

SCHOOL BOND REFERENDUM FAILS

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com



The new scoreboard was recently installed at Gerhard Meidt Stadium (K.P. Kompelien Field) and the list of “Angel” donors who helped make it a reality. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

New scoreboard now in place at Meidt Stadium

By Scott Thoma
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A new name. A new scoreboard. A new look.

The large white block letters near the top of the newly-donated 21’ x 21’ scoreboard recently installed at the Minneota athletic complex spell out GERHARD MEIDT STADIUM, which the complex will now be known as, although the football and baseball fields within the stadium will still be referred to as K.P. Kompelien Field.

Donation from several individuals, families, businesses and former grid teams were pooled together to make this scoreboard, lights, signage and several other renovations a reality.

At the bottom of the scoreboard are the names of the “Angel” donors who have donated a significant amount for the scoreboard.

During the annual Minneota’s Boxelder Bug Days weekend, one of the events included is a home football game. Since the game this season on that date is away, the school has chosen Sept. 18 as the day the new scoreboard will be dedicated in honor of Gerhard Meidt during the Vikings’ Homecoming game against the neighboring Canby Lancers.

During Meidt’s coaching tenure, Minneota won Class C state titles three straight seasons from 1986-88. Under his guidance, the Vikings owned a 48-game winning streak from 1985-88, a school record that still stands today. He retired from coaching with an impressive 236-79 record in 32 years at Rothsay, Minneota and Big Lake.

Scoreboard Continued on Page 8

Little Explorers to open Aug. 17 in Minneota

By Scott Thoma
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Little Explorers Child Care Center LLC completed and passed its licensing inspection on Monday morning and will officially open on Monday, Aug. 17 in Minneota. The final licensed capacity is for 99 children.

A licensor from the Twins Cities arrived in Minneota on Monday, Aug. 10 and spent a



full day at Little Explorers to check over everything before issuing a license.

“He told us this is one of the

most prepared centers he has ever inspected and continued to tell us how phenomenal everything looked throughout the center,” said Jamie Gillund, the owner/director of Little Explorers in Ghent and now Minneota. “(The licensor) measured every classroom to make sure we have the required square footage per child, counted toys and classroom materials, checked required signage, made sure we have the correct

disinfectants and supplies, and went through a checklist of more than 200 items inside and outside the building.

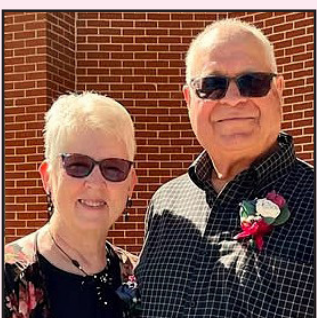
As an example of how detailed the process is, Jamie said that the Pre-K rooms are required to have things like 48 large building blocks and 100 small blocks, and our infant rooms need two rattles per infant.

Files are checked for every employee to make sure they

have completed the required training, including First Aid, CPR and more.

“A huge thank you also goes to Emily Coequet, our First Aid and CPR trainer, for making a short-notice trip to train all of our new staff so they can have those requirements completed before Monday’s licensing visit,” Gillund noted.

Explorers
Continued on Page 4



Brenda Verschelde and her husband, Gene.

Verschelde serving as Honorary Cancer Survivor for Lyon County Relay for Life

By Scott Thoma
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The Lyon County Relays for Life will be held on Thursday, Aug. 20 beginning at 5 p.m. At The Splash Aquatic Center parking lot in Marshall.

Brenda Verschelde of Minneota is this year’s Honorary Cancer Survivor for Lyon County. Alyssa Jeppessen of Minneota will be honoring all caregivers with a short poem/speech, as well as flower recognition.

There will be many events going on this year for the annual American Cancer Society fundraiser. The Splash Aquatic Center parking lot is located off the intersection of West Main St. and South 4th St., south of the downtown business district.

Relay
Continued on Page 4

Polish Days

A fireworks show at Gilson Field and Ivanhoe Fire Department-hosted Water Fights were among the many activities at this year’s Polish Days festivities in Ivanhoe. See more photos on Page 8.

Mascot photos by Reba Lipinski



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Minneota Memory

Emily Kopfmann, left, was crowned the 2001-2002 Boxelder Bug Days queen during the coronation on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2001. Jaclyn Downing, center, and Nikki Neisius were crowned Princesses.

Yesteryear

From the Mascot files 100, 75, 50 & 25 years ago

100 Years Ago (August 13, 1926)

Boys suffers fractured skull after being kicked by horse

A 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Alphonse Dhaene, who lie north of Minneota, was seriously injured Thursday afternoon when he was kicked by a horse he had been riding. The boy was herding cattle near the road when the horse became frightened by a passing truck, rearing and throwing the boy to the ground. As the boy landed, the horse kicked him on the right side of the head, breaking his cheek bone and fracturing his skull. The boy was rushed to the hospital in Canby hospital where he was listed in critical condition.

Open safety pin lodged in youth's voice box removed

An open safety pin, lodged in the voice box of 11-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bursack of Minneota, was miraculously removed at St. Luke's Hospital in St. Paul last week. The boys were returning home that evening as the operation was entirely successful, although the child has not completely recovered the use of his voice yet.

Local woman shoots badger after her chickens at 3 a.m.

With a gas lamp in one hand and a .22 rifle in the other, Mrs. Carl Knutson showed off her excellent marksmanship at 3 a.m. when she shot a badger attempting to invade her chicken coop north of town last Sunday night. She heard the badgers, which had been noticed before on the farm, and awakened by the noise from the chickens. She grabbed a lantern, too her husband's .22-calibre rifle and went after the marauder, firing a bullet into the badger's head.

