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## Coon Rapids City Survey Underway

### Anyone May Take Online Survey Until Oct. 28

by Bryan Olson - Special to the Anoka County Record

A survey asking over three dozen questions about life in Coon Rapids was posted last week on the city's website. Notifications were also sent to the city's e-mail subscribers on Oct. 14. The online survey can be taken until Oct. 28. The survey can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/zvend9f>.

The cost of the survey was to be in the range of \$17,000 to \$18,000 according to a staff memo in a city council meeting packet last April. The survey is being done by the National Research Center, an entity that is partnered with the ICMA (International City-County Management Association).

The majority of questions are very broad and are answered in a multiple choice from Poor to Excellent, or in a Yes-No fashion. While targeting Coon Rapids residents, the survey is actually open to all who come upon it.

The first question asks for Poor to Excellent ratings of Coon Rapids as a place to visit, a place to retire, a place to work, a place to raise children, and — “the overall quality of life in Coon Rapids.”

Many questions focus on the appearance of the city, from street cleanliness to the architectural values of buildings in the city. City staff also wants to know if respondents have “a sense of community” and what is their opinion of the “overall image or reputation” of the city.

There are even more broad questions about “how safe” one feels in the city, and then broken down to day versus night; in the commercial areas versus the respondent's own neighborhood, and so on.

City staff also wants opinions on the ease of travel by car in the city, and by other means — such as walking, bicycling and public transportation.

There is also a request to rate the air quality of Coon Rapids from poor to excellent. It is unknown if comparisons will be made with air quality surveys that may have been conducted in neighboring cities such as

Anoka or Fridley.

Queries about the personal habits of respondents include those of a fitness and health nature. City staff wants to know how much exercise you get, whether you eat vegetables, whether you feel “affordable quality food” is available to you in the city, and whether you've ever talked to your neighbor or have done good deeds. Do you participate in a club or volunteer? Do you ever take a bus, ride a bicycle or walk instead of driving a car?

You'll also be asked to “rate the quality of the services provided by” the city, county and federal governments, each from “poor” to “excellent.”

Respondents may find little meaning in the questions that ask for an opinion on “the value of services for the taxes paid to Coon Rapids” and “the overall direction that Coon Rapids is taking.”

City staff also wants to know if you feel the city government welcomes citizen involvement, and whether you have confidence in the city government. Does it act in “the best interest of the community,” treat all residents fairly, and is honest?

Communication is a survey topic. Are the city website, the *Anoka County Union Herald*, the *Star Tribune*, the city newsletter, the city government cable television channel, direct mail and ‘social media’ a major or a minor source for city government information? Or not used at all by respondents?

Still more questions hint at how much involvement should city government have in driving the city's economy by creating business and shopping opportunities. The survey also wants to know if you patronize city businesses or shop elsewhere.

Personal identifiers asked: Employed? Where? How long have you lived in the city and what kind of home do you have? (Single-family house; duplex, apartment, mobile home, etc.) Other questions are about race, age, sex, housing costs and income.

How's your health (Poor to Excellent)?

“What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be (choices from Very Negative to Very Positive).

Do you vote in local elections and are up on “local news”?

Do you have a land line phone or a cell phone?

Do you recycle?

The survey, when completed, may be presented at a future city council meeting and will be used to guide actions taken by the city in the coming years. - ACR

## Ham Lake City Council Race: Status Quo vs. Different Direction

### Challenger meets incumbents head on

by ACR Staff

In city elections, often there is little to no information available to discern any differences between the candidates beyond their name, haircut, and the brightness of their teeth. Not so in Ham Lake for 2016. This year, the city council election will stand out due to the stark differences in how the candidates view city issues and the fact that they are openly sharing their positions with residents.



Tom Johnson Gary Kirkeide Adam Darling

There are three candidates running for two city council seats. Voters will be able to select up to two choices for city council. The Mayor's seat is not on the ballot this year.

Tom Johnson and Gary Kirkeide are running for reelection on the platform of moving forward and staying the course. Challenger Adam Darling is advocating for a significant turn in direction. The specific direction was identified in the recent Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce candidate forum where Mr. Darling stated that, “I lean to the left, clearly, and I live in Ham Lake.”

In a candidate filing statement, Mr. Darling has openly questioned the “attitude” and “arrogance” of the current city council. He believes that some residents have been met with, “condescension, hostility and flat out retaliation.”

In the candidate forum, Mr. Johnson indirectly responded to Mr. Darling's claims stating that he, “work(s) well with everybody. I'm easy to get along with. I listen to everybody patiently when I come to City Council.”

Both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Kirkeide made statements indicating that the city is well managed. Mr. Johnson stated that Ham Lake's debt to asset ratio is five-times lower than comparable cities. He stated that the city taxes per person are almost half of comparable cities. He also indicated that city assets are newer than these same comparable cities which demonstrates that they are making the proper investments.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Kirkeide sought to make the case that they were the experienced candidates who would continue to keep taxes low.

The candidate forum was held on Tuesday, October 11th at Majestic Oaks and was hosted by the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce. The following is a transcript of the candidate forum.

Ham Lake Forum *continued on page 2*

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer

# Ham Lake Forum

*continued from page 1*

## What are your qualifications for serving, and why are you seeking this office?

**Darling:** I grew up in North Minneapolis, born and raised. About ten years ago, my wife and I moved to Ham Lake where she grew up. We have a place up on Lexington and 169th. Her parents still live in town here. My daughters — three daughters — all live here and go to Ham Lake or Lino Lakes schools.

In the time we've been here, a lot has changed. We've lost a grocery store up on Highway 65, the VFW recently closed, they've widened the lanes along Lexington and Radisson Avenues in Ham Lake, they've added a lot of stoplights. The city is growing. One of the things that hasn't changed in the time that I've been here is the makeup of the City Council. We've had pretty much the same core group since — since I moved in. I believe Gary Kirkeide was mayor when I first started — first moved into town. Paul Meunier was elected, and the City Council turned around and reappointed Gary to the City Council, so names and positions shuffled around a bit, but everybody's pretty much the same.

One of the things I've seen on that City Council is that most of the votes are 5-0. There's pretty much only one side of a debate that's handled, and in talking to people

throughout Ham Lake, I've run into a lot of people who are very frustrated with the City Council, their tight purse strings, and the fact that they don't feel they're listened to when they show up at meetings and express their opinions. I would like to be the voice for those people who aren't currently represented. I think additional ideas can only lead to better results and better — better outcomes for everybody. I want to be that voice for the people who aren't currently represented. That's where I stand. My door is open, and I want to hear from everybody. Thank you.

