



Volume XXXXIX

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Number Three Hundred Seventy-Three



Food Trucks

The Community Development Director discussed with the council a previous topic involving Food Truck Regulation within the city. In the past, discussions had been held regarding regulations involving the operation of vehicles in the downtown location. The issue was covered to a point under the City's Transient Merchant requirements involving an application process. Permits since those discussions had increased in the past several years. Presently, the permits involve vendors operating at the Mills Fleet Farm parking lot. The regulation being reviewed involves questions of whether or not the processes or regulations are meeting community expectations, or if the provisions are related to other items involved such as operation times, places and insurance requirements. There was also a review of unintended consequences. Discussions continue on the topic.

Continued discussion relating to the item of food trucks operating in the city was held. The Community Development Director presented information pertaining to the possibility of adopting regulations related to food trucks. The primary discussion concerns involved generator noises. The discussion included current processes and regulations, provision to operation times, locations and the unintended consequences to regulating the vehicles. Different options were discussed and reviewed. Presently, no additional actions will be taken at this time.

Third Street Bridge

The city engineer discussed the current state of the Third Street Bridge. The council and the engineer are reviewing funding options and the time schedules with the MN Department of Transportation, levee design considerations for future bridge elevations, and begin the application for funding and finalization of replacement plans. The council reviewed the options presented. The city staff was directed to proceed with development of plans and the submittal of funding applications.

Utility Terrain Vehicles

The council reviewed the drafted Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) ordinance amendment with the city attorney. The council had had the opportunity to not only an introduction but discuss with the attorney who will replace the city's present retiring attorney. An updated draft UTV ordinance amendment was reviewed involving transference of previous issued permits. Clarification states permit remains with the UTV, providing a mechanism for the new purchaser to be allowed continued use of the unexpired permit within the City of Carver. The council consensus was to continue with the presented amendment changes. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the ordinance amending section related to the UTV Ordinance.

Planning Commission Meetings

Discussion was held regarding the necessity of holding meetings when topics were not relevant. Generally, work sessions are held. The decision was made that commission meetings which are application driven will remain on the calendar until the time that if there are not any applications, the meeting will or can be cancelled.

"Me yelling at a squirrel to move out of the road, so it's not crushed by tires, is probably the same feeling God has watching me live my life."

~ Facebook

Timber Creek

The Community Development Director discussed the resolution to approve the Preliminary Plat for the Timber Creek development. The council reviewed requests involving the proposed Timber Creek development that included the Environmental Assessment Worksheet, concept plan and annexation. The Preliminary Plat plan include three hundred forty-eight residential units, seventy-four townhomes and two hundred-seventy-four single family homes, an expansion to Ironwood Park, trail, sidewalk systems, extension of the City's infrastructure to include as extension of Monroe Drive. Decision had been made that Monroe Drive will be constructed on Timber Creek property and the Hammers property. This construction is consistent with the plat plans. The Planning Commission also held a public hearing to deal with questions recommending approval of the Preliminary Plat. The Planning Commission also reviewed the Rezoning request for the same development. The property is located south of the Meridian Fields development and west of Copper Hills. There are approximately one hundred and sixty-one acres recently annexed. There will also be a mixture of single-family lot sizes.

Discussion of the Timber Creek development also included trail connectivity proposals. The southwest corner of the project is open for future development. The Community Development Director indicated that the properties in the areas are not anticipated for development due to the topography. However, Carver County has indicated the possibility of developing regional trails in the future and this area may be considered for just that purpose at that time. The anticipated proposed notions involve a paved trail for commuting to Waconia. The affordability component was inquired about for this development. It was indicated that the townhome section is the closest item offered. Comment was also inserted that land and lumber costs are steadily increasing. The costs of entry points for the townhomes were discussed, along with the entry points for the Heritage Series single family homes. Association fees were talked about. Connection to the Lenzen property was asked about given the topography of the area. Re-sloping would be necessary. Affordability options were also discussed. Contact is anticipated to be made with Carver County CDA to discuss housing options. Drainage concerns were addressed by the city engineer. There are some erosion concerns. The time to assess this issue is presently in order to redirect water which can be factored into the plan at this time. During the final plat reviews for the planning of Phase 4, the information will be taken into consideration. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution approving the Preliminary Plat for the Timber Creek development.

Levee

The mayor participated in an informational meeting with Senator Coleman and the Administrator for the Senate's Capital Investment Committee. Information was shared by the city's mayor involving the fact that the levee improvement project be included on the committee's radar for their 2022 bonding cycle. The council was also made aware that the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the US Department of Transportation and a representative from Senator Smith's office contacted the city. The city's certified levee project made Representative Emmer's list of Congressional Director's Spending. Emails were sent requesting the submittal of letters supporting the project.