75 Years Ago (August 17, 1951)

Hail storm wreaks havoc on area crops last week

Hail, accompanied by a strong wind and a heavy downpour, damaged crops on farms in the Minneota and Taunton area last Thursday afternoon. A total of 1.14 inches of rain fell in less than an hour here. The greatest damage to crops was on farms just north of town, but small grain and corn near Taunton also reported being damaged. Losses as high as 90 percent on

corn and flax have been reported.

Leo Coequyt named Lyon County Health King of 1951

Leo Coequyt, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Coequyt of Minneota, is Lyon County's Health King of 1951, and will vie for the state title when he attends the State Fair in September.

Automobile damaged by hit-and-run driver here

Policemen and Highway Patrolmen are seeking clues to the identity of a hit-and-run driver who caused considerable damage to the car of A.E. Schnad of Minneota. Mr. Schnad was driving to Minneota around 12:15 a.m. last Monday when he was sideswiped by another car, which failed to stop to inspect the damage and identify himself. Schnad was uninjured but his 1947 Buick was damaged seriously.

With no midway available, Lyon County Fair postponed

Because of difficulty in scheduling satisfactory midway attractions, the Lyon County Fair has been postponed from Aug. 20-23 until Sept. 10-13. Too many other county fairs in the state the same week the Lyon County Fair was to be held caused a shortage in suitable midway attractions.

50 Years Ago (August 12, 1976)

Former Minneota graduate killed in crash near Canby

Patricia Ann VanMoorleham was killed last Thursday in a one-car crash east of Canby. She was 25 years old and a graduate of Minneota High School. The driver of the accident was Robert Anseeuw of Canby.

Dutch Elm Disease hits city trees hard

City Forester Bob Alleckson informed people in Minneota that Dutch Elm Disease isn't exactly caused by beetles. He noted that it is the fungus that it carries with them that does the trick. Dutch Elm Disease has struck this locality hard and that 72 American elms have been suspected of having the disease this year. Of those, 34 must be cut down and burned. A tree suspected of having Dutch Elm Disease does not have to be removed until a specimen of that tree is certified by the University of

Minnesota to have the disease.

Four men from Minneota, Taunton enlist in U.S. Army

According to information received from the nearest recruiting office, four men from Minneota and Taunton have enlisted in the U.S. Army. The are Melvin E. Breyfogle, and Dean Breyfogle of Taunton, and Blaine E. Glasser and David Genzler of Minneota.

25 Years Ago (August 15, 2001)

Twenty are candidates for Boxelder Bug Days queen

A total of 20 girls have now registered as candidates to be Boxelder Bug Days queen this year. The girls were recently interviewed by judges, enjoyed a meal together, and then gave their speeches on why they want to represent Minneota as Bug Days queen. The candidates are: Abby Ahmann, Corinne Bot, Jesse Bottelberghe, Lindsay Claeys, Jackie Downing, Heather Fox, Lindsey Kor, Andea Kimpe, Rachel Kimpe, Emily Kopfmann, Stephanie Lanners, Rachel Larson, Amber Lozinski, Nikki Neisius, Megan Przymus, Nicole Regnier, Alaire Schmitz, Kayla Streeter, Ann Wambeke, Ashley Winter.

Minneota Public School now has its own web page

The Minneota public School has entered the technology age, and has a new web page up and running. Ruth Bot has done a lion's share of the work on this project, and will be updating the page for now. She hopes to incorporate the creativity of high school students to help keep the page up to date. As of now, the featured events on the page are the school calendar, when the fall events will take place, and school supplies needed for the elementary students.

Opera Hall gets spruced up over summer months

While many of us were relaxing at home or at the lake this summer, Nathan and Mary Canton were busy working at the Minneota Opera Hall this summer. Utilizing funds from an anonymous donor, the two college youths were able to brighten things up. The walls were washed and sanded before a fresh coat of paint with a special surface sealer was applied before being painted white. The trim was painted dark green and burgundy in the main room of the Opera Hall.

Outside Looking In

Scott Thoma



Steal of a deal

A couple of my buddies and their wives were having a garage sale this past weekend, and while I have always tried my best to avoid having these on my own, I agreed to help them out and try to sell off some items I've wanted to get rid of for quite some time.

We figured we would not only get rid of a lot of things we no longer had use for, but we would also make a modest amount of money in the process.

Our sale was advertised to begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday and we were readying things in one of my friend's garage. We had the main door closed at the request of the wives of my friends because they said people will try to shop before the sale even begins.

As we were working, it was getting stuffy in the garage, so we opened the main door up about six inches to allow a breeze to come in. Not more than five minutes later, we heard someone walking up the driveway about 45 minutes before the signs outside clearly indicated the sale would begin.

"Are you open?" a woman's voice shouted.

One of the wives went out the side garage door and politely told the lady we would not be open for another 45 minutes.

"Can we just come in and look around?" he lady asked.

"That wouldn't be fair to the others that will be coming to our sale," the wife responded.

"I won't tell them," the lady insisted.

"We're just not quite ready to open. I'm sorry," the wife said, again trying to be polite so as to not lose a potential customer.

The wife walked back inside the garage to help get everything set up for the sale. She sat down in front of a small table that she would later be using as a sales counter to collect money and give out change. In a matter of seconds, she was laughing uncontrollably as she pointed to the six-inch opening of the garage door.

We all looked down toward the small opening and noticed that the lady that had previously requested to "look around" at our items early, and another woman who was with her, were on their stomachs with their faces pressed up against the garage door opening in an attempt to see what was inside.

No one dared to close the door for fear that one of the women's hands, or nose, would get smashed.

We finally opened the door about 20 minutes sooner than we planned since we needed to set some tables and other items out on the driveway. Those eager women were still outside waiting.