**Johnson:** I'm a lifelong resident and member of the community. My family goes back over 140 years in this community, and I've either lived or worked here my entire life. I'm a CPA by background, I run my own small business, I have since 2000. I served 17 years on our Planning and Zoning Commission, and many of those as its chairman, so I'm used to running meetings. I've been eight years on the City Council.

Why I'm seeking office, eight years ago I ran on a platform of keeping spending in check and keeping taxes low, and I think I've been successful, along with the other Council members in doing that. In 2009, that's when our levy reached its peak at \$4,800,000. Our levy for 2017 is \$4,500,000 and change, so I think we've done a good job of holding the line on spending. I also ran on a platform of keeping out the Met Council sewer and delivered good city services for the lowest cost. A lot of these things, I

think .

**Kirkeide:** I have served on the Ham Lake City Council as a council member for ten years, as the Mayor for ten years, on the Planning Commission for five years, on the land development corporation for — since 1983, I believe. I've been involved in the development of

Ham Lake. I've lived here since 1958 with my parents, continuously lived in Ham Lake except for the two years I spent in the Army as a reservist — or the U.S. Army. I've been married to my wife, Janelle, for 40 years. We had an anniversary this summer, and I'm very proud of that.

I stick around. I'm interested in the city, always have been. I want good government here. I listen to the people. We have low taxes, we have good services. We, as a Council, have done an excellent job as stewards of this city, and I — that's all I really need to say.

## Contact the Candidates

### Adam Darling

16913 Lexington Avenue NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
(763) 390-4964

### Tom Johnson

15125 W. Vermillion Cir NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
(763) 434-8573

### Gary Kirkeide

2152 158th Lane NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
(763) 434-9762

## What is the most significant issue you see facing the city of Ham Lake, and what is your plan to address it?

**Johnson:** You know, I think the city is on a good path. You know, a significant issue that I see as I've run for reelection here, is just continuing the course that I set down eight years ago. We have a candidate now — that would be **Mr. Darling** — who in his taped interview on cable TV has advocated raising our property taxes a minimum of a million dollars and adding that to our budget. That would be, you know, a minimum of a 25 percent increase in our property taxes. He's also advocating to bring that sewer — Met Council sewer in here, and that would bring a lot of housing density to the north end of the city and back at the time when we were talking about this before, eight years ago, there would be consulting engineers that dealt with these estimates, and that would cost us about \$75 million, and now that would be a lot more. We'll get into more details in a little bit.

**Kirkeide:** Okay. Right now, in approximately two

years, we're going to run into our Met Council 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update. We just went through that about eight years ago, and at that time, we had tremendous pressure by many factors, a lot of special interests, to get a Met Council sewer in here. We rejected that plan, and we will, hopefully, continue to reject that plan. It comes with a lot of strings attached, it comes with a lot of problems that most Ham Lakers don't want. They like our rural character, and they want us to keep our rural character. They like their low taxes, they like the services we provide, they don't like the idea of an unelected body such as Met Council coming into our city, telling us how many homes we have to have and how we should develop. I think we know better how to develop and we've done that. Thank you.

**Darling:** The most significant issue as I see it is that currently the residents don't have a voice on this Council. Most of the votes go 5-0. The question for this Council is do they lean to the right, or do they lean to the extreme right? A lot of people that I have talked to in this city

in regards to this Council have said, "We love the rural character. Why can't we live in a rural setting but still in the 21st century?" When they talk about city sewer, it was never talked about bringing it into the entire city. It was to be done on the northern end of the 65 corridor for the businesses and for Coon Lake, where you now have the possibility of sewage leaking into the lake itself because nothing has been done about it — antiquated homes up there and antiquated sewage.

Soderquist's, our only grocery store left town, because they couldn't afford to pump their septic every day. This is something that could have been taken care of by the Council. They could have laid the groundwork, but they systematically removed it from the Comprehensive Plan. The idea that we can't be rural and still be part of Met Council is crazy, and they suggest a minimum 2.5 acre lot size, not one acre. One acre has been [unintelligible] by Ham Lake and development groups that have wanted to come in and make those smaller. So it's a red herring.

## You're involved with Highway 65 improvements. What input would you hope to have so that Highway 65 was improved by the City Council?

**Kirkeide:** I was proud to be part of the Highway 65 coalition and was proud to be involved in 19 — or 2004 and '05, when we as a group — and that's the county, the state, city of Blaine — all worked together to get the overpass on Highway 242, Main Street and the other closures. The city of Ham Lake has been working with MnDOT, and we are closing a lot of accesses along Highway 65 to improve the safety. That's what we want. They — they — ultimately, they want to turn Highway 65 into a freeway. That's a good idea. Blaine is the biggest obstacle right now with 105th and 109th and some of the other intersections there. We could work on those, but — and I'm part of the Highway 65 coalitions on the north as well, but Ham Lake is in full support of making Highway 65 move traffic. That's what we want. That's what we're aiming for.

**Darling:** Well, I can't disagree with what Councilman Kirkeide said there. I'm also — what I would like to see is more development of businesses along there. What disturbed me is the fact that Blaine is growing by leaps and bounds. You can tell where Ham Lake begins and Blaine ends, because there is a dearth of businesses along there unless you want to talk used car lots and — and pizza places. And I think we have room to grow. I appreciate all the businesses that are along there. I tend to shop local. I like the Carver's store along there, I visit the pizza places, but other than that, all we've got is a few nurseries, which I enjoy, there's some industrial stuff and some commercial things, but there's very little for our residents. We can't shop at local stores, because the Council hasn't worked at developing business along there. That's the thing that I'd like to see, but otherwise I — I like the overpasses. I agree with moving traffic through there, I just don't want to become a drive-through city.

**Johnson:** Well, I was part of the Planning and Zoning

Commission at the time that we put together the new zoning plan we have along Highway 65. The attempt there was to upgrade the standards along Highway 65 so that we had better building standards, got away from pole-type buildings along Highway 65. I would envision continuing the work to improve the look of the Highway 65 corridor. I don't agree with Mr. Darling that it is the job of city government to bring business to the city. I think development will happen when there's a demand out here for development. He mentioned that the VFW recently closed. That was because there wasn't enough customer base there to keep it open, and he also mentioned the Soderquist's closed [unintelligible] the Supervalu. I disagree with the notion that they closed because they didn't have city sewer. They closed because there wasn't enough business there. So when there's business and there's enough population out here to support that business, those businesses will locate here, and we'll be happy to welcome them at that time.

