The Galactic Gazette

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

Volume 20 Issue 9
September 2020

"Don' ask me, cuz I don't know.
Looks cool, though."

Weather: Rainy or Sunny-Ha ha. "All of the news you really need. Probably more" "Noli credere omnia legis"

But Teacher, I Didn't Do Anything Fun…

The Galactic Gazette Summer of '20



By Mark Minnick

What the heck is there to write about lately? Small town, nothing going on (which in a lot of ways may be good), no-fun COVID restrictions and on and on and on. Old people (or editors) aren't supposed to know about fun or do anything fun anyway, right? All we do is regular, boring, everyday stuff.

As this is September, it brought back memories of being a back-to-school kid. Those hot, humid and nearly unbearable classrooms in September. You could of swore that your crayons melted into a solid brick of colored wax inside your desk. Perspiration dripped onto your paper as you struggled mightily to grip your pencil with sweaty hands.

It was no better when you got into Jr. High, as you discover that this new thing called anti-perspirant isn't working so well. Now, besides worrying about pimples, the girls will think you stink. Man, oh man.

Then the teacher wants you to write this essay about what you did last summer. You ponder and loathe the assignment at the same time. It has to be done, it's steaming hot and on top of that, you didn't do anything fun all summer!

You're a regular kid with regular parents. Dad works six or seven days a week. Mom washes clothes, cooks your meals and tells you to get outside and do something. You have a big backyard, a bicycle and lots of friends to play with. What more do you want? Vacations, cool things to do and summer fun are for rich people, who don't have to work. You're just a regular kid.

Right now that's how I feel, like that kid who has to write about 'regular' stuff, in all of it's insignificant and mundane glory. At least I have air conditioning.

So, here's a collection of my unremarkable summer experiences; short stories laid out in no particular order, other than sequence that they come out my memory banks. Some will just be pics with a caption. Look for the **Summer of '20** logo on each page. All pics were taken by me.

If you are not impressed with the subject matter, I don't blame you. If you like it, thank you. News and happenings in a small town, where that first nice tomato is a big deal. Wadda ya do?



The Galactic Gazette Summer of '20

Gardens Looking Good

By Mark Minnick

I noticed quite a few nice looking gardens around town. Here's a couple of examples out of many nice ones. Sue Gieser's, at the left and the community garden by Peace Lutheran Church, on the right. I like Sue's setup, right against the house, out of harms way when the winds blow. Lots of veggies in the community garden, with a few flowers for variety. Cool.



"A doctor gave a man six months to live. The man couldn't pay his bill, so he gave him another six months." *Henny Youngman*

The Galactic Gazette
Summer of '20

Kitty Duties



L to R; Samantha, Francine and Ralphie. Tippecanoe is in the back.

By Mark Minnick

The better half went on a summer get away to the beautiful and scenic Park Rapids area for a few days. My assignment in her absence was to hold down the fort and take care of the kitties.

Ted, Ralphie, Francine (Frankie), Samantha (Sammy), and Tippecanoe (Tippy) are all darlings for sure, so there really can't be any problems, right?

Naaa, we all had a great old time, as long as I did two things; Feed them at the correct time and keep the litter boxes, shall we say, un-littered. If these simple rules are not followed, repercussions will follow. If I'm late for the morning feeding, Sammy will stand close to my face, touch her wet nose to mine, and whap me on the cheek with a paw. Frankie will walk on top of the dresser, sending stuff that isn't nailed down crashing to the floor. Then she stares at you with that look that says, "What?"

For the afternoon feeding, they all gather 'round where ever you are sitting or working. Like cute little vultures that sit on the floor or in your lap instead of a tree. Big, beautiful kitty eyes and a chorus of meows make sure you get the picture. Feed me.

When you do feed them, nothing else but the wonderful aroma and taste of the canned cat food matters in their world. By the way, the slimy goo in the bottom is the *best* part.

If a militant tomcat slipped into the house during feeding time, kidnapped me and demanded a ransom payment of their cat food, I know what they would say. "We don't negotiate with terrorists" and stroll over to their kitty beds and take a snooze with a full tummy. Little monsters.

Don't forget the litter boxes. They are quite faithful in their use of the box, as long as you keep it free of 'stuff'. If you don't they go elsewhere, simple as that. I had no problems keeping the box cleaned of 'stuff' so that wasn't a problem. Scoopin' poop and pickin' pee, 'janitor to the cats' in training, that's me.

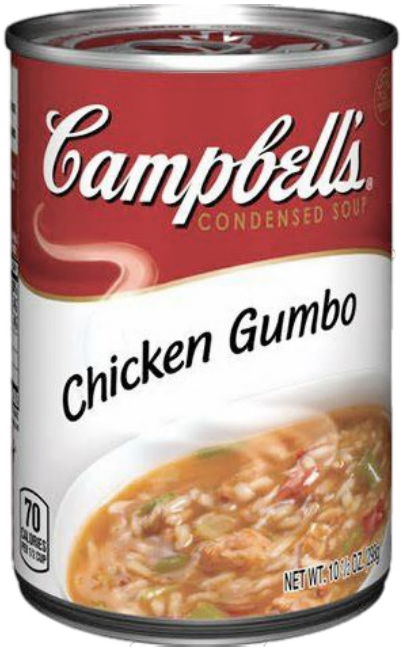
There is always the classic 'hair ball' that shows up once in awhile too. It's usually when you least expect it, like 2:00 in he morning, on your way to the bathroom to empty your bladder. Let's just say, don't go barefooted. Ted….!



When wife Deb came back from her get away, she brought me a souvenir gift from the North Woods. A fancy schmancy bottle of locally procured maple syrup. I thanked her and thought, "Now I've got to make some pancakes." When I do, the little darlings will surely want to help. That's fine but, I'm not sharing any cakes, even if they're willing to share their cat food.

The Galactic Gazette
Summer of '20

Minnesota Barbeques



By Mark Minnick

While on one my shopping expeditions to Cashwise in Willmar, I had quite the "Minnesota" experience. Zooming down the canned goods aisle in my scooter, I slowed to a stop near the soups.

Standing in front of the Campbell's Soup section, a fellow shopper was scanning the somewhat sparse soup inventory. These weren't the only partially bare shelves in the store. COVID 19 had taken it's toll on certain items, the results of shut down assembly lines and slowed delivery services.

She commented that the store had been out of Campbell's Chicken Gumbo soup for quite a while. She reiterated that her family and friends were disappointed that they couldn't make any "Barbeques" whether for home or church gatherings.

I about fell outta my scooter when I heard her statement. She affirmed to me that making the sacred and much loved Minnesota Sloppy Joe's - i.e. "Barbeques" *required* Campbell's Chicken Gumbo soup. No ifs ands or buts. Can't do it.

(The Gazette had a "Chef it Up" article about the great "Barbeque" debate in the April 2020 issue. It's also the way my mom taught me to make them.)

We conversed and chuckled back and forth a bit, and I mentioned other ingredients that could be used, but she was having none of it. The only quote I can remember her saying was, "You can't make barbeques any other way" as she looked at me very matter-of-factly. I didn't *dare* bring up Sloppy Joe's.

I replied, "Yep, they're pretty good made that way, you becha." as she walked away. After grabbing some chicken noodle soup, I motored away quite chagrined, thinking that, "West Central Minnesotans sure know their 'Barbeque' - just ask 'em."

The Galactic Gazette
Summer of '20

But Teacher, I Didn't Do Anything Fun…

Summer Storm



By Mark Minnick

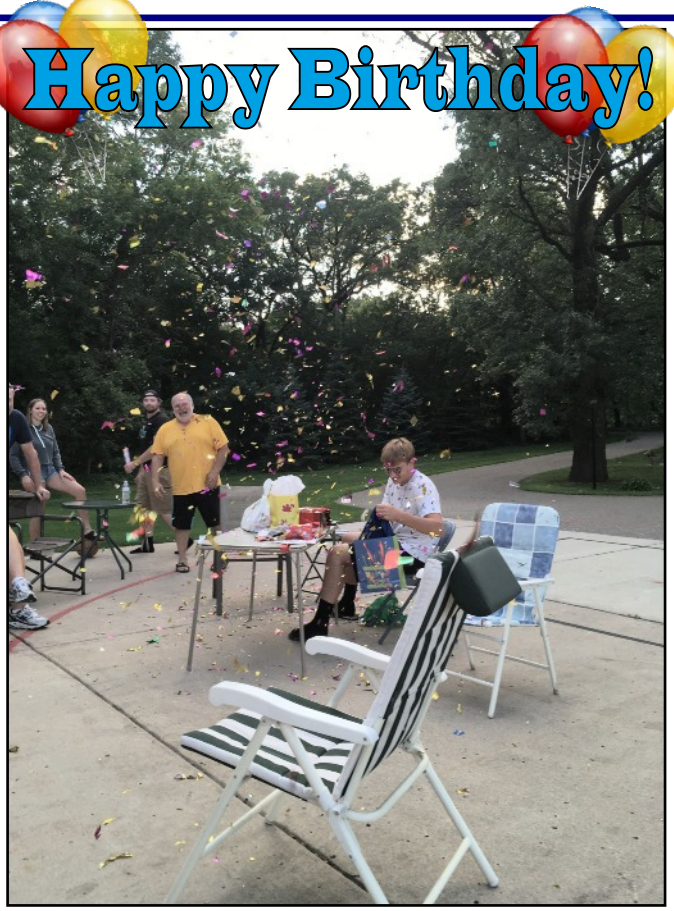
Summer always brings us stormy weather. Rain, hail, straight line winds and tornados. In this case, some straight line winds knocked down down a few branches around town.

