IN THIS ISSUE: Silos in Jonathan **Management Updates Jonathan General Store Buckthorn Control** MINNESOTA **Community Gardens** JONATHAN SPRING/SUMMER 2022 Historical photo of The Jonathan Association silo in 'Village One' provided by Marsh Halberg

SPRING/SUMMER 2022



### **PAUL MCNEIL**

My wife and I moved to the Clover Ridge neighborhood in 2016 and have since had two children. The neighborhood and community have been such a joy and it's a significant reason I want to further my involvement with the association. I'm a proud member of Jonathan and know we can continue this wonderful experience, moving onward.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

### STEPHEN WOLFF

Stephen lives in neighborhood four and has been an active volunteer in the community for more than a decade. During this time, he has served the association in volunteer roles, ranging from chief hot dog grill master at the annual 4th of July celebration to past association president. Stephen is married and has two children, Connor and Layla.



### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The anticipation for warmer months ahead can be felt throughout our community, despite old man winter holding on a bit too long this year. It was certainly a busy winter season at The Jonathan Association!

We welcomed a new office manager, worked with Lennar on plan details for The Reserve at Autumn Woods, and held our first election following the annual meeting. These are just a few highlights from a long list of important work that has been done to ready us for the busy project season, ahead.

The board will be meeting, in the coming months, to revise the strategic plan. Our partners at Reserve Advisors will be completing a comprehensive update to the reserve study, during this time. With the updated study and plan as a guide, the board will work with

the FSR Management team to outline the priorities and objectives for the next three years.

Driving the future of The Jonathan Association is a shared vision with each of you, our members. I speak on behalf of the entire board when I say that we are proud to represent each of you. We welcome your ideas and support as we continue to build our community, together. In closing, I thank you for your continued engagement in making The Jonathan Association an important part of the community of Chaska. Have a wonderful spring and summer!

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Jeremy Landkammer Ely
President, Jonathan Association Board of Directors

# FIRSTSERVICE RESIDENTIAL Meet The Jonathan Association's newest members of the management team.



Hi, my name is Kami Skomsoyvog and I am the property manager for The Jonathan Association.

I started working for FirstService Residential and The Jonathan Association on January 13th, 2022. My hours are 8:00 to 4:30, Monday through Friday.

I come from a background in leadership management and building strong relationships is my primary focus. I am very excited to be a part of The Jonathan Association community.

I look forward to working together with the board of directors and the community for all common interests. I grew up in Excelsior and now live in Waconia. My husband, Erik, and I have five children. Their ages range from 18 to 27. We are going to be grandparents, times two, both baby boys; one due in June and the other due in September. We are so very excited.



My name is Kim Lee. I started working at The Jonathan Association, with Kami, on March 15, 2022, as her assistant. My hours are 9:00 to 1:00, Monday through Friday.

Prior to this, I worked for 35+ years at Hennepin County in a variety of departments, so I have a pretty good array of experiences to draw from. I live in Shakopee with my husband. I am a master gardener, so I have a lot going on, every growing season. My husband and I also like getting out on the bike/motorcycle and seeing where the wind takes us.

I am very happy to be here and look forward to being part of Jonathan. Thank you, all, for being so welcoming.

# THE HISTORY OF JONATHAN SILOS

by Marsh Halberg

As The Jonathan Association is in the midst of sprucing up the Jonathan silo, it seemed like a good time to review the history of farm silos in our community.

When Jonathan was originally developed, in the 1960's, the founder, Henry McKnight, recognized the value of tying the present to the past. As such, an effort was made to preserve several of the farmhouses and silos that existed.

Originally, there were three painted silos located around Jonathan. The most northerly silo was one half mile south of Highway 5, on the west side of Highway 41 (right).

The second silo was located at the main entrance to Jonathan, on the southwest corner of Pioneer Trail and Highway 41, where the current Lakeview Clinic is located (photo above). The third silo, which is the one

we are all familiar with, is relatively new in its location. The original silo for the Bender farm was located approximately 200 feet north of the current silo location.

As all things over time begin to decay, unfortunately, the same was true for the three silos. All of the silos were in need of replacement or substantial repair. The two northerly silos were removed, and the third silo was replaced. While the third silo had the words "Jonathan" painted on it at an angle, it was decided to use the "wheat shaft" design to replicate what had appeared on

previous silos. The wheat shaft design was popular on many Jonathan items and appeared on the side of the Jonathan General Store that was recently demolished.

A side story of interest was the creative funding that was used for the construction of the new silo. The association board, the original development corporation, and the current owner

of the property were all aware of a dormant bank account that had sat idle for several decades as no one had clarity as to the ownership of the account. All parties agreed that rather than fighting over ownership of the funds, the account would be closed and the \$10,000 in the account would be withdrawn and used to fund the construction of the new silo. I was tasked with acquiring the funds from the bank.

As a sign of a more trusting past, I walked into a major bank in Minneapolis and expected

major hurdles in trying to deal with this decades-old account. To my surprise, after simply explaining that I was there to withdraw the funds and close the account, I was handed a check for approximately \$10,000, made out to The Jonathan Association. I never showed an I.D. nor any proof of authority for the transaction!

The new silo was constructed and remains both a landmark and a reminder of our agricultural past. It is heartwarming that the current board continues to spend the time and resources necessary to preserve it for decades to come.





Luck ran out for a 49-year-old Chaska landmark on St. Patrick's Day. On March 17th, crews tore down the Jonathan General Store at 110690 Village Road in Chaska.

