Buck Buck
The Cosmos Space Festival 2026 "MAN ON THE MOON" Edition
Whatz?

The GALACTIC Gazette

-Only-
$4.95/issue
(Cheap!)



Weather: Warm, with Fireworks. **"All the news you really need. Probably more."** **"Noli credere omnia legis"**

Aliens Arrive for Space Festival '26

Pic & commentary by Mark Minnick

It's that time of year, a special time of year for Cosmos residents, past and present. It's time for the **2026 Cosmos Space Festival**, of course!

The Gazette's veteran, but frequently absent news correspondent, **Local Chicken** is back in town! It seems he's brought along some of his new alien buddies too. He and the **Old Hen** have been rubbing elbows with these new guys that hail from various planets in the solar system. These two chickens get around for sure.

Jupiter Johnson, who identifies as green, lives on…Jupiter. He's known as Jupiter's **"Scandinavian Hotshot"**. He claims to be the origin of the Scandinavian lineage here on Earth. *(I don't wanna know how…)* I guess it must be true, 'cuz he likes klub, lefse and cardboard with butter on it. "Uff da, no spicy stuff then." he says.

Next there's ol' **Neptune Ned**…a gray from Neptune, of course. He's the first alien dude Local and the Old Hen hung out with gambling at casinos on Neptune. He's a veteran of the Space Fest parade going on a few years now. A fan favorite, for sure! At least that's what he said.

The last new guy is **Pluto Parker**…from…*say it*…Pluto! *(Whoda thunk?)* He identifies as granite & just got a buzzcut before he left home. Dude was a bit embarrassed, being bald in the pic. After talking a bit and looking him over, I asked if his family had ever visited Easter Island.

He replied, "Heck yea, they vacationed there hundreds and hundreds of years ago, but a few stayed behind cause they liked the ocean air, coconuts and very few folks 'harshing their mellow'. They're a quiet bunch for sure, just sitting there, looking out at the ocean and not saying much. They really should get out more or at least try some surfing."

On the human side, there's our **Official Cosmos Alien Welcoming Committee** and part-time lawn care pros, **Abigail & Aiden Roun**. The brother/sister duo graciously volunteered for the arduous task of meeting & greeting the bunch. The Gazette really appreciates it!.

Last but not least, **Local Chicken and the **Old Hen** were present too, providing transportation (of course), wisdom and moral support.*

Bu Buk! (That's chicken speak for "Have fun at Space Fest!")

Summer Rec Begins



Roaring around & having fun in the city park.



Maryssa leads everyone on a nature walk.

Pics & commentary by Mark Minnick

Summer Recreation for the Cosmos kiddies started this June and will go through July. The little monsters *(I'm kidding, settle down)* will be doing a bunch of fun activities. There'll be nature walks, library time, a little gardening, playing at the city park playground and much, much more.

They're even decorating certain driveways and sidewalks around town with sidewalk chalk. Picasso's in training!

None of these activities would be possible with out the volunteers & donors involved. The organizer and coordinator is **Maryssa Anderson**. Assistants are **Clara Self, Kayla Moudry, Breanna Struck** and **Alyssa Jenkins**. Donors are the Cosmos **Lions, Falcon Industries & Casey's**.

So kids, don't get too red-faced and sweaty tearing around on the playground or rolling on the ground. Your mom will make you take a bath when you get home. :(

City General Election Filing Starts on July 14th



By Mark Minnick

Three seats for the offices of the Cosmos City Council will be up for election on November 3rd, 2026. Those seats are:

- **Mayor** - *incumbent is Dale Martin*
- **Council** - *incumbent is Emily VanHatten*
- **Council** - *incumbent is Mark Minnick*

Prospective candidates can register July 14th thru July 28th at the Cosmos City Office. ***For complete details, see notice posted in this issue.*** Btw, the filing fee is $2.00.

-A Public Service Announcement-

from The Galactic Gazette:



Be sure to drive safe and smart on your way to

The Cosmos Space Festival.

Don't think that an accident can't happen to you!

Hey, we're pullin' for ya!

LifeLink III Training in Cosmos





CFD members practice loading and unloading a patient.

By Mark Minnick

The Life Link III helicopter based in Willmar, MN., flew out to Cosmos on Thursday evening, the 26th. The pilot set the chopper down in the open area to the east of the softball park. They were there to give training to the fire and ambulance departments from the area. CFD member Andrew Pearson wrote up a nice article with more details from the evening. Thank you Andrew.

*Now, in the ***"I'm so old that..."*** department:
I've been a fan of choppers since watching Saturday morning re-runs of the **'Whirlybirds'** in the sixties. So I was grinning as much as the kids were. :) I can still hum the theme song, btw.

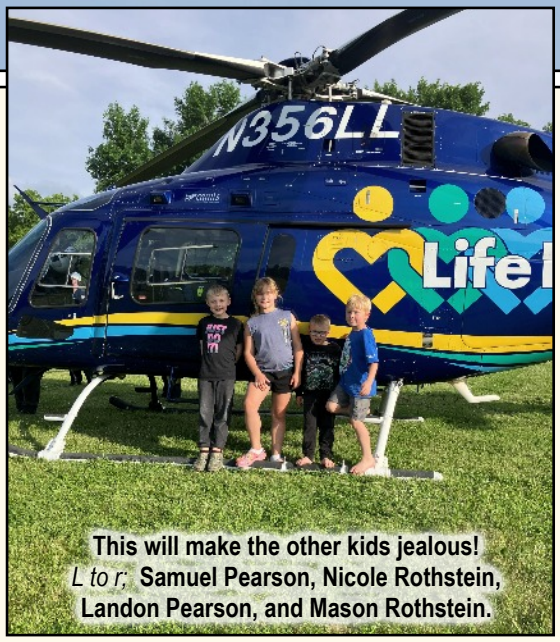
Commentary by Andrew Pearson

The departments that were present was members from both of our fire and ambulance. Along with members from Lake Lillian Fire Department and Grove City Fire and Rescue Departments. All four Life Link III members and the helicopter are based out of the newly built hanger at the Willmar airport.

Our training agenda with Life Link III focused mostly on planning and establishing landing zones on or near emergency scenes, making communication with the helicopter, and proper loading of the patient into the helicopter.

This training was actually prompted last fall while the Life Link III crew was on a scene with us, the pilot mentioned that they offered this training to "help us help them" in a sense that they are a tool for us to use to better aid our patients in getting them to the proper facility in a more timely manner when literally every second counts.

It was a very beneficial training and all members from every department seemed to leave with the knowledge that they were wanting to learn.



This will make the other kids jealous!
L to r; **Samuel Pearson, Nicole Rothstein, Landon Pearson, and Mason Rothstein.**

Space Festival 2026



The Cosmos Lions

"We Serve"

MINUTES
CITY OF COSMOS
REGULAR MEETING
June 11, 2026

A regular meeting of the Cosmos City Council was called to order by Mayor Dale Martin at 5:30pm on Thursday, June 11, 2026.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Council Members Emily Van Hatten, Jeremy Anderson, Mark Minnick and Daniel Cairl.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Brigitte Douglas and Public Works Supervisor Nikki Brazzi.