The small mess above is being tended to by Peace Lutheran Church President, Dale Von Loh. He made quick work out of the branch, cutting it up into pieces that were easier to load in the pickup and haul to the brush site. Thank you Dale, you were Johnny -on-the-spot on this one.

I had a relatively small, dead one land on the lawn. Whoop de do right? Not much to complain about but hey, it's a slow news day.



Happy Birthday!



By Mark Minnick

I went to nephew Beau Weseloh's Birthday party in the first part of August. The seventeen year old politely put up with all of his old relatives, probably because we don't pinch his cheek anymore, telling him that he is "Growing like a weed". As the pic shows, the big day even involved confetti. It don't get any better than that, does it? The ice cream cake came in a close second though.

Pickles!



By Mark Minnick

Wife Deb made a few quarts of pickles, complete with, onions, garlic and hot peppers. Thank goodness Don and Sandy Martin had some dill to use, thanks guys!

"The beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the figure that she carries or the way she combs her hair." *Audrey Hepburn*

The Galactic Gazette
Summer of '20

But Teacher, I Didn't Do Anything Fun…

Hospitality



By Mark Minnick

I stopped in at Mug Shots a few times, to have a cold Bud and catch up on the goings on in town. Bartender Kelsey posed for a quick pic during her busy evening shift.



Ted

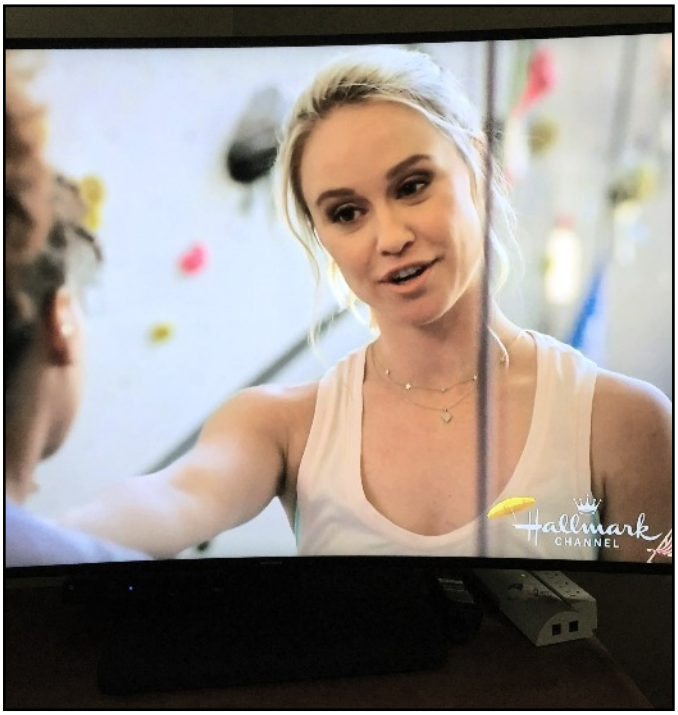
Part Time Crabby Gazette Assistant, Full Time Hairball Champ

You say… Tomato



First wonderful tomato of the year from the Hutch Farmer's Market.

Romance Rules



By Mark Minnick

When you are sick and tired of politics, SJW's, stupid reality shows and no sports, what's a man to do. Why, watch a Hallmark Channel movie, of course. Pop some popcorn, grab a grape Nehi and get settled into that recliner with a warm kitty.

Every movie starts with boy meets girl, and they can hardly stand each other. Then they warm up to each other and become friends. A little over and hour in, they take it a step further. Both are just ready to kiss when the phone rings or a stupid person that hasn't got a clue interrupts them. Idiots, it happens in every movie, every time.

They act like they are embarrassed that someone just about saw them smooching but secretly they really, really want more. Uff. Then one of them misunderstands the other or overhears only part of a private conversation. They tromp off in a big huff, binge on cupcakes and cry to a friend. All love is lost, for sure.

So, they're on the outs again, every movie, every time. But in the last three minutes, everyone gets their sensibilities back. They make up, smiling and crying, the whole enchilada. Then they *finally* kiss right before the credits roll and it's all over.

Run to the can quick and get back, so you don't miss the start of the next one. You'll have time to pop another batch of popcorn during the ungodly long commercial breaks.

Tell you what, these movies are pretty tough to beat for some good clean romance between a pretty girl and a hunky guy. You don't have to think much either. Just like real life, romance rules, right? Advertisement! Go make more popcorn…

"I'm not a chick-flick enthusiast." *Clint Eastwood*

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Thank You

It is with great humbleness and appreciation that our family would like to thank the Cosmos Fire Department and Ambulance Crew for the help and assistance they gave Lindsey on the night of her accident. It is amazing that this small group of people are able to dedicate their time and energy to this very worthwhile cause.

THANK YOU AGAIN SO MUCH!!!
Scott, Marilyn, Colton and Mostly Lindsey Minnick

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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

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR ATTENDING OUT GRADUATION PARTY. THANK YOU ALSO FOR THE GIFTS AND MONEY. IT MADE OUR DAY!

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T 1 Crack turkey sand. w/potato salad
W 2 Cheese burger w/coleslaw
T 3 Meat loaf dinner
F 4 Spaghetti w/garlic toast

M 7 Closed
T 8 Beef Stroganoff w/toast
W 9 Broasted chicken dinner
T 10 Scalloped potatoes & ham
F 11 Fish sandwich w/potato salad

M 14 Turkey Tetrazzini w/garlic toast
T 15 BBQ chicken dinner
W 16 Salisbury steak dinner
T 17 Sloppy Joe's w/potato salad
F 18 Roast beef dinner or commercial

M 21 French dip w/potato salad
T 22 Pork chop dinner
W 23 Pizza hotdish w/garlic toast
T 24 Broasted chicken dinner
F 25 Potato hotdish w/toast

M 28 Sloppy Joe's w/potato salad
T 29 Pork dinner or commercial
W 30 Pizza burger w/fries

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Cosmos

Have a Happy & Safe Labor Day Weekend!

Soups & Chili
-Coming in October-

Seed Loading Equipment Operator
-Competitive Wage Package Offered-

$17-$22 Per Hour - Time and a Half for OT

Work Can Begin Anytime From Mid August to Mid September

Also Looking For Class A CDL Drivers At Same Pay Rate

Applicants must be able to communicate with farmers, truckers and dispatchers, as well as operate equipment to load bulk seed from growers' bins onto semi trucks. Farm background is helpful but not required. Some mechanical skills are needed. Equipment to be operated includes conveyers, vacuveyers, and farm tractors. Applicants must be able to lift 60 pounds and must be physically capable of climbing into and out of grain bins. Other skills needed include map reading, basic math and the ability to follow instructions. Operators needed can be based in Redwood, Renville, Kandiyohi or Meeker counties. The current position is full-time seasonal, and can start work anytime from now to mid September. For the right candidate, a full-time regular position will develop.

Apply by contacting;

Don Hartung Farm, Inc.

Email: ***dhartung@frontiernet.net***

Fax: **320-877-7700**

Call Don at **320-583-7725**

Or Joe at **320-583-7726**

Cosmos Mosquito Spraying (Abatement)

The City of Cosmos will be putting the question of continued mosquito spraying (abatement) on the November 3rd ballot. The actual question that the voters of Cosmos will be voting on will be stated as such:

" Shall the City of Cosmos discontinue mosquito abatement?
A majority yes vote would direct the City of Cosmos to no longer spray for mosquitos. "

Fogging Chemical

By John Douville, City Administrator

The chemical used to fog for mosquitos in Cosmos is a low dosage of synthetic permethrin. Pyrethrins were first extracted from the chrysanthemum flower in the 1960's and later synthetic pyrethroids were developed in the laboratory. Developed in 1974 and approved for use in 1979 due to its low toxicity to mammals and broad safety margins. The chemical has been widely used across the United States since that time.