## What can the city do to encourage business retention and expansion?

**Darling:** One of the things the city can do to bring business in is bring people down to some of the development — development meetings that go on down in the Cities. Other cities represented there, Columbus, Blaine, East Bethel, Andover, they all send representatives from the cities down to find out about businesses that are looking to relocate and to grow. And we send no one. It's a though we're not interested in becoming a bigger, better city. The idea that a city doesn't have a responsibility to help the city grow and grow in the tech space, I think, is — it's not very forward thinking. The idea that the business will develop when it develops — not if the environment isn't right for it. If you don't have the resources, the infrastructure there for the businesses to grow, they're going to choose somewhere else.

Ham Lake had a choice a while back to help a business grow, and they ended up moving over to Andover instead

and built a brand new complex there, took the jobs and the tax base with them. Off the top of my head, I cannot remember the name of the company — RTR?

**Johnson:** I think that one of the things we could do to encourage business retention is to stay out of their way and keep taxes low so that we're not driven out of the city by high property taxes. Businesses in any community pay an inordinate amount of property taxes. They're taxed much higher than individuals. In terms of bringing business to the city, we have a local development corporation that helps businesses looking to locate here get loans based on job creation here, and I would look to continue working through those avenues. Also, regulations and city halls can be intimidating places for businesses. We've heard stories that sometimes businesses have trouble working their way through the myriad of City Council meetings, et cetera, the Planning and Zoning, doing what they need to to get okayed by the city. We want to work with our city staff to make sure that we have a good process to bring

businesses in so they're welcomed.

**Kirkeide:** Well, we have done a lot. We have a land development corporation. We work with the county and assist business with community development block grant funds and business improvement, beautification loans, things like that. But the biggest thing we need to do is keep property taxes low. I owned an industrial building in Ham Lake Industrial Park for 22 years. I think I paid in those 22 years about — and well in excess of \$200,000 in property taxes. Our commercial industrial property tax rate in this state is just unacceptable — unacceptable for job creation. It's unfair. If you have a business, you pay big taxes, and I think by electing the proper people to keep their eye on the budget, we — we can at least keep the taxes low enough to retain businesses in Ham Lake and work with other elected officials to make that message clear, that we need to continue to work on tax reform.

**Candidates Speak** *continued on page 4*



# ANOKA COUNTY WATCHDOG

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*Always on the lookout for governmental waste, fraud, and abuse in Anoka County*

October 14, 2015

**Editor's Note:** Loyal Republicans are facing a true dilemma this year. Not in many generations has the Grand Old Party been so divided over its nominee for President.

Thoughtful and dedicated activists across the country are on opposite sides of the central question of the election cycle: Whither Trump?

This week, the Watchdog delves into this question, making the case both for and against Donald J. Trump.

## THE CASE AGAINST TRUMP

Donald Trump is going to lose. The handwriting is on the wall. He has no realistic path to 270 electoral votes and will hand the keys to the Oval Office to Hillary Clinton, one of the most unpopular figures to ever run for president.

Trump has only himself to blame for this debacle.

He lacks the temperament needed to run for, win, and serve as President of the United States.

Republican voters should have seen it way back in the early primary contests, with Trump mocking and belittling his opponents in a juvenile, middle school sort of way.

Any dime store political operative could have seen that this schtick wouldn't sell to a general election audience, even against an opponent as reviled as Hillary Rodham Clinton.

It is now time for Republican leaders to publicly break with Trump for a greater good – the Party itself.

It is time to break with Trump, who is going to lose anyway, in order to save Republican majorities in the House and Senate, as well as further down the ballot in state legislatures.

These majorities are at historic levels at the state and federal level, representing years of hard work that is in jeopardy from an insurgent candidate who cares little for the Republican brand and did nothing to help build and nurture it in the first place.

A perfect narrative presents itself here. Speaker Ryan and Leader McConnell should make the case that GOP majorities are needed in Washington to act as a check and balance against a Clinton presidency.

With fully 60% of voters finding Hillary Clinton untrustworthy, they will be highly receptive to such a message. As unpopular as Trump may be, she is running right behind him.

This "check and balance" message allows GOP candidates to run against both Trump and Clinton, thereby freeing themselves from these two political millstones while forcing their Democrat opponents to stand by Hillary Clinton.

The "ick" factor regarding the Clintons is alive and well. Republicans would do well to exploit it.

There is no loyalty to Donald Trump regardless. Trump has consistently bad mouthed GOP leadership and has no real relationship with the national party.

In these circumstances, Congressional Republicans are on firm moral ground to distance themselves from this very flawed and already defeated candidate, who appears hell bent on going out in a blaze of scorched earth glory.

With Hillary Clinton and her abusive husband back in the White House, checking her reckless and feckless ambitions will be paramount to saving the Republic.

Just as importantly, breaking with Trump is necessary to save the national party and the GOP brand in general.

In essence, politics can be seen as a numbers game. You need more votes than the other guy to win.

Given America's changing demographics, it's political suicide to be seen hurling insults and thinly veiled racism against the very people Republicans need to win over to remain competitive in coming years.

The party of Abe Lincoln offers ideas and principles that benefit every American, regardless of race, gender, etc.

Trump's pandering to certain elements interferes with this important outreach and is a losing strategy in the long term.

No matter the outcome of the election, Trump has already visited much damage to the brand in this regard. It's time

to stanch the bleeding and begin those outreach efforts anew once Trump is a historical footnote.

Moreover, some of Trump's policy positions are anathema to core Republican principles and therefore also threaten the brand.

For example, He opposes free trade. Republicans support free trade and understand the net benefit free trade confers on the country.

Another example is spending. Trump proposes to expand a host of domestic spending programs while also cutting taxes, a formula to bust spending caps and accelerate the already staggering federal debt.

A political party is united by shared principles and values. The core principles shouldn't be sacrificed at the altar of particular campaign, even a campaign for president.

## THE CASE FOR TRUMP

While the path may be narrow, the path still exists, and it is worth pursuing.

