


SOUTH ON 71

I wonder



GINNY SMITH

BULLETIN PRESS EDITOR

Guess what we’ve been doing? Cleaning!

This is week No. 2. A most delightful thing to do after the fair. Right? But I felt like we had to do this.

At my insistence, we cleaned up the basement first. Somewhere in my thoughts from fair week, overwhelmed thoughts that they were, I had it in my head that the nice fellow from Culligan would be gracing our house on Friday to help us out with an issue with our RO unit. He didn’t come until Monday, that was OK, because while we waited ... we got started.

Rusty got himself to the Pour House and found his broom! As for me, I wondered where I could get Rusty a used recliner for his afternoon snooze that he usually takes when he begins pouring molds again. (The old recliner was shot and got wheeled down the lane for spring clean-up day!) So I got on Facebook marketplace and found several, one that could be picked up in Laurens. Couldn’t beat the price — \$35, and it looked decent. And it wasn’t that far away.

The man finally answered my request and told us his address and that we could pick it up on Friday night. Rusty was very excited. We hopped into the van and found the guy’s place, waited 45 minutes, then left with a text to him saying we were not coming back to Laurens. You lose, buddy!

However, the “kid” (and he had to be Generation Z) must have wanted to get the recliner gone badly enough that he contacted me on Sunday and said he would bring it to us! It’s very nice and will work well. But I so wanted to tell him not to screw with us baby boomers! We’re old now! And there are days when patience is not present.

In the meantime, the deep-er cleaning had begun, and I started the process of going through glazes and making the decision on what to keep and what not to. If anyone is wondering how we

managed to come into possession of 400 4-ounce jars of glaze — here’s the reason. We bought out two ceramic shops over the years. One of those shops had to have spent their entire retirement on stocking paints and glazes. Lucky us! We got them! There are now 272 jars of glaze that are not going to be sitting on a shelf here anymore!

While Rusty “dusted” himself and the interior of Pour House, I found myself in the back room, going through drawers. I wondered how many years it’d been since someone — that someone being us — took the time to do this. I did find an entire sack full of plastic clips — the kind that would do well for clipping potato chip bag tops closed. Lucky for me, the family is taking some of them, so I don’t have to keep them as part of our kids’ inheritance. I also went through a drawer of CDs to “keep or not to keep” before Rusty brought me in his. Goodwill is going to be so happy! I’m even parting with the CD for stressed-out dogs — we tried this on one of our Dobermans who was suffering from separation anxiety! (It didn’t work well!) Just because I left her to go back to work!

It’s good to be back home, though, and get something done, but the “wondering” continues. Seems like the doldrums of our everyday schedule we left behind for two weeks have returned. Laundry, dishes and the usual unanswered questions.

Questions like: I wonder what we are going to eat for dinner? (Then the same “wonder” comes up when it’s time for our evening meal!)


And: I wonder how soon I can get Rusty to help clean our bedroom and go through “his” own closet, because I’ve already done that and my racks are practically bare. (I mean, like how many good clothes do I need?)

And then: After our historical meeting on Monday, we’re standing outside talking to someone, it’s dusk, and we see a creature running down the street.

I wonder, why is there a raccoon running down Main Street in Sioux Rapids?

PASTOR’S COLUMN

The words of Jesus



EMIL LIKO

ROADSIDE FREE PRAYER BWBMINISTRIES.COM

John 11:25 — Jesus said ... “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live.”

I recently read through the Gospels, the first four books of the New Testament, reading only the words of Jesus. In some Bibles, His words are in red letters. This is what I saw: Jesus loved people, including unclean people and people no one else wanted. He never turned down an invitation to be with someone whom the religious leaders wouldn’t even look at. The religious leader of that day embraced the letter of the law but threw away the heart of the law — the compassion. Jesus, however, was easily moved to compassion, and whenever He was, He acted. He healed, He cast out demons, and he freed people from sin and shame.

He couldn’t be trapped in His words or by trick questions. He not only answered but He turned the questions back upon those asking with ill intent. And they wound up getting caught in their own wicked ways. He didn’t play games, and he

didn’t like those who played games and played church. He did not tolerate phonies or the arrogant. He said what He meant, and He did what He said. He rocked the theology of the religious crowd. He touched the dead to raise them. He touched the lepers to help them. He touched the woman with the issue of blood to heal her and then continued through the crowd to heal even more. The religious leaders’ hair stood on end because He refused to follow their bad, human-made rules and regulations that were more important to them than the people.

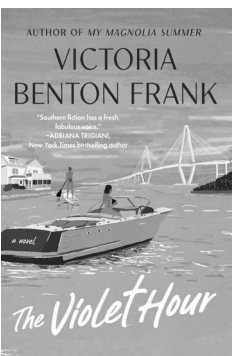
Jesus shook the religious leaders to their core.” I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger.” (John 6:35). “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life” (John 8:12). “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved.” (John 10:9) “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11). “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6).

And then came the questions every one of us must answer: “But what about you? ... Who do you say I am?” (Matthew 16:15).

