-Only- $4.95/Issue
(Cheap - *Ho, Ho, Ho!*)

The GALACTIC Gazette

Volume 21 Issue 12
December 2021

Merry Christmas!

Weather: Dave?...Yea, Dave. "All of the news you really need. Probably more" "Noli credere omnia legis"

Autumn to Winter

Better get the runners polished up on that sled!



By Mark Minnick

We all enjoy the cooler fall temps and gorgeous colors. Then everything turns brown and kinda drab. 'We know' what's coming. The neighborhood celebrity 'Stumpy the Squirrel' (above, left) is scrounging around under the bird feeder for a few stray seeds to help fill his belly before it snows. 'He knows.'

Then one morning you get up and there's that white stuff on the ground. "Dang" you say, winter is here. Stumpy is probably fast asleep in his cozy nest. But there's an anonymous hairy woodpecker grabbing a few morsels of suet off of the feeder (above, left). He could give a rip less about the snow. 'He knows.'

Anyway, the stuff melts in a day or two. "Yay" you say, but 'You know' the "Yay" will be short lived. As Thanksgiving rolls around, 'We know' to do the "Eat, drink and be merry" thing with friends and family. (*Hopefully, we don't have to fight the white stuff or dodge a squirrel on the way to gramma's house.)*

Now we are looking ahead to the Christmas season. Will we get a Christmas blizzard? Will it be too cold to go to gramma's house? Will Santa show up? I don't consider myself to be a Grinch, but whatever happens 'I know' Christmas will come, regardless of the situation. *(and 'I know' it will snow.)*

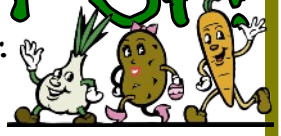
So why does this story start with a semi-famous backyard squirrel and a everyday woodpecker? I'm not really sure but hey, it's been a slow news month. Maybe it's because both animals handle winter differently, but with great aplomb…and they don't whine.

I used to be more like the woodpecker, embracing winter. Now I'm more like Stumpy. I fatten up early, hit the nest, turn on the cable and crack a Hamm's. My days of polishing up the runners on the sled are over. 'I know'.

I'll enjoy Christmas no matter what the weather is. *But I should ask Santa to bring me a telephoto lens for my wildlife watching.*

CHEF IT UP!

"Food and spices….together. What a concept!"
Don't forget to teach a kid how to cook.



Potato Soup



By Grace Kamrath

As I was thinking about this months' recipe, I was going through my mom's recipe box. I came across many names from my past. Don't you remember when you would ask someone for a recipe they would put their name on the recipe card? I love to find those in my box also written in their handwriting. This is just such a recipe. Sometimes during the holidays after you have had lots of sweets and filling suppers, a nice bowl of soup, in this case Potato Soup is just what you need. My cousin, Darlene, has the perfect recipe.

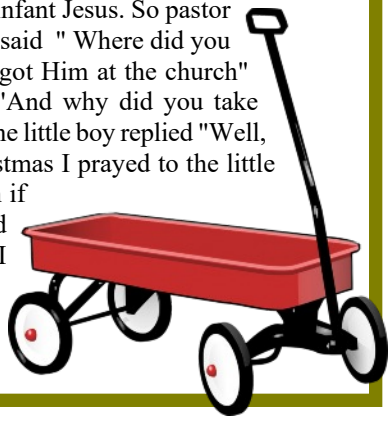
POTATO SOUP

- 2 lb. potatoes, peeled and cut in cubes
- 1/4 c. sliced carrots
- 1/4 c. chopped celery

You could use 2 c. vegetable juice or chicken broth
Cook the carrots and celery in this juice until tender. Add the potato half way through the cooking. Save the juice. In separate pan cook 1 small chopped onion in 3 T. Butter. Add juice left from cooking carrots and celery and add 1/2 c. flour, stirring constantly until liquid thickens. You may need more flour to get the thickness you desire. 1 c. shredded cheddar cheese. Maybe add some salt and pepper and a little paprika. Heat through but DON't let it boil.



It was after Christmas at a church near San Francisco. The pastor of the church was looking over the nativity when he noticed that the baby Jesus was missing from the display. He hurried outdoors and saw a little boy with a red wagon and in the wagon was the infant Jesus. So pastor walked up to the boy and said " Where did you get your passenger?" "I got Him at the church" replied the little boy." "And why did you take Him?" the pastor asked. The little boy replied "Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to the little Lord Jesus and I told Him if He would bring me a red wagon for Christmas I would give Him a ride around the block in it," End of story!!!



Library Tree



L-R, Linda Burns, Twyla Lietzau, Marilyn Sammons, Bunne Lu Johnston, Michelle Lund, Marilyn Larson (hiding), Karen Ackerman, Anne Lund, Grace Kamrath and Norma Holmgren (kneeling). ***Jen Shaul had to leave early.***

Pic and commentary by Grace Kamrath

If you stop at our Cosmos library you will see a beautiful tree decorated by the Green Thumb Garden Club. The decorations are hand made by the members. Besides the beautiful Christmas tree, our library has many, many books and videos for the holiday season.

Veteran Quilt



Pic by Yvonne Schroeder

By Mark Minnick

While participating in the Cosmos Legion Veterans Day lunch at the city center, members of the Legion Auxiliary and The Quilting Group presented Lloyd Pottenger with a quilt to honor his service as a veteran. I'm guessing it should help him keep warm and looking good this coming winter.

L-R; **Delores Arndt, Robin Scott, Sue Ann Marsh, Pat Strauman, Betty Inselmann, Shirley Anderson, Yvonne Schroder, Julie Seifert, Gladys Macik, Pat Wilner.** *Seated,* **Lloyd Pottenger**

TIDBITS



By Rick Nordin

Greetings! Hope you had a good Thanksgiving and please decide to have a great Christmas Season! The holiday season is a great time to take a break from the routine and give thanks for all the blessings in our lives.

Strive to be a blessing to those around you. Let them see love in your eyes. Be kind and try to do one random act of kindness each day. Examples could be hold the door for someone, pay for someone's lunch and don't tell anyone, smile and look in the checkout person's eyes and say "you did a great job! Thank you".

I like Garth Brooks and his songs. I am inspired by many of them and appreciate the positive nature of his music and shows. Patty and I were fortunate to attend the Garth Brooks concert November 7th, 2014. Toward the end of the concert and during the performance of the song "The Dance", Teresa Shaw, (a gal from Iowa who is currently fighting cancer), got close to the stage and held up a sign, "Chemo this morning, Garth tonight. Enjoy "The Dance."