Happy 4th of July

Jonathan Carver Parkway Project

The city engineer presented an update on the Jonathan Carver Parkway project. The discussion included road closure, night work, work coordinated with the school district and the upcoming full closure north of Sixth Street to Ironwood. MN Dot also is reviewing the detour route at Highway #212 and County Road #43. There are safety concerns at this intersection which could result in changes. Communication updates continue. The location of speed bump placement were reviewed and discussed. The bumps will stay in place until the completion of the JCP project projected to be finalized in fall. Law enforcement was also discussed by the council. Additionally, discussion occurred regarding additional speed bump placement addressing the traffic on Fourth Street, Sixth Street, Lylewood Parkway and Mount Hope Road were reviewed. Heavy traffic increase will result in city staff implementing measures to manage not only traffic but speed by the usage of additional speed bumps and law enforcement.

Councilmember had a question regarding the signage on Jonathan Carver Parkway and Highway #212. On the west side of the bridge there is a sign denoting branding and promotion of the City of Carver. Question was submitted as to the cost and possibility of a sign also be erected on the east side. The request would require contact with MN DOT. Then there was the issue of feasibility and cost. The city engineer was directed to make inquiries.

the Fire Chief and Assistant city engineer provided an update to the eight-week closure of JCP during the improvement project. The current plan in place will be the Chaska Fire Department personnel respond to fire calls and identified emergencies on the north side of Sixth Street. The Carver personnel will still respond. Medical emergencies will be handled by Ridgeview. A commanding officer will be constantly monitored.

The assistant engineer clarified that the entire road will be closed until September. The eight-week period involves the entire Sixth Street intersection which will be closed for the roundabout construction interrupting the access of the fire trucks getting through the area. Question was asked regarding the completion prior to school starting. It is the proposed completion given all goes as planned without any unexpected difficulties.

Carver Bluffs Lift Station

The council discussed the Carver Bluffs Lift Station item with the assistant city engineer. The council discussed approval of plans and specifications along with an order for advertisement of bids for the lift station rehabilitation project. Previously, authorization had been granted for preparation for plans and specifications. Options had been reviewed. Direction provided were to rehabilitate the existing lift station. The anticipated project delivery schedule for said project is tentatively to approve the plans and specifications and order advertisement for bids in June, public bidding to occur in July and the project award construction to occur during summer of 2021. This project is included in the long-term financial plan and a capital improvement project.

Employee Service Awards

The mayor presented Employee Service Awards to the appropriate personnel. The following Employee Service Awards and congratulations were given for their years of service to the City of Carver: 15 Year Service Award: Mark Schmitz, Firefighter 20 Year Service Award: Brenda Efta, Utility Billing Clerk 20 Year Service Award: Michael Ruegamer, Firefighter and 25 Year Service Award: Jesse Mechtel, Firefighter. Mayor Johnson also welcomed Nick Jorgenson, Building Official, to the City of Carver; his previous position was identified as Building Inspector. Congratulations to everyone.

Carver Current

Know about the Carver Current website? Good source for finding and posting local information for the area. Check out www.carvercurrent.com Well worth checking out. 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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"Love cures people - both the ones who give it and the ones who receive it."

~ Karl A Menninger

City Attorney

The council reviewed the city attorney appointment process. It was the mayor's belief that the city have a plan in place in light of the upcoming retirement of the present attorney. The city manager identified two options available to fill this position. The first option was to work with the current attorney's office and utilize the interim attorney through the end of the year, followed by a Request for Qualifications. The second alternate would be to invite Request for Qualifications presently to have an individual in place by fall. The City Manager was directed to pursue the Request for Qualifications now.

The council revisited the issue with the city manager regarding the Request for Qualifications regarding the city attorney position. The City of Carver operates as a Statutory B Municipality, also referred to as Council-Manager form of government. As a Statutory B municipality, the council is responsible for appointing the City Manager and Attorney. The city manager in turn makes all other personnel appointments. The city's present attorney from the firm of Melchert Hubert Sjodin recently announced his retirement effective the end of June, 2021. Direction was given to prepare Request of Qualifications to see proposals for city attorney services. The anticipated process and selection schedule has begun. The interview process is scheduled to begin in July. The ultimate goal is to achieve an appointment as early as September. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the Request for Qualifications for city attorney services and directing the city manager to solicit proposals.

Downtown Sidewalks

The 2021 Downtown Sidewalk Repair Project was reviewed by the council with the city manager. The city needed to authorize the completion of the sidewalk repairs. Approval had been given approving the repairs in sections of the sidewalk in the downtown district. The areas included Third Streets east and west, complete repair on the east and west side of a section of Broadway, as well as half of the west side of another section of Broadway. There were several trip hazards. Prior to the work commencing, notices will be forwarded to the adjacent property owners. Inspections will also be done.

