

The Victoria GAZETTE



"A love affair with news and paper."

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A Centerfold of City Scoop

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These Forty Years!

by Sue Orsen/ The Victoria Gazette

Milestones

In recognizing previous milestones of the Victoria Gazette over these past 40 years, I featured on my front pages a detailed history of the paper's first ten years ("My Baby is Ten" in 1989), people who print the Gazette and prepare it for mailing ("A Pressing Occasion" in 2004), and the Gazette's regular columnists and contributors ("With Heart and Soul, Thanks for Thirty" in 2009).

Not long ago, as I celebrated the completion of my project to scan every issue of the Victoria Gazette into searchable pdf's (beginning with Issue #1 in June 1979), I wrote an encompassing history of the paper for the December 2015 issue. I entitled that feature story "A Christmas Gift from Sue@VictoriaGazette.com."

That gift to the public has not materialize, however, as I continue to vacillate on just what to do with those precious pdf files. Indeed, I could publish them today in the archive section of my website as a gift to any and all, but for now they remain in my personal care.

I suspect one day I'll give them to the Carver County Library System, the Carver County Historical Society Museum, the Minnesota Historical Society Museum, the U.S. Library of Congress, maybe others.

I suggest there is not another history like it because there's not another newspaper like the Victoria Gazette. At least that's what people tell me. The Gazette is both big and little, you see. It's a microcosm of life and yet larger than life.

An Historical Index

In the meantime, those pdf's are of immense value to me as I work on this newspaper every day. I can easily search 40 years' worth of the Gazette's written record of Victoria and find anything or anyone that's ever appeared on any of its thousands of printed pages. It's quite remarkable.

To explain a bit further, a "Portable Document Format" looks just like the paper you're holding. Many of the pdf's look better than the original publication because they're not dependent on paper or ink quality or the workings of a physical printing press. The pdf pages don't get worn or torn from turning them. They don't get yellowed from sunlight or develop creases and folds from storage in a file cabinet. And they're "portable." It doesn't take a semi-truck to move them from here to there.

My pdf's all fit onto one big little thumb drive. They are like an elaborate index at my fingertips. They give me a convenient and ready access to details and facts that might otherwise escape me in my workaday world.

This amazing historical index includes personal front page stories about the first residents dating back to Victoria's earliest days of the 1850's, since I've interviewed many of their children and grandchildren.



I've personally interviewed and written the life stories of Victoria people who were born in the late 1800's plus several others who were born at the turn of that century.

Life stories of Victoria residents continue to be featured in the Gazette to this day, although folks with historical lineage in the community are now in the minority. So many old-timers have passed on, yet live forever in the pages of the Gazette.

I believe it's mainly these personal front page stories that differentiate the Victoria Gazette from other papers. Over these 40 years, the Gazette tells the story of the Victoria community through the very words and memories of its generations, who speak of their lives, in detail. I fold it together for them and for you, the reader.

The Centennial Year

The Gazette's written and published history of Victoria also relates the story of a pioneer settlement that became a village that became an incorporated city. As part of the City of Victoria's Centennial Celebration, each 2015 Gazette feature began: "In This Centennial Year." When I use the word *feature*, I mean the panoramic narrative on my front pages.

As such, one month in 2015, I visited, interviewed, and featured Victoria's very first city administrator. It revealed a chapter of this community through the voice of a resident who also sat at the city desk.

In that centennial year, I featured and found photos and wrote about the tenure of all the mayors of Victoria, from the beginning. A list of the mayors wasn't elsewhere available, and people's memories weren't conclusive or chronological, and so it meant time perusing the miserable microfiche files at the Carver County Historical Museum and researching original City of Victoria records that I found at the Minnesota Historical Museum. In addition, I combed through the few old documents that were available at Victoria City Hall.

I was also privileged in that centennial year to interview and feature direct descendants of the original Victoria settlers. I entitled that personal and historical story, "Dancing with the Diethelms."

Forty Years of Features

Over these 40 years, I featured the Victoria Fire Department in 1981 ("Our Friends the Firemen"), in 2002 ("When the Siren Sings"), in 2006 ("Fire and Water"), and, most significantly, in 2013 ("The Victoria Firemen of 100 Years Ago").

The Victoria Fire Department was founded in 1913, two years before the City of Victoria was incorporated. In the 2013 feature story, I wrote about each of the 19 original Victoria firefighters and where they lived and worked. Such information is not found in written minutes but in memories of old-timers as recorded in the early archives of the Victoria Gazette. Most all of those first firemen were business people in downtown Victoria, and I included several historical photos of those 1913 businesses.

I continue to regularly feature the Fire Department's Annual Fishing Contests and Annual Open Houses.

Over these 40 years, I featured the Victoria Lions' 15th anniversary in 1981 ("It's Great to be a Lion"), their 20th anniversary in 1986 ("It's Grand to be On Hand"), the 30-year history of their tournament weekend in 1999 ("One Giant Step"), and their 50th anniversary in 2016 ("Victoria Lions 50 Years Later").

I continue to regularly feature Lions events, especially the softball tournament since it's the largest and only three-day community event in Victoria.

Over these 40 years, I featured Victoria business people and businesses like the Notermann Store, Victoria Lumber, HEI, Victoria Dinner Theater, the Schmid Bros., the Victoria Cafe, Leuthner Well, Old Town Saloon, Leo's Bar, Lake Auburn Home for the Aged, the Victoria Dairy Queen, Tony's Tavern, Mount Olivet Rolling Acres, Schmitt's, Victoria Farms, Pirate's Cove, Victoria Auto Body, Hartman Construction, MABSCCO Step Group Home, Victoria State Bank, Emerald Crest, Victoria Repair Shop, Deer Run, Kid Talk, Floyd's Bar, Cabin Fever, the Victoria House, Victoria Bar and Grill, the Apple Farm, Victoria Care Center, Marsh Lake Hunting Club, Hartman Tree Farm, Carver Park Reserve, Lowry Nature Center, Storms & Alpaugh,

The Blessing House, Fresh Seasons Market, Victoria Flats, Winchester & Rye.

Over these 40 years I featured Victoria churches and pastors including Lake Auburn Moravian, Faith Lutheran and Pastor Arnold Lemke, Fr. Agnellus Sobolewski, Fr. Robert Schmiege, St. Victoria Catholic, Fr. Elstan Coghill, Christ Victorious Lutheran and Pastor Larry Bell, Pastor Graham West, Fr. Conran Schneider, Fr. Landelin Robling, Pastor Frank Jones, Sister Rolaine Diethelm, Fr. Bob White, Fr. Butch Rowan, Fr. Brennan Schmiege, Fr. Fred Schneider, Fr. Larry Blake, Pastor Susan Plocher Thomas, Waterbrooke Fellowship, Pastors Bill and Maureen Bonner, Pastor Brian Dixon, Fr. Bernardine Hahn, Pastors Bill Monday, Eric Youngdahl, and Kevin Dibbley, and Pastor Gail Berger.

Over these 40 years, I featured every candidate who stepped forward to run for the Victoria City Council. I estimate those candidates to be nearly 100 in number.

Over these 40 years, I featured nearly every Touch of Bavaria, Concert in the Park, Classic Car Night, Victoria Volksfest, and Downtown Victoria Halloween Party.

Over these 40 years, I featured Groundbreakings (Victoria Elementary School), Grand Openings (Victoria Field House/Rec Center), Dedications (Holy Family High School), and many more.

Over these 40 years, I featured Victoria organizations that no longer exist, like the Victoria Concert Band, the Victoria Commercial Club, the Victoria Chamber of Commerce, and the Victoria Senior Center.

Beyond the Front Page

Most prominent within the inside pages of each Gazette is the centerfold of city scoop. Over these 40 years, I've written and reported much, if not most, of what is said and done at Victoria City Council meetings. I estimate those meetings to be nearly 1,000 in number. Plus workshops.

I've photographed and given space to most businesses that participated in the former Victoria Business Expos and Discover Victoria Days. As new businesses have come into town, I've tried to stop by, meet them, and introduce them in the Gazette.

I continue to give inside space and voice to residents through the "Victoria Moments" pages. I unabashedly include a myriad of notes and letters from residents as well as readers beyond Victoria. And I gratefully accept the writings of tenacious and talented columnists and others who contribute with heart and soul.

Beyond the front page of this 40th anniversary edition of the Gazette, I've included pdf's of past front pages -- not all 480 front pages, just some of those featuring people who have died since I sat in their homes, getting to know them, enjoying them, and writing their life stories.

These 40 years have gone by very fast. God bless Victoria and all those who grace the pages of the Victoria Gazette.

Some featured life-stories from 1980 to 1983

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. Art Director: Beth Leubner. October 1980. Issue Number 17.

THE CARDS WERE DEALT RIGHT

Being married for 65 years is cause for celebration and a feature story in the Gazette. John and Helen Schneider were honored couple in our community...



Joe and Anna Schneider, John's parents, in about 1935.

Then we got a truck. It had hard rubber tires. I guess I liked it there. I worked there enough years, I like people in the woods...

John Schneider, a partner with John Hotsmann, retired from Hotsmann's in 1977. He finished furniture and gardening became hobbies for John at that time...



John and Helen Schneider, in 1958.

John Schneider home, built in 1915.

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. Art Director: Beth Leubner. December 1980. Issue Number 19.

A TWO HORSE OPEN SLEIGH

There may have been two horses instead of one on that open sleigh and perhaps I single bells jingling. Oh, what fun it is to ride...



The Williams' two horse open sleigh.

Brother of Mrs. Williams, William Van Sloan, and the sturdy Belgians that went dashing through the snow with 11 kids in an open sleigh.

Hank said that his mother had to do a lot of baking, anyway. We had chicken, potatoes, meat, and...



Hank and Agnes Williams in their home with a proud display of their children, grown and great children.

Hank and his brothers and sisters. From left, Henry, Lydia, Gertrude, and Leonard. Anna, Joe, Mary, Josephine, Rose, Sophie, and Helen.

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. Art Director: Beth Leubner. February 1981. Volume 2 Issue 2.

CUPID PLAYS FOSSUM

Valentine's Day is for the young romantic. Mr. and Mrs. Hank Fossom, our Valentine's Couple, are romantics who are young at heart.



Hank and Pearl's wedding day, June 8, 1926.

right business and Pearl's car was at the right garage! "I had got out of the navy in January of 1946, said Hank. The bar was for sale and we decided to buy it."

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. February 1982. Volume 3 Issue 2.

HEARTS FOR THE HARTMANN'S

The Gazette is proud to announce its second annual Valentine's Couple, Math and Gladys Hartmann. It's a loving community, someone once said...



Math and Gladys Hartmann, Valentine's Couple.

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. March 1982. Volume 3 Issue 3.

A MAN FOR THE SEASON

Victoria has officially opened the winter season by recognizing its White Tornado, Whyte Wellens.



Whyte Wellens, recipient of Victoria's White Tornado award.

These years he worked for Karl Thiede at the Meat Market (now Victoria Liquors). He was also in the Victoria Civic Band and was a member of the Victoria Lions Club...

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. July 1982. Volume 3 Issue 7.

END OF AN ERA Nushie and the Nickle Beer

When Floyd Nushie's brother, Walter 'Bud' Schmid, bought the bar in 1946, you could get a glass of beer for 15¢. Bud and Nushie lasted longer at the bar than the nickle beer.



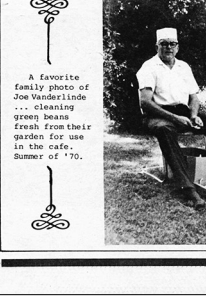
Floyd Nushie in 1942 with his navy cap, and '37 Ford.

any case, after his long history at Schmid Bros. Bar, he sold it to Nushie. The bar has been in the family for almost 60 years. Nushie and Bud bought it from their Uncle Ray Schmid...

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. August 1982. Volume 3 Issue 8.

Catherine and the Cafe.

You've got to work hard and you've got to work for yourself. You can't expect anybody else to do it for you. You can't expect anybody else to work as hard as you do.



Catherine Vanderlinde in her cafe kitchen.

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. January 1983. Volume 4 Issue 1.

The Fishing is Always Good!

If Elmer Klatt of Victoria was to make a New York resolution for 1983, it would probably be to fry one less hamburger in his ice shanty this winter and catch one more fish.



Elmer Klatt, a fisherman.

Free Issue! The Victoria Gazette. Publisher: Scott McChlain. Editor: Sue Orsen. February 1983. Volume 4 Issue 2.

OUR VANDERLINDE VALENTINES

Valentine's Day? Oh, yes, she always gets a valentine and some box of candy. Mary quite said that she gives Ed a valentine's card after almost 40 years of marriage...



Ed and Mary Vanderlinde, July 6, 1943.

Ed was taken over the service and told that he was in California asked if Mary could help. He was married in 1943. Mary had a 1942 Ford. "I'm sure I'll never forget that."



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . . Sue@VictoriaGazette.com

To the Editor:

I love your heartwarming, yet informative and honest paper. I apologize for missing annual payments. I hope you continue doing the Gazette. I realize it's been a very difficult year.

I am curious about a letter you received from people who had sold their home and stored their furnishings and bought a camper to find their new location. I would love to hear from them as Jim and I are now entering into a new chapter of our lives, too. God bless you, Sue.

*Linda and Jim Flannery
Shorewood, Minnesota*



EDITOR'S NOTE: If you email me, I can put you in touch. I know they've since sold their camper and purchased another home.

To the Editor:

Hi, Sue. Thank you for the paper. Really enjoy reading it. I love the column written by Mike Wartman. It is always a pleasure to read. Great paper. Keep on sending it. Found the fishhook on page 12 in the Ridgeview ad. Thanks again.

*Eileen Koehnen
Excelsior, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

My heart goes out to you and your family for the loss of your dear mother, especially now, with Mother's Day here. When you wrote about her, I felt I almost knew her, too, because our moms had so much in common. Being home in heaven now must truly be one of those things. We lost my sweet mom on January 17th, 2009. She would have been 100 years old on January 21st, 2009. A long and beautiful life.

Have a Blessed and Happy Mother's Day, Sue, and my thanks for your great Victoria Gazette. Take care.

*Pat Leonard
Eden Prairie, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

Minnesota has been recognized as the third best state in the country by U.S. News & World Report. The Best States rankings evaluate all 50 states across a range of criteria including education, healthcare, infrastructure, and the economy.

Minnesota is the only state to rank in the top three every year since 2017, when U.S. News began ranking Best States. The state did particularly well in the categories of natural environment (#3) and opportunity (#3). The new rankings are available in the online magazine.

*Teddy Tschann, Communications
State of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

Carver County Sheriff Jason Kamerud is proud to announce the results of the 16th Medicine Take Back Initiative Program. The Carver County Sheriff's Office reached the milestone collection of over 15,000 pounds of unwanted medicines and drugs!

The event on April 27th was sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration in Hamburg, Cologne, and Norwood. The permanent sites in Chaska, Chanhausen, and Waconia collected 1,660 pounds. The collections are then transported to a registered site for destruction.

This program is a partnership between the DEA, Carver County Public Health, Carver County Office of Aging, Carver County Attorney's Office, Carver County Sheriff's Office TRIAD, the cities in Carver County and the Carver County Sheriff's Office, all working together to keep our community safe.

*Tamera Froemming, Communications
Carver County Sheriff's Office
Chaska, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

I had the privilege of knowing Ethel Ausink as a neighbor and respected friend during some of her time in Victoria. Ironically, the awesome sweet lady who lived across the street ultimately provided the house that my eldest son moved into years later. I'll never forget the fresh baked bread to thank us for helping clear a driveway or for my Christmas lights. Ethel provided numerous interesting and thought provoking columns to the Gazette, and her commentary was welcome perspective.

As someone who lived for over a century, her insights were of significance and merit. They challenged us all to become better citizens. God bless Ethel and her contributions to our fair city.

*Tim Amundsen
Victoria, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

State Representative Greg Boe (R-Chaska) has accepted an appointment to serve on a legislative conference committee for this year's Legacy finance bill. The Legacy bill allocates sales tax revenue generated by Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment, which was added to Minnesota's Constitution after voters passed it into law in the 2008 general election.

The proceeds from this constitutionally dedicated sales tax revenue must be used for clean water, parks, and trails, arts, and cultural heritage projects.

The Legacy Amendment raised the state sales tax by three-eighths of 1% and diverts that portion to support Minnesota's outdoors, environmental, and cultural causes. The tax generates around \$900 million biennially.

*Mitch Wollin, Communications,
MN House of Representatives
St. Paul, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

In April, Senator Scott Jensen (R-Chaska) was appointed to the Attorney General's Task Force on Lowering Pharmaceutical Drug Prices. He was chosen over 100 candidates and is now one of 15 members of the panel. Recently, he was elected co-chair of the Task Force alongside Nicole Smith-Holt and is enthusiastic about the chance to make a difference.

The Task Force has several questions to address: How can we make sure that diabetics get their insulin? Is it acceptable that 60-second TV advertisements promoting incredibly expensive medications do not adequately educate consumers about potentially deadly side effects?

Why do U.S. citizens pay up to 10 times more for medications than people in neighboring countries? How do we stop pharma companies from buying the rights to a generic drug and then within a few short months raising the cost by a thousand percent?

*Lilly Abbott, Communications
Minnesota State Senate
St. Paul, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

I am asking you to make every effort to connect with your House member or members by going to public meetings where they will appear, inviting them to visit your editorial staff, or dropping by their offices to discuss issues with their staffs.

We are anxiously awaiting new legislation to save the Postal Service. As USPS continues to lose money, its downward spiral gets ever worse. A major bump in the economy could accelerate its losses so the delivery of mail would be at risk.

Congress has delayed addressing these issues for nearly a decade. It has primarily been hung up on partisan issues, even though a strong partnership between Democrats and Republicans in the House has continued to work at the committee level.

We expect any day now a new bill that would give USPS some breathing room. We know longer term solutions will be necessary. But as long as Congress drags its feet to pass the short term legislation addressing a Medicare problem, USPS continues to plummet into an ever-deepening pool of red ink.

*Andrew Johnson, President
National Newspaper Association
Pensacola, Florida*

EDITOR'S NOTE: A pool of red ink? Maybe the USPS should use some of that red ink to redraw zip code boundaries and help support small cities. Nobody cares, you say? You're right. I learned it's a lost cause, which explains a lot of things.

To the Editor:

When you first heard that four men had joined together to found a new Catholic high school in the southwest metro area, you began sending Joe the Victoria Gazette. Through their hard work, and the work of many others, Holy Family opened their doors in the fall of 2000.

Over the years, Joe enjoyed reading your paper and the expanding knowledge it gave him of the Victoria area. Joe passed away last summer, so he will no longer be reading the paper. Thank you for so many years of the gift of your newspaper.

*Gayle Morin
Chanhausen, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

On May 17th, the Minnesota House of Representatives unanimously passed a bill to remove an existing moratorium in place on hospitals in Carver County.

Specifically, this bill will allow Ridgeview Medical Center to expand its inpatient program in its Waconia hospital by 23 additional beds. This does not reflect an increase in the volume of the number of licensed beds beyond those approved by the Minnesota Legislature and does not create a new hospital license.

Ridgeview had previously been allocated the use of the 20 licensed beds by the legislature in 2003, but due to regulatory restrictions was not able to use them in the most efficient manner.

Said Representative Jim Nash (R-Waconia), "This is great news for our community and Ridgeview Medical Center. It will result in more patients from the Southwest Metro and the immediate area can be treated at this fantastic facility. It will also create new nursing jobs, support jobs, and facility jobs for our community. Bills like this are proof we can work together to get things done for communities across our state."

The bill also passed the Senate unanimously. It will now be sent to the governor for his signature.

*George Damian, Communications
MN House of Representatives
St. Paul, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

Hi, Sue. Heidi Hoks and I presented on the State of the Library at the May 13th Victoria City Council meeting. Let me know if you'd like to see the Power Point, which has a few numbers and lots of pix.

*Patrick Jones, Branch Manager
Carver County Library System*

To the Editor:

Hi, Sue. I just learned that we only receive one copy of the Gazette and we would love to feature it for our guests at both locations. Can you please add both locations to your distribution list? Thanks.

*Sara Summers Johnson
Regarding Dentistry
Waconia and Victoria, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

Thank you so much for the continued opportunity to include our library submissions to the Gazette. I have enjoyed working with you. Victoria has been a wonderful community to serve. I am passing the torch to Patrick Jones for your July issue. Thanks again.

*Jodi Edstrom
Victoria Youth Services Librarian*

To the Editor:

Xcel Energy announced plans on May 20th to retire its last two coal plants in the Upper Midwest a decade earlier than scheduled. The acceleration of the coal closures is another milestone in the company's clean energy transition that includes expanding wind and solar, using cleaner natural gas and operating its carbon-free Monticello nuclear plant until at least 2040.

The plan outlines a path to make the transition while ensuring reliability and keeping costs low for customers. As part of this plan, the company has reached an agreement with a coalition of environmental and labor organizations on key elements of the plan relating to its coal, solar, and natural gas plans.

These plans are part of the proposed Upper Midwest Energy Plan, which the company will submit for approval to the MN Public Utilities Commission in July. If approved, the plan would lead to a more than 80% reduction in carbon emissions in the region by 2030, compared to 2005, a key stepping stone toward the company achieving its vision to provide customers 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050.

*Randy Fordice
Xcel Media Relations
Minneapolis, Minnesota*

To the Editor:

Condolences to the Ray Tschimperle and Charlie Johnson families. My mom babysat both Ray and Charlie. My mom was a telephone operator in the 1940's and so was Ray's mom Julia. Ray's dad, Matt, was killed in World War II so Julia invited Mom to stay by her and her four kids. Mom sometimes helped do farm chores, look after the kids, do laundry. There was no such thing then as daycare.

Mom babysat another young chap from Chaska, Bob Welter. When Mom and Dad married in 1947, Bob's mom Bernice helped serve the meal. They had a private meal on the farm and public dance at the ballroom in Waconia. Dad was just discharged from the Army in 1946. Mom's sister Franny Schmiege and Dad's sister Ethel were her attendants. Dad's brother Richard and Mom's brother Richard were Dad's attendants.

There are seven left of Mom's family and eight left of Dad's family. Happy Dad's Day to all the dads.

*Fondly,
Kay Meuwissen
Richfield, Minnesota*



FROM THE EDITOR

Two books plus two movies added sugar and spice to my life in recent weeks as the four productions enhanced my vision and verve.

Last week I ordered from Amazon Books the brand new novel, *Watermelon Seeds* by Fred Plocher, former next door neighbor here in Victoria when our kids were little. Now we only see him and Mary Sue in the summer when they return to visit from their base home in Arizona.

I read *Watermelon Seeds* in a couple days, intermittently, taking time out to eat and sleep. I didn't want the book to end for the same reason that some people tune into soap operas day after day. You get interested in the characters and you want to know what happens next.

In this book, which is a sequel to *Stealing Watermelons* published in 2014, we meet up again with the Watermelon Gang -- Bjorn, Ozzie, Pope, and Shu. If you didn't meet them in Fred's first book, that's okay. *Watermelon Seeds* can stand totally alone.

I don't use the term "soap opera" flippantly, for Fred's books do deal with daily events in the lives of the same group of characters and with their emotional relationships. This second book is replete with surprises and unexpected turns, which is partly why it's such a page turner.