The camera crew caught this and displayed it on the big screen and the crowd started cheering. With her head wrapped in a scarf, Teresa was singing every word of the song while holding up her sign. Garth saw her and walked over to the edge of the stage, motioned her to the stage, sat down with his legs hanging over the edge, grabbed her hand and she continued to sing each word with him.

The crowd's response to the moment became overwhelming for Garth and the song literally stopped when he could not continue. (Garth's sister and mother both died from cancer.) Garth leaned over, gave her a hug and a kiss, took off his guitar and traded it for her sign. Not sure there was a dry eye in the house at that point. Garth then stood up on the stage, held up the sign, and said (paraphrasing), "Sometimes, I look up at the sky and wish God would just reach out a big old hand and write, I Exist…then there would never be any doubt. Right?

Well, I want to tell you right now, God stuck out his hand….." Seize the moment to make a difference. Have a blessed Christmas season.



The Galactic Gazette

"Always Action Packed & Fun Filled!"

"Chestnuts roasting on an open fire" is a lyric from a popular Christmas tune. 9 out of 10 of us Minnesotans surveyed have never eaten chestnuts. Besides, fireplaces are for rich folks. Roasted chestnuts would probably be too tasty anyway…then. The lyric "Lutefisk boiling on top of the stove" would probably make more sense…Uff Da.



Don't miss an issue– You'll regret it!



Thoughts from the Top of the Washing Machine

By "Ralphie"



Celebrate the Holiday Season

Santa will arrive this year by

Fire Truck!

At Mug Shots *in Cosmos*

Kids Activities
Starting at 6:00
Provided by
The Cosmos Comets
4H Club

Sign up for prize drawings
Kids & Adults

Friday
December 10th
6:15 PM

Hotdogs, Soup & Crackers
will be served , starting at 5:00
Freewill Donation

Happy Holidays!

Sponsored by **The Cosmos Community Club**

MINUTES
CITY OF COSMOS
REGULAR MEETING
November 9, 2021

A regular meeting of the Cosmos City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas McCarthy at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 9, 2021.
COUNCIL PRESENT: Council Members Emily Van Hatten, Angelica Hopp, Katie Hansen and Jody Fruetel.
ALSO PRESENT: John Douville, Josh Halvorson and Sarah Miller
Adopt Agenda – A motion by Hansen, seconded by Fruetel to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.
Adopt Consent Agenda – A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Fruetel, to adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

a. October 14, 2021 City Council Minutes
b. Overtime Balances
c. MMS – Parameter Report
d. Meeker County Sheriff – Oct 2021 Report
e. Res 21_24 City of Cosmos Polling Place

VISITORS PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDANCE

Bolton & Menk – Josh Halvorson, engineer for Bolton & Menk, reviewed the construction project. Work has started with the following actions needed:

Pay Application No. 1 - A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Hopp, to pay the construction pay request No. 1 for $302,875.20. Motion carried**.**

Field Order No. 3 $24,854.50 - A motion by Fruetel, seconded by Van Hatten, to approve Field Order No. 3 of $24,854.50. The MN Pollution Control is expected to reimburse the city approximately $24,829.20 for contaminated soils. Motion carried**.**

Field Order No. 4 $3,975.35 - A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Hopp, to approve Field Order No 4 to improve the alley within the construction project. Motion carried**.**

November 9, 2021 Bills List - A motion by Fruetel, seconded by Hansen, to approve the November 9,, 2021 bills list with check numbers from 15180-15292 for $130,011.51. Motion carried**.**

Resolution 2021_24 City Council Wages – A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Hopp, to approve Res 2021_24 City Council Wages at $200 per meeting Mayor, $150 per meeting for Councilmembers and $50 per special meeting. Wages will go into effect for the 2023 council year. Motion carried**.**

Fire Department – Fire Chief Jon Fruetel requested approval for Andrew Pearson to become a new member of the Cosmos Fire Department. A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Fruetel, to approve Andrew Pearson as a member of the Cosmos Fire Department. Motion carried**.**

Ambulance Department – Ambulance Director Van Hatten discussed the ambulance has 10 current members but may be losing one in the spring.

Next City Council Meeting – The next city council meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, December 9, 2021 due to 6:00 p.m. Truth in Taxation hearing. The agenda will be posted in the city office window, post office and bank vestibule by Tuesday afternoon. Any change in meeting dates or times will be displayed on the digital sign.
Motion to Adjourn - A motion by Hopp, seconded by Fruetel, to adjourn at 5:53 p.m. Motion carried.

_____- DRAFT-_____
John A. Douville, Administrator/Clerk

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City of Cosmos

-Contact Information-

Office Hours: Mon-Tue-Thu 9 AM-4 PM
-Staff can meet before or after Office Hours by Appointment if needed-
Phone: 320-877-7345
City Website: cosmos-mn.com
Email: cosmoscity@mchsi.com
Sheriff Non-Emergency Number: 320-693-5400
Sheriff Office Hours in Cosmos:
Tue 2:30-4:30 PM

The family of Kevin Wegner wishes to thank everyone for their comforting words, prayers and memorials given to us at this sad time. Also to all who attended his reviewal at the center. God bless you all.

WHITCOMB FARM DRAINAGE

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A special **Thank You** to the **Cosmos Comets 4-H Club** for providing activities for the kids on Halloween. Great job again! The kids had lots of fun!

From the Cosmos Community Club

Peace Lutheran Church
EMERGENCY GROCERY CART

If you or someone you know is in need of food, food is available in our grocery cart.

Mon. – Thurs. | 9:30 am to 3 pm

(Enter from the parking lot.
The cart is located above the steps.)

140 Saturn St. N., Cosmos, MN
320-877-7500

Come worship with us in December!!!

Wednesday Services at 6 pm
(December 1st, 8th, & 15th)

Sunday Worship at 9 am

Christmas Eve Service at 6 pm

Christmas Day Service at 9 am

All are welcome!!!