Permethrin is classified as non-toxic to moderately toxic, depending on formulation. Fogging for mosquitos uses the lowest concentration as compared to something like crop spraying that uses a higher concentration and droplets verses fogging.

Permethrin has been approved for topical applications in higher concentrations on children aged 2 months and older, which gives us an indication as to the generally low toxicity level of the chemical. One drawback of permethrin is that it is highly toxic to aquatic life, bees, dragonflies, mayflies and other beneficial insects. Fogging after dark helps mitigate this drawback.

City of Cosmos

8 Months of Hopper Work

Need semi's (tractor unit, hopper bottom trailer, and driver) to help haul soybean seed **from farms to Monsanto/Bayer plant south of Redwood Falls and Remington East in Oliva.**

For 2020-21 season, starting about October 1. Also looking for Class A CDL Drivers.

Call for Details:

Joe Byron

320-583-7726

Don Hartung

320-583-7725

Where is



Local Chicken?

Stay tuned, this may get good….



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The Galactic Gazette

"Always Action Packed & Fun Filled!"

-Fall is Coming-

"Nine out of ten doctors surveyed recommend taking advantage of these last nice summer days in September. Why you ask? Cuz it's a long time till June."





City Truck for Sale
1973 Chevrolet C-60

The City of Cosmos will be taking bids for the sale of a 1973 Chevy C-60. It has 37,291 miles. The city will be receiving bids until noon on Thursday September 10th. You may contact Dave Medina, Cosmos Public Works (221-4943 cell) to make arrangements to view the vehicle. A 5% deposit will be needed to secure the winning bid.

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MLS #5330756
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Cosmos Learning Center

A Humble Beginning to the School Year



By Jason Northrup
Dean of Students, ELC-Cosmos

We all know the current situation with the Corona virus and how it has impacted our lives in many different ways. The Educational Learning Center- Cosmos had to finish up the 2019-2020 school year in distance learning and we had to start the 2020-2021 school year in distance learning. This is not the start to our school year that we wanted, especially with having completed our remodel and wanting our kids back with us.

August 27th was supposed to be our first day back with students but instead we were busy organizing breakfast and lunch, paperwork and technology deliveries. Our teachers have been working hard to revamp distance learning plans to better fit the needs of our very diverse population of students. We also had to come up with a hybrid option for our students for when we can start to bring students back in the building.

Needless to say, there was a lot of time spent trying to figure out what the best process will be for bringing back our students due to their needs and disabilities. We don't know exactly when we will be bringing kids back to the building but our staff is eager to have the kids back.

Our teachers will be reaching out to our students daily to work on academic lessons, social skills and good old fashioned socialization. The new building seems eerily quiet without our kids in the classrooms, we can't wait to have the "school" feeling back! Keep your fingers crossed that we will be opening up soon!
Jason Northrup
Dean of Students
ELC- Cosmos

Rent. Mortgage and other Housing Assistance Available

MARSHALL, MN, AUGUST 24, 2020 — United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) has been awarded $1.6 million to help families who are struggling to meet their housing related payments through the MN COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program (CHAP).

"CHAP funds can be used for rent, mortgage, utilities, mobile home lot rent, and mobile home payments," said Angela Larson, UCAP's Family Services Director. "We encourage anyone who is behind on their housing related payments to apply as income eligibility guidelines for this program are higher than they have been in the past," added Larson.

UCAP is one of the local administrators working with families who reside in Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, and Rock Counties.

"CHAP funds need to be spent by December 30, 2020," said Larson, "so our staff are ready to help assist households in need." For more information about CHAP and to learn about other resources, please call your local UCAP office at 320-693-7911.

An on-line application is available at https://www.housinghelpmn.org. If families in UCAP's service area use the on-line application, please scroll to Southwest Minnesota and click on the United Community Action Partnership line. If needed, UCAP staff can help families walk through the process.

**United Community Action Partnership is a non-profit organization that strives to help low and moderate income families improve their lives and move out of poverty.*

Helping People. Changing Lives
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EOE/AA/ADA Compliance Organization

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Angela, Larson, Family Services Director
507-537-1416
angela.larson@unitedcapmn.org

UNITED community Action PARTNERSHIP
Helping People. Changing Lives.

"The Galactic Gazette. Not your normal newsletter. Where else do you read about a chicken vacationing on Neptune? And we thank you for your support."



CHEF IT UP!

"Food and spices….together. What a concept!"



Tomato Parmesan

By Mark Minnick

I've said it before, but I'm going to say it again. I love this time of the year because of the fresh produce. It just doesn't get any better. If memory serves me correctly, I wrote about something like this in a past issue, but I may be wrong.

Regardless, I want to share this recipe with the readers because it is so easy, quick and good. If you are a tomato fan, give it a shot.

Tomato Parmesan

- 1 large tomato, sliced and cut into bite sized chunks
- 1-2 scallions/green onions, thinly sliced
- 4-8 Kalamata/green/black olives, thinly sliced
- Course ground salt, to taste
- Course ground black pepper, to taste
- ½ tsp. granulated sugar (optional)
- Premium "Extra Virgin" Olive Oil
- Wedge of Parmesan cheese

1. Put tomato, scallions and olives in appropriate sized bowl.
2. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and optional sugar.
3. Toss gently.
4. Drizzle with enough olive oil to lightly coat after another quick toss.
5. With fine cheese grater, grate and sprinkle the desired amount of cheese over the ingredients.
6. Enjoy. Serves two.



Good Stuff Maynard!

CHEF IT UP!

"Food and spices….together. What a concept!"



Pot Pie

By Grace Kamrath

Even though it is not quite fall, some of the past days have felt like it. If you have never made Chicken Pot Pie before, here is a recipe without the pie crust. Don't get me wrong, Chicken Pot Pie with pie crust is fantastic. But the refrigerated biscuits look really neat on the top and you can use your cast iron fry pan to bake it in. Or if you don't have a cast iron pan, a deeper pie pan will work. You will have to adjust the prep work as you need to do somethings using the burner and the skillet.

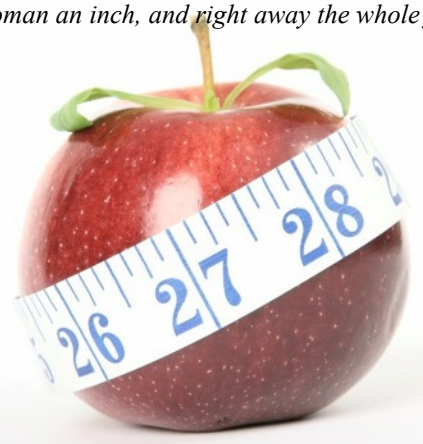
FALL SKILLET POT PIE



1/4 c. butter
1 c. chopped onion
1/4 c. flour
2 c. chicken stock
1 c. milk
1/2 c. apple cider
1/2 t. garlic powder
1/2 t. thyme leaves
1/2 t. cinnamon (optional)
1/4 t. pepper
2 c. cubed cooked chicken
1 large sweet potato, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch cubes (about 2 c.)
1 c. frozen peas
1 can refrigerated biscuits (10 biscuits)

Preheat oven to 450. Melt butter in oven proof skillet. Add onion, cook and stir five minutes. Sprinkle with flour and stir until mixture is well blended. Add stock, milk, apple cider,. garlic powder, thyme and pepper. Whisk until smooth. Stir in chicken, sweet potatoes and peas. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and cook until sweet potatoes are tender. Place biscuits on top of chicken mixture. Bake 10 minutes or biscuits are golden brown. Serves 5.

**Give a woman an inch, and right away the whole family is on a diet.*



The ACGC Falcon Flyover

Events, Activities & Happenings in the Atwater/Cosmos/Grove City School District

The Show Must Go On!

By LeAnn Melberg

Covid is not putting an end to all the fun at ACGC. We can all look forward to….



A Must See!

The ACGC Production of Annie

Coming this Fall!

A Classic!