The stakes couldn't be higher. The next president will appoint at least, if not multiple, justices to the Supreme Court.

The president serves as commander-in-chief. With America facing multiple threats from a host of sophisticated and dangerous foes, ceding the election seems foolish.

Donald Trump, though flawed, is a far cry better than Hillary Clinton on numerous important issues besides just these.

Moreover, Donald J. Trump is the duly endorsed Republican nominee for president. He deserves the full support of the party and the party faithful.

The practice of other Republican office holders denouncing Trump is a dangerous precedent and threatens to weaken the party as a whole, sewing seeds of disunity to division that won't disappear after Trump, especially if he loses. Finger pointing, recrimination, and infighting will be result, thereby weakening the party instead of saving it.

While Trump is crude and brutally honest, it's not as if he a convicted criminal or even stands accused of the things that Bill Clinton ever did.

Instead of knuckling under to the Democrat Establishment, Republicans should rally around Trump and help fend off attacks that make crude banter look like a criminal offense.

In many respects, Donald Trump is precisely the man needed for these times.

He's a true fighter against the Establishment, which is perhaps the only "crime" he's really committed.

The Washington Establishment sees in Trump a mortal threat to their secretive rule.

If the past couple of years have shown us anything, they have clearly shown us all that there is indeed an Establishment that serves the interests of the privileged few at the expense of the masses.

Edward Snowden demonstrated that there exists a massive surveillance state that engages in surreptitious and invasive domestic spying, shredding our Fourth Amendment rights in a way that shocked us all.

Other recent email document releases proved that the Democrat Party rigged their nomination process in favor of Hillary Clinton, putting the lie to the idea that there was a competitive race.

Like him or not, Senator Sanders and his supporters had the fundamental right to a fair and equal campaign for the Democrat nomination. He never had a chance.

More recent email leaks have shown that our major media outlets have been conspiring with Hillary Clinton to provide her favorable coverage. Reporters friendly to Clinton have leaked questions to her prior to interviews, have given her veto power over stories before their publication, and otherwise slanted coverage in her favor.

On the other side, coverage of Trump has been clearly biased. While stories such as the leaked and now infamous audio tape are newsworthy, many of the follow on stories clearly are not.

For example, Watchdog staff recently saw a news report in which some forgettable contestant on "The Apprentice" from many years ago recently heard from another contestant that Trump allegedly made a negative comment regarding her skin tone.

Really? A hearsay comment from 2007 is now a news

story?

There is a reason that Trump is the recipient of this avalanche of negative media.

It's because he's fighting the Establishment and fighting for us.

Donald Trump isn't nearly the Neanderthal he's portrayed to be.

The Establishment would have done it to any of the GOP candidates, don't kid yourself.

Mitt Romney was about as close to a Boy Scout as a presidential candidate can be.

The Establishment took his time at Bain Capital and used it to make Romney look like a destroyer of worlds.

Do you wonder why Hillary Clinton gets a pass on her email, Bill's sexual assaults, and tough questions about her troubled tenure as Secretary of State?

Do you wonder why Donald Trump is constantly asked about audio tapes over 10 years old, comments about someone's appearance, and other assorted hearsay regarding height, weight, etc.?

Really? This country is burning to the ground and the Establishment wants to distract us with sob stories from years ago regarding hurt feelings, bullying, and self-esteem.

This is the ultimate Establishment con job.

If we can't see through it, we don't deserve anything other than to live under the yoke of the Elites.

Finally, far from undermining the Republican Party, Donald Trump is building it, helping shape a political realignment that is moving millions of rural "Reagan Democrats" into a permanent home in the party.

This year's GOP primaries and caucuses saw record numbers, with new voters participating for the first time.

These folks were inspired to attend because of Trump's candidacy and his alone.

Moreover, these voters are far from the ignorant louts the Establishment portrays them to be.

They are hardworking people who play by the rules and have clearly come to see that the game is rigged against them.

Faulty trade deals have sent their jobs to low cost foreign destinations.

These deals might be good for the wealthy elites, but they have decimated once proud and thriving towns across this great nation.

Millions of hard working people are working even harder, only to see their pay and benefits cut.

Political correctness in the form of speech codes, "safes spaces," "trigger words," "micro aggressions" and other forms of censorship are strangling our cherished right to free speech.

Opposition to the squelching of the free exchange of ideas isn't racism. It's a well-founded regard for the role free speech plays in a free society.

The American people are smart. They know that their democratic institutions have become corrupted and are no longer serving the common good.

Donald Trump has tapped into that concern.

The elites who favor the status quo are powerful and work to destroy those who threaten their hold on power.

That they're attempting to destroy Donald Trump is no surprise.

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or contact me personally at:

[harold@anokacountywatchdog.com](mailto:harold@anokacountywatchdog.com)

Sincerely,

Harold E. Hamilton, owner.

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## Candidates Speak

*continued from page 2*

### What is the chance of getting city water and sewer down the Highway 65 corridor?

**Johnson:** I ran eight years ago on the platform that I'm not in favor of joining with Met Council in sewerage the northern end of our city. At the time, there was a plan to perhaps run a line down from the East Bethel system. Met Council at the time, and I don't think they will have changed their mind on this, would demand a certain amount of flowage — that's sewage — into the system. That's what drives the need for a lot of dense housing out there. **Mr. Darling** would have you believe that we could bring that system down and just offer it to a few businesses. That's not correct. Met Council would demand \$500,000 a day — 500,000 gallons a day, excuse me, of flow, which is what they were requiring at the time. That would necessitate a lot of development in Ham Lake, a lot of housing to be developed, and it's difficult to keep

### I want you to give at least one thing that the Met Council does well, and if you're against it, say one thing that the Met Council does not do well. So what is your opinion of the Met Council?