Peace Lutheran Church
140 Saturn St. N., Cosmos, MN
320-877-7500

December Daily Lunch Specials

W 1 Pork chop w/ twice baked potato
T 2 Pizza hotdish
F 3 BBQ chicken dinner

M 6 Crispy chicken sandwich w/soup
T 7 BBQ ribs w/American fries
W 8 Turkey commercial or dinner
T 9 Chili cheese burger w/fries
F 10 Broasted chicken dinner

M 13 Shrimp w/soup
T 14 Sloppy Joe's w/ JoJo's
W 15 Baked chicken dinner
T 16 Sauerkraut hotdish
F 17 Meatball dinner

M 20 Broasted chicken dinner
T 21 Potato hotdish
W 22 Scalloped potatoes & ham
T 23 Chicken spaghetti w/garlic toast
F 24 Liver & onions dinner
(Closing at 6 PM)
M 27 Turkey melt w/soup
T 28 Tater tot hotdish
W 29 Pork commercial or dinner
T 30 Chicken stir fry
F 31 French dip w/soup or fries

"Stop By & Say Hi!"

MUG SHOTS
Bar & Grill
320-877-7525
Cosmos





Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

-Saturdays-
*3 PM-"Bargo"
*5 PM-Meat Raffle

TIME WARP Whozit?



FFA Week proclamation was signed by the mayor of Cosmos when this picture was taken in February 1962. Who was the mayor, seated center, and who were the upstanding officers of the Cosmos FFA chapter?

Whozit?

Email your answer to:
wordnut66@outlook.com

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Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year!

Located by School
Mon-Fri: 9:30-5:00
Saturdays:
9:30-4:00 Sept-May
9:30-12:00 June-Aug

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First State Agency

We Wish Everyone
a Merry Christmas
and a prosperous New Year!
Thank you!
Rick - Jake - Taryn

Office will be closed December 24th, 27th, 31st

Do you have questions about Medicare Supplements and Part D? Contact us today!
Open Enrollment ends 12/7/21.
Individual open enrollment is open until 12/31/21

320-664-4444

It's the "Get Ready for Christmas"

POT LUCK Lunch

In the

-Cosmos City Center-

Wednesday, December 15th
11:30 AM till ?
Info call: 320-220-1081



It truly is, "All of the news you really need". Probably more.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



From the members of the....

The Cosmos Lions

"We Serve"

We appreciate the support we always get from the community and look forward to serving the area again this coming year. Remember, we are always looking for new gals or guys to become members & join us. Feel free to talk to any Lions member or email; **cosmoslions@mac.com**

First Day of Winter

By Mark Minnick

The Winter Solstice is the first day of winter and the shortest day of the year. It happens on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 9:59 AM. Sunrise is at 7:48 AM and sunset is at 4:34 PM. This results in only 8 hours and 46 minutes of daylight, 6 hours and 51 minutes less than on the first day of summer or, the Summer Solstice. At least the days get longer from here on out. In the meantime, throw another log on the fire. An extra quilt on the bed couldn't hurt either.



A Currier & Ives artist's depiction of living on the frontier during winter in "The Good ole' Days", circa 1870.



Where's the Gazette?



Is it a hitch hiker? An alien from Cosmos? Garth Brooks looking for his guitar? Nope it's **Mel Maas**, with the Galactic Gazette, standing on the side of the road heading into **Branson, Missouri**. Mel and wife Karen had an great week visiting the entertainment mecca of the south. Word has it that no one asked Mel (Garth) for his autograph but they did want to look at his Gazette. Smart folks they are, knowing that it's "All the news they really need. Probably more".





Who would have thought that the Gazette would show up in **Pendergrass, Georgia**? Known as the "Tanker Yanker", Gazette contributor, subscriber and KewPie winner **Gary Schmidt** is seen here catching up on the latest issue. It certainly shows that even when far, far away from home, the Gazette truly is "All the news you really need. Probably more." I wouldn't doubt he has a stash of past issues in a secret compartment in the sleeper. *(What other periodicals could he want possibly want?)* I wonder if he'll let the KewPie ride on the dash?





Win a KewPie! Show us where you are reading the Gazette & Email pics to: wordnut66@outlook.com







Whoa! We've got a subscriber that's reading the Gazette in a far-away land. *(I had to dig up a new map even.)* It's **Cassie Schmidt**, who jetted all the way from her home in Colorado to **London in Merry Old England!** The picture was snapped in front of the world famous "London Eye", a Ferris wheel that is the most popular tourist attraction in the UK, drawing over *3 million visitors* annually. One wonders, what was she doing overseas? Could she be a secret agent? Was there a coded message in the Gazette? Did her contact, James Bond, take the picture? The plot thickens….By the way, her dad is Cosmos Alum, Gary Schmidt. *(Above, right.)*

Nature and the Great Outdoors

Hey, it's nice outside!

Deer Hunting Success for Sister & Brother



Lindsey with her doe.



Colton, right, with his dad Scott and the buck.

By Mark Minnick

Sister and brother, Lindsey and Colton Minnick each bagged a deer this fall. Lindsey got her doe late in the afternoon of November 11th. Like last year when she bagged a nice buck *(featured in the Dec. 2020 issue of the Gazette)*, she was sitting in her favorite secret spot in the 'exotic hinterlands' of southwestern Meeker county. She quipped that this one will make for some good eatin'.

Colton shot his in South Dakota in his own 'secret spot' on November 20th, a little after 8:00 in the morning. The nice buck was a 10 pointer with a 20 inch spread. It looks like his will take up a little more room in the freezer than hers. Plus, he gets to make a large batch of antler soup.

I asked Colton if this buck was bigger than his sister's really nice specimen from last year. He lamented frankly, "No, she's already razzing me that her's was bigger and better". Nothing wrong with a little sister and brother rivalry, right? I'm guessing that this competition will continue during every deer season in the foreseeable future. As it should.

That'll Teach Them Turkeys





Pics by Tyler Minnick

By Mark Minnick

In the Nov. 2021 issue, I wrote about the invasion of wild turkeys in number one son Tyler's yard in suburban Oakdale. Then on November 14th, he sent me this picture of a gorgeous looking bird, fresh off the charcoal grill. *(It looks suitable for a Hallmark Thanksgiving movie. Way to go kid.)* I pondered, are the two pictures somehow connected? Maybe one of the wild turkeys tripped over a crack in the driveway, fell and hit his head. A guy can't let a perfectly good bird go to waste.

Anyway, he probably went to the supermarket to get a bird, just like the rest of us. I'm guessing that his friends he had over for an early Thanksgiving, probably wouldn't have appreciated eating 'wildlife' for the main course anyway.

Thompson Lake Walleye Harvest

Adults Netted Were From the 2019 Fry Stocking: 777 Fish, 1,165.5 Pounds



The little guys didn't survive the summer, but these guys did.



Handing off fish from the Hutch tank to the Spicer tank.

