

*Volume 96969696 I*

*January / February 2023*

*Number Three Hundred Ninety- One*



*John Dwyer*

*In Loving Memory of Vincent Mewissen, Kelsey Granowski, Don Pleksenpol and Laverne Abraham*

### *Mount Hope Cemetery*

The staff and the city clerk reviewed the rules and regulations ordinance pertaining to the Mount Hope Cemetery. Several changes were had been adopted to manage the process. Working with managing the cemetery, it was discovered that additional modifications are necessary to meet legal requirements. The following items were reviewed involving sale and transfer of sites, conduct within the cemetery, interments and disinterment, conditions of cemetery site purchases, site purchases, transfer of sites, decent of graves, monuments, flat or upright, permanent care, flowers, adornments and landscape improvements, general provisions and pets.

The council reviewed rules and regulations pertaining to Mount Hope Cemetery. The adoption of the ordinance relating to amending the chapter section relating to cemeteries, adoption of resolution amending rules and regulations relating to the operation of the cemetery and adoption of a resolution authorizing summary publication of the ordinance were all discussed by the council and the City Clerk at the council meeting. Staff has reviewed the issue relating to operation and submitted recommendation for several adoption of changes to assist in managing of the cemetery. Working with the cemetery has constituted additional modifications for managing and meeting legal requirements. These items were reviewed recently. Additionally, adoption of the ordinance to amend the City Code relating to cemeteries is also required.

### *Service Recognition*

Councilmember Glen Henry was recognized for his twelve years of service as a Council Member. Mike Webb and Jim Weygand both shared memories serving with him and thanks him for his service and commitment to the city. Other council members each shared their appreciation of his service. The council presented Mr Henry with an Honorary "Key to the City."

### *Service Award*

The Greg Osterdyk Community Service Award was announced at the council meeting. The mayor, Lori and Sydney Osterdyk presented the 2022 Service Award to the Carver Fire Relief Association. The award was named after Greg, former mayor who was incredibly involved with community service. The Fire Relief Association was recognized for their efforts coordinating and hosting a fundraising event, sharing the proceeds from that event with the families of two retired firefighters who passed away last year. Additionally, the hours of volunteer hours to host the annual Fire Department Open House is a testament to their mission to serve their community.

### *Fire Department*

The conversation relating to the purchase of a tanker truck from the City of Waconia was reviewed at the council meeting. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving the purchase of the tanker truck. Question was asked if there were any concerns about the age of the truck. The Fire Chief and Assistance both stated that it was their opinion that the vehicle had been well taken care of and it was the best valued equipment seen recently for sale. Safety upgrades were asked about. Automatic slack adjusters plus seats with integrated shoulder and lap belts could be added. The replacement costs were reviewed.

### *County Road # 40*

The council reviewed the County Road # 40 Turnback Agreement County personnel and the city engineer regarding the acceptance agreement with the county for the turnback of county state aid highway forty to the City of Carver.

Question was asked about when the city would discuss plans for seal coating and reclamation. Those discussions could begin immediately. The city will have the funds for the project by the time the agreement is in place. Comment was made that the city may want to rescope the effort and conduct some maintenance putting aside funds for other projects. The engineer stated that the reclamation could be postponed but the city might wish to consider how at ease they are with the degree of deterioration before the reclamation is done. Inquiry was made about acquisition of additional easements with the annexation process. The engineer stated that the annexation is for the portion of the road on the western portion. The city limits straddle the road and the city cannot bring in a road unless it is completely within the city boundaries. In order to bring that half of the road into the city limits, the city must go through a paperwork exercise brining that portion of the road into city limits. Another inquiry asked, "Does the annexation include only the road, or does it include any of the properties in that area? The assistant engineer responded that the county indicated that the right of way is county owned. Therefore, the only process is to annex the property into the city. The culvert on the east side is Chaska owned culvert. Funds usage was discussed. The Public Services has been planning for this action. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the resolution authorizing execution of a turnback acceptance agreement with Carver Country for the County Sate Aid Highway #40.

### *ADA Transition Plan*

The Assistant City Engineer discussed the Americans with Disabilities Transition Plan with the council. This ADA act consists of five titles outlining protections. They are Employment, State and Local government services, public accommodations, telecommunications and Miscellaneous Provision Title II involving programs, activities and services public entities provide. As a provider of public transportation services and programs the city must comply with this section of the Act as it specifically applies to public service agencies. "Title II of ADA provides that, "...no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity." The city conducted a self-evaluation of its facilities within public rights-of-ways and has developed this Transition Plan which details ensuring that all facilities are accessible to all individuals. The drafted plan was posted conducting a thirty-day public outreach opportunity allowing individuals to comment on the drafted plan and there not any comments received. The ADA deficiencies identified within the plan will be addressed as funding allows by programming ADA improvements into future capital improvement plan projects. The plan contemplates an implementation goal of correcting the noted deficiencies within thirty years.