MAIN CAST:
Annie: Quinn Eisenbacher
Miss Hannigan: Hannah Morrison
Oliver Warbucks: Trey Schmidt
SUPPORTING ROLES:
Grace Farrell: Mikayla Trumbo
Rooster Hannigan: Sam Gruis
Lily St. Regis: Hannah Lilleberg
Sandy The Dog: Austin McClain
ORPHANS:
Molly: Haley Barker
Pepper: Ruby Klinger
Duffy: Bethany Oswood
Kate: Nevaeh Mucciacciaro
July: Hailey Yocum
Tessie: Kendall Berger
WARBUCKS' SERVANTS
Drake: Takoda Mucciacciaro
Cecille: Ruby Klinger
Annette: Kendall Berger
Mrs. Greer: Bethany Oswood
Mrs. Pugh: Haley Barker
Butlers: Darrin Williamson & Kaiden Holtz
Extra French Maids: Elizabeth Thyen (Crew Members)
Chauffer: Austin McClain (crew member)
HOOVERVILLE/NYC STREETS:
Sophie: Hailey Yocum
A Star-To-Be: Lilly Wattnem
Edie: Haley Barker
Bundles: Darrin Williamson
Lt. Ward: Takoda Mucciacciaro
Cop: Karah Gregory (crew member)
Apple Seller: Megan McClain (crew member)
Dog Catcher: ElIzabeth Thyen
Assistant Dog Catcher: AIlison Youngblom (Crew Member)
Judge Brandise: Darrin Williamson
Man 1: Darrin Williamson
Man 2: Kaiden Holtz
Man 3: Kaiden Holtz
Man 4: Darrin Williamson
Woman 1: Kendall Berger
Woman 2: Nevaeh Mucciacciaro
Woman 3: Bethany Oswood
Woman 4: Ruby Klinger
Usherette: Hailey Yocum
Extra Bums: (Crew Members)
RADIO PERSONALITIES
Bert Healy: Takoda Mucciacciaro
Jimmy Johnson: Kaiden Holtz
Fred McCracken & Wacky: Elizabeth Thyen
Sound Effects Guy: Darrin Williamson
Announcer: Darrin Williamson
Ronnie Boylan: Lilly Wattnem
Bonnie Boylan: Ruby Klinger
Connie Boylan: Hailey Yocum
Lonnie Boylan: Haley Barker
ROOSEVELT'S CABINET
President Roosevelt: Kaiden Holtz
Frances Perkins: Lilly Wattnem
Ikes: Darrin Williamson
Howe: Hailey Yocum
Hull: Bethany Oswood
Morgenthau: Haley Barker
CREW MEMBERS:
Lead Set Artist: Amber Youngblom
Assistant Set Artist: Meghan McClain
Lead Backstage: Austin McClain
Assistant Lead Backstage: Allison Youngblom
Lead Light Person: Ethan McClain
Assistant Light Person: Ivy McClain
Crew Members: Karah Gregory, Hannah Lenz, Kara Bredeson

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS WHO WILL MAKE THIS SHOW A ROUSING SUCCESS!

The ACGC Falcon Flyover

Events, Activities & Happenings in the Atwater/Cosmos/Grove City School District

Many of you, like myself, are curious about what does 16 million dollars give you in a school remodeling project. I spent some time with architect Troy Miller of LHB, Inc of Minneapolis to find out. Troy has been a school architect for over 30 years. Troy is onsite every Tuesday at ACGC overlooking to make sure things are done correctly, his job with ACGC will soon be over. On average LHB, Inc. works on 10 schools at a time, in all different phases. Two-thirds of LHB projects are renovation and one-third are new school buildings. **LeAnn Melberg**

ACGC School Remodel

An inside look.



The new rubber roof will have a 50 year warranty.

By LeAnn Melberg

There are so many things that you would never notice or even be able to see in the Atwater School where the money is being spent. The first thing Troy pointed out was all the new conduit on the outside of the school building. All the septic, electrical, water, internet and phone lines are all new coming into the building. There are five, yes five, mechanical rooms in the Atwater school. The elementary school is using a low temp air system that can use 100% outside ventilated air. A traditional air system reuses 55% inside air.

The new system the high school will be blending 50% of outside air with 50% inside air. Both systems will take the humidity out of the classrooms and make a huge difference in air quality for students and staff. The system that has been placed in the Atwater school is state of the art. Troy said that this system is better than what 95% of school are using. The ductwork and the new technology in these 5 maintenance rooms was very impressive. ACGC's maintenance staff will have 1 year of training with this new equipment. Troy said the 2 staff that have been learning everything so far have been very engaged and ready to learn.

Were you a student that had trouble focusing in class in the past? You can know blame it on the fluorescent lights that all classrooms had before. Yes, good fluorescent lights helped brighten up dim classrooms, but the new LED lighting imitates natural light, which is known to improve concentration and hence boosts a student's ability to learn. The new ceilings in the Atwater classrooms are also allowing a lot more natural light into the classroom.

Jennifer Bell, author of *"**What Type of Lighting Should be Used in Schools**"* states that, *"The right lighting is important in any indoor setting because of the effects it has on humans and their moods and emotions. Studies have shown that students learn better in classrooms that are brightly lit and their overall health is positively impacted by classrooms that incorporate natural light. Classrooms that are bright also have been proven to improve students' behavior and will create fewer feelings of anxiety and stress; this is true for all ages of students. Typically, fluorescent lights are used in classrooms. This is an outdated and style of lighting that research has shown to be counterproductive to students. Fluorescent lighting, in fact, causes bodily stress, hyperactivity, and anxiety among students. The cool-white color emitted from the bulbs leads to poor learning performances, especially after being in their presence for prolonged periods of time. What is a solution to fluorescent lighting in schools that provides the same amount of brightness without the negative emotions? The answer is LED lighting."*

Continued next page



Beautiful new windows have been installed. Hanging wiring is being readied for new LED lights.



New bathroom sink area.
These are motion sinks so kids don't have to touch faucets.



School architect Troy Miller
showing the difference in the new wall structure.

Continued from previous page

The bricks on the outside of the building have been cleaned and some taken out and replaced. Some of the budget that was for incidental's was used on fixing some outside walls that were found to be in poor shape once working on the school. Layers of latex sprayed onto the existing walls, 3 inches of insulation, sprayed insulation, DenGlass sheeting are just some of the things you will never see under the metal sheathing that is replacing the crumbling stucco. The thick coating of sprayed insulation also helps with making the walls even stronger. In both school buildings work has been done to maintain and protect the existing walls from deterioration.

A nice surprise was finding some existing floors that were covered and hidden below and found to be in great shape. After being cleaned and polished the original color matches perfect with the new school interior.



New secure elementary entry.

Safety in schools is a top concern. When entering into the Atwater building there will be 3 sets of doors visitors will have to use to go into school. The first set of doors brings you into a corridor that lets you push a button on a glass wall that lets visitors into the office. Once checking into the office, the staff has to unlock the next set of doors to let visitors get into the main part of the school. There is one control button in the office that will also close all the interior doors in the school slowly, not to frighten kids, and can control all movement in the school. Our communities can be assured that our children are in a safe school. Let's hope we never have a circumstance that we need to put this to the test.

Nels Onstad, ACGC Superintendent, said, *"The project is going great. We are very happy with the results thus far. There are always delays and unexpected challenges. COVID19 has certainly had an impact on that as well. The really amazing part is seeing the transformation of the school. We recently gave the elementary teachers a first look at the building and it was great to hear the excitement in their voices. The challenges come in the way of unexpected delays in materials and what is unearthed when doing a remodel."*

When asked about he has learned about classroom environments for learning, he said, *"We know many things about the environment of the ideal classroom. Even with the remodel we are limited to some degree with preexisting conditions. We often don't get to even have a choice on room size, fixtures, sound quality, and lighting. I am extremely happy that the new environment will be climate controlled. The timing for improved air-quality could not be more well placed."*

When asked about what things will still be being worked on when kids are in school? *"This question remains to be seen at the elementary as the crews are working diligently to get as much complete before September 8th. The Jr./Sr. High has experienced delays in materials which will delay the final finish of the entry. A temporary solution will be used for the first few days/weeks of school until the final product can be installed,"* Mr. Onstad explained.

The 16 million dollar investment our communities have made to education and our children is a lot, but it's a long term investment. We are providing a save, secure, well-lit, and beautiful school for our children. The updated air systems couldn't be put in at a better time. Thank you, tax payers, for this beautiful gift for upcoming generations.

Cosmos School Update *by Nels Onstad*

"The project is nearly complete. The entire building is a complete change. The most noticeable from the road are the demolition of the gym and the north wing. The interior is vastly different. A new recreation space, the design of each classroom, the office space, and the air-quality are the most recognizable."

Editors note; *The Gazette will be doing a story and report on the Cosmos Learning Center remodeling project, hopefully in the October issue. Stay tuned.*

Go Falcons!

