IN THE LOOP

JULY/AUGUST 2026



In This Issue

- Business Spotlight **2**
- Achievement Awards **2**
- MN ACT Program **3**
- Ewaste & TV Recycling **3**
- Scholarship Winner **3**
- Office Closed **4**
- Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks **4**

Brandon Car Show

+ Live Music by Blonde & the Bohunk

Join us **Thursday, July 30, from 5-8 PM** at Gardonville's headquarters for our favorite night of the summer!

Enjoy live music from Blonde & the Bohunk, browse an impressive collection of cars and vintage tractors, and grab a bite from local food trucks. We'll also have kettle corn, a beer garden, and a blow-up slide for the kids. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome!





Free Registration for Your Car or Tractor!

Spots available for 70-75 cars. Reserve a spot at: gctel.com/brandoncarshow or scan the QR Code

Business Spotlight

Colorful Seasons Garden Center: Growing Beauty Locally Since 1989

For more than 35 years, Colorful Seasons has been helping customers bring beauty and color to their homes, gardens, and landscapes. What began in January 1989 as a small family business has grown into one of the areas favorite destinations for plants, gardening supplies, and home décor.

Founded by Bob and Lynelle Brickweg, Colorful Seasons remains family-owned and operated today. Their son, Bryce, and his wife, Kendall, are now part of the business alongside a team of 12 employees.

The business has evolved significantly over the years. In 1991, Colorful Seasons purchased six greenhouses, followed by three additional greenhouses in 1996 and another three in 1998, bringing the total to 12 greenhouses. In 2009, the company expanded again with the construction of its current retail store, shifting its focus away from fresh floral arrangements to greenhouse production, a garden center, and home décor. Additional greenhouse property was purchased near Garfield in 2012 to support continued growth.



3400 Dakota St, Alexandria

Today, Colorful Seasons grows approximately 50,000 annual plants each year, including popular favorites such as geraniums, petunias, marigolds, and many more. Plants arrive as small plugs or cuttings and are carefully transplanted and nurtured locally until they're ready for customers to take home. Every annual purchased from Colorful Seasons has been grown and cared for right here in our community.

The greenhouse team also utilizes beneficial insects often called "beneficials" as a natural way to control harmful pests and promote healthy plant growth.

Beyond annual flowers, Colorful Seasons offers a wide selection of trees, shrubs, perennials, garden seeds, grass seed, bulbs, bulk mulch and rock, sod, fertilizers, decorative pots, and yard décor. Their thoughtfully curated home décor section features unique and affordable items that make wonderful gifts for any occasion.

Whether you're planting a garden, refreshing your landscaping, or searching for the perfect gift, Colorful Seasons continues to be a local destination where beauty grows close to home.

To get in touch with Colorful Seasons, call their store at (320) 762-1548 or visit their website *colorfulseasons.com*

2026 Gardonville Achievement Scholarship Winners

Gardonville is proud to recognize three outstanding high school seniors as recipients of the 2026 Gardonville Achievement Award: Kennedy Hodgson from Alexandria Area High School and Kolby Bitzan and Justin Thoennes, from Brandon-Evansville School. Selected by a panel of mentors, they were not aware they were being considered for the award. Their selection reflects more than just academic success, it's a tribute to their exceptional work ethic and determination to achieve their goals. Each student will receive a $500 scholarship to support their continued education.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Kennedy, Kolby, Justin and the entire graduating class of 2026!


Kennedy Hodgson


Kolby Bitzan


Justin Thoennes

Minnesota Access to Communication Technology

Do you know of family members, friends or neighbors who have difficulty using their telephone? Do they have trouble hearing, speaking or have a physical disability that prevents them from using a standard telephone? The Minnesota Access to Communication Technology (MN ACT) can provide special telephone equipment at no charge to Minnesota residents of all ages.

The equipment includes amplified (corded and cordless) phones, speakerphones, captioned telephones, telephone ring signalers, deafblind equipment and other special equipment.

To learn more about this program scan the QR code, call 1-800-657-3663 or visit their website. Eligibility requirements do apply.

mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing/communication-access

Ewaste & TV Recycling

August 24th through September 4th

Recycling electronics is one of the easiest ways to make a positive impact on the environment. Many outdated devices contain materials such as lead, mercury, cadmium, and flame retardants that can pose risks to soil and water when disposed of improperly.

At the same time, old electronics contain valuable resources including aluminum, copper, gold, silver, and plastics that can be recovered and used again. Recycling these materials helps reduce the need for new raw resources while lowering the energy required to manufacture new products.

When you recycle items like computers, monitors, televisions, and other electronic devices, you're doing more than clearing out clutter. You're helping conserve natural resources, reduce waste, and support a cleaner, more sustainable future for our communities.

Bring your unwanted electronics to our Brandon or Alexandria office, and we'll make sure they are recycled responsibly.



Free Items
keyboards, mice, phones,
cell phones, computer speakers

Home Entertainment & Ewaste - $5
computer towers and monitors, routers, fax machines, laptops, printers, tablets, DVD players, VCRs

TVs with screens 7"-27"- $25

TVs with screens over 27"- $35

Console/rear projection and oversized TVs - $50

Due to staff limitations, we are unable to assist with unloading items. Drop-off hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM. Cash or check payment only.

Local Student Awarded Statewide $2,000 Scholarship

The Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) is proud to announce that it received 126 scholarship applications from students across Minnesota—and one of the top honors is coming from right here to our community.