Pics and article by Mark Minnick

In case you forgot, the summer of 2021 was a corker. High temps, lots of humidity and nary a bit of rain. Even with the mosquitos virtually non-existant. It was an ugly summer. Tropical like.

Most folks aren't aware of something else that occurs in a summer such as this; lake evaporation. Most of the lakes in our area were down one to two feet in depth this last summer. Thompson was surely no exception, going from the normal depth of around six feet to four feet.

Less volume of water heats up easier with the sun beating down on it day after day. On top of that, hot water holds less dissolved oxygen for the fish to 'breath'. Hot weather and hot water is not conducive to fish survival. You can end up with a 'Summer Kill' situation.

The annual fall walleye fingerling harvest commenced in October on Thompson. DNR personnel had the same thoughts as me-did the lake summer kill?

The DNR normally targets young-of-the-year fingerlings that were planted in the spring. But as you can see in the above pictures, some walleyes survived, albeit not fingerlings. These were adult fish.

I talked with Scott Mackenthun, head of DNR Fisheries in Hutchinson. He stated that they normally don't harvest this many adults from a walleye rearing pond or lake when it is being utilized by anglers. They like to leave these fish for anglers to catch.

To paraphrase Mackenthun, "We prefer numbers of 6-10 inch fingerlings for stocking. For whatever reason, the fry did not do well in Thompson this year."

The few fingerlings that were netted, were belly up within a few minutes of being put in the tanks. Not good candidates for transport and stocking.

What they did find was walleyes from the 2019 fry stocking. Those adults averaged 1 ½ pounds each, with 777 fish harvested and a total weight of 1,165.5 pounds.

Nice fish for sure, but Mackenthun contends that Thompson will probably winter kill this season. I agree with him. A winter with two or three feet of ice would leave a foot or two of water for the fish. They'd be goners.

So, instead of losing these fish, they continued to harvest as many as they feasibly could to make the best of the situation. Green Lake by Spicer was in need of some adult specimens, and these fish fit the bill just fine.

Green Lake has had a tough time growing walleyes to adult size, with fry and fingerling stockings showing varied rates of success. These fish would supplement the adult population in Green nicely, while making use of a resource that would otherwise be lost to old man winter.

With no pun intended regarding a probable winter kill…Cool.

Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year

-2022-

From everyone on the...

Cosmos Fire & Ambulance Departments





"Brought to you by the sharpest minds at. . . ."

The GALACTIC Gazette & COMIC BOOK+ comicbookplus.com

Vintage Comics...& Then Some





In 1935, Napoleon and Uncle Elby are quite the dog/owner duo. Most days it's hard to figure out who's the one in charge. I hope you get a chuckle out of their Christmas conundrum.

NAPOLEON

By Clifford McBride



More... Halloween Leftovers

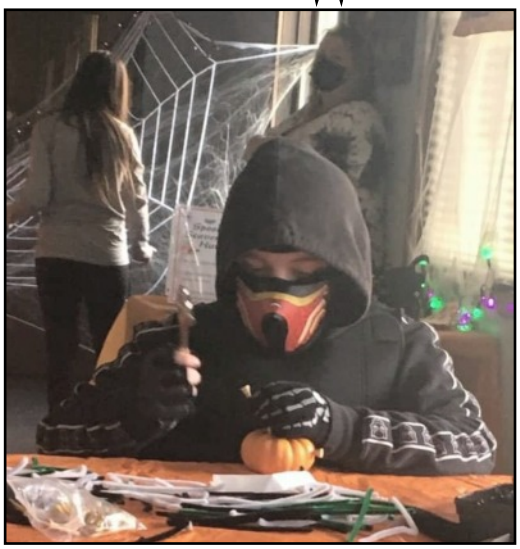
Isn't it time for Christmas stuff?

By Mark Minnick

So, what the heck is this Halloween stuff doing in the December Christmas issue? Well, the November issue is already printed and delivered *before* October 31st. So when the intrepid reporters get me their Halloween pictures and commentary in early November, the next issue is the December issue. These submissions are surely worthy of the Gazette too, so here it is - Halloween stuff in December. Boo! and Merry Christmas! all at the same time I guess. There's more scary stuff on the next page too.

CREEPY CRAWLY HALLOWEEN





Pics and commentary by Dee Smith

The Cosmos Comets and the Cosmos Community Club would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Creepy Crawly Halloween party a success. Guests were able to touch 2 different types of snakes, a tortoise, a bearded dragon, and an iguana. They were also able to earn prizes by throwing creepy spiders into a giant web, by dropping frogs into a pumpkin, make a creepy pumpkin creature and by doing a Halloween scavenger hunt. When they left for Trick or Treating they received a glow necklace and bag of treats!







Even more...

Halloween Leftovers

Jingle Bells, Ho Ho Ho, Let's go here!

By Mark Minnick

Who would've thought that the parking lot of Peace Lutheran Church would be a spooky place. Well, if you get a bunch of folks to decorate their car trunks with ghosts, Jack-O-Lanterns and scarecrows, I guess that's pretty scary. But the little monsters started smiling when they got loads of candy and treats from these 'old people' that dressed up to look like witches and ogres. What, you say the oldsters didn't wear any costumes? Well I'll be…

TRUNK OR TREAT

By Curt Meyer

We had 20 vehicles and about 70 trick or treaters, good time had by all. At the end of the day the big question was who had the most fun, young people or the adults.



Pic by Curt Meyer



Pic by Curt Meyer



Pic by Curt Meyer



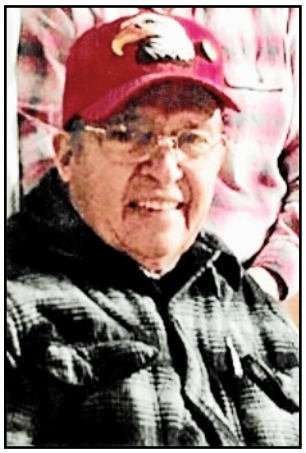
Pic and commentary by Minister Sarah

Thanks to everyone who hosted a trunk for trick or treating at Peace. We had 20 decorated trunks with treats and around 70 trick or treaters!

Okay, now it's time for some winter stuff.

Harold 'Spike' J. Minnick

May 2, 1939 ~ November 5, 2021 (age 82)



Harold J. 'Spike' Minnick, age 82 of Atwater, MN died on Friday November 5, 2021 at his home in Atwater. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 AM on Thursday, November 11, 2021, at the Church of St. Philip in Litchfield, MN. A visitation will be on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, from 5:00-8:00 PM at Johnson-Hagglund Funeral & Cremation Service in Litchfield, MN with a 5:00 PM prayer service at the funeral home. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at church on Thursday.

