



December 2019 / January 2020  
Number Three Hundred Fifty-Six



### *December*

Raven: "An exciting bird of intrigue and mystery. You are a seeker and adventurer. Confident and curious, you are always looking for the next clue in a series of exciting jaunts. You are self-reliant and perfectly happy on your own. You may not be the life and soul of the party, but you are sure to experience something new."

"You're balanced, fair, and open-minded. You let others live their lives and you don't try to boss them around. You don't think you're better than other people, and you're never stuck-up! You're humble, but you try to always believe in yourself!"

References: [www.apost.com](http://www.apost.com) and [www.mysticalraven.com](http://www.mysticalraven.com).

### *Carver Business Alliance*

The Carver Business Alliance, Carver business group meets every third Friday of the month at 8 AM at the Carver Village Hall. Anyone owning a business in Carver is welcome. The next scheduled meetings are December 13<sup>th</sup> and January 17<sup>th</sup>.

### *2020 Fee Schedule*

The city clerk discussed proposed changes for the 2020 Fee Schedule. Annually, staff reviews various fees charged to recommend necessary changes. Recommendations concerning changes were to be presented to the council for review and feedback for acceptance of the January 2020 ordinance. Municipal utilities fees were one primary change reviewed.

### *Hawthorne Ridge Trail*

The community development director presented an overview of the Hawthorne Ridge Trail. Discussion was held relating to the driveway/trail connection at the Hawthorne Ridge Development. The item would be further discussed in the future relating to minimum maintenance that the city would provide on the trail.

### *Parks Master Plan*

The community development director also reviewed the Parks Master Plan. The Parks Master Plan would be discussed in the future for adoption.

The Parks Commission members discussed the final draft of the Parks Master Plan. The final version included graphics. The graphs included preference for pollinator friendly habitats throughout park areas expanding the dog parks shown in the plan and potentially adding music space to the park downtown. The commission member supported the plan. Motion was made and carried with all ayes recommending the Parks Mast Plan be submitted to the city council.

### *All-Hazard Mitigation Plan*

The Emergency Management Mitigation Plan updated the council on the topic Carver County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The State Mitigation Officer clarified that the certification of the levee cannot be part of their additional mitigation funding as those funds are for structural projects only. Map verbiage was also clarified. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the resolution adopting the Carver County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

"Be strong enough to stand alone, smart enough to know when you need help and brave enough to ask for it."

~ Ziad Abdelnour

### *Jonathan Carver Parkway Storm Water*

The city engineer discussed the Jonathan Carver Parkway Storm Water. Discussions had been held with the county to evaluate joint opportunities for storm water management relating to development of runoff via the corridor identified as Jonathan Carver Parkway. The county had funded a study reviewing alternative combining the city needs for a discharge pipe for storm water with the county roadway for future projects. The results of the study recommended a joint alternative with additional pond expansion supporting the project.

The Community Development Director discussed with the Parks Commission the topic of the Community Park Pond. The city has been discussing the Community Park Pond issue with the county evaluating the joint opportunities for stormwater management associated with the development runoff through the corridor. A need has been established for an outlet of stormwater from Oak Tree developments. The county and city would be cooperative parties with further discussions for consideration of the stormwater management recommendation. The ponding location is beneficial for the county project. The pond outlines impact an existing trail system. The trail would be relocated. The parks commission recommends construction of a stormwater management pond in the Community Park for the stormwater treatment and management needs of the future Jonathan Carver Parkway expansion project.

The Park Commission board held a listening session regarding the Jonathan Carver Parkway Pond and Community Park location in relation to the proposed pond location. There is some strong opposition to the proposed site. The meeting discussed the concerns revolving around the projected project. The major concerns involved the aesthetics, loss and the water/pond footprint.

### *Prosecution Services*

The Carver County Attorney not only presented an overview of the services provided to the city to the council regarding the Prosecution Services but also discussed the county's implementation of the 2020 grant monies for the Drug Court which is similar to the Veteran's Court. This court will provide sentencing alternatives of treatment combined with supervision for individuals dealing with serious mental health disorders. This will be a problem-solving court system taking a public health approach allowing communities to work together to help offenders into a long-term recovery. This is for offenders with a very successful process results. There has been cost savings and a lower repeat of offenders. Making it better for the overall community. The grant is allocated for a period with the opportunity for an extension. The county has protocol set up that the attorney's office follows.