Sixth Street Reconstruction

The assistant city engineer discussed with the council the Sixth Street West Reconstruction project and the Local Road Improvement Program Grant Award from MN DOT. The council was required to accept the 2020 Local Road Improvement Program Grant by adoption of a resolution. An overview was presented and it had been identified of the necessity for reconstructing Sixth Street West serving as a city main collector road. The street conveys significant amounts of stormwater run-off that cannot be adequately maintained with the existing storm sewer system resulting in localized flooding, icing issues, and private property impact. An application had been submitted for the grant for local roads that are regionally significant, result in safety improvements, address transportation deficiencies and contribute to economic development. The city received notification that selection had been made for the grant program with full program funding identified for this project. This project will include and address major components, full depth bituminous pavement reclamation, enhancements to existing storm sewer conveyance system to alleviate localized flooding issues, pedestrian and bicycle mobility improvements. The project work would begin in fall with design, plans, specifications, and state aid approvals. Construction slated for the spring of 2022. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution accepting the 2020 Local Road Improvement Program Grant Award from MN DOT for the Sixth Street West Reconstruction Project.

Disclaimer

Information in this newsletter is for information only and is comprised from the unapproved minutes were referenced for 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.

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"Life ought to be a struggle of desire toward adventures whose nobility will fertilize the soul."

~ Rebecca West

Ironwood Park

The Community Development Director discussed the Ironwood Park with the council. Since the development, expansion of Ironwood Park has been considered and planned for by the Parks Commission, city, school, and the Timber Creek development which pushes the development west of the park opening up the opportunity for planning and programming. As part of the Timber Creek project, the city will acquire an additional estimated four acres for park land off of Monroe Drive. The Parks Commission will be working on the kick off of the Ironwood Planning. These work sessions should be high level with the Parks Commission engaging in the detail and process over summer and fall. Once the draft is prepared, the school district would be included for comments and review. Park improvements are expected to be funded the Park Dedication fund.

Water Treatment Plant

The assistant City engineer gave the council updates on the water treatment plant. The new backwash reclaim tank is complete. The internal site utility work is underway and preparations for the building expansion foundation work is being done. The well drilling for Well 5 has been accomplished. Question was asked about blue hydrants. Response was that blue identifies raw or untreated water mains while the red hydrants flag finished water.

Carver Black Sox

Submitted by: Jeff Tuma

The Black Sox were Runner-up in Green Isle/Hamburg Tournament.

Jeff's updated news, but remember it is out of time sync with most of the information already having occurred. Did you hear that our very own town team defeated Young America's team? Jeff said, "Black Sox Defeat Young America 8-3."

The Carver Black Sox took a 2 game lead in the CRVL South Division with an 8-3 victory on Wednesday evening in Young America.

The Black Sox came back from an early 2-0 deficit to take a 3-2 lead in the 5th inning on a walk to Adam Fredericks and back-to-back doubles by Connor Cornell and Jay Bresnahan. Young America tied it at 3-3 with a sacrifice fly in the 6th.

Carver then put up 5 runs in the top of the 8th on 4 singles and a "no-doubt" two-run Home Run by Dan Gastuch. Gastuch led the way at the plate collecting 3 hits and 2 RBI, with 8 of the 9 starting Black Sox players contributing hits.

Andrew Weber threw well in 5 1/3 innings before yielding to Alex Twenge, who came on with runners at first and second in the 6th. A 5-4-3 double play ended the inning; then Twenge retired the next 6 batters in order with 4 strikeouts. Jacob Booden came on in the 9th to finish the game.

Carver played St. Boni at home on Saturday, June 26th, then faces Cologne on Sunday, June 27th. It's a busy period as the Black Sox return to action with a non-league game on June 29th at Chaska, and again on Wednesday, June 30th at Green Isle.

Interested in going to their games or watching them in action, visit their website for up to date game schedules. The newsletter is always behind since it is only published monthly. Visit their website: www.carverblacksox.com. July's games are July 6th and 7th, July 17th and 18th, July 20th and July 26th and 27th.



Carver Community Youth Baseball / Softball Association

The Carver Community Youth Baseball/Softball Association (CCYBSA) serves the Carver, Minnesota and other surrounding communities enriching the lives of every child with the desire to play baseball, softball, and t-ball while providing a fun, safe, and enjoyable youth sport experience.

Carver Lions

Do you know what you are missing out on? If you are looking to meet and make new friends and make a difference in your community, you really ought to consider joining the Carver Lions organization. They will be meeting the third Wednesday in July. Weather permitting you will find them at the Lion's Park on July 21st, if you don't find them, just go back down the hill, make a right and go to city hall. The club annually supports your kids. This year they awarded six scholarships to students once again. They are continuing their work up at the Lion's Park. They are currently working on landscaping projects. Stop up and talk to them and maybe even help? Deidre Moynagh was given a Certificate of Appreciation for her work on the gambling work for the club. Congrats to Deidre! Their outgoing President, Dean Nelson was also given the MN Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's Dream Catcher Award. [reference separate article] Congrats to Dean!