TIDBITS

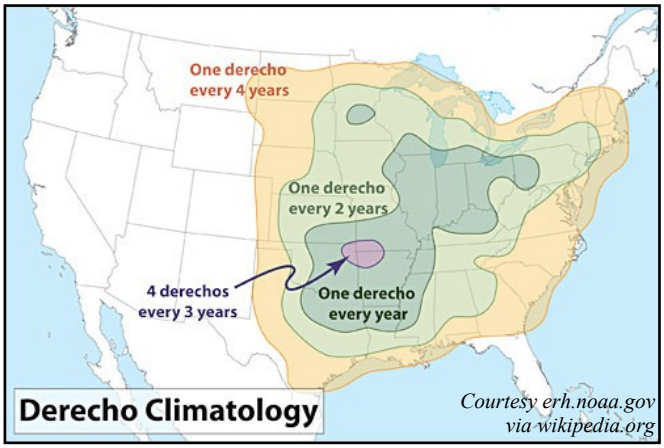


By Rick Nordin

Greetings! Hope this finds you well and are escaping damage from all the summer storms. Some of the hail damage in our area has been severe. Our thoughts are with all those in the Cedar Rapids IA area who suffered severe property and crop loss from the Derecho. The pictures and videos of that area are incredible. I had to look up the definition of a Derecho. According to Wikipedia, a derecho is a widespread, long-lived, straight-line wind storm that is associated with a fast-moving group of severe thunderstorms known as a mesoscale convective system. Derechos can cause hurricane-force winds, tornados, heavy rains, and flash floods. Hope we never have to experience such a storm.



A shelf cloud along the leading edge of a derecho in Minnesota
Courtesy U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, via wikipedia.org



John is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, John was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation. Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to John and asked him, "I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?"

John replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or ... you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or...I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or... I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life.

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested. "Yes, it is," John, said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood. You choose to be in a good good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live your life." I reflected on what John said. Soon thereafter, I left the Tower Industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it. Several years later, I heard that John was involved in a serious accident, falling some 60 feet from a communications tower. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, John was released from the hospital with rods placed in his back. I saw John about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied. "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna see my scars?" I declined to see his wounds, but I did ask him what had gone through his mind as the accident took place.

"The first thing that went through my mind was the well being of my soon to be born daughter," John replied. "Then, as I lay on the ground, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or... I could choose to die. I chose to live." "Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked. John continued, "...the paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read, "he's a dead man. I knew I needed to take action." "What did you do?" I asked.

"Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said John. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. "Yes, I replied." The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, "Gravity." Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead."

John lived, thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." After all today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday. Have a great September.



In this illustration, NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter stands on the Red Planet's surface as NASA's Perseverance rover (partially visible on the left) rolls away.
Credits: NASA/JPL-Caltech

NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter Recharges Its Batteries in Flight

From NASA.com, Editor: Tony Greicius
August 13th 2020

NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter received a checkout and recharge of its power system on Friday, Aug. 7, one week into its near seven-month journey to Mars with the Perseverance rover. This marks the first time the helicopter has been powered up and its batteries have been charged in the space environment.

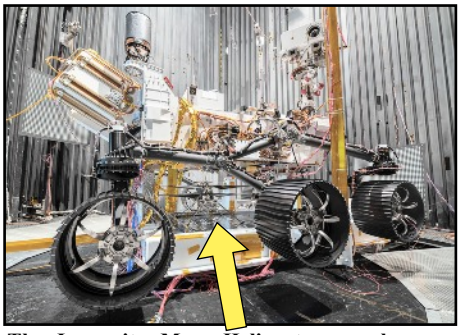
During the eight-hour operation, the performance of the rotorcraft's six lithium-ion batteries was analyzed as the team brought their charge level up to 35%. The project has determined a low charge state is optimal for battery health during the cruise to Mars.

"This was a big milestone, as it was our first opportunity to turn on Ingenuity and give its electronics a 'test drive' since we launched on July 30," said Tim Canham, the operations lead for Mars Helicopter at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California. "Since everything went by the book, we'll perform the same activity about every two weeks to maintain an acceptable state of charge."

The 4-pound (2-kilogram) helicopter – a combination of specially designed components and off-the-shelf parts – is currently stowed on Perseverance's belly and receives its charge from the rover's power supply. Once Ingenuity is deployed on Mars' surface after Perseverance touches down, its batteries will be charged solely by the helicopter's own solar panel. If Ingenuity survives the cold Martian nights during its preflight checkout, the team will proceed with testing.

"This charge activity shows we have survived launch and that so far we can handle the harsh environment of interplanetary space," said MiMi Aung, the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter project manager at JPL. "We have a lot more firsts to go before we can attempt the first experimental flight test on another planet, but right now we are all feeling very good about the future."

The small craft will have a 30-Martian-day (31-Earth-day) experimental flight-test window. If it succeeds, Ingenuity will prove that powered, controlled flight by an aircraft can be achieved at Mars, enabling future Mars missions to potentially add an aerial dimension to their explorations with second-generation rotorcraft.



The Ingenuity Mars Helicopter can be seen between the left and center wheels of the Mars 2020 Perseverance rover. The image was taken in the vacuum chamber at JPL on Oct. 1, 2019.
Credits: NASA/JPL-Caltech

"I have noticed even people who claim everything is predestined, and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road."
Stephen Hawking

Nature and the Great Outdoors

Hey, it's nice outside!

Bucket List Mower



By Mark Minnick

When you get "Long in the tooth" as I am, you start to look at life's amenities a little differently. There are things you want to do and have, before they send you off to the Finishing Home and/or kick the bucket. The "Bucket list" some call it.

I've done plenty of stuff and been to places I wanted to go in my younger years, with no regrets. I acquired my last fishing boat a few years ago, with all of the bells and whistles needed. I enjoy the heck out of it too, glad I did it.

I've always picked up neglected and forgotten riding mowers over the years, fixed and repaired all necessary problems with them and used them to mow my own grass. Just fine with me and I don't regret doing it.

I decided this spring that I was interested in getting a modern and up-to-date mower, one that would do a great job mowing and be comfy at the same time.

I caved in, went over to "The Dark Side" and picked up the latest and greatest offering from mega-manufacturer John Deere, "The Evil Empire" as some refer to the company. I couldn't be happier with the choice. It mows a great lawn in no time and is easy to operate and service. Best of all, it's the first rider in my whole long life that is comfortable to operate with my 6'3" frame. The best of everything, me thinks.



Now that the lawnmower is checked off of the bucket list, I'll have to grab my light saber, crack open a Hamm's and figure out the next item. It's a tough task, but I think I'm up to it.

Cool Swimbaits



By Mark Minnick

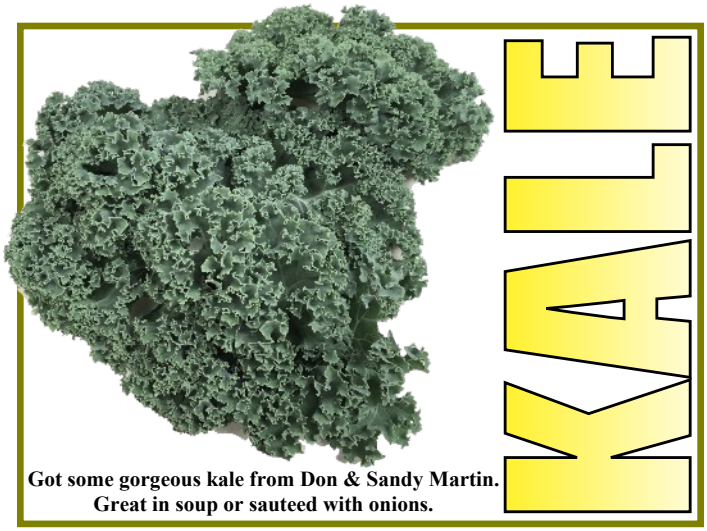
Ahhh, the wonders of the internets. While wandering the 'aisles' of my favorite online tackle shop in California, I noticed some pretty swell soft plastic swimbaits.

Manufactured in a little facility in Las Vegas, Nevada, Huddleston Deluxe's lures are known in trophy bass circles for their fish catching ability. So, I made an addition to the musky arsenal with a few of these ultra realistic, hand poured swim baits.

Showing up at my door a week later, I quickly opened the package to take a look at the new tackle box additions. Oh, man…they are sooo cool, I almost wet myself. The realism is hard to believe. Can't wait to get them in the water and take 'em for a 'swim'. The bigger ones in the above picture are 8" long.

Designed to fool monster largemouth bass, I'm hoping these also fool a few dumb muskies. I don't go after those smart fish, I have the best luck catching dumb ones. I leave the smart fish for you walleye guys.

Price? If you have to ask, as they say, you probably don't wanna know. Anyway, it's only money and the fish don't care how much they are. Some folks do pull-tabs, I do fishing tackle. I picked up a new rod and reel that I had to have also, but that's a whole 'nother story. So many fish, so little time.