Lacey Siira of Alexandria Area High School has been selected as the recipient of a $2,000 general scholarship presented by the MTA Foundation. The award was announced by Dave Wolf, of Gardonville Cooperative Telephone Assn. a proud supporter of the scholarship program.

"It's especially rewarding to see students from our local communities recognized at the state level," said Wolf. "These scholarships are an investment in the future of our communities."

The MTA Foundation is part of the Minnesota Telecom Alliance, which represents more than 40 telecommunications companies and cooperatives across Minnesota.



Office Closed

Our offices will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independance Day.

Brain Buster

In our last newsletter, we announced our newest product that protects your devices from viruses, ransomware and blocks harmful sites. Do you remember what this product is called?

Answer

Name - Please Print

May/June Brain Buster

What everyday household item was originally invented as a wallpaper cleaner in the 1930s but is now commonly used for arts, crafts, and kids' play?

Play-Doh

Last month's winner is David W. Olson. Stop in at either our Alexandria or Brandon office to get your goody bag, David!

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Hours: Monday-Friday
8:00 AM-4:30 PM

www.gctel.com

Gardonville is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Help Us Find Them

Gardonville has not been able to reach the following people regarding their capital credit check. These checks have a void date of 7/9/2026, so customers will need to reach out to us ASAP. Please ask them to call our office at (320) 834-5151.

Mark & Jodi Abbott
Jack Aldridge
American Tower Corp
Amoco Pipeline Pump Stn
Amthor Assn
Anderson Construction
Jessica M Anderson
Harvey Anderson
Luther Anderson
Robert Anderson
Roy H Anderson
Eugene & Paulette Bakke
Robert Barz
Lawrence Bautch
Frances Balcken
Badger Sanitary Service
Berg Custom Machine
Berndt Kamp Kappy
Charles Berstrom
Daniel Berke
Danyelle Bennett
David Bjoralt
Renae Bjoralt
Nathan & Adrian Boe
Justin Bous
Josh & Sarah Bolton
Robert Bradley
Julie & Glenn Buchholz
James & Cathy Burnevik
Camp Omaha Resort
Candie Beesness
James Cashman
Donna Carlson
Clair Christensen
Collectors Choice Furniture
Stephen Conroy
Robert A Creel
Warren & Kay Dalen
Davita Inc
Ron Dolan
LeMoyne Dressen
Lloyd G Dropps
Chad & Sherry Drum
John Dvorak
Eagle Alterations & Craft
Adrian Ellingson
Ronald & Marie Fisher
Leroy Flaata
Josh & Ann Florell
Cliffor Fredrickson
Marie D Fults
Thomas & Amy Gardner
Greenworld Products Corp
Anna Greenquist/Homan
Amy Grussing
William Hammer
Adeline Hanson
Charles & Lisa Hanson
Melvin Hanson
Randy Hansen
Meridel Hanson
Anne Haroldson
George Harmon
Jim Haugen
Douglas & Jane Hanson
George Helget
Molly Heydt
C J Hirning
Dennis & Avis Holloway
Matthew Hosch
Clark & Linda Metcal Horn
Kim Hoppe
Kathleen Hughes
Robert Hulke
Dick Jackson
Marlene Hoffarber
Clara Helen Jacobson
Larry & Sherr Janiszeski
JPH Jenneges
Ken Jensen
Jerome Johannessen
Dave Johnson
Frank Johnson
Leroy Johnson
Scherey Johnson
Shirley Johnson
Justyn Johnson
Johnson's Micro Diamond
Deborah Joyce
Richard Joyce
Kamp Kappy Resort & Campground
Phil Kangas
Ray R Kaste
Dean Kaufman
Darci Kezar
Todd Kohnen
Robert & Marilyn Kukacka
Deanna Kutchera
Jay Kvanbek
David & Carolyn Larson
Betty Larson
Ken Landgaard
John Lofquist
Virgil Laughter
Mike Lenarz
Harold Libke
Dorothy Lindner
Robert Lingren
Craig Lindemyer
Shannon Loiland
Art Lohman
Diane Lynch
Kathleen A Maass
Debra Mason
Angela Martinson
Ellsworth Maxwell
James & Kathleen McIver
Dale Melhus
Rodney Moe
Marvin & Joann Moyer
Paul Mueller
Tom & Sheila Myhervold
Wilbur A Nelson
Hazel Nelson
Paul Nelson
Marie Nokes
Northern Waste System
Sally Olson
Duane Paulson
Tony & Marge Pekula
Bill C & Susan Pahan
Shirley Pendzimaz
Bernard Peterson
Richard D Peterson
Richard Peterson
Jim & Silvia Pridal
Charles Putnam
Quest Investigations
Rhonda Reinarz
Frances Revering
Rehab Works
Bobbie Ritter
Anita Roers
Minnetta Rohloff
James Rosenow
Floyd Rossum
Dan Rubis
Rural Cellular Corp
Leroy Schuelke
Robert A & Pat Schultz
Senior Citizens of Brnd
Thomas M Slatten
Ronald Smith
Vernon M Smith
Southview Manor Coinless
Rhonda Spiker
Josh Stewart
Sharon & Jeremy Steen
Dolores Stensrud
Minnie Trap
Stubby's Trucking
Daniel & Gail Stoffers
Connie Stoner
Tri Co Water Conditioning
Mark Thronson
Harold Trusty
Varitech Industries
Verso Paper
Sherry Walker
Marvin Werman
William & Holly Wilken
Stanton L Williams
Tim & Pam Wilson
Nancy Witter
Bette Wolf
Ron & Rhonda Wobig
Mrs Lawny Wrolson