WRITER’S CORNER

‘THE VIOLET HOUR’ — BY VICTORIA BENTON FRANK

Violet Adams is the perfect, youngest child in a family of loud, passionate women on Sullivan’s Island, South Carolina. As the sweet, traditional one, she’s always been the steady hand in her family, but after a sudden breakup and subsequent tragedy, she doesn’t know who she is anymore. Aly Knox, Violet’s best friend, is a young influencer still struggling with the loss of her mother and adjusting to joining Violet in Southern Living. With her best friend’s help, Violet is determined to break out of her shell — and who she thought she was — no matter what. And what better place to look for success, meaning, and possibly love than the Lowcountry of South Carolina?



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PASTOR’S COLUMN

Time to be generous



GRANT MANGOLD

GOD’S WORD MINISTRIES

Scripture encourages being good stewards of what God provides for His people. Luke 11-16 contrasts the unfaithful stewardship of religious leaders, with the sinners’ response of repentance and faith in Jesus. Let’s continue exploring “principles of giving” (published by efca.org):

GIVING IS

Giving is for all believers, though some are uniquely gifted in this area. “Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them in proportion to our faith, in serving, in teaching, in exhorting, with zeal, with cheerfulness, and the one who contributes, in generosity” (Rom 12.6-8). Again, God provides, and we respond to His grace.

Giving appropriates God’s wealth to enable you to give more. “Do good and lend and expect nothing in return, and your reward will be great. Be merciful even as your Father is merciful. Give and it will be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over will be put into your lap. For with the measure you give it will be measured back to you” (Luke 6).

Giving is generous, because it all belongs to God. “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully” (2 Cor 9.6). Because all that you have is from God, and it’s all for God, for His purposes.

GIVING IS NOT

Giving is not legalistic. “Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for Me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him, you shall receive the contribution” (Exodus 25.2). Giving is not ritualistic, but personal, willing worship, heart, mind, will.

Giving is not a set amount. “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9.7). Trust Him, and give. Giving is not just a token. “They gave according to their means, and beyond their means, of their own accord, earnestly taking part in relief of the saints. And they gave themselves first to the Lord. See that you excel in this act of grace also” (2 Cor 8.3-4.7). Give yourself first to the Lord!

Giving is not just for emergencies. “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you

LEGAL

**SIoux RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 10, 2025.**

The regular meeting of the Sioux Rapids City Council was called to order by Jim Wise on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 6:30 pm. Roll call: Jim Wise, Lacy Garberding, Mike Gunderson, Mike Katschman and Joel McCoy. No one was absent. Holly Miller, Andrew Wetrich and other community members were also in attendance.

A motion was made by Katschman, seconded by McCoy, to approve the agenda. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Garberding seconded by Katschman to approve the consent agenda, which included minutes from August 13, 2025 meeting, accounts payable report, and the financial reports from the month of August, along with the IPAIT statements, and BV County Sheriffs Report. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT - AUGUST 2025**

Alliant Energy-Utilities-\$7,587.61: Brad’s Service Inc-Wiper Blades-\$57.00: Buena Vista Co Treasurer-203 Main St - Parc #0307106002-\$380.00: Harold Rowley Recycle Cen-Landfill Invoices July 2025-\$2,818.04: Iowa Dnr-Annual Fee Npedes 2025/2026-\$210.00: Iowa Lakes Electric Coop-Utilities-\$1,253.00: Iowa Lakes Regional Water Utilities-\$54.59: Menards-Chest Freezer, Tables & Chairs-\$2,806.55: Sioux Food Center-Swimming Pool Concessions-\$1,083.19: Sioux Lumber Supplies 4 Playground & Sand/Rk-\$1,395.96: The Daily Reporter-Legals And Ads-\$342.15: Town & Country Disposal-Trash & Recycling Contract-\$5,581.88: Treasurer State Of Iowa-July 2025 Sales Tax-\$509.76: United States Post Office-August 2025 Utility Billing-\$191.54: Eftps-Fed/Fica Tax-\$5,361.98: Hondo’s Sales And Service-Hydraulic Hose For Loader \$108.28: Bomgaars-Step Stool, Paper Towels-\$83.97: Wellmark Blue Cross Blue-Healthcare-October-\$1,603.15: Lehr Insurance-Policy Endorsement-Playground \$86.00: Hawk-I Plumbing, Inc.-Bathroom Plumbing For 1/2 Ch-\$27,587.05: Continental Research Corp-Crc/Det- \$481.96: Hawkins Inc-Chemicals For Swimming Pool \$1,402.69: Randy Koenig-August 2025 Cell Phone Reimbus-\$50.00: Mark’s Pump Sales & Svc-Water Heater For Swimming Pool-\$4,159.40: Arnold Motor Supply-Fuel Cap-\$23.97: C & B Operations Llc-Belt-\$225.72: Treasurer, Excise Tax-July 2025 Excise Sales Tax- Si, 126.37: Andrew Wetrich-August 2025 Cell Phone Reimbus-\$50.00: Baker & Taylor-Books-\$17.10: Overdrive Inc-Bridges Subscription-\$479.52: Book Systems Inc- Annual Subscription Atrium-\$795.00: Foundation Analytical Lab-Testing-\$728.25: Amanda Caraway-August 2025 Cell Phone Reimbus-\$82.20: Anp-Office Phone- Si 66.86: Seh-Topographic Survey - Usda Grant-\$6,045.00: Agies-\$225.97: Alexs Wood-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$100.00: Courtney Morales-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$75.00: Viviana Oren-