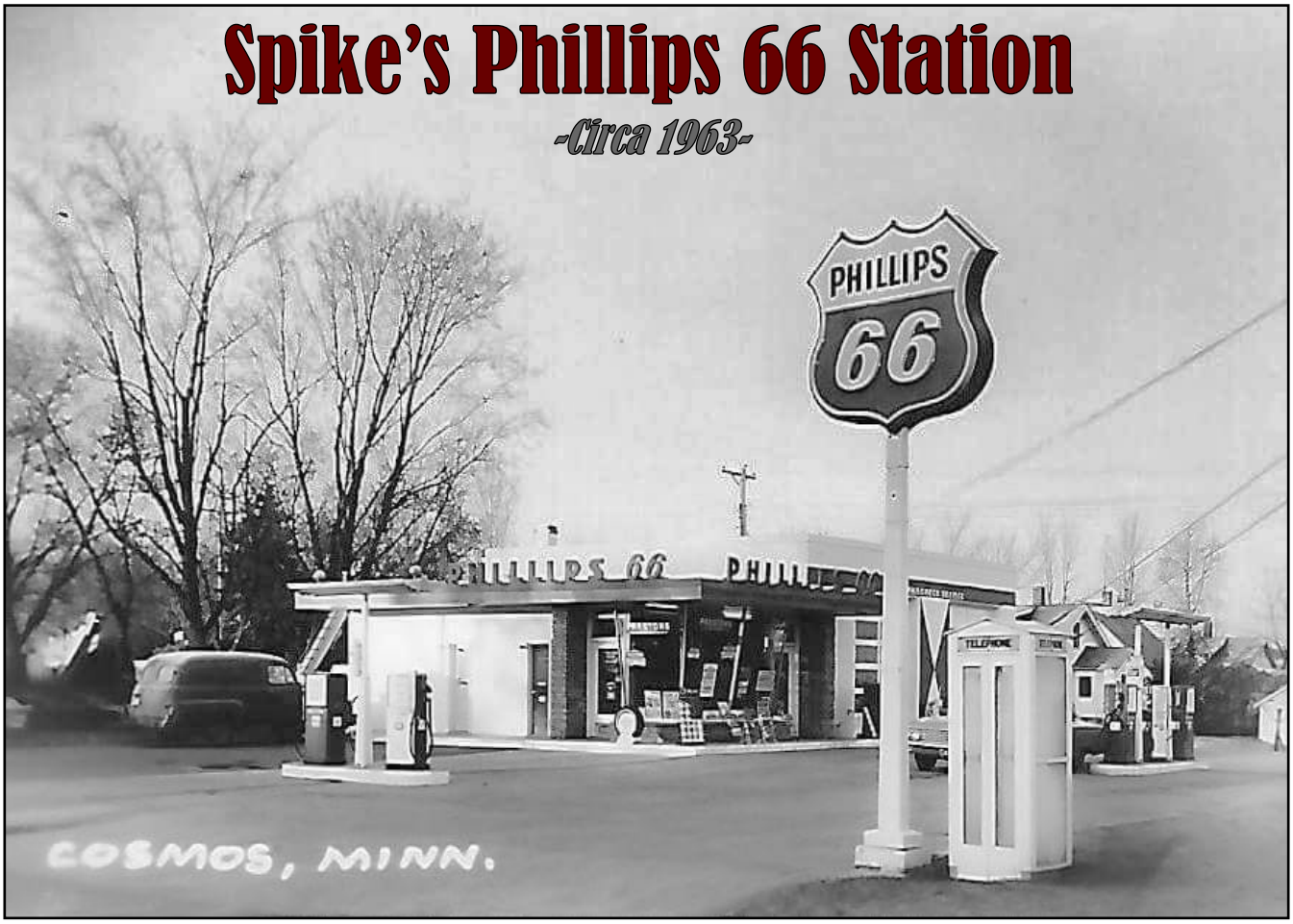
Harold 'Spike' John Minnick, the son of Harold and Dorothy (Brey) Minnick was born in New Ulm, MN on May 2, 1939. He lived in New Ulm and Aurora, IL before his family moved back to Cosmos where he attended Litchfield and Cosmos High School graduating in 1957. In 1958, Spike took over his fathers Phillips 66 Station that was a full service gas station. He operated the Minnick Oil Company where he sold bulk oil to the Cosmos area. The business name changed to the 4 & 7 Corner Mart and became a full service convenience station. He was united in marriage to Karla Adams on July 13, 1990 in Watertown, SD. Spike was a hard worker and caregiver; often taking care of everyone but himself. He was a member of the Church of our Lady in Manannah, the Sons of the American Legion, Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, the Lions Club, and the Cosmos Fire Department. He taught snowmobile safety and was a fire arms safety instructor. Spike was a trap shooting enthusiast and enjoyed hunting, trapping, gardening, and gatherings of friends for a brandy, beer and snacks.

Harold is survived by his wife Karla; children Mark (Deb) Minnick, Scott (Marilyn) Minnick, Pat "Bill" (Harry) Weseloh, Nancy Adams, Jeremy Hacker and Jacob (Erica) Hacker; 9 grandchildren Tyler (Brittany), Colton, Lindsey, Beau, Brenna, Savannah, Aubre, Baylee and Madison; a sister Mary (Mike) Schjenken; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents Harold Sr. and Dottie Minnick; father-in-law LeRoy Adams; and best friend Harvey Picha.

Spike's Phillips 66 Station

-Circa 1963-



Spike's dad, Harold Minnick Sr, had this state of the art Phillips 66 service station built in 1956. This new business venture in Cosmos was located at arguably the busiest intersection in the state of Minnesota, Trunk Highways 4 & 7. Spike was fully involved in operating the business at the time this picture was taken in 1963.

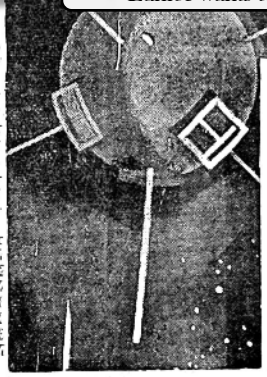
The Galactic Gazette

TIME WARP

December '61

60 years ago: Nefarious individuals robbed Haggermiller's Hardware store in Cedar Mills. The Cosmos School purchased a new school bus. There were a bunch of happy winners for the first holiday drawing. Plus, Eunice wants to put some money into a certificate of deposit at a 4% interest rate. Oh Eunice...





