



Rental Policy

At a council meeting a councilmember requested a reevaluation of the Rental Policy specially involving the item of a Building Host requirement for rental of four hours or less. It was discerned that the majority of the rentals involved Civic organizations. It had been determined that the old facility facilitated more rental than the newer building. Comment was made regarding being saddened to see rentals being utilized elsewhere. Continual tweaking of the policy was necessary was the council's determination. These could be pursued at a work session. Price comparisons were also discussed for possible review.

Need information regarding renting the city hall? Have computer access? Go to www.cityofcarver.com/facility-rentals for more information.

Fee Schedule

The council reviewed the drafted ordinance amending identified fees charged by the city for the fee schedule. Estimates for an additional water treatment facility is anticipated. A long-term financial plan determined necessary increases to generate positive cash flows for future system improvements and growth. The council is considering fee increase for utility connection charges. Question was asked when the last increase for utility fees were incurred. The city manager responded that last year was the increase of fees and a base fee added, as well. It had been several years prior since there had been an increase the council was told by the mayor. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the ordinance amending said fees for the city.

Pet Store Ordinance

The council was presented with information relating to the Humane Pet Store Ordinance involving the limitation regulating sales of cats and dogs in pet stores requiring a certificate of source for each animal to be posted, as well as the city's right to perform an inspection of the premises. Question was asked regarding the certificate stating where the animal's origin was and that the stores could not euthanize said animals. The ordinance was for the purpose of discouraging puppy mills. It was not pertaining to the hosted adoption days. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the ordinance related to the sales of cats and dogs in pet stores.

Incentive Program

The city manager informed the council that the staff has been exploring promotion of an incentive program pertaining to Beverage Server Training for the liquor license holders. Two establishment owners were in favor of the idea. Attendance would result in credit on liquor license. Future discussions would be feasible to discuss further. The city attorney has been reviewing the topic, as well.

Spring Safety Event and Bike Rodeo

The Carver Fire Department sadly regrets that they have been forced to cancel the event due to the pandemic.

"The biggest coward is a man who awakens a woman's love with no intention of loving her"

— Bob Marley

Special Meeting

The city council held a special meeting for the purposes of the discussion of the Declaration of Emergency related to COVID-19 (Corona Virus) to consider Emergency Policy Amendments. The council reviewed the Resolution involving an extension to the period of Mayor-Declared Local Emergency. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution extending the Mayor-Declared Local Emergency.

Information was also discussed relating to the Employee Reference Manual and the Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures Policy Amendment. Motion and was and carried with all ayes adopting the Emergency Policy Amendment.

The city manager stated that notifications regarding city function ability closures has been related to the public. Changes to deadline dates will be communicated to the public given the circumstances pertaining to the local emergency due to the current pandemic. Changes would also apply to extension of special events at the city hall and the Church-by-the-River scheduled functions.

Due to the disruption the council discussed contingency plans for required city functions such as building inspections and meetings. Suggestion was submitted to change meeting times. The council was informed tht SouthWest Transit has temporarily suspended service out the Carver Station. The County Library has also suspended servicing the Express Library. The Carver Station has been closed and will remain closed until those serves are resumed.

The mayors four priorities during the pandemic in involve keeping the citizens and the city staff healthy, maintain essential services expected in the delivery of fire, police, water, municipal utilities, flood protection and snowplowing, support and advocate the business community and to maintain government transparency. Meetings would continue to be accessible and information shared. The mayor encouraged practicing distancing.

The city manager told the council when inquiry was made regarding Lakeview Industries that partnerships were being created and working on developing a face shield to help the medical industry combat the virus. The city and the county were working Lakeview Industries to identify additional space to create extra productions area.

Great River Greening Grant

The Community Development Director informed the council that the staff applied for a natural resource restoration and enhancement grant through Great River Greening for work in Creek Side Park. The grant supports projects by both the Park Commission and the city that include improvements to the Carver Creek, preservation and creation of woodlands enhancing the flood plain. The staff of Great River Greening drafted a project estimate and identified funding partners interested in the project. A letter of Support creates a strong application for funding sources. Park dedication dollars could be utilized for the required matching funds.

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.

Timber Creek

The Community Development Director discussed with the council the Timber Creek Development and the Environmental Assessment Worksheet. The council reviewed adoption of the resolution adopting the Finding of Fact, Conclusion and Record of Decision for development. Summergate Companies and Westwood Engineering completed an Environmental Assessment Worksheet relating to the Timber Creek development located on the Song property. The proposed project includes single family homes and townhomes.