**Kirkeide:** One of the first things that our City Council did in 1996 or '97 when I was elected was write the resolution supporting Met Council's dissolution and reorganization to just stay in their septic system, not stay in transportation, not duplicate other government agencies, not — not interfere with the city's lives. They wanted to establish 10 acre lots, frankly, when I was first elected. We rejected that. We came up with a better plan. Met Council is an unelected body. It's appointed by the government — governor. They assess taxes to —

### What improvements would you like to see in parks and trails in the city?

**Darling:** I'd like to see the city kick in for the invasive species abatement programs in Ham Lake and make sure that it doesn't end up in Coon Lake and Lake Netta as well. Ham Lake currently has Eurasian watermilfoil, and despite the city owning one third of that lakeshore and being a city park, they have not seen fit to kick in a single dime of money to help that abatement program. The people who live around Ham Lake have spent over \$20,000 that they raised themselves last year to treat that. The Chamber of Commerce itself has kicked in some money on that. I don't understand why it's the business' problem when they aren't around Ham Lake itself. I think it's only the homeowners, but the people who live in Ham Lake and use Ham Lake aren't asked to kick in a dime. We have a large parks budget that could help accommodate that, and they don't see fit to use any of that money for that purpose. They've also cut back on their oak wilt abatement and their Ash Borer abatement

### The city residents use services like Alexandra House and the Anoka Mediation Services. Should the city financially support them as other cities do?

**Johnson:** You know, we discussed this at some length at the Council prior — when I was on the Council and some since then. It has been the position of this Council not to fund private nonprofit entities. Alexandra House does great work, but we have this list of private nonprofit charities that do similar work, and I believe there are about 69 of them that could come to the Council for funding. Don't quote me on that exact number, but it was a lot of them. And it's our opinion that those type of entities should be supported through a charitable giving plan — individuals — that it's not our job as a Council to take your money and choose where — what nonprofit organization we want to support. So we chose not to go there on philosophical grounds. We just don't think it's the City Council's job to make those charitable donation decisions on behalf of the citizens.

**Kirkeide:** That's a quasi loaded question, actually. **Tom's**

### Give examples of how you have been able to work productively with those who do not share your opinion.

**Kirkeide:** We have pretty good discussions on a lot of different things. We had a road meeting last night, we've got some ag roads in this town, that to try to get them paved, they're millions and millions of dollars. We're trying to work out a solution. Some of the people who live on the road think that the city should pay the whole cost for the storm improvement. I disagree with that, and they disagree with my philosophy that everyone in Ham

our rural character with that kind of density. We've got a lot of — I see my time is up. So I would remain opposed to Met Council sewer in the city.

**Kirkeide:** Probably slim to none, because that Met Council line is not going over Highway 65 right now. It is actually over — located more toward the Lexington side. Our City Council in the 1970s declined to have a Met Council sewer come into our city, and because of that, they sized that MUSA line smaller to accommodate just the city of Blaine. It was to stop at the city of Ham Lake. I respected their decision then, and I respect it now. I don't see the need for it. We did a sewer study in the 1990s. No business along Ham Lake indicated that they wanted any type of municipal sewer. They were happy with their septic systems. There — there have been a couple of people in the Crosstown area that wanted it, but a majority of the businesses did not want city sewer or water. Therefore, we kept the promise. All of Ham Lake Industrial Park operates on their own wells and septic, and it's been very successful.

they have a taxing ability that is, to me, unconstitutional. They need to be an elected body, and the quicker, the better, because they've run away with their train systems. Northstar loses a million dollars a month in operations alone. We can't afford wasteful spending like that in this state.

**Darling:** I honestly have no opinion one way or the other. I wanted to listen to both sides. I do find it interesting, though, that **Gary Kirkeide** did admit that the Met Council wanted us to have larger plot sizes, and the city of Ham Lake decided to take it down to one acre versus ten. So you talk about maintaining your rural character. It's the Ham Lake side that did that, not the Met Council. Keep that in mind.

and — to the tune of it's all property rights. Well, there's also property obligations, and I'd like to see the city take part in that.

**Johnson:** Well, I'll talk about the invasive species issue since **Mr. Darling** brought it up. The lake waters are in our jurisdiction, and the city of Ham Lake has taken the position — or this Council has taken the position that we would like to see the DNR step up to the plate and come up with a plan to address invasive species statewide. This is not just a Ham Lake problem. What the DNR has done instead is to cut funding for invasive species, and they have instead decided to hire some more deputies down there. The funding that does come to the county for invasive species is largely spent on public relations efforts, public awareness campaigns. We were successful in working with our representative, Julie Braastad, on the County Commission to work with her commissioners and got part of that money reallocated to actually invasive species mitigation. I'd like to see more of that done, but, in a nutshell, I'd like to see a long term solution crafted

actually right. The county needs to give the city of Ham Lake block grant funds for a charitable distribution through the choice of our City Council, and we would have eight different charitable groups approach the City Council demanding — requesting certain amounts of that block grant pie. One year we looked at that and thought, you know, if they're all — they all do — equally good work is done by all. Why don't we just split those funds up equally, and **Tom Johnson's** right. We could have 50, 60, 100 — I mean, how — do you want your local government distributing your tax dollars to charitable groups? That's the real question. Is that the role of your local government or not? We choose not to, and we reached a decision. All the groups are good and noble, they do good, but it's not up to our Council to take your tax dollars and give them to those groups.

**Darling:** With regard to the mediation, I think that's a service that's available to everyone, and we take part in it. We should help pay for it. Another thing we should all pay for is the policing that we have. I think that this Council is very good on saying that we have tight wallets and tight

Lake has to pay for their street one time. Then, after that, they're — they're taken care of forever, no assessments, no costs whatsoever. The city of Ham Lake has come up with a plan that would — but I've found that I can sit down with almost anyone and discuss the differences they have, and we may not always agree in the end, but many times we do, we find solutions, that's what this Council is about, is to find solutions to cure problems, and we've done a very good job of that. And there may be some people who don't like some of the outcomes, but in the end, we do work together.

**Darling:** With your current Council, the chance is zero. It will never happen. They've made it abundantly clear. They removed it from the Comprehensive Plan. The thing is if they had done this in the '70s, if they'd looked at it in the '80s, if they'd looked at it in the '90s, rather than shaking their head no, you would be on your way to it now. It works everywhere. The cities have municipal sewer and water. There is a reason for this. It's the way of the future. You cannot have development unless you have municipal water and sewer. Is it going to be everywhere? No. You still have 36 square miles of one acre lots. You aren't going to move it to all of those people. It will maintain their rural character. The Met Council has never asked us to get below two and a half square acres per housing unit. They need to move toward the future. It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when. The longer you wait — the longer you wait, the more it's going to cost when it eventually does come, or you can be a drive by city. People will drive through, and there will be nothing here for people to stop and see.