The Cosmos News

"Cos'mos, n. The universe as an embodiment of order and harmony; the system of order and harmony combined in the universe."—Webster's Dictionary

10c a Copy—$3 a Year Phone TR 7-2595 COSMOS, MEEKER COUNTY, MINNESOTA
VOLUME 7—NUMBER 39 THURSDAY, DEC. 14, 1961

Winter is really here!

THIS area got real winter weather last week for the first time in several years.

Over the week end more than five inches of snow were dumped on this area, and in some places drifts piled up to as high as two and three feet.

In the meantime, temperatures also hit the skids, going down as low as 17 degrees below zero.

	Hi	Lo
Wednesday, Dec. 6	29	
Thursday, Dec. 7	17	
Friday, Dec. 8	31	17
Saturday, Dec. 9	29	-4
Sunday, Dec. 10	0	-12
Monday, Dec. 11	12	-3
Tuesday, Dec. 12	4	-17

Burglars take $4,000 in cash and checks from Cedar Mills store

CEDAR MILLS— A burglary of $4,000 in cash and checks occurred at the George Haggermiller hardware store at Cedar Mills, Friday evening.

The place closed for business for the day at 6:20 p.m., Friday and the break-in was discovered at 8:45 p.m., when the owner returned to the store.

Entrance to the building was gained by removing a rear window which led into a store room, a door was then forced open which led into the business office.

The safe in the office was ranched to remove the contents and in this process a tear gas bomb was set off but the burglars completed the job before being forced to leave.

There was no merchandise taken in the burglary.

Sheriff Eldon Hardy and Deputy Sheriff Marvin Johnson are investigating for clues.

Bank announces higher interest rate

FIRST State Bank of Cosmos has announced that beginning Jan. 1, 1962, all 12-month time certificates of deposit will draw the maximum rate of 4 percent interest.

All certificates of deposit issued on Dec. 1, 1961 (date of announcement) and thereafter will draw the old rate of 3 percent to Dec. 31, 1961 and 4 percent thereafter to maturity.

POLICE ASKS:

Please do not leave your car on Main street

"PLEASE do not leave your cars parked on Main street after a snowfall," Policeman Reuben Martin asked Cosmos residents this week.

After a snow, the Main street is usually plowed at night, cars parked on the street make the job difficult. To facilitate the snow plowing, Martin asks that no cars be parked on Main street from the laundromat to Zrust Lumber Co. after a snowfall.

"If this request is not heeded," Martin added, "I may find it necessary to awaken car owners in the middle of the night to move their cars."

School to give Yule concert

WHILE the entire community and area is planning their Christmas holidays, the Cosmos public school music department has been planning and working on a concert to be presented to the public on Wed. Dec. 20 at 8 p.m.

Six groups, totaling 325 students, will participate in this annual event. The group performing are: the entire elementary department, junior high school chorus, junior band, the high school band and a brass group. The senior high school mixed chorus numbering 50, will be attired in their new choir gowns.

This will also be the first concert for the junior band, a group of 30. Each group has made a great deal of progress and this promises to be a good concert for the entire public.

While you are planning your Christmas Holidays, the music department asks that you, please reserve this evening for an evening of music activity and an opportunity to sing some of your favorite Christmas Carols. Your attendance is important, as a concert is not complete without a large audience.

The PTA will be serving lunch in the cafeteria, following the concert.



CURTIS OVERDAHL

Irrigation meeting next Monday night

AN OPEN meeting for farmers in Meeker and adjoining counties has been set up on irrigation of cropland for Monday night, Dec. 18, at 8 p.m. at the Litchfield Comunity hall.

Specialists on hand will be Evan Allred, engineer and university expert on irrigation; Curtis Overdahl, soils specialist; and Ken Thomas, farm management specialist.

Subjects to be discussed will be (1) Under that circumstances is irrigation profitable, (2) How much would it cost, (3) What kind of equipment has worked out best, (4) How do you manage cropland using supplemental water, and others.

Irrigation of cropland may be one of the answers to the problem of drouthy soils in west central Minnesota.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETS

School board buys new bus

MEETING Tuesday night in regular session, the Cosmos school board came to a final decision on the new 42-passenger school bus it is going to purchase.

The bus will have a Thomas body. Hoglund United Sales, Inc., of Monticello, Minn., was the successful bidder. They submitted a bid of $3,135.

Standard Motors of Hector will supply the International V-8 chassis. They submitted a bid of $2,507.

The bus will cost the school district a total of $5,642.

The school board accepted the resignation of Mrs. Sophia Squires of Grove City, who, because of poor health and family responsibilities, feels that she must leave her duties as English teacher and librarian at the Cosmos school.

E. T. O'Brien, superintendent, stated that he has had contact with Miss Mary Bengston of New London, who will be graduating from St. Cloud State College. Miss Bengston is a qualified librarian, English and civics teacher. The board moved that Miss Bengston be requested to take over Mrs. Squires' duties after the Christmas holidays.

The Cosmos school board feels very fortunate that a new athletic conference, which will be called the Cro-Hawk Conference, is being organized. This will cut down considerably on the amount of traveling required by the various athletic teams. It may take a year or two to really get the league going, Mr. O'Brien stated.

Those schools which have expressed their approval and are already members are: Raymond, Clara City, Grove City, Maynard, Cosmos, Silver Lake, Prinsburg. Murdock is also interested, but they have not committed themselves.

Among other business, the board:

★ **Authorized** the payment of bills in the amount of $5,449.18.

★ **Heard** a report that Mrs. Lietzau has completed one visitation to each elementary teacher's room.

★ **Heard** the junked station wagon has been sold to Roy Frederiksen for $15.



WINNERS of the first Christmas drawing, last Saturday, were these people, seen with their prizes. Left to right they are: Ervin Retzlaff, Myron Kamrath, Clarence Boelter, Mrs. Ray Davis, Eldred (Bud) Anderson, Ardena Houck, Albert Jordin, Mrs. E. A. Maahs, Otto Madsen, Mrs. Pat Schiro and Elmer Retzlaff.—Cosmos News staff photo.

Santa Claus is coming Saturday

NEXT Saturday, Dec. 16, will be a big day for the young folks of Cosmos. Not only will they be treated to a free movie, but they will meet their great hero, Mr. Santa Claus, in person.

The day will be part of the Cosmos Commercial club's annual Christmas events—a sign of appreciation to the folks of this territory for the trade they have given local merchants during the past year.