Got some gorgeous kale from Don & Sandy Martin. Great in soup or sauteed with onions.

"I've got all the money I'll ever need, if I die by four o'clock." *Henny Youngman*

The Cosmos Public Library News



By Beth Cronk
Meeker County Librarian
Pioneerland Library System

Cosmos Library begins
Library Express

The Cosmos Public Library is offering 15-minute appointments to browse the library collection and conduct library business.
Appointments are available:

Tuesdays 3-4 p.m.
Thursdays 3-4:30 p.m.
Saturdays 11:45 a.m. -12:45 p.m.

Call the library at **(320) 440-1012**
to schedule your appointment.

*Appointments must be made in advance by phone. No walk-ins are allowed. Patrons age 17 or older may schedule an appointment, and anyone under the age of 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. A maximum of five household members may come in for the appointment.

*Face coverings are required for anyone age five and older at all times. For those who don't have a mask, the library will provide one. Please stay six feet from library staff. Please do not come to the library if anyone in your household is feeling ill; call to reschedule.

*For staff safety and yours, plexiglass is in place at the desk. Library staff frequently disinfect door handles and the service desk. The restroom is available to use at your own risk.

*At your appointment time, please call from the parking lot behind city hall to let library staff know you have arrived, so that they can let you into the library. If you don't have a cell phone, let library staff know that when you schedule the appointment.

*You are welcome to use your 15-minute appointment to find books and movies on the shelves, check out items, apply for a library card, get research help, or make photocopies.

*Please bring your library card if you will be checking out. Return items to the outside book drop rather than inside the library.

*Computers are not available during Library Express appointments. Please call to make a separate appointment if you need to use a computer.

*Curbside pickup is still available during all library hours.

Visit **cosmos.lib.mn.us** for the latest updates.

TIME WARP Whozit?

ROYAL HOMECOMING '70



Whozit?

With school starting shortly here in 2020, I am already lamenting the loss of High School Football this fall. No cool crisp nights watching the kids go at it on the gridiron. No thrill of victory or agony of defeat. Watching the players learn toughness, perseverance and teamwork. Striving to do better; every play, every quarter, every game; no let up.

I'm guessing that we won't have any Homecoming festivities this fall either, because of the COVID protocols. I am bummed to say the least. But, I could be wrong and I certainly understand the situation.

To cheer myself up, I grabbed a picture of the 1970 Cosmos Royals King & Queen candidates. Arguably the biggest event of the school year when you are a senior, is Homecoming. To me, it brings back many memories, way back and not so way back, all of them good.

Can you identify *any* of these seniors from 1970? **Whozit?**

"They say marriages are made in Heaven. But so is thunder and lightning." *Clint Eastwood*

The Galactic Gazette

September '70

TIME WARP



We fired up the Gazette's trusty Time Machine to take us back 50 years to September, 1970. There wasn't much happening on the front page, so we looked around inside the issue at the local happenings, grocery store ads and the like. We might have to pick up some of that $.69 a pound bologna and the box of potato chips for $.49. Eunice said they would make a great lunch, especially with a little horseradish spread on the bologna in a sandwich. Tough to beat Eunice, tough to beat.

Cosmos News

MR. AND MRS. HAROLD Minnick, Sr. and Mary and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Minnick visited at the Al Hindermann home in New Ulm Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Minnick Sr. and Mary also visited Mrs. Elsie Brey and Mrs. Groebner.

MR. AND MRS. MAURICE Turner and family, Beth Higgin and Julie Ford attended the Steven Kess and LeAnn Shanholtzer wedding at Litchfield Methodist church on Saturday evening.

MR. AND MRS. STEVEN Flemming and Andrew of Minneapolis were week end visitors at the Albert Flemming home and visited Albert Flemming at the Litchfield hospital Saturday.

MR. AND MRS. IVAN Anderson returned home Friday after vacationing in the Great Smokey Mountains in Tennessee, North Carolina and also sightseeing in Kentucky.

MR. AND MRS. DONALD Grussendorf attended Minnesota State Highway picnic at Robbins Island in Willmar on Sunday afternoon.

MR. AND MRS. GARY Benson and family of Montrose were week end guests at the Harold Minnick Jr. home.

MR. AND MRS. LLOYD Mortenson and Kevin visited at the Emil Boelter home and other relatives at New Ulm on Sunday.

MR. AND MRS. JACK Porath attended the Porath family reunion at Fairmont on Sunday.

REV. AND MRS. CLAIR Kess of Greenwood, Nebraska spent several days last week at the C. Alfred Anderson home and visited other friends in the community.

RICK AND TOM KESS of Greenwood, Neb. were Saturday overnight guests at the Maurice Turner home.

RELATIVES from Golden Valley, Excelsior, Minneapolis, Annandale and Cosmos attended the Larson family reunion at the Emma Mortenson home Sunday, Aug. 30.

MR. AND MRS. ROY Frederiksen and family, Mrs. Axel Nelson of Litchfield, Mrs. Art Cates of Washington, D. C., Mrs. Celia Anderson of Minneapolis, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Buck of Litchfield spent last Wednesday and Thursday in Duluth where they attended the funeral of Axel Nelson.

MR. AND MRS. LOWELL Benson and Julie and Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Stockland were among many other relatives who attended the Benson-Stockland family reunion at Grove City park on Sunday.

MR. AND MRS. ADOLPH Holmgren helped Helen Martinson of Atwater celebrate her birthday on Saturday afternoon.

MR. AND MRS. DENNIS Flemming and family of Columbus, Ohio, returned home Sunday morning after visiting two weeks with relatives and friends in Willmar, Minneapolis, Northern Minnesota, Cosmos and surrounding areas.

MRS. RACHEL BROMAN of Dassel was a Thursday dinner guest at the Adolph Holmgren home.

MR. AND MRS. ALFRED Inselmann, Sr., were Sunday evening supper guests at the Heller-Inselmann home.

SUNDAY dinner guests at the Herb Maag home were Mrs. Clara Locher, Kathryn and Christophine Rekstad of Minneapolis and Mr. and Mrs. Stan Locher and family of Owatonna.

MR. AND MRS. REUBEN Boeder and Terry attended the wedding of Lorelie Cassman and James Hughes at the Catholic church in Darwin. Mrs. Boeder helped in the kitchen.

MR. AND MRS. REUBEN Boeder, Brent Freitag of Hutchinson and Troy Cassman of Litchfield were Sunday visitors at the Mrs. Hilma Kressin home at rural Hutchinson Sunday afternoon.

MR. AND MRS. CLINTON Mortenson of Lakewood, Cal., and Mrs. Frankman of Long Beach, Cal., left Tuesday after spending a couple of weeks visiting at the Emma Mortenson home and with other relatives.

MR. AND MRS. ERWIN Lehaman of New London, Mrs. Tillie Snicker, Mrs. Gerline Banks of Willmar and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Remmel visited at the Ben Thomas home Saturday.

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT Loveland and girls and Dick Loveland visited the Albert Jarchos at their cottage at Lake Belteane near Park Rapids from Tuesday until Friday.

MR. AND MRS. ALBERT Jarcho were Saturday supper guests at the Knute Carlson home at Litchfield.

MR. AND MRS. GARY Martin entertained many relatives and friends at the Cosmos park Sunday in honor of their son Dean's first birthday.

MR. AND MRS. ARNOLD Lang and family attended the wedding reception in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Avelallemant at St. John's parsonage lawn on Sunday.

MR. AND MRS. ROGER Johnson and family of Minneapolis, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Johnson and family of Hutchinson, and Mr. and Mrs. Orville Johnson and family were Sunday dinner and afternoon guests at the Mrs. Anna Johnson home.

FIREMEN AND THEIR families enjoyed the annual picnic at the Cosmos park Thursday evening.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM Radtke attended the Onamia Bible Camp from Aug. 16 through Aug. 22.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM Radtke and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Radtke and family were Aug. 23 guests at the Don Getzs in St. Paul.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM Radtke and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Radtke and family attended a wedding for relatives in St. Peter at Gustavus College last Saturday. They also visited the Harvey Radtkes at Ankey, Ia., over the weekend.

MR. AND MRS. LEWIS Arnold of Brooklyn Center and Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Arnold and family of Rosemount were Sunday dinner and afternoon guests at the Bernard Arnold home to help Mrs. Arnold celebrate her birthday.

MR. AND MRS. ART Laffen and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Laffen and son of Atwater were Monday evening supper guests at the Stanley Mortenson home. Mrs. Gary Laffen will leave for Germany Wednesday to spend several weeks with her father who was in a car accident recently.