The other reason it's a page turner for me is that I know the author and I imagine his imagination at work. Also, I know some places he writes about in Victoria, Waconia, Chaska, Excelsior, and other local venues. Plus, I think I've met some of his characters! But did you ever hear of Parley Lake Moravian Church?

Thank you, Fred, for giving me a break from Gazette and homemaking tasks for some hours. Good book title, *Watermelon Seeds* -- Tuan, Aana, Nick, Danny -- children of the Watermelon Gang.

The second book that got my attention in May was *Sit, Stay, Pray: Lina Speaks Again* by Robin Kelleher. Actually, the book hasn't hit the streets yet, but it will soon be available. I had read Robin's first book, *Lina Unleashed: A Dog's Life with a Difficult Momma*, when it was published in 2017, and Robin sent me a sample of her second book. I loved it.

Robin is a friend through our daughter Jenny and her husband Christopher. Plainly put, Chris calls her Aunt Robin! Her second book is funnier than the first. I like that you can put it down whenever you want and pick it up again without missing a woof, as Robin would say.

Although *Sit, Stay, Pray* is a sequel to *Lina Unleashed*, it too can stand totally alone. Robin's books are written with the voice of Lina, her Toy Australian Shepherd who happens to be the love of Robin's life.

Lina relishes being the mastermind on the end of her leash, while "Momma" doesn't mind being seen as the mindless one at the other end. The humor is clever and contagious, especially as the self-deprecating Momma takes us romping through fences in the pasture of political correctness.

Sit, Stay, Pray is a hilarious dog-gie-drama that teaches and triumphs. Thank you, Robin, for putting smiles on my face at every turn of the page.

Unplanned is the first movie we saw at a theater in quite some time, and it was worth the wait. Although the movie was most likely preaching to the choir (only the choir would make a point of seeing it), I've always said people should never forget to also address the choir, for the choir can always improve its voice in hearing

the perfect pitch of truth.

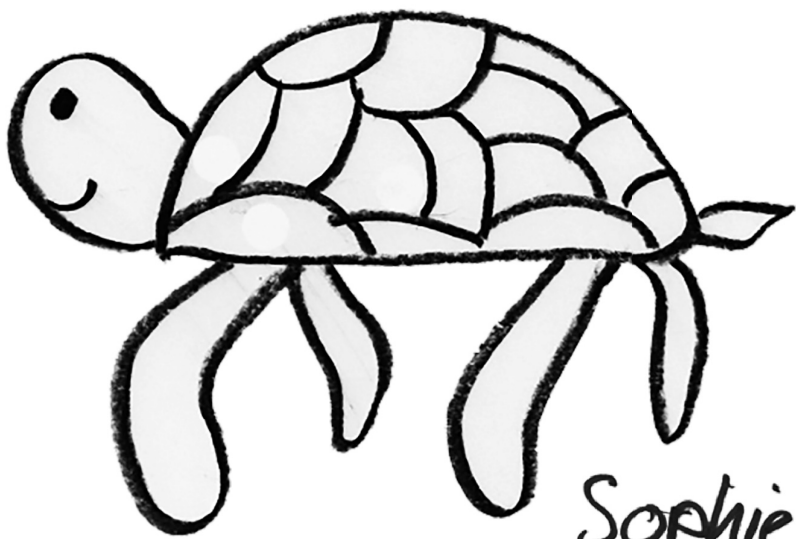
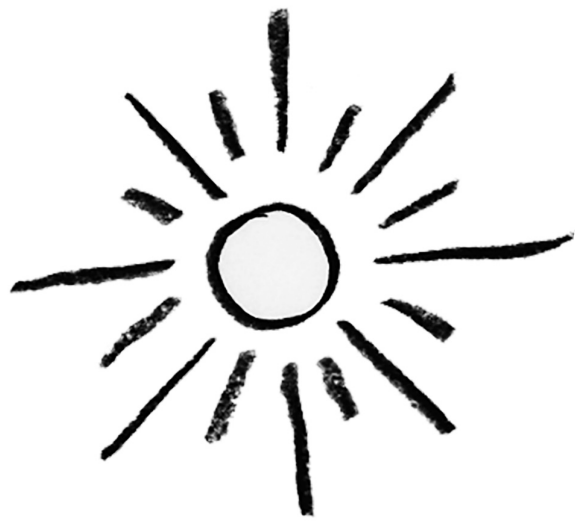
I learned that *Unplanned* is a true story based on the memoir by Abby Johnson. For a long time Abby worked for Planned Parenthood and was even promoted to director. Her parents and her husband didn't want her working at an abortion place, but Abby thought she was helping people.

Then she happened to see an ultrasound and witnessed the reaction of a baby in the womb as it tried to escape the instrument that ripped it apart. The horrible truth of abortion was evident. Abby left her job and became active in the pro-life cause to keep babies alive.

The movie *Breakthrough* is another amazing true story, also viewed basically by the choir, I suspect. It's about Brian and Joyce Smith and their son John who fell through the ice and drowned. Under water for 15 minutes, John was rescued by firefighters but efforts to revive him failed, and he was dead for 45 minutes, as definitively pronounced by hospital doctors and staff.

However, John's mother believed in the power of prayer and, in fact, prayed her son back to life. You've got to see it to believe it. Well, either that or you've got to sing with the choir and believe in the power of prayer.

Sue



Sophie

June 2019



The Editor's Favorite Quotes in the Queue

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out."
A. Nonnie Mouse

"When Christians start to take up flags for secular "justice" and "equality" causes, we will fail as Christians by them, for none of us is equal to the other, and we are commanded to regard our brethren as greater than ourselves."
S.M. Hutchens

"Less Than or Equal to?" in *Touchstone*, May/June 2019.

"You cannot use reason to defeat people who deny what reason is. You cannot remind people of the wisdom of the past when they neither know the past nor care to know."
Anthony Esolen

"Deliver Us from Evil" in *Touchstone*, May/June 2019.

"Such things and deeds as are not written down are covered in darkness and given over to the sepulchre of oblivion, while those that are written down are like unto animate ones."
Ivan Bunin

"The Life of Arseniev" quoted in *First Things*, March 2019.

"It is amazing what can happen simply through a clear and courageous presentation of truth. It is important not to underestimate the power of truth."
Thomas Joseph White

"Letter to an Aspiring Priest" in *First Things*, March 2019.

"A desire for integrity is something other than idealism, something not easily won because it requires a sacrifice of the me-centered self for the sake of truth."
R.R. Reno

"While We're At It" in *First Things*, May 2019.

"Once we embark on truth-seeking rather than politically correct moral posturing and self-complimenting radicalism, we begin to ascend the ladder of love, and cultural and moral truths come clear in our minds."
R.R. Reno

"While We're At It" in *First Things*, May 2019.

"For those of us who are Christians, Scripture will shape our writing perhaps more comprehensively than we realize."
Robert Erle Barham

"Literary Light" in *Touchstone*, May/June 2018.

"You have to come out of your shell to love someone."
A. Nonnie Mouse



This Month's Deadline

Deadline for the July issue of the Gazette is Monday, June 24th. Email Sue@VictoriaGazette.com or use P.O. Box 387, Victoria, MN 55386. Thank you, always, for thinking of the Gazette.



The Victoria GAZETTE

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Dedicated to the sunshine of truth, the moonshine of meeting deadlines, and the starshine of Victoria.

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Cow Field of Dreams in Victoria



by Mike Wartman
Former Resident of Victoria

At this time of reading I am sure everyone is safely out of school and looking forward to the event of the season -- summer vacation -- at least the youthful readers of our favorite newspaper, the Victoria Gazette. (I need to get "Victoria" into the first few lines of each monthly submission or I run the risk of editorial sanction or banishment from these pages.)

The end of school from St. Victoria Catholic or Victoria Public meant the brains and minds were turned off until early September with no chance of being brought to life, aka Frankenstein style. This meant there was no kid brain activity in Victoria June through August, no neural transfer, no need for electroencephalography, and lots of basic brain dead. Except for baseball.

Despite my mediocre baseball skills and career, I continue to recall and reminisce my baseball days of glory and my mantra of "take me out to the ball game." And after all the fish were caught from Victoria lakes (June 1st to June 3rd) and all of the lawn mowed and gardens weeded (June 4th to 6th) and all the cigarettes raided from underneath the Ball Park's Grandstand or rifled from Victoria's non-supervised vending machines (June 7th to 9th), it was time to shift to baseball.

And I have chronicled previously that we played 24/7, resulting in a series of unbeaten Carver County Little League and Babe Ruth seasons which I know my teammates can recall. But baseball had some interesting side benefits for our lives as well.

In a complete con job, some of us were able to convince the nuns and priests that baseball cards were the equivalent literature value of *Catcher in the Rye* or *War and Peace* and could, therefore, be counted as an entire summer's worth of reading.

Who would have thought that reading the stats and minor league history of Rocky Colavito, the ERA of Ron Perranowski, or how many times Boog Powell struck out in his career (1,226) could count for a summer reading project?

In fact, we never read the cards at all as we destroyed our college tuitions and used the clothesline pins to attach our cards to the spokes of our bikes. Ah, what a sound as we tattered and tore our Pete Rose (\$717,000 value) or Nolan Ryan (\$626,000 recent price) rookie cards.

At least we didn't wreck our father's Ty Cobb Tobacco card (worth about a million bucks), which was probably buried in

some can in the garage or basement. Here's to all those priceless baseball cards we used in the bike spokes.

Baseball was responsible for our home away from home as we spent the fore mentioned 24/7 at Victoria's Ball Park and famed and fabled Green Monster Grandstand. (Sue, have you got a picture?)

Who needed an expensive northern Minnesota camp teaching canoe skills, bug identification, and campfire singing when we had a dirt baseball diamond and grass outfield to romp and play at?

The baseball playing itself may have tired after a few hundred innings and several thousand hastily scheduled home run derby expositions so we found additional baseball related activities to pass the time and to keep us away from the dread of home life.

There was a batting cage to climb on or to race around the diamond. There was an outfield of various green plants and weeds, rarely grass, to develop our flora identification skills that became invaluable in 5th and 6th grade Botany and Biology classes that the Victoria institutes of learning provided in the fall.

Chubby Aretz's adjacent cow pasture, always wet, provided plenty of fauna to observe in the form of cattle, frogs, and bugs as well as a playground of cow humps for racing and jumping. Who can possibly forget the childhood experience afforded by hopping from cow hump to cow hump and the danger of slipping into the manure drenched Cow Field of Dreams? All of this provided by baseball and only in Victoria.

I have previously chronicled exploits of adolescent obsession with tobacco products that were smoked at the Ball Park and Grandstand. Ditto with the minor obsession with adult temperance beverages that were procured from the coolers of Victoria's Concession Stand that for a brief moment in Victoria's history were not locked, allowing easy entry.

When locks did arrive, they were easily picked but we only borrowed a beer or two for the baseball team as to avoid future detection. Two beers were plenty at the time for 12 ballplayers. Cigarettes, cigars, and beer, all provided by baseball.

Major Baseball League is now obsessed in trying to get baseball games less than three hours as they think they are losing the youth to non-baseball pursuits. They may be wise to begin an anthropological examination of summer Victoria baseball of a bygone era. Three hours? We played 24/7. Go, Minnesota Twins! Go Victoria Vics! Baseball forever!



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My Scottish Grandfather

by Tom Abts
Deer Run Golf Pro



Sometimes it takes a while to understand the influences in our lives. I'm not a young man, and I'm finally realizing what an influence my Scottish grandfather had on my life. He's probably why I play golf.

I didn't understand golf until I went to college. I didn't understand a lot of things until I went to college. Not that I learned so much in classes. I had to learn more about reality because I was away from home. College is a pretty sheltered existence, but not as sheltered as living at home.

My grandfather had no patience for La La Land. He knew that life was hard and that you had to face it head on. Pretending things are not what they are only leads to bigger problems.

No wonder he loved golf. Talk about a reality check. You can't fake your way around the golf course.

He was from South Dakota, though he went to Wisconsin for college and law school. But he came back to South Dakota. He was as comfortable on the farm as he was in court. He was almost a cliché of his generation, in a good way. He was too young for World War I but served in World War II though he was in his forties. He relished work and responsibility.

His law office was downtown. He walked to work every day until he died at age 87. And he usually walked home for lunch with my grandmother. She was a tough Norwegian. These were strong people. They'd been through rough times, but they never talked about it. They couldn't imagine being a victim. You made the best of things and kept your dignity.

Their town had a little nine-hole golf course that they called "St. Andrews." I knew so little about golf that I thought St. Andrews was its real name.

My grandmother loved to needlepoint through she had the typical crippled arthritic hands of many Norwegians. But she proudly held the course record for fewest putts which she attributed to her needlepointing. When I took up golf and

complained about my putting, she would recommend needlepointing, which my brothers found hilarious.

My grandfather was a decent golfer -- pretty consistently shot in the 80s, even in his late seventies when I took up the game. He was pleased that I got serious about golf. He couldn't understand why I didn't want to play golf as a boy. We didn't really understand each other.

He thought I was a goofy city kid and I thought he was an out of touch old guy. I always tried to argue with him and couldn't get anywhere. He wouldn't let me start from a faulty premise or take huge leaps of logic. His insistence on reality drove me crazy.

However, when I took up golf and got serious about it, I started to understand the man. Golf wouldn't let me live in La La Land either. Getting good at golf takes a lot of baby steps. A lot. There is no magic wand. As Hogan said, you have to dig it out of the dirt.

My grandfather dug it out of the dirt every day. And he got good at life, step by step.

He could be fun too. He used to take me out into the country and drive fast, really fast. Sometimes I'd sit on his lap and hold the steering wheel (obviously he was still steering) and I thought I was steering. Now I get it. He wanted me to learn how to steer my life.

Golf is a great tool to learn how to take control of your life. All of his lessons of hard work, logic, and responsibility only made sense to me when I got into golf. I hope he knows.

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Some Featured Life-Stories from 1987 to 1989

The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
November 1987 Vol. 8 Issue 11

Oleda's Story

In 1861, the United States government sold 140+ acres to John Salter for \$120. The original plat was signed by President Abraham Lincoln. That acreage included what was to become downtown Victoria and it extended to include what is today the Dairy Queen and the Storms Repair Shop. Salter's farm also included what is now Victoria Circle, Kirke-Lachen and Salter's Park. There are no Salters left in the Victoria area to tell the story, but Oleda Gregory has the abstract showing the progressive sales of some Salter property over the last 110 years that tell the story.

It indicates the sale of 6.34 acres in 1881 to the Mississippi and St. Louis Railroad Company for \$500. It indicates the transfer of property to Salter descendants.

Oleda and her late husband, Frank Gregory, purchased 40 acres of the old Salter farm directly from descendant Albert Salter in 1944 for \$5,000. It included



The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
December 1987 Vol. 8 Issue 12

NO TIME TO BE OLD

By Sue Orsen
On a cold and silent winter's night, when the stars are so bright, Tony and Catherine meet in the Victoria find warmth in each other, in their friendship, their partnership, their marriage of 50 years.

When Tony and Catherine lived in each other in similar to the comfort and pleasure one finds slipping into an old, worn pair of shoes. But Tony doesn't see it that way. He is a shy and a bit worn man, but not old. He don't have time to be old. They love to walk about on mists a day, and they love to fly. Catherine gave him a balloon ride for his 45th anniversary, "You can see the meaning of life." They love to talk about the meaning of life. They love to talk about the meaning of life. "He'll say it's partly cloudy and I'll say it's partly sunny," smiles Catherine. "That's about how we've ever disagree." They love to hunt and cut down their own Christmas trees; this has been a family tradition for years. Kids of all ages join Gramps and Grandmama in their hunt. They love to talk about the meaning of life. They love to talk about the meaning of life. "He'll say it's partly cloudy and I'll say it's partly sunny," smiles Catherine. "That's about how we've ever disagree." They love to hunt and cut down their own Christmas trees; this has been a family tradition for years. Kids of all ages join Gramps and Grandmama in their hunt. They love to talk about the meaning of life. They love to talk about the meaning of life.



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The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
February 1988 Vol. 9 Issue 2

The Stuff of Romance

By Sue Orsen
Hank Gregory had the diamond ring in his pocket as he drove onto the Niccum place. When he and Winnie were finally alone, he maneuvered a position whereby one knee was on the floor and the other supported an elbow. "Would you marry me?" asked Hank. Winnie's answer was a devoted, "Yes."

Fortie visions are summoned from the gray matter and memories are awakened. Scenes of a younger, created on album pages visible in the mind's eye, but not faded. Such is the stuff of romance.

Hank and Winnie Gregory were married a long time ago in the days of silent movies and Saturday night concerts. Their courtship of two years -- in the late 1930s -- also included Sunday afternoon baseball games in Victoria.

They met on a date at the Victoria Hotel, 1917, to Anthony and Belle Arz. He grew up on a farm near Merras Lake, southwest of Victoria. Today that farm, once owned by an uncle's farm, is part of the Merras Lake Hunting Preserve.

There are some things, however, in which Tony and Catherine just don't take their cards. They don't watch television, except for the educational channel. "We don't do any of the things we're supposed to do," said Tony. "Some people might call us prudish, but we just don't see the need for it."

They don't eat three meals a day because two is enough. They don't do dancing. Never have it, they don't dance. "I used to smoke three packs of cigarettes a day," he said. "I smoked for 30 years. There's nothing more stubborn than an ornerly Dutchman."

"And we don't curse," he said. "I'd like to see you curse properly. My dad wouldn't say damn if his pockets were full of it." "In all my perfection," added Catherine, "there is a wart, but I can't remember what it is. Must be an old wart on me."



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The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
May 1988 Vol. 9 Issue 5

The Open Window

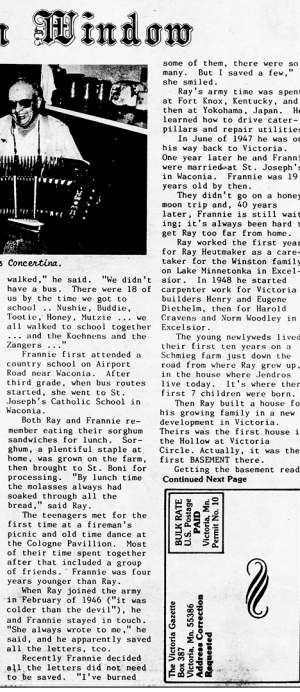
By Sue Orsen
Ray Schieff "tooled around" with a button accordion long before he bought his first concertina in 1977. How he got four concertinas and loves all of them.

Ray and his concertina are at home wherever there's a chair and a captive audience. Sometimes that's in the choir loft at St. Victoria Catholic Church, sometimes it's at a family picnic, but most of the time it's at the Schieff kitchen table.

Frances Schieff is happy that her husband's hobby has spread to her. It's a joy to have her husband so much enjoyment in his hobby.

Ray and his concertina are at home wherever there's a chair and a captive audience. Sometimes that's in the choir loft at St. Victoria Catholic Church, sometimes it's at a family picnic, but most of the time it's at the Schieff kitchen table.

Frances Schieff is happy that her husband's hobby has spread to her. It's a joy to have her husband so much enjoyment in his hobby.



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The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
September 1988 Vol. 9 Issue 9

A Good Way of Growing

By Sue Orsen
George Bender has spent most of his years in the soil in one way or another. It's the kind of work he likes.

Even today, at the age of 80, George Bender brings his own fertilizer and soil amendments to his garden. "Every tree has a different way of growing and maturing," he says. "You can see the difference. It is so amazing."

Those who have spent a lifetime working with soil, who have observed the growth of plants, trees and shrubs, who have provided their labor helps a living thing flourish.

In 1967 George retired from his job as Assistant Greens Superintendent at the Rialto Golf Course, a job he held for 18 years. "I can't believe I've been doing that machine so long, but I just can't sit in a rocking chair," he says.

George Bender is a man who has spent a lifetime working with soil. He has a deep understanding of plants and trees, and he has provided his labor helps a living thing flourish.



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The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
November 1988 Vol. 9 Issue 11

When 'Bud'ing Feedmills Blossomed

By Sue Orsen
In recent years, the Old Feedmill in Victoria has been home to a dinner theater, a Mexican restaurant, and a couple of other ventures. Today it stands vacant.

It was a real feedmill, used by Bud Larson, owner of the feedmill from 1940 to 1961. In those years, the feedmill fed hog feed, chicken feed, and pig feed. Ingredients such as protein were mixed in to enhance the feed. Separate feeds, as well as fertilizers, were also sold.

"I enjoyed it very much," says Bud. "Farmers are the best people in the world. I understand farmers."

Bud Larson, owner of the feedmill from 1940 to 1961, died in 1961. His son, Ted Larson, still owns the building and land on which it stands. About three years later, he had the building expanded to its present size.

According to Bud, the building was expanded to its present size. It was a real feedmill, used by Bud Larson, owner of the feedmill from 1940 to 1961.



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The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
December 1988 Vol. 9 Issue 12

A Man by the Lake

By Sue Orsen
It was Monday, November 11th, 1940. Archie Day, 27 years old then, lived with his parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Zanger, on a farm on Lake Vancouver about a mile west of Victoria.

"I was working in the cannery factory down in Sidska," Jerome recalled. "It was real work. At noon, when we went to lunch, it was snowing like everything. After work I had to get home so I stayed in Ocar's room. It really snowed."

By Friday night they had roads open as far as County Road 11. I worked my way up there on 11 and walked home. That was the worst storm I remember. Otherwise it usually only took a couple of days before they came with the snowfall.

"Our flock of geese and ducks were frozen in Lake Wasserman. They all died. Couldn't get them out. Non raised them from checks, from eggs under the house. It took four weeks for geese and ducks, three weeks for chick-



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The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
February 1989 Vol. 10 Issue 2

Wilfred + Inez

By Sue Orsen
When the love bug bit Wilfred Plocher, it bit hard. He was married to Inez for 23 years. He was a farmer. He was a man who loved his wife and his work.

Wilfred Plocher was a man who loved his wife and his work. He was a farmer. He was a man who loved his wife and his work. He was a man who loved his wife and his work. He was a man who loved his wife and his work.



Continued Next Page

The Victoria GAZETTE

Publisher-Editor: Sue Orsen
May 1989 Vol. 10 Issue 5

Making Hay While the Sun Shines

By Sue Orsen
As soon as the sun is a little higher in the sky and the earth has become a little greener, Tony Kerber will be busy making hay. He has been making hay for over 30 years.

There were nine of us, seven boys and two girls, when Tony and Inez Kerber first worked together. They were a team. They were a team. They were a team. They were a team.



Continued Next Page



Carver County Commissioner Randy Maluchnik spoke as part of an Infrastructure Panel in Washington DC. Photo courtesy of the National Association of Counties.

Carver County Update: Talking Infrastructure in DC

by Randy Maluchnik
Carver County Commissioner

Infrastructure Week In Washington DC

In mid May I had the opportunity to represent the County in Washington DC as part of the National Association of Counties "Infrastructure Week." It was a privilege to share with other counties nationwide about the great work being done to support Carver County's growing infrastructure needs as well as the challenges we face.

Counties Banding Together On Transportation Funding Resolution

Last month, the Association of Minnesota Counties created a transportation funding resolution for all counties to consider. To date, nearly 60% of Minnesota's counties have passed the resolution, including Carver County earlier this month.

There have been a few reoccurring questions and some erroneous assertions and conclusions appearing in social media and emails. I want to address some of those here.

