Sunburg Heritage Arts Initiative in the month of March.

"Hardanger is really intricate. Sometimes, it's about showing someone a technique and the issue is resolved in 15 minutes," Darlene Schroeder said.

Rosemaling, otherwise known as rose-painting, was a distinctive and decorative feature of life in Norway, adding adornment to wooden items of daily utility such as chairs, cupboards and ale bowls, in addition to traditionally more stylized matter such as church walls and ceilings, from the 1700s up until the mid-19th century.

"The investment is in the paints," Schroeder said, emphasizing the grant dollars were a great help here.

This touch of artistic flair is still practiced in the Norwegian community of Sunburg whose ethnic individuality is evident in the Norwegian language classes offered in addition to Barnehaug, a Norwegian preschool that was integrated into the KMS school district.

"Some just want to dabble, and others get really into the details of the design," Schroeder said.

Individuals from Sunburg and elsewhere were positioned at tables in the Sunburg Community Center, the old



As part of the fiddle workshop, students played with more accomplished fiddlers to learn the music which they would later present in a concert. Darlene Schroeder, coordinator for the Sunburg Heritage Arts

Sunburg schoolhouse which has been repurposed. In hardanger, no two works of stitching are alike, follow-

ing the dictates of another hardanger mainstay: the five-beat cadence of weaving, a pattern of needlepoint mastery

Initiative, wrote for and won a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council to pay for the a month of classes.

Scandinavians have been perfecting since the 1850s. In hardanger, practitioners use a white thread on even-

weave linen. "It's a great grant. It's important to keep the heritage arts going," Shroeder said.

# Claybusters' 1st week of competition is "wild egg hunt"

by Mike Kohlman

Week one of competition for the Claybusters was just an all around wild egg hunt. What I mean by that is there were just alot of inconveniences for the shooters. First and foremost was that the shooting was on Easter Day, so the shooters had to interrupt their family gatherings of celebrating the resurrection to come and smell some burnt gunpowder. Second obstacle was as soon as it was time to start shooting Mother Nature decided it was a good time to dump a bunch of very wet and cold snow and as long as she was making it a challenge, she figured she would also add in a little wind from the south east to blow that snow right into the faces of the shooters.

Sounds like a real fun time, doesn't it? The challenges didn't stop there, the score keepers also had an exciting day. Their first obstacle was trying to keep the score sheets dry from the wet snow.

As the paper was getting wet it was very difficult to write scores on the sheets without them tearing. The score keepers came up with a plan B which was to use Sharpie markers instead of ink pens so the wet score sheets wouldn't tear. That worked for a little while until the markers got wet enough that they would not mark anymore; they would just smudge. Plan C was to try



The Claybusters' first competition of the year was on Easter Sunday. Not only did it conflict with participants' family gatherings, it also brought cold weather, snow and a light wind.

and keep score in their heads and write them down with pencil after each five shots, and that was the best plan for the day. So, as you can tell, it was somewhat of a "Wild Egg Hunt."

The only thing that was in our favor was that much like the reason for brightly colored Easter eggs, the shooters' targets were brightly colored and could be seen in the snow.

The scores for the week were not the greatest due to the conditions but high scorers were: Tanner Wilts, he shot 47 of 50; Jaron Furney shot 42 of 50; and Chase Hauge and Wyatt Hagen each shot a 36 of 50. For the ladies, top shooter for the day was Zee Furney with 40 of 50. Emily Zurn shot 31 of 50, and Isabel Gilberts and Katie Bendickson each shot a 26 of 50.

# KMS Fighting Saints' Week in Sports April 20-26

**Thursday, April 21 Softball...** 4:30.... at TMB... The AA Panthers may have opened their season last night, Tuesday with LQPV. The Saints and Panthers split their games last season, each with a close win. TMB finished a game behind the Saints last season in conference play at 14-4 (15-6 verall).

**Friday, April 22 Softball...** 4:30... at Russell-Tyler-Ruthton... The Knights managed to get in a game last week vs D/B and won, 16-0 so are 1-0. They were scheduled to play Minnesota/Canby on Tuesday afternoon. RTR finished last season in fourth place behind

TMB and the Saints at 12-6 in Camden play (15-8 overall). The two split a pair of close games, KMS winning 8-7 and RTR the other, 7-6.

**Baseball...** 4:30 p.m. at Benson... A non-conference but a Section 6A game... The Braves opened their season on the 11th and were bombed by Morris Area/C-A, 17-0. They had games scheduled with Melrose and BOLD this week before KMS. Benson was 12-10 last season including a 7-5 loss to KMS.

**Tuesday, April 26 Softball...** 5:00 p.m... H vs BBE... Single non-conference game. BBE opened their season on the 14th with a loss

to Browerville/Eagle Valley. They had games scheduled this past week with EV-W, Kimball, Benson and Paynesville before meeting the Saints. The Jaguars finished last year at 3-18.

**Baseball...** 5:00 p.m... at MACCRAY... The Wolverines got a win over Adrian back on April 4 and have not played since. They had games scheduled prior to their meeting with the Saints with LQPV, Minnesota and a tournament with Janesville, Martin County West and St. Clair. The Wolverines finished last season at 16-4, 8-2 in Camden play in second place behind the Saints. The two teams did not meet.



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