



Russell Newsletter

July 2026

Would you like us to email you your newsletter?
As long as you're not a Russell Boxholder we can email you the Russell Newsletter.

Email your request to:
russellnews@fibmn.com

NOTICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
TO ENSURE YOUR AD GETS IN THE PAPER PLEASE SEND TO THE ABOVE EMAIL BY THE FRIDAY BEFORE NEWSLETTER WEEK.

Russell Newsletter,
PO Box 360,
Russell, MN 56169.

Join Grace First Parish for church every Sunday
8:30 fellowship
Church service at 9:00 a.m.



Russell Bar & Grill
Open Monday thru Saturday at 11:00 a.m.
If you would like to order take out, call 507-823-9766

Tree Dump Hauling Reminder

Russell residents are doing a great job keeping our city looking good this summer with tree and brush cleanup. Thank you for helping keep Russell clean and well maintained.

Please remember when hauling items to the tree dump, everything must be loaded on a trailer. Nothing may be dragged on city streets.

This requirement follows Russell City Code Ordinance 2024-11, Section 5.07:
Section 5.07(B): Recyclables and yard waste shall be hauled in a closed or covered vehicle or trailer.

Section 5.07(E): When transporting solid waste, vehicles or trailers shall be loaded and unloaded so contents do not fall, spill, or get dragged on the ground or street.

If you have questions, please contact Jason or Laurie at the City office, or reach out to any council member.

Thank you for helping to keep our streets in good repair.

With all the rain we have had this summer our lawns are looking beautiful! Thank you for the pride you take in our community.

This is a friendly reminder that when mowing grass, it **DOES NOT GO IN THE STREETS!**

In Minnesota discharging grass clippings onto public roads is illegal. This is addressed in Minnesota Statute 169.42, which classifies this action as a misdemeanor. Grass clippings can create dangerous conditions for vehicles, particularly for motorcyclists and bicyclists, making them slippery and hazardous.

Thank you!

The Russell City council held their regular meeting on Wednesday June 10th, at 5:30 pm in the City Hall meeting room. Present were Mayor Hilary Buchert, Council members Joel VanDamme, Dawn Garbe, Glen Grant, and Matt Kerkaert. Also present were Laurie Millner, Clerk, Jason Alberts, Public Works director, Matt Gross, City Attorney, Lyon Co Sheriff Deputy Thompson as well as members of the public.

Mayor Buchert called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

M/S/C Glen Grant / Matt Kerkaert to approve the agenda as presented.

M/S/C Glen Grant / Hilary Buchert to approve the minutes from the May 6th emergency meeting.

M/S/C Dawn Garbe / Glen Grant to approve the minutes from the May 13th regular meeting.

M/S/C Matt Kerkaert / Dawn Garbe to approve the minutes from the June 3rd special meeting.

M/S/C Dawn Garbe / Hilary Buchert to approve pay application 4 in the amount of \$116,245.00

M/S/C Glen Grant / Joel VanDamme to approve the purchase agreement between the City and Alberts properties for the old lumber yard lot.

M/S/C Joel VanDamme / Matt Kerkaert to approve the certificate of resolution authorizing conveyance of real property to Alberts Properties LLC.

M/S/C Dawn Garbe / Matt Kerkaert to approve the quit claim deed for the old lumberyard lot to Albert Properties.

M/S/C Joel VanDamme / Hilary Buchert to declare the east end of the old Bus garage lot as designated semi parking.

M/S/C Glen Grant / Joel VanDamme to move forward with preventative servicing of the three generators.

Jason and the council thank all who have been helping to clean up the city by trimming trees etc.

M/S/C Joel VanDamme / Dawn Garbe to approve the building permit for Russell Bar & Grill Inc. to enclose a portion of the patio to create a new room.

M/S/C Glen Grant / Matt Kerkaert to declare the 10X10 Eagle Peak Canopy with 1 side wall excess property and accept sealed bids at the July meeting.

M/S/C Dawn Garbe / Joel VanDamme to approve the monthly bills as presented.