By now, several other vehicles had stopped and we had numerous people in the driveway and in the garage.

What we continually witnessed is another one of the reasons why I will never have a garage sale. A man and a woman wearing what appeared to be the clothes they slept in, or had just come from Walmart, were peeling off the price labels on items and switching them with lower-priced items as though no one would notice. The wives running the sale had letters on the price tags of each item to indicate whose it was in order to divvy up the money at the end of the sale. Both of the women noticed the tags had been switched. When asked about it, the people denied switching tags and angrily stormed off in an attempt to mask their guilt.

It seemed as though everyone thought they were on a Jamaican beach and wanted to barter every item. I had received two brand new blenders for Christmas four or five years ago and had kept one in storage in case the first one broke down. I rarely use the one I have in the cupboard, so I decided to sell the other one on the garage sale for \$5, even though it had never even been taken out of the box. I was offered \$1 for it by two different people. Out of spite, I pulled it off the table and put it in the back seat of my car like a bratty child taking his bat and ball and going home.

I had a very nice fly fishing pole and reel that I decided to sell because I had three others. This one was easily worth \$30-\$40 as it had only been used a couple of times and looked brand new. I asked \$5 for it, too. After a man offered me \$1 for it, and I said "no thanks", he upped his offer to \$2. I again said "sorry" and gave my blender some company in the back seat.

One of the wives jokingly said, "Scott, you're never going to get rid of any of your items if your items if you keep putting them all back in your car."

It was a horrible day for all of us. People were taking items without paying, switching price tags, and constantly begging for lower prices. One lady even asked if she could go in the house and use the bathroom. Instead of denying her request, I suggested we tell her to "make us an offer." Let's see how the other side likes to barter.

Prior to the sale, my friend, Pete, who owned the home where we held the sale, had rolled his lawn mower, a couple of bicycles, and his snowblower to the back of the house to allow for more room in the garage and to hide them from customers who might think they are for sale.

The best part of the day came when the sale was over and Pete rolled his lawn mower back to the front of the house, just a few feet in front of the now closed garage door. We had already gathered up several items that we didn't want and put them on the boulevard next to the mailbox with a large FREE sign, excluding the blender and fishing pole.

The items were seemingly gone before the paint had a chance to dry on the "FREE" sign. We then all went inside the house to have lunch when Pete's wife looked out the kitchen window and saw a man loading Pete's lawn mower in the back of his truck.

Pete dashed out the front door and confronted the man, who claimed that he thought it was one of the "free" items left over from the sale, even though it was 50 yards away from the other free items.

I just about fell on the floor laughing as Pete came back in the house steaming mad and said "At least they haven't taken the mailbox yet."

The Minneota Mascot

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Ohman to present "250 America" at Bug Days

Historian and storyteller Doug Ohman will present, "America 250" during Box-elder Bug Days this year. Ohman, who gives public presentations to over 300 groups a year and has been featured on several PBS programs, focuses on Minnesota history. His program: Landmarks — Keeping history alive, was nominated for a PBS Emmy Award in 2019. Ohman, who has traveled to several locations to feature "America 250" as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence this year, will speak at 2:30 p.m. p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12 in the Opera Hall above the Minneota Public Library. Those in attendance can expect to share an historic journey with Ohman as he shares



Doug Ohman

stories and photos that help tell the tale of America's birth. Ohman will focus on the men and women who were the visionaries for our country in its earliest beginnings. His story of America will not only entertain and inspire those in attendance, but also everyone will appreciate our country more. Ohman, an avid metal detector, has spent over 30 years photographing historic structure and landscapes across Minnesota. His work has been featured in many publications and calendars. He also sells his photography work at various craft shows. The program is free and open to the public.

www.minneotamascot.com

THIS DAY IN HISTORY - AUGUST 13

- 1860 - Legendary sharpshooter Annie Oakley is born in Darke County, Ohio.
- 1889 - William Gray of Hartford, Conn., receives a patent for a coin-operated telephone.
- 1910 - Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, dies in London at age 90.
- 1934 - The satirical comic strip "Li'l Abner," created by Al Capp, makes its debut.
- 1942 - The film "Bambi" opens at Radio City Music Hall in New York City.
- 1961 - The border between East and West Berlin is closed and marked with a barbed-wire fence.
- 1967 - "Bonnie and Clyde," starring Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway, has its U.S. premiere; the movie, directed by Arthur Penn, is considered shocking and innovative at the time for its graphic violence.
- 1995 - Yankee legend Mickey Mantle dies of cancer.
- 2003 - Libya agrees to set up a \$2.7 billion fund for families of the 270 people killed in the 1988 Pan Am bombing.
- 2008 - Michael Phelps becomes the first athlete in Olympic history to win 11 career gold medals.
- 2016 - Michael Phelps wins his record 23rd (and final) Olympic gold medal.

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Explorers *Continued from Page 1*

The Fire Marshall inspection was previously completed.

“During that inspection, we learned that we actually needed a complete fire alarm system rather than the full sprinkler system we had already installed throughout the building,” Gillund said. “Thankfully, we are being granted a variance that will allow us to open while the fire alarm system is being completed, but it will need to be installed within the next few months.

“It has definitely been frustrating because this requirement was missed during the design and construction process, and unfortunately the fire alarm system is another very large expense that we had not budgeted for. We are extremely thankful for Frank’s Electric Plumbing & Heating and Jeff and Logan Sussner, who have been ready to jump in and work with our fire protection company to get everything installed as quickly as possible.”

Gillund said and her husband and co-owner Kurt Gillund, are trying to stay positive and optimistic through all the tedious requirements and inspections.