The council reviewed the worksheet. Agencies and feedback have been reviewing and commenting. The purpose of the worksheet presents findings impacting necessity of an Environmental Impact Statement. It was the staff's opinion that a statement was not warranted. The next steps for the project include applications for annexation, preliminary plat, rezoning and the final plat.

The Community Development Director updated the council on the Timber Creek Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the proposed Timber Creek project. The next steps for the project include applications for annexation, preliminary plat, rezoning and the final plat. Question was asked about the feasibility of this project when the road will be closed for the Jonathan Carver Parkway improvement project planned for 2021. Access would be maintained via a frontage road from the Highway and the Town Road. Question was asked regarding a change to the timeframe schedule. The director explained that unlike the development identified as Summergate that develops lots and then sells, this development has multiple contractors. The infrastructure sets the staging process. The city will not have control over market demand changes to the timelines. Questions were asked regarding incomplete development. The director explained the reasons for the Letter of Credit where something to occur and the work is stopped, the city utilizes the mechanisms in place in the Developer's Agreement to go in and finish the work. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution and adopting the Findings of Fact, Conclusion and Record of Decision for the Timber Creek Environmental Assessment Worksheet.

Cable Communications

The city council held a Public Hearing pertaining to the Cable Communications Franchise Application. Information was reviewed by the council from Comcast and Jaguar for the applications. A summary of services provided. Jaguar would service both residential and commercial services. Jaguar Communications was also recently acquired by MetroNet which increases their capital and ability to expand.

Community Development Agency

The Community Development Director presented the council with information relating to the Community Development Agencies Grant Agreement. The agency has been working towards the development of a second building at the Carver Creek site and exploring financial options for the project. Request had been made for the city to apply for a Community Growth Partnership Initiative grant for site work on the property for this project. The coordination, site work and payments would be completed by the agency. Grant dollars awarded for the project. There is request from the city for matching funds. The agency is actively seeking financing options to make the project feasible at this time. The concept plan had been reviewed by the city already. The council discussed the issue at length with questions. Motion was made and carried with three ayes and two nays approving the Community Growth Partnership Initiative Grant agreement with the Carver County Community Development Agency.

Carver Black Sox

Looks like due to this bloody virus disrupting everyone's life and resulting in alternatives and constant changing, it appears that the Carver Black Sox season might be starting the end of April. Word of caution, that could probably change still again from the time of writing to the time of publication. Bet they are still juggling the bingo event too.

Check their website for information; www.carverblacksox.com

"One minute of patience, ten years of peace." ~ Greek proverb.

Express Library

The Express Library is now Open!

The Express Library, operated through the Carver County Library system, is open in the City of Carver. Materials can be requested online with a Carver County library card and, when the item is available, it will be delivered to the Express Library location at Carver Station, 1607 Hartwell Drive, for pickup.

For more information regarding the Express Library, visit Carver County Library's website at www.carverlib.org or call 952-448-9395, extension 1.

If you do not have a library card, you can obtain one by following a few easy steps, which are provided on the Library's website. The Library also has many resources available 24/7 with your library card. Be sure to check them out!

You can keep up to date with all that the Carver County Library has going on by checking out their Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages. Look for online opportunities to connect and more, including live streaming storytimes, videos on use of information resources, and more.

Date Change - Document Shredding

Take note, the date changed for the Document Shredding event sponsored by the Carver Lions. Bet you can't guess who or what is the culprit for that messing in our lives can you? Yea, I know, sure you can. That blankin' bloody virus. That's right, take it out on Covid-19 not the people close to you. The document shredding event is being held in coordination with the City Wide Clean-up Day (which had also been moved by the way. Why? Really? Guess.) I know, just give the information and shush....The new date is June 13th, it's a Saturday. Event will be happening at 800 Sixth Street West. Where's that? Community Park, ball fields across from the Fire Station, off of Jonathan Carver Parkway. The event begins at 9 AM until 11 AM. Got that, Saturday, June 13th. Oh yea, two box limit per vehicle and remember stay 6' away from anyone! Donations are accepted, see if you can throw money six feet away at someone? I'm sorry, I'm going a little stir crazy here hold up at home without human contact.....that's right, the virus has driven us all nuts! At least some of us, more than we already were! Pretty bad, when a person is looking forward to getting out for social contact, even if it is six feet apart, to see someone huh? Hey, maybe we could stop at the liquor store and grab a bottle and sit down (six feet apart remember) and shoot the breeze? One can dream can't they?