*"I am currently unsupervised. I know, it freaks me out too, but the possibilities are endless."*

*~ unknown*

## *Emergency Well Repairs*

The Public Services personal acknowledged to the council that emergency well repairs performed at the Community Park. Discovery was made that the well was non-operational. Repairs were scheduled and an inspection performed. The items relating to failure were reviewed. Well components have been replaced, tested and working properly. Repair costs exceeded the regular purchasing authority however the repairs were deemed to be immediately necessary. Per requirements all procedures were followed and the council notified.

## *South West Prime / Prime MD*

The Community Development Direction discussed the issue of the SouthWest Prime/Prim MD agreement. The city has been partnering with SW Transit for SW Prime services since 2019. Ridership has increased annually and there was a high demand for Prime in 2022. The city increased the original budget for services in 2022. Costs of those rides was reviewed. The proposed contract covers daily trips for errands or job transportation throughout the Prime area, as well as trips to the airport. The council had reviewed and enters into an agreement with SW Transit for a service identified as Prime MD which additionally serves Carver. Prime MD provides service to hospitals and clinics for non-emergency trips with the current service area, as well as select locations outside of the SW service area. The cost to ride the Prime MD proposes to increase cost per ride. The city attorney reviewed the contract. Prime and Prime MD are both included in the 2023 budget with an allocation but based on recent increases proposed, the budget is not anticipated to cover current demand for ridership. The council was recommended to discuss direct on updated cost per ride, along with the 2023 budget.

The council reviewed the SouthWest Prime Service Agreements for Prime Services and Prime MD agreements. The impact of these services on the 2023 budget were reviewed as far as cost associated with the contracts. Additional information was requested from SouthWest regarding the services for the airport and Prime edge for future discussions. Motion was made and carried with all ayes approving an agreement with SouthWest Transit for Prime MD. Motion was made and carried with all four ayes and one nay adopting the SouthWest Prime Service Agreement excluding the airport service and Prime Edge Service.

## *Zoning Ordinance*

The Community Development Director presented an overview on the Zoning Ordinance reviewed and enforced by the Planning Commission board. A working draft of revisions for section of Zoning Code articles was being reviewed and discussed presently. The director went through the significant changes in the working draft. Staff is continuing to work through revisions that they discussed. Project updates were also discussed. These included Rier Wild Learning Center, Net Steps Learning Center, Getaway Motor Café and Mizzy's Pizza. Residential developments also underway are Brookeview, The Preserve, and Timber Creek. Also reviewed were the Jonathan Carver Parkway Improvement Project, Sixth Street West Project, and the Ironwood Park Expansion Project all projects which the Planning Commission has input on.

The Community Development Director discussed with the Planning Commission members the Zoning Ordinance Update Part II. Tools are available in the zoning ordinance tasked with administrating. Staff would provide an overview of the review, application and administration of planning processes that the commission collectively utilize it. Topics to be included to be covered include Variances, Conditional Use Permits, Planned Residential Districts, and Planned Commercial Development Overlay District. These should be reviewed and prepared for in the upcoming months for review and updates.

## *Vandalism*

Request was submitted at the work session asking that the research be conducted by the staff for security options for vandalism occurring at the Lions Park. Suggestion was submitted for tree clearing for more visibility. Another option was community awareness. The issue will continue to be reviewed and discussed.

"Let me tell you this: if you meet a loner no matter what they tell you, it's not because they enjoy solitude. It's because they have tried to blend into the world before, and people continue to disappoint them."

~ Tom Hardy

## *Timber Creek*

The Planning Commission members reviewed the Timber Creek Phase III/Final Plat discussions. The property is located generally south of Meridian Fields and west of Copper Hills. Property consists of approximately one hundred sixty-one acres. The background of the staging of the development was reviewed by the Planning Commission for recommendations for Phase III of their Final Plat in Timber Creek. Phase I reviewed included sixty-eight single family homes. Many permits have been issued while the neighborhood is taking shape west of the elementary school. As of January, 2023 Phase III includes forty single family lots. The total lots through the planning process are up to two-hundred thirty-one of the total three hundred forty-nine lots in the development. Timber Creek is anticipated to bring two to three more phases through the Final Plat process consistent with the approved Preliminary Plat. The staff's recommendation was approval of the Final Plat for Phase II of Timber Creek.

## *Carver Levy*

The council briefly reviewed the status of the Carver Levy process. Currently the council is working with Hud on grant terms and environmental review. Requests are to be submitted to the State of Minnesota for bonding funds as there were no bonds in 2022. Items being pursued include Levee Work Plan Goals, Project Communications and Engagement, Geotechnical Evaluations, Topographic Survey, Preliminary Design Configuration, Construction Limits and Property Impacts and Refined Costs. For more information on the subject, visit the city's website, [www.cityofcarver.com](http://www.cityofcarver.com). The information is under the caption of 'Projects.'