The fun will begin at 2 p. m., when a free movie will be shown to the small fry at the Hub Theatre.

Santa Claus has promised the young folks that he will be in town immediately after the show to meet with his young friends and give them each a bag of candy. He will be in front of the Hub Theatre when the show lets out.

THERE will be an outstanding event for the adults, too. Ten turkeys and two $5 merchandise certificates will be given away in a free drawing on the lawn of the creamery, beginning at 2 p.m.



MR. AND MRS. DAVID L. HANSON

Donna Erickson becomes Mrs. David L. Hanson at Mount Olivet Lutheran

DONNA L. Erickson, Edina, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Erickson, Minneapolis former Cosmos residents, and David L. Hanson, Minneapolis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hanson of Harmony, Minn. were united in marriage Saturday, Nov. 18, at 8 p.m. at Mount Olivet Lutheran church in Minneapolis.

The Rev. Chester Johnson officiated at the candlelight service. Miss Ardis Nelson was the organist. The soloist was Howard Pearson of Minneapolis who sang "Entreat Me Not to Leave Thee" before the ceremony, "O Perfect Love" durthe ceremony, and "The Lord's Prayer" as the couple knelt at the altar. The traditional wedding march and recessional were played.

The altar flowers were white pom poms and white gladiolas, and palms.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a floor-length gown of white satin which had a panel of lace over the satin extending down the front of the skirt, and a panel of lace over satin starting at the waist and extending down the back into the chapel train. The bodice was fitted, and the long sleeves tapered to a point at the hands.

The veil of double-tier bridal illusion fell from a Swedish crown.

The bride carried a bouquet of white roses, white stephanotis and ivy. Her only jewelry was a single strand of pearls and pearl earrings, a gift of the groom.

The matron of honor was Mrs. William Scholla, Minneapolis, a niece of the bride, and the bridesmaids were Mrs. Harlan Haugen, St. Paul, and Mary Ellen Hanson, Harmony, sister of the groom. They wore light beige brocade street-length dresses with matching headbands and chapel veils and carried tinted beige carnations, yellow rosebuds and ivy. The single strand of pearls and earrings were a gift of the bride.

LARRY Laugen of Rochester, Minn. was the best man and the groomsmen were James Hanson, Sioux Falls, So. Dak., and John Hanson, Minneapolis, brothers of the groom.

Virgil, Iver, and Ernie Erickson, all of Minneapolis, brothers of the bride, were ushers.

A RECEPTION following the wedding, was held in the church Fellowship Hall. Mrs. Virgil Erickson was in charge of the guest book. In charge of the gift table were Mrs. Iver Erickson, Mrs. Larry Laugen and Miss Julie Hanson. Mrs. Ernie Erickson and Mrs. Del Holmstrom served the punch, Mrs. Roy Nelson and Mrs. Melvin Selander poured coffee, and Mrs. C. Van Hatten served the cake.

After a trip to northern Minnesota, the couple will reside at 4648 Vincent Avenue S.

A bridal dinner was given by Mr. and Mrs. L. Hanson at Friedolfs November 17 following the wedding rehearsal.

THE BRIDE is a graduate of Cosmos high school and the College of Medical Technology. The bridegroom is a graduate of Harmony High school and the Minnesota School of Business.

The Cosmos News

PAGE NINE THURSDAY, DEC. 14, 1961

Self-employed? You must file state income tax return by Dec. 15

UNDER the new state income tax withholding law, Minnesota individuals whose gross incomes for 1961 can reasonably be expected to include more than $200 from sources other than wages subject to withholding must file declarations of their estimated state income taxes for 1961 with the State Tax Department by Dec 15th, Charles P. Stone, General Counsel of the Minnesota Taxpayers Association, warned today.

"Most self-employed individuals (except farmers) fall within this category," Stone said. "So do wage-earners and salaried employees who have other reportable incomes such as a sizeable federal income tax refund, interest from a savings account, or dividends from stock."

Each such declaration must be accompanied by a remittance of one-fourth of the total estimated tax for 1961, less amounts withheld or to be withheld.

"To avoid the statutory penalties imposed for late payment of estimated tax, all individuals required to file declarations would be well-advised to do so by December 15th," Stone said.

NAZARENE CHURCH TO HAVE CHURCH PROGRAM

THE CHRISTMAS program at the Corvuso Church of the Nazarene will be Sunday, Dec. 17 at 8 p.m.

It will consist of Scripture Reading, singing, Prayer, recitations, exercises and a dialogue entitled "Jesus Wants You." A play entitled "Is Christ in Your Christmas?" will be presented by the young people.

The public is invited to attend.

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FISHER SPANISH SALTED 16-OZ. PEANUTS . . . 39c

FISHER ENGLISH SHELLED WALNUTS 12-OZ. 89c

ROBIN HOOD FLOUR 50-lb. bag $3.59

FISHER SHELLED PECANS 10-OZ. 89c

BOX OF 50 BOOK MATCHES 19c

LB. PKG. FRUIT CAKE MIX 39c

PURE GROUND BEEF . . . LB. 39c

CRYSTAL CAKE SUGAR . . . Red-Green & Asst. JAR 19c

REG. 79c SUMMER SAUSAGE LB. 59c

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1-Buckle Tourniquet.
1-Esmarch Triangular Bandage.
2-Paper Drinking Cups.
1-Scissors.
1-Johnson & Johnson First Aid Cream (Antiseptic.)
1-First Aid Booklet.

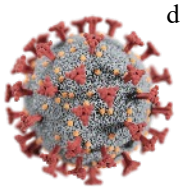
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By Mark Minnick,
"Insect Loving Idiot" Editor of **The Galactic Gazette**. Email at **wordnut66@outlook.com**

Man, it's been a busy month of November. I'll try and list my thoughts and observations in chronological order. Wish me luck.

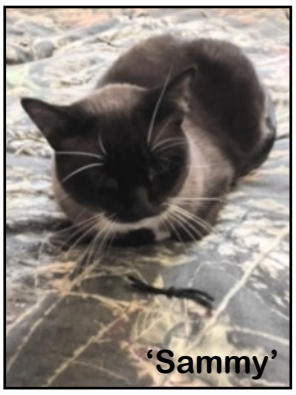
Well, I contracted Covid 19. Don't know from who, but it doesn't matter. *(It wasn't from the Gazette for sure. Every issue is 'virus free' since 2019.)* Anyway, I thought I had a cold. Two days of a stuffy head with nary a fever and then I got better. When I came down with these simple 'cold' symptoms, I still stayed away from people, not wanting to give them a crappy cold.