Adopt Agenda – A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Cairl to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.
Adopt Consent Agenda – A motion by Anderson, seconded by Minnick, to adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

1) May 14, 2026 City Council Minutes.

Sheriff's Office – Deputy Oberloh from the Sheriff's Office was available to present the council with their monthly report. Forty-three (43) records, a mixture of nine (9) traffic stops and thirty-four (34) other calls. Deputy Oberloh also informed the council that a speed trailer will be brought to town within the next month.

June 11, 2026 Bills List - A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Anderson, to approve the May 14, 2026 bills list, with check numbers 1131e -1141e and 117921 - 117956 in the amount of $75,641.59. Motion carried.

Monthly Financials & Office Tasks – Year to date Revenue, Expense and Cash Balance Reports and Monthly Office tasks.

Sara Oberloh, City Audit – Sara explained the audit to the city council and stated that the city is in good financial standing. For the utility funds to remain self-sufficient, meaning generating enough revenue to cover expenses, she recommends raising the utility rates.

City Engineer – Joshua Halvorson, Bolton-Menk, updated on the construction project. We received nine bids for the Street and Utility Reconstruction Project, with bids ranging from $8,853,937.98 to $10,794,232.90. The low bidder for the project is R & R Excavating, Inc. from Hutchinson, MN. Josh Halvorson recommended that the city council award the bid to R & R Excavating. Representatives from R & R assured the council that they have the availability, crew and equipment to get the project done. All necessary paperwork is being submitted to USDA and everything should be in place to award the bid at the next council meeting.

Township Meeting, revisited – Fire Chief Fruetel had the original estimate from Rice Building Systems redone at the same cost, but was unable to get further estimate from two other companies he contacted. Since adequate efforts have been made to get estimates, a motion by Cairl, seconded by Minnick to accept the estimate from Rice Building Systems and move forward with the project. Motion carried.

People Service Operation and Maintenance Report – Council Member Anderson, representing PeopleService, presented the council with his monthly report. Public Works is trying to coordinate a time with Hawkins to come, test the water and recommend a polymer to help with the iron removal. Treatment Resources, the company who replaced the filter media in 2021, was contacted to do an inspection of the filter media. They estimate $2000 to get measurements and core samples of the media and see if we need to add more. A motion by Cairl, seconded by Van Hatten to have Treatment Resources inspect the media. Motion carried.

Department Heads –

Public Works Supervisor Nikki Brazzi informed the council that the DMR's are done and that he will be out of town from July 29th through August 3rd, 2026. He also recommended looking into a cooling/dehumidifying system for the Public Works building. He was asked to get some estimates.

Fire Chief Jon Fruetel reported that he has members going through training and once they pass, we will get reimbursed.

Ambulance Captain Emily Van Hatten reported one Ambulance Department member passing the EMT test. The Ambulance Department currently has eight EMT's and two EMR's. There are also three (3) Fire Department members that completed their state requirements to be considered EMR's.

Other Business –

Council Member Minnick recommended locking into acquiring more equipment/attachments to help move piled snow more efficiently.

Mayor Martin recommended getting more estimates for re-sheeting the Public Works building.

Next Council Meeting – The next city council meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm Thursday June 11, 2026. The agenda will be posted in the city office window, post office and bank vestibule by Tuesday afternoon. Any change in the meeting dates or times will be displayed on our digital sign.

Motion to Adjourn - A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Anderson to adjourn the City Council meeting at 6:40 pm. Motion carried.

_____Draft_____

Brigitte Douglas, Clerk/Treasurer

NOTICE OF FILING FOR THE 2026
CITY GENERAL ELECTION
CITY OF COSMOS
MEEKER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Minnesota State Statutes 205.13 that a general election will be held in the City of Cosmos on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 for the purpose of electing candidates for the offices listed below. The filing period for these offices begins at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 and ends at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. Candidates file with the City Clerk of Cosmos at the Cosmos City Hall, 220 Milky Way St. S., MN. The filing fee is $2 and you must be a resident of Cosmos.

- Mayor (2-year term)
- Council Member (4-year term)
- Council Member (4-year term)

Brigitte Douglas
Clerk/Treasurer

Posted June 29, 2026
Published July 1, 2026



PAYDAY for the two winners in the "Name the Streets Contest" was Tuesday when Rev. Thomas Smrcka, head of the "Cosmos Theme" committee, made the payment to the winners, Mrs. Charles Sharpe at the left, and Julie Fredin, right.—Cosmos News staff photo.

We have one reader who ID'd one of the 'Name the Streets' contest. Whew, we saved on KewPies again.

The lady on the right is Julie Fredin. **Bruce Adams**

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City of Cosmos
-Contact Information-

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 AM-4 PM
Staff can meet before or after office hours by appointment if needed.

City Office: 320-877-7345
Maintenance: 320-221-4943
City Website: cosmos-mn.com
Email: cosmoscity@mchsi.com
Sheriff Non-Emergency Number: 320-693-5400

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COSMOS
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BINGO!
FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026
BINGO STARTS AT 6PM
CARD SALES BEGIN AT 5:30PM
50/50 RAFFLE
B 12
N 37
G 76
G 59
O 74
COSMOS FIRE HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME!
KIDS PLAY TOO!

American Red Cross
Bloodmobile
Cosmos City Center
Monday, July 20th
12 Noon - 6 PM

Schedule an appointment to donate by going online to **www.redcrossblood.org** or call **800-733-2767**.

Please consider donating as there is an emergency need for blood donations.

***Sponsored by the Cosmos American Legion Auxiliary**







By Beth Cronk, Meeker County Librarian
Pioneerland Library System
320-693-2483 (Litchfield Library) or
320-221-8253 (direct)
elizabeth.cronk@pioneerland.lib.mn.us

The summer reading program for children and teens continues this month: Plant a Seed, Read! The program runs through Monday, August 31. Kids ages 3-18 can sign up any time all summer, so families can stop in to get started this month or next -- whenever it's convenient. Bring in your completed reading logs to get "library loot" and use that to buy small prizes. New prizes have continued to be added to the selection. Kids can do one reading sheet after another all summer until late August and keep earning prizes.

For the first time, the Cosmos Library is offering a summer reading challenge for adults. To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States, pick up a reading sheet at the library and read 5 things from a long list of options. Bring in your completed sheet by August 15 for a small prize. Make sure to check the back of the sheet for all of your reading choices. You can read the core documents of the U.S., read Revolutionary War era history or historical fiction, or read about American history and culture across the whole 250 years and more. The semiquincentennial is a great occasion to learn more about all of America, not only its founding or government.

Fun activities are happening at the library in July:
Mondays all summer at 10:30 a.m.: Tiny Tykes Storytime. Bring the kids ages 0-5 for a short program with stories and songs. No need to sign up.
Mondays all summer, 3:00-4:30 p.m.: Pokémon Trading Card Game. For kids age 7 and up. No need to sign up.