## *2023 Street Improvement Project*

The Assistant and City Engineer both presented details regarding the 2023 Street Improvement Project ongoing at the work session meeting of the city council. The original scope of the project included mill and overlay of streets in the River Oak development as well as reclamation of Fourth Street. The city opted to delay the reclamation of Fourth Street until 2024 so that construction traffic would not impact the new pavement on Fourth Street. The item was reviewed again by the council for authorization of plans and specifications.

The Assistant City Engineer discussed the 2023 Street Improvements Projects with the council. Reviewal of the motion to authorize the preparations of Plans and Specifications was reviewed. Currently the city owns and maintains approximately twenty-seven miles of local streets within the city. Existing streets continue to age and new streets added to the system. It is important to follow a systematic approach to street maintenance extending permanent life as long as possible until major construction efforts are required. The council has recognized this need and adopted its first Pavement Management Plan. This is the second year of initiating that plan. The 2023 Plan identifies Fourth Street from Jonathan Carver parkway to Elm Drive West as a reclamation, the River Oaks neighborhood streets south of Fourth Street requiring mill and overlay, while Monroe Drive requires seal coat. At a work session the council reviewed current cost estimates for these projects. After review of current financials, constructability benefits and guidance provided, the decision was made to defer the Fourth Street reclamation to 2024. This would be completed in conjunction with the remaining mill and overlay of the River Oaks neighborhood already programmed in the 2024 plan. The next step in the process is to prepare final plans and specifications for the projects. The general proposed schedule outline includes authorization of preparation of Plans and Specifications, Project Design approximately March 2023, approve plans and specs, order advertising of bidding, April 2023, award contracts and construction approximately fall of 2023. These projects would be funding utilizing a combination of City Street Maintenance Funds, Municipal State Aid Funds, and Municipal Utilities Enterprise Funds. Costs were discussed in length.

## *Utility Billing*

The Finance Director discussed and presented at a work session proposed changes to the utility billings including minor cosmetic changes, enhancements, calculation changes and communication plans.



## Organization Resolution

The council meeting was led with the City Manager discussing the 2023 appointments for Acting Mayor and other various boards appointments. Final decision of discussion included, Acting Mayor: Kristy Mock, Heritage Preservation Commission: Kristy Mock, Parks Advisory Group: Courtney Johnson, Planning Commission: Erk Perschmann, Carver County Leaders: Laurie Sayre and Erik Perschmann, SouthWest Transit Board: Joy McKnight and Laurie Sayer, Carver Business Alliance: Courtney Johnson, District 112 Community Leaders: Courtney Johnson, Regional Council of Mayors: Courtney Johnson, Carver Fire Relief Association: Courtney Johnson & Brent Mareck City Attorney: Dave Anderson Official Newspaper: Chaska Herald Electronic Fund Transfer Authority: Lynn Tschudi City's Official Depository: Old National Bank City Investments: Northland Securities, USB Financial Services, and PMA Financial Network/Securities, Inc. Motion was made and carried with all ayes adopting the Organization Resolution appointing members to government entities representation.

## 2023 Legislative Priorities.

The City Manager discussed with the council the 2023 Legislative Priorities. A motion was necessary to adopt the priorities which is an annual process conducted by the council for impending legislative session. Once adopted, the priorities are communicated to the appropriate representative and senator. The legislative issues identified in 2023 are identical to those as in 2022 with the exception of regulations for THC cannabinoid products.

## City Of Carver

The City of Carver has a recreation partnership for programming and resident rates at Chaska recreational facilities. Carver residents are eligible for resident rates at the Community Center, Curling Center, Town Course, and Par 30. In addition, recreation programs and events are available in both Carver and Chaska. To learn more about this partnership, visit [cityofcarver.com/268/Recreation-Collaboration](http://cityofcarver.com/268/Recreation-Collaboration)



Check out these upcoming events and activities. Visit [chaskaparksandrec.com](http://chaskaparksandrec.com) for additional program details and registration information.

There is Preschool Sports; Rookie Sports for preschoolers. Visit the City of Carver's website [www.cityofcarver.com](http://www.cityofcarver.com) for more details or the Chaska City Parks and Recreation ([www.chaskacityparkandrec.com](http://www.chaskacityparkandrec.com)). There are different times, and dates. The games have already begun and are happening evenings through May at the Chaska Community Center's upper level.

There is Youth Dodgeball for ages 8 through 17 at different times at the Chaska Community Center which started January 30<sup>th</sup> and runs through March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Pickleball Lessons are happening in February through May in the Community Center's lower gym.

Adult Futsal in the lower gym at the community center are on Saturdays at 7 PM until 9 PM starting February 4<sup>th</sup> and are through March 8<sup>th</sup>. What is Futsal? Dictionary said it's a modified form of soccer for indoors. Wikipedia says it is a football-based game.