“Once it is completed, our center will have both a full sprinkler system and a complete fire alarm system,” she said. “So, our Little Explorers will have an extra level of fire protection and safety. We also passed our commercial kitchen inspection and have already been granted our commercial kitchen license. We also passed our health inspection. Southwest Health and Human Services reviewed our health policies and infant classrooms to make sure everything is safe and ready for our youngest Little Explorers.”

Gillund and her assistant director, Skyla Crowley, have put in long hours in order to continue moving forward. That has included working with the bank on their loan, ordering toys and supplies, completing licensing paperwork, answering questions from new families, helping new staff, while also continually checking in with their other Little Explorers Child Care Center in Ghent center to make sure it is running smoothly.

“Paytan Bendickson has really stepped up at our Ghent location and has taken on an assistant director role, which has been a huge help while so much of our time has been focused on getting Minneota ready,” Jamie said. “Kurt has also been working nonstop on the outside of the center — getting the playground installed and making sure it meets playground regulations, preparing the ground for fencing, coordinating cement work and tackling all of the other outdoor projects.”

Because of some unexpected costs, a paved parking lot — which is not part of the licensing requirement — is not in the budget for Little Explorers’ inaugural year in Minneota. That will likely be completed next year.

Gillund said the Minneota community has been very helpful and welcoming as they have tirelessly prepared to get things ready for a much-needed child care center.

“One thing I really want to emphasize is how incredibly grateful we are for the Minneota community and all of the local businesses and individuals who have stepped up to help us get to this point,” she said. “Whenever we have needed something, people have done everything they can to help and have made getting our center ready a priority. That kind of support means more to us than I can put into words.

“Opening a child care center of this size is a huge undertaking, and there have definitely been stressful days and unexpected hurdles, but having an entire community behind us has made such a difference.”

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Lincoln County Land & Building Site Auction

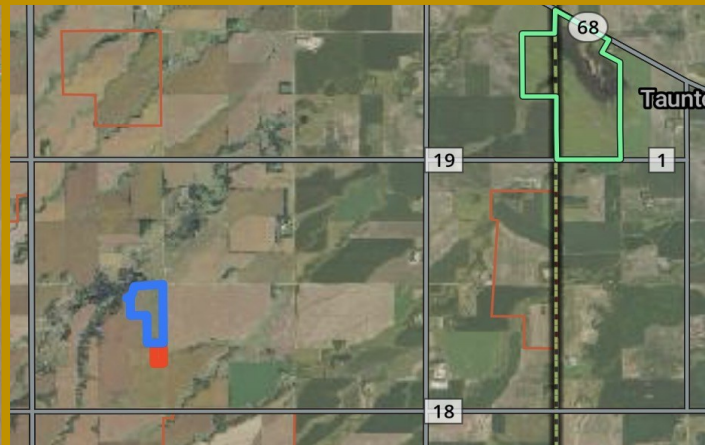
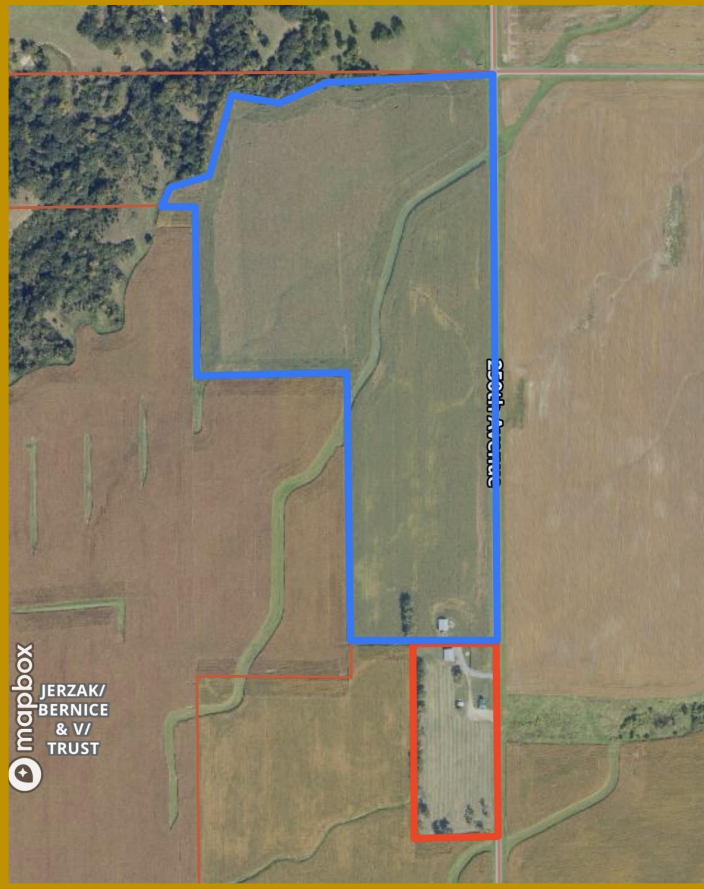
Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2026. 10:00 A.M.

Auction Location: On-site, 3457 250th Ave, Taunton, MN 56291

Parcel 1– Appx. 55 acres tillable land located in the NE 1/4 of Section 28, Alta Vista Township, Lincoln County, MN. Quality land with good tile outlet.

Parcel 2– Appx. 10 acre building site with older farm home that has been well kept. Working well, updated septic in 2012, detached garage and pole barn.

Auctioneers Note: We will be selling appx. 55 tillable acres and a 10 acre building site located in the NE 1/4 of Section 28, Alta Vista Township, Lincoln County, MN for Norbert Jerzak. Norbert took good care of the place for many years and will be selling to the highest bidder. Exact surveys will be completed by sale day. This will be a live, on-site auction only. Contact Auctioneer, Chuck Deutz at (507) 530-4183 with questions.