"If the plan doesn't work, change the plan, but never the goal"

~ Henry Ford



## Helping Our Own

The young lady you see pictured here is Annette Hentz's daughter, Cheryl, also known as Cher who resides in California. Annette who was the former owner of Carver Flowers, and we all know how much she contributed to our lives, right? Well, she is asking for your help for her daughter, Cher.

A brief summary: We have all heard about the awful fires in California in the San Bernardino area. Cher lives in this area and has lost her home to the fire and all of her possessions except the fur friends, Ducky and Silver.

Her mom who is recuperating from knee replacement surgery is asking for help for her daughter:

"And now, Cher needs help keeping the proverbial (but burned) "roof over her head." She is too humble to ask for help. But, as her mother, I am not too proud to ask for it for her. Cher is an intelligent, hard-working, people-caring individual WHO HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE for her friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, customers, vendors and anyone with whom she's come into contact.

I'm asking, will all of the people whose lives she has touched over the years, be willing to be there for her? She needs our help, desperately. Will you join me in donating to her GoFundMe Campaign? Even a small donation would be welcome - they add up. She has no other emergency fund. Donations are already needed today. Thank you. Bless you."

Annette has set up a "Go Fund Me" page for her daughter. The link is <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fire-restoration-help-for-cher039s-little-mtn-home?> - When you put it in the search bar, click on the first line and the page should come up giving information to donate. Please help if you can. Anyone who has experienced tragedies understands the devastation experienced; the physical, emotional, and mental anguish that accompanies the tragedy itself.

## Carver Shops

Occasional Shop dates for December are 19<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>, January's dates are the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. Many shops open Wednesday through Sunday for your shopping pleasure. Perfect opportunity to find what you didn't know you wanted or needed! And don't forget you might find that perfect gift for your friends and relatives here. There's still time before Christmas.

The Shops of Carver:

All Things Fabulous – Facebook

Wed-Sat 10 AM – 5 PM/Occasional Shop Dates Sun 11 – 4 PM

Carver General – Facebook - Occasional Shop Dates

Fourfold Studios – Website

Mon – Thurs 9 AM – 4 PM

Ripple Art Studio & Gallery – [www.rippleartstudio.com](http://www.rippleartstudio.com)

Ripple Art Studio & Gallery - FB

Strange Birds - [facebook.com/strangebirdsmn/](https://www.facebook.com/strangebirdsmn/)Website

/ Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM

The Good Junk Garage – Facebook

204 Studio - photography – Website

SomeWhat Crafty - Facebook

Temperance Arts & Gifts – Facebook

Also:

Iris Valley/Jordan – Website and Facebook

## Special Announcement:

Looking for the perfect christmas present for that special person in your life or just the perfect gift? Remember to stop in Carver and check out all the specialty shops in town. You will find treasures it's guaranteed, if only to make new friends, see old friends or just. have a wonderful time. There are the shops that are open at differing times, occasional shop dates and some by appointments. Check out their websites and facebook pages. A new shop just opened, be sure to come on by and say 'hi'. SomeWhat Crafty has set up shop in the old station on the corner of Broadway and Main Streets. Check their facebook page and see what's happenening. Welcome, Allysa to the Shops of Carver loop.



## National Prescription Opiate Litigation

The city attorney discussed the National Prescription Opiate Litigation Class Action of the opinion that there was no reason for the city to opt out of the litigation. It was the most cost-effective option. The city may not get any settlement in the end. Clarification was requested for the upside to opting out as opposed to the downside to opting into the litigation class action. The attorney indicated that there was not, therefore was the reasoning for the opt in resolution. The attorney's comment, "protecting our interests" was in regards to any damages the city had incurred regarding public health. Even though there has been damage, if the City opts out, they would have to prove these damages and incur the expenses to do so. This is one of the reasons the attorney recommended the opt in resolution.

Question was asked if the county moves forward or if there is any suit at the state level, does this exclude the city from any monetary reward. The city attorney responded that the county and that state have their actions going, but the end result is not certain. Again, the recommendation for the resolution. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving resolution opting in the negotiation class in the negotiation class regarding the National Prescription Opiate Litigation.

"Life is a journey to be experienced not a problem to be solved."