Take-Home Tuesdays on the first 3 Tuesdays in July: Stop in to pick up a kids' craft kit beginning on Tuesday, while supplies last. On 7/7 the project will be for teens: a U.S.A sand art bottle craft. On 7/14, it will be for children: a s'more campfire lacing craft. And on 7/21 it will be a paper strip ice cream craft. One per child, please.
Thursday, July 9, 2:30 p.m.: The Science Museum of Minnesota presents Dinosaurs! Kids of all ages are welcome to attend this free educational presentation in the community room. No need to sign up.
Friday, June 17, 5:00-8:00 p.m.: Space Festival mini golf. Drop in anytime during the program to play free mini golf in the community room and library. For all ages. No need to sign up.
Saturday, July 18, 10:30 a.m.: Saturday Storytime. Bring the kids to the library's monthly storytime on the 3rd Saturday of the month all summer for stories and an activity. No need to sign up.
Tuesday, July 21, 3:00 p.m.: Summer Splash Goldfish Painting Workshop. Artist Carol Slinden will teach this free painting class for all ages. All supplies are provided. Space is limited, so call the library at 320-440-1012 or stop at the front desk to sign up.
Saturday, July 25, 10:30 a.m.: Garden wand class. In this free program, participants will assemble a beaded stake for their garden. All supplies are provided. For ages 8 through adult. Space is limited, so call the library at 320-440-1012 or stop at the desk to sign up.

As always, children ages 7 and younger must be accompanied by an adult or teen caregiver who will stay with them. And as always, library programs are free.

***Pioneerland libraries will be closed on Saturday, July 4th for Independence Day.**



Cosmos Library is located in city hall. The phone number is 320-440-1012, and the website is www.cosmos.lib.mn.us. You can also find us on Instagram and Facebook
Library hours; Mondays 10-5, Tuesdays 2-5, Thursdays 2-6, Fridays 2-5, and Saturdays 10-1.



The Galactic Gazette

-America's 250th Birthday-

Patriot Page

By Mark Minnick

The Flags Are Coming! The Flags Are Coming!



Local Chicken, Neptune Ned and **The Galactic Gazette** staff were looking for a cool way to help celebrate **America's 250th Birthday**. After thinking about it for 2 seconds, Local said, "Let's give the Space Festival patriotic parade goers US flags". Ned nodded in agreement, "Old Glory would be great!"

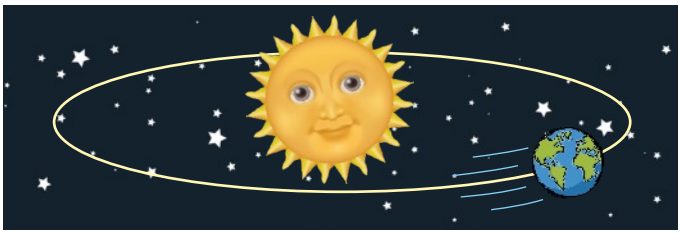
Thusly, the Gazette acquired a large quantity of **US *and* Minnesota flags** to hand out during the Space Festival parade.

So, aliens, chickens, boys & girls, be ready to proudly wave our historic flags during the parade and after. Be proud of our country & state, they're both a pretty darned good place to live. ***And don't forget to take care of those flags Buckaroos!***

*See below

Celestial Quiz!





The good ol' USA has been in existence from 1776 till 2026 - 250 years! That's a long time! In Galactic Gazette parlance, that's **'A bunch of orbits around the sun'**…whew!

So, for you patriotic Star-lord types, let's get that brain of yours a workin' to answer the question that inquiring minds want to know; **How many miles has the Earth traveled in it's orbit around the Sun since 1776?**

The correct answer is worth a very valuable **KewPie.** C'mon kids, you can figure it out! Hey oldsters, you'll impress your coffee buddies *or at least the relatives next Thanksgiving.*

Email your answer to: wordnut66@outlook.com

Flag Facts & Etiquette

Info courtesy united-states-flag.com

Regardless of whether it's crafted from nylon, polyester, or simple cotton, the American Flag transcends mere fabric and thread. It embodies the collective essence of each of us—our history, our present, and our future. Infused within its stars and stripes are profound sacrifices and a deep-seated national pride, symbolizing hope, opportunity, and freedom. The flag is far from an inanimate object; it unfurls with a vibrant life force capable of uniting an entire nation.

Quick facts about our United States Flag.

- The flag of the United States is a symbol of freedom before which Americans recite the **Pledge of Allegiance**.
- The flag's 13 red and white stripes represent the 13 original colonies.
- Its 50 white stars on a blue background represent the 50 states.

Each of the colors on the flag has a meaning.

- Red: valor and bravery
- White: purity and innocence
- Blue: vigilance, perseverance, and justice

Basic rules for displaying the United States flag.

- The United States flag should never be flown with the union down, except as a distress signal or in emergency situations.
- The American flag should never come into contact with the ground, floor, water, or any other surface below it.
- The flag should never be carried horizontally or flat; it should always be held aloft and free.
- The flag should not be lowered or dipped to any individual, statue, or object.

These listed display guidelines are not exhaustive; there are additional codes governing the proper display of the American flag. It's important to familiarize yourself with all relevant codes to ensure proper respect for the flag. You can find them at **usa.gov.*

The Pledge of Allegiance

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

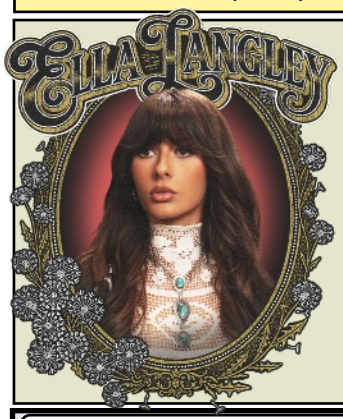
Turn That Crap Down!



Thoughts & opinions about music. Volume be ...darned.



Remember, do your part & introduce a kid to some good music. In the meantime, follow along & try to keep up.



Commentary by Mark Minnick

I got introduced to Ella Langley on a day I was auto-playing videos on YouTube. The tune was **"Choosin' Texas"**. Little did I know at the time, it's a tune that's hotter than a Texas branding iron. *(How's that for a Texas metaphor?...and from a rocker too!)*

Even thought I'm not a BIG c/w fan, I liked what I heard. The tune, the lyrics, her voice, the audio production; everything seemed just right. "I just might have to check out more of her stuff", I thought.

So I decided I'd give the video another go, listening *and* watching this time. I finally got a look at the girl. Holy cow Eunice! Her looks are as good as her vocals. *And they wonder why a young boy leaves home…* ;)

The girl surely has the God given looks and a voice. A blessing for sure and I think she's gonna be big. I'm gonna give more of her music a serious listen, I suggest you do to.

P.S. I will be reviewing some new rock bands, fear not. I haven't totally lost my mind…yet.

Here's some of my Sousa favs;
Semper Fidelis (1888)
The Thunderer (1889)
The Washington Post (1889)
The Liberty Bell (1893)
Manhattan Beach (1893)
El Capitan (1896)
The Stars and Stripes Forever (1896)

John Philip Sousa

I'll be listening to music on the 4th and not just rock or country. I've gotta get some patriotic **John Philip Sousa** on the playlist for sure. His marches have been favorites of mine since learning about them from our school music teacher, **Mrs. Jensen**.