The next regular meeting will be July 8th in the City Hall meeting room beginning at 5:30 pm.

M/S/C Dawn Garbe / Joel VanDamme to adjourn the meeting.

Laurie Millner

City Clerk

NOTICE:

The water hydrant in the park is for park use only. The city office has had reports of some people hauling water out of the park in barrels. If you want to buy water from the City of Russell other, than your normal water service please speak with Jason or Laurie to make arrangements.

Thank you!

Russell Blood Drive is July 27th at the Russell Community Center from 1 pm to 7 pm. Please donate if you are able! Thank you!



Thank you!

I would like to thank all the fantastic people whom have been there to have an ear and to help me through the last couple years. All the meals and visits I've received is incredible and I wouldn't have gotten this far without you. There are so many to thank so hopefully I wont forget any. A special thank you to, Lee & Pam Bush, Colton and Allie Sanderson, Tye Sanderson and the entire Sanderson family. Matt & Shelby Thooft, Steve & Sonja Bush, Rick and Carol Peterson, Dawn Garbe, Dave & Kathy Schruers, Berger, and many more. Thank you for the prayers and care you have shared. God Bless You All!

Gratefully, Harlan Bossen.

The family of David Rokeh would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us in The Celebration of David's Life. Your presence, kind words, prayers, cards, support and sharing of memories brought us all great comfort during this difficult time. We truly appreciate the love and compassion shown to our family.

*With Sincere gratitude,
Judy Rae Rokeh
Tammie, Brian Hammer and families*

**Coon Creek Township
2026 Election Dates**

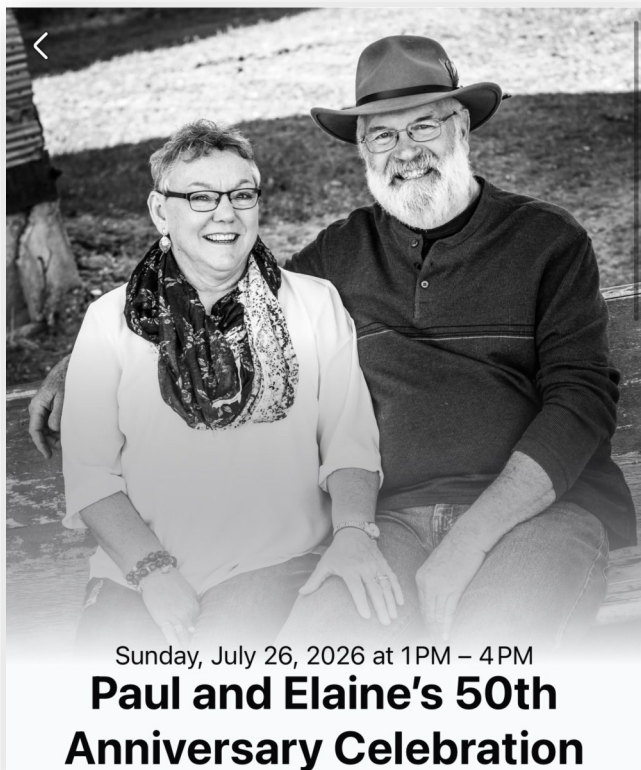
Coon Creek Township has been a mail-in ballot township since 2017. The State Primary Election is August 11, 2026. If you are a registered voter, you should receive your ballot in the mail between June 26 – July 14. The State General Election is November 3, 2026. If you are a registered voter, you should receive your ballot in the mail between September 18 – October 6.

If you are a new township resident or have never registered before, you are encouraged to register before Election Day. You can register online at the Office of the MN Secretary of State website or at the Lyon County Gov. Center.

Feel free to contact the Election Department at the Lyon County Gov. Center or Lori Grant, Coon Creek Township Clerk at 507-823-4746.

Help Wanted:

First Independent Bank in Russell is looking to hire someone for snow removal this winter. Must be able to clear sidewalks and drive thru before business hours. If you are interested and able, please contact Justin at 507-823-4391.