Then wife Deb came down sick, but with worse symptoms; fever, feeling really rotten and some labored breathing. She too got better after 3-4 days, then got Covid tested on a Friday: it came back positive. I went in the next Monday and it came back positive also. Yee Haw, we felt special, as we were both 'breakthrough' Covid cases.

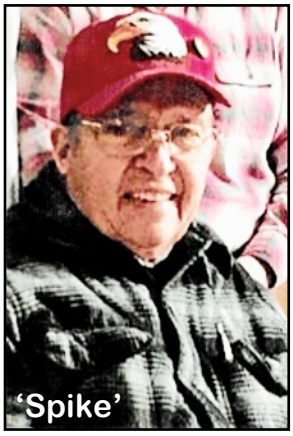
We pretty much stayed home for three weeks and didn't go anywhere, not wanting to expose anyone else. We're both glad we got jabbed this spring, figuring that it caused our symptoms to be relatively mild. I like vaccines, but I don't like mandates.

It finally got chilly enough to drag out my camo comforter for the bed. It's always been a favorite of mine since new, until I washed and dried it the first time. It ended up all wadded and lumpy. Worse than that, it looked and functioned like crap.


'Sammy'

So, I forwarded it to the super talented 'Quilting Ladies Society' to have them renew and properly secure the insulation. It turned out great, better than new! Even the talented Gazette proofreader Samantha approves. Some days she refuses to leave, insisting it's her bed.

The quilting gals wouldn't take any payment, so I owe them big time. Maybe a few valuable KewPies are in order…we'll see.


'Spike'

My dad 'Spike' died on Friday, November 5th.

I've been overwhelmed and humbled by the outpouring of sympathy and support by people that knew either him, knew family members or both.

Gosh, there were A LOT of folks at the wake and funeral. I wish I could've acknowledged everyone, but it just was not physically possible. I even ended up hoarse from all of the conversation. Thank you again to everyone, whether you were there in person or in spirit.

Liver and Onions. It seems folks either love it or they hate it. No in between. *(Dad 'Spike' was a big fan, btw.)* I enjoy it, the wife doesn't, so I don't make it just for myself.



I noticed that Mug Shots had the delectable dish on the noon lunch menu, Monday November 8th. I made a mental note to myself that I had to get down there and try their version of this classic. The mental note was probably the sketchiest part, as I sometimes lose my notes.

Deb and I finally rolled in about 1:00 o'clock. I inquired to Marvella, "Is the special still available?" She nodded yes, and sent the order back to seasoned cook, Becky Johnson. In the meantime, I enjoyed an Octoberfest waiting for the order.

The wait was worth it, as a plate of liver, onions, mashed potatoes and green peas was served to me, piping hot. Almost forgot, a bun too. The wonderful aroma permeated my personal space, forcing Deb to move down a couple of seats. *(I couldn't tell you what she ordered and I didn't care.)* I was ready to dig in, but it was almost too pretty to eat. Almost.

Eat it I did, enjoying the treat immensely. The portion size was so large that I forced myself to only eat half of the plate full, thank goodness. I took home a full doggie box, for another complete meal the next day. I haven't enjoyed a dish that much for a long time. *(Sorry, you non-liver lovers just don't understand.)* Credit where credit is due, Becky can fry liver.

I noticed that this fine establishment is serving Liver & Onions again on December 24th, Christmas Eve. I'll have to make a mental note of that. I hope they have some Octoberfest left too.

Poor people's food has always been important to me. This time of year, I think turkey livers, gizzards, hearts, necks and backs are great thing.



While prepping a turkey for whatever the reason or season, I enjoy cookin' the giblets and neck from the bird, seasoning them with Cajun spice, black pepper, chopped onion and celery. Then I drizzle it all with olive oil, bake for about an hour and voila, I get to enjoy a wonderful treat. Maybe better than a drumstick, eh?

I realize that some don't like this stuff. But, that's ok, then I don't have to share. Good stuff Maynard & Happy Holidays.



"Name one time in human history when a group fighting to ban books or censor speech were the good guys. I'll wait…."
Vivek Ramaswamy

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The Galactic Gazette
350 Neptune St. North
Cosmos, MN 56228

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Reporter for the ACGC Falcon Flyover: LeAnn Melberg
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"Tidbits" column Rick Nordin
Behind the scenes dirty work: Delores Arndt
(and puts up with Bob besides, whew!)

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*We encourage our readers to exercise their writing muscles and showcase said talents. Contact us with your ideas, we can use help with reporting and writing articles. Letters to the editor are welcome.

*We will, to the best of our ability, work with you to design an advertisement or announcement to your satisfaction. Drop us an E-mail, a letter or talk to any of us personally with your ideas or questions.

*We reserve the right to accept or refuse to publish any and all submissions. All submissions must include the writer's name and phone number/E-mail address.

Submission deadline is the 15th of the month

Advertising prices per monthly issue

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• 1/8 Page	$12.50	$20.00
• 1/4 Page	$25.00	$35.00
• 1/2 Page	$50.00	$70.00
• Full Page	$80.00	$100.00

We will do announcements, thank you's, open houses, bridal showers, etc. Use above pricing and decide how big you want your announcement to be.

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Please remember the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces and our veterans, both alive and deceased. America owes them an immense debt of gratitude along with an every day simple "Thank you".



The only reply we had this month came all the way from East Lake Lillian Township. The reclusive Cosmos Suns & Daughters Bookface administrator, ***Gator Dallmann*** got one out of the four right. Not in the right order mind you, but at least he made the effort. BTW, I thought ***Sue Martin*** would've chimed in and claimed at least ONE Kewpie. Oh, well.

Anyway, here's Gator's answer;
"Gary Martin, Ronald Mortenson, Steve Maahs, Don't know the instructor." ***Gator***

Here's the answer, L-R;
Galen Grimm, Gary Davis, Gary Martin & Keith Ackman



FFA OFFICERS pose by a sign advertising their upcoming corn drive for Camp Courage. Left to right they are: Galen Grimm, Gary Davis, Gary Martin and Keith Ackman.—Cosmos News staff photo.





Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



The next Legion meeting is
December 13, 7:00 PM
at Mug Shots Bar & Grill
*Thank you to Post 126 Auxiliary for the Veterans Day lunch- It was much appreciated.

From the

Cosmos Legion Family

Beack-Thompson Post 126

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