In my humble opinion, Sousa put out music that was the "Rock 'n' Roll" of it's time. *(See pic below.)* Good tunes, great beat and they put a smile on your face. Or mine anyway. Give a listen, I think it's good stuff Maynard.



John Philip Sousa in 1922

Here's an interesting account, courtesy of Wikipedia, about the fact that Sousa despised the new 'recording machines' of the time. Remember, the recordings in the early 1900's were on crude wax coated cylinders. Hard to imagine in this day of laptops, jump drives & streaming. Uff da.

Sousa held a very low opinion of the emerging recording industry. He derided recordings as "canned music", a reference to the early wax cylinder records that came in can-like cylindrical cardboard boxes. He argued to a congressional hearing in 1906: **"These talking machines are going to ruin the artistic development of music in this country. When I was a boy... in front of every house in the summer evenings, you would find young people together singing the songs of the day or old songs. Today you hear these infernal machines going night and day. We will not have a vocal cord left. The vocal cord will be eliminated by a process of evolution, as was the tail of man when he came from the ape."**

Sousa's antipathy to recording was such that he rarely conducted his band when it was being recorded. Nevertheless, the band made numerous recordings, the earliest being issued on cylinders by several companies, followed by many recordings on discs by the Berliner Gramophone Company and its successor, the Victor Talking Machine Company (later RCA Victor).

The Berliner recordings were conducted by Henry Higgins (one of Sousa's cornet soloists) and Arthur Pryor (Sousa's trombone soloist and assistant conductor). Sousa claimed that he had "never been in the gramophone company's office in my life".

After the introduction of electrical recording in 1925 Sousa changed his mind about phonograph records. After a demonstration of the Orthophonic Victrola on October 6, 1925, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel he said, **"[Gentlemen], that is a band. This is the first time I have ever heard music with any soul to it produced by a mechanical talking machine."**

Sousa refused to appear on radio broadcasts for many years, but relented beginning with a 1929 nationwide broadcast.



Regardless of era, 'rock stars' always get the chicks. ;)

Oh Hail No!



Pics by Deb & Mark Minnick
Commentary by Mark

Funny how things go sometimes. Around 5:00ish PM Tuesday the 23rd, I stopped to talk to my neighbor Brandon. I was on my way home from the mancave, wanting to get there before it started raining.

As we were saying our 'see ya laters' it started to roar. But it wasn't wind. I finally realized it was the sound of large hailstones swooshing to the ground. Never had the opportunity to hear that before. Don't want to again, either.

As they started hitting Brandon and I, we ran (well, he ran) back to the shop to get inside. And I had already locked the door. So, fumble for keys, open up and we gth inside.

We watched it hail hard for about 30 seconds. Then the frozen stuff tapered off, with a solid wall of rain filling in for the next 30 seconds. After the wild minute, light rain continued for about 5-10 minutes and then it was all over. Bing-bang-boom.

After all of the excitement, I just happened to look down at my hand. Needless to say, I was a little surprised. A hailstone musta hit me right on the knuckle. Didn't hurt that bad, but I bled all over the place. Thank goodness for paper towels.

Note: Btw, yes I am smart enough to come in outta the hail. It just takes me awhile.

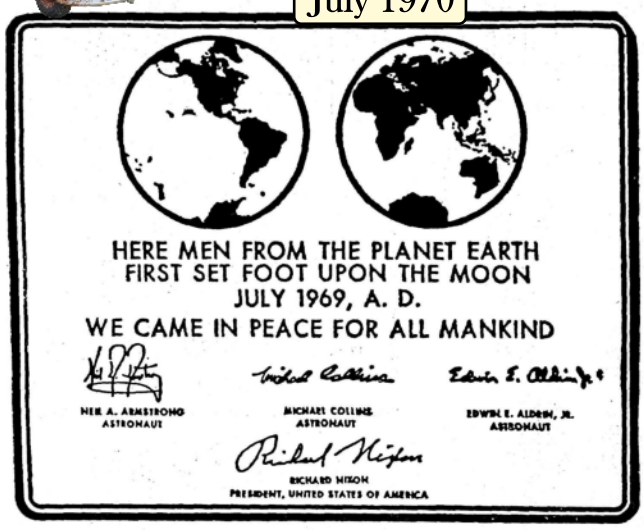
Anyway, if I wouldn't have stopped for a bit to talk to my neighbor, I would have been hammered on the way home. *Conversations with neighbors & a cold Hamm's are good stuff, yessiree Bob.*

:)



TIME WARP

July 1970



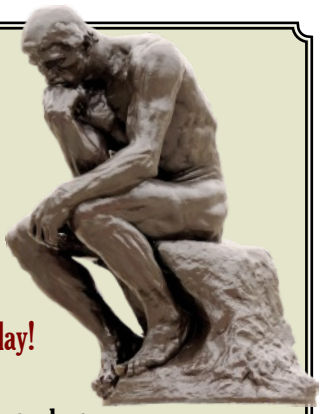
MOON PLAQUE This is the plaque the Apollo 11 astronauts left on the moon a year ago next Monday. It was fastened to the side of the Lunar Module's descent stage, which was left behind.

EXTRA!

Turn That Crap Down! Extra!



-Ponderings-



When I woke up this morning;
- I wasn't in a jail.
- I wasn't in a hospital.
- I wasn't in a grave.

By golly, it's gonna be a good day!

You come from dust. You will return to dust.
That's why I don't dust; It could be someone I know.

I'm always disappointed when a liar's pants
don't actually catch on fire.

If you're outside grilling a having a good time,
the weather forecast was wrong.

I love to go to the beach and run around with my dog.
Naming him 'Shark' probably wasn't the best idea, though.

One minute you're young and fun. The next,
You're turning down the stereo in your car to see better.

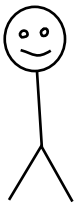
Do old cowboys wear boxers or briefs? Depends…

Me in the 80's:
I can't wait for the future. It's gonna be so frikken awesome!
Me in 2026:
I want to go back to the 80's. It was so frikken awesome!

I sincerely regret every nap I passed up as a child.

and last but not least, the saga of Bob continues…

This is Bob.
Bob still has no arms.



He stands by the door and doesn't knock.
Well then, it must be Bob!



By Janice Blum

WHICH PLASTICS ARE RECYCLABLE BY NUMBER?

#1 - Pete or Pet (polyethylene terephthalate)
- IS USED IN - microwavable food trays, salad dressing, soft drink, water and juice bottles
- STATUS - hard to clean, absorbs bacteria and flavors; avoid reusing
- IS RECYCLED TO MAKE - carpet, furniture, new containers, Polar fleece

#2 - HDPE(high density polyethylene)
- IS USED IN - household cleaner and shampoo bottles, milk jugs, and yogurt tubs
- STATUS - transmits no known chemicals into food
- IS RECYCLED TO MAKE - detergent bottles, fencing, floor tiles,pens

#3 - V or PVC (vinyl)
- IS USED IN - cooking oil bottles, clear food packaging, mouth wash bottles
- STATUS - is believed to contain phalates that interfere with
- hormonal development: avoid
- IS RECYCLED TO MAKE - cables, mudflaps, paneling, roadway gutters

Continued next month… :)



The Pool is Back Baby!