Come celebrate the Gold Anniversary for Paul and Elaine Swift! Since 1976 Paul & Elaine have walked together through it all-God's guidance and grace being their foundation. Please join us at the Russell Community Center to toast their past years and many more yet to be! It is come-and-go. Grab a cup of coffee, slice of cake and spend some time visiting and celebrating 50 years! We look forward to seeing you!

Minnesota Memories July 2026...a faint soccer memory

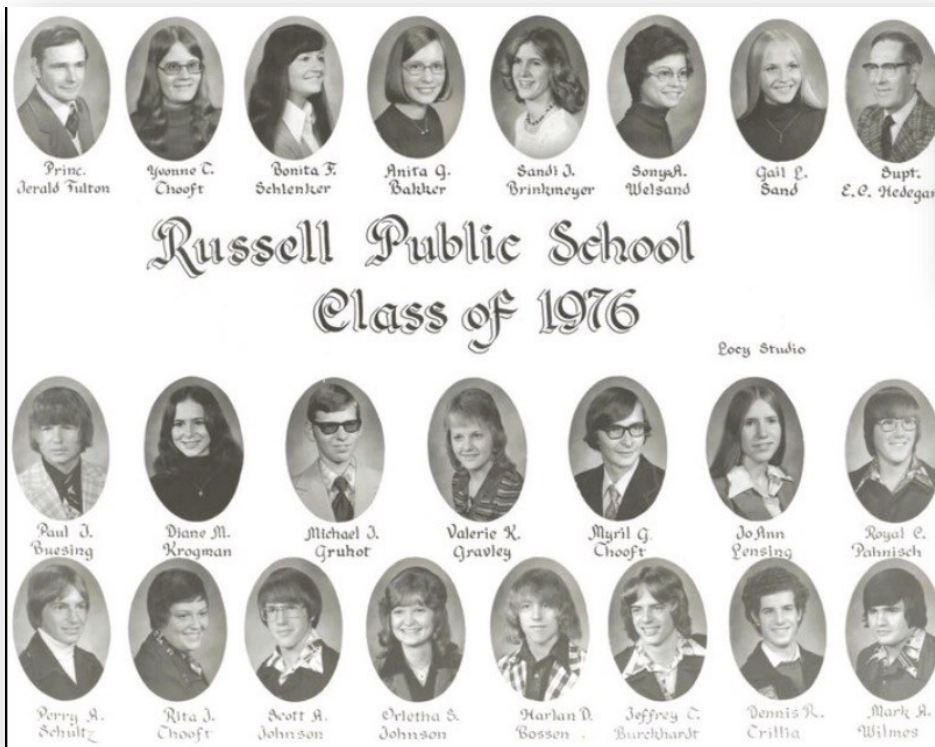
We enjoyed the Soccer World Cup competition. We didn't always understand the details/rules of play, but as long as the score was displayed on the TV screen we understood enough. Why our interest? Well, the US Team received a lot of local publicity, as one of its star players, Christian Pulisic, comes from Hershey Pennsylvania, which is just up the road from our Carlisle domicile. What is the memory here? Well Soccer was introduced to us (briefly) in our Russell high school physical education class. I have a faint memory of our coaches trying to teach us the fundamentals of this foreign sport (suspicion is our coaches were nearly as ignorant of soccer as were we). My memory is that this effort was confined to a couple of hour long classes. I do remember the frustration of playing because most of us kicked the ball with the pointy toe of our footwear...not the proper soccer way, which is far more efficient in controlling where you want the ball to go, a lesson learned some years ago by our American Football kickoff and field goal kickers. We became a bit more familiar with soccer while in the Army as it was played by "military brats" (a term used by the children of service members to describe themselves) wherever we were stationed. Playing soccer was probably encouraged by living in Europe. Additionally, it can be an inexpensive pastime, all that is needed is a ball, a gaggle of kids (or adults) and a flat piece of ground, grassy or not...all abundant on military posts. Our son was into soccer starting in grade school continuing through his high school years and became a pretty accomplished player. As the end of this little memory bit approaches we now know who will play in the World Cup Soccer Championship game. It will be Spain vs. Argentina...the old world against the new world (terms used in my high school history classes to differentiate Europe and the Americas), and actually the current European Champion against the current South American Champion. Argentina will be trying for back to back World Cup Championships, something rarely accomplished. We will know the results by the time this Newsletter is published. I think Argentina will come out on top...who did you bet on? Finally, we hope that those of you who planted trees this spring are watering them well throughout our current hot spells. In closing, we must make mention of the bit of Minnesota we are currently experiencing...smoke from Minnesota and Canadian forest fires is contributing to our hazy local skies. Be careful out there, stay cool, and remember "those who read know things". ©Marland J. Burckhardt