**Johnson:** One thing the Met Council does well is spend money. What they do bad is spend money. I think — I opposed the Met Council as it's currently formed. I think they're an unelected body that has no accountability in terms of how they spend money. I think it should be reorganized so that the taxpayers have some way to hold them to account for the money that they spend. One thing I would want to comment on is the rural feel. **Mr. Darling's** mentioned several times that Met Council only requires us to have two and a half acre lots. That's true, because it's in our Comp Plan that we want to have city sewer. As soon as we put that in our Comp Plan, we will have city sewer, and Met Council will be requiring much denser housing than two and a half acres — two and a half acre lots.

there where the State of Minnesota and the DNR step up to the plate and tackle this issue.

**Kirkeide:** We have a great park system in Ham Lake right now. We've got many ball fields, we've got soccer fields, we've got Frisbee courts. We have really beautiful parks. What I would like to see during park development, probably more natural parks, lots of grass and things like that. Bike paths are expensive to build and maintain, and we don't have bike paths because of that, because of the amount of expense. We put bike paths on the shoulders of our roadways, and we could improve in that way. But I think that, in general, walking paths would be a good thing. The lake issue is purely DNR. It is not our duty to clean that lake up. It's the DNR's duty. Pretty soon if we take that attitude, then the city will pave county roads, and we'll be paving not only 65, but we'll be doing a lot of things with our tax dollars that really aren't legitimate. That lake belongs to the DNR, and they should maintain it.

fists, and we only pay what we need to, but when it comes to certain things, they like to pass the buck. A big need — invasive species in Ham Lake is one such instance. They're all for small government and tight purse strings except when it comes to that, they want to push it up to a larger area of government. They don't have a problem with that piece of government coming in, higher up, bigger, better, more of your tax dollars and asking them to take care of the problem, when it affects them or what they might get for spending your money.

Police, that's something else that we pay for, and we pay very little for it compared to other communities around us. Andover pays a lot more. They're twice our size, but they pay less than twice as much. They have less than twice the crime. If we have an issue where we have only one officer on overnight and he has to go up and help in East Bethel, we are being subsidized by Andover and other communities around us who pay their fair share. I'd like to see our City Council actually take responsibility for the things that are our responsibility and pay for them.

**Darling:** I lean to the left, clearly, and I live in Ham Lake. I haven't been kicked out, I haven't been ridden out by a flame throwing posse at this point. Communication is key. I cannot speak to **Tom Johnson** and **Gary Kirkeide** in the way that they work on the City Council. I do know, however, that a lot of the people that I've spoken to are very upset with the way they've been treated in City Council meetings, and I don't want to point the finger at these two. I don't think it's them, but there is an attitude on the Council of my way or the highway.

**Election** *continued on page 5*

## Election

continued from page 4

Let me give you an example of what I'm about. I want to listen to everyone, and I'm here today to say — how many of you know Dwight McCullough? He's a local business owner. I ran into him at the Booya last Sunday. He and I do not agree on anything, but I spent probably a good 20, 25, 30 minutes speaking with Dwight. I don't agree with his positions, he doesn't agree with mine, but we were able to shake hands again and say, "Thank you for your time, and I appreciate your opinion," and I do. I want to hear from everybody.

**Johnson:** Well, you know, I think I work well with

**In what ways can the city and the county work together to provide better services?**

**Darling:** I think the policing is one of them. We currently are at the bare minimum for what the city and the county recommends for policing. We are 40 percent proactive and 60 percent reactive. Flip that over, and you've got Andover — 60 percent proactive, 40 percent reactive. Yes, we have two people monitoring half of the day and one person on overnight. I think if you asked the business owners along 65 who've been burglarized and hit for thousands and thousands of dollars worth of damage, they would appreciate an extra officer on in the evening shining lights into parking lots or businesses as opposed to just going from call to call. We have 36 square miles to cover. I think we can do better. I think we should have a dedicated investigator from the — from the Sheriff's Department who can look at crime patterns within our city, maybe a liaison officer or two. Nobody currently goes to the school and talks to the kids. I think that's one area that we can work better as a county on.

**Johnson:** Well, we work with the county in a number of areas, and we're very fortunate to have Julie Braastad as our representative to the county. She was a former Ham Lake City Council person, and so we all know her very well, and we work with the county on road projects, numerous areas with the county, and we work well with them there. I think there's an invasive species issue as a good example of working with the county. Julie was

### Closing statements.

**Johnson:** In closing, I guess I would ask for your support in the upcoming election. You know, you've heard a lot of things tonight to dwell on. I think what I'd like to leave you with is that I believe we're a well managed city, and I think part of continuing in that vein is to elect the people that have the experience and are keeping your taxes low.

I just wanted to leave you with a few statistics. Our debt to assets in the city compared to our peer group is 6 percent. The peer group is 31 percent. Debt per capita is \$125 compared to our peer group of \$2,300. Taxes per capita — \$274 compared to \$492 in our peer group. Spending per capita — \$247 compared to \$650 in our peer group. Yet our capital asset appreciation percentage, that's an indicator of how new your assets are, how much has been poured into assets in the city, is 79 percent compared to our peer group of 60. So I think, you know, there's numerous of those statistics you can look at on our annual audit, but it speaks to a well managed city.

**Kirkeide:** I would say thank you for your support in the past. I hope you will support me in the future. Our Council makeup is right now made up of people who have been in business, either currently in business or have been in business in the past. We are likeminded. That's not a bad thing to happen if you want your city managed properly. That's why Ham Lake is what it is. It's a wonderful city. We have small government, low taxes, our council and staff works together. If a project

everybody. I'm easy to get along with. I listen to everybody patiently when I come to City Council, and, you know, to come up with a specific example, I guess, you know, under the spotlight here, I'm unable to come up with an individual example, but I think I work well with people that come into our City Council.

I did want to talk a little bit about this police coverage issue, though, that *Adam* was bringing up. We have a 36 hour contract in this city. That means we have 12 hours worth of protection from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., 12 hours from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., and then we have another car that covers 10:30 to 10:30. So we have two cars on 12 hours a day, and one car on one time of the day. There's also two other cars that cover

contacted, and she was able to work with the County Board in getting some of the dollars that the DNR allocates to the county for education on the invasive species issue and get them to cut some of that loose for mitigation issues. I think we'll continue to work with Julie and the County Board in that — on that particular issue. So I think we work well with the County Board, and there's numerous opportunities to do that, and we will continue to take advantage of that.