Football not your gig, try Adult Basketball at the Community Center on Thursday evenings starting February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Also there is a call for Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade for the Cheer Clinic, Cheerleading and game experience at the Chaska High School Multipurpose Gym February 20<sup>th</sup> to February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

For a much quieter, more relaxed, and freer atmosphere, come join in on the "Coffee, Cards and Conversation" taking place in Carver at the Village Hall on the second Thursday of the month at 1 PM to 3 PM which will begin February 14<sup>th</sup> and March 14<sup>th</sup>. It's a great place to get to know your neighbors, play cards, share in conversations and enjoy refreshments. Beats being alone, don't it? You are invited to drop in for a fun afternoon. It's FREE!

*"Happiness is like jam. You can't spread even a little without getting it on yourself."*

*~ Anonymous*

## Disclaimer

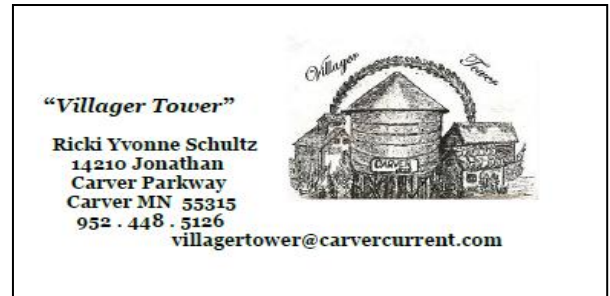
Any and all information used to comprise the information in the 'Villager Tower' for informing the public is by utilizing the unapproved minutes posted on the City of Carver's website. Dahlgren Township information is secured from their website. Information for events, festivities, and so forth are also found on the internet to share with the public. It is the public's responsibility to verify information by visiting sites to get all and up to date information.

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## Carver Current

Looking for local information? Go to Carver Current website to get information you didn't know you needed. It is also where you will find the local newsletter relating to the City of Carver, "Villager Tower." You can also post information on this website. You can find links too at Carver Current. Just another way to stay in touch and know what is happening locally in the Carver area.

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## South West Transit

SouthWest Transit has a memo on their website regarding services for SW Prime Riders that effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, the MSP Airport, SW Prime Edge for Shakopee, Edina and Mall of America and Normandale rides will no longer be available for Carver riders. Here's something else your editor learned, SW Prime only services residents of the city, as well. If you are Dahlgren Township, you can't get a ride either. Silly policies sometimes but hey, that's life eh? Be sure to check their website for other alerts, route changes etc.



## 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 usually meet every third Friday. January meeting scheduled for Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Carver Lions

At publication time, the Annual Soggy Bottom will have already happened and you can bet they had a good turnout too, and a fantastic time. Right? Remember, in February they will be participating in their Annual 5M2 District Mid-Winter Convention. Then they will all take a well deserved rest and catch their breath before they begin planning their next event which should be the Pork Chop Dinner and the Easter Egg Hunt. So, if you are still teetering on whether or not to join them? Time is running out. Spring will be here before you know it!!!



Their meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of each month at the City Hall. Everyone is invited to attend and check out what you can volunteer for, get involved in and contribute to your community. See you there? Huh?

*"You must not lose faith in humanity."*

*Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."*

*~ Mahatma Gandhi*

## Carver Shops

There was a time when the Carver era had multiple Occasional Shops dotted throughout Carver. That landscape seems to have shifted to Chaska, Waconia areas presently. There are lots of them all over and lots that no longer exist or you need to be on that circuit to follow. However, Carver still has two. Let's keep them here huh? Other types of small businesses have popped up all over town though, some downtown, some on the outskirts, some more modern, some more traditional, some quaint but all are unique. Not to mention all the businesses run out of private residences throughout the entire area. Be sure to support the local shops.

### Some Shops in Carver:

Carver Creamery – updates on Facebook  
Carver General – Facebook - Occasional Shop Dates  
Old Carver Fishing Bait and Tackle - Facebook  
Ripple Art Studio & Gallery – [www.rippleartstudio.com](http://www.rippleartstudio.com)  
Ripple Art Studio & Gallery - FB  
The Good Junk Garage – Facebook  
Temperance Arts & Gifts – Facebook  
The Funky Dove – Facebook  
Strive Nutrition – Carver - Facebook  
Getaway Motor Café – Facebook / Instagram  
Strains of the Earth – 300 Broadway Street, Carver / Facebook

## Funky Dove

While Rebecca is still out and about exploring the world, she had her special helper at the shop which will be open Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> still in time for that special Valentine's present you can't find anywhere else. She is promoting the date with a sale to honor St Valentine. It's called, "Sale on Hearts". Any heart in the store or anything with a heart on it is discounted. See that adorable gnome over there to the right? Wouldn't you just die to have him/her? I know, I would. Discounts will include, \$ 1 - \$ 5 dollar items, discounted \$ 1.00; \$6 - 10 items, \$ 1.50 discount; \$ 11 - \$ 20, discount \$ 2.00. You get the idea?]