The club also held their election after having to forgo that process last year due to the Pandemic. Boy, that silly virus really messed up the global balance didn't it. The officers served extra term. Bet, they won't forget that experience ever huh? Thanks to them for all their time, energy, effort and good jobs. Don't tell anyone, but they are all probably very happy to pass the baton on this year. Snicker, snicker. Good job everyone! Their new President scheduled to take on the new responsibilities on July 1st is Durk Peterson. Welcome aboard. 1st Vice President is Kristy Mock; 2nd Vice President, Bob McCullan. Their new secretary is Kim Whaley. Keep checking their website for an updated full list of officers.

Otherwise, the club members are all busy with organizing, planning, working on and getting ready for Carver's Annual SteamBoat Days festival scheduled to occur in 2021 on September 10th through the 12th. I know for a fact that everyone is anxious to participate. Have had people asking repeatedly about the event. Don't forget, interested in what the club is about or joining, they are meeting July 21st at the Lions Park weather permitting.

Carver Business Alliance

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 meeting is July 16th.

Farmer's Markets

Reminder: The Downtown Chaska Farmer's Market now open for business in the City Square Park in downtown Chaska opening at 3 PM and closing up at 6 PM. This market will run every Wednesday through September 8th. There will not be any markets on August 18th or 25th. Everyone is invited to come join the vendors. Farmer's Markets are hosted by SW Metro Chamber of Commerce. Victoria's Farmer's Market will be opening July 1st. Check the SW Metro Chamber of Commerce website for more information.

Newsflash! In case you hadn't heard, Carver will also be participating in the Farmer's Market circuit. The Carver event will begin on July 13th through September 28th on Tuesdays, also from 3 PM to 6 PM. Where you ask? At the Carver Community Park.

To find out what one is fitted to do, and to secure an opportunity to do it, is the key to happiness."

~ John Dewey



"Villager Tower"

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Carver Shops

Occasional Shop dates are normally held the third week of the month. Check websites and Facebook pages for updates on each shop's availability. Support our local shops too. July's Occasional Shop dates are July 15th through the 18th.

The Shops of Carver:

Carver Creamery – NOW OPEN - The Carver Creamery FB
Carver General – Facebook - Occasional Shop Dates
Old Carver Fishing Bait and Tackle - Facebook
Ripple Art Studio & Gallery – www.rippleartstudio.com
Ripple Art Studio & Gallery - FB
Strange Birds - facebook.com/strangebirdsmn/Website
The Good Junk Garage – Facebook
SomeWhat Crafty - Facebook
Temperance Arts & Gifts – Facebook

The Funky Dove – Facebook

Summer 2021

Chaska's scheduled 'Chaska Summer Concert Series'. At the Fireman's Park, July 16th, Friday, 7 PM – 8:30 PM, Salsa delSant Latin Band; on Friday, July 23rd at City Square from 7 PM to 8:30 PM will be the MN Valley Community Band; last on Tuesday, July 27th at the Firemen's Park at 5:30 PM to 8 PM playing Kids Dance, Music DJ. August's line up will be printed in next month's edition of the "Villager Tower" or go to the Chaska Community Center's website for more information.

The Arts Consortium now located at the Chaska Community Center has scheduled exhibits for all summer. The Arts Consortium is also requesting artist to 'Express Yourself in Purple'. Exhibit planned for June 2nd through July 3rd.

July's Exhibit, Micro Mystery Tour and September Honor Cultures Exhibit. There's more. For more information, go to www.artsofcarvercounty.org. Artstock Art event too, check website for more information and reference article in the newsletter.

Recreation on Wheels is scheduled to begin their fun. This is a mobile recreation program at the Chaska Veteran's Park. This will be on Wednesdays beginning June 23 through August 11th starting at 10 AM and ends at 11:30 AM. There will not be any program on July 7th. What exactly is this. It's the Block Party Wagon full of interactive games and equipment to facilitate unique and engaging outdoor activities for kids of all ages. There are group games, craft activities and fun fitness challenges promoting physical activity and interactions.

Don't forget the Beach Blanket Kids Dance Party on Tuesday, July 27th starting at 5:30 PM until 8 PM at the Chaska Fireman's Park. Bring your own beach blanket to some and shake, rattle and roll.

The Chaska 36th Annual Taste of Chaska has been slated to occur in August, Wednesday, August 18th to be specific. Will follow up later with more information. The Chamber hosts this event and considers it a great evening for the community to connect with local businesses and neighbors, as well as sample the variety of foods.

Don't forget these fun activities. Valleyfair is open. Don't forget the Beach Blanket Kids Dance later in July. The State Fair is scheduled to happen. The Renaissance Festival in August will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Little bird told the editor SteamBoat Days plans are in the works too. Oh goodie! Stay tuned for other events this editor can find. Remember too, the return of Fire and Ice in Chaska scheduled for October.