The resolution is general, not political, and focused on the needs of the counties across the state. County engineers and commissioners working on the resolution relied upon information from the Transportation Finance Advisory Committee report, as well as numbers provided by MnDOT, to determine the need on both county highways and overall county road systems. That figure totals \$1.084 billion annually over the next 25 years.

We know this is a large number, but this accounts for only maintaining the current system -- not any road expansion. This number wouldn't include funding for Hwy 212, Hwy 5, and Hwy 41.

The resolution references an increase in funding to Minnesota's highway user tax fund. This isn't direct support of the governor's transportation funding proposal, specifically his 20-cents/gallon gas tax increase.

While the resolution points out our needs at the county level, the Carver County Board of Commissioners deliberately didn't tell the legislators how to fund those needs. We felt that it was up to them to put together a plan for adequate revenue.

The resolution is a general statement that encourages a sustainable transporta-

tion funding package that serves the families who are traveling Carver County's roads and to make the statement that transportation funding must be a priority.

Protect Federal-State-Local Medicaid Policy

Did you know counties across the country contribute up to 60% of the non-federal share of Medicaid? Last year, Congress introduced legislation to cut federal Medicaid funding by 25%, or \$800 million, over the next decade.

While unsuccessful, it signaled other efforts to undercut Medicaid. Included in that are work requirements which, in theory, sound sensible but would create a significant burden for Carver County, to the tune of nearly \$500,000 in administrative costs annually to oversee such a program.

Medicaid is already a lean program, with its cost per beneficiary significantly lower than private insurance. Talk at the federal level centers around a per capita cap or block grant. This tactic merely ends up shifting costs to county taxpayers and reducing counties' capacity to provide healthcare services, including state mandated ones.

WeCAB Donation Provides Transportation Options for Those in Need

Recently, Carver County allocated \$1,500 for WeCAB, a service for Cities of Chaska, Chanhassen, Victoria, Waconia, Carver, Watertown, New Germany, and Mayer.

This service offers transportation to medical appointments, family commitments, food shelves and grocery stores, and more, for those individuals who need transportation for these essential duties. WeCAB continually seeks volunteers, specifically drivers. Visit www.WeCAB.org.

County's Accounting And Financial Practices Lauded

The Government Finance Officers awarded Carver County a certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting for the 2017 fiscal year. This is the highest form of recognition in this area and represents a significant accomplishment by the County.

Congratulations to Jerry Bruner On the Metropolitan Council

Carver County recently received a letter commending Jerry Bruner's good work

on the Metropolitan Council's Land Use Advisory Committee. His persistence in pursuing a "local control" approach to land use planning serves all the townships in the Greater Metropolitan Area, the Council noted.

Disabled Veterans Eligible For Free National Park Service Lifetime Access Pass

Are you a veteran or do you know a veteran? Veterans with a service connected disability rating are eligible for a free lifetime National Parks Pass. The Access Pass admits disabled veterans and any passengers in their vehicle (non-commercial) at per-vehicle fee areas, and the pass owner plus three additional adults where per-person fees are charged.

In addition to free entry at participating parks, the Access Pass includes discounts on expanded amenity fees such as camping, swimming, boat launching, and guided tours.

Veterans who have a VA disability rating (10% or higher) are eligible for the Lifetime Access Pass. Visit <http://bit.ly/VetsNationalParksPass> for more information and links to sign up.



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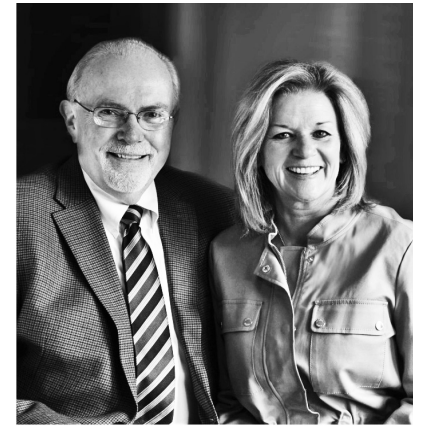
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The Victoria Gazette - January 1992 - Vol. 13 Issue 1

Back to the Snow Zone

By Sue Orren
On January 2nd of this new year, Ovid and Genevieve Northrop celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in the snow laden town of Victoria, Minnesota.



Ovid and Genevieve Northrop celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in the snow laden town of Victoria, Minnesota.

Another reason we moved to Victoria, Minn. is because when we moved to Victoria, Minn. it was a town of 3,000 people. When we left the population was 3,500. It was the fastest growing town in the state of Minn.
Ovid Northrop, one of three children, was born on June 21st, 1912, in Clinton, Iowa, which is located about an hour south of Dubuque. It has a population of about 36,000 and at one time there was a lot of industry there.

He was a very successful businessman and was in charge of the Victoria, Minn. plant of the General Electric Co. He was married to Genevieve Northrop in 1937. They had four children: Ovid, Genevieve, Mary and John. Ovid and Genevieve have been married for 55 years.

Ovid and Genevieve are still very active in their community and are looking forward to their 60th anniversary in 1997.

The Victoria Gazette - February 1992 - Vol. 13 Issue 2

Farm Mates for Life

By Sue Orren
Willie Bogard, 68, keeps his toy tractor high on top of the hatch in his large country home, Minn. Willie Bogard's tractor has been in the family for 30 years. He says it is just like the tractor he used to own in the 1930s.



Willie Bogard, 68, keeps his toy tractor high on top of the hatch in his large country home, Minn.

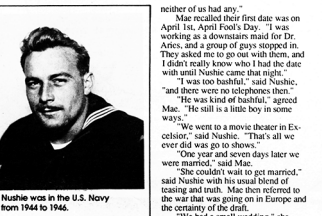
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The Victoria Gazette - April 1992 - Vol. 13 Issue 4

The Call of Water, Sun, and Sand

By Sue Orren
Nashua Schmidt tells a story about a man who died and met St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. He was a very good man and he was very kind to everyone.



Nashua Schmidt tells a story about a man who died and met St. Peter at the Pearly Gates.

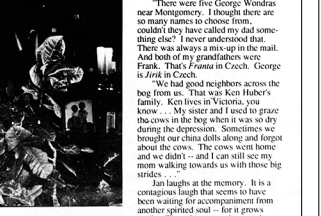
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The Victoria Gazette - May 1992 - Vol. 13 Issue 5

Love & Kisses to My Future Mrs.

By Sue Orren
The letters arrived from North Africa, England, France, India, Ceylon, Italy, and the United States. They were all from the same man, and they were all addressed to the same woman.



The letters arrived from North Africa, England, France, India, Ceylon, Italy, and the United States.

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The Victoria Gazette - March 1992 - Vol. 13 Issue 3

A Ball of Cherries

By Sue Orren
Life has not been entirely a bowl of cherries for Lois Ball of Victoria, but when she finds the time, she spends it with her grandchildren and her husband.



Lois Ball of Victoria, but when she finds the time, she spends it with her grandchildren and her husband.

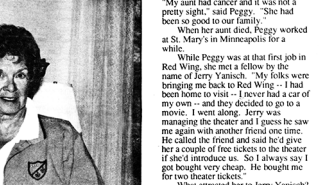
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The Victoria Gazette - June 1992 - Vol. 13 Issue 6

Once a Mother, Always a Mother

By Sue Orren
There is at least one profession among all professions in which one never retires. It is motherhood. Once a mother, always a mother.



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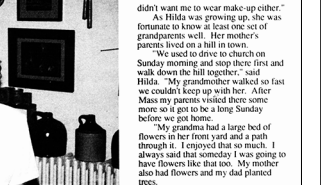
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The Victoria Gazette - September 1993 - Vol. 14 Issue 9

One Rose and the Garden Smiles

By Sue Orren
My aunt had cancer and it was not a pretty sight. My family was very close and we were all very supportive of her.



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The Victoria Gazette - June 1994 - Vol. 15 Issue 6

This Old House

By Sue Orren
This old house once knew my children. It was a very special place and it was very important to me.



This old house once knew my children. It was a very special place and it was very important to me.

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Something Old, Something New

by Tom Stumpf
Cowboy Correspondent

Many folks, old and young alike, have contrived lists of things they would like to do or see -- bucket lists, as it were, and some quite exotic. The author of this little rambling has no such list, maybe a product of a happy-go-lucky sort, or perhaps just the fact that lists have always seemed a bit organized for me.

But I had such a gathering of "to-do's" -- one very special that would have been crossed off a couple Saturdays previous, even though it was never really something I gave much thought, until last February.

My wonderful wife and her older sister are very close and, as such, their children are more like siblings than cousins. And so it was that after making Patti's acquaintance a few years ago, one of the first family functions to which I was invited was at the home of said sister and brother in law, for a celebration of a rather monumental birthday for Roger.

And most of the crew were there, including Kathy and Roger's youngest, Lindsey. Lindsey is, to put it mildly, a rather slight young lady whose picture should appear in the dictionary right next to the word "petite." But her personality is as big as all outdoors, and I soon realized (with some explaining from her) that if I should have anything other than the purest intentions with regards to Aunt Patti, that I would have to answer to her.

This put the fear of the Lord in me, but I soon fell in love with her and all the siblings and the whole darned clan, truth be told.

So on Super Bowl Sunday this year at a small gathering, once again at Kathy and Roger's abode, Lindsey and her fiancée Jesse had a question for me. Would I officiate at their wedding? My first reaction



was stunned stammering, followed shortly by a resounding, "Heck, yeah! I would be honored."

These two are hardworking, fun loving, young Christians and if they wanted me to help them on their big day, who was I to turn them down?

Did you know that you can get a marriage officiant certificate and instructions online? So after obtaining a license for the young couple from the county of Hennepin, and a little sage advice from a very good friend, the most reverend Fr. Robert White, we gathered on a Saturday afternoon.

We read some written advice and wisdom from a couple of very knowledgeable people, including St. Paul. We prayed together and, finally, having been witnessed by 150 or so friends and family, and in the sight of Almighty God, I pronounced them to be Mr. and Mrs. Jesse and Lindsey Lauby.

The ceremony was short, to the point, and the looks of love passing between the loving couple were a thing of beauty. Maybe I should start one of these bucket lists. There may be no end to the fun waiting in the future. Maybe the local baseball team would let me throw out the first pitch some day, before my arm is totally gone. Keep schmiling.

WATERMELON SEEDS

A NOVEL

FRED PLOCHER



THE SETTING FOR THIS STORY IS VICTORIA/CARVER COUNTY.

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(Enter: "WATERMELON SEEDS" PLOCHER on that site.)

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"A must read for persons who want to reflect on who they are and where they came from." John L.

"Incorporates drama, joy, pain, and emotion into reality. Readers of any age groups are left feeling they were part of an era." Jim J.

"I don't read many books, but I couldn't put this one down." Al W.

"What an enjoyable read! The author captures the ebb and flow of intense friendships and inevitable conflicts." Tom O.

"Well defined characters, each as real as people we know, struggles with issues of life, heartache and death, coupled with joy of and love of daily existence. Relationships are beautifully crafted." Jane H.

"A great follow-up to Stealing Watermelons. I felt back home." JAE.

READY TO ROCK THIS SUMMER!

VICTORIA PARKS & RECREATION



Concerts in the Park

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Charlson Thun Community

Bandstand

June 12 - King, Cash & Diamond*

June 19 - Skippin Stones

June 26 - Thunderheads*

July 10 - Pandora's Other Box*

July 17 - LaValle Jazz Cats Big Band

July 24 - Stimulus Package*

July 31 - Vinnie Rose

August 7 - Jolly Huntsman*

August 21 - Big Fat Groove*

*Indicates Classic Car Night

Lunch Time Tunes

Noon

Charlson Thun Community

Bandstand

June 19 - Teddy Bear Band

July 17 - The Jolly Pops

August 21 - Miss Nina

Pop-Up Splash Pad

August 8

1:00 p.m.

Victoria Recreation Center

Movie in the Park

Start at Dark

Victoria Lions Pavilion

July 26 - Finding Nemo

August 16 - The Incredibles 2



Family Fun Night

July 26

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Victoria Lions Pavilion

Free family entertainment!

Music, face painting, photo booth, games,

crafts, bounce house, library StoryWalk. Kona

Shaved Ice will be available for purchase.

Stick around for Finding Nemo on the big

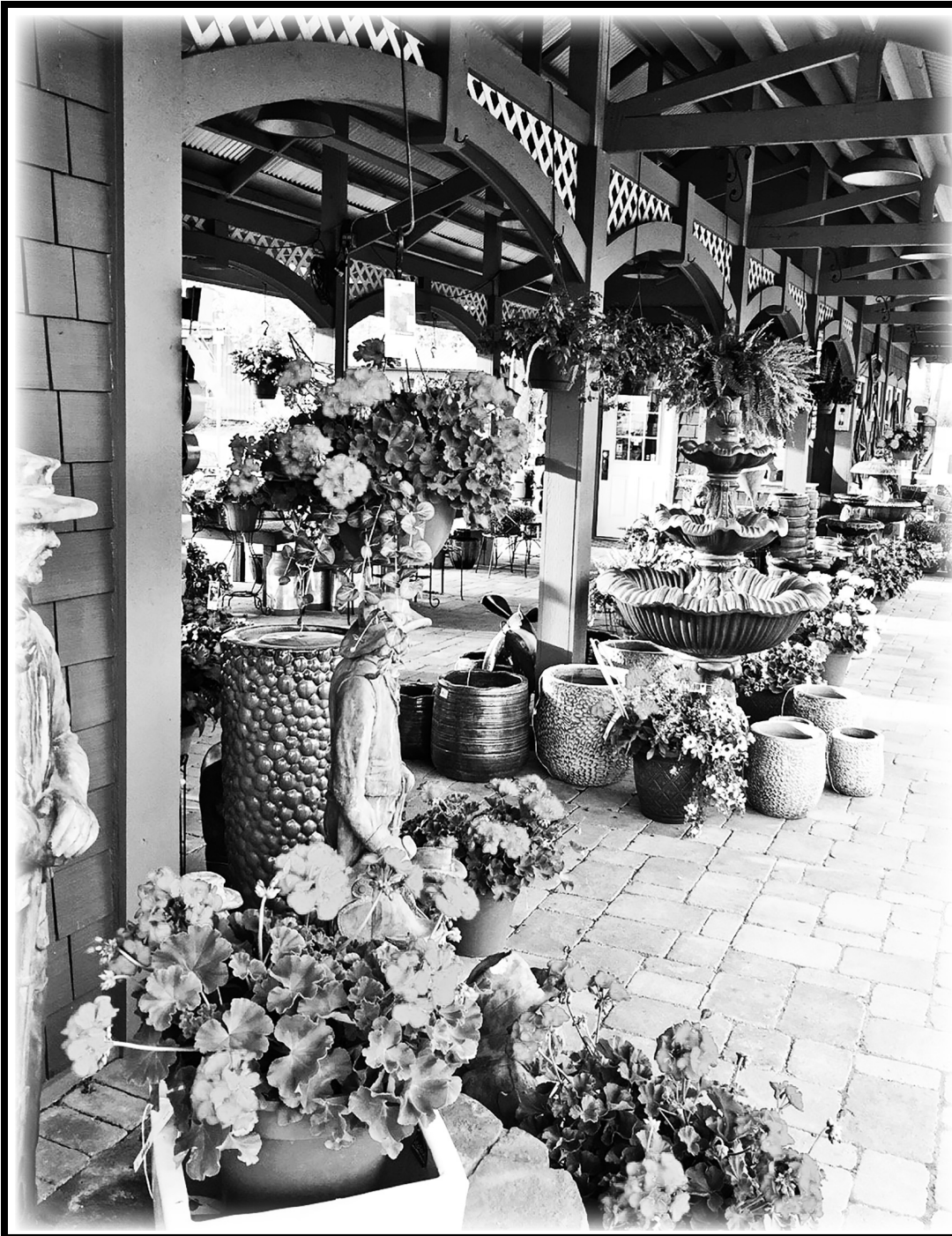
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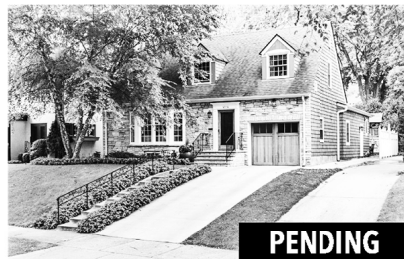
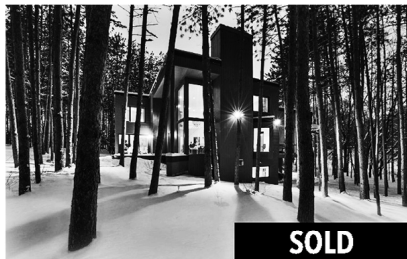
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The Victoria Gazette masthead for September 1994, Vol. 15, Issue 9.

A Blooming Place

by Sue Olson
Look at the flowers: look at them. They never weary, they never tire...



Vic and Sis at their Blooming Place on Shady Lane.

June 10th, 1920, Victor Schneider accepted much responsibility on the farm. Because his mother, in all much of the time, he assumed many household chores in addition to working the sugar beets, stocking grain, and milking the cows.

bedrooms up and one down. There wasn't much to keep track of. We didn't have much. My dad was a hard worker, but very strict with his kids...

The Victoria Gazette masthead for November 1994, Vol. 15, Issue 11.

From Rivalry to Romance

by Sue Olson
He was the six-foot, all-conference star of the basketball team and was a student at the rival high school seven miles from home...



Chris and Jane's high school graduation photos, 1954.

Chris: "I had made a deal with the coach and I didn't have to take the bus back to Sandstone. I told him I had a car in Hinkley and he believed me...

Strawberry Fields Forever

by Sue Olson
Before her hair assumed the hue of wheat, it was the color of ripening strawberries. The strawberry-blond hair was the color of the strawberries...



Mrs. Jean Coleman of Victoria, one-time Carver County Health Nurse.

and my feet from "the state," she said. "Oh, it was cold. And we were poor. A lot of doors in a pair of clothes, you know. When I was in third grade I had a rooming house in the city...

When I was in high school, I was a member of the Glee Club. I was in the Glee Club for three years. I was in the Glee Club for three years. I was in the Glee Club for three years...

The Victoria Gazette masthead for December 1996, Vol. 17, Issue 12.

A Christmas Gift

by Sue Olson
There were few exchanges. Sometimes I could have changed. Sometimes I could have given. Sometimes I could have taken. Sometimes I could have given...

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The Victoria Gazette masthead for June 1997, Vol. 18, Issue 6.

The Space He Fills

by Sue Olson
Standing tall at 6'9", his large frame gives him a presence that cannot be denied. He is a man who gets his kick out of life...

Standing tall at 6'9", his large frame gives him a presence that cannot be denied. He is a man who gets his kick out of life. He is a man who gets his kick out of life...

A New Kind of Growth

by Sue Olson
We fast privileged. It was "enlightening a different kind of growth." Jean Bongard, speaking with emotion, was referring to her and her husband's life in Victoria...

The Victoria Gazette masthead for April 1998, Vol. 19, Issue 4.

Sweet Aloha

by Sue Olson
This is the moment I've waited for. I can hear my ring singing. Soon bells will be ringing. Soon bells will be ringing...

This is the moment I've waited for. I can hear my ring singing. Soon bells will be ringing. Soon bells will be ringing...

The Victoria Gazette masthead for August 1998, Vol. 19, Issue 8.

Wasn't It Only Yesterday?

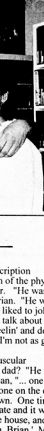
by Sue Olson
Born in 1913, Chub Tschimpele has memories that span most of the century. When he speaks of the war, you must pay attention. I've never met anyone who knows which decade he's in...

Born in 1913, Chub Tschimpele has memories that span most of the century. When he speaks of the war, you must pay attention. I've never met anyone who knows which decade he's in...

The Victoria Gazette masthead for November 1999, Vol. 20, Issue 11.

Brian's Story

by Sue Olson
Brian's story comes alive today with the help of his sister Linda. "I have a wonderful brother," said Linda Wynn. "I want you to meet him. He is a good brother. It was always his dream to be in business for himself...



Brian Wynn and his sister Linda.

The Victoria Gazette masthead for June 2019, Vol. 24, Issue 6.

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. September 2000 Vol. 21 Issue www.VictoriaGazette.com

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. March 2001 Vol. 22 Issue 3 www.VictoriaGazette.com

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. August 2004 Vol. 25 Issue 8 www.VictoriaGazette.com

Ida's Century

By Sue Orson
The 20th Century belongs to Ida Plocher as it belongs to few others. Born April 6, 1902, she lived through 98 of it, including the biggest such as World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II.

Youngest sister Esther, 92, who lives in St. Louis Park today. My parents came from Germany and married over here, said the lady who finished putting some new baby pictures in a basket of water to cook for lunch. "My mother had a lot of family that came over with her, especially her sister. My mother couldn't speak very good English. We'd tell her things in English and she'd answer back in German."

All the World's a Stage

By Sue Orson
It's an action-packed adventure, a thriller, a comedy, a mystery, a drama, a romance novel. There is a genre of surprise in every scene and the genre is loaded with color and characters.

Schaden. We always got blamed for something we didn't do. Then the showgoer took over. Gordon Diehlm was talking about the classrooms and school yard of the once prominent parochial school in Victoria. He doesn't call it the "St. Victoria Catholic School." It's the parochial school. And it's the prison.

Trekking the Twentieth Century

By Sue Orson
You can accurately call it the most violent century in the history of the world, the century with the most people killed in war, the century with the most martyrs and the most saints.

Rosella was born on September 16, 1906, one of eleven children born to John and Mary Dwyer of Lakelse, British Columbia. She is now 112 years old.

Ida Plocher was born in 1902 in the Victoria area. She is shown here with her family in 1920. Ida Plocher was born in 1902 in the Victoria area. She is shown here with her family in 1920.

Gordon and Clara Diehlm. Gordon was born in 1902 in the Victoria area. He is shown here with his family in 1920.

Rosella with her two oldest daughters, Marilyn, 2, and Dorothy, who died at the age of three months from the "Scarriage of Cuba."

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. June 2005 Vol. 26 Issue 6 www.VictoriaGazette.com

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. November 2009 Vol. 30 Issue 11 www.VictoriaGazette.com

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. June 2010 Vol. 31 Issue 6 www.VictoriaGazette.com

Remembering ...

By Sue Orson
It's not easy remembering all the names and faces of long ago. Sometimes it's downright maddening. At other times it's downright nostalgic.

public access to Lake Zambra where fishermen slip their boats into quiet waters on the lake's south side. The Golden Age was a time when several area farms were turned into several public access points.

The Hat Lady

By Sue Orson
She was walking up and down Park Drive since she was a little girl. She had a hat on her head and she was looking at the people who were walking past her.

lady dangled along with the colorful details of her story. "My parents were married in 1921, he said. "My dad was a farmer and they moved to Colquhoun in 1921, but he was the head farmer of the Victoria Cotton Road and got a lot of money from it."

Frolicking with Florian

By Sue Orson
Some people think Victoria changed in 1959 when Highway 5 was opened. Old Highway 5, also known as the Yellowstone Trail, once followed the current path of the Victoria Harbour.

Florian Diehlm, 92-year-old gentleman bachelor, with a clear-eyed vision, long and wavy hair, and a friendly smile, is shown here with his family in 1920.

