

# The Patriot

Kandiyohi County Republicans  
PO Box 1645  
Willmar, MN 56201

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WILLMAR, MN  
PERMIT NO 484



October 2007

Newsletter of the Kandiyohi County Republican Party

[www.kandiyohirepublicans.com](http://www.kandiyohirepublicans.com)

## When Tragedies Occur— Who Becomes Responsible?

By Bonnie Wilhelm

It is a tragedy that the I35W bridge collapsed. This accident could have happened last week, last year or longer ago. Somewhere, some how, someone is going to take the “blame,” someone will become the “savior” and someone will become the “target.” But the bottom line is that we are going to pay more taxes for an accident that could have been avoided.

The money is there at the State and Federal level. It is just that “pork” or special interest money, has become the way of politics. Politicians pay you for your vote, they call it listening to the people and we call it an increase in “programs” but the bottom line is getting you to vote for them.

For example, Jim Oberstar, DFL, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, was “successful” in bringing home federal dollars \$3.5 BILLION in the 2005 transportation bill funding through 2009 (ie: your federal income taxes). Interesting, the 35W bridge was not listed as a “high priority” project nor was it listed at all! Most of the \$478 MILLION in earmarks had NOTHING to do with maintaining our federal interstate infrastructure.

More than 70,000 of the nation’s bridges are rated “structurally deficient”—including the bridge that collapsed in Minneapolis. The American Society of Civil Engineers says repairing them all would require spending at least \$9.4 billion a year for 20 years.

But in the meantime, we are spending a disproportionate level of funding for mass transit. In the 2007 Capital Investment Bill HF886/SF844 which was vetoed by the Governor was for the following expenditures:

- \$40 M final design and construction of the central corridor transit way between St Paul and Minneapolis
- \$2 M state’s share of a high speed rail line between St Paul and Chicago
- \$3M revitalize Union Depot for use as a multimodal transit center in St. Paul
- \$250,000 Feasibility study for transit way corridors
- \$500,000 grant for a park and ride or park and pool from Union Station in St Paul to Hinckley
- \$500,000 park and ride lots between Hastings and Minneapolis via St. Paul and any extension between Hastings and Red Wing
- \$500,000 EIS for SW Corridor Transit Way from Hiawatha light rail in Minneapolis to the vicinity of the SW Station transit hub in Eden Prairie
- \$250,000 grant for Commuter Rail Extension between Big Lake and Rice
- \$500,000 Express Innercity Rail Initiative between the city of Duluth and Minneapolis
- \$12.5 M Met Council over the biennium for it operations towards the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit
- \$23.76 M Met Council in 2008 for other transit services
- \$5M is appropriated for a pilot project to demonstrate technologies that will allow for the future replacement of the gas tax with fuel-neutral mileage charge
- \$30 M Local Bridge Funding – request was for over \$100 Million and that is just one area of our state budget!

Our elected officials need to agree that our transportation system is critical to the economics of the State. Appropriate distribution of our money in our state budget is imperative to the future of our state. Our Representative government needs to make the tough decisions and stop looking to the next election.

## The Bulletin Board

To be more effective in building coalitions, the Kandiyohi County Board has set some lofty goals. We have established a committee to help us raise money to fund a 2008 Campaign Headquarters. We plan to develop a precinct level grassroots organization that will help get people out to vote and educate citizens on the issues and the values that are identified in our state party platform. We have formed a candidate search committee that will actively recruit candidates to run for local and state offices. We have developed a media committee that find people willing to write and submit “letters to the editor,” construct the bi-monthly newsletter, The Patriot, and upgrade our web page, ([www.kandiyohirepublicans.com](http://www.kandiyohirepublicans.com)).

The board of volunteers is attempting to accomplish and work on many areas that will hopefully enrich our base, identify our base and motivate our base into action or at least inform our base. We cannot and should not do this alone. We need your help!!