L to R: Nancy Fosland , Carly Kubesh, Tabitha Harazin, Stacie Kramer, Tracy Kramer
Back: Zach Pierce, Patti Jo Jacques

The Story of the Hector Swimming Pool

Pic & commentary by Tabitha Harazin

What started as a simple conversation among community members started back in February 2021 grew into a movement that brought the people of Hector together for a common goal: restoring our beloved swimming pool.

After several discussions and many planning meetings, a group of dedicated residents gathered in February 2024 to officially form the Hector Swimming Pool Inc. Committee. From that moment on, the committee and countless volunteers committed themselves to preserving an important part of our community for future generations.

Over the past two years, community members have donated their time, talents, and resources to make this vision a reality. Together, we built a brand-new pool house, restored the pump house, and put in a brand new liner and worked tirelessly through countless volunteer hours to transform the pool into a beautiful place for families and friends to gather, swim, and create memories.

The success of this project is a testament to what can happen when a community comes together. Through generous donations, fundraising efforts, and volunteer support, we have proudly raised $644,939.64 toward the restoration of the Hector Pool.

While we celebrate how far we've come, our work is not yet finished. The Hector Swimming Pool Inc. committee will continue to fundraise to help support the City of Hector with continued maintenance costs throughout the years to come. We invite everyone to join us for a special fundraiser on Tuesday, July 7th, beginning at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a free-will donation meal and swimming while helping support the continued success of the Hector Pool.

Thank you to every volunteer, donor, business, and community member who has played a part in this incredible journey. The restored Hector Pool stands as a symbol of community pride, hard work, and the power of coming together to achieve something truly special. If you wish to donate to the pool, you can send donations to:



Hector Swimming Pool
PO Box 473
Hector, MN. 55342



If you have any questions, call the Hector City Office at;
320-848-2122

The pool opened on Wednesday June 17th. Come down and join us at the Hector Pool. We look forward to seeing you!



TIME WARP Whozit?



On July 1st 1970, a 'new kid' bought Jim Dvorak's auto repair shop. Fresh out of the service, he was eager have his own business repairing cars & trucks. Who was this new businessman in Cosmos?

Whozit?



Chef It Up!

"Food and spices, together.
What a concept."



By Grace Kamrath

Happy July to Cosmos! This month the recipe is for meatloaf. I found this recipe to instant rice in. I have never added rice before, so I thought it is worth a try.

MEAT LOAF

- 1½ lb. ground meat (I used 1/2 pork and 1 lb. ground beef)
- 1 c. instant rice or bread crumbs
- 1/2 t. dry minced onion (I used 2 T. raw onion)
- 3/4 c. milk or cream
- 1/4 c. ketchup
- 2 eggs

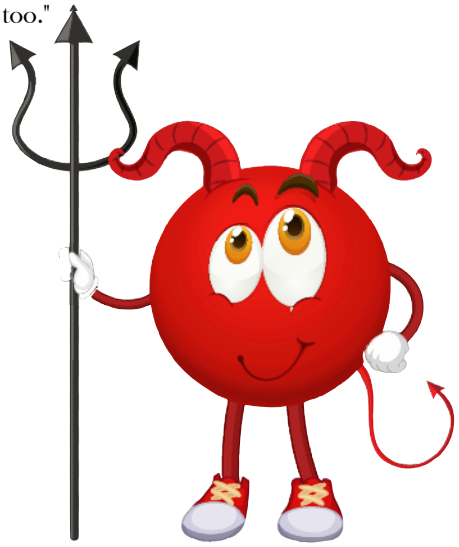
Mix and put in greased loaf pan and top with the following:

- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 1/2 c. ketchup

Bake 1 1/2 hours at 350. Let stand 5 to 10 minutes before cutting. The instant rice holds the meatloaf together better than the bread crumbs.

My husband is always good at quoting scripture especially when it seems appropriate. It was summer and weddings coming up and I bought the perfect dress. It was a bit spendy.

"Sweetheart" he said, " isn't that a bit over our budget? You must have been tempted by the devil. You should have said "Get thee behind me Satan." "I did say that , but he said it looked good from there too."




NATIONAL
NIGHT
OUT
COSMOS
TUESDAY
AUGUST
4
2026
5-7PM
FREE MEAL
AND
MUSIC
Cosmos City Park
BRING YOUR
LAWN CHAIR
AND COME GET TO KNOW
your neighbors!
BOUNCY
HOUSES!
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

JUST A THOUGHT OR TWO...



By Mike Kutzke

*The garden has reached that point in July where it is technically still mine, but the weeds clearly have other plans. I have never in my life seen anything grow the way these weeds are growing this year. Give them one good rain and a little sun, and by morning they look like they have been working out. Meanwhile my tomatoes are over there doing their best, modestly, like they know they are outmatched. I water, I weed, I lose a little ground every week. It is humbling and it is also, apparently, just July.

*County fairs and community festivals are some of the best things about every summer. They are also one of the best chances all year to show up for the young people in our communities, the 4-H kids who have been at the barn before sunrise all summer, the FFA members who can tell you more about a soil sample than most adults will ever know, and the kids in the fine arts building who poured real effort into something and are hoping somebody notices. Stop by the barns, look at the art, watch a ball game you have no personal stake in. It matters more than we tend to give it credit for.

*Meanwhile, at home, I have been busy revolutionizing an entirely different system, the laundry.

*As I get older, efficiency has become something of a personal mission, and I believe I have found a genuine improvement. Our dining room sits right off the kitchen, next to the laundry room door. Once we became empty nesters, it occurred to me that hauling my clean clothes all the way to the bedroom was a lot of unnecessary walking, when the dining room table was sitting right there, available, and rarely used for actual dining. So, I started stacking my clean clothes on it instead. Linda has not been a fan. She has pointed out, fairly often, that a dining table is for eating, and that getting dressed in the dining room was not part of the original house plan.

*I did not stop there. Folding seemed like an extra step before stacking, so I phased that out too. I just put my clean clothes on the dining room table in semi-organized piles. Then I realized there was no real need to remove my clothes from the dryer until the moment I actually needed to wear something. That last move is the one that ended the whole experiment. Linda has informed me, clearly and without much room for negotiation, that the laundry efficiency project is over.

*Summer is a good time to notice what we have and appreciate the many blessings in our lives. Take time to say hello to your neighbors, sit a while with family or friends, and connect with the important people in your life every chance you have. I also believe you should wave enthusiastically at someone you have never met, it costs nothing and it tends to make someone's day a little better. Please remember when you are at the fair or a community event this month, find someone who helped make it happen and tell them thank you. They earned it.