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD Higgin returned home Sunday evening after attending the Convocation of United Methodists for Evangelical Christianity at Dallas, Texas, last week. They also visited at the Gary Sele home at Erving, Texas.

MRS. CELIA ANDERSON returned to her home in Minneapolis Sunday after spending two weeks at the Roy Frederiksen home.



BIRTHDAY PARTY for the above folks was observed at the Senior Citizens Center, Monday evening. Left to right are: Lloyd Hoff, Mrs. John Arndt, Mrs. Herb Maag, Mrs. Vern Soltau, Mrs. William Holmquist and William Holmquist.

Thomas James is new son of the James Flemmings

COSMOS--A baby boy, Thomas James, was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Flemming at the Hutchinson hospital, Friday, Aug. 28. He weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces.

Grandparents are Merrill Flemmings of rural Cosmos and Raymond Pedersons of rural Hector.

Cari Kahmeyer was baptized, Sun.

COSMOS--Cari Kea Kahmeyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LaMoine Kahmeyer of Cosmos, was baptized at Peace Lutheran church on Sunday. Her sponsors are Clarence Christopher, Mrs. Marilyn Dvorak and Mrs. Janet Clouteir.

It Happened at Thorpe

MR. AND MRS. BURdette Robbins were Sunday dinner guests at the Milton Bakke home. Mrs. Robbins is hospitalized at the Litchfield hospital, but she could be released for the day.

MR. AND MRS. ERNEST Hurtig of rural Hector were Sunday evening guests at the Gerhard Stockland home.

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD Riedel and Mrs. August Carlson of Svea visited Mrs. Hattie Trygstad, Mrs. Franklin Gunner and other friends at the Bethesda Nursing Home in Willmar on Sunday.

MR. AND MRS. CARL Remmel and Mr. and Mrs. Roland Garberich visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dallmann at Diamond Lake on Sunday afternoon.

SUNDAY evening guests at the Ambrose Bomstad home to help Ambrose celebrate his 64th birthday were Allen Koester of Hector, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Zins and boys of rural Atwater, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Degner, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mahlow and Darin and Steven Egge. Monday guests were Mrs. Karen French and girls.

MR. AND MRS. FLOYD Summerlet of Willmar were Thursday evening guests at the Richard Riedel home.

DOROTHEA STEINKE of Willmar spent the week--end with her parents, the Gerhard Steinkes.

MR. AND MRS. HAROLD Hartung and Eldon of Granada, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Park and family of Long Prairie, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Park and family, Albert Lee, and Mr. and Mrs. William Heldman and family of Staples were Sunday guests at the Ron Park home. Evening guests were Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Holger and Nanette of Montevideo.

MR. AND MRS. AMBROSE Bomstad, Mrs. Don Mahlow and Mrs. Larry Degner attended the wedding reception for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carter (nee Debra Wicklund) at Hutchinson on Sunday afternoon.

Brookfield

MRS. DONALD LOGE entertained at a party Tuesday afternoon. Guests were the hostesses for her daughter's recent shower held in Hector.

MRS. DUANE KULBERG entertained the members of her birthday club, Thursday morning.

MRS. ROBERT PAULSON and Larry and Mrs. William Kisling were Friday afternoon guests at the Robert Freberg home.

SUPPER GUESTS SUNDAY at the Ernie Zanoth home were Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Kuris and family of Silver Lake.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN Squibb and family attended the wedding of Boyd Wittman and Eileen Zieman at the Fernando Lutheran church. The reception was held in the Lutheran church in Stewart.

MR. AND MRS. JACK Squibb are taking a short trip into Wisconsin. They spent some time at Wisconsin Dells. Little Steven Squibb is visiting with his aunt and uncle while his parents are away. They are Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Greenslit of Franklin.

Bill Folsom is hospitalized at Olivia hospital

HECTOR--Bill Folsom has returned to the hospital for medical care. He is confined at the Renville County Hospital in Olivia.

Olivia hospital

HECTOR--Mrs. Hilda Goulet is hospitalized for minor surgery. She is the mother of Mrs. Ray Pederson and lives in a mobile home on the Pederson farm. She is in the Renville County hospital in Olivia.

Hospital auxiliary to meet Monday

COSMOS--The Cosmos Community Nursing Home Auxiliary will meet next Monday night, Sept. 7, beginning at 8 p.m.

Leif Langsjoen gets appointment

GOVERNOR Harold LeVander today announced the appointments of Lawrence L. Lenertz of South St. Paul as First District Judge, and Leif Langsjoen, Willmar, as Eighth District Judge. Both appointments are effective Sept. 1.

Lenertz, who resides at 131 4th Avenue N., in South St. Paul, replaces Judge Harold E. Flynn, who resigned recently. Lenertz was appointed Special Municipal Judge of South St. Paul by Governor LeVander in 1967, and is a former legislator and F. B. I. officer. He graduated from the University of Minnesota and received his law degree from Yale School of Law.

Langsjoen, who lives at 214 Terrace Drive, Willmar, replaces Judge Sam Gaudreid whose resignation becomes effective Sept. 1. Langsjoen, who studied law at the University of Minnesota, is a partner in the law firm of Halstrand, Langsjoen, and Anderson and serves on the Tax Court. Wendell Nelson, Litchfield attorney and school board chairman, will fill Langsjoen's place on the Tax Court.

ATWATER LOCKER PLANT
Custom Processing and Butchering
SIDES AND QUARTERS OF BEEF AVAILABLE
TO YOUR ORDER
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A Letter To The Farmer That's Planning To Buy A Crop Dryer

Dear Mr. Farmer,

Our company does not sell crop dryers but we do service every type and make of dryer. We feel that it's our job to help you get the most out of your dryer investment and that our responsibility should go beyond installing the supply tank and delivery of LP Gas. It should keep your dryer running at top efficiency 24 hours a day and give any other help or advice we can offer from our many years of experience.

To give you these benefits our men go to every available Service School. We have a library of Service Manuals and also carry an enormous stock of parts for all makes of dryers. We have extra trucks, both Service and Delivery, radio equipped, to handle the seasonal rush. As an added benefit we check your dryer each year in August or September to make sure it is ready to go.

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Ed Kopplin

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MINUTES
CITY OF COSMOS
REGULAR MEETING
August 6, 2020

A regular meeting of the Cosmos City Council was called to order by Mayor Gary Martin at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 6, 2020.
COUNCIL PRESENT: Council Members Tom McCarthy, Angelica Hopp, Emily Van Hatten and Jody Fruetel.
ALSO PRESENT: Josh Halvorson, Jason Danielson, John Douville and David Medina
Adopt Agenda – A motion by Fruetel, seconded by McCarthy to adopt the Agenda. Motion carried
Adopt Consent Agenda – A motion by Hopp, seconded by Van Hatten, to adopt the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

a. July 6, 2020 City Council Minutes
b. Overtime Balances
c. 2020 Election – City Council Filing Dates - July 28 – Aug 11th.
d. August 8th Cosmos Clean-up Day
e. Res 20_07 Council to Sell Real Property -Daniel and Angie Cairl
f. Meeker County Sheriff – July 2020 Report

VISITORS PRESENTATIONS

Cosmos Legion – Ron Mortenson presented a check for benches at the park on behalf of the Legion for $133.51.
Meeker County Sheriff's Office – Deputy Danielson was present to review July's activity.
City Engineer – Josh Halvorson, Bolton-Menk was present to review the current status of the USDA Rural Development application for the 2021 road construction project.
Dan Self 310 Milkyway S, was present to discuss annulling easement for the tree lighting and benches on that property. The city will verify that it is no longer needed and if so, remove the easement.
PECC Recycling – was present to discuss installing a water use only meter for their new operation.
Water Only Meter - A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Fruetel, to approve installing a water usage only meter at PECC Recycling. Motion carried**.**
August 6, 2020 Bills List - A motion by Fruetel, seconded by Van Hatten, to approve the August 6, 2020 Bills list with check numbers from 14400-14450 for $65,494.14. Motion carried**.**
Recess City Council Meeting for Public Hearing on Wellhead Protection Plan – A motion by McCarthy, seconded by Hopp, to recess the City Council meeting and open the public hearing on the Draft Wellhead Protection Plan at 5:30 p.m. Motion carried Robyn Hoerr, MN Rural Water Association was present to review the draft plan for the Cosmos Wellhead Protection Area. She stated there was more info needed on Well #1 or #2, records on old creamery well, depth, sealing records, etc. but overall the plan was complete.There was one positive written response received by the city but otherwise no additional comments were presented.
Close Public Hearing – A motion by Fruetel, seconded by McCarthy, to close the Public Hearing on the wellhead protection plan at 5:39 p.m. Motion carried
Reconvene Regular City Council Meeting – A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by Hopp, to reconvene the regular city council meeting 5:40 p.m. Motion carried
Cosmos Wellhead Protection Plan – A motion by Hopp, seconded by McCarthy, to accept the Cosmos Wellhead Protection Plan. Motion carried
2021 General Fund Budget Overview – Administrator Douville reviewed the changes in the 2021 General Fund Budget. City Councilmembers asked staff to increase the proposed park capital improvement budget from $21,000 to $35,000. There may be potential to do park improvements yet in 2020 with the 2021 budgeted funds to replace the use of reserves if those projects happen in 2020.
Mosquito Spraying - A motion by Hopp, seconded by Fruetel, to publish an article about mosquito spraying in the September and October Gazette. Motion carried**.**
Resolution 20_06 Increase Fire Relief Annual Benefit to $1,400 - A motion by Hopp, seconded by Fruetel, approve of the annual fire relief retirement benefit to increase from $1,300 per year of service to $1,400 per year of service. In addition, the safety funding ratio is to be increased to 135% from 125% to protect the City of Cosmos taxpayers. Motion carried**.**
Seasonal Employment - A motion by McCarthy, seconded by Fruetel, to hire Mason Studemann for seasonal help at $10/hour. Motion carried**.**
Utility Locator - A motion by Hop, seconded by McCarthy, to purchase a new utility locator for $4,993 net of trade in. Motion carried**.**
CARES Funding - A motion by Hop, seconded Van Hatten, to share $5,000 of the city's CARE funding with ACGC to provide remote learning for the 2020/21 school year. Motion carried**.**