— Rollie Nissen, Co-Chair  
Kandiyohi County  
Republicans

## Precinct Caucuses

Mark your calendars: February 5, 2008 will be the official start of the presidential election. Your involvement in this process is critical to the success of protecting our democratic freedoms and rights as American Citizens. You need to show up and get involved! In the next newsletter, the caucus locations and times will be listed. In the meantime, start thinking about what our freedoms mean to you and make a decision of how you can defend them. The first and most practical step is to attend the February 5, 2008 caucus, where you will have the fun opportunity to visit with your neighbors & friends and meet new people. It’s also a time to share your thoughts or listen to another person’s opinion of issues that regard our interests and values. From this discussion amendments to our platform are discussed and voted on. Many various opportunities to volunteer your time or talents will be offered.

## Rolling, rolling, rolling...

Gather all your coins that are rolling around the house, on top of the kitchen cupboard or bedroom dresser, in a glass jar, and inside your pant pockets. We need your financial assistance!!! The telephone calls from Republican political organizations, legislative candidates, and conservative groups are exhausting and frustrating but it’s the fuel that powers the engine. Please place us on your list of worthy contributions.

Your contributions to the Kandiyohi Republicans are used locally to fund parades, the fair booth, caucuses, conventions and our goal of establishing a future campaign headquarters.

Yes, I will help the Kandiyohi County Republicans! Here is my check (made payable to Kandiyohi County Republicans) in the amount of:

\$100     \$50     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Employer \_\_\_\_\_

If self-employed, list your occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (not required by law) \_\_\_\_\_



## Stay Informed

The Kandiyohi County Republican Board want to keep you informed about policies that affect your lives and future. To do this, we are creating a website and continuing with *The Patriot*. To be fiscally conservative, future issues of *The Patriot* will be available by email. If you have access and are interested in receiving *The Patriot* by email, submit your email address to: [info@kandiyohirepublicans.com](mailto:info@kandiyohirepublicans.com).

Look for our web site:  
[www.kandiyohirepublicans.com](http://www.kandiyohirepublicans.com)

We would like to remind you that under the Minnesota Campaign Finance Law, a 2007 contribution of up to \$50/person, or \$100/married couple will be refunded to you this year. No corporate or cash donations please. Contributions are not tax deductible for Federal or State Income Tax purposes. Federal law requires we report any yearly donation of \$100 or more.



Campaign Signs, Magnetics, Banners, T-Shirts, Pens  
**320-235-7411**  
1403 S. First Street, Willmar



PO Box 1034 • 1030 N Business 71  
Willmar, MN 56201  
Phone: 320-235-5875  
Fax: 320-235-9225

"Dedicated to presenting the greatness of God through the beauty of His creation."

## C&T Construction & Handyman Services

Call Chris at 320-220-5104



Tree Removal • Trimming  
Shaping • Pruning • Cleanup  
Stump Grinding  
Call Today for a Free Quote **320-212-3292**  
Professionals You Can Trust To Do It Right

## Peer None Productions

Customized Traveling Entertainment  
- Audience Participation  
- Comedy Improv

Contact Chris  
Box 36, Kandiyohi, MN 56251

## Share your business information with 2,000 readers.

Call Bonnie at: (320) 235-4808

**J.D. KREPS FINANCIAL GROUP**  
Jonathan D. Kreps  
Empowered investors. Powerful financial advice.  
309 Lakeland Dr. SE, Unit 2 Willmar, MN 56201  
Phone: 320-235-8065  
Toll Free: 866-545-4685  
Email: jon@jdkreps.com www.jdkreps.com

# The 2007 Kandiyohi County Fair

Like summer, the Kandiyohi County Fair has come and gone. With the help of Fair Chairman Paul Hoffer and some great volunteers, our fair booth was very successful. Many fairgoers stopped by our booth and registered for our \$100 gas card. Lisa Heidecker of Willmar won the gas card. The second prize, two carwashes from Walt's, went to Jolene Borka of New London. The children were delighted to receive balloons.