South West Metro Chamber of Commerce



The chamber is sponsoring River City Days Business and Health Expo during River City Days. The expo will be held Friday, July 24rd at 4 PM until 6 PM at the Chaska City Square Park in downtown Chaska. The expo is a one-stop shop for information on all types of things regarding Home and Garden, Food, Fitness and Fun. Join the chamber and experience the widely publicized community event with other businesses. The park is anticipated to be filled with people, arts and handcrafting booths, entertainment, games for kids and all kinds of other activities. Be sure to stop by to say hello.



River City Days

Want to know more about River City Days? Their event is in Chaska, and the event schedule is posted on line. www.chaskarivercitydays.com. They have music, expo, fun, games, something for everyone planned. The event begins Friday, July 23rd and runs until Sunday, July 25th. Their finale for the event is the Chaska Cubs Baseball game at the Athletics Park at 6 PM. There's a parade on Sunday at 1 PM. Enjoy. Don't forget the car show either. Always a nostalgic stroll down memory lane, eh?



Roots Return

According to Lori's Facebook page she is taking a break. It stated which is very true, "usually this time of year is when you begin hearing from me about springtime coming, what I'm planning, and how I go about it. This year is a bit different as I am renting out the farm to 4 individuals." Miss you Lori. Keep us all posted. Check her Facebook page for all kinds of interesting and great information and for any information on the Heritage Farm, go to [rrhfmypotifly.com](https://www.facebook.com/rrhfmypotifly.com)



MN Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

Have you ever heard about this organization? Or "Catch a Dream", Life without Diabetes? It was founded by the Lions Clubs of Minnesota. The members are dedicated volunteers who are strongly committed to improving the lives of people with diabetes. They raise funds, collaborate with partners to conduct diabetes research, education and sponsor preventative health activities that provide a caring and community service all while also helping to find a cure for diabetes.



There is an award given to club members and it's called the Dream Catcher Award. They adopted this award as a sign of hope that a cure for diabetes will be found. For more information, if anyone is interested, www.mnlionsdiabetes.org. Congratulations Dean Nelson!

"The Dream Catcher Legend"

As the legend goes, the Dream Catcher was used by the Woodland Indians and was hung in the lodge (near the bed). Its use was to catch dreams, good or bad. The bad dreams would get caught in the webbing and would be held there till first morning light, then burn off. Now, the good dreams were caught, and knowing their way to the hole in the center, would filter down into the feathers and be held there, only to return another night."

East and West Union Lutheran Churches

Vacation Bible School - This year's VBS will happen at West Union Lutheran Church in rural Cologne from July 12-15 from 9am-3pm for those 7+ years of age and 9am-noon for those 4-6 years old. Our theme will be "Guided by the Light" hosted by Green Lake Ministries. Please go to the website <https://www.westunionlutheran.org/vacation-bible-school> to sign up. Everyone is welcome!



"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."
~ Desmond Tutu

2021 ArtStock Art, Wine & Music Festival

CELEBRATING OUR 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY ON JULY 10 & 11!

ArtStock is a 2-day art & music festival scheduled to be held, Saturday, 7/10 starting at 10 AM and closing at 5 PM. Then again to resume at 11 AM until 5 PM on Sunday, 6/7/11. In addition to the artist booths and the picturesque, vineyard/orchard setting, live music fills the air both days enhancing this wonderful, summertime experience.

The Arts Consortium of Carver County welcomes all artists and festival-goers to this event which includes an assortment of exciting new artists, as well as old favorites, representing diverse media such as photography, sculpture, wearable arts, glass, fibers, painting, and more... there is truly something for everyone! The location will be at Parley Lake Winery 8280 Parley Lake Rd, Waconia, MN. Musicians' announcement to be a musical lineup are The Brueskes, Matt and Holly, Traveled Ground, Ted Hajnasiewicz, Lehto and Wright and the Blue Skies Band.

There will also be an ACCC fundraiser at Parley Lake Winery on Saturday evening at 7pm (July 10th), a performance by the extremely popular Monroe Crossing, an internationally known bluegrass band. Tickets will be available for purchase through Parley Lake Winery starting June 21.

The event is sponsored by the Arts Consortium of Carver County. A nonprofit organization dedicated to creating and sustaining the vibrant arts scene in Carver County... creating community through the arts and supporting the arts through community! Looking for information, contact Ms Barbara J Hone at festivals@artsofcarvercounty.org

Waconia Wine Festival

Coming very soon, the most anticipated Minnesota wine festival of all summer long! Each guest will have the opportunity to taste, explore, and enjoy a variety of wines. The Waconia Wine Festival is the perfect expression of Minnesota wines, featuring three distinctive vineyards within a 5-mile radius of each other. The Sovereign Estate, Parley Lake and Schram Vineyards are the three vineyards to visit. The perfect opportunity to visit. Each guest will have the opportunity to taste, explore, and enjoy a variety of wines. Each winery will have food, food trucks, music and more to feature throughout the event. ONE TICKET - 3 wineries! To accommodate the high demand, the Festival spans two days, Saturday, July 24 & Sunday, July 25. Guests can choose which day & what time they would like to begin their tour. Tours start every half-hour from each of the wineries. Guests will check-in at their starting winery and receive their Waconia Wine Festival souvenir tasting glass. From there, each individual will have the opportunity to sample 3 hand-selected wines from that vineyard. TRANSPORTATION INCLUDED Once guests complete their tasting, they can hop on the tour bus and make their way to the next location. Buses depart from each winery, every half-hour. If guests choose to transport themselves, they may do so as well, but all guests must follow the designated route. Advance purchase required. Must be 21. Have ID ready at check-in. Going into its 6th year, this event sells out fast!