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. May 2011 Vol. 32 Issue 5 www.VictoriaGazette.com

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. June 2014 Vol. 35 Issue 6 www.VictoriaGazette.com

The Victoria Gazette - A love affair with news and paper. December 2017 Vol. 38 Issue 12 www.VictoriaGazette.com

THE WORK OF OUR MOTHER

When We Were Young

By Sue Orson
Her 90 years of life included the hardship and joys in a century almost long gone. She was born in 1906, became a teenager in 1920, married in 1917, bore ten children, raised nine of them to adulthood in the 1920s and 1930s, lost her husband in 1942, died peacefully in 1986.

life of Ida Diehlm is perhaps best captured in the words "When We Were Young," a collection of stories about her mother and her mother's mother.

Surprised by Seventy

By Sue Orson
In 1945 and then worked one year of internship at the University to become a Registered Dietitian. It was worth the wait.

Tommy and Jeanne decided to get married. Tommy was off to France and the young couple didn't see each other again for the next three years.

A CENTENARIAN AT CHRISTMAS

Happy 100th Birthday, Ethel Ausink

By Sue Orson
Ethel Ausink was born on December 12, 1919, in the small town of Victoria. She was the youngest of five children.

Ethel was born on November 27, 1917, at home in northwest Iowa, on the farm near the small town of Victoria.

Ida Diehlm. Photo taken in 1952.

Jeanne graduated as a Registered Dietician in 1945. Tommy was in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1946.

Ethel with her daughters, Corby, Lily, and Jeanne.



Affordable Housing in Victoria Needed for seniors and general occupancy

Baby Boomers and Millennials

Council held a workshop on May 13th that focused on affordable housing in Victoria. As Community Development Director Patrick Smith said, "The Metropolitan Council is saying that Victoria's allocation of affordable units is 434 more."

He clarified that some of those additional affordable units needed in Victoria may be for general occupancy, some for seniors, also known as the baby boomer generation. He said that by 2040, Victoria should have 680 affordable rental units for seniors and 180 affordable/subsidized rental units for general occupancy.

He said that in Victoria today, only 1% of identified rental options are in some form of affordable senior housing. Allison Streich, Deputy Director of the Carver County CDA (Community Development Agency), said that Victoria needs both affordable and market rate senior housing.

Patrick reported statistics from the Builders of Minnesota and the Sensible Land Use Coalition. "Out of 3,038 housing units in Victoria, 638 are considered affordable (21%)," he said.

He said that "affordability" is defined as when 30% of a median income goes toward housing. "Affordable housing is much different in Victoria than in North St. Paul," he said "because the median income is much higher in Victoria than in North St. Paul."

"Substantial costs are involved in building a new single family home," he said, and only 8.3% is city-related costs. On a median value \$413,900 home, that amounts to \$34,733.

"Baby boomers drove the housing demand in the 1980's," said Patrick, "and today it's the millennials. Millennials are twice the amount of people as the baby boomers and they're having a huge impact on townhomes and starter homes and apartments. They will have a significant impact on housing from here on out."

But the number of single family homes being built today, he said, are half the number of what it was before 2008, partly because there is a shortage of laborers.

Significant Need for Sr. Housing

The Carver County Community Development Agency was represented that evening of May 13th by both Allison Streich (Deputy Director) and Brenda Lano (Community Development Manager).

Said Ms. Streich, "We've been tracking

base with all the cities regarding the land trust expansion we're doing. The CDA commissioned a housing study. The mission of the CDA is to provide affordable housing opportunities and foster economic and community development in Carver County."

She said the CDA owns and manages over 600 units of affordable or subsidized units in Carver County. "They all have an income or rent restriction on them," said Ms. Streich. "We have 30 units of land trust homes located throughout Carver County with homes currently in Chaska, Victoria, and Waconia." Victoria has one.

She explained, "The value of the land is taken out of the purchase price and held in a trust by the CDA so that the mortgagee only has to take a mortgage on the house. It targets 80% of area median income or below. It's about \$80,000 now for a household of four."

Ms. Streich referred to other work of the CDA including rental assistance, housing counseling services, homeless assessments, business consulting, septic and well replacement loans, writing grants for cities, and home rehabilitation loans.

"In Carver County there are 7,490 cost-burdened households," she said. "They are paying more than 30% of their income toward housing costs. For seniors, that affordable number can be higher, like 40% or 50%, because they're on a fixed income and have fewer expenses than a family might."

"As tracked by the Metropolitan Council, only 1.4% of all housing units constructed within the City of Victoria between 2010 and 2015 would meet the basic definition of affordable housing, based on a standard set at 80% of median income."

Said Councilmember Tom Vogt, "Based on those numbers, Victoria needs a bunch of buildings for seniors. The bottom line is we have a significant need."

Replied Ms. Streich, "For us [the CDA], it's always how do we fill the gap to keep the rent structures affordable. I can tell you that every penny that a property earns, goes right back into that building. Our newest building is in Norwood Young America, built in 2010. We are able to keep our cost per unit below \$200,000 and it's pretty difficult to do that."

About a possible CDA senior housing project on the 13.5 acres owned by the City of Victoria, she stated, "We would love to be part of that project."

Streamlining Victoria Council Agenda Number of categories reduced from 15 to 9

On May 13th Council voted 5-0 to change the format of their regularly scheduled council meetings and adopt a council meeting rules policy. The changes involve reducing the categories of agenda items and, in some cases, moving their former position on the agenda.

Said City Manager Dana Hardie, "We talked about this at our Strategic Planning Session. Our current agenda has 15 different categories. We would go to nine categories."

"Why do this?" she asked. "For transparency, efficiency, and flexibility. We want to improve the flow. It should save staff a couple of hours. We can place items on the agenda where they have most public interest. Announcements will go upfront rather than last. The open forum and visitors' presentation will be combined into

one category. Reports of council and staff will be combined into one category. A new category, Roundtable, is to discuss an item that is not on the specific agenda."

Councilmember Tom Vogt said, "Something is missing. There should be protocols for councilmembers. How are motions originated and garnered. How is the meeting supposed to flow? In Victoria now every motion is made by the mayor. Normally it's a discussion where the mayor is the facilitator."

Replied Mayor Funk, "Anyone can make a motion. Makes no difference to me."

Councilmember Tom Gregory suggested a workshop to work out the bugs and adjust the policy as needed. Everyone agreed. Dana said she'll bring something back for Council to consider in July.

"Victoria Goes Valet," As They Say Taking advantage of parking on the fringes

Council voted 5-0 on May 28th to allow three public parking spaces on Tower Boulevard, next to the Clocktower, to be designated for valet service after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

The service is being sponsored by Winchester & Rye, School of the Wise, and The Noble Lion, although the valet is open to anyone who wants to use them for any of the restaurants or any of the patrons.

Said Patrick Smith, Victoria Community Development Director, "The three restaurant owners are putting up the \$300, and then the \$5 per valet service eats away at the \$300. The goal is that none of the restaurant owners will be paying anything, and the valet service will be making money."

The valet service is taking cars to the new parking spaces along Stieger Lake Lane and to the parking lot at the Hartman Building, 1600 Arboretum Boulevard.

Said Councilmember Tom Vogt, "I applaud the business community for coming up with this. We've been praying for some solutions, and I think this will be helpful."

Patrick explained how this service came about. "Last year we had a parking task force convene, and they recommended valet parking for all the businesses. And Winchester & Rye approached the city and asked to use some of our public parking spaces for valet service. Staff encouraged an open house to discuss this proposal."

"It was pretty clear," he said, "that business owners thought it was not very fair for one business to have three dedicated parking spaces for their own use, and so we encouraged Winchester & Rye to reach

out to other business owners to see if there could be a shared valet service that other business owners could use as well.

"So staff and Winchester & Rye and the Noble Lion, and School of the Wise met two different valet services and the three restaurant owners picked one, Minneapolis Valet, which seemed to be more flexible than the others."

Patrick said the valet service was used a couple weekends ago behind the Notermann Building, which is not very centrally located. Staff also looked at a location just north of the Gannon Building.

Mayor Funk thought it would be possible to not give up any parking spaces but make valet available directly on the street, possibly Randy's Way, so that no parking and backing up would be required and there would be a quicker exchange.

Said Councilmember Judy Black, "I like Option #1 [on Tower Blvd]. There's equal disbursement to any business around there. If you want people to valet, you've got to make it easy for them. Tower Boulevard could end up being the valet street. I'd like a big splash in the newspaper: Victoria Goes Valet. I think it's an awesome idea. Who else has that?"

Said Councilmember Tom Gregory, "I agree with Ms. Black. Option #1 is more visible and closest to all three restaurants. I think stopping on the street would create confusion, and with all the pedestrians I don't think that's a great idea."

Said Councilmember Deb McMillan, "We want it to be successful for the valet and for our businesses. #1 is absolutely the most centrally located."

Hoping for Developer's Agreement in June To wrap up the vision of Victoria's 13.5 acres

Councilmember Tom Gregory brought up the topic of the city-owned 13.5 acres as part of a roundtable discussion May 28th. "We do have some people here tonight from DJR Architects," he said, referring to the development team chosen by the City of Victoria last November to present a vision for the property.

"From our strategic planning session," said Councilmember Gregory, "I think we have the same thoughts. We want to continue working with them, and we want the process to keep moving forward."

He then stated, "I think there's another component -- the Livable Communities Act Grant -- for which we are kind of under a timeline. My understanding is that application needs to be in by July 1st. In speaking with the developer, this is kind of a big deal. It takes a while to put this together."

Councilmember Gregory added, "This [DJR] team has applied for this grant for the last ten years and has been awarded it for the past ten years. That's a pretty good track record. I think this is important enough to have a special meeting, a special workshop, either this Friday or Monday, to have some discussion, to make sure we're all on the same page."

Mayor Funk asked City Manager Dana Hardie to elaborate on the grant. Said Dana, "The LCDA grant is one of four different kinds of grants that the Met Council has for cities. I believe it's about \$7.5 million that gets distributed in 2019 to multiple cities and it's a competitive process. Applications close July 1st."

The Livable Communities Demonstration Account grant "supports innovative development and redevelopment that links housing, jobs, and services, and demon-

strates efficient and cost-effective use of land and infrastructure."

Dana said she and Community Development Director Patrick Smith have begun compiling information for the grant process. "To make application," she said, "two things need to happen. We need to have a development agreement and we have to be working with the developer. We don't yet have a signed development agreement."

"The next step is that the council must take action to approve a resolution, a whereas clause with detail," she said. "Our developer friends have been reluctant to provide that level of detail and drawings because we do not have a signed agreement. The staff timeline is June 10th bringing back something, hopefully a written development agreement for you all to consider, and June 24th for the resolution that would be the bow on the package. We would be able to submit the grant application shortly thereafter. We'd make it a priority and absolutely meet the July 1st deadline."

Said Dean Dovolis of DJR Architects, "We've been going full speed ahead and we're actually drawing up a draft of the agreement right now. We do want to take advantage of the grant process. This is a pure grant, not a loan, and this [vision] really fits their criteria with innovative planning that other cities can use. I believe we have a high eligibility for this grant. I think we're in a position to score well on this. It is complicated writing this."

He said they are applying for a maximum of a \$2 million grant. City staff and the DJR development team will be working diligently to meet the July 1st deadline to apply for the grant to assist in developing the 13.5 acres.



The Ball is Rolling Toward Lake Wassermann Park

Council held a workshop on May 13th to discuss the city's franchise fee and options for funding Wassermann Park. Said City Manager Dana Hardie, "We are looking for direction, not a decision, so we can incorporate one or two or three strategies into our financial plan."

Franchise Fee Background

As background information, Dana reviewed that in 2016 the city adopted a franchise fee of \$3 per gas and electric bill in the city in order to pay for the undergrounding (the burying) of utilities, in particular along Bavaria Road.

She also reviewed that the undergrounding project cost \$1.2 million but the city had bonded for \$1.7 million and so there remains \$645,000 left to be used. About the funds remaining, Dana stated, "It can be redirected. It can be used for any purchase or expense. There are no limitations on it."

She pointed out that the annual fee revenue into that fund is \$296,000 while the annual bond payment is \$135,000. That means the fund balance is growing annually by approximately \$160,000.

"If there is no more undergrounding," said Dana, "we'll have \$2.3 million at the end of the bond, when it's paid off, which is estimated to be in 2031. That bond becomes callable in 2024 -- for refunding, or refinancing, opportunities, to pay off that loan, that bond. Otherwise we're paid off in 2031. No projects are currently identified for undergrounding."

Lake Wassermann Park

Dana reviewed that the proposed park is planned for 33.5 acres of undeveloped land along the west shoreline of Lake Wassermann. The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has purchased the land for \$850,000 with the intent that the City of Victoria would pay back the District for the land purchase.

The District's responsibility is to improve water quality of the impaired lake, enhance economic vitality, improve quality of life for residents and the region, among other things. The District's investments for the watershed and natural resource improvements are identified at \$335,560.

Dana spoke of the first cooperative agreement between the District and the

City of Victoria. "The city would pay half the land price upfront and the second half over four years, at .5% interest annually. The city would develop preliminary plans, hold public open houses, pull together cost estimates, and create the concept plan, among other things.

She said the projected total cost for Wassermann Park is estimated at \$3,152,000. "That includes the land purchase, conservative contingencies, and the complete vision," said Dana. "It would all be done at once, not over several years. It is a significant investment."

Design costs are estimated at \$250,000, construction costs at \$1,710,000 and contingencies at \$342,000.

Dana said the proposed revised agreement between the Watershed District and the City of Victoria includes a 50/50 cost share in the design work, which saves the city \$125,000. The District would also provide \$25,000 for construction management services.

Five Funding Options

Victoria Finance Manager Trisha Pollock presented five different options as to how the city might pay the \$3.1 million necessary to realize Wassermann Park.

Option #1. Increase the franchise fee just for the Park Fund -- by \$1 for residential and an additional \$3 for commercial. This generates \$90,000/year in new revenue. Said Trisha, "We would not be able to fund Wassermann Park plus the other park projects planned in the city. It would be tough to make it all work. This depletes the Park Fund but there would be no increase in the city levy."

Option #2. Redirect a portion of the franchise fee that's already being collected. Keeps the Park Fund in "pretty healthy condition." This doesn't eliminate future park projects. There would still be revenues available for future undergrounding. It still preserves that fund.

Option #3. A lot like Option #2, it redirects a portion of the franchise fee, but this would be taking a loan from the undergrounding fund to pay for the park land. "This would be saving some money because we wouldn't be paying the interest to the District, but the full amount," said Trisha. "We would be able to fund most of the future park projects in the CIP. The

undergrounding fund would begin getting paid back in 2021."

Option #4. This option is to bond for Wassermann Park costs and increase the city levy. No franchise fees would be used. Taxes on a median value home would increase by \$44. The Park Fund remains stable. Councilmember Tom Vogt pointed out that since the city's tax capacity goes up every year, residents would probably see no tax increase with this option.

Option #5. Don't do the whole Wassermann Park project immediately, but just the land purchase and a first phase. Said Trisha, "We wouldn't know when the next two phases would come along. And this depletes the Park Fund."

Future Undergrounding

Dana referred to the Watershed District's offer to provide the District's bonding authority to the city. She said the alternative is for the city to bond itself. "There's really no significant drawback or benefit to do it one way or another," she advised. "It could cost the city \$23,000 more to use the District's bonding authority."

As for the underground projects on the horizon in Victoria, Dana pointed to the neighborhoods and the 13.5 acres slated for Downtown West.

Said Councilmember Tom Vogt, "We can't take our eyes off the ball with this franchise fee. We should strategically get going on the 13.5 acres. We need to underground from where we sit to Downtown West, and then we're going to have to underground Downtown West. We should have some magnitude of what that will cost."

Revised Cooperative Agreement

At the council meeting following the above workshop, Council voted 5-0 to approve the revised cooperative agreement

with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and authorize the design scope for Lake Wassermann Park.

Said Parks and Public Works Director Ann Mahnke, "With this agreement, the District can compel the city to close on the purchase of that property."

She delineated, "Our goal is to work on the design scope through the summer, have that done, and come back to you and say, here's the plan! At that point, you'd revise and execute the purchase agreement and, hopefully, in December of this year complete the 90% design, go out for bid, and plan for opening and construction in the spring of 2020."

"During that time," said Ann, "Council would need to figure out a funding plan (option). That finance plan would dictate how you would proceed with a public hearing and the legal stuff. We would start and end construction in 2020. That would be the goal -- the complete project."

Anna Brown of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District said the funding plan should be ready to implement in November or December 2019. City Manager Dana Hardie said Council would probably choose the funding plan earlier than then because of the budget process.

Three Stages of Work

In other words, the ball is rolling for Lake Wassermann Park. Stage One (\$708,000) includes primary trail loop construction, entry road and parking, watershed improvement projects, grading and utilities.

Stage Two (\$660,000) includes boardwalk construction, upland trail construction, plantings, and fishing pier.

Stage Three (\$684,000) includes the shelter and restrooms, plantings, kayak launch and outlook dock, and children's play area.

Becoming ADA Compliant Sidewalks, crosswalks Victoria's priority

Council authorized Bolton & Menk to provide design phase services for the downtown Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements. Design cost is around \$15,020. Bolton & Menk completed a preliminary evaluation last year.

Said City Engineer Cara Geheren, "We have systems that are not in compliance. We reviewed conditions and recommend we move forward with Project Area #1." She pointed out this area is outlined by Main Street (Victoria Drive), Tower Boulevard, Quamoclit Street, and Hwy 5. The square area includes sidewalks and crosswalks on the perimeter of that area.

Said Cara, "If Council wants to start this year, we would need to get moving with preliminary design. If authorized, Bolton & Menk would prepare plans and specs and get quotes. The CIP [Capital Improvement Plan] includes \$150,000 for this project."

Asked Councilmember Tom Vogt, "Where is the cash for this?"

Replied Cara, "You'd be using TIF funds from TIF Downtown District #3."

Along these same lines, Council approved the city's ADA Transition Plan as presented by Victoria Parks and Public Works Director Ann Mahnke. She explained that Title II of ADA requires the city to adopt a transition plan, conduct a self evaluation, develop a plan to ensure accessibility, adopt a schedule for improvements and a proposed budget.

Said Ann, "We are required to break down priority areas. Sidewalks and crosswalks have become our priority one. The city is required to identify a timeframe and we're looking out about 20 years in order to make those compliant."

"We'll add a line item in the budget for ADA improvements that would specify every single year. There will be a big financial impact in the city." She estimated a total of \$800,000 to \$1.1 million over 20 years.

More Scoop on Next Page.

No Flooding Homes at Zumbra Ridge Joint maintenance efforts made a difference

Mayor Funk reported on May 28th that the longtime flooding situation on Lake Zumbra appears to have been, at least for the time being, improved.

"We have surpassed the precipitation levels from 2014 when Zumbra flooded and we had to do sandbags," he said. "We believe that's attributable to the maintenance work that was done when that canal was dredged out. Water was then able to drain as soon as it was unfrozen, and the capacity was there to handle that extra rain. None of the homes are flooding. We clearly made progress."

The mayor reported the maintenance

project involved the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, the Three Rivers Park District, Carver County, and other agencies.

"It has clearly made a difference," he said.

Added Councilmember Tom Gregory, "Mayor Funk, Commissioner Tom Workman, and resident Dick Hawley have done a tremendous amount of work on that. That's an issue that has been hanging around 40 to 50 years!"

Added Mayor Funk, "I was corrected when I said 20 years in that regard. It was 52 years since work was done there. We've clearly made a difference."

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More SCOOP at VICTORIA CITY HALL

by Sue Orsen

Shorter City Scoop from May *Purchasing, amending, approving, accepting*

*Council approved a State Bid from Stepp Manufacturing for the purchase and trade-in of a blacktop trailer. It includes the trade-in of the old trailer for \$1,300 for a total cost of \$27,817. The trailer is used for street maintenance repairs such as pothole filling and patching streets.

*Council authorized staff to sign a purchase order and enter into a lease agreement for copy machines at both City Hall and the Recreation Center. Total cost will be \$650 per month. The city has been paying \$1,107 per month. Marco Office Equipment has lease rates equal to or better than state contract rates for a purchase. Said Mayor Funk of the savings to the city, "This is the kind of performance we can all be proud of."

*Council amended an ordinance changing attestation from the city manager back to the city clerk, as it was prior to December 2015. Attestation is signing one's name to a document affirming it is genuine.

*Council approved the 2019 Water Obstacle Permit for Schutz Lake Skiers Association on Schutz lake. This request has been routine since 2002. There have been no complaints. The applicants are residents Lance Fisher and Scott Wright.

*Council approved a temporary consumption and display permit for the Victoria Business Association in conjunction with Classic Car Nights in June, July, August, and September. The VBA, a non-profit, paid the \$100 fee.

*Council approved an agreement between Hentges Construction, Caso Ventures, and the City of Victoria for the public and private improvements for Waterford Landing. The development, located on the northeast shore of Schutz Lake (formerly the Swain property), consists of 32 villa homes, now constructed, along with the main road in the development. The agreement is related to exchanging/replacing a letter of credit.

*Council approved a request of Bethesda Lutheran Communities to continue a public hearing on its TIF request from May 13th to May 28th and then, finally, to June 10th. Bethesda wanted time to review language regarding safeguards of any potential future sale. Bethesda is proposing 53 living units at the former Community Living property next to Lions Park, 11 of them considered affordable.

*City Manager Dana Hardie reported that art exhibits continue to be displayed in the Victoria City Council Chambers.

*Councilmember Judy Black reported she is walking the trails in Victoria to become better acquainted with the system and the connections that are needed.

*Molly Behnemann, program director for adult programs with Minnetonka Community Education, spoke about the upcoming Tour de Tonka. "We're always looking for volunteers. Safety is our number one priority. It's a ride, not a race. We support the ICA foodshelf. In 2019 we'll be traveling through several cities, including Victoria. We get wonderful support from our police and fire departments. There's music and food at rest stops. It will be held on Saturday, August 3rd."

*Braden Johnson, a resident at Wintergreen and senior at Chanhassen High School, spoke to council of his research project on affordable housing. He said that

more affordable housing would be the best way to improve Victoria and that he is disappointed in the lack of multi-family units. "Almost everything in Victoria is single family," he said. "We need general family affordable housing, not just for seniors." He suggested Victoria seek Community Development Block grants.

*Council accepted donations to Concerts in the Park from Dave and Mary Thun (\$250), Xcel Energy (\$300), Seek Eye Care (\$100), Cornerstone Insurance (\$150).

*Council accepted donations to T-ball/Coach Pitch from Radiance Dental (\$100), Concerts/Movies/T-ball/Coach Pitch from Chick Fil-A Chan (\$200).

*Council accepted donations to the Fire Department from Marsh Lake Hunting Preserve (\$100) and from the Victoria Firefighters Relief Association (Thermal Imaging Cameras, Value \$3,250).

*Council approved low quote of \$36,525 from Bargin Inc. of Mountain Lake for crack sealing in the Laketown and Gallery neighborhoods.

*Council approved the appointment of Grace Tuomala, a high school student, to serve a one-year term on the Victoria Parks and Recreation Committee.

*Council approved a Hawker License for Jaimie Meyers of Victoria to sell ice cream products from a vehicle throughout neighborhoods.