Rollie Nissen and Lisa Heidecker

During the 2007 Kandiyohi County Fair, a survey of nearly 500 potential voters was taken at the Republican booth. The responses to the four questions and the participant's political affiliation, if given, are illustrated in the table below. An interpretation of the results will not be included, as we trust the numbers speak for themselves.

Question 1: What is the issue that will most influence your vote in 2008?

Number Polled	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Did not identify
Immigration	11	9	52	18
Taxes/Fiscal Issues	10	11	36	21
Education	21	9	30	27
Family Values	7	12	118	22
War on Terror	18	14	56	31
Environment	10	7	8	9

Question 2: Do you support sending the US Military to the US Borders to halt illegal immigration?

Number Polled	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Did not identify
Yes	44	36	172	49
No	11	8	21	19
Refuse to answer	4	6	27	20

Question 3: Do you support the current Second Amendment, the right to keep and bear arms or do you favor additional gun control?

Number Polled	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Did not identify
Support 2nd Amendment	24	27	158	41
Favor gun control	20	12	35	19
No opinion	13	11	31	28

Question 4: Do you consider yourself pro-life, pro-choice or somewhere in between?

Number Polled	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Did not identify
Pro-life	21	35	192	44
Pro-choice	25	9	12	20
In-between	12	6	21	24

## Grassroots Campaign School

The Grassroot Campaign School was sponsored by the Republican State Party and put on by The Leadership Institute. Board members Rollie Nissen and Diane Vrolson represented the Business Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) of Kandiyohi County. The two-day seminar was full of useful information. Co-chair Rollie Nissen shared one interesting point from the meeting, "When Barry Goldwater ran for President, being right (correct) was thought to be sufficient to get elected, but he found that it is NOT sufficient to win. The number and effectiveness of coalitions on a given side determine the winners of elections." Rollie comments that in the spirit of coalition building, lets remember Ronald Reagan's 11th Commandment: "Thou shalt not speak ill of a fellow Republican." The left already has enough help finding fault and placing blame!

## 150 New Laws

In 2007 there were over 150 new laws that will affect our lives in one manner or another. Become informed: see <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/Newlaws2007-0.asp> or visit the House of Representatives Web site, [www.house.mn](http://www.house.mn). For further information, contact House Public Information Services at (651) 296-2146 or (800) 657-3550.

# Traditional Marriage is Still Under Fire!

An activist judge in Iowa has struck down that state's Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), ordering the county register to immediately begin issuing marriage licenses to homosexual couples. Less than twenty-four hours from the judge's ruling two men were legally married outside a minister's home. Presently, the marriage applications for homosexual couples are halted on appeal.

The similarities between Iowa and Minnesota are uncanny. While a supermajority of voters in both states oppose legalizing homosexual marriage, state legislators in both states have repeatedly blocked efforts to allow voters to decide whether their state constitution should be amended to strengthen the protection for marriage. Both states have DOMA statutes and legislators in both states have repeatedly claimed that DOMA provides adequate protection for marriage.

Voters in North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin have all passed state marriage amendments permanently protecting marriage as the union of one man and one woman. But in Canada and Iowa where marriage did not have constitutional protection, laws were overturned thereby legalizing homosexual 'marriage'.

Some of the above information was retrieved from newspaper articles and Minnesota Majority, which is a non-partisan group working to restore traditional values to Minnesota [www.MinnesotaMajority.org](http://www.MinnesotaMajority.org).

## Republican State Central Meeting

In June, a group of Kandiyohi County delegates and alternates attended the Republican State Central Meeting. There was a contentious race for State Chair; Joe Repya, who ran a spirited campaign, challenged Ron Carey running for a second term. Ron Carey was re-elected as our State Chair on the first ballot. Dorothy Fleming was elected on the second ballot as Vice Chair. She replaces Eric Hoplin, who is returning to school. Congratulations and best wishes to our newly elected state leaders!!!