Carver Clean Up Day

Carver Clean-up day is not as exciting as the shredding event information. (Sad) Unless you consider waving at your neighbor in this isolation, no wait, it's called social distancing. Anyway, if you remember what your neighbor looks in these times of nutsville, you can wave sadly like when you are in a parade at them? Oh goodie. I'll see someone besides the people on tv who don't answer me. I know, shush, shush and give you the information, June 13th the Clean-up Day will be held in Carver for the residents of Carver. Pick up is scheduled to begin at 7 AM. Wave out the window at the human being outside. They usually taller than three feet and stand on two legs, not four. That was the dog on four legs, or maybe the raccoon to retrieve what he or she could use before the human came and took it. This human will do curbside collection for items placed on the curb. Remember though, it can't be more than eight feet wide or eight feet long, or higher than four feet. Hey, that's two feet taller than that guy down the street. There are certain items that they won't take too. Check out the flyer to determine if you can set it on the curb to be taken away.

Carver Business Alliance

"The Carver Business Alliance is a collaboration of business owners, community leaders, and local officials working together to promote, enhance, and create opportunities for commerce in the City of Carver. Business roundtable discussions are held and City of Carver updates are provided at each meeting."

They meet 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 is May 15th.

"One minute of patience, ten years of peace."

~ Greek proverb



Carver Community Youth Baseball / Softball Association

Submitted by Greg Riggs

For more information: www.ccybsa.sportssignup.com

"The CCYBSA is continuing to closely monitor the impact of the Coronavirus/COVID-19. As previously communicated, we are committed to keeping you, the players and family members safe. The CCYBSA is continuing to follow the same procedures and safeguards as the Eastern Carver County School District, as well as the City of Carver. Both of these organizations are following the guidelines sent out by the CDC and the MN Dept of Health. With the recent communications coming from all of these organizations this past week, the CCYBSA has made the following decisions to the 2020 season:

Community (In-House) Baseball, Softball, & T-Ball Try-On – The CCYBSA again has made the decision to *not* hold a try-on for the Community Baseball and Softball Players. *This will also now include the T-Ball program* for the 2020 Season. There will not be a try-on for any CCYBSA program for the 2020 Season going forward. **CCYBSA Player Clinics** – The CCYBSA has made the tough decision to *not* hold any Player Clinics this spring in preparation for the 2020 season. The CCYBSA will now look to use the lesson plans that have been developed for this spring and use them for the 2021 spring season.

CCYBSA Registrations – The CCYBSA has made the decision to *extend* the registration deadline for the Community Baseball/Softball programs as well as for the T-Ball program through Saturday, May 2nd. You may register at <https://ccybsa.sportssignup.com/site/>

At this time, the CCYBSA is planning that there will be a delay in the start of the season, for perhaps all programs. So, if you haven't registered yet for the 2020 season or know of anyone who hasn't registered yet, we encourage you to register. We will continue to monitor the latest updates coming from the key organizations in helping to plan for the 2020 season. Any updates to this timeline, will be communicated out.

The CCYBSA's top priority is the safety and health of all players and families. The CCYBSA would also like to share that during this unprecedented time we are all facing, we are all being impacted by this pandemic in one way or another, some more than others. If any CCYBSA family is facing a financial hardship during this time and would like to cancel their registration and receive a full refund, please send an email to ccybsa.reg@gmail.com and we will process your request and refund your registrations fees in a timely fashion. The CCYBSA wishes you and your family with continued health and safety during these times while we all face this pandemic."

Carver Current

Looking for what is going on locally? Check out www.carvercurrent.com. Well worth checking. An excellent source of information of city updates, local organization events, local news, school activities, sports results etc. Also, a great site for sharing important information and events affecting local residents. The newsletter, the "Villager Tower" can also be found on this website, among other valuable information.

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Roots Return

Lori Cox

Visiting the farm....The Farm Stand is now closed. Thank you to customers for all your support.

**We will look at CDC and MN Guidelines to allow u-pick at the farm. Check Roots Return' Facebook page for updates.

"Genius is nothing but a great aptitude for patience."

~ George-Louis de Buffon

Carver Lions

Support the Carver Lions! The Carver Lions Club is a chartered club and part of Lions International. They were chartered in 1973. They meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month (except summer), They meet at the Carver City Hall Community Room at 316 Broadway.