Remember too, she has cards and books, the one that struck me was, "You are Special to Me". Says a lot about our Rebecca, now doesn't it? Be sure to stop and see if you can catch her to hear all about her fabulous travels this time around. Think she might be back in March sometime. Right Rebecca?



### Carver General

Occasional Sales  
Repurposed, Industrial,  
Antiques, Farm & Garden

2023 Dates  
Jan 19-22 • Feb 16-19 • Mar 16-19 • Apr 20-23  
May 18-21 • June 15-18 • July 20-23 • Aug 17-20  
Sep 14-17 • Oct 19-22 • Nov 3-4 • Nov 16-19 • Dec 7-10

Hours: Thurs, Fri, Sat: 10 am - 5 pm & Sunday: 12 pm - 4 pm

109 3rd Street E • In Historic Downtown Carver

## Carver General

The girls said, "Ditch those mid-winter blues!" They invite you to come and escape to their shop, the Carver General.

If you look on their Facebook page, there appears to be what I am calling a gigantic glass dollhouse.

Although, I am quite certain it is a large Terrarium on a stand. Is it Ann? Or what is it? Can you help me out here? You know that you can find all kinds of treasures, unique one-of-a-kind paragon here at the Carver General right? Missed the January dates in this edition but mind you the February dates are Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, the 19<sup>th</sup>. Hurry, see if someone else bought that beautiful glass Terrarium? March dates in advance are also the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. And don't forget, "The store is filled with unique and inspiring vintage finds at reasonable prices." Hours are 10 AM to 5 PM, Thursday through Saturday. Sunday Noon to 4 PM. See you there. Hopefully, it will be warmer and much, much less snow and not water flowing too high?

## Chaska Valley Family Theatre

Performances for Big Fish by the Chaska Valley Family Theatre are slotted for March 10<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Chaska Community Center. Check the website for more information or to purchase your tickets.



## Trinity Lutheran Church

Submitted by Michelle:  
Invitation extended to join the parish-ioners, minister and family to hear from the Old Testament book of Amos in a series entitled "Restore the Roar!" during Lent 2023. They will have services each Wednesday, beginning on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ash Wednesday at 7PM and culminating at our Easter Celebration on Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is also invited and welcome to join then at their regular worship services at 10 AM every Sunday or watch the sermons posted online at [trinitycarver.com](http://trinitycarver.com). Please contact Pastor Jander with prayer requests or questions at: office: 952-448-3628. Email: [office@trinitycarver.com](mailto:office@trinitycarver.com); Website: [www.trinitycarver.com](http://www.trinitycarver.com); or Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchCarver](http://www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchCarver)

## Open Gym

Open Gym is back for the 2023 season at the Carver Elementary Gymnasium but remember you have to bring your basketballs and equipment. Use common sense. It's Free. The times are 2 PM until 5 PM. January 29<sup>th</sup> was the official start date and it will run through Sundays, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. There won't be any open gym on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

"The head never rules the heart, but just becomes its partner in crime."  
~ Mignon McLaughlin

## East Union Lutheran Church

The East Union Lutheran Church welcomes you to come and worship with them on Sunday mornings in their sanctuary or through Facebook at 9 AM.



The congregation participates in donating towels and Towel Helpers Needed! East Union is an active participant in the Towel Ministry, part of ECC Love INC. Volunteering consists of filling towel orders and driving the towels to the client's home. You will receive training too! Email Ann Decker: [adeckerchaska@gmail.com](mailto:adeckerchaska@gmail.com) if you are interested!

East Union Lutheran Church now has their own newsletter too. Be sure to check their website for any information you might want to follow up on or get more information. [www.eulc.org](http://www.eulc.org).

They are preparing for their Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction scheduled to be held on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 4 PM until 6<sup>30</sup> PM. Everyone is welcome, bring family, friends, and of course, your kids. There will be something for everyone. There is quilt raffle, baskets, gift certificates and specialty items all up for auction for you to bid on. Dinner will include spaghetti with homemade sauce, salad, bread, beverage, and we can't forget those scrumptious homemade desserts.

They are already forming their committees and working on upcoming events at the church too. Be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming Plant Sale scheduled for Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> and watch for more details. Also Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> they will be holding their Ice Cream Social.

"Our work is the presentation of our capabilities"

~ Edward Gibbon



35th Annual Victoria Firefighter's Relief Assn. Fishing Contest	
Sunday, February 12, 2012	
Deer Lake - 12:30-2:30 PM	
At the Lake:	
<b>1st PLACE</b>	<b>2nd PLACE</b>
<b>3rd PLACE</b>	<b>4th PLACE</b>
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## Minnesota's New Brighton Ice Castles Event