Terms: 15% down payment due sale day with balance due at closing on or before November 2, 2026. Possession after 2026 crops are removed for tillable acres. Possession at closing on building site. No buyer’s premiums charged, all are welcome. Establish credit with auctioneers.

Closing attorney: John Engels, Minneota, MN.

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Relay *Continued from Page 1*

Luminaries can be purchased for \$10 at Brau Brothers in Marshall, or by reaching out to a committee member. If you prefer to make a donation to the American Cancer Society, contact Chanda at 507-531-0452.

Beginning at 5 p.m., there will be a silent auction, cancer survivor registration, a community meal provided by The Hitching Post, SINGO (a music-based party game that blends the rules of Bingo with a playlist of songs and players mark off song titles instead of numbers, and “Squeeze the Stuffs”, where you can build a stuffed animal of your choice and 100% of the profit will be donated to help cancer patients.

The Hitching Post community meal is open for everyone and survivors will get the meal free when they check into the event.

Opening ceremony will begin at 7 p.m.. Which will include recognition of the Honorary Cancer Survivor and Caregivers, followed by an opening lap around the luminary track.

The Relay Scavenger Hunt starts at 8 p.m., followed by live music from Broken Oak, who will perform until dusk.

The luminary ceremony with a candlelit lap begins at dusk.

Visit Relay.org/lyoncountymn or [Facebook.com/groups/rfllyoncountymn/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/rfllyoncountymn/) for more information.

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Story idea?

Do you know of something eventual or interesting that would make a good story for the Mascot?

Call us at 507-872-6492 or email office@minneotamascot.com

2026 PORTER Harvest Festival
Third weekend in August

FRIDAY - AUGUST 14

All Events at James Schoneman Memorial Park unless otherwise noted. Beer Garden in the Park opens at 5:00.

- 5:00 - 8:00 |** Porter Development Project Supper Fundraiser - burgers, hotdogs, sweetcorn - meals and concessions
- 5:00 |** Porter Rocks! Hunt begins. Find rocks hidden throughout town and turn in at the concession stand for prizes
- 6:00 |** Lawn Mower and Look-Alikes Fun Run. Run Leaves the Park at 6:00
- 7:00 |** Opening Ceremonies by Porter American Legion
- 7:05 |** North vs. South Softball Game - Teams will be formed at 6:45
- 7:30 |** Senior King and Queen Coronation
- 8:00 - 11:00 |** Entertainment under the stars with Danica Michaels

SATURDAY - AUGUST 15

All Events at James Schoneman Memorial Park unless otherwise noted. Park Concession Stand open from 9:00 - 7:00. Beer Garden open in the Park all day.

- 7:00 - 4:00 |** At 300 block of North Sunrise Ave - **THE FINAL YEAR** - Tractor and Equipment Show - Registration at 7:00, activities throughout the day. Food truck and refreshments available on the grounds. 1:00 pm Come and Test Your Knowledge Competition for all! - Contact Ken 507-828-8811 or Linda 507-828-8810
- 8:00 - 10:00 |** At Porter Hall - Porter Fire and First Responders Pancake and Sausage breakfast
- 9:00 |** Kickball Tournament - pre-register by August 10 at www.portermn.org. See separate flyer
- 9:00 - 1:00 |** Vendor and Craft Fair - Contact Kayla Watson at 507-829-6745
- 11:30 |** Pizza, 12-pack, and a puzzle competition - \$80.00 registration per team of 4. Pre-registration and payment required. Contact Laurie Hauschild: 507-530-1735. See separate flyer.
- 1:00 |** Beanbag Tournament - \$20 per team - Register from 7:00-8:00 Friday and 9:00-11:00 Saturday at Beer Garden. Kid’s fun play following all ages tournament.
- 2:00 |** At 300 block of North Sunrise Ave - FREE Kid’s and Adult Pedal Pull - Registration at 1:30
- 3:00 - 5:00 |** Kid’s Activities - South Lawn of the Porter Hall - Inflatables and more!
- 3:30 - 6:30 |** Burger Feed - Burgers with the fixing, chips, and more!
- 4:00 |** Tractor and Equipment Parade around the park
- 4:30 |** At Porter Hall Kid’s Water Fights - Fire Department Style
- 5:30 |** At Porter Hall Fire Department Water Fights
- 8:00 - 12:00 |** At Downtown Parking Lot - Street Dance with The Broken Oak

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SUNDAY - AUGUST 16

All Events at Porter Community Hall unless otherwise noted. Beer Garden open at Porter Hall during activities.

- 8:00 - 1:00 |** At Porter Café - Breakfast Buffet
- 10:00 |** At Bethel Lutheran Church - Community Worship Service - All are Welcome!
- 10:00 |** At Porter Traildusters Arena next to Bethel Lutheran - Horse Show competitions and fun events for all ages - \$15 per rider for the day
- 11:30 |** Games on the grounds and street, Inflatables, and more!
- 11:00 - 2:00 |** Open Air Concert with Blake Schmitz
- 11:00 - 2:00 |** A Good Lemon food truck on site
- 11:30 - 1:00 |** Bethel Desserts and More Auction - Silent auction inside hall for homemade pies, baked goods, and more. Auction ends at 1:00 sharp.
- 12:00 |** Grilling Competition is served! Grillers should arrive and provide ample time to finish your masterpiece by noon. Buy your plate to vote. Only 75 plates available.

Visit Porter’s Website for updates and additional information www.portermn.org

Porter Harvest Festival T-Shirts and Swag will be available on Friday and Saturday in the park.

Interested in Getting Involved?