Motion to Adjourn - A motion by Van Hatten, seconded by McCarthy, to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried.

_____DRAFT_____
John A. Douville, Administrator/Clerk

2020 Meeker County Mail Ballot Procedures

Voting in these locations will be entirely by mail ballot for both the Primary and General Elections.

Cedar Mills City & Township **Darwin Township** **Harvey Township**
Cosmos City & Township **Ellsworth Township** **Kingston City**
Danielson Township **Forest City Township**

- **Ballots will automatically be mailed to all registered voters in these mail ballot precincts.**
- **You may verify your registration status on line at www.mnvotes.org**
- **The ballots will not be forwarded to a temporary address.**
- **If you are not a registered voter, no ballot will automatically be mailed.**

Eligible voters not pre-registered by July 21st at 5 p.m. may request an absentee ballot application by one of the following methods:

- On line at www.mnvotes.org
- By phone: 320-693-5212
- By mail or in person: **Meeker County Auditor's Office, 325 N Sibley Ave., Litchfield MN 55355**

All ballots may be returned to the Meeker County Auditor's Office:

- By mail Prepaid postage return envelope is included when ballots are mailed
- Delivered in person by voter
- Delivered by designated agent Limited to three returned ballots and subject to I.D. verification

- Unfortunately, we are not allowed to accept ballots left in "drop boxes".
- Ballots hand delivered must be received no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted.
- Ballots returned via the United Postal Service must be postmarked on or before August 11th, 2020, and received no later than Thursday August 13, 2020.

Normal business hours for the Meeker County Auditor's Office are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended hours for mail ballot voting, in-person drop off, voter assist terminal or absentee voting for non-registered voters:

Statewide Primary Election: Saturday, August 8, 2020 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Monday, August 10, 2020 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Voters with disabilities or other special needs may access a voter assist terminal to mark their ballot. If you wish to vote in person, you may bring your ballot to the Auditor's Office. Officials are available at this location to assist with questions. The return envelope must be completed as directed and signed by the voter. For the Primary Election, a witness is not required for registered voters.

Meeker County Auditor's Office, 325 N Sibley Avenue, Litchfield MN 55355 320-693-5212



Help for Kids who Stutter is as Close as Your Library

Kids who stutter have a lot to say, and friends can show them how in Stuttering: For Kids By Kids, a DVD in English and Spanish starring kids who stutter, available at most public libraries or through interlibrary loan.

Many children who stutter have never met others who struggle with the same disability. In this DVD from the Stuttering Foundation, they meet kids who recount how they handle challenges such as teasing, speaking out in class, and teaching others about stuttering.

Swish, a lively and engaging animated basketball character designed by students at Purdue University, narrates the DVD. The children, who range in age from first-graders to high school students, offer frank and sometimes differing views of stuttering.

For example, Matthew, age 10, says about his speech difficulties, "It's no big deal;" but Kate, age 9, worries about talking, what is going to happen next and whether or not she'll stutter. Arianne, age 14, says, "The hardest part about stuttering is to get through it and to stay in there when you're stuck."

Umang, age 12, agrees, "Sometimes it gets kind of annoying when you want to say something and you can't. I also get worried what other people might think if I do stutter and wonder if I'll be able to get out of my blocks and things."

"All those interested in helping kids learn more about stuttering will want to see this tape," said speech-language pathologist Bill Murphy of Purdue University. "The children featured are a perfect example of how to openly and honestly handle stuttering." "This is an important tool for families and teachers of kids who stutter," added Jane Fraser, president of the nonprofit Stuttering Foundation.

Other professionals and specialists in stuttering in this production include Kristin Chmela of Northwestern University, Joe Donaher of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Lisa Scott of Florida State University, and Lee Caggiano of Friends.

The 73-year-old nonprofit Foundation has provided free materials to public libraries nationwide. For more info, go to stutteringhelp.org.

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Email The Galactic Gazette: wordnut66@outlook.com

The Galactic Gazette
350 Neptune St. North
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Editor: Mark Minnick
Reporter for the ACGC Falcon Flyover: LeAnn Melberg
"Chef It Up" contributor: Grace Kamrath
"Tidbits" column: Rick Nordin
Behind the scenes dirty work: Delores Arndt
(and puts up with Bob besides, whew!)

A non-profit monthly publication, mailed to the local residents free every month.

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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.

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Advertising prices per monthly issue

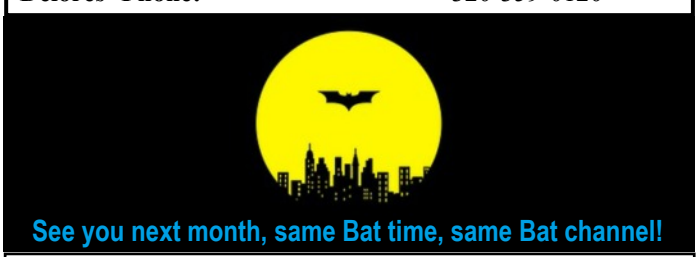
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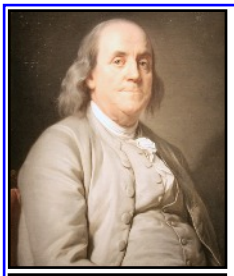
We will do announcements, thank you's, open houses, bridal showers, etc. Use above pricing and decide how big you want your announcement to be.

-Contact Methods-

E-mail: wordnut66@outlook.com
E-mail for Falcon Flyover: leannmelberg@gmail.com
Ground Mail: The Galactic Gazette, 350 Neptune St N, Cosmos, MN 56228
Mark's Phone: 320-220-1081
Delores' Phone: 320-359-0120



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".



"Poor Richard"
Spiritually Channeled Editor Extraordinaire
"We follow his advice."

Letters to the EDITOR

When you say, "Go fly a kite!"
We reply, "OK...is it storming yet?"

Hi Mark:

Just had to tell you how much I enjoyed reading the Galactic Gazette. You are clever as ever and your article about Ole was right on! I could just hear him speaking with the voice of complaint, polished off with a few cusswords!

I also have to mention that the publishing is excellent-so eye-catching, great variety and witty, fun things to read. You're very talented and I'm sure all of Cosmos appreciates your efforts.

Have a decent weekend,
Val (Ryti) Cunningham



We only have to award one KewPie doll this month. Sharp eyed reader Karen Adams of Cosmos, noticed the youngster in the photo as her and hubby Doug's daughter Shari. Here's her email submission.

"That sure looks like our daughter, Shari (Adams) Frisbie. Learned in a lot in those 4-H days!" **Karen Adams**



SHARI ADAMS with her State Fair trip for Lawn and Landscape Design and Plant and Soil Science. She is a member of the Cosmos Comets Club.

From the Cosmos Legion Family

Have a Happy and Safe Labor Day Holiday!

The Cosmos Legion Family had a great evening out, during their annual Membership Sign-Up. Dinner hosts, Mug Shots Bar & Grill, provided the group with great atmosphere and good food, as usual. Afterwards, the members' consensus was, "A good time was had by all."



Joyce Radloff received a **50 Year Auxiliary Membership Award** presented by Yvonne Schroeder.

Cosmos Legion Family

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