You did or have heard about the 2023 Minnesota Ice Castles event? Right? This year's event opened New Year's Eve. In case you hadn't heard, by the way, like who hasn't heard huh? This year's opening is the earliest date in a decade. The site will open at 5 PM. Past Ice Castles were held in Stillwater, Eden Prairie, and Excelsior. This editor got to see it once from the outside, not the inside. Boo-hoo, like anyone cares. Anyway, this year it is being held in New Brighton. Open Friday through Mondays closed Tuesdays and then resumes Wednesday and Thursdays through the weekends. Dates and hours are weather dependent too. Ticket sales, of course are online and final. If available, you can get them on-site. For guaranteed entry and the lowest price, it is however, recommended that you purchase them on-line. Website: [www.icecastles.com/Minnesota](http://www.icecastles.com/Minnesota)

When checking the website and from reading broadcasts, you will find Ice Slides, Caverns and Archways, Polar Pub, Crawl Tunnels, Ice Sculptures, Lantern Passage, and a Sledding Hill. So, you ask, where is all this incredible fun happening? Well, I will tell you, Long Lake Regional Park, at 1500 Old Highway 8, New Brighton, MN. There is free parking available throughout Long Lake Regional Park. The parking directly adjacent is limited. Guests will be directed to the nearest available parking by staff. During peak hours, complimentary shuttles will be available and run. The "Ice Castles is an awe-inspiring experience featuring caverns, ice slides, frozen thrones and fountains illuminated at night with twinkling color-changing lights." And who said we couldn't have fun in the cold freezing tundra of Minnesota?

## 2023 Light and Seek Luminary Walk



Funky Minds is hosting still another Light and Seek Luminary Walk for the community. They invite you to join them on a beautiful and peaceful luminary walk at the Rapids Lake Visitor Center. Lots of comments were applauded last year when the walk was done. This year they moved to the Visitor Center beside the lake and river. Not necessary right beside it but that is where the Rapids Lake Center is. If your kids went to East Union School, chances are they all got to experience this fantastic area. Anyway, the walk is scheduled for Saturday, February 4th and begins at 6 PM until 9 PM. The address for the center is, 15865 Rapids Lake Road, Carver also known as off the Jordan Road. What a terrific place for that special romantic date? Peace and quiet, listen to the night sounds, enjoy the crisp cool air....Haven't experienced this before, be sure to mark your calendar and go.

## Chaska Fire Relief Association Fishing Contest



The Chaska Fire Relief Association Fishing Contest is being planned and prepared for at the Fireman's Park in Chaska. The Annual Fishing Contest is packed with fishing, prizes, games and a raffle. You don't have to fish to attend. You knew that, right? When you say? Saturday, February 4th at 3 PM.

## 30th February Festival



Thanks to the Chanhassen Villager was able to get information on the gathering planned for their planning their 29th Annual February Festival on Lake Ann. Another fishing contests for all the fisherman who love fishing and competing. Their annual winter get together is planned for Saturday, February 4th starting at 1 PM. Additionally, there will be demos for kids for free ice fishing tips and kick sled demos. There will also be hayrides, ice skating, food and beverages purchases available compliments of the Chanhassen Rotary Club.

Officially, however, the celebration is kicked off on January 30th where they reveal their first clue in the FebFest Medallion Hunt. For more information, check the Chanhassen Villager or the city's website.

So, if you are looking for more fishing chances or to participate in Chanhassen's fun, check it out.

## Polar Plunge



Have you heard of the Polar Plunge? It's a fundraiser. Saw in the Chaska Herald that Waconia is having an event called, "is back for 2023", signifying it had occurred previously. They are planning their third Annual Polar Plunge for Saturday, February 11th (subject to change) around noon at Lake Waconia Regional Park. [ 8170 Paradise Lane, Waconia ]

Article reads, "Polar Plunge hosts its bone-chilling events all over the state to help raise funds for Special Olympics Minnesota. The 2023 goal is to raise \$ 180 thousand, all of which goes towards training and services for thousands of athletes."

Donations and registrations can be done online until February 10th between 4 - 6 PM and the day of the plunge until 11 AM. For more information: [www.plungemn.org/events/waconia](http://www.plungemn.org/events/waconia)

## Arts Consortium



The Carver County Arts Consortium staff announces that they are hosting a 2023 Poetry Contest. Interested individuals are encouraged to submit a poem by midnight of March 1st for consideration in the poetry contest. Poems can be submitted to [poems@artsofcarvercounty.org](mailto:poems@artsofcarvercounty.org). The winning poems will be posted on the ACCC website and invited to a Poetry Celebration when the dates are firmed up. For full eligibility requirements and submission details, visit [www.artsofcarvercounty.org/poetrycontest](http://www.artsofcarvercounty.org/poetrycontest).

Don't forget about the Artist Conversations being hosted for monthly gathering of artist to share and discuss their work with each other. All artists are welcome, bring your writing to share or to get inspiration, show-and-tell your latest creations or work on a project in the company of others, share marketing strategies and show/share opportunities. They say, most of all, Build Community. The Artists Conversations are held the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 6 PM until 8 PM at the Chaska Community Center. Input from you is also requested. Regarding their Artists Conversations. Would coffee and chat on Saturday morning work better or Sunday afternoons? Or perhaps a different evening that you could join them? You are invited to email [AbigailBlytheArt@gmail.com](mailto:AbigailBlytheArt@gmail.com) on times that work for artists? Meet at the Gift Shop and feel free to bring snacks to share if you can.