Send us a Facebook message or call/text 507-829-7451 if you would like to get involved in the Porter Harvest Festival Committee or just lend a helping hand with concessions or any of our events!



www.facebook.com/PorterHarvestFestival



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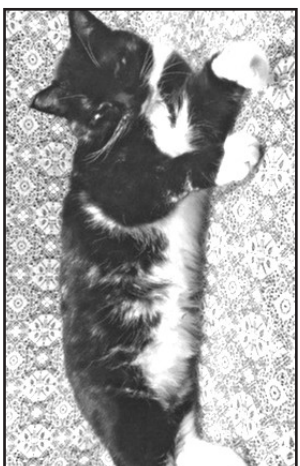
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Pet OF THE WEEK

*** Georgie ***



Owner:
Dean & Laurie Breyfogle

Pet’s Age:
14 years old

Breed:
Female housecat

Favorite Activities:
Lounging during the day, roaming the house at night, nighttime hunting outside.

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August

Thursday, August 13

Lyon County Fair, Marshall
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Friday, August 14

Lyon County Fair, Marshall
Harvest Festival, Porter
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center

Saturday, August 15

Lyon County Fair, Marshall
Harvest Festival, Porter

Sunday, August 16

Lyon County Fair, Marshall
Harvest Festival, Porter

Monday, August 17

1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday, August 18

10 a.m. - Lyon County Board meeting, Marshall
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Wednesday, August 19

1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, August 20

10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Friday, August 21

12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center

Monday, August 24

1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday, August 25

10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Wednesday, August 26

1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, August 27

10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center
7 p.m. - Volleyball - Redwood Valley at Minneota

Friday, August 28

12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center



Fried Ice Cream

This recipe will be a family favorite. For an extra treat, top the fried ice cream with caramel ice cream topping or honey.

Ingredients

3 cups vanilla ice cream
¼ cup heavy whipping cream
1 ¼ cups finely crushed graham crackers
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Oil for deep-fat frying

Directions

Using a ½-cup ice cream scoop, place six scoops of ice cream on a baking sheet. Freeze. Place the whipping cream in a shallow bowl. Combine cracker crumbs and cinnamon in another shallow bowl. Dip the ice cream balls in the whipping cream, then roll in the crumb mixture. Cover and freeze for at least 1 hour. Refrigerate remaining cream and set aside remaining crumb mixture. Roll ice cream balls again in whipping cream, then coat again with the graham cracker crumbs. In an electric skillet or deep-fat fryer, heat oil to 375 degrees. Fry ice cream balls for 10-15 seconds or until lightly browned. Drain on paper towels. Serve immediately.

LYON COUNTY MUSEUM

Sketches of MN in Marshall Sept. 10

Join the Minnesota Humanities Center, Danger Boat Productions, and Marshall community for the Sketches of Minnesota civic improv comedy tour. These free events use laughter and comedy to celebrate Minnesota communities, promote dialogue, bridge divides, and help find ways to work constructively across differences in today's political environment.

Beginning with a catered meal, these gatherings invite audience members to share what makes their town great, what they think people get wrong about it, what local divisions concern them, and what future they imagine. An improv comedy troupe listens in on the conversations, takes everything they heard from residents, and brings it to life on stage through entirely unscripted improv comedy theater.

5-6 p.m.: Doors open/Community hour
6-7:15 p.m.: Dinner
7:15-8 pm.: Improv show
8-8:30 p.m.: Talkback

The events are hosted by the Lyon County Historical Society Museum and Visit Marshall. This event is free, however registration is required by visiting <https://www.mnhum.org/event/marshall-sketches-of-minnesota/>

The work of the Minnesota Humanities Center is to create a stronger Minnesota by increasing our understanding of the beauty, wisdom and stories of its people. Through partnerships, we facilitate the spaces, like Sketches of Minnesota, that seek to build connections and deepen understanding of ourselves and our communities in pursuit of a more just society.

Fun Facts - School

With school starting soon, here are some interesting facts that you made not have known.

Some schools are built way up in the mountains, so high that clouds drift past the windows. At such heights, students often have to deal with thinner air, which means less oxygen. This makes simple physical activities more tiring and requires students to adapt to their surroundings in amazing ways. Despite the challenging environment, students attend regularly and are often very physically fit.

The oldest known schools date back thousands of years: Schools have been around for a very long time — way before modern times. Ancient civilizations created places for children to learn reading, writing, and math using tablets and scrolls instead of books and laptops. Teachers used simple tools like sticks to draw in sand or clay. These early schools laid the foundation for how we learn today. The love for learning has always been a part of human culture, showing how valuable education is across history.

Some schools are built using recycled materials: People have built schools using creative and eco-friendly resources like recycled bottles, tires, and old containers. These materials are strong, cost-effective, and great for the environment. Students who learn in these schools are often more aware of sustainability and how to care for the planet. The colorful walls made from unusual materials give the schools a playful and inspiring look.

The largest schools can have tens of thousands of students: In some places, schools are so big that they feel like small cities, with thousands of students enrolled across many grades. These schools often have multiple buildings, sports grounds, libraries, and even buses to transport students from different areas. Teachers and staff are organized into teams, each responsible for different sections of the school.

Some schools operate with only one teacher and one student: There are schools so small that only one student attends, often in remote or less populated areas. In these cases, one teacher takes on all subjects and works closely with the student to ensure they learn everything they need.

Children in remote areas sometimes ride zip-lines to school: In very mountainous or forested areas, students may use zip-lines to cross rivers or deep valleys to reach their schools. It's an adventurous start to the school day and shows just how committed some children are to learning. They often travel with siblings or adults for safety. Despite the danger, these journeys are part of daily life and are often faster than walking. This teaches bravery and determination at an early age.