2026 Big Bang Small Engine Parade

If you have a side by side, 4 wheeler, lawn mower, scooter or any other small engine,

WE NEED YOU !

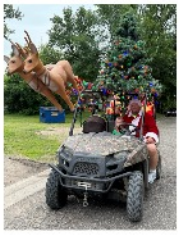
Friday July 17th, 2026 6:45pm Line Up, Parade starts at 7:00 PM

Giving out $500.00 in Cash prizes



Your Imagination Is Your Limit

Most Creative
Best Space Theme
Best Use of Color
1st, 2nd &,3rd



— Past Winners —





Questions or to sign up early go to
spacefestivalsmallengineparade@gmail.com
or just show up for parade line-up on July 17th!
See rules and guidelines on the Space Festival's Facebook page.



COSMOS SPACE FESTIVAL



Big Bang Small Engine Parade

Friday, July 17th,2026, 6:45pm line up, by Uni-Hydro offices, Gemini St.

Over $500 worth of Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and for Most Creative, Best Use of Color, and Best Space Theme!

(watch for signs the day of the event and additional details on our Facebook Page)

1. Small engine vehicles only: golf carts, ATV, side x sides,lawnmowers preferred, but other small recreation vehicles will be allowed at the committee's discretion.
2. The motorized vehicle must be operated by a driver with a valid drivers license. If the vehicle requires licensing it needs to be up to date and all driving rules and regulations apply.
3. Be creative! If you can dream it and implement it safely make it happen! Keeping in mind it should be suitable for families and contribute to the overall entertainments value of the parade.
4. You may pull a trailer behind your vehicle. You may have people walking with your vehicle.
5. Please maintain a safe distance between entries, no less than 10ft between each unit.
6. May sign up prior or the day of , and for questions please send and email to: spacefestivalsmallengineparade@gmail.com

Cosmos "up in air" over Space Festival

COSMOS--Sky divers, rockets, chicken snack, a carnival, free street dances, prize drawings, kiddie parade, bargains throughout the town, and many other attractions will be featured at the second annual Cosmos Space Festival on Monday and Tuesday next week, July 20 and 21.

July 20 will be the first anniversary of the American astronauts' first walk by man on the moon. Remember that day?

Please turn to the special section on colored paper on the inside of this edition for complete details of both days.

Tickets for the prize drawings and for cheaper carnival rides are still available at most places of business in Cosmos.

The Space Festival Committee will use any proceeds to start a fund for the building of a permanent memorial in Cosmos to the three American astronauts killed in the explosion and fire at Cape Kennedy.



The Cosmos NEWS

$4.00 a year 10¢ a copy

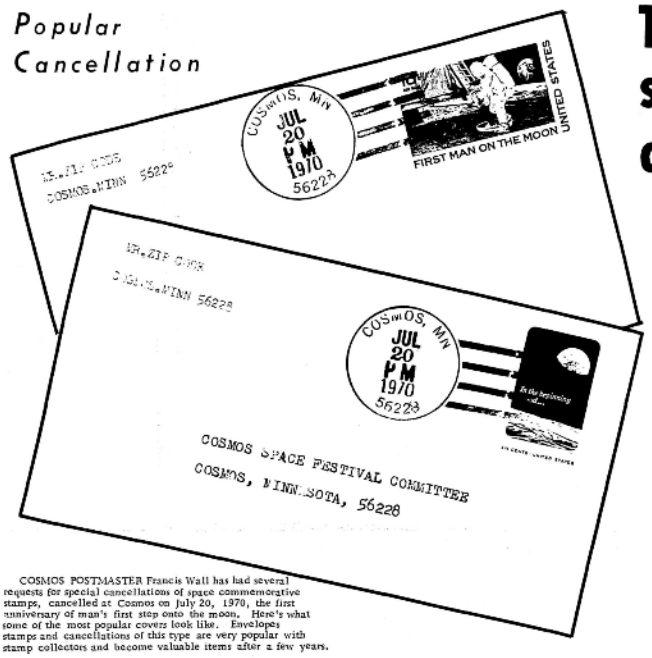
Published every Thursday at Cosmos, Minn., 56228, and entered as second class matter at the postoffice in Cosmos, Minn., under the act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME 16 - NUMBER 18 THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1970



ON THE NETWORK--Capt. Donald Crages, Cosmos, the company commander of Company A, 1st Battalion (Mech), 136th Infantry with units at Morris and Appleton, Minn., adjusts his jeep radio connecting him with battalion communications. Company A was among 3,000 Minnesota National Guardsmen starting two weeks annual field training at Camp Ripley, Minn., this past week end. The 53,000 acre state-owned facility is located seven miles north of Little Falls, Minnesota.

Popular Cancellation



COSMOS POSTMASTER Francis Wall has had several requests for special cancellations of space commemorative stamps, cancelled at Cosmos on July 20, 1970, the first anniversary of man's first step onto the moon. Here's what some of the most popular covers look like. Envelopes stamps and cancellations of this type are very popular with stamp collectors and become valuable items after a few years.

Teacher staff is complete

COSMOS--With the exception of an elementary principal, the staff of the Cosmos school has now been completed for the 1970-71 school year.

At the regular monthly meeting of the board of education, Tuesday night, three new teachers were hired, filling out the teaching staff for the coming year.

The three new teachers are:

DEAN Salisbury, who will teach industrial arts at Cosmos High School.

He is a native of Grand Rapids, Minn., where he graduated from the public high school. He attended Itasca State Junior College, and graduated from Bemidji State College in 1970 with a major in industrial education and a minor in comp. study-power.

Mr. Salisbury is married and has one child.

DANIEL Van Overbeke will teach biology and science in Cosmos High School.

He is a native of Marshall, Minn., where he graduated from Central Catholic High School. He attended St. John's Prep School at Collegeville, Minn., and graduated from St. John's University in 1970 with a major in biology and a coach's certificate in physical education.

TWYLA Peterson will teach in the Cosmos Elementary School.

A native of Willmar, Minn., Miss Peterson is a graduate of Willmar public high school. She is a 1969 graduate of North Park College, Chicago, with a major in psychology and a minor in music.

Two teachers presently in the school system were moved

Teachers, to 8

Lillie Elling wins $50

COSMOS--Mrs. Lillie Elling was the winner of the $50 prize awarded at the Friday evening drawing in Cosmos last week.

She was present in one of the places of business in town at 9 p.m. when her name was called in the weekly drawing.

Next Friday evening the prize will again be $25 to be given away to a person whose name is drawn if he or she is present in a participating place of business in Cosmos.

To be eligible for the drawing, a person must register his or her name at the First State Bank of Cosmos and be present when the name of the winner is announced in the various places of business at 9 p.m. on Friday.



STANLEY W. HOLMQUIST

Stanley Holmquist files for 5th term

STANLEY W. Holmquist of Grove City announced today he will file for re-election to the Minnesota State Senate for a fifth term. Senator Holmquist represents the 16th legislative district comprised of Meeker and Renville counties and four western townships of Wright County.