Currently, April meetings were cancelled, Check with a Lion about May and June meeting dates. Check their website or Facebook for further updates; www.carverlions.org Double check their website and Facebook pages for any changes that may be come up since publication.

The Carver Lions have however been busy behind the scenes putting community events together. The Annual Shredding Event is scheduled for Saturday, June 13th, 9 AM to 11 AM at the Community Park. Please 2 box limit per vehicle and paper only. Donations are gladly accepted.

The Lions have also rescheduled their Pork Chop Dinner for Friday, May 29th and will begin serving at 4 PM. The event will be held at the Carver Community Hall. Until 8 PM you can eat pork chops, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, vegetable, baked beans, bread, dessert and a beverage. Bar service will also be available for purchase. Advance tickets are \$ 12. Contact a Lion's member. At the door, the cost is \$ 14. Kids ages five through ten is \$ 6 and kids four and under will eat free. What a terrific way to get back to somewhat of a normalcy, join everyone at the dinner?

Sounds pretty good doesn't it, after we all have been social distancing and deprived human contact?

"See you there."

"What was that, you can't get there until four-thirty."

"Oh, okay."

"Anyone seen that pesky raccoon?"

District # 112

The Minnesota Governor has closed schools for the rest of the 2020 school year due to the Covid-19 virus. Distance Learning will be continued through the end of the school year, June 2nd. Double check the school's website for any updates, and / or changes. (www.district112.org)

The school district has also been ensuring that students have access to food and is a priority for the district. "With the closure of schools and transition to distance learning, making sure no child goes hungry has become even more important and more of a logistical challenge. Since the school closure began March 16th, the number of meals distributed has more than doubled from 1,511 meals the first week to 3,976 in week three of distance learning."

The district's *Angel Fund* partners with the district to ensure access for students in need. If you need to know more or need help, go to the school's website and check for more information and forms.

There are designated meal pick up sites and times on their website. More information about locations and times are posted on the website. If you don't have a computer, call 952.361.6150. It should also be noted that the school bus drivers at STA (Student Transportation of America / Positive Connections) has also been delivering meals to students twice a week on Monday and Wednesdays. Thanks, are extended to all the dedicated people involved in these crazy, looney tunes of social distancing, closures and lack of human contact.

You are responsible for your happiness. In fact, you create it. You attract it. You manifest it. You are the architect of your reality. You choose your thoughts, your perceptions, and your reaction to external forces. You possess all of the tools needed to expand your awareness, to orchestrate the evolution of your consciousness, to choose happiness, to choose love. You are that powerful. Create the life you deserve. Vibrate love.

Creig Crippen

www.lightmeadowcreations.com

"There is no road too long to the man who advances deliberately and without undue haste; there are no honors too distant to the man who prepares himself for them with patience."

~ Jean de la Bruyere

Carver Shops

Occasional Shop dates for May 14th through the 17th. Due to the uncertainty of the Bloody Coronavirus check their websties and Faebook pages for updates on each shop's availability. All Things Fabulous as on-line purchasing available. Bet the rest might also be available to you on line if you are interested and have a computer available. Remember there are those who don't have that available to them either. In these trying times, don't forget our local shops too and that they are experiencing stressful times too. A kind word might be refreshing if you can't buy anything too. Let's stick together and be kind.

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

Ripple Art Studio & Gallery - FB

Strange Birds - facebook.com/strangebirdsmn/Website

The Good Junk Garage – Facebook

204 Studio - photography – Website

SomeWhat Crafty - Facebook

Temperance Arts & Gifts – Facebook



East Union Lutheran Church

Welcome to East Union Lutheran Church
East Union Lutheran Church is suspending Worship Services as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Watch our website for current updates.

East Union Lutheran Church will be holding a Flower and Plant Event on Saturday May 9, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This event will offer hanging flower baskets and a variety of bedding plants to the community without charge. Due to the COVID pandemic this will not be a sale, and the quantity of flowers and plants is less than in previous years. East Union Lutheran will accept free will donations during the event. All proceeds above cost will be distributed to local food shelves and charitable organizations. Please honor social distancing standards during the event.



West Union Lutheran Church

In person worship canceled.
Since no decision is the wrong decision at this point, we are choosing to stay safe and healthy and cancel in person worship thru April. We will take this pandemic and the CDC's recommendations one week at a time.