**Kirkeide:** Well, one thing we have to do — continue to do is make traffic move through our county. I'm on the Road Committee for Ham Lake, and we meet with, you know, the county people on improvements of the county roads that affect the city of Ham Lake. Bunker Lake Boulevard is going to be improved from the railroad tracks all the way to Jefferson Street. It was supposed to be done this year, and there were some glitches that occurred. One of the things that happened was federal funding ran out apparently for the improvement between Jefferson and Highway 65, so that would make a four lane highway end to two lanes at Jefferson, and we have been discussing through our Road Committee with the county how to get that four-lane improvement all the way across, and I heard last night at the Road Committee meeting that the county, has decided that they are going to get a cost on that improvement. That's how we work with the county. We work very well with them on highway projects. That's what got the Radisson approved. We worked with them to require that property improvement.

or any idea makes sense, we pursue it. We change our ordinances according to what the residents want. We don't make this stuff up. If things are changed, it's because of requests. We heard a lot of things tonight, like the waste study on Boone Lake. There's no sewage pouring into that. We did a study and it's absolutely clean. The oak wilt and — primarily the oak wilt tree program, their request was not to have our city employees trespass anymore, because people wanted the trees so they could have a wildlife habitat occupy them.

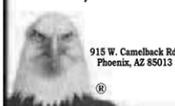
**Darling:** Real quick, I want to address the tax issue *Tom Johnson* brought up. I did propose a million dollars. It sounds huge. What it is, it's 50 cents a day per household, less than a can of pop, less than a cup of coffee, which most of us probably pick up every day. It would be less than \$200 on the average household over the course of a year. It would still put us at 111th out of 150 cities within Minnesota as far as lowest taxes. Right now we're 61st. We can do better. We can offer more services, and they are things that I believe that we as a community can do that the individuals cannot.

I think we should be taking care of our natural resources. They're part of what makes our rural character as nice as it is and why we want to be here. I think that we can do better as far as the policing and other city services that are offered and that we need to look toward the future. Ultimately, I think a variety of ideas is better for the outcomes within the city, and I want to listen to what everyone has to say and respect everyone. Thank you for your time.

us, cover all the cities, all contracted cities, and all the contracted cities also back each other up. Both Lieutenant Lenzmeier, who is our liaison with the Sheriff's Office, and Sheriff Stuart himself both say we have plenty of coverage and plenty of proactive time. We have an adequate contract there.

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### CITY OF BLAINE

BLAINE SEEKS TO FILL BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

Blaine City Councilmembers are seeking applicants for several advisory boards and commissions. Board and Commission members are vital to the community and provide input and guidance on both opportunities and challenges that a growing community like Blaine faces today. Requirements for these volunteer positions include being a resident of Blaine, attending monthly meetings, and having a community interest.

For more information or to apply go to [www.ci.blaine.mn.us](http://www.ci.blaine.mn.us) or contact the City Clerk's office. Interested citizens should return their application no later than December 9, 2016.

City Clerk's Office

City of Blaine

10801 Town Square Drive, Blaine MN 55449

[sdellich@ci.blaine.mn.us](mailto:sdellich@ci.blaine.mn.us)

## Anoka County RECORD

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**ANOKA COUNTY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY**

The Anoka County Board met on September 27, 2016. Standing county committee information reports and action items were considered, and action was taken as necessary. The following resolutions were adopted: #2016-118 Economic Assistance Payments, #2016-119 Covenant Lien Release, and #2016-120 & 121 Proposed Tax Levies. A full copy of the agenda, minutes, accounts, and claims greater than \$2000 may be found on the Anoka County Web site: [www.anokacounty.us](http://www.anokacounty.us)

(Published 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #530

**ANOKA COUNTY SUMMARY OF BIDS**

Bid #2016-23 Description of Bid/RFP: Advertisement for Bids for Anoka County Parking Ramp Restoration Bid Opening: November 10, 2016 For more information regarding the above published bids/RFPs, Chambers, 19900 please visit the Anoka

County Web Site at: [www.AnokaCounty.us/bids](http://www.AnokaCounty.us/bids). (Published 10/11, 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #527

**CITY OF HAM LAKE NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public accuracy test of vote counting equipment to be used in the November 8, 2016 General Election will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 9:00 AM at City of Ham Lake, 15544 Central Ave NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304-5609.

If you would like to witness this demonstration, you are welcome to do so at the above mentioned location. Denise Webster, City Clerk (Published 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #523

**CITY OF OAK GROVE COUNTY OF ANOKA STATE OF MINNESOTA NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That a public accuracy test, per Minnesota Statute 206.83, will be conducted in the City of Oak Grove Council Chambers, 19900 Nightingale St NW, Oak

Grove, Minnesota on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. to demonstrate the accuracy of the computer program, voting equipment, and ballots to be used at the November 8, 2016 General Election in the City of Oak Grove. Individuals interested in observing the process are invited to attend. Questions regarding the County's election system and testing procedures can be directed to the Anoka County Elections Office at (763) 323-5275. Sheryl F. Fiskewold City Clerk (Published 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #524

**CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333**

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies: 1. Assumed Name: **Liquor Barrel** 2. Principal Place of Business: **7997 Lake Dr. Lino Lakes, MN 55014** 3. Nameholder(s): **LNZ LLC 5385 Jamaca Blvd. N Lake Elmo, MN**

**55042** 4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath. FILED: 10/13/2016 # 908921000035 /s/ Kevin Brown, Owner (Published 10/18, 10/25, 2016 Anoka County Record) #531

**CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333**

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies: 1. Assumed Name: **PF Cupcakes** 2. Principal Place of Business: **14810 Palm Street NW Andover, MN 55304** 3. Nameholder(s): **Perfectly Filled Cupcakes, LLC 14810 Palm Street NW Andover, MN 55304** 4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath. FILED: 10/11/2016 # 908039200022 /s/ KMWeikel (Published 10/18, 10/25, 2016 Anoka County Record) #532

(Published 10/18, 10/25, 2016 Anoka County Record) #532

**CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME STATE OF MN MN STATUTES CHAPTER 333**

The undersigned, who is or will be conducting business in the State of Minnesota under an assumed name, hereby certifies: 1. Assumed Name: **Soulo Communications** 2. Principal Place of Business: **1155 114th Lane NW Minneapolis, MN 55448** 3. Nameholder(s): **RJM Integrated Marketing LLC 1155 114th Lane NW Minneapolis, MN 55448** 4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath. FILED: 9/28/2016 # 903490500031 /s/ Robert Molacek, owner (Published 10/11, 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #525

**1155 114th Lane NW Minneapolis, MN 55448** 3. Nameholder(s): **RJM Integrated Marketing LLC 1155 114th Lane NW Minneapolis, MN 55448** 4. I certify that I am authorized to sign this certificate and I further certify that I understand that by signing this certificate, I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 609.48 as if I had signed this certificate under oath. FILED: 9/28/2016 # 903490500031 /s/ Robert Molacek, owner (Published 10/11, 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #525

**PUBLIC NOTICES UNPAID**

**Oak Grove Lions hosting "Meet the Candidates"**

The Oak Grove Lions Club will be hosting a "Meet the Candidates" forum at Oak Grove City Hall, 19900 Nightingale Street NW at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2016. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to become familiar with the candidates for Oak Grove City Council and Anoka County Commissioner.