Senator Holmquist is Chairman of the important Committee on Rules and Legislative Expense and Majority Leader of the Minnesota State Senate. He has participated in several national conferences on the subjects of education, taxes and problems pertaining to rural America.

Each legislative session Senator Holmquist has authored the state aid bill to education which has brought millions of dollars to school districts throughout the state. At the State Convention for Vocational Rehabilitation he was given the distinguished service award for services rendered. At the last session he authored and passed the cost of care bill which saved the counties millions of dollars and improved both the services to and education of our mentally retarded.

"The taxes on property are too high. A greater emphasis must be placed on income and consumer taxes minimizing the impact on property taxes," said Holmquist, in a pre-filling statement.

He also affirmed the importance and need of a better roads for the entire state and the disbursement of jobs and population growths to rural Minnesota.

Los Charros is parade champion

LITCHFIELD--The Los Charros Saddle Club was the first place winner in the saddle division of the parade at the Litchfield Water Carnival last Sunday, July 12.

SCHOOL BOARD RE-ORGANIZES

Loren Pearson is chairman

COSMOS--Loren Pearson was elected to serve another year as chairman of the Cosmos Board of Education. The election came as the board re-organized for the new school year, on Tuesday night of this week.

Two other long-time officers of the board were also re-elected, Tuesday night. They are Marvin Haekbarth, clerk, and Herman Raske, treasurer.

There was a new face on the school board Tuesday night. It was that of Ronald Park, who was elected to the board at the annual school election, last spring.

The board is still operating short of one member. Nobody has as yet been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mark Macik, who resigned recently due to failing health.

In re-organizing, the board also took these actions:

* DESIGNATED the First State Bank of Cosmos as depository for funds of the district.

* NAMED The Cosmos News as official newspaper of the district for the publishing of minutes and other legal notices.

* SET the time and date of the regular monthly meetings of the board for the second Tuesday of each month, at 8 p.m.

* SET the rate of compensation for the members of the board of education at $250 per year, plus $100 extra for the clerk.

* SET the blanket surety bond on officers and employees at $1,000 for each employee, plus $4,000 additional for the superintendent and secretary, and $24,000 additional for the treasurer.

In other actions, Tuesday night, the board:

* ACCEPTED the low bid of the Northwest Refining Co. of St. Paul Park for the supplying of No. 6 fuel for heating the building during the 1970-71 school year. Bid price was $.0987 per gallon. This is approximately 1 3/4¢ higher than last year.

Other bids submitted were: Midwest Oil Co., Minneapolis, $.104 per gallon; Gustafson Oil Co., Minneapolis, $.1022 per gallon; and W.H. Barber Oil Co., Minneapolis, $.1018 per gallon.

* ACCEPTED the low bid of Minnick's 66 Oil Co., of Cosmos, for supplying of gasoline for the coming year. Bid price was $.238 per gallon. This is approximately 2¢ per gallon higher than last last year.

Other bids were: Menton Oil Co., Corvuso, $.24; Home Oil Co., Bulk, Cosmos, $.239.

* ACCEPTED the only bid received for supplying milk for the lunch program during the 1970-71 school year.

This was the bid of Central Dairy of Willmar. Price was $.0375 for half-pint cartons.

This, the same price as last year, was maintained de-

Board, turn to 8

Two fender-benders in Cosmos, Wed.

COSMOS--Two fender-bender automobile accidents occured in the village of Cosmos last Wednesday.

The first happened at about 9:36 a.m. when a 1964 Ford pickup driven by Ervin Kutzke of rural Grove City collided with a 1963 Dodge driven by Lloyd Hoff of Cosmos.

The Kutzke pickup was parked in front of Johnson Hardware on East Gemini Avenue. As Kutzke backed into the street he did not see the Hoff car approaching from the west.

There were no personal injuries, nor any damage to the pickup. The Hoff car, however, suffered damage estimated at $150 to $200 to the right front fender.

THE SECOND crash occured at about 11:10 p.m. when a 1969 Dodge driven by Patrice Linder, Rt. 2, Litchfield, collided with a 1962 Ford driven by Armando Periz, Harlingen, Texas.

Miss Linder, making a U-turn at Southern Cross and Milky Way (near the Don Bluhm residence) failed to see the Periz car approaching on Milky Way from the north.

Here again there were no personal injuries. The Linder car sustained damages estimated at $75 to the left front fender. The Periz auto was damaged from the right back door all the way to the back of the car. Damage was estimated at $250.

QUICKIE EDITORIAL...

Stay Free

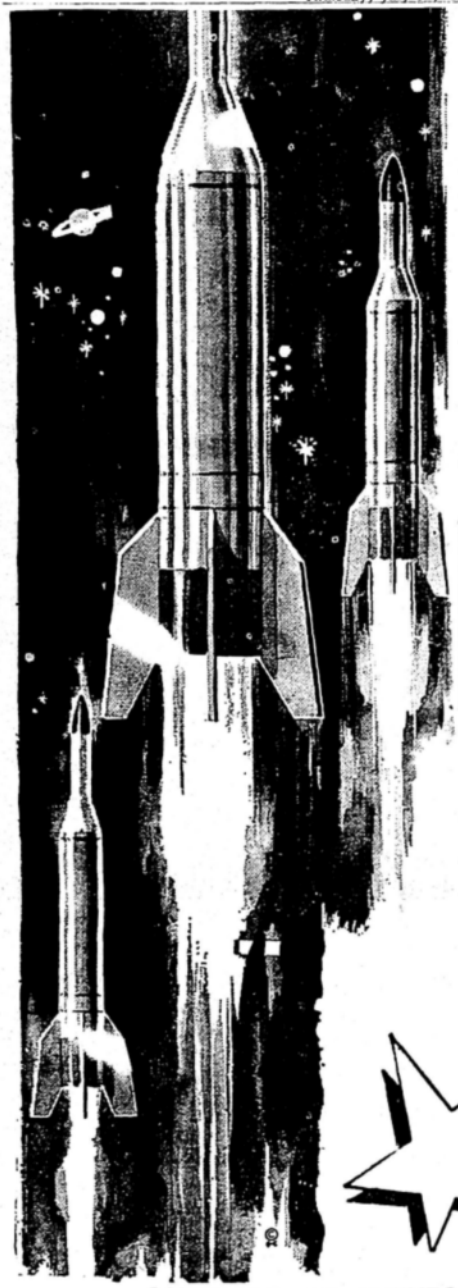
The problem of how to dispose of time so that it will yield a sense of fulfilment instead of a sense of emptiness is as old as time itself. We say, too often, "Just give me a little more time" to get my life, my goals, my ambitions, my aims squared away. But time runs out. We quit growing we quit striving, we quit climbing, we quit thinking, we quit our ideals, and wonder why life has lost meaning. Too many of our lives are stuck in common grooves.

What groove are we stuck in? We have the same brains as our neighbor, the same thoughts, the same car, the same clothes, the same type house, the same type furniture, the same personality. We are all interchangeable and yet, we talk about being original, we talk about being creative, we talk about being unique, uncommon individuals.