While all the closures and cancellations may seem ominous, it really is an act of social solidarity. We stand with and hope to give our doctors, nurses, and hospital staff a fighting chance. Let's start here and pray this gets resolved with as few deaths as possible. However, the Church personnel would like you to know that Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 6th through the 9th. And in June there is a worship service planned with Jolly Ramblers polka band. More information to be updated as time passes.

"We fell asleep in one world, and woke up in another.

Suddenly Disney is out of magic,
Paris is no longer romantic, New York doesn't stand up anymore, The Chinese wall is no longer a fortress, and Mecca is empty.

Hugs and kisses suddenly become
Weapons, and not visiting parents and friends becomes an act of love.

Suddenly you realize that power, beauty and money are worthless, and can't get you the oxygen you're fighting for.

The world continues its life and it is beautiful. It only puts humans in cages. I think it's sending us a message:

"You are not necessary. The air, earth, water and sky without you are fine. When you come back, remember that you are my guests. Not my masters,"

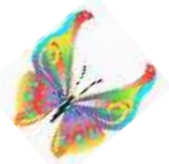
~ Julian Kerr



Community Highlights

May 2020

May 1st May Day
Happy Birthday Texan!
Happy Birthday Barb!
May 3rd Happy Birthday CarolAnne!
May 4th Council Meeting
School Board Work Session
Happy Birthday Anistasia!
May 5th Cinco De Mayo
Happy Anniversary Kris and Lee!
Happy Birthday Jim!
May 6th Carver Lion's Meeting
May 7th Happy Birthday Cassie!
May 8th Happy Birthday Madison!
May 9th Happy Birthday Chris!
May 10th Mother's Day
Happy Birthday Traci!
May 11th Parks Commission Meeting
Dahlgren Township Board Meeting
May 12th Heritage Preservation Commission
Meet and Greet
May 13th Happy Birthday Breana!
Happy Birthday John!
May 15th Carver Business Alliance Meeting
Happy Birthday Tim!
May 16th Armed Forces Day
May 17th Happy Birthday Matthew!
May 18th Council Meeting
School Board Meeting
Happy Anniversary Erin and Luke!
May 19th Happy Birthday Scheryl!
May 20th Carver Lion's Meeting
Happy Birthday Tiffany!
May 21st Planning Commission
Happy Anniversary Scheryl and Leon!
Happy Birthday Julie!
May 23rd Happy Birthday Jackman!
May 26th Memorial Day
May 28th Happy Birthday Keith!
May 29th Carver Lions Pork Chop Dinner
May 30th Happy Birthday Craig!
May 31st Happy Birthday Karalyn!
Happy Anniversary Bruce and Bonnie!



"Patience is the calm acceptance
that things can happen in a
different order than the one you
have in mind."

~David G Allen



East Union Lutheran Church



PLANT SALE



May 9 2020

9 AM - 12 PM

**15180 County Road # 40
Carver MN 55315**

Pork Chop Dinner

Updated: Mar 25

RESCHEDULED - Friday, May 29

Serving 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Carver Community Hall

316 Broadway, Downtown Carver



Enjoy pork chops, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, vegetable, baked beans, bread, dessert & beverage.

Bar service available for purchase.

Tickets:

\$12.00 in advance

\$14.00 at the door

\$6 Kids 5 - 10 years

Kids 4 & under eat free!

Call Dean at 952-221-2884 for info.

Ask your local Lions member for tickets.

Night Marauders - Old Fire Hall - Trespassing Still

At 108 Fourth Street East, it only seemed appropriate that antique, artists, vintage or occasional shop vendors would all be attracted to this Old Carver Fire Hall with the buff-colored brick decorum built about 1880. A fire bell once occupied the roof. That bell is now housed at the new Fire Station. The street department personnel also used to house city equipment in the confines of this old structure prior to the grander uplifting of antiques adorning its crevices.

Its latest tenant was Mustard Moon, Jane has since vacated the space leaving still another void and empty space in the unique village attracting more and more antique vendors. Then Mary moved from Broadway into the Old Fire Hall to utilize the facility as her "working studio environment", she was heard telling an acquaintance.

The marauders snuck in quietly. The interior was pretty bare on their first trip. It was a long and narrow building but space was sufficient enough for creative designers. Rascal was busy romping about with no one inhibiting his movements here. Bandeet was examining several areas carefully for clues for anything showing signs of once inhabited space. Raschevious was curious and listening intently to Territory's history lesson.