~ A A Milne

## 2019 Improvement Project

The council reviewed and discussed the 2019 Improvement Project and the resolution adopting the assessment roll at their meeting. The project engineer identified the project in the city's capital improvement plan. The improvements involved Kirche Hill drive, Diedrich Drive, Sunny Ridge Drive, the 'Old' Elm Drive, Spring Creek Drive and the alleys between Third and Fourth Streets. Construction of the project improvements have been substantially completed. A portion of the costs were to be assessed to adjacent properties. The final costs have been calculated. The final assessment amounts have been developed. Notices were forwarded. Additionally, a revised assessment roll has also been developed for future assessments. The council will be requested to indicate adoption of indicative roll accepted. An assessment hearing had been scheduled. The final step involves the adoption of the final assessment roll.

## Disclaimer

Information contained in this newsletter is for information only. The unapproved minutes were referenced to comprise the contents of this newsletter. Websites on the internet are also referenced. Full details can be located on the City of Carver and Dahlgren Township websites



## Carver Lions

Never fear, those Carver Lions members are out there busier than ever. It is the editor's opinion that they are so busy ensuring everyone else has fun that they don't have time to tell this particular editor a whole lot of details to tell y'all. That is meant to be humorous and catch your attention. It is clear to me that they require more helping hands and that is where y'all come in. They are meeting the first and third Wednesday's of each month (until summer). They are also back in the City Hall so that gives you still another reason to go, to check out the new building! December's meetings are the 6th and 20th. The Lions will not be holding a meeting on January 1<sup>st</sup>, the first Wednesday of the 2020 year. So be sure to stop by and check them out on the third Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

November was a busy month for the Carver Lions. Now moving right along, they are busy with preparations for that jolly red suited fella' from the North Pole. Yes, it's that time of the year. Santa is scheduling his calendar and interviewing for assistants when he can't be in two places at once. The Kids Village Christmas will happen on December 7<sup>th</sup>. This event is sponsored by the Carver Lions and the Carver Fire Department.

As if that is not enough to keep them busy along with their own personal lives, they are also sponsoring the Senior Citizens Holiday Lunch for seniors in the Carver area. The Lunch will be at Noon at the city hall. If you are interested in attending, it is by reservation only and you must call Ms Sandy McGraw to make that reservation. You can reach Sandy at 952.856.2655. So, come, help them out, and see you at their meeting. Watch for upcoming information the Carver Lions Annual Snowgolf fundraiser.

## Somewhat Crafty

Have you heard? There is a new shop in downtown Carver. Somewhat Crafty is filling the former shoes of Sweeter Times, in the old gas station. Its name: Somewhat Crafty. Somewhat catchy wouldn't you say? Be sure to stop in and check things out. This new shop will introduce you to a fun and interesting scent experience! The Grand Opening was November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Somewhat Crafty specializes in soaps, candles, and bath bombs. Rumor has it that there is some holiday scents filtering the air too. Welcome Somewhat Crafty to Carver!



## Sever's Holiday Lights

Submitted by: Nicola Peterson

"Yes, we are doing a holiday light display called Sever's Holiday Lights! Now open until January 5<sup>th</sup>. It will be open 7 days a week: Sunday-Thursday 5-9 PM and Friday-Saturday 5-10PM. The show will be \$20/vehicle for Sunday-Thursday and \$25/vehicle on Friday and Saturday. It is a magical drive-thru experience to synchronized music and over 1,000,000 lights! We're very excited about this expansion into the holiday season!" Approximately forty minutes to drive through, depending upon traffic.

For directions or more information, check out their website: [www.seversfallfestival.com](http://www.seversfallfestival.com). Their address is: 3121 150<sup>th</sup> Street West, Shakopee, MN 55379



## Carver Current

Familiar with the website [www.carvercurrent?](http://www.carvercurrent?) You might want to check it out. It's an excellent source of information of city updates, local organization events, local news, school activities, sports results etc. This is a great site for sharing important information and events affecting local residents. The newsletter, the "Villager Tower" can also be found on this website.

© RYS Creations 2019



## Chaska Valley Family Theatre

The Chaska Valley Family Theatre will be just finishing up Beauty and the Beast performances in December. Then they will be doing auditions for Tuck Everlasting. Visit their website for additional information. [www.cvft.org](http://www.cvft.org). Auditions are scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Contact them for more details. Watch for more information in the future.



## SouthWest Transit

Remember SW Prim MD is offering service for non-medical transportation.