*Council agreed to adopt an amended assessment roll for last year's Stieger Lake Lane improvement project. Cal Haasken, property owner of Laketown Investments on Commercial Drive in Victoria, had appealed his assessment to the Carver County District Court. The appeal was resolved when the City of Victoria agreed to adopt an amended assessment roll that doesn't include the Laketown Investments property.

*Council approved the purchase of playground equipment and safety surfacing at Katy Hills Park. The city received four proposals. The neighborhood chose a playground from Northland Recreation at a cost of \$40,000.

*Council approved a minor subdivision at Aster Trail, located in the northern part of Victoria, that creates an additional two lots, for which the property owner paid for sanitary sewer service back in 2013.

*Council approved a pay request of \$22,673 from Chard Grading and Excavating for relocation storm sewer at Parkview and Park Drive.

*Council approved a consulting services agreement with DDA Human Resources of Minneapolis for an amount not to exceed \$17,000. DDA will perform a job classification and compensation study for staff positions at the City of Victoria.

*City Manager Dana Hardie explained to council a new part of the agenda called "Roundtable," which comes toward the end of council meetings. "We adopted a new format for the agenda," she said. "Roundtable was one of the new items. The purpose is to allow members of the council to bring up a topic, maybe the public has approached you with concerns, maybe something you've heard or read, and it's not on our radar. This is an opportunity for you to check in with your colleagues and direct staff to look into something, with a consensus from your colleagues. This is for items not planned or currently on the agenda."

Considering Emerald Ash Borer Treatment *931 ash trees on public property in Victoria*

Council spent the first half of the May 28th city council meeting learning about a green-colored insect called the Emerald Ash Borer, its ramifications, and the cost to help control it.

At the end of the 45-minute presentation by Jeff Hafner, Director of Municipal Consulting for Rainbow Tree Care, Council learned the recommended plan for treatment would cost the city about \$31,000 to \$32,000 per year. Total cost estimate for the first ten years is \$318,000. There was not a cost estimate for the second ten years of treatment.

No council action was taken at this time. The agenda item was informational.

Said Mr. Hafner, who works with cities and develops plans, "Back in 2009 we discovered Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Minnesota. It was first discovered in 2002 in Detroit. We've learned a lot in the last seventeen years."

He spoke of the value of trees, in general. They reduce stormwater runoff, save energy, improve air quality, make cities more livable, and they're popular.

He said there are over 5,500 trees on public property in the City of Victoria, including 74 unique species. However, he said, a large percentage of those trees fall into only 15 categories. "Diversity makes us more resilient for whatever is next," he said, not citing past blights such as Dutch Elm Disease and Oak Wilt.

Mr. Hafner said there are 931 ash trees on public property in the city, with an average diameter of 12 inches, 4.5 feet above the ground. Using various factors, he said such a tree provides benefits of about \$110 a year; a bigger tree is providing more benefit.

"If you don't do anything," he said, "your emerald ash borer trees will be killed. The EAB doesn't have any natural predators. States to our east got EAB first. If we do nothing, our trees die fast because of the exponential reproduction of EAB."

"It came from China. It was shipped over here in untreated crates, basically. It was likely killing trees a decade before 2002 but nobody recognized or identified it. It doesn't kill the ash trees in China. The trees here don't have a defense. We are hopeful we will see genetically resistant ash trees to be replanted."

"We're in the stage of losing thousands across the metro area, likely million by the time it all goes through. Tree protection does work, and it's less expensive than removal and replacement."

Mr. Hafner said there have also been EAB infestations in Minnetonka, Orono, and Prior Lake. About Victoria he said, "You're still outside of a generally infected area. You're at the perfect spot to adopt a plan and take action. Usually, when EAB is found, it's four years old because the damage takes a while to show up."

His recommended plan for Victoria is to remove low quality ash trees and protect high quality ash trees eight inches or more in diameter.

"Currently, cities are spending about \$5 an inch to protect their trees, per treatment," he said. "The treatment is good for two years. Some municipalities elect to extend it into three years."

Asked Councilmember Judy Black, "Is

this forever?"

Replied Mr. Hafner, "It's for as long as you want to keep the ash tree. In theory, you return to a pest pressure of four years ago."

Asked Councilmember Black about the EAB, "Are they mutating?"

Replied Mr. Hafner, "There is some evidence they are going after other trees, but currently not any trees that grow here. We don't have olive trees. But the future is always unknown. We have the opportunity, knowing what we know now, to keep our big trees for as long as we want."

Asked Councilmember Tom Vogt, "If a tree is infected, can you stop it and have the tree return to health?"

Replied Mr. Hafner, "You can, with some caveats. The treatments are preventative and therapeutic."

He stated that, after 20 years of treatment, the city will have spent less money keeping trees alive than cutting them down and replacing them. "Each dollar that is invested in a tree protection program yields far greater value than a removal and replacement program," he explained.

Asked Councilmember Black, "Will private homeowners have access to this type of treatment?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Hafner. "And there can be a bulk discount for homeowners. There is a bulk buying benefit. The key message is that a balanced approach is still possible for Victoria."

Stated Ann Mahnke, Victoria Director of Parks and Public Works, "The bigger discussion will be during budget session, on utilizing a draft plan and moving it to a permanent plan, and making a decision as to how we move forward with whether to treat or not to treat."

Asked Councilmember Tom Vogt, "What would be the impact on our annual budget?"

The answer: \$318,000 for the first ten years, or an average annual cost of \$31,000 to \$32,000.

Said Councilmember Tom Gregory, "The Park and Rec Committee looked at this and felt the recommended plan was pretty much a no brainer."

Added Mr. Hafner, "There are trees that will still be removed because they are low quality. That's where there are opportunities for change."

Asked Councilmember Deb McMillan, "If an average homeowner has two ash trees in their yard, what would that cost to treat?"

Replied Mr. Hafner, "The costs are about \$6 per inch, so a 20-inch (diameter) tree is about \$120 to treat, or \$60 annually because it's two-year treatment."

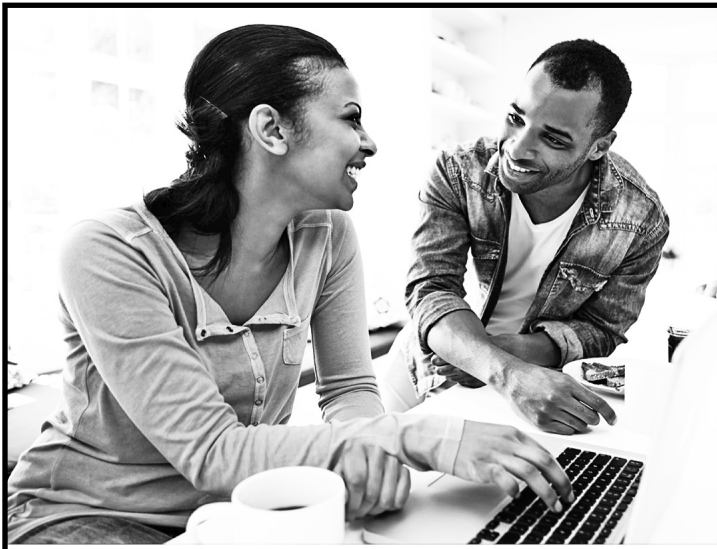
Mayor Funk asked staff to get an estimate for outsourcing EAB treatment to a company so options can be presented to the residents.

Mr. Hafner pointed out that, "all communication would direct homeowners to the vendor that is selected. We work in partnership with the city communication staff so the message matches the goals of the municipality. But it's never an exclusive arrangement. Homeowners can select any vendor they want."

Stated Councilmember Vogt after the presentation, "This is encouraging. We're not doomed."

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The Joy of a June Menu

by Christie Schlueter
Regular Visitor to Victoria

This time of year is when things are popping and the air is full of singing birds. Try something new this spring by trying this menu that has lots of flavors that are incredible! Make this for a Sunday supper or invite some friends over to share this menu. You could also give one recipe to each person and share the work. If you are looking for more easy and healthier recipes, check out my facebook page, Cooking in the Country with Chris.

Strawberry Orange Spinach Salad

Start with this salad and be sure to use some different type of orange so you can try other oranges (blood oranges, Bergamot, Cara Cara, Valencia) that are really good in salads. Check your grocery store for different varieties.

- 1 bag spinach leaves, 10-12 oz.
 - 2 1/2 cups halved strawberries
 - 1 cup sliced oranges
 - 1/4 cup slivered almonds, toasted
 - 1 Tbsp poppy seeds
 - 1/3 cup orange juice concentrate (undiluted and thawed)
 - 1/3 cup raspberry vinaigrette salad dressing
- Combine spinach, strawberries, and oranges in a bowl and toss. Blend in a high-speed blender the orange juice, raspberry salad dressing, and poppy seeds. Sprinkle toasted almonds on top and drizzle on the salad dressing. Enjoy.

Lemon Tart with Lemon Spirals

This tart is very special and the spirals will make this over the top for your spring dinner.

- 1 frozen or refrigerated pie crust (or make your own)
- 2 (4 oz) white chocolate bars, chopped
- 1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese, softened
- lemon curd (purchase or make best quality)
- lemon spirals (see recipe below)

Step 1: Fit pie crust into a lightly greased 9 1/2 -inch tart pan. Press into fluted edges. Fold any excess dough over outside of pan and pinch to secure to pan. (This will keep pie crust from sliding down pan as it bakes.)

Generously prick bottom and sides of pie crust with fork and freeze 20 minutes. You can sub a regular pie pan but fluted edges or a tart pan makes this a step above.

Step 2: Preheat oven to 425. Place pie crust on a baking sheet and bake 15 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool on a wire rack 20 minutes or until completely cool. Gently tap excess crust from sides of pan, using a rolling pin

LEMON CANDY SPIRALS

These thin spirals are the perfect crunchy topping for this tart.

- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- crushed lemon hard candies

Stir together sugar, corn syrup, and 1/2 cup water in a 3 1/2 qt heavy saucepan until blended. Place pan over medium-high heat, and cook, without stirring, until a candy thermometer registers 305 to 315 or until mixture begins to turn a golden caramel color (about 25 to 30 minutes).

Remove from heat and stir just until color is evenly distributed, using a clean wooden spoon. Carefully place bottom of saucepan into cold water to stop the cooking process. Remove from water and let stand 2 to 3 minutes or until slightly thickened.

Step 3: Sprinkle crushed lemon candies over a piece of parchment paper. Carefully spoon about 1 Tbsp hot syrup over candies in a circular motion, creating 3-inch discs. (If syrup gets too thick, place saucepan back over heat for 3 to 4 minutes or until syrup slightly melts. Use a clean spoon to continue making spirals.) Let cool 10 minutes or until completely cool. Mixture will harden as it cools.

Goat Cheese, Asparagus Flatbread

- 4 oz goat cheese
- 1 Tbsp finely chopped chives
- 1 tsp lemon zest
- 5 large asparagus spears
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- whole grain flatbread or naan bread
- 3 Tbsp chopped pistachio nuts (no shells)
- salt and black pepper to taste
- lemon zest for garnish



Preheat oven to 400. In small bowl, stir together goat cheese, chives, lemon zest. Using a vegetable (potato) peeler, shave asparagus spears into long, thin shavings. Place shavings in small bowl. Drizzle a little of the olive oil over asparagus shavings and gently toss.

Drizzle a little olive oil over flatbread. Place dollops of goat cheese evenly over flatbread. Top with shaved asparagus. Season with salt and pepper. Place flatbread on large baking sheet. Bake 12 to 15 minute till cheese is melted and flatbread crisp. Remove from oven. Top with chopped pistachios and lemon zest. Serve immediately.

Lemon Chicken Piccata

Serve as the entree. You will enjoy the capers in this white wine sauce. A very nice lemon flavored chicken! Spoon sauce over chicken when serving.

- 1 lb boneless chicken breasts
- 1/2 cup flour
- salt and pepper
- 4 Tbsp Kerry gold (or top grade) butter
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 cup white wine (your favorite)
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1 large lemon, sliced thinly (leave about 1/4 of lemon intact for the juice)
- 1/4 cup jarred capers
- fresh parsley

Cut chicken breasts in half for a total of four pieces. Cover with plastic wrap and pound to even thickness of 1/2 inch or less. Place flour in a bowl with some salt and pepper. Dredge the chicken in the flour mixture and set aside.

Heat 2 tablespoons of butter and olive oil in heavy skillet. Add chicken and fry a few minutes, flipping once. Both sides should be golden brown. Remove chicken and set aside.

Add wine to skillet and let it get all sizzly so you can scrape browned bits off the bottom. Add broth and lemon slices. Let mixture reduce to half or less. Add capers, butter, and any remaining juice from the lemon nubs. Arrange chicken pieces back in pan; sprinkle with freshly parsley. Voila!

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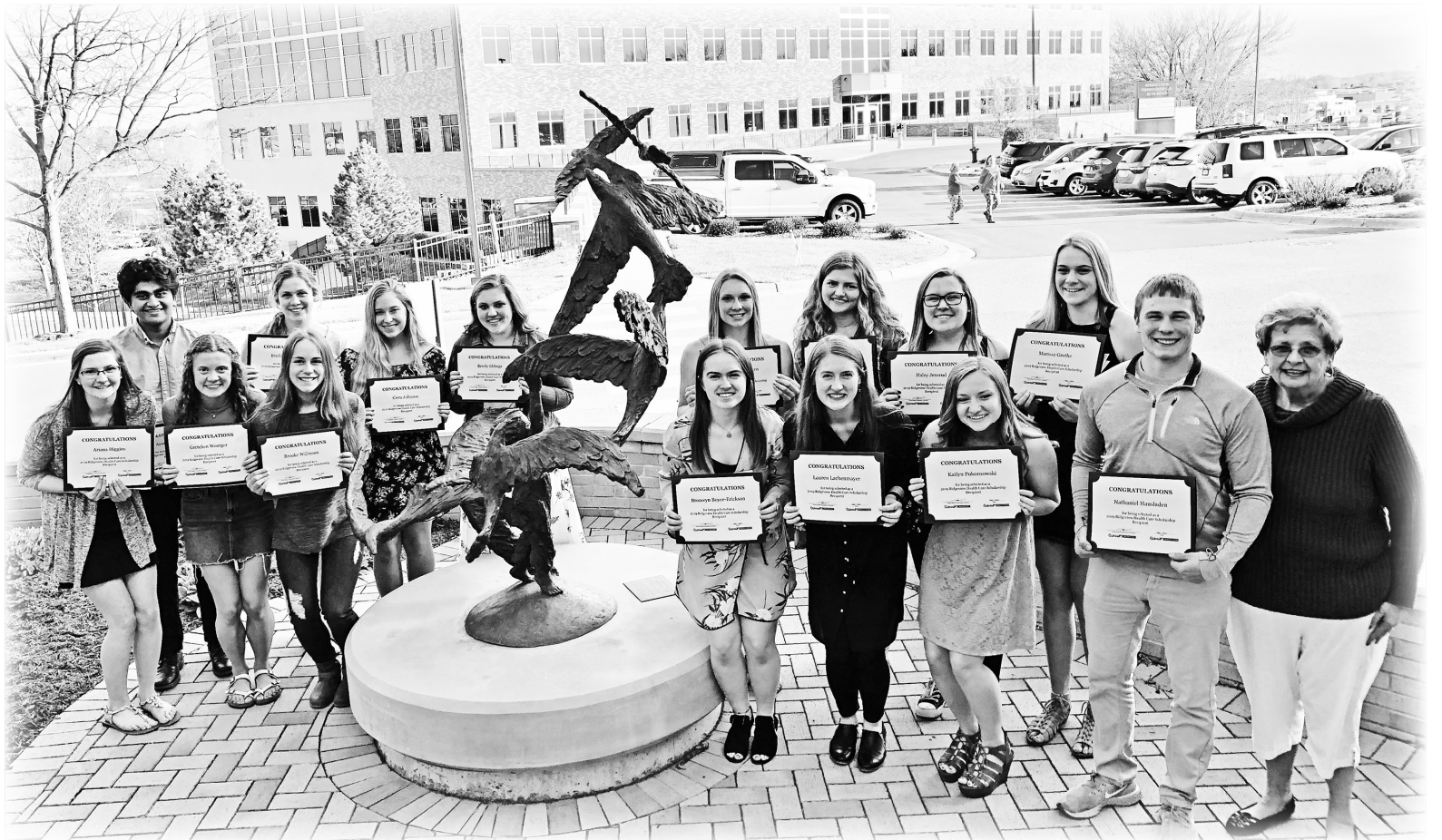
Scholarship Awards from Ridgeview in Waconia

by Lisa Steinbauer
Director of Marketing

Ridgeview is pleased to announce 2019 recipients of a \$2,000 Health Care Scholarship. Scholarships were awarded to the following high school students who are pursuing a healthcare related degree or career.

Front (l-r): Ariana Higgins (Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted), Gretchen Wuerger (Delano), Brooke Willmsen (Sibley East), Bronwyn Boyce-Erickson (Chanhassen), Lauren Lachenmayer (Mound-Westonka), Katlyn Porkornowski (Holy Trinity), Nathaniel Hausladen (Lester Prairie), Linda Roebke (Ridgeview Scholarship Committee Member).

Back: Ayush Shah (Minnetonka), Brielle Bornhorst (Holy Family Catholic High School), Ciera Johnson (Waconia), Brielle Iddings (Non-traditional), Audrey Steinhagen (Central NYA), Anna-Maya Sipilia (Orono), Haley Jensrud (Watertown-Mayer), Marissa Grothe (Chaska).



Not pictured: Kelsey Berndt (LeSueur-Henderson), Jessica Brueggemeier (Belle Plaine), Miah Busse (Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop), Rhyann Hermann (Glencoe-Silver Lake), Sophia Strelnieks (Southwest Christian), Megan Thomas (Mayer Lutheran), Grace Zieske (Ridgeview employee child, Waconia).

This year, Ridgeview awarded \$44,000 in scholarships to west metro students. Funding for the Ridgeview Health Care Scholarship Program is generously provided by Ridgeview Foundation's Friends & Family Committee, Ridgeview Sibley Foundation, Ridgeview LeSueur Auxiliary Group, and an anonymous do-

nor.

In 2001, Ridgeview Foundation created the scholarship program in response to the shortage of healthcare workers. Nearly \$90,000 was raised at the 2001 Ridgeview Foundation Golf Extravaganza toward the creation of the scholarship program. With this year's awards for 2019,

we have now awarded nearly 300 scholarships since the program's inception. Ridgeview becomes an educational resource for many recipients as they frequently participate in job shadows and internships offered by Ridgeview. To date, over 20 previous scholarship recipients have come to work at Ridgeview.

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ON THE CALENDAR FOR JUNE

The Victoria Library Log

by Jodi Edstrom
Youth Services Librarian

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Summer Reading Program: "A Universe of Stories" begins June 1st and continues through August 10th. Children and teens ages birth to 18 can participate. Be ready for awesome books, programs, and prizes! For more information and to register, visit the library website at www.carverlib.org. There are opportunities to win free books and other prizes. The library summer schedule is also full of programs and performances for children and teens. All programs are free!

Family Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Mondays, June 3rd, 10th, and 17th. For all ages, with a focus on children ages 2 and up. Children and their caregivers are invited to come and share 30 minutes of playing, reading, singing, talking, and writing that encourages the development of early literacy skills. No registration required. *Special theme* on Monday, June 17th: "Blast Off! Storytime."

Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays, June 5th-26th. Recommended for ages 18 to 36 months. Toddlers and their caregivers are welcome to join us for 20 minutes of action packed fun with stories, rhymes, finger plays, and musical movement for this busy age group. No registration required. *Special theme* on Wednesday, June 26th: "Little Star Dance Party."

Outdoor Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 22nd. Join us for an outdoor storytime at Charlson Thun Community Bandstand. Feel free to bring a chair or blanket to sit on. *Please note:* Outdoor Storytime will be moved into the library in case of inclement weather.

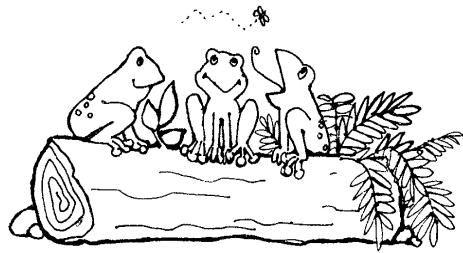
StoryWalk Events. Enjoy a self-guided StoryWalk with your family this summer and take a stroll to read a story. Pages from a picture book are posted along a walking path. *Please note:* StoryWalk events will be cancelled in case of inclement weather. StoryWalks will be held outside on the trail by the Charlson Thun Community Bandstand. Friday, June 7th, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, June 12th and 19th, from 11 to 12 noon.

Outdoor Space Adventures in Relief Printing with Artistry. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, June 14th. Ages 6 and up. *Registration required.* Relief prints are created by removing specific material on a surface to create a printable image with high contrast, positive and negative areas. Ink is rolled onto the block's surface and transferred via friction onto paper, thus creating a printed image. We will learn how to design and create single-color relief block prints with images of our favorite outer space adventures. Kids will have multiple prints to bring home.

Tails for Reading. 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 18th. Preschool and elementary school age children are welcome to read books aloud to registered therapy dogs to encourage confidence in reading. Presented by North Star Therapy Animals. Children read for a 15 minute session on a first come, first served basis. No registration required.

3D Design & Print for Kids. 4:00 to 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, June 18th. For ages 9 to 12. Learn about 3D printing and how it could shape the future. Try your hand at 3D modeling and computer-aided design (CAD) using Tinkercad to create a personalized project. Watch the 3D printer in action, and add your design to our print queue. Projects will be ready for pickup approximately two weeks after each session. *Registration required.*

Tech Tuesday. 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 25th. Drop in anytime in the hour and try out a varying STEM activity



each month. We'll have a self-guided activity with simple instructions set up so you can explore and learn on your own. Stay as little or as long as you'd like during the hour. Designed with ages 8 to 13 in mind.

Robotics Demo with Holy Family's robotics team. 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 28th.

TEEN ACTIVITIES

Danish Stars. 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Thursday, June 20th. Folding paper can be fun! Come learn this traditional decoration and fill your world with stars.

Teen Volunteers. The library needs *you!* Want to help out while earning some experience for the future? The summer is one of the library's busiest times of year. Shelving, arranging, tidying, and more help keep us rolling and also serves your community. Contact your branch or get the application at carverlib.org. For teens ages 13 and up.

Teen Bookmark Design Contest. For ages 12 to 18. Design a bookmark that shows your love for books and reading. One entrant at each library wins a prize. Entries must be turned in by the end of the day on Monday, July 22nd, to be eligible for the contest. The official entry form with all the details is available on our website and at the library.

PERFORMER MONDAYS

Ralph's World. 1:00 p.m. Monday, June 10th. Ralph's World is a family friendly rock and roll experience that parents and kids both love. Kids in the audience will rock, rock, rock, and dance, dance, dance to their own and their parents' delight. Funded by the Minnesota Legacy Amendment. This event will be held outside at the Charlson Thun Community Bandstand. If weather is inclement, event will be held in the Victoria City Council Chambers.

Lowry Nature Center. 1:00 p.m. Monday, June 17th. Join us for a visit from a naturalist to hear a special reading of *The Moon Inside*. Real nocturnal animal guests and artifacts will be along to show us what we miss while we are sleeping.