Some school buildings are designed to look like animals or objects: Instead of plain rectangular buildings, some schools have been designed to look like animals or creative shapes to make learning more fun. The entrance might be through a giant animal's mouth or a colorful sculpture. These unique designs help kids feel excited and inspired as they arrive for the day. Inside, classrooms are just as vibrant and engaging, filled with fun decorations and interactive tools. The playful architecture can reduce anxiety and increase enthusiasm for learning.

Area Upcoming Fairs, Festivals

Aug. 12-16 - Lyon County Fair, Marshall
Aug. 14-16 - Harvest Festival, Porter
Sept. 11-13 - Boxelder Bug Days. Minneota

Check upcoming editions of the Mascot for more information on these area events.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING A BOOK REVIEW: They should be 250 words or less and include the title, author's name, and type of book. Submit to: scott@thomabooks.com.

— Minneota Area Community Churches —

Healing Waters Parish

Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield;
St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times:
St. Lucas: Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.
Augustana: Wednesday Worship at 6:30 p.m.
Bergen: Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.

Pastor Mort Meyenburg
Church Contact No. 320-841-1085

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

PO Box 119, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls
www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

Worship Time: All Sunday services are in-person and also live-streamed at 10:30 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.
Sunday, August 16: Worship at 11 a.m.

Church Contact No. 507-768-3417
Pastor Steve Quist: 507-337-0068
Tim Velde, Lay Minister: 507-828-5343

St. Leo Catholic Church

St. Leo, MN
Mass Time: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Fr. Brendan Rolling & Fr. Keith Salisbury
Church Contact No. 507-224-2289

Bethany-Elim Lutheran, Ivanhoe

Worship Time: Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday School

Bethany Lutheran, Arco

Worship Time: Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Church Contact No. 507-694-1238
windsministry@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church

Minneota
www.hopeminneota.org

Worship Time:
Sunday, Aug. 16: Worship at 9 a.m.

Minister: Jennifer Warnock: 320-305-4955
Church Secretary, Chris Pesch:
hoppelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Minneota

Worship Time: Sunday, Aug. 16: 10:30 a.m.

Minister: Jennifer Warnock: 320-305-4955
Church Secretary: Chris Pesch
hoppelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Eloï Catholic Church

Ghent

Mass Times:
Thursday, Aug. 13: Noon Mass at Convent
Friday, Aug. 14: Noon Mass at Convent
Saturday, Aug. 15: Noon Mass at Convent
Sunday, Aug. 16: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Father Todd Petersen
Church Contact No. 507-428-3285

Hemnes Lutheran Church

Rural Minneota

Worship Time: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Pastor Ellen Munter

Bethel Fellowship Church

Hwy 68 - Minneota
Ephesians 2:8 - By grace you are saved.

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School 8:50-9:45 a.m.
Wednesdays: Kids' Zone 6-7:20 p.m.; Prayer and Devotional 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Thomas Nomeland
Contact No. 507-828-1637

St. Edward Catholic Church

Minneota

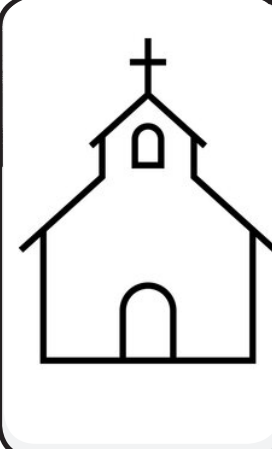
Mass Time:
Thursday, Aug. 13: Mass at 7 a.m.
Thursday, Aug. 14: Adoration from 5-7 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 15: Mass at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 16: Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Father Todd Petersen
Church Contact No. 507-872-6346

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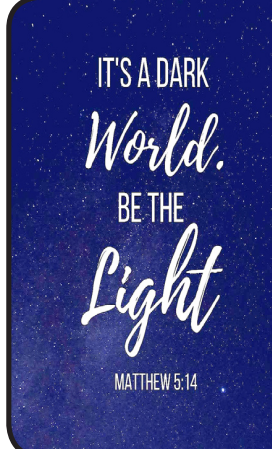


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Township Notices

**Limestone Township
Notice of Primary Election**

To the voters of the Township of Limestone, County of Lincoln, State of Minnesota. Notice is hereby given of the Primary Election to be held at the Ivanhoe VFW, Ivanhoe MN on Tuesday, the eleventh (11th) day of August, 2026, at which the polls will be open from the hour of seven (7) o'clock AM to the hour of eight (8) o'clock PM for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices which are to be voted for at the General Election to be held on Tuesday, the third (3rd) day of November, 2026, to wit:

FEDERAL OFFICES
One U.S. Senator
One Representative in the United States House of Representatives in the following Congressional District: 7

STATE OFFICES
Governor and Lieutenant Governor
Secretary of State
State Auditor
Attorney General

COUNTY OFFICES
None

If you have questions related to the Primary Election or procedures, please contact the Lincoln County Auditor's Office at 507-694-1529.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shelly Rybinski, Clerk

Public Hearing

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE to the Lyon County Planning and Zoning Administrator by Adam Willert for a variance from the standard one hundred (100) foot road right-of-way setback. The request is to construct an addition onto an existing building. Request is for a 50' Variance from the Road Right-of-way of County Road 73.

The area representing the request is zoned Agriculture. The property is described as follows:

All that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4, NE 1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36), Township One Hundred Twelve (112) North, Range Forty-One (41) Fairview Township, Lyon County, MN.