Did you hear SW is also offering service to the Winter Lights at the MN Landscape Arboretum through January 4<sup>th</sup>? For more information you can visit their website: [www.swtransit.org](http://www.swtransit.org).



Free shuttle rides are being promoted by SW Transit from the East Creek Station in Chaska on Friday and Saturday evenings. Admission to the winter light at the arboretum are \$15 for adults, children fifteen years of age and younger are free as is admission for arboretum members.

## Arboretum - Winter in Bloom

Lighting up the Gardens Through the dark days of winter. This year the theme for the holiday celebration changes to "Winter in Bloom" because there is always something in bloom at the arb. Stroll through the lights, sip on tea and meet up with Santa for cookies. Tree Lighting will be at 5 PM to 9 PM on November 21<sup>st</sup>. The arb's dramatic 25' poinsettia tree sponsored by Wagner's Greenhouse, along with other beautifully decorated trees, will light up the Great Hall, kick off our Winter Lights display.

[www.arbwinter.umn.edu](http://www.arbwinter.umn.edu) for more details.

Winter Lights November 22<sup>nd</sup> through January 5<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 9 PM

Stroll through beautiful light displays on this walking tour through their sparkling winter experience. Warm up near a bonfire ~ s'mores' kits available for purchase.

[www.arbwinter.umd.edu/experience-joy-winter-lights](http://www.arbwinter.umd.edu/experience-joy-winter-lights)

Check out the arboretum if you are looking for a different and new way to celebrate New Year's Eve. They are offering a New Year's Eve Winter Lights Party.

## Parks and Recreation

Can't make it to Carver on Saturday to see Santa, you can run over to the Chaska Community Center and catch Santa there on Friday, the 6<sup>th</sup> of December from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM. They plan on pictures, crafts and live music. Refreshments will be served too.



January has events planned too. So if you are interested be sure to check these out.

Over at the Firemen's Park on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> starting at noon is some free family fun at the event being identified as "The Big Chill". It's the Chaska Community DJ Skate by Mixit DJ Tony. Everyone is welcome. There will be ice-skating games (weather permitting) to DJ music, kick sledding and free hot chocolate. The event will be over at 3 PM.

Over at Crooked Pint Ale House is 'Superhero Family Dance' scheduled to happen on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6 PM until 9 PM. Included with the ticket price is pasta buffet, cookie, DJ dance, photo booth and craft.

On Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> there's the "Grandparents and Me Magic Show". This begins at 2 PM. The fun will be held at the Community Center Theater. Everyone is invited to join magician, Patrick Wallace. It has been said that the show will be packed with audience participation and fun. After the magic show everyone is invited to share in family activities that include games, crafts and snacks! Be sure to register for this event.

"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success."

~ Henry Ford

## Community Highlights

January 2020

January 1 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Day
January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Happy Anniversary Bonnie and Stan!
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Anniversary Daniel and Rebecca!
January 6 <sup>th</sup>	Council Meeting
January 7 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Leon!
January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Jerad!
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	Parks Commission Meeting
Workshop	School Board Organizational Meeting and
	East Union PTO Meeting
	Dahlgren Township Board Meeting
January 14 <sup>th</sup>	Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting
	Meet and Greet
January 15 <sup>th</sup>	Lions Meeting
January 16 <sup>th</sup>	Planning Commission Meeting
	Carver Shops Occasional Shops weekend
January 17 <sup>th</sup>	Business Alliance Meeting
	Happy Birthday David!
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Kay!
January 20 <sup>th</sup>	No School
	Martin Luther King Jr Day
	Happy Birthday Jim!
	Happy Birthday Abby!
January 21 <sup>st</sup>	Council Meeting
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Troy!
	Happy Birthday Mike!
January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Ethen!
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Rich!
	Happy Birthday Dan!
January 27 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Mary Lou!
	School Board Meeting
	Happy Birthday Paul!
	Happy Birthday Henry!
	Happy Birthday Tui!
January 29 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Shawn!
January 30 <sup>th</sup>	Happy Birthday Karen!
January 31 <sup>st</sup>	Happy Birthday Trish!



## Holidazzle

It's the season and time for Holidazzle. It began the Friday after Thanksgiving and runs Thursdays to Sundays through December 22<sup>nd</sup> and you will find all the fun at Loring Park. For more information check the website: [www.holidazzle.com](http://www.holidazzle.com).