The Youth Art Show began in January and is ongoing through February 24th at the Community Center. The exhibition presents the very best artwork made by students across Carver County and the works of the children of the Arts Consortium members.

The Larger than Life Exhibition is also being presented in collaboration with the Chaska Valley Family Theater's Big Fish the Musical. This exhibition will feature art that expresses the theme of "larger than life" whether it tells a story, inspired by a story or heightens focus on something of interest. That's the exhibition. Registration deadline is February 22nd. The show dates are March 1st through April 10th.

The Arts Consortium group also welcomes their new Executive Director, Christy Branham. Zachary Hedner, who was the former director, has accepted a new position as Theatrical Operations Manager for Norwegian Cruise Lines. Congratulations to Zachary. Welcome to Ms Branham.

Ms Branham is an established Twin Cities artist, business owner and educator. She has worked professionally as a silversmith/jewelry designer, illustrator and graphic designer. Currently, she is a costume designer for multiple theatre companies throughout the Twin Cities.

## Super Bowl LVII



Another year for football....The Super Bowl LVII Game Day is scheduled to happen on Sunday, February 12th with the kick-off at 4:30 PM. The Stadium Gates will open at 12:30 PM Mountain Standard Time for the ticket holders to have a GameDay Experience. The Halftime performer is Rihanna, The Game will be played at the State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. Since, this editor knows very little about sports, I have been able to figure out that I don't think they know yet for sure which teams will be playing, something to do with the playoff, I think? But my biggest excuse is deadline time. As I write this, don't think the playoffs have even begun. I know, you don't care.



## City of Carver

Anyone in the city interested in serving on community committees?

**Parks Advisory Group:** Interested in learning more about the City's Park system? Have a great recreational program idea? Looking for a way to connect in the community? The Parks Advisory Group is a new initiative for the city that will gather residents with a special interest in parks. The first gathering is slated for Spring 2023. All residents are encouraged to join! For more information, questions, or to join the Parks Advisory Group, email Erin Smith at [esmith@cityofcarver.com](mailto:esmith@cityofcarver.com).

**Heritage Preservation Commission** has two open positions whose responsibility is to review and advise on municipal heritage preservation matters. Charged with the stewardship of the City's heritage.

**Planning Commission** has two open positions. Board members make recommendations on land use policies and laws. Make final decisions on certain kinds of development and use permits. The Commission positions will be filled through an interview and appointment process undertaken by the City Council. To be considered for the position, residents should apply and letter of interest on the City's website at [www.cityofcarver.com](http://www.cityofcarver.com) by Wednesday, January 18. Contact Vicky Sons-Eiden at [vsonseiden@cityofcarver.com](mailto:vsonseiden@cityofcarver.com) or at 952-448-8727 with any questions.



## Community Highlights

February 2023

- February 1<sup>st</sup> National Freedom Day  
Happy Birthday Terrence!
- February 2<sup>nd</sup> Ground Hog Day
- February 3<sup>rd</sup> Happy Birthday Darrel!
- February 4<sup>th</sup> Chaska Fire Department Relief Association Fishing Contest  
Chanhasen 30 February Fest
- February 5<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday Gloria!
- February 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
- February 9<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday Bonnie!
- February 10<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday Adam!  
Happy Birthday Tommy!
- February 11<sup>th</sup> East Union Spaghetti Dinner  
Happy Birthday Justice!
- February 12<sup>th</sup> Victoria Fire Department Relief Association Fishing Tournament  
Happy Birthday Renee!  
Lincoln's Birthday!
- February 13<sup>th</sup> Carver Elementary PTO Meeting  
Clover Ridge PTO Meeting  
Dahlgren Township Board Meeting  
School Board Work Session  
Happy Birthday Maddie!
- February 14<sup>th</sup> Heritage Preservation Meeting  
Meet and Greet  
Valentine's Day
- February 15<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday Kim!  
Happy Anniversary Dwight and Janet!  
Happy Birthday Katie!
- February 16<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission Meeting  
Occasional Shop Weekend  
Happy Birthday Bob!
- February 17<sup>th</sup> Carver Business Alliance Meeting  
Happy Birthday Bruce!
- February 20<sup>th</sup> President's Day  
Happy Birthday Tom!
- February 21<sup>st</sup> Council Meeting  
Mardi Gras  
Happy Birthday Peggy!
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Ash Wednesday  
Washington's Birthday  
Happy Birthday Sandra!
- February 23<sup>rd</sup> Spring Conferences  
Happy Birthday Faye!
- February 25<sup>th</sup> Baylor Park Candlelit Ski Events
- February 27<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting
- February 28<sup>th</sup> Meet and Greet  
Happy Birthday Skylar!