Belle Plaine BBQ Days

Belle Plaine BBQ days for 2021 is a go. They are having a drive-thru beef stand on Friday, at 5 PM on July 16th. Check out their Facebook page or website for more information. The event will begin Saturday, July 17th and Sunday, the 18th. www.belleplainefestivals.org. Don't forget their fantastic fireworks show on Sunday evening at dusk! Their Facebook page gives the event schedule for the event.

Cologne Glad Days

Another summer event returning this year is the Cologne Glad Days. They are planning a Baseball Tournament, their 5th Annual BBQ Contest, City-wide garage sales, parade on Sunday and a Talent Show on Saturday. More information can be found on their Facebook page or www.colognegladdays.org. The fun in Cologne will begin on Thursday, July 22nd and keep having fun through Sunday, July 25th.



Excelsior's Firecracker Run

The Minnetonka Community Education celebrates 4th of July with the Excelsior Firecracker Run. Come join and enjoy challenging, scenic terrain that includes stunning views of historic downtown Excelsior and Lake Minnetonka as you navigate the 1 Mile, 5K or 10K route. With rest stops, live music and plenty of enthusiastic volunteers along the way, runners can expect a fun-filled 4th of July morning. The Firecracker Run raises money to support the Excelsior Lake Minnetonka Chamber of Commerce July 4 Fireworks and kicks-off a full day of festivities in downtown Excelsior that includes a kid's parade, popsicle social and, of course, fireworks. Minnetonka Community Education coordinates the Excelsior Firecracker Running events in partnership with the Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce is in charge of the overall July 4th Celebration in Excelsior. 30% of the proceeds from the Firecracker Running events are donated by Minnetonka Community Education to the Chamber of Commerce for the Excelsior 4th of July Fireworks display. Without the help of our wonderful volunteers, the 4th of July Excelsior Firecracker Run would not be possible. Our volunteers help with registration and packet pick up, parking and directing the runners on the routes (corner guards).

Firefly Viewing Nights

Remember as a kid, getting that mason jar and going out in the dark to catch the firefly glowing in the darkness and bring him/her in? The excitement of watching the bug glow and fly around? Well, first off, we aren't allowed to do that at the Arboretum but they have a special event planned to come and watch those fireflies. Interested?

The staff is inviting you to join them for special after-hours access to the Arboretum for viewing fireflies.

Experience the magic of summer nights at the Arb with hundreds of fireflies flashing through the sky. We're staying open late for select Firefly Viewing Nights. Bring your family - and a camera - and marvel at the wonder of these glowing winged beetles (also known as lightning bugs). The dates are: July 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 and 17 and the hours are: 8:00 - 10:30 PM.



Trinity Lutheran Church

Everyone is welcome in this place, Trinity Lutheran Church in Carver. Please join us for Worship at 9 am Sundays this summer. We believe that the church is not a building but people joined together by God through faith. Our prayer is to see our town awakened to and transformed by the love of Jesus.

Office: 952-448-3628; Email: triluthsecretary@gmail.com;

Website: trinitycarver.com; or

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchCarver



2021 Twin Cities Summer Jam

"Twin Cities Summer Jam, Minnesota's largest outdoor music festival is back at Canterbury Park for 2021!

Artists include: Zac Brown Band, Carrie Underwood, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Ashley McBryde, Brett Young, Kip Moore, Mitchell Tenpenny, Blanco Brown, Elvie Shane, Fabulous Armadillos, Ian Munsick, and 32 Below!

Festival dates are July 22-24, 2021.

Twin Cities Summer Jam was founded in 2018 as the first multi-day, multi-genre music festival in the Twin Cities, MN metro area. The goal of TC Summer Jam is to bring the best musical acts possible to an outdoor festival setting, so fans can come together for an unforgettable experience. More than 35,000 people attended the festival in its inaugural year.

Like everyone's personal playlist, ours is on shuffle. A little country here, a splash of pop there, some rock to switch things up...playlists change depending on what is HOT in the industry, and that is our goal. Find the hottest artists and the newest talent and give them a place to play to their loyal fans.

Dates: Jul 22 - Jul 24"

"There are things we don't want to happen but have to have to accept. Things we don't want to know but have to learn. And people we can't live without, but have to let go."