"It's truly a Minnesota tradition to bundle up and head out to the Holidazzle during the holiday season. This year, you and your family can enjoy this holiday celebration at Loring Park! It's free, open to the public, and full of fun that people of all ages can enjoy! This year's Holidazzle features annual favorites as well as new activities to enjoy. Here are a few tips to navigating the Holidazzle including parking and directions, food and beverage vendors, gift shops, activities, free ice skating and skates for all ages, and more!"

## St Nicholas Catholic Church

Regular masses at St Nicholas are Saturday at 4 PM and on Sunday's at 9:15 AM. Interested to know when the Christmas services are, there will be Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve at 4 PM. Christmas Day service will be at 9:15 AM. Be sure to check [www.stnicholascarver.org](http://www.stnicholascarver.org) for ongoing updates.



## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

To y'all from all the City of Carver organizations and Public Works and employees, The Carver Fire Department personnel, The Carver Lions, The Carver Business Alliance personnel, The Shops of Carver and the Carver Community Youth Baseball/Softball Association wishing a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The Villager Tower would also like to extend the wishes to everyone and thank you everyone for your support and submissions. Chris, thanks for all your work editing!



## Carver Tax Service

Many residents may be unaware of the loss of Cathy at Carver Tax Service, but many others know that a new individual has taken over Carver Tax Service. Cathy has retired and moved on to bigger and better adventures. Thanks Cathy for your dedication, friendliness and bringing your business into the community from the 'Villager Tower'. Be sure to stop in and say 'hello' to the new owner of Carver Tax.



Submitted by: Steven Magck  
Carver Tax Service is a locally owned tax preparation business that stays on top of the ever-changing tax laws and regulations. We provide tax preparation and filing services for individuals, families and small businesses using form 1040. We offer friendly, professional, and accurate tax services at a fair price. Whether you need help with federal or state taxes, quarterly, or yearly tax payments, or clarification about the laws and regulations that apply to your unique situation, we are here to help. We are here to assist with answering correspondence from the tax authorities or amending previous returns. We are dedicated to providing one-on-one service with a high level of customer satisfaction, so you will be confident that your taxes are done right the first time.

### Hours of Operation

The tax office will be open for appointments Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am to 3pm in January. All appointments must be made in advance by calling: (952) 240-5279. In February, March and April, the office will be open for appointments Monday from 10am to 7pm, Tuesday from 9am to 5pm, Wednesday from 10am to 7pm, and Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

### About Steve

Steve is a seasoned lawyer and businessperson with over 30 years of experience. He is a licensed attorney in Minnesota with an MBA degree, and he has completed substantial legal education in the tax area. His clients find that he is detail-oriented, responsive, caring and a good problem solver. He will also be available to you year-round. On the personal side, Steve has been married for over 35 years and has three children. When he is not helping you with tax matters, he can usually be found enjoying the great outdoors in Minnesota—gardening, hiking, kayaking, fishing or hunting. Thank you!

### Steve

Steven A. Mogck, JD, MBA  
Carver Tax Service  
(952) 240-5279  
[carvertaxservice@gmail.com](mailto:carvertaxservice@gmail.com)

## East Union and West Union Churches



The East Union Church is preparing for their Christmas season. The Children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9 AM. There will be a potluck fellowship following. Their Christmas Eve Worship will be held on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM and at 8 PM.

The West Union Church is also preparing for Christmas. Their Children's Christmas Program is scheduled for Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM with Smorgasboard to follow. Christmas Eve Worship will be on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM and 9 PM.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

"The secret of your success is determined by your daily agenda"  
~ John C Maxwell



## *Iris Valley Boutique & Gifts*

Hey did you hear? One upside to the bad weather recently, the Iris Valley Boutique and Gifts are extending their Small Business Saturday Sale through December 7<sup>th</sup>. Looking for that special Christmas gift for someone in your life or maybe even for yourself? Get on over to Jordan to the boutique and check out their inventory. There are lots and lots of great gift ideas and they have 20% off Storewide, 30% to 70 % off selected clothing and 50 % off Fall Décor! You can't go wrong. Plus there are many other discounts! Right off of Highway # 282, behind Rademacher's and next to Glowing Hearth and Home.



## *Carver Community Youth Baseball / Softball Association*

The Carver Community Youth Baseball / Softball Association wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Be sure to watch their website for upcoming information for this spring.