day-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$75.00: Isabella Vazquez-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$75.00: Trionfo Solutions, Llc- Std, Ad & D, Life Insurance-\$102.91: Veenstra & Kim Inc-Fema Administrative Work-\$4,128.00: Cooperative Energy-Bottle - Propane-\$51.92: Cmbs Architects- Professional Services Thur 7/31-\$8,109.20: Bryce Gunderson-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$215.00: Kiely Morrow-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$215.00: Miina Adams-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$215.00: Jayden Morales-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb-\$215.00: Esabella Perez-Pierce-Lifeguard & Cpr Training Reimb- \$200.00: Xander Waldstein-Lifeguard Training Reimbused-\$250.00: Up & Up Home Improvement-Replace Damage Siding, Spooner-\$700.00: Northwest Electric, Llc- Pump For Swimming Pool-\$2,095.63: Byo Recreation, Llc-Playground Equipment-\$80,214.00: Payroll Checks-Total Payroll Checks-\$22,621.23: Claims Total-\$199,585.79: -General Fund-Si 18,115.55: -Ieda Grant Health Clinic Fund-\$8,109.20: -Road Use Fund-\$3,831.02: -Employee Benefits Fund-\$510.31: -Fema- Flood 2024 Fund-\$34,477.49: -Water Fund-\$9377.64: -Usda Grant Water Well Fund-\$6,045.00: -Sewer Fund-\$9,105.47: -Garbage Fund-\$9,998.09: -Storm Water Fund-\$16.02:

**AUGUST 2025 RECEIPTS**

General-\$15,053.37: Teda Grant Health Clinic-\$2,600.00: Road Use-\$8,554.10: Employee Benefits-\$9.42: Local Option Sales Tax-\$8,738.28: Fema-Flood 2024- \$106,701.81: Debt Service-\$12.59: Water-\$27,314.41: Water Meter-\$1.59: Sewer-\$16,683.87: Garbage-\$13,401.71: Storm Water-\$ 1,926.32: Report Total-\$200,997.47

There were no suggestions from residents. Steve Hollengren was not able to make the meeting.

Eric Waldstein and Angie Gunderson presented a Grant Funding Opportunity for the Sioux Central Wrestling Club (SCWC). This is a grant for the Iowa community Catalyst Building Remediation Program. Community State Bank is considering giving the old bank to SCWC and they could use the grant to redo the building. Gunderson moved to approve their request to help them with the application and City Support, it was seconded by Garberding. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The City’ of Sioux Rapids is starting to receive some of their FEMA reimbursement finally for the Flood of 2024.

Katschman moved to approve the renewal of the Dollar General Liquor License-Class B, it was seconded by Gunderson. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

It was moved that 2025 Fall Clean-Up Days be scheduled for October 9, 2025, by McCoy and then it was seconded by Katschman. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

There was only one person that showed an interest in the empty Council Member Position, that was Kevin Thompson. Kevin filled

out the paperwork submitted it City’ Council and the City’ Council over it. It was moved by Garberding to appoint Kevin Thompson for the remaining 2-year term, replacing Todd Reiling and it was seconded by McCoy. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The City Council discussed advertising the Public Works position that will open up when Randy Koenig retires. This will be a full-time position, with employee paid health care, and IPERS, 9 Paid Holidays, and 40 hours Sick Pay and 40 hours of Vacation Pay after probation is over. If the employee wishes to have family health, vision care or dental that is available at the employee cost. Pay will be determined based on experience and education and certifications. We will run a ad until the next Council Meeting and then Council will decide from the applicants who they would like to interview. There will be a special meeting.

The City Council discussed their options what to do with the Police Departments old Police cruiser. They have decided to try and sell it as a police vehicle for \$30,000.00 before they take it apart and sell the pieces. A motion as made by Katschman and seconded by approving advertising selling the police vehicle for \$30,000.00. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

McCoy moved to pay Blacktop Service Company in the amount of \$119,360.00 for road maintenance/FEMA repair it was seconded by Garberding. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Garberding moved to approve payment to SEH Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc in the amount of \$4,170.00 for the SIORA Water Supply Design - USDA Grant, it was seconded by Katschman. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Katschman move to approve payment to SEH, Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc in the amount of \$4,170.00 for SIORA Water Supply Design - USDA Administration costs, it was seconded by Gunderson. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Garberding moved to approve payment Buena Vista County Sheriff in the amount of \$50,000 for the 2024/2025 Police Protection coverage, it was seconded by Gunderson. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The next regular city council meeting has been arranged for Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 6:30 pm at City Hall, 100 Front Street.

Garberding made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Katschman. Ayes: All; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

ATTEST: Amanda Caraway, City Clerk /s/ Mayor, Jim Wise #303

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