A Public Hearing on the Variance Request will be held by the Lyon County Board of Adjustments in the Commissioner's Room of the Lyon County Government Center, Marshall, Minnesota, on Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

John Biren, Lyon County Zoning Administrator
Phone: 507-532-8207 Extension 3

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Taunton, Minnesota will hold a public hearing at the Taunton Senior Center, 204 North Main Street, Taunton, MN on September 9, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. to hear comment from the public with regarding adopting changes to the City's enabling resolution for the Taunton Economic Development Authority which will result in the members of the City Council also constitution the Economic Development Authority Board. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

Dated: August 3, 2026
Rebecca Jerzak
Taunton City Clerk

Boxelder Bug Days

Sept. 11-13

Minneota



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Thank You



Our family would like to express our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of love, kindness and support following the passing of Tom. Thank you to everyone who sent flowers, cards, food, gifts, prayers and comforting messages. Your generosity and compassion have meant more to us than words can express during this difficult time.

With heartfelt appreciation,

The Fier Family
Kathy, Kim, Chris and Heather

Anniversary





Dan & Stacey

August 23, 1986

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Porter Harvest Festival set for Aug. 14-15-16

By Scott Thoma
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Harvest Festival, which draws hundreds of people into this modest community each summer, will be held Aug. 14-15-16.

Among the most popular events each year is Tractor and Equipment Show hosted by Kenny and Linda Hennen on North Sunrise Ave. This marks a special year for the Hennens as this will be their 19th and final year of the show.

The tractor and equipment show registration begins at 7 a.m. Food trucks will be available on the grounds. At 1 p.m., the Tractor Show will feature a "Come and Test Your Knowledge" competition.

On Friday, Harvest Festival kicks off with a burger/hot dog fundraiser feed, as well as rock hunting for prizes, Lawn Mower Fun Run, the annual North vs. South softball game, the Senior King and Queen coronation, and an evening performance by Danica Michaels.

The popular Kickball Tournament will be held on Saturday.

Also, from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday is the annual Porter Fire Department and First Responders' Pancake Breakfast.

Back by popular demand is the pizza, 12-pack and puzzle competition for teams of four people. Pre-registration required. See Poster on Page 3.

Porter Fire Department Water Fights for kids and adults will also be taking place on Saturday. Sunday's lineup features a breakfast buffet the

Porter Cafe, the Porter Traildusters Horse Show at the arena, the annual Grilling Competition, Bethel Desserts and More Auction at the Porter Hall, and more activities for kids.

Musical entertainment over the three days will be provided by Danica Michaels on Friday evening, Broken Oak on Saturday evening, and Blake Schmitz at the Porter Hall on Sunday morning.

See the list of times and events on the Harvest Festival poster on Page 4.

Polish Days Ivanhoe, MN - August 7-9, 2026



Mascot photos by Reba Lipinski



There was fun for all ages during Polish Days this past weekend in Ivanhoe. Jason Epple of Ivanhoe (top photo) competed in the Tractor Pull. Eight-year-olds competed in the 3-on-3 basketball tournament (photo above). People of all ages participated gathered to play Bingo (top right photo). There was also a kiddie tractor pull (center right photo), while the softball tournament drew plenty of fan support (bottom right photo). There were many other events, as well as music, food and competitions.



Scoreboard *Continued from Page 1*

The Vikings have won the past four Class A state titles and currently own a 46-game win streak heading into the season opener on Sept. 3 against Minnesota Valley Lutheran, the first game being played at Gerhard Meidt Stadium. The school record win streak was set by Meidt's teams, 48 straight from 1985-88. If Minneota wins its first two games this season to tie the record, that Sept. 18 game



This rendition is what the welcoming sign will look like when installed at Gerhard Meidt Stadium and K.P. Kompelien Field. *Contributed rendition*

against Canby looms as the one that could set the new school record.

During Minneota's home game against Eden Valley-Watkins last fall, the scoreboard malfunctioned, although a light went on in Chris Meidt's head that same night. Chris was the quarterback of two of those state title teams coached by his father. He, and many of his 1985 teammates, were attending the game that was celebrating the 40th anniversary of the school's first state football title in 1985.

"That's when this idea came to me to donate a new scoreboard and honor my father at the same time," said Chris, who went on to become the football coach at St. Olaf College and also an offensive assistant coach with the then-Washington Redskins.

While seated at his desk at North Risk Partner, where he is CEO and president of the insurance brokerage and risk management firm, Chris went on to tell how the scoreboard and other renovations came to fruition.

Being the competitor he's always been accustomed to, Chris took it upon himself to raise \$500,000 in donations in just under a year. Other donations poured in after that.

"Most of it was from Minneota people — those that once lived there and those that still come Minneota home," he said. "They want to assure that it got done. The city and school also helped. It was a great collaboration."

Chris noted that his father instilled in his players, "If you don't love each other, you can't win together." That same motto held true when this team of donors worked together.

The unveiling of a bust of Gerhard Meidt will be presented to the school during the Sept. 18 festivities. Many of his former players are expected to be on hand.

Gerhard passed away last June at the age of 88.

Chris and Gerhard are both inducted into the Minnesota Athletic Hall of Fame. Gerhard was inducted into the Minnesota Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1999.

Other new addition to the Gerhard Meidt Stadium this year are two 5' x 10' lit boards on either side of the scoreboard — one showcasing the 11 state championship football teams and the other a list of donors. The large Viking statue that was constructed via chainsaw by Jordan Dahl and has overlooked the stadium for years, will also now be lit.

The baseball dugouts will include new signage with K.P. Kompelien's name. A beautiful lit welcoming sign with the team's logo and Kompelien's name will be situated near the entrance to the stadium. New stadium lights will be installed soon. The current lights were installed in 1949.

"It made sense to get everything done at once," Chris said.

The City of Minneota owns the athletic complex and the Minneota School District maintains it. "The project is entirely funded by private donations," said Minneota Athletic Director Patty Myrvik. "No taxpayer money was used through the city or school."