## *Villager Tower*

As is obviously evident in the last few issues of the 'Villager Tower' which is typical at the end of each year. There has been limited amount of sponsors to support the publication.

I, however, would like to take this time to extend my appreciation to all of the businesses that throughout the years have so generously continued their unending display of support. Next year will be the 39<sup>th</sup> year of publishing this enterprise. I, the editor/proprietor am both, proud and fortunate to have been allowed the opportunity to interact with so many wonderful individuals. Old and new businesses have come and gone and continue to infiltrate our small community. So many relationships have flourished as a result. Thank you!





With that being said, please understand that this production is not an inexpensive venture, as everyone is well aware of. Anyone interested in contributing and are willing, any help is appreciated. Information for contacting is in the contents of the newsletter. The money that is received is put forth to help defray overall costs involved with the printer, laptop, internet, stamps, and miscellaneous supplies. It has never been my intent to try to make a fortune. It is and always has been my goal to inform and keep residents informed of what is happening with not only the governmental units but also what is happening with the local organizations and businesses in our small community.

Originally, the encouragement and support to utilize my skills and talent were encouraged, pushed and insistent upon taking the risk from my very dearest friend of earlier years when I served on the city's council. It has been forty years since that friend taught, pushed and supported me. Without that support and constant encouragement this venture would not have evolved into what it is today. Credit where credit is due, subsequently. I am not only humbled, but in constant awe of the success everyone has helped me to achieve. Thank you to everyone for allowing this writer to share with you what I feel is important to the residents of this community. All of the valuable lessons that were taught to me by this individual have also indirectly been given back to this community that he also cared very deeply about. My eternal gratitude for him lives on in what you receive with this newsletter. You have all also contributed in our original goal and continues to be the goal – that being, to inform the public. Thank you so very much for your continued unending support!



## *Sponsor*



### CCYBSA

Carver Community Youth  
Baseball Softball Association

*Where the ball game begins*

Find us on line at: [www.cityofcarver.com](http://www.cityofcarver.com)

Questions? Email us at: [ccybsa.reg@gmail.com](mailto:ccybsa.reg@gmail.com)



2019 Christmas Tree Lighting – Gazebo Park -



## *What Is Love?*

Love is an emotion to demonstrate and display a positive feeling for another human or a living being.

Giving of the emotion, 'love' creates a sense of gratification from within of positivity.

If only more of this emotion could be given and spread more willing, what a grand place to be.....





# **Carver Village Christmas**

**Carver Village Hall**

**Downtown Carver**

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

**Noon - 2:00pm**

**Santa arrives by fire truck at 12:30pm.**

**Treats, Crafts, & Coloring Contest**

**\*Remember to bring your camera to take pictures with Santa.**

**Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation.**

**Sponsored by the Carver Lions Club and the Carver Fire Department**



## *Night Marauders – Strange Birds – Trespass Non-stop*

"Territory." Rhapsody called and called looking for the raccoon anxious to share her newest gossip she had just learned. He was nowhere to be found and she was becoming increasingly irritated. Unsure if she was more irritated with him or her inability to spill the beans to him directly. She continued her search wanting to be the first to reveal the opening of the new shop on Broadway Street.

Meanwhile, Territory was already downtown checking out the covert goings on of setting up some kind of establishment in the basement of All Things Fabulous. It was done pretty quietly and quickly when the Louisiana/Pennsylvania couple set up shop of Strange Birds. Luckily, Territory was able to peer through the basement window to establish a studio and gallery. His curiosity was peaked and spent a lot of time eavesdropping on the charming young lady formulating the groundwork for this new operation. It hadn't taken long for the community to be well aware of the activities and movement occurring on Main street.

"Do you know where Territory is?" Rhapsody asked Raschevious ready to bust at the seams with her news.

"Checking out the new store downtown." He answered totally unaware of her excitement.

"What!" She screeched exasperated.

Uninterested, he responded also irritated. He was nursing his own hurt feelings of not having been invited to join Territory, even though it was daylight and not a good idea for raccoons to be romping about downtown.

Suddenly Raschevious realized that Rhapsody was obviously beside herself with disappointment.

"What's the matter?" He asked her.

"He already knows?" She moaned heartbroken.

"Knows what?" Raschevious was still clueless.

"About Strange Birds." She howled with dismay.