"Do you know that the 1927 GMC Fire Truck that was bought from the dealership in Carver is still owned by the department?"

"What dealership?" Raschevious asked.

"Dauwalter Chevrolet/Buick dealership on Broadway."

"How do you know so much? Or any of this stuff?" Raschevious asked curiously and impressed.

"I pay attention to humans' conversations."

They walked towards the back of the building.

"What else do you know?"

"There used to be a jail in the back here, but was dismantled."

"Any of signs of where?" Rascal was suddenly interested in the conversation.

"Have to look." Territory answered nonchalantly dismissing Rascal.

"Wonder if another antique vendor will occupy this space again?" Raschevious said out loud rhetorically.

"Dunno. We'll see." Territory responded.

As it turned out, an artist occupied the space to claim as her own. The walls were covered with chip board and painted grey with screws holding it in place throughout the long narrow space of the interior. Shelves were secured throughout the walls displaying art. Easels were set up. Their second trip involved checking what Ripple Art Studio & Gallery spiced up the brick walls with terrific art samples. Territory examined the intricate details of art pieces, canvases and supplies.

"What's this?" Raschevious was reaching out to touch.

"Don't touch anything." Territory barked irritably. "How many times to have to tell you, don't touch anything?"

Raschevious retreated a few steps back and pulled his paw close to his body and cocked his head to examine Territory.

"You need to take a chill pill." Raschevious softly suggested.

"Bandeet. Get down from there before you break something?" Territory was extremely grouchy this eve.

"Touchy, are we?" Bandeet cowered close to Raschevious.

"This is a camera." Territory looked carefully to make sure nothing was turned on, "She does live video instructions here in her studio you numb skull." Territory explained.

Territory determined that nothing had been turned on.

"Video instructions on what?" Bandeet timidly ventured to quiz.

"How to draw, paint, make a picture." Territory snarled, "What do you think an artist teaches? How to make eggs?"

Raschevious looked at Bandeet quizzically, shaking his head and slowly backing to the exit to retreat to the exterior of the long structure. They were no more outside when Lavender began stomping and her tail was raising.

"Run." Bandeet screamed.

The car pulled up, Territory heard keys rattling and whispered to his comrades without realizing they had already departed. Territory heard the lock click and the door opening. Swiftly he scampered to the back of the building and up the chip board as his nails dug in and slipped out the entry they had come in from.

"Really Lavender?" Territory grumbled.

"I tried to warn you." Lavender sighed.

"P.U." Territory moaned. "Seriously Lavender. Now my eyes and nose and my throat burn. Can't you tone the spray down?"

"I'm sorry Territory." Lavender sniffed, asking, "What's wrong with you, don't you feel good?"

"I'm fine." Territory grunted.

"No, you are not." Lavender responded miffed and strutted away. "I'm not the only one who has noticed either."

"Lavender wait."

Territory followed grumbling to himself all the way back to the river bottoms.

Territory began working on the review right away while things were fresh on his mind. He was disappointed that there was not much to see or comment on. It was more an empty working studio lacking warmth, coziness and that welcoming feeling since the owner was doing more virtual instructing, mentoring and teaching mode than actually collaborating with people face to face. Then there was that emptiness of the long narrow room with the canvases, easels, shelves and art work but lacking the human factor that someone or people existed. The quiet, hollow, dark and empty feeling resonated more than the sounds of talking, laughing, sharing within the confines. The art work displayed was moving, interesting, lovely and good, but somehow the human touch was just not reaching out to him and inspiring the enthusiasm of former raids. It unnerved him. Somehow, he felt the art work itself should speak to him. Was he missing something? Or was his mood infringing on his perceptions. He closed his eyes and envisioned the lovely artwork he had seen. They were gorgeous. They should have spoken volumes to him. He was convinced his own dissatisfaction with himself impaired his ability to perceive what he was supposed to absorb from the canvas that the creator had worked so hard to portray through the picture. He remembered the purple iris, or was it a tulip, watercolor canvas. It was lovely. He really liked it. That was when Raschevious was about to touch the button. So, his mood was broken and he lost that connection. It had to have had been his mood that interfered with this trip. He should have rescheduled their visit. It was too late now. It was done. There was no going back. He sighed and set his pad and pencil down.

"You have failed this round Territory." He said to himself out loud. "Perhaps I will try later." He closed his eyes. Later didn't come. He missed his deadline and he had been unable to get back down to the studio to listen to her live art class to do her justice in his review.