*"The power to question is the basis of all human progress"*  
~ Indira Gandhi

## February's Gossip

Did you hear the Shakopee Theatre closed? Not really gossip, but kinda is. It's not the theatre down by Walmart, it's the one by the old Town Square off old Highway 169. I believe it was called the Marcus Theatres. Here, looked it up, Marcus Shakopee Cinema, versus Southbridge Crossing Cinema on Hanson Road.

Getaway Motor Café was due to open on January 23<sup>rd</sup> which at the time of this writing, was not quite to the twenty-third yet. By publication time, it will have passed and they will be open. Anyway, they are planning a Grand Opening for May. You can follow them and their progress on Instagram and Facebook. They are open! They are open! Did you hear? They are open! Overkill? "Nahhhh" Getaway Motor Café is open now! From their posts it has been a HUGE! HUGE! HUGE Success. Congratulations Nathan and Terah! Their hours are 7 AM to 1 PM every day, Sunday through Wednesday; Thursday through Saturday hours are 8 AM to 10 PM which during those times they will have custom cocktails, wine and craft beers available beginning at 4:30 PM.

Carver Youth Baseball/Softball registration began or opened up on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Thought I heard something about an exercise/yoga activity happening at Strive Nutrition. Anyone know anymore? I have been looking but haven't had any luck. If someone could direct me to more information, please do. Would be more than happy to expand on the issue.

Headline in Chaska Herald grabbed my attention: "Eating Can be Hazardous to your Health". Found it amusing. Not at all where the brain initially goes when you read it. Of course, bad eating habits cause hazardous health. Got you read their article. Thought that was rather clever and had to share here. ( article can be found in January 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Chaska Herald )

The MN Zoo is holding 'Zoo After Hours Events' for adults saying they have unique themed nights and activities planned. Sounds interesting doesn't it? Wonder if the animals are participating too? Nocturnal ones are most certainly. Guess you would have to go and find out huh? Also says guests will be able to participate in a range of zoo activities and enjoy food and beverages.

The Strains of the Earth store is open in Carver, 300 Broadway Street. They also have a shop in Jordan. They are open seven days a week in Carver. They are a holistic/medicinal shop and hours of operation are 9 AM until 8 PM. Also, not really gossip but is. Not giving you the whole story is what I consider gossip and well yea, a little more ... but we won't go down that road. At least, not today. ( or ever )

Found this amusing from the Duluth Tribune paper on Facebook: From the editorial: "Shaping public policy and conducting and participating in the public's business ought to require more of a commitment than rolling out of bed and logging in." A picture of a tired individual with a cat clawing the back of the chair in front of a computer monitor holding a 'Zoom' meeting with the caption, "Another Virtual Zoom Meeting or am I in a Brady Bunch Episode?" Not meant to offend anyone or make fun of anyone either. Just found it cute and sharing with credits to Duluth Tribune.

Did you hear about the World Snow Sculpting Championship that was held over at Lowell Park in Stillwater? It's over. So why am I telling you now? Because you can still view the snow sculptures possibly into the first week of February if you are interested. I'm sure all-weather dependent. This was their second event the news reporter stated. Will have to remember to watch if they do it again in 2024 huh?

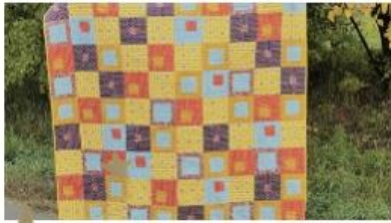
What else? Territory and his band of trash pandas as one identity called them, will be conducting business soon. At least as soon as they can dig their way out of the snow, anyway. Territory and his pals will be calling soon on Getaway Motor Café and Strains of the Earth. Keep watching for their upcoming visits.

Oh yea, one more thing, don't forget if you aren't doing anything else on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, head on up, well get tickets first, but up at the Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, the District #112 Foundation in collaboration with the Chaska Valley Family Theatre is holding their Soiree, Casino Royale. There will be casino action, great food, ability to socialize with some great people and above all per the promoter, the opportunity to make innovation possible for kids. Tickets: <https://district112foundation.org/112-gives-soiree-tickets/> Little bird told editor that tickets are running out.



# Spaghetti Dinner Silent Auction

**Saturday, February 11, 2023  
4:00-6:30pm**



Raffle for this  
amazing quilt  
\$2 each ticket

**Pricing:**  
**Adults \$10**  
**Children 4-17 \$5**  
**Family \$25**

**Auction closes at  
6:00pm**

Take out available

Craft room for the  
kids

Dinner includes: Spaghetti with homemade  
sauce, salad, bread, beverage, and homemade  
desserts.

There will be something for everyone, and  
specialty items all up for bid.

\*need not be present to win Silent Auction items.

*East Union Lutheran Church*

15180 County Rd 40  
Carver, MN 55315