The station sold its last gas in early 2014 for \$2.79/gallon according to the sign in front.

At the time it closed, the station was the last of the original retail components of the "New Town" of Jonathan. It also had the distinction of being the last business in Chaska to rent movies on VHS tape.

Eastern Carver County Schools purchased the site for \$175,000 in 2019. The district also owns the nearby Family Learning Center, which originally served as the Village Center mall.

According to Celi Haga, ECCS communications director, the building was in disrepair, and it wasn't fiscally prudent to make it usable.

"For now, we will be covering the space with asphalt and using it for additional parking for the complex. There are no additional future plans for the space at this time," Haga stated.

Jonathan General Store stood apart from the other box-like modern gas stations. It featured a slanted roof, reflecting the late 1960's/early 1970's architecture found in many surrounding Jonathan buildings.

Jonathan Development Corporation originally owned the station, which included two service stalls for repair work.

The station opened as Village Gulf in February 1973, offering free windshield scrapers with gas purchase and a drawing for three free Zenith black and white TVs.

At the time, it would have been the first gas station located outside of downtown Chaska and served the 1,000 or so residents of Jonathan.

When it closed, it was the oldest gas station in town.



# BUCKTHORN CONTROL

The Jonathan Association is working to improve areas in which buckthorn is problematic. We are working with professional arborists to eliminate and control the spread. If you see buckthorn on your property, please eradicate it or have a professional help you get rid of it. The University of Minnesota has a lot of great information to help you identify and deal with buckthorn.

Information below is compliments of the University of Minnesota Extension Service

### WHAT IS BUCKTHORN?

Buckthorn may refer to one of two different species found in Minnesota: Common (or European) buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica) or glossy buckthorn (Frangula alnus). The species arrived in Minnesota from Europe in the 1850's and was planted as an ornamental plant typically used in hedges. Today, both species are listed as restricted noxious weeds in Minnesota. The sale, transport, or movement of buckthorn is prohibited statewide.

Buckthorn is a shrub or small tree that can reach 25 feet tall and takes an oval form. They are noticeable in woodlands because they can form dense thickets where few other plant species will exist in the understory.

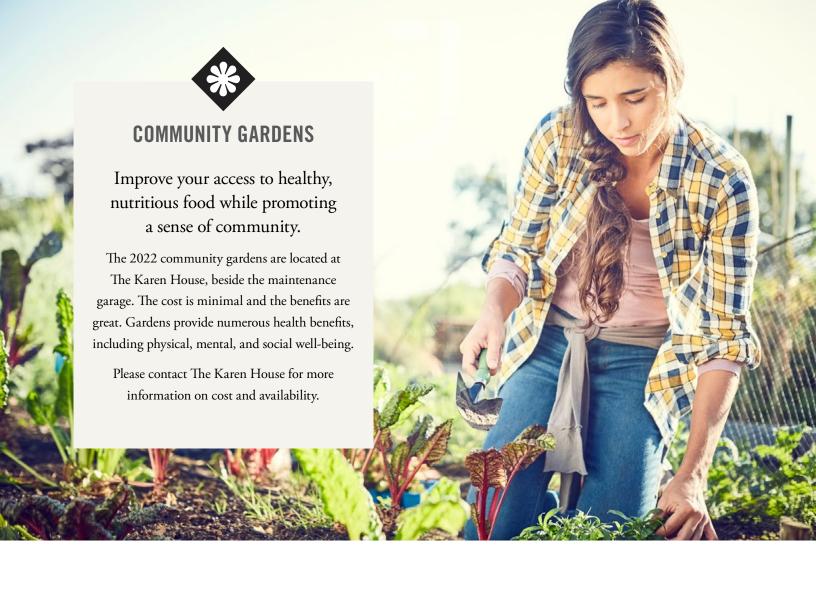
The key identifiable feature of buckthorn is the "buck hoof print" that can be seen at the end of the twig. This hoof print is formed by two terminal buds and a thorn going down the middle. Buckthorn leaves are some of the first leaves to appear in the spring and the last to drop their leaves in the fall, a common trait among many woody invasive plants.

Buckthorn has been linked to another major invasive species in recent years. Soybean aphids, currently the number one insect threat to Minnesota soybean growers, lay their eggs on buckthorn for the winter. Buckthorn can also host the fungus responsible for oat crown rust.

### **HOW DO YOU CONTROL BUCKTHORN?**

While it may not be possible to eradicate buckthorn, the goal is to minimize its impact by planting native species to "outshade" buckthorn seedlings, pulling up by hand or with tools, mowing small seedlings, chemical treatments, and even strategically utilizing grazing goats.

When controlling buckthorn, female plants should be targeted first. This is because female buckthorn plants produce seeds from berries that are widely dispersed by birds and other wildlife. Persistence is key with eradicating buckthorn.





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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **NEW DATE! SATURDAY, MAY 14**

## Festival of Garage Sales

The Jonathan Association is organizing a community-wide garage sale for all Jonathan residents. It is free to participate. This event is a useful way to recycle your household items as well as a chance to get to know your neighbors.

www.jonathaninchaska.com/garage-sales

SATURDAY, MAY 7

# Spring Clean-Up Day

The Jonathan Association will have crews making a **one-time pass through each neighborhood,** picking up yard waste. All waste must be in biodegradable bags. All brush must be smaller than 3" in diameter and 4' in length. To ensure your yard waste is collected, have your bags sitting curbside by 6:00 am.