Wizard Music with Tonks (of Tonks and the Aurors): Music Inspired by Harry Potter. 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 24th. Calling all Muggles! Harry Potter fans will love this musician's original wizard rock music inspired by some of our favorite fantasy worlds. She'll do a solo acoustic performance.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Chinese Brush Painting with Artistry. 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 29th. Learn to paint natural scenes with bamboo brushes and ink. We will begin by discussing the properties of bamboo brushes, mark-making techniques, brush strokes, and ink characteristics. Then we will practice painting specific animals and natural subjects on rice paper. *Registration required.*

Nonfiction Book Club and **Fiction Book Club.** Please call the library for dates and times.

For more information or to register, call the Victoria Library at 952-442-3050 or visit the library website at www.carverlib.org. Email jedstrom@co.carver.mn.us for the Youth Services Librarian of the Victoria Library.

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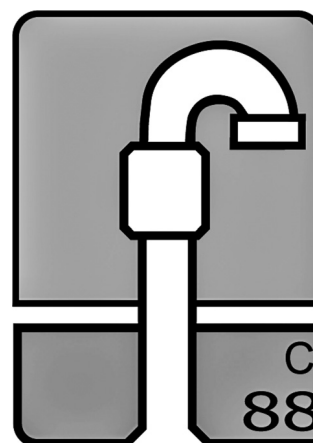
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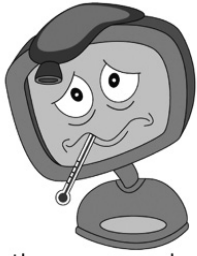


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Dear Readers,

March 2019
I'm in the pink, as you can see with the vibrant color on this envelope. I'm certainly not blue, since the coming of spring is right around the corner. I'm also not green because envy is not part of my nature. Actually, I'm usually quite black and white as you've discovered if you read the Victoria Gazette. But this annual remittance envelope isn't about color so much as cost. It's very costly to print and mail the Gazette every month and I appreciate your support of what many people say is the best red newspaper around.

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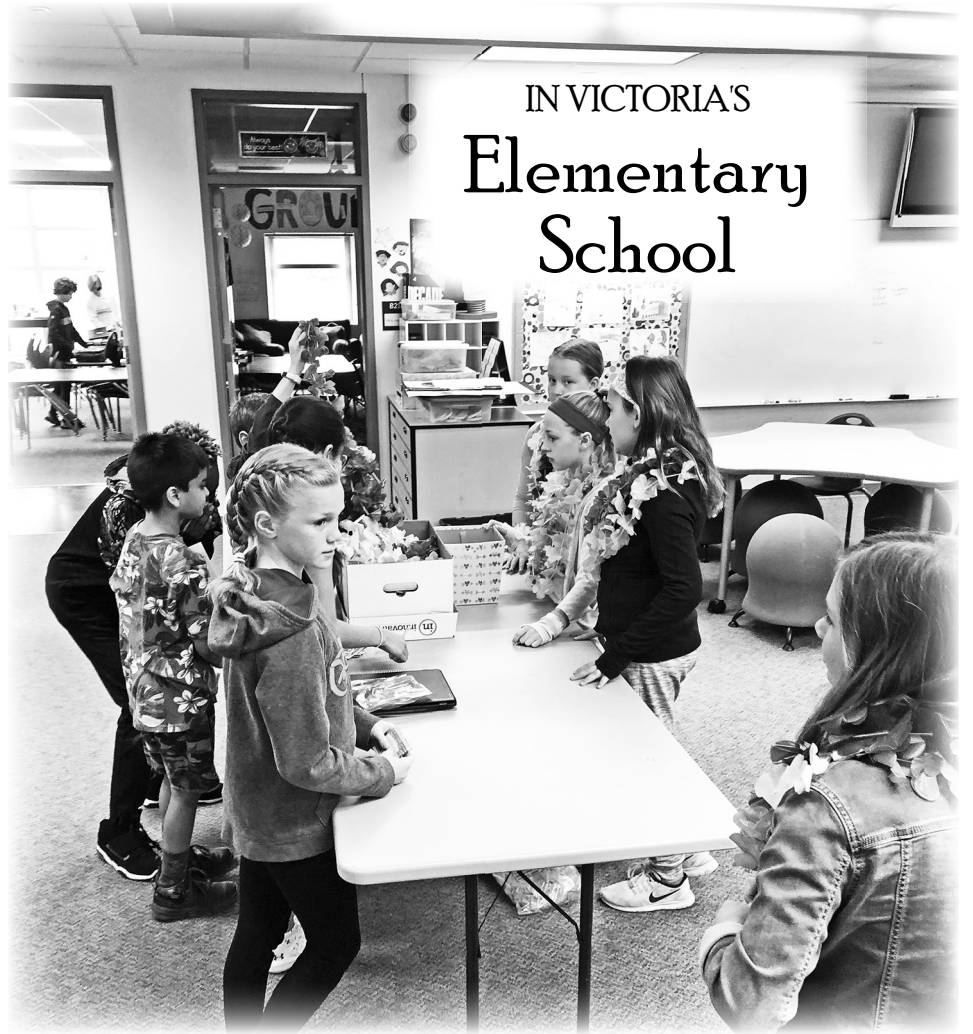
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If you did not receive the annual subscription envelope, which is inserted each year in the March issue of the Gazette, you are welcome to use the one above.



On May 20th, all Victoria Elementary students enjoyed their third annual garden planting day. Master Gardeners and other volunteers helped lead students through stations to gardening and agriculture, culminating with planting in the school garden.



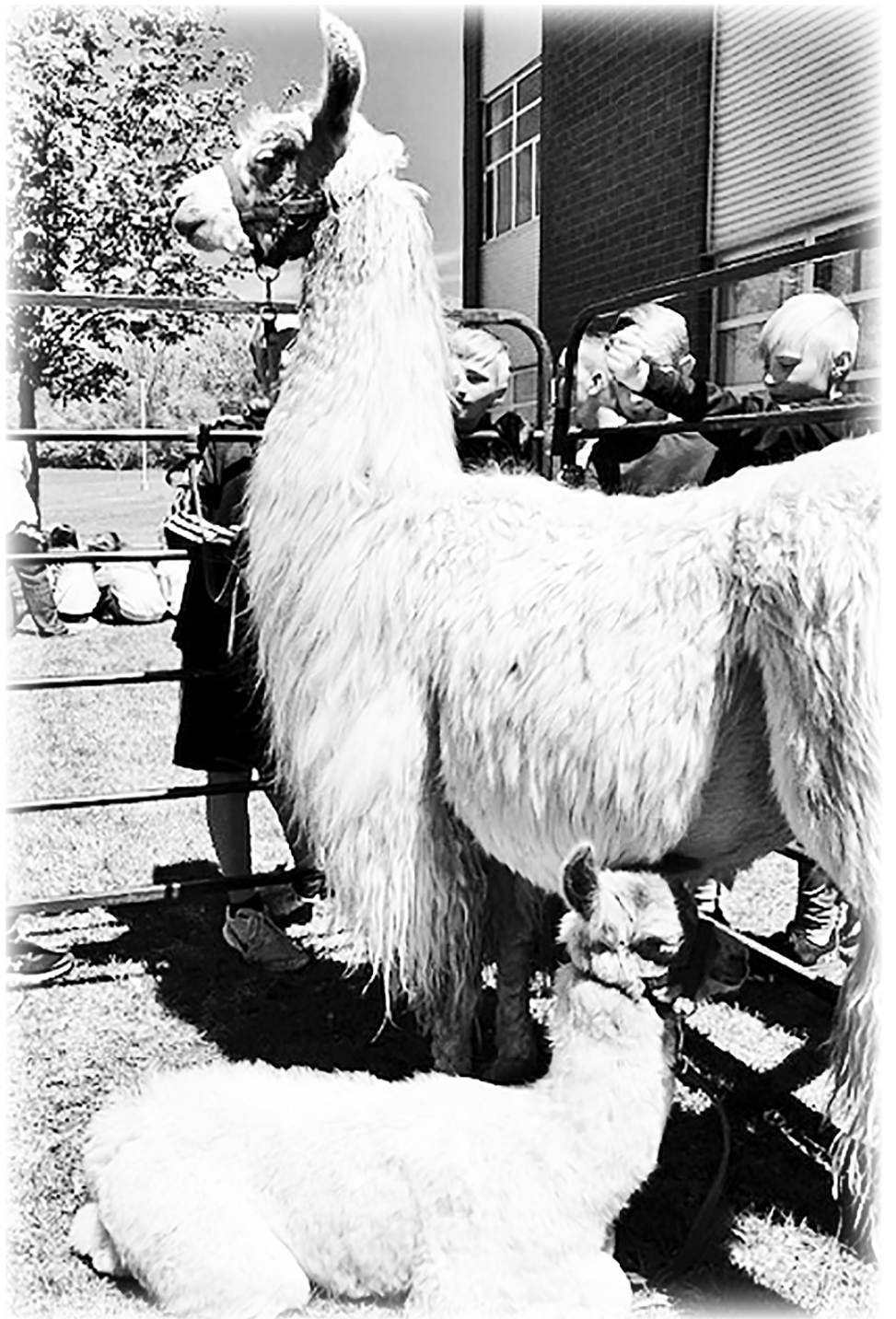
by Jeremy Engebretson
Administrative Dean

Students at Victoria Elementary School contributed to two different charities last month. On May 1st, students purchased leis ▲ and celebrated Hawaiian Day as they contributed over \$1,000 to the Children's Cancer Research Fund in memory of Maddison Mertz, a resident of Victoria and fellow student who died in 2017 at the age of 8.

◀ Also, students donated food for the Pinky Swear Pantry, which was created by the Knapp-Chepokas family, who is connected to Victoria Elementary. The pantry provides food options to families with children at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital.



The garden day is funded by a grant from Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom. Students also enjoyed a visit from Carlson's Lovable Llamas and a calf from a Victoria Elementary family's farm.



IN VICTORIA'S Winchester & Rye

by Sue Orsen
The Victoria Gazette

It was a grand soft opening of the newest place in town on Wednesday evening, May 9th, with over 100 invited guests, a full bar, and a full buffet dinner. The transition from Victoria Creamery to Winchester & Rye is complete. The place is now open to the public and it's fabulous, from the impressive mounted caribou head prominent in the foyer to the fancy brick oven in the pizza parlor to the longest well-stocked whiskey bar.



Kevin and Kim Heenie, owners of the new restaurant, had several relatives on hand for the occasion, including Kim's parents, Al and Louise Lehner of Victoria, and Kim's three sisters, Mary, Gina, and Tanya. Mary Meuwissen, owner of the property, and her husband Mike and son Taylor were also part of the evening. Some got in the picture.

▲*Front (l-r):* Tanya Hisey, Mary Meuwissen, Louise Lehner, Gina Holman, Kim Heenie. *Behind:* Nick Heenie, Mary and Greg Sumner, Al Lehner, Dave Holman, a guest, and Kevin Heenie.

◀*(L-r):* Kim Heenie, Porter Conklin, Kevin Heenie, Amanda Pedersen, Nick Heenie, Kevin McKiernan, Kevin Logelin.



▲ Three sides of this spacious dining room are floor to ceiling windows overlooking three sides of downtown Victoria. A fourth side opens to an outdoor patio on Victoria Drive in downtown Victoria.

◀ This group of friends at Winchester & Rye originally got together at the Island View Country Club in Waconia where they had standing Friday night dinner reservations for the past 20 years, when Kim and Kevin Heenie were in charge of that place. Now the group of friends have their Friday nights back with Kim and Kevin at Winchester & Rye in downtown Victoria.

L-r: Jerry and Judy Bailey, Jane Eveslage, Donna Moonen, Sandy Berger, Leann and Ellen Rindahl, Ray Rindahl, Jim Berger, Jerry Eveslage, Audrey Geiger. Said Jane, "What a wonderful night!"

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

BeeHive Renamed "Trouvaille Memory Care Suites" in Excelsior

by Tyler Stevens, Owner
Trouvaille Memory Care Suites

Tyler Stevens, franchise owner of the BeeHive Homes of Excelsior, announced May 1st that he has changed the name of his memory care suites to Trouvaille Memory Care Suites.

Stevens explained that the new name would reflect the evolving focus and standards of the company, adding, "Although it was a great relationship, being part of a franchise has some limitations. Trouvaille now allows us to expand on our goals of providing innovative care and being a leader in our industry."

"We want to change the status quo when it comes to memory care and caring for seniors. I look forward to providing innovative services to seniors through music, spirituality, activities, technology, and evidence-based health advances to improve quality of life while maintaining the great home that we all know and love."

The name Trouvaille (pronounced "true-vi") was chosen because it means "a valuable discovery, or a lucky find; something lovely discovered by chance."

For Stevens, that means getting the opportunity to meet amazing families and also the ability to work with wonderful staff. It is his vision that Trouvaille is going to continue to be the premier memory care community in Excelsior.



IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

20 More Inpatient Beds at Ridgeview Hospital in Waconia

by Lisa Steinbauer, Director of Marketing
Ridgeview Medical Center

On May 22nd, 2019, Governor Tim Walz signed into law an act allowing Ridgeview to expand its inpatient program in its Waconia hospital by 20 additional beds.

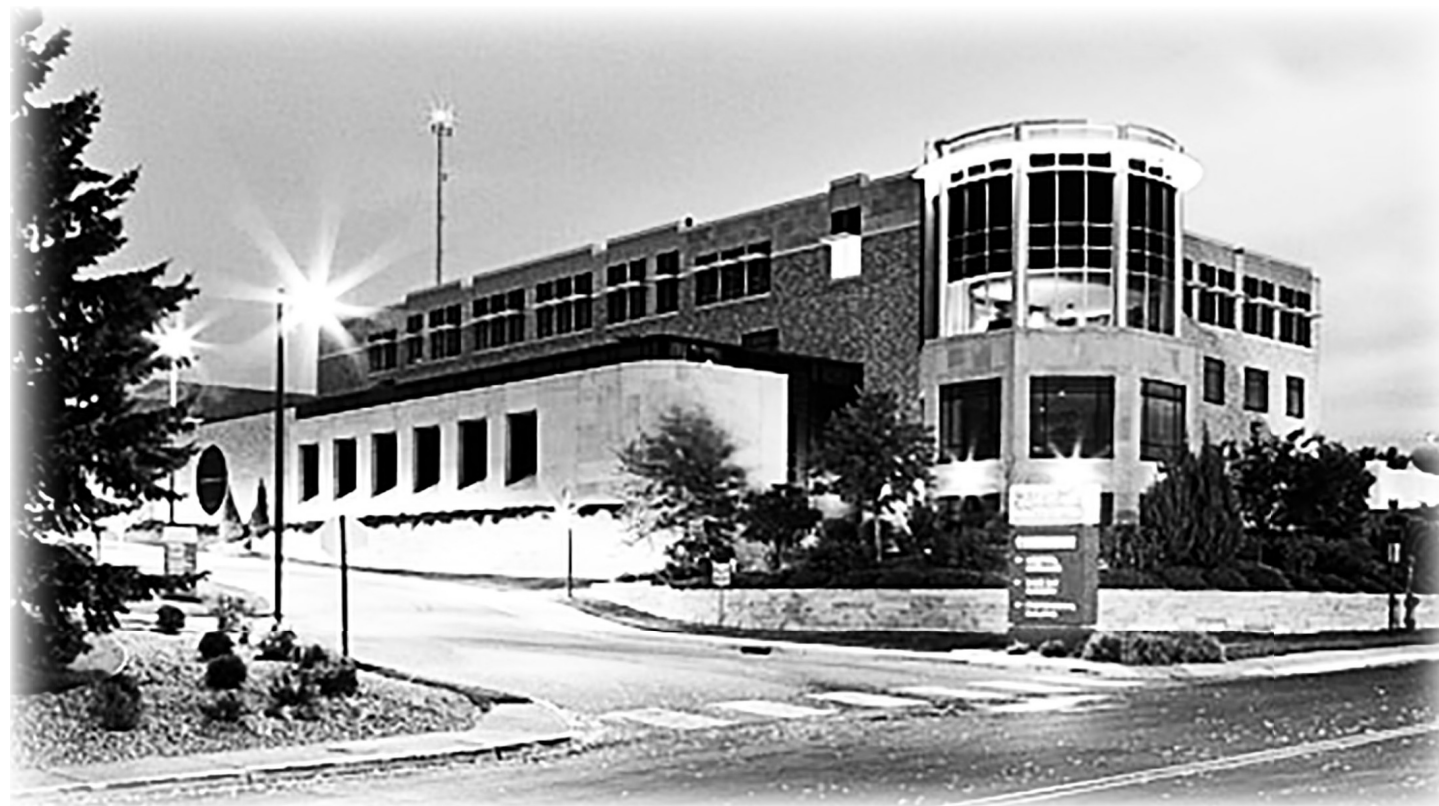
Governor Walz's signature followed unanimous approval of a bill amending a 2003 Minnesota Statute restricting use of hospital beds -- by both the Minnesota Senate and Minnesota House of Representatives during the 2019 legislative session.

According to Ridgeview President and CEO Mike Phelps, Ridgeview had previously been allocated the use of the 20 licensed beds by the legislature in 2003, but "regulatory restrictions prevented an 'existing hospital' -- Ridgeview -- from adding any more hospital beds for medical or surgical use."

With growing demand and community need for additional inpatient beds, Ridgeview approached its local legislators -- Senator Scott Jensen (R-District 47) and Representative Jim Nash (R-District 47A) -- to author bills for the MN Senate and House to amend the 2003 statute.

This new legislation does not create a new hospital license for Ridgeview, though it allows the addition of up to 20 more hospital beds at any time.

As the southwest metro region continues to grow, Ridgeview "wanted this additional capacity to ensure Ridgeview can continue to meet the needs of the many patients and communities we now serve in a seven-county area," Phelps said. "We will now continue our assessment to identify the specific purposes for these beds and a



timeline for potential expansion."

Said Senator Jensen, "The impact and community benefit of Ridgeview Medical Center should be apparent to anyone who lives within 100 miles of this hospital system. For me, to help Ridgeview advance its mission and its services to the patients and communities it serves, it is a privilege. I am pleased that Governor Walz has signed the bill to allow Ridgeview to utilize 20 additional beds in whatever manner it chooses."

Said Representative Nash, "This is

great news for our community and Ridgeview Medical Center. It will result in more patients from the southwest metro and the immediate area who can be treated at this fantastic facility. It will also create new nursing jobs, support jobs, and facility jobs for our community. Bills like this are proof we can work together to get things done for communities across our state."

Added Phelps, "We greatly appreciate the work by Senator Jensen and Representative Nash, as well as the co-authors of the bill: Sen. Eric Pratt (R), Sen. Matt Klein

(DFL), Rep. Kelly Morrison (DFL), Rep. Glenn Gruenhagen (R), Rep. Patty Acomb (DFL), Rep. Laurie Halverson (DFL)."

He said it's not often a bill has unanimous bipartisan support. "Our bills passed the House with a 126-0 vote and the Senate with a 66-0 vote, which is a testament to the support and confidence our elected officials have in Ridgeview as a community health system," he said.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Support for Youth Provided by Shelter in Chanhassen

by Abigail Botten
180 Degrees/Chanhassen, MN

180 Degrees hosted an open house at its Hope House emergency youth shelter in Chanhassen for homeless youth. This free event was to create awareness about one of the few youth shelters located in the southwest suburbs and the growing homeless population in Minnesota -- the highest number of homeless youth to date.

180 Degrees looks to help the rising homeless youth population by giving them a safe place to lay their heads and helping them to distinguish long term plans moving forward.

Through Hope House, which is funded by the Open Hands Foundation and Westwood Community Church, along with individual donors, 180 Degrees is able to give six kids a temporary home each night while still continuing their education.

"It is hard enough being a kid and when you add homelessness into the mix, it can be hard to find hope," says 180 Degrees CEO, Dan Pfarr. "By providing youth with a safe environment and support to help them get back on their feet, we can make their lives a little bit easier."

Hope House has been providing shelter, food, and support to kids since 2016. In 2019, 180 Degrees is moving a support program into the Hope House called YoVo-Pro (Youth Vocational Program). This program provides the teens at Hope House with resources to enter the workforce.

Through interviewing skills, resume building, and on the job etiquette training, YoVoPro helps teens begin to plan long



term in hopes of a positive transition into young adulthood.

Founded in 1973, 180 Degrees Inc. is a social services agency dedicated to transforming the lives of individuals throughout the State of Minnesota. 180 Degrees provides therapeutic residential programs and

other community programs that help individuals to turn their lives around.

Serving adults, youth, and children of diverse backgrounds, 180 Degrees helps those who are facing significant barriers to begin to reach their full potential. For more information, visit www.180degrees.org.

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Regarding Dentistry in Victoria will be closed during the summer months while completing interior office enhancements. During this process, all appointments will be taking place at the Waconia location, 732 Vista Blvd.

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Seems Like Yesterday . . . from the editor's files

30 Years Ago June 1989 Gazette

*The Gazette featured the Victoria Gazette in "My Baby is Ten." Writes Publisher/Editor Sue Orsen, who wrote for the paper upon its birth and then became editor in its first year, "It has been a happy and contented baby. I'll love it while I can and hopefully it won't grow up any too soon." Circulation of the Gazette has grown to 2,900 households, which translates to roughly 12,000 readers in and around the metro area.

*In a letter from Scott McClain, original publisher of the Victoria Gazette, he writes, "Victoria will always be one of my most memorable experiments. Of all the projects I started in Victoria, the Gazette is the only one to survive. I know it's due to your dedicated hard work, Sue, and the respect you have gained with your readership."

*Writes Doug McClain, father of Publisher Scott McClain, "Seems impossible the Gazette is ten years old, and so does being 91 years old since last September. So glad the Gazette is still being published and keeping you busy. Great to have someone like you, Sue."

Writes Dan Vork, former mayor of Victoria, "Three years ago we moved to Chaska and one year ago we moved to Parker, Colorado. We look forward to reading about old friends and 'home.'"

*Editor Sue Orsen thanked Tony Aretz for taking pictures at 6 a.m. one morning at the site of Victoria's first water tower as he captured the tank being hoisted in place. Tony also develops his own film.

*One of the last barns on the Victoria scene was burned to the ground at the expert hands of the Victoria Fire Department sharpening their firefighting skills. Almost 100 years old, the barn had belonged to the Rhoy and then Chub and Celeste (Rhoy) Aretz. This area just across Co. Rd. 11 from the St. Victoria Catholic Church, is being developed by Marv Hartman.

*Jerome (Chub) and Celeste Aretz are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary at the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Victoria with an Open House reception at the Parish Center following Mass.

*Victoria Postmaster Al Folden writes that his regular customer Aunt Martha looks like a perfect grandmother type but has the tenacity of a bulldog.

*The Victoria State Bank advertises a 10-month Certificate of Deposit at 9.4%. Minimum amount is \$1,000.

*Construction on Victoria's first water tower, near Deer Run, began on April 10th and was completed on May 24th. The bowl will hold 100,000 gallons.

*Writes Father Elstan Coghill, "More often than not when someone stops at the door for a handout, his appearance advertises his need before he states it in words, but not always."

*Writes Pastor Arnold Lemke, "A loving father is a treasure that is passed on from generation to generation."

*Public improvements have been requested for the three lots on 73rd Street down at Parkside Estates. Formerly identified as unbuildable, they are now being developed by owner Dave Schultz.