~ Unknown



Scott County Fair

They are encouraging double the fun, the five best days of summer for the Scott County Fair in Jordan for the summer of 2021. We all know that their grand stand events are packed full. There is lots to see, old friends, new friends, exhibits, animals, horses, cows, goats, sheet, etc, etc, music, games, fun, rides and don't forget the food. Just plain old good summer fun. The fair starts Wednesday, July 18th and runs through Sunday, August 1st. So go on, pack everyone in the car, truck, SUV, whatever and head on over to Jordan for the county fair!



Chanhassen 4th of July

The 4th of July, Independence Day, is right around the corner. We all hear about the spectacular City of Chanhassen festivities. This year is no different. Their events are scheduled to begin on Friday, July 2nd through Sunday, July 4th. There will be Family Night at the Carnival kick-off to attend, Taste of Chanhassen and Beer Garden, Street Dance, parade and finally the fireworks. For more information, visit www.ci.chanhassen.mn.us/July4th for detailed information. Happy 4th to all. Be safe, please.



Who will take Grandma?

Who will take Grandma?
Who will it be?
All of us want her,
I'm sure you'll agree.
Let's call a meeting,
Let's gather the clan.
Let's get it settled as soon
As we can.
In such a big family,
There's certainly one willing
To give her a place in the sun!

Strange how we thought,
That she'd never wear out;
But see how she walks.-
It's arthritis, no doubt,-
Her eyesight is faded,-
Her memory's dim;
She's apt to insist on
The silliest whim.
When people get older,
They become such a care!
But, the question is-where?

Remember the days when,
She used to be spry?
Baked her own cookies,
And made her own Pie?
Helped us with lessons,
And tended our seams,-
Kissed away troubles and
Mended our dreams?

Wonderful Grandma!
We all loved her so!
Isn't it dreadful she's
No place to go?

One little corner is all
She would need.
A shoulder to cry on,-
Her Bible to read,-
A chair by the window;
With sun coming through,
Some pretty spring flowers,
still covered with dew,-
Who'll warm her with love,
So she won't mind the cold?
Oh, who will take grandmother
Now that - she's old?

What? Nobody wants her?
Oh, yes there is one
Willing to give her a
Place in the sun,-
Where she won't have to
Worry or wonder or doubt,-
And she won't be our
Problem to bother about,-
Pretty soon now, God
Will give her a bed,-
But who'll dry our tears
When dear Grandma is dead?

Submitted by
Cova Whobrey

"If we could look into each other's hearts and understand the unique challenges each of us faces, I think we would treat each other more gently, with more love, tolerance and care."

~ Unknown



Community Highlights

July 2021

- July 1st Victoria Farmer's Market
- July 3rd FireFly Nights
- July 4th Excelsior's FireCracker Run 4th of July
- July 5th Happy Birthday Doug!
- July 6th Council Meeting
- Happy Birthday Mitch!
- Happy Birthday John!
- Chaska Farmer's Market
- Victoria Farmer's Market
- Happy Birthday Hunter!
- Happy Anniversary Joseph & Alina!
- FireFly Nights
- July 10th FireFly Nights
- Rising Community Festival - Mayer
- ArtStock Wine and Music Festival
- July 12th Dahlgren Township Board Meeting
- Parks Commission Meeting
- Happy Birthday Maria!
- July 13th Heritage Preservation Meeting
- Carver Farmer's Market
- Happy Birthday Dave!
- July 14th Chaska Farmer's Market
- Happy Birthday Paul!
- July 15th Occasional Shops Weekend
- Planning Commission Meeting
- Lake Minnetonka Boat Cruise
- Victoria Farmer's Market
- Happy Birthday Krissy!
- July 16th Business Alliance Meeting
- FireFly Nights
- July 17th FireFly Nights
- Belle Plaine BBQ Days
- Happy Birthday Doug!
- July 19th Council Meeting
- July 20th Taste of Norwood/Young America
- Carver Farmer's Market
- July 21st Carver Lions Meeting
- Chaska Farmer's Market
- July 22nd Cologne Glad Days through 7/25
- Victoria Farmer's Market
- Twin Cities Summer Jam through 7/24
- Happy Birthday Becky!
- July 23rd River City Expo
- River City Days
- Happy Anniversary Doug & Aletta!
- July 24th Waconia Wine Festival
- Happy Birthday Charity!
- July 25th Happy Birthday Janelle!
- Happy Birthday Marvin!
- Happy Birthday Kallie!
- Happy Birthday Bonnie!
- July 26th Carver Farmer's Market
- July 27th Beach Blanket Kids Dance
- Happy Anniversary Tony & Jane!
- July 28th Scott County Fair through Sunday
- Chaska Farmer's Market
- July 29th Victoria Farmer's Market
- Happy Anniversary Dan & Carol!
- July 30th Rails to Trails - Watertown



Night Marauders - Repeat

Territory, Raschevious, Rascal, Rhapsody, Bandeet and Lavender all were anxiously watching from the levee under the cover of the trees at the corner of Broadway and Main Streets, specifically on the north side of the 120 Broadway building. The scaffolding was going up; the huge dumpster had been dropped off behind the building.