## Hip, Hip Hooray, We Love Parades!

The Republicans are known for their enthusiasm in parades but this year we were even more jubilant. Our newly elected local legislator, Senator Joe Gimse, led our parade unit. As each community in Kandiyohi County has its own flavor so were their positive responses to Senator Gimse. In Pennock, a man requested a photograph be taken of his two young children with the Senator; in New London an elderly woman stood up from her wheelchair to give the Senator a hug; and in Spicer the cheers of "Congratulations!" to "You're doing a good job!" were expressed throughout the parade. Senator Gimse and his fellow Republicans were moved and humbled by the out pour of appreciation.



4th of July Parade at Spicer



New London Parade

"The opinions expressed by writers to this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the Kandiyohi County BPOU Board."



Office (320) 235-1113

605 Lakeland Drive N.E.  
Willmar, MN 56201

## Green Lake Pet Hospital

- Small animal medicine & surgery
- Purina Pro Plan
- Boarding

Dr. Daniel Cook  
320-796-5951

284 Lake Ave. N., Spicer (Hwy. 23)



Willmar • Belgrade • Elrosa

Member FDIC



PRINTING-MAILING-PUBLISHING

905 North Hwy. 71 • Willmar, MN 56201  
**320-235-5849**

## CITY HEIGHTS ADDITION

Spacious Townhomes



Lanae Gimse

Quality Construction by Gimse Brothers Construction  
Building our Community - While we build Your New Home.

For Private Viewing, Contact Lanae Gimse at **320-235-8626** or **320-894-2042**

Pat L. Laib  
CEO  
Gunsmith



Tom Fox  
Gunsmith

## LAIB'S GUNSMITHING LLC

Remington 3200 Specialists  
201 North Hwy. 23, Spicer, MN 56288  
320-796-2686 • Fax 320-796-4570  
Email: pllaib@clearwire.net

## Edward Jones

KEN QUIST  
Financial Advisor



1617 Hwy 12 SE, Suite 220  
Willmar, MN 56201  
Office 320-222-1164 Fax 320-229-7024  
888-222-3065  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**J.D. KREPS FINANCIAL GROUP**  
Jonathan D. Kreps  
Empowered investors. Powerful financial advice.  
309 Lakeland Dr. SE, Unit 2 Willmar, MN 56201  
Phone: 320-235-8065  
Toll Free: 866-545-4685  
Email: jon@jdkreps.com www.jdkreps.com

**South 71 VETERINARY CLINIC & SUPPLIES**  
Dr. Steven Rumsey • Dr. Debra Bauman  
Dr. Gregg Laurence • Dr. Amy Schmidt  
Dr. Rochelle Kallstrom • Dr. Eugene Schluetter  
• Dr. Nicole Hjelte  
**(320) 235-7396**  
4119 Abbott Dr. SE, Willmar, MN 56201  
24 Hour Emergency Service

**Good News Book Store**  
Roger Schmidt  
1604 1st St. S., Skylark Center  
Willmar, MN 56201  
phone (320) 235-7001  
email: goodnews@entel.net

**Central Tire and Auto Inc.**  
North Side of Skylark Shopping Center  
Willmar, MN 56201  
Phone: 320-235-7030 Fax: 320-214-1046  
Toll Free: 800-935-7030

**ANDERSON & BURGETT**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
D. Michael Burgett  
Attorney  
Tel: 320-235-3171 416 SW Sixth Street  
Toll Free: 1-800-717-3171 PO Box 306  
Fax: 320-235-5378 Willmar, MN 56201-0306  
Email: dmichaelb@anburlaw.com  
Website: www.anburlaw.com

**WEST CENTRAL SANITATION**  
320-235-7630 ■ 800-246-7630  
Rubbish Removal  
Recycling

**Christianson BROTHERS**  
P.O. Box 1599, Willmar, MN 56201  
Phone: 235-5020 Fax: 214-1363  
Email: cbcinc@tds.net  
License #20224779