*Councilmembers approved a 29-unit townhome development at Deer Run to be known as Green Crest. Councilmember Dar-el Geske abstained from voting on the issue since he is the developer/owner.

*Of the 24 Victoria property owners seeking a decrease in assessed valuation, and therefore taxes, seven got them lowered

*The Victoria Chamber of Commerce is considering the possibility of sponsoring some type of Oktoberfest for the community this fall.

*Marv Hartman is advertising homes in Katy Hills for \$89,000. Price includes landscaped lot.

*Writes Roger Stein, naturalist at Lowry Nature Center, "Egg laying turtles should be left alone, especially the more aggressive snapping turtle which can strike out with its long neck with great speed and power."

*Three members of the Victoria Senior Center are in the hospital -- Hilda Wartman, Ruth Kaufhold, and George Schmiege.

*A Rolle Bolle Tournament for post-

masters will be held in Ghent, MN, this summer. So reports Marlys Timm of Victoria.

*Writes Jenny Orsen, 1989 graduate of Chaska High School, "My memories, values, ideas, and prayers are visible in all corners of my room at home, and the door is always open. From that room I will take the foundation of myself that will soon begin to grow new roots in my new room at Carleton College in Northfield."

20 Years Ago June 1999 Gazette

*The Gazette featured groundbreaking ceremonies for Holy Family Catholic High School in Victoria in "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." Nearly 200 people sat in the middle of a farm field that formerly provided sustenance to Willard and Jean Bongard and their family. Some of the notables at the event included Archbishop Harry Flynn, Archbishop John Roach, former Governor Al Quie, Victoria Mayor Mary Meuwissen and other Councilmembers, Jim Paulsen, Tim Amundsen, Jerry Bohn, and Dave Lindgren, and others.

*Editor Sue Orsen writes about an evening at home alone. Allan is at Wayzata City Council meeting, but her phone doesn't stop ringing and so she's not lonely in the least.

*Editor Sue's parents just purchased a computer and now have email addresses. "Pretty darn good, if you ask me, to be over 70 years old and also interested in learning new technology." Their moniker is related to farming: IdleAcres@info.starpoint.net.

*Victoria Lions President Darwin Ische congratulated two fellow Lions who received the Melvin Jones Awards: Lion Tony Kerber and Lion Leroy Worm. Lion Steve Ische received the President's Appreciation Award. Speaker at a recent Lions meeting was Rich Gannon, quarterback for the Oakland Raiders, former Kansas City Chief and Minnesota Viking.

*Writes Jim Larkin, principal with Larkin Hoffman Daly and friend of the Gazette, "There is no longer any valid scientific dispute that life begins at conception, yet, like the people Isaiah talked about, they have hardened their hearts."

*Writes Cowboy Tom Stumpf, "In our sports happy society, less and less emphasis is put on making a living with your brain, and more and more young men and women are lured to the physical side of life in the hope of plying their trade for the big bucks."

*Holy Family Catholic High School has chosen its first principal, Kathie Brown, currently the principal at 50-year old Catholic Memorial, a regional Catholic high school in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

*The Victoria State Bank is celebrating President Wayne Neubarth's 25-year history at the bank with an Open House and a CD special: 5.75% on a 21-month CD with a minimum of \$2,500.

*Writes Roger Stein, retired naturalist, "I spoke to a group of junior golfers and told them about seeing a gray fox and green grass snake and that one fall day I saw a hawk knock a bird out of the air and then turn around and catch the bird before it hit the ground."

*Writes Fr. Bob White, "After 25, 40, 50, or 60 years of priesthood, we might wonder how we got here to where we are today. As the Archbishop reminds us, the important thing to know is that it was by God's grace."

*Writes Pastor Bob Johnson, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, "God throughout the Scriptures, always has an 'if' in His covenant with us. God will not break the covenant, but we can fail to keep our part of the bargain."

*New kids on the block are Leon and Nancy Sturk, revealed and reported by Louise Lehner, Lady of the Links.

*Holy Family Catholic High School donated a site on its 73-acre parcel in Victoria for locating the city's new 500,000-gallon water tower.

*The city's new water tower is expected to be up and running by July 2000 with the school opening in September 2000.

*Stated Mayor Mary Meuwissen, "If someone would artificially correct the price of homes to make them affordable, it would not work because prices will revert back

to the marketplace at resale time. She said when the marketplace was in control, there was affordable housing available."

*City council adopted an ordinance requiring the placement of overhead utility lines underground, "applicable to construction, replacement, relocation, or reconstruction."

*Nancy Mancino, mayor of Chanhasen, was invited to a council workshop in Victoria. In Victoria's current form of city administrator government, she said, councilmembers do all the hiring and firing. In Chanhasen, the city manager is responsible for hiring and firing staff.

*The city's new used generator weighs 8,000 pounds and came from Nevada. It cost \$24,000 to buy and nearly \$3,000 to relocate. It runs on diesel so is capable of keeping a city well operating in case of a power outage." Stated Mayor Mary, "It's a good deal. Thank you, Jim Paulsen."

*Representative Tom Workman and Senator Ed Oliver attended the recent meeting of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce.

*Resident Gary Delaney was appointed to the Victoria Planning Commission, joining Marian Carpenter, Bud Hiivala, Jerry Keehr, and Gordon Simanton.

*Fr. Bob White is celebrating 25 years of priesthood. Fr. Elstan Coghill and Fr. Fred Schneider are celebrating 50 years of priesthood.

*Writes Mike Wartman, "The Latin phrase *carpe diem* means to 'seize the day,' but it meant something entirely different to us as we translated it to 'seize the carp.'"

*Pastor Frank Jones writes about a disturbing experience at Gold Rush Days in Rochester, with rude words coming from a nearby couple. "All people need to treat those whom God loves -- which is everyone -- with respect and dignity," he writes.

*Writes Biker Thom Derr, "Most motorcycle gear is quite functional. For example, one of the best ways to save your skin is to use someone else's, which brings us to leathers."

*The Victoria Fire Department held its first annual Hog Roast. Perfect weather contributed to an enjoyable event.

*Writes Janie Jasin, "Upon examination of my birth date, June 30th, 1939, I am going to lay my thoughts on you. This whole thing is going very fast, like a speeding bullet."

10 Years Ago June 2009 Gazette

*The Gazette featured itself, recognizing the 30-year anniversary of the Victoria Gazette, in "With Heart and Soul, Thanks for Thirty!" For 30 years people have used the word "love" to express their feelings about the Gazette. Thus I write the word "heart." For 30 years people have signed their hundreds and thousands of notes and letters with "God bless." Thus I write the word "soul." The Gazette featured 15 people who contribute to the pages in one way or another.

*Editor Sue Orsen wrote about a phone call she received in May from Whitey Wellens, a longtime resident of Victoria who lives in Florida. We talked a lot about the old days in Victoria, about the first grocery store in a woodframe building (1895) that became Wellens Hardware (in 1954), the second grocery store in the Notermann Building (1898) that sold coffins in the basement and a good selection of Christmas decorations and toys.

*Cowboy Correspondent Tom Stumpf wrote about running into Tony Oliva at a Minnesota Twins game. "So there I was, picking up my pre-ordered tickets and there stood my hero of years past. As he shook my hand, I simply looked him in the eye and said, 'Hall of Fame in my book, Tony!'"

*KleinBank held an Open House to honor Peggy Leuthner on her 30th anniversary at the bank.

*Writes Mike Wartman, former resident of Victoria, "My unofficial records indicate that I started monthly musing about Victoria in the Victoria Gazette in July 1989 with a little ditty entitled, 'A Peanut Spring in Victoria.'"

*Writes Tom Abts, Deer Run Golf Pro, "The creative golfer needs to have enough control of his golf swing to allow his golf

swing to come through. It's the great players who can be artists during competition."

*Writes Mayor Mary Hershberger Thun, "A couple of years ago, Victoria contributed \$50,000 toward a Hwy 5 corridor study to lay out the preferred route for the future four-lanes. Hwy 5 is the most direct route to the 'City of Lakes and Parks.' I encourage the governor to travel Hwy 5 and visit Victoria."

*Writes Thom Derr, Rough Rider, "It is a very beautiful Memorial Day Weekend and I have been riding instead of writing. I must apologize to Editor Sue for my tardiness."

*The grand opening of Ridgeview's new birthing center is June 25th. Register to win a digital camera valued at \$650.

*Writes Ethel Ausink, Senior Citizens Reporter, "The vast majority of shootings in high schools and colleges have been related to psychiatric drugs. Lots of healthy children have problems with math and reading, but does that justify medicating children with drugs that actually increase their risk of suicide and violent behavior?"

*Writes Pastor Maureen Bonner, Waterbrooke Fellowship, "My guide for life in all things begins with the Word of God. It tells us that rest is in God alone. Jesus provided a key to rest when He said, 'Learn of me and you will find rest for your soul.'"

*Writes Leo Stans, Former Resident of Victoria, "I have heard it said that our talents are given to us for the benefit of others and it is our responsibility to develop these to the best of our ability and use them for the good of others."

*Writes Pastor Frank Jones, Lake Auburn Moravian Church, "God gave us an amount of time and He also gave us the choice of how we might use it. Now it's getting on toward lunch time and I hope to catch it with a sandwich."

*Writes Editor Sue, "We decided to ride Amtrak out to see daughter Jenny and her family in Tioga, ND, for the long Memorial Day Weekend. There's lots of oil in the earth near Tioga, enough to free the USA from dependence on foreign oil."

*Lions Park neighborhood is receiving street and utility improvements this summer along with the Hartwood neighborhood.

*Council voted to purchase five large marketing signs to be placed on public property in Victoria at a cost not to exceed \$5,000."

*Said Councilmember Tim Amundsen, "I don't know how much money we've saved due to the effort of Mr. Poppitz. I ask that it be named Mike Poppitz Field. Let's recognize someone while they're still alive."

*Said Mayor Thun, "It makes no sense to have seven garbage trucks wrecking roads in our neighborhoods. Has the city ever considered taking bids to service the entire city?"

*The City of Victoria is reconstructing more downtown streets including Quamoclit, part of Stieger Lake Lane, Tower Boulevard, a right turn lane off Hwy 5 at the Quamoclit intersection, ten on-street parking spaces along Stieger Lake Lane, bumping out the curb line on Victoria Drive to provide a right turn lane into the Fresh Seasons parking lot.

*Writes Budding Climatologist Lucas Graunke, 13, "May 2009 has been on the warm side. We hit our first 80, and 90, and 100-degrees all in one day!"

*Writes Deb McMillan, President of the SW Metro Chamber of Commerce, "Financial assistance is available to help small businesses see their way through the current economic downturn and be posed for recovery, thanks to grant money from the Pohlad Family Foundation."

*Writes Editor Sue, "They might not be building many new homes across the nation, but construction is not at a standstill in Victoria. These photos taken in May show contractors building and rebuilding streets, repairing leaks in the municipal water system, installing gas lines, and constructing new parking lots, bike trails, and berms."

*Victoria resident Tony Vogel wrote about his sister Mary Kast. "Mary said she was not afraid of dying but that she would miss life, especially our family get-togethers like the fish fries and bonfires and holidays."

*Kayla Lindeman took 1st place in the All Around competition at the Regional Gymnastics Meet at the Wisconsin Dells.



HOOK LINE & SINKER

by Sue Orsen

I don't know how this affects fishing and fishermen, but I just read June 1st that the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District issued a High Water Declaration for Lake Minnetonka.

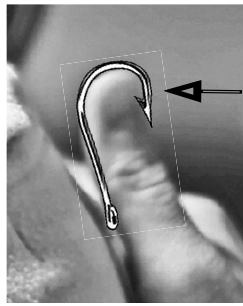
During High Water Declaration, watercraft may not be operated at a speed greater than 5 miles per hour or at a speed that creates more than a minimum wake in regulated areas of Lake Minnetonka. The change is that areas of minimum wake are expanded for public safety and to protect the lake.

"Minimum wake" means that the wake trailing behind a watercraft in a widening 'V' is insufficient in size to affect other watercraft or be detrimental to the shoreline. The High Water Declaration will remain in effect until Lake Minnetonka's water levels measure below 930 feet for three consecutive days. For the record, I've never seen speeding fishermen, but I'm wondering how high water levels affect the fish. Do they swim deeper then?

The LMCD reports that this is the third wettest start to a year the Twin Cities has experienced since recording began in 1871. I feel bad for the farmers.

When I dipped into the minnow bucket this time, I pulled out Helen Schimmelpfennig of Fish Creek, Wisconsin! That's the most interesting name and location in the entire minnow bucket! Yes, indeed, the fishhook in the May issue of the paper was wrapped about the mother's thumb in the Ridgeview ad on page 12. Congratulations, Mrs. Schimmelpfennig! Your ten bucks should be arriving shortly.

There's another fishhook hidden in this issue of the Gazette. If you find it and wish to be part of the next drawing, email Sue@VictoriaGazette.com telling of its location or drop a line to P.O. Box 387, Victoria MN 55386 and sinker in the mail. Hopefully, it'll stop raining so water levels get back to normal and farmers can get in their fields.



Last month's fishhook.



ECLECTIC EMAILS

Received by Sue@VictoriaGazette.com

Subject: What did he say?

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Not surprisingly, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.



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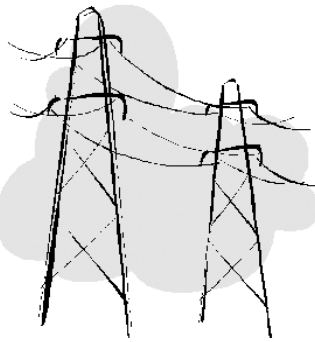
Classic Car Nights. In downtown Victoria. Wednesday evenings. June 12th and June 26th.

City Council Meetings. Monday, June 10th, and Monday, June 24th. 6:30 p.m. at City Hall on Stieger Lake Lane.

Flag Day. Friday, June 14th. Observed by some cities and states since the American flag was adopted in 1777, Flag Day was officially established in 1916 by proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson. In 1949 National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress signed by President Harry S. Truman.

President Trump's Birthday. Friday, June 14th. Donald J. Trump was born in 1946, in Queens, New York, the fourth of five children of Frederick and Mary MacLeod Trump.

Father's Day. Sunday, June 16th. Observed by some communities since 1908. Father's Day was formally proclaimed and designated by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966 as the third Sunday in June. Made a permanent national holiday by President Richard Nixon who signed it into law in 1972.



Full Moon. Monday, June 17th. The moon is fully illuminated as seen from earth. At Full Moon, the moon and sun are on a line with earth in between, as though the moon and sun are sitting on either end of a seesaw.

Summer Begins. Friday, June 21st. The summer solstice is the longest day and shortest night of the year in the northern hemisphere. The word 'solstice' is Latin for 'sun stands still.' On June 20th (or 21st) of each year, the sun is directly overhead at noon at the Tropic of Cancer.

Gazette Deadline. Monday, June 24th. Email Sue@VictoriaGazette.com or use P.O. Box 387, Victoria, MN 55386.



Vocabulary in Victoria

The editor's favorite new words

The word: "parabolic."

The sentences: "I'm going to start by sketching three brief personal experiences. Each, though literally true, is also parabolic of basic claims about art or creativity once thought axiomatic but now generally resisted when considered together."

When I looked up the word, two similar words popped up: parabola and parable. I recall the word parabola from math classes and recognized its U-shape as being mirror-symmetrical. A parable, of course, is what Jesus in the Gospels used to teach people; it's a story that illustrates a lesson.

The meaning of parabolic is related to parable. The Gospels are parabolic, which means they are expressed in parables. It is the opposite of axiomatic, which means self-evident or unquestionable. Not all parables are self-evident or unquestionable, though over time we may have come to see them as such.



Constellations

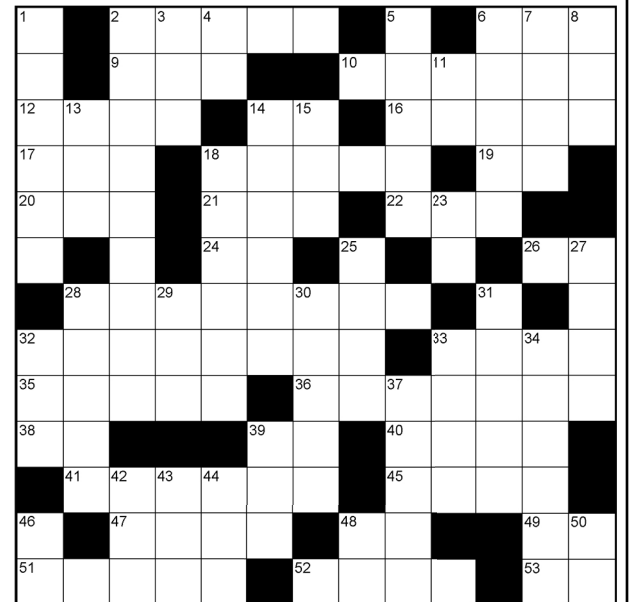
by Steven & Jo-Anne Young, Victoria, MN

ACROSS

- 2 * Ram
- 6 Mad scientist's milieu
- 9 Big Apple letters
- 10 * Castor and Pollux
- 12 Sassiness, briefly
- 14 Partner of Ha, sometimes
- 16 "It's ___ deal"
- 17 Pine product
- 18 * Mariner's compass
- 19 Part of Treasure Island author's monogram
- 20 * Northern beast
- 21 Chemical ending
- 22 * Altar constellation
- 24 SAT taker
- 26 Pepsi alternative
- 28 * Mythical strongman
- 32 Clears away the clutter
- 33 Soul singer Erykah
- 35 * Heavenly bodies
- 36 * Bird of myth
- 38 2001 Spielberg sci-fi film
- 39 Kung ___
- 40 Scottish rope
- 41 * Bull
- 45 Clouseau's rank, abbr.
- 47 River that flows into the Elbe
- 48 Criminal's method, abbr.
- 49 Alien movie
- 51 * Associated with fertility
- 52 * Wild cat
- 53 Atomic no. 44 symbol

DOWN

- 1 * Together with 34-down, minor animal
- 2 * Daughter of Cassiopeia
- 3 Reuben bread
- 4 Roman 99
- 5 * Table in the southern sky
- 6 * Scales in the sky
- 7 Shade of blue
- 8 * Together with 34-down, major animal
- 11 KC's state
- 13 Abu Dhabi is its cap.
- 14 * Male water snake
- 15 Chopper
- 18 * Star fish?
- 23 Just what the doctor ordered
- 25 John John to E.M.K.
- 27 * Smallest of all 88 modern constellations



- 28 Bandleader's cue
- 29 Breed of chicken, abbr.
- 30 * Wolf
- 31 * Dog
- 32 Bag-screening org.
- 33 Protein source
- 34 * Heavenly ladle
- 37 * Celestial hunter
- 39 Stole
- 42 Atmosphere
- 43 Pres. before R.B.H.
- 44 ___ Speedwagon
- 46 Résumé, for short
- 48 "Goodness gracious!"
- 50 You, in Rome

Key for "San Francisco" From May 2019 Gazette



Awards Night for the Victoria Lions

by Sue Orsen
The Victoria Gazette

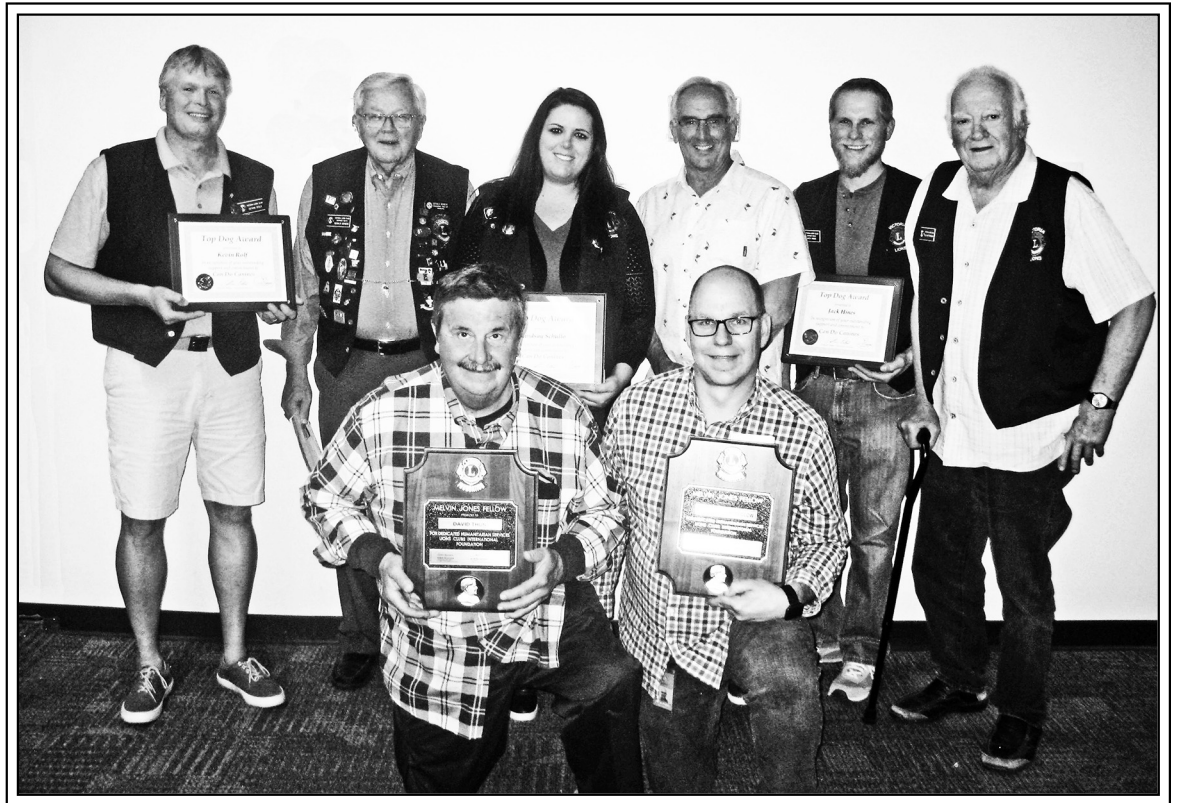
After appetizers, camaraderie, and a pork chop dinner, the Victoria Lions got down to business, handing out awards and installing officers for their new calendar year. A Lions Club donates \$1,000 to Lions Club International Foundation for each Melvin Jones Award bestowed on outstanding members for dedication to humanitarian service. The award is named after the founder of Lions Club International. A Lions Club donates \$500 for each Can-Do Canine Top Dog Award. The dollars help support hearing and service dogs.

Melvin Jones Recipients:

- Lion Chip Peglow
- Lion Martin Teall
- Lion David Thun.

Can-Do Canine Top Dog Awards:

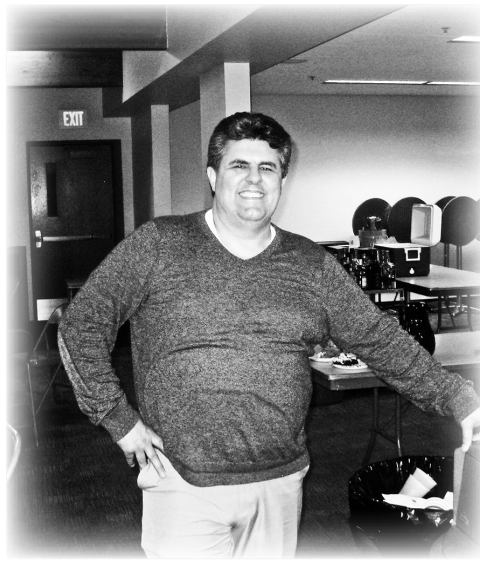
- Lion Jack Hines
- Lion Kevin 'Chevy' Rolf
- Lion Lindsay Schullo.