OFF TO CAMP for three days went this group of Cosmos Girl Scouts and their leaders last Thursday. Left to right, they are: Kneeling, Joan Heyer, Tammy Nordine, Marilyn Peterson, Janet Schoener, Paulette Foster and Colleen Raske. Standing, Kim Heyer, Mrs. Haugenson, Catherine Schoener, Connie Schultz, Julie Mortenson, Martha Sharpe, Judy Martin, Linda Pearson, Mary Ann Minnick, Shelley Straumann, Mrs. Sharpe, Terry Peterson, Penny Kahmeyer, Mrs. Schoener, and Mrs. Heyer. One other girl, who was not present when this picture was taken attended. She was Georgine Kaddatz.--Cosmos News staff photo.

LAKE LILLIAN CRIER The COSMOS NEWS
PAGE 4 Thursday, July 16, 1970



LET'S BLAST OFF TO

COSMOS SPACE FESTIVAL

COSMOS, MINNESOTA

July 20 & 21

MONDAY and TUESDAY

14-FOOT ALUMINUM BOAT & TRAILER
To Be Given Away at Drawing
DOZENS OF OTHER PRIZES, TOO!

ChickenSnack

Served In Village Park, July 21 -- 5-9 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JULY 20

1-5 p.m. Carnival Rides for kids.

6:30 p.m. Kiddie Parade

7:30 p.m. Model Rocket Demonstration

9:00 p.m. Street Dance (esp. for young people)

10:00 p.m. Drawings for prizes given by Cosmos Merchants

JULY 21

1-5 p.m. Carnival Rides for kids.

5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Serving of Chicken Snack

7:00 and 8:30 p.m. Sky Divers Performance

9:00 p.m. Street Dance (esp. for young people)

10:00 p.m. Drawings for More Merchants' Prizes and Boat and Trailer

FREE STREET DANCE EACH NIGHT!

ROCKET LAUNCHING!

Model Rockets Will Be Launched By Members of the Cosmos Rocket Club on Monday Evening, July 20 -- at 7:30 p.m.

SKY DIVERS!

Will Perform While Falling From Airplanes High Over Cosmos. Tuesday Evening, July 21 -- at 7:00 and 8:30 p.m.

GOPHER STATE SHOWS CARNIVAL ON GROUNDS



Thoughts & Observations









By Mark Minnick
"Insect Loving Idiot" Editor of **The Galactic Gazette**

Happy Birthday USA!
1776-2026

I'm really looking forward to the 4th of July this year; 'cuz of course, it's the **250th Birthday of the United States!** Don't plan on doing much, just hang out with a cold one and some music. Too old & slow for fireworks fun. *And I'm easily entertained…*



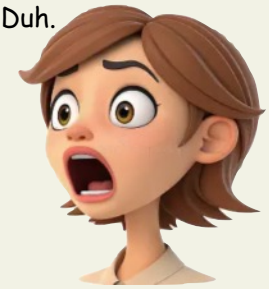


I do remember the juvenile 'firecracker fun' I had around 7th or 8th grade. Blowing up green plastic army men, tanks and trucks. Mountains that I made in the sandbox were no match for the Black Cats either. I was quite the one man demolition crew. A Kelly's Hero, maybe even.

Taping an army man (astronaut?) to a bottle rocket was another one. Gotta do the countdown of course, just like NASA; 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Blast Off! I was waging a sandbox war on japs, aliens, krauts or any foe that got in the way, you becha. In case you are wondering, I was careful. If I'da lost any fingers, I wouldn't be typing this. Duh.







**Relax Buckaroos, they're hotdogs wrapped in tube bread.*

Next up is the Cosmos Space Festival on July 17-19. I'm really looking forward to bingo, beer and the parade. Oh yea, there's the crowd pleasing **Pork Chop Dinner** too, served in the city park. ***Pork chops…mmmmm…***





All kidding aside, the best part to me is talking to the folks attending the great event. Some you see everyday, some you haven't seen for years. *(And I probably won't be able to recall most of the names in either category.)* But I'll give it my best shot. Worst I can be is wrong and embarrassed. *At least I'll still have my good looks.* ;)

There's plenty of other fun Space Fest stuff to watch and do me thinks. Bouncy houses, water ball fights, softball games, raffles and a Friday nite movie even. Plus, the fire department takes care of serving cold beer to the thirsty masses, God bless 'em.

Don't wanna miss the **fireworks** on Saturday night either. Imho, they are the BEST in the region. Right here in Cosmos, how 'bout that!

Lastly but not leastly, The Galactic Gazette will be introducing a couple of new alien visitors during the Space Fest parade. **Jupiter Johnson** and **Pluto Parker** will join **Neptune Ned** and of course, **Local Chicken** on the trailer with the world renowned **'Water Tower Rocket'**. We'll also be having some kiddos handing out US and Minnesota flags. Should be a great finale to the **2026 Cosmos Space Festival**. Hope to see you there!

Email The Galactic Gazette at: wordnut66@outlook.com

The GALACTIC Gazette

Editor:	**Mark Minnick**
"Chef it Up" Contributor	**Grace Kamrath**
"Just a Thought or Two…" Column	**Mike Kutzke**
Handy Hints	**Janice Blum**
Behind the Scenes Dirty Work	**Deb Minnick**

***A non-profit publication, mailed monthly to PO box holders in the Cosmos area.**
Subscriptions available: 12 months for $25.00

- The Gazette is the Cosmos community's newsletter.
- We professionally design ads, thank you's, etc.
- Written submissions and pics are welcome.
- Letters to the Editor are welcome.
- All submissions must include the writer's name, phone number and/or email address.
- We reserve the right to accept or refuse to publish any and all submissions.
- We do not accept political ads.

Submission Deadline-15th of the Month

Advertising Prices Per Monthly Issue

	B&W	COLOR
• 1/8 Page	$13	$20
• 1/4 Page	$25	$35
• 1/2 Page	$50	$70
• Full Page	$80	$100

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USPS: **The Galactic Gazette**
PO Box 187
Cosmos, MN 56228



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Motorcycle Apparel
-Wanted- Dead Bikes, Any Brand
Dan & Angie Cairl
320-440-0000
10 Milky Way North
Stop by & take a look!

The Truth…Is Out There



Pic by ??? Commentary by Mark Minnick

A never before seen vintage photo recently showed up in the Galactic Gazette mailbox from an unknown sender. Quite interesting, as the date shows 1923. Hmmm…

Sure looks like our boys, **Ned & Local**. Are they actually time traveling MIB? (Or *say, "Time travelling AIB & CIW", to be more accurate.)*

It sure seems that, "The truth…is out there. Somewhere".

Well, at least maybe…

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

"Virus Free"
-Since 2019-
No germs allowed!
The GALACTIC Gazette
You Bet!



Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States, a 1940 portrait by Howard Chandler Christy depicting George Washington as the presiding officer at the Constitutional Convention in 1787.

AMERICA 250

On July 4, 2026, our nation will commemorate and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the **Declaration of Independence**. The journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond.

-Next Meeting-
Tuesday, July 14th at 7 PM

Cosmos Legion Family

Beack-Thompson Post 126

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