**CITY OF COLUMBUS NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Columbus will conduct a Public Test of the ES&S Voting Tabulator System and ES&S Automark Voting Assist Terminal in accordance with Minnesota Election Laws 8220.1550 on October 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Columbus City Hall located at 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, MN. The purpose of the public test is to ascertain that the equipment will correctly count the votes cast for all candidates in the Primary Election to be held on November 8, 2016. This public test is open to all candidates, the public, the news media and any other interested party. Elizabeth Mursko City Administrator/Clerk

**CITY OF SAINT FRANCIS PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTION** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Election will be held in the City of St. Francis, Minnesota, on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at the polling locations listed below for the purpose of voting for candidates of the offices specified below. The polls for said election will be open at 7:00 AM and will remain open until closing at 8:00 PM. CITY OF ST. FRANCIS OFFICES • Mayor, City Council Member at Large, 2 seats The voting places are as follows: Precinct Name Voting Location Saint Francis P-1 St Francis Warming House, 3948 229th AVE NW, St Francis, MN 55070 Saint Francis P-2 Rum River North Park Pavilion, 23100 Rum River BLVD NW, St Francis, MN 55070 Isanti County P-3 Rum River North Park Pavilion, 23100 Rum River BLVD NW, St Francis, MN 55070 Barb Held, City Clerk

**CITY OF COLUMBUS CITY GENERAL ELECTION**

To the electors of the City of Columbus, Anoka County, State of Minnesota: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Minnesota Statute 205.16, a City General Election will be held in the City of Columbus, Minnesota on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, 2016 at the polling locations listed below for the purpose of voting for the candidates of the offices specified below. The polls for said election will be open at 7:00 A.M. and will remain open until closing at 8:00 P.M. CITY OF COLUMBUS OFFICES: • Mayor (at-large) - (2) two year term • City Council (at-large) - two seats - (4) four year term The voting places are as follows: Precinct Name Voting Location Columbus P-1 Columbus Public Works Facility, 16345 Kettle River Blvd. NE, Columbus, MN 55025 Elizabeth Mursko, City Administrator/Clerk

**MARILYN A. BONNER DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent Estate of Marilyn A. Bonner, a/k/a Marilyn Artrene Bonner, a/k/a Marilyn Bonner, Decedent

Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's Will, dated August 5, 2011, and ("Will"), has been filed with the Registrar. The application has been granted. Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Christine C. Carter, whose address is 2225 Argonne Drive NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the Will or appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.

Dated: October 13, 2016; /s/ Peggy Zdon, Registrar; /s/ Lori Meyer, Court Administrator

Attorney for Personal Representative: Barbara M. Kristiansson; Felhaber Larson 220 South Sixth Street, Suite 2200, Minneapolis, MN, 55402 Attorney License No: 0334443 Telephone: (612) 373-8508; FAX: (612) 338-4608 Email: [bkristiansson@felhaber.com](mailto:bkristiansson@felhaber.com) (Published 10/18, 10/25, 2016 Anoka County Record) #534

**RICHARD DEAN HELGESON DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS In Re: Estate of Richard Dean Helgeson, Decedent also known as Richard D. Helgeson Deceased

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS: Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the above named decedent's last will, and any codicil(s) thereto, dated March 31, 2006 has been filed with the Registrar herein, and the application has been granted informally probating such will, and any codicil(s) thereto. Any objections may be filed in the above named Court and the same will be heard by the Court upon notice of hearing fixed for such purpose.

Notice is hereby further given that informal appointment of Robert Scott Helgeson whose address is 8473 Magnolia Street, Coon Rapids, Anoka County, Minnesota 55433 as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent, has been made. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. The personal representative is empowered to fully administer the estate including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate, unless objections thereto are filed with the Court (pursuant to Section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders.

Notice is further given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801(b)(c)) ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: October 11, 2016; /s/ Peggy Zdon, Registrar; /s/ Lori Meyer, Court Administrator

/s/ Charles W. LaDue, Attorney at Law 425 Coon Rapids Blvd., P.O. Box 48097, Coon Rapids, MN 55448-0097 (763) 780-1695; email: [charlesladye@popp.net](mailto:charlesladye@popp.net); Attorney Number 59341 (Published 10/18, 10/25, 2016 Anoka County Record) #533

**PAUL A. RUTTER DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS In Re: Estate of Paul A. Rutter, Decedent

Notice is given that an Application for Informal Probate of Will and Informal Appointment of Personal Representative was filed with the Registrar, along with a Will dated October 6, 2015. The Registrar accepted the application and informally appointed Trisha Lynn Rutter, whose address is 9516 Vera Cruz Lane N., Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55443, to serve as the personal representative of the Decedent's estate.

Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Any objection to the appointment of the personal representative must be filed with the Court, and any properly filed objection will be heard by the Court after notice is provided to interested persons of the date of hearing on the objection.

Unless objections are filed, and unless the Court orders otherwise, the personal representative has the full power to administer the estate, including, after thirty (30) days from the issuance of letters testamentary, the power to sell, encumber, lease, or distribute any interest in real estate owned by the Decedent.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: October 4, 2016; /s/ Peggy Zdon, Registrar; /s/ Lori Meyer, Court Administrator

Fred A. Kueppers, Jr. (58841) Kueppers, Kronschnabel & Skrypek, P.A. Attorneys for Personal Representative 101 East Fifth Street, Suite 1500, St. Paul, MN 55101, 651-222-5000 (Published 10/11, 10/18, 2016 Anoka County Record) #526



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