"Who are they Territory?" Bandeet softly asked with her eyes filled with fascination.

"What are they doing?" Rascal questioned having a very difficult time sitting still as the people were mulling about.

"New owners." Raschevious snapped impatiently at all their curious questions.

"What are they doing?" Rascal repeated nervously, fidgeting and unable to be quiet or still.

"What does it look like they are doing?" Bandeet snarled edgily affected by Rascal's own inability to be still.

"It's called demolish and renovate." Raschevious decreed authoratively.

"Why?" Rascal didn't stop.

"Isn't it quite obvious?" Raschevious scowled irritably.

"No." Rascal moaned, "Territory, we all know you have the answers. Enlighten us." Lavender spoke up stomping her feet, raising her tail also become agitated with everyone's impatience.

"It's Nate and Terah." Territory calmly informed them.

"What happened to the previous owners?" Rhapsody finally spoke up to ask.

"Life happened and they moved out of state." Territory sadly revealed.

"So now what?" Rascal couldn't help himself.

"What did you do eat all the sugar in town?" Rhapsody barked finally boxing him hard forcing him to sit down.

He shook his head and sulked hurt.

Territory looked over at the frisky, spirited youngster and said very tranquilly, "It seems that this old building is just what Nate has been searching for."

"What's that?" Rascal once again blurted exited and unable to restrain his eagerness or inquisitiveness.

"Sssshhh." Raschevious scolded.

"Why?"

"Aren't you listening?" Bandeet nudged the younger inexperienced youngster.

"I don't understand." He sat brooding.

Territory serenely relayed to his eager audience, "He has wanted to renovate an old brick building on a corner for quite some time."

"Why?" Came Rascal's continuous rhetoric of the same question.

"Aren't you listening?" Bandeet nudged the younger inexperienced youngster still again.

"I just don't understand." He moped.

"Well Rascal, you have leaders, followers, dreamers and supporters. This man and woman have a dream. Together they are working towards their goal to open a coffee shop." Territory explained.

"Did you talk to them?" Rascal was still full of questions.

"I did, Rascal." He paused, "They are also seeking a bakery partner with plans to also serve sweets and pastries." Territory licked his lips and paws, already able to taste the delicacies.

However, the new owners were still working on putting the poor building back to a safe, suitable, stable and presentable state and return it to dynamic grandeur.

"You know though, so far, it's quite impressive what they have achieved." Raschevious complimented.

Territory nodded.

"What are they going to name the place Territory?" Rhapsody asked dreamily thinking about all the coffee she could just run right over to and retrieve.

"They are going to announce the name real soon." He answered, getting up to move closer for a better look, "I think they are still deciding on the name."

"What else did you learn?" Raschevious asked knowing that there had to be more.

"They fell in love with the place. It was a disaster, but we knew that when we visited the first time. They have completely removed the main floor and replaced it, the basement, cellar had an old beer cooler in it. I believe that's gone too. The cellar is in good shape now. The floor is not lopsided anymore and I think they are working on the upstairs, but I am not quite certain if that is going to be an extension to the coffee shop or an apartment."

They all listened intently to him.

"They are planning on putting an extended addition back here with a patio. I thought I saw drawings, but I really wanted to get more information from them."

"They've been too busy working." Lavender cooed, "I have never seen people work so hard as that couple. They sure are cute though." She purred, "Full of eagerness, enthusiasm and young. They have the energy for all this work."

"They tire me out watching them." Bandeet announced.

"So do they know when they are going to open or what their hours are going to be?" Raschevious questioned.

"My aren't you all full of questions today?" Territory scoffed.

"Well yea, with all the activity going on here we haven't been able to scavenge at all." Rascal complained.

"You know youngin', there are more important things in this life than what your schedule is." Bandeet scolded.

"Why are you getting mad at me?" Rascal whined.

"I think we all need a cup of coffee."

"What's their hold up?"

"The pandemic has caused all kinds of havoc on the world guys. The shortages, the costs, the ability to transport product, everything is all off balance." Territory explained. "Nothing is back on track yet. Why would anything be easy anyway?" he pointed out wisely.

"I am eager to have them open and see what else they all have planned for this place. They seem awfully creative."

Rhapsody said admirably.

"They certainly are full of never ending energy. It's going to be fun and interesting to watch this venue progress."

"Will we be back again?" Raschevious asked hopeful.

"I don't know. We'll see." Territory pondered, "There certainly are lots of unanswered questions here. We are all anxious to see the final product and visit with them."

"I'm certain, we'll be back." Raschevious portrayed confidently.

"Pretty sure of yourself there, aren't you Raschevious?" Territory teased.

"No, I know you. You can't stand unanswered, unexplored or untold information. It's your nature Territory." He proclaimed pleased with his astute observation of his dear, dear friend.