"Who?" Raschevious was completely in the dark.

"The new shop downstairs..." She shrieked in heightened aggravation unable to finish her sentence.

He cut her off. "Oh that." Shrugging indifferently.

Territory checked further into the history of the building. The structure was built about 1880 with local buff colored brick. Businesses occupied inside included a saloon, grocery store, barbershop, Kraemer's Café, Carver Café, and many different occasional shops owners. Most recently a boutique occupies the upper level. Presumptions have been that the lower level served as storage, except when there were occasional shop renters. Regardless, the past is rich with diversity and history to be had.

These newest occupants are transplanted artisans determined to "bringing downtown back to the hometown." They needed a working area and fell in love with their present newly occupied location that they set to fixing up since last December of 2018. According to Casse, telling a visitor and Territory overheard, "Fell in love with Carver, the very first time they saw the area." She also loves history due to their traveling and residing all over the states. She also has a goal of assisting with revitalizing the downtown area. She also told another human she loves sharing stories and history and meeting people. Territory could hardly wait to get inside and check out the interior and hear more about these interesting artists.

Lavender waited outside in the back of Strange Birds establishment while Territory, Raschevious and Bandeet slipped inside. Rascal was still banished for their excursions. Rhapsody was still angry with everyone for spoiling her news, unfounded as it was.

The trio took their time going down the steps to the downstairs admiring the canvases covering the stairwell. In the gallery currently was the artwork of Kuki. Appointments were available, Bandeet read. At the bottom of the steps to their left was a table with vintage trinkets available. At the bottom of the steps opening into a larger room, a table to the right with upcycled crafts, business cards and jewelry were displayed. There was more artwork on all the walls featuring fine art. One wall accented the artwork with a brick wall exposed. Kuki introduced frost-bite inspired media works. He says, "Everything has a story."



The artists invite everyone to come and see what they envision when they see the pieces of art on the canvas. Vintage collections could be found setting on the table in front of the window. The trio was so busy taking all the artwork in that they were silent the whole time inside.

Bandeet was disappointed.

"They are colorful and pretty." Raschevious commented once back outside.

"What about you Territory?" Lavender asked rejoining the group.

"There's an unexplainable aura of peace all about the entire space and a tone. An unseen mysterious calmness." He pondered thoroughly.

After hanging out for a couple days close to Strange Birds establishment gathering pertinent information, Territory's review read as follows:

"Looking for original art works, upcycled crafts, commissioned art, vintage clothing and décor or accent furniture? Then you really need to stop in at 300 Broadway Street North and descent downstairs to Strange Birds for a real treat. Strange Birds according to Casse was conceived for an art/music creative outlet away from home. Kuki was raised in a rural area of Louisiana and is a Navy Veteran. Casse on the other hand was always encouraged to pursue her creative ambitions and was always creatively inclined. She grew up in a metropolitan setting and prefers working in the city but retreating to the rural areas for the solitude and quietness of the rural venue. They clearly relay that they wish to share their stories and their adventures through the mediums that they hold most dear.

They are "dedicated to highlighting the original, unique, and curiously useful things they create as original, unique and curiously useful."

Casse says, "One week we may feature original art, while the next we may clear the floor for a social event or unplugged performance. No matter how it comes out, the fact remains that we feel most whole when we are creating and sharing; we created this space as a platform for community, for catharsis, and for a good bit of shameless laughter and welcome feelings, regardless where you come from. When you have a free weekend minute, come by to check out our art. Gift yourself a bit of vintage kitsch. Have a giggle at our clearly non-Minnesota accents. Or, just say "Hi." I, Territory could not have put it in better words. He had also overheard the pretty gal tell someone articulately describing themselves as, "I am Casse, Pennsylvania "Nice" who only likes chemistry if it is in a Paterson tank. On the other hand, Kuki, my husband, infuses engineering everywhere he can and is a fountain of southern charm hailing from Louisiana."

Their goal is to have a working studio, and in the future introduce more artists. You certainly won't be disappointed if you stop in. However, you will experience disappointment if you don't meet these two creative souls and share in their depths of existence. Their form of artistry is exceptionally distinctive and should not be missed nor overlooked.

As in Casse's words, "Strange Birds inaugural address represents a lifetime of sharing and making and dreaming just beginning to come true. We are bringing our stories from everywhere back to the places we call home."