Board of Directors for 2019/2020:

- Lion Brent Romenesko (President)
- Lion Jack Hines (Vice President)
- Lion Jim Crowley (2nd VP)
- Lion Julie Page (3rd VP)
- Lion Bryan Olson (2nd Year Director)
- Lion Joel Hulke (2nd Year Director)
- Lion Mike Armbrust (1st Year Director)
- Lion Lindsay Schullo (1st Year Director)
- Lion Steve Frederickson (Secretary)
- Lion Pat McCoy (Treasurer)
- Lion Laura Metzger (Communications Dir.)
- Lion Al Orsen (Service Chair)
- Lion Jeff Williams (Membership Chair)
- Lion Doug Dyer (Tail Twister)
- Lion Chip Peglow (Lion Tamer)
- Lion Dave Lura (Past President)

Thank you, Lion Dave Lura, for information of awards and officers and your help.



▲ Front (l-r): Lion Dave Thun (Melvin Jones Fellowship Award) and Chip Peglow (Melvin Jones Fellowship Award). Back: Kevin Rolf (Top Dog), Gerald Beneke (Centennial Pin), Lindsay Schullo (Top Dog), Joel Hulke (10 years of service), Jack Hines (Top Dog), Ray Notermann (50 years of service).

◀ Lion Kelley Janes (outgoing Lion Tamer) was the last Lion on premise that evening, cleaning up and putting things away.

▶ Lion Dave Lura led the Victoria Lions through a very successful 2018-2019 calendar year.



IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Carver County Again Ranked Happiest County in the USA

by Eric Sieger, Communications
Carver County, Minnesota

Carver County ranks first as the "Happiest County in the United States" for the second consecutive year, according to a report released by SmartAsset.com.

The rankings are based on the 2019 World Happiness Report, an undertaking of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network on behalf of the United Nations. SmartAsset.com takes that data to compare 980 counties across the U.S. with populations of at least 50,000.

It looks at eight different metrics, including unemployment rate, poverty rate, affordability ratio, marriage rate, divorce rate, bankruptcy rate, life expectancy, and physical activity rate.

Carver County placed first in the same rankings in 2018, and this marks the fifth consecutive year Carver County ranked in the top five. The website cited the County's nearly 84% physical activity rate and its high marriage rate (62.2%) and low divorce rate (7.9%). The County posted a low unemployment rate (2.6%) and high life expectancy (82.8 years).

"The County ranking number one in the happiness index, of course, is a source of pride for all of us," said Carver County Commissioner Randy Maluchnik. "I think this shows the tremendous sense of community that exists throughout the County and the great work that fosters it."

He added, "But we also know that not everyone enjoys all these benefits, and we as a Board and as a community need to continue the necessary work to ensure all county residents can seek the opportunity to pursue happiness."

One other Minnesota county, neighboring Scott County, appears seventh in the rankings. It's the first time Scott County placed in the top ten.





Victoria Student Honors

On Campuses Near and Far

James Farner of Victoria graduated from the University of Oklahoma in May 2019 with Bachelor degrees in both English and Religious Studies and maintained a perfect 4.0 throughout his undergraduate career.

Lauren Strigel, daughter of Tom and Susan Strigel of Victoria, graduated in May 2019 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Jack Kaeding of Victoria graduated in May 2019 from Minnesota State University, Mankato, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management.

Adam Renfro of Victoria graduated in May 2019 from Minnesota State University, Mankato, with a Bachelor of Science degree in History.

Alex Riley of Victoria graduated in May 2019 from Minnesota State University, Mankato, with a Bachelor of Science degree in the Registered Nurse Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program.

Jaclyn Zirbes of Victoria was awarded a 2019 Catholic United Financial Scholarship, a one-time member benefit.

Benjamin Wulf of Victoria was awarded a 2019 Catholic United Financial Scholarship, is a one-time member benefit.

Emily Anderson, daughter of Todd and Margaret Anderson of Victoria, received the North Dakota State University Provost Award Scholarship in the amount of \$6,000. The scholarship recognizes students who scored a 25 to 28 on the ACT and attained high academic achievement. Emily will enter NDSU, Fargo, in the fall and plans to major in nursing.

Katherine Johnson of Victoria was named to the Dean's List for spring 2019 at MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, Kansas, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Nathan Simon of Victoria graduated in May 2019 from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering.

Maria Vogel of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Maria L. Contreras of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List in the College of Nursing at South Dakota State University, Brookings, having earned a GPA of 4.0.

Breanna Kaufhold of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List in the College of Natural Sciences and the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at South Dakota State University, Brookings, having earned a GPA of 4.0.

Casey Kleinsteuber of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List in the College of Education and Human Sciences at South Dakota State University, Brookings, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Mitchell Lack of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List in the College of Natural Sciences at South Dakota State University, Brookings, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Graham Burke of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Tyler Olson of Victoria graduated May 2019 from Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physics.

Claire Roth, daughter of Kent and Joan Roth of Victoria, graduated May 2019 from College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, MN, with a Bachelor of Arts in Nutrition.

Gabrielle Kunze, daughter of Paul and Jill Kunze of Waconia and granddaughter of Mary Moore of Victoria, graduated May 2019 from the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, MN, with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Business Leadership.

Mariah Jackels, daughter of Roger and Paula Jackels of Victoria, was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Maria V. Contreras of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at North Dakota State University at Fargo, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Timothy Kaufhold of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at North Dakota State University at Fargo, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Mason Weber of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at North Dakota State University at Fargo, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Parker Breza of Victoria graduated cum laude in May 2019 from Tufts University in Medford/Somerville, Mass., with a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies.

Megan Carver of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Honors List at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Zachary Osweiler of Victoria was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List at Alexandria Technical & Community College, having earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

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Best Cleaners Receives The 2018 "Award of Excellence"

The Drycleaning and Laundry Institute awarded Best Cleaners of St. Louis Park the 2018 Award of Excellence in Quality Cleaning and Customer Service. **Best Cleaners has received the award 14 times since 2005 when the program began.**

The Award of Excellence is the premier recognition program for professional members of the Drycleaning & Laundry Institute. To achieve the award, the entrant must prove it meets rigorous, objective standards in cleaning and service. The company must clean and return a evaluation to prove their cleaning quality is among the best. In addition, the company must successfully remove six difficult stains on a silk swatch and return it for evaluation. Continuing education for staff and adherence to a set of customer service principles round out the requirements.



Best Cleaners has five locations: Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, St. Louis Park, Excelsior and on West Lake Street of Minneapolis.

Improving Lakes and Creating a Waterfront Park in Victoria

by Bill Olson, Victoria
MCWD Board of Managers

With the warmer weather this past month, we were able to continue our effort to improve the water quality and ecological integrity of Wassermann Lake in Victoria.

In a partnership with the City of Victoria, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District treated a pond on the west side of Wassermann Lake that contributes excess phosphorous to the lake and creates algae blooms during the warm summer months. The high phosphorous levels are due to runoff from historic agricultural use and have put Wassermann Lake on the state's impaired waters list.

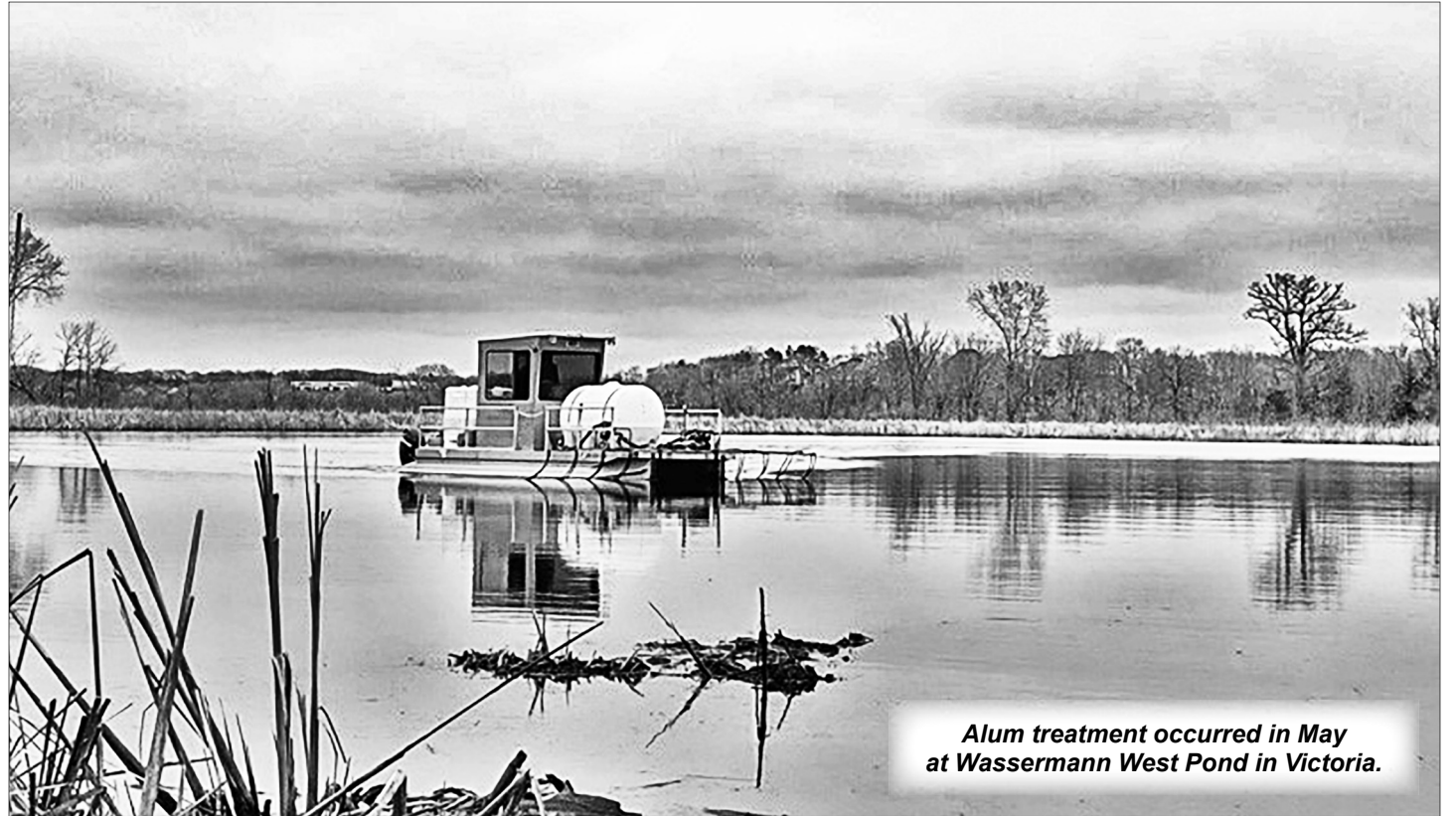
The partners are also working to create a public park on the land adjacent to the restored pond, fulfilling a community goal. Wassermann West Waterfront Park will feature a restored wetland, woodland, and prairie, a trail and boardwalk system, a park shelter, and shoreline access points.

The Victoria City Council voted to approve working with MCWD on the park earlier this month, and the project is now entering the design phase.

The first phase of the work to restore Wassermann West Pond was an aluminum sulfate (alum) treatment, which occurred in early May. Alum is used to reduce the amount of phosphorous released from the pond bottom by binding to phosphorous to form "floc."

The floc settles to the bottom and keeps the phosphorous contained, decreasing the number and severity of algae blooms in the pond and Wassermann Lake. Reducing algae blooms is important for improving water clarity and ecological conditions in Wassermann Lake.

The alum treatment was funded



Alum treatment occurred in May at Wassermann West Pond in Victoria.

through the Board of Soil and Water Resources Clean Water pilot program and will include two treatments over the next three years. In addition to this first treatment, MCWD staff will be collecting sediment cores from the pond. The sediment data will help improve the efficiency of future alum treatments, both at Wassermann West Pond and potential larger treatments at Wassermann Lake and Halsted Bay.

The work around Wassermann Lake is part of our ten-year habitat and water quality improvement efforts in the Six Mile

Creek-Halsted Bay Subwatershed. The Wassermann West Waterfront Park project is one element of a Western Chain of Lakes Greenway identified in the City of Victoria's 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

Working together, the city, MCWD, and other partners envision a connected network of natural areas that will help improve water quality and habitat, manage water quantity, and provide recreational opportunities.

The Western Chain of Lakes Greenway will support sustainable growth of the

City of Victoria and connect its most prized assets -- its lakes, parks, and trail systems -- to enhance quality of life for residents.

Also as part of our ten-year effort, MCWD is focusing on partnering with others to protect and restore wetlands and manage stormwater to improve water quality in this rapidly developing area of our watershed district. To learn more about our work in the Six Mile Creek-Halsted Bay Subwatershed and to subscribe to email updates, visit www.minnehahacreek.org/six-mile.

Working to Secure Funding for Hwy 212 in Carver County

by Eric Sieger, Communications
Carver County, Minnesota

Carver County's recent efforts at landing federal grant money to support Highway 212's expansion to four lanes continues to receive positive feedback from officials.

The County submitted grant applications through the BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) program for both segments of Hwy 212 between Chaska and Norwood Young America that remain two lanes.

While the County wasn't funded in this round of applications, county officials, led by Director of Public Works Lyndon Robjent, met recently with the U.S. Department of Transportation to receive feedback on the County's proposal.

Federal officials shared that the project's first phase, from Chaska to Cologne, earned a spot in the evaluation's top tier. The County requested \$12 million for this portion of the \$46.5 million project. Only 250 projects out of 850 applications received the group's highest ranking. Ninety-two applications were funded.

The project's \$65 million second phase from Cologne to Norwood fell into the second highest category when ranked by federal officials. The County wrote the grant for \$25 million, the maximum allowable under this program. The second phase's funding gap sits at \$38 million.

Officials stated that this phase received a slightly lower rating, given the project development is not as far along as other projects. They reinforced the need to develop detailed lifecycle costs and before and after safety statistics, which means the County should move forward with detailed design



and costing efforts.

"All in all, the applications were strong, and this is actually positive news for the County moving forward," said Robjent. "This is an extremely competitive process and one that, ultimately, we feel will end positively for the project and the County."

He also noted the County recently submitted to a different federal grant program known as INFRA (Infrastructure for Rebuilding America) to support both phases, and County officials hope to hear back this summer on this funding source.

County officials continue to pursue

other financial support from the State of Minnesota, as well as engaging legislators who can support the County to pursue other financial support from the State of Minnesota, as well as engaging legislators who can support the County's efforts at the state and federal level.

"The safety of residents and businesses that utilize Hwy 212 continues to serve as a top priority for the County Board," said Commissioner Randy Maluchnik. "Our staff, along with countless partners from cities, townships, and counties west of us, have worked tirelessly to secure the

necessary funding for this critical roadway. We will continue this work until we reach our goal. We know all too well the safety issues and bottlenecks these two segments cause."

PHOTO of a two-lane segment of Hwy 212 courtesy of Carver County Public Works.



Mother's Day Brunch and High Noon on the Plaza



▲HIGH NOON IN VICTORIA. I think we need umbrellas at the city's Bayfront Park. What do you think?
 ◀ON MOTHER'S DAY. Our family's Mother's Day Brunch at Winchester & Rye.
Louise Lehner, Victoria, Minnesota

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Partnership with MCWD for Arden Park Project in Edina

by *Laura Domyancich*
 MCWD Planner-Project Manager

Construction is resuming in Arden Park after taking a pause during the spring thaw. As a reminder, the park will remain closed until work is completed this fall.

Over the winter, demolition and in-stream work was completed ahead of schedule. The streambanks are stabilized by large wood structures and filled with seeds that are germinating this spring. These and other plants that will be planted this spring will further anchor the streambanks, which are holding up well with the currently high creek flows.

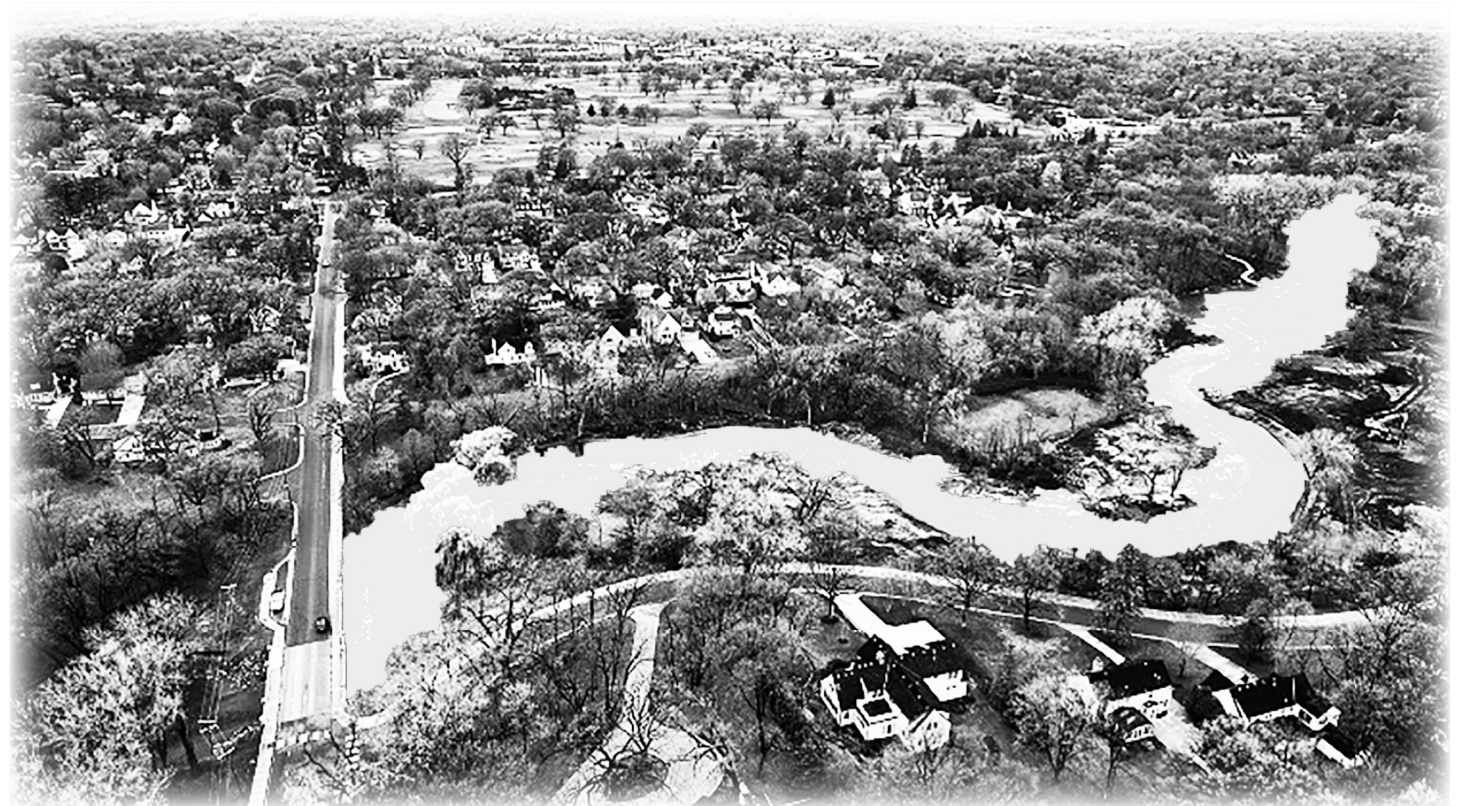
The creek is also reconnected to its floodplain where excess water is being stored. Other work that was completed included installing the abutments of the pedestrian bridges and stormwater swale crossings and the construction of the northern boardwalk.

Excavation for the new shelter building, playground, and stormwater swales is underway in May. Construction on the stairs at the north end of the park is beginning. Eight large trees are being planted this spring and two additional large trees will be planted this fall.

Construction of the stormwater management featured started mid-May. Construction on the trails, steps to the hockey rink, and new creek accesses began in late May. The two pedestrian bridges will be installed in late May.

Construction of the new shelter building begins and continues into the fall. Planting occurs throughout the entire park. Major restoration activities will wrap up this summer. Construction of the new playground begins in September

The City of Edina and the Minnehaha



Creek Water Watershed District are partnering to improve the creek, habitat, and the public use experience in Arden Park. The project design is based on the concept plan that was developed with community input over the course of 2017 and refined with additional feedback throughout 2018.

The Arden Park project combines park improvements with natural resource improvements within the Minnehaha Creek corridor, including more access to Minnehaha Creek for fishing and recreation,

a drier green space, stormwater management, and an upgraded playground and park shelter building.

This project began in 2014 when the City of Edina and the MCWD signed a Memorandum of Understanding identifying areas of collaboration within the realms of land use planning, stormwater management, economic development, flood mitigation, parks and public land management, greenway development, and water resource improvements.

The restoration of Arden Park meets

the goals of both the city and MCWD by restoring a degraded section of Minnehaha Creek and improving water quality while also updating the park facilities and proving new amenities.

The construction cost will be split between the City of Edina and the MCWD. The project has received grant funding from the Clean Water Fund, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Conservation Partners Legacy, and Hennepin County's Natural Resources Opportunity Fund.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Standing Guard at Peace Officers' Memorial in St. Paul

by Erich Mische

MN Law Enforcement Memorial Association

Law enforcement officers from across the state stood vigil in May at the Peace Officers' Memorial in St. Paul for 24 hours in honor of the 286 Minnesota officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Honor guards from the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association (LEMA) took their post at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14th, and stood guard in 20-minute shifts until the next evening, May 15th, at 7:00 p.m., when a Candlelight Service was held. Wednesday, May 15th, was Law Enforcement Memorial Day in Minnesota.

LEMA is dedicated to assisting the families and home agencies of law enforcement officers who die in the line of duty. LEMA board members are police officers, survivors, and friends of fallen officers who volunteer their time. All contributions go to supporting the activities of the association.

LEMA is able to provide assistance both at the time of death and into the future. LEMA honors the families and fallen officers during National Law Enforcement Memorial Week.

We would like to thank and recognize the survivors, the agencies who have lost an officer, and others for their continued support of our mission. Without your support, LEMA's mission would be a difficult one. Our special appreciation goes to the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association for their sponsorship of the meal after the Candlelight Service.



Special thanks to our event sponsor this year, the Minnesota Fraternal Order of Police, for their generous financial support of the Memorial Service. Our gratitude to Law Enforcement Labor Services, Steve's Auto World, and Country Finan-

cial for their generous support by supplying nourishment for the officers who stood guard.

"What moves through us is a silence, a quiet sadness, a longing for one more day, one more word, one more touch. We

may not understand why you left this earth so soon, or why you left before we were ready to say goodbye, but, little by little, we begin to remember not just that you died, but that you lived. And that your life gave us memories too beautiful to forget."

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The Victoria GAZETTE

Find thousands of photos in Sue's Album at www.VictoriaGazette.com.

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