The Russell Bulldog Class of 1976 met over Russell Bandwagon Days starting Friday, June 5th all the way into Sunday!

Pictured to the left for the Bandwagon Days parade gathering.

Front row, L to R: Les Lenz, Robin Moon (third grade teacher), Mark Wilmes, Rita Thooft Klukas, and Gail Sand. Back row, L to R: Anita Bakker Fletcher, Jeff Burckhardt, Yvonne Thooft Sontag, Mike Gruhot, Sue Persons Paulson, Perry Schultz, Denis Trilia (foreign exchange student), and Scott Johnson. Deceased classmates include Paul Buesing, Royal Pahnisch, and Myril Thooft.



Class of 1976 class ring



Harlan Bossen and Mark Wilmes

Class of 1976 Russell Bulldog Class Reunion



Friday night, June 5, gathering. Pictured at the right.
L to R: Yvonne Sontag Thooft, Val Gravley Hemingway, Rita Thooft Klukas, Scott Johnson, Perry Schultz, Anita Bakker Fletcher, Sue Persons Paulson, and Denis Trilia

PUBLIC NOTICE

FILINGS OPEN FOR RUSSELL CITY COUNCIL

The first day to file for Mayor Two Year Term and Two Open Council Seats with Four Year Terms on the Russell City Council is Tuesday, July 14, 2026, and the last day for filing on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. Closing time for filing on the last day is 5:00 P.M.

Candidates must file in the City Clerk's Office, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M or Tuesday Noon to 5:00 P.M. at 106 River Street, Russell, MN. There is a \$2.00 filing fee.

Thank you,
Laurie Millner
Clerk Treasurer
City of Russell

City of Russell Clerk

Office Hours:

Monday 6:30 am-2:00 pm
Tuesday: 11:00 am-5:30 pm
Wednesday: 6:30 am-2:00 pm
Thursday: 6:30 am-2:00 pm
Friday: 6:30 am-2:00 pm

Hours are subject to change due to appointments. If you have any questions, please leave a message at 823-4366.



L to R: Gail Sand, Maria Trillia, Sue Persons Paulson, Rita Thooft Klukas, Chuck Klukas, Brenda Caldwell Johnson, Scott Johnson, Yvonne Sontag Thooft Sontag, and Denis Trillia



1948

Ron

2026

Ronald "Ron" Jensen, age 78, of Lynd, Minnesota, died peacefully on Sunday, June 21, 2026, at the Sunrise Manor Nursing Home in Tyler, Minnesota. Memorial Services are 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Marshall. Interment with Military Honors will follow at the Lynd City Cemetery. Attendees are then invited to a luncheon at the Russell Community Center. Visitation will be held from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 29, 2026, at the Hamilton Funeral Home in Marshall. The evening will conclude with a Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will continue one hour prior to his celebration, from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, at the church.

Ronald Milton Jensen was born on June 16, 1948, in Tyler, Minnesota. He was the son of Einer and Elna (James) Jensen. Ron grew up in Tyler and was baptized at the Danebod Lutheran Church on February 21, 1950. He was confirmed in the Methodist faith on May 7, 1961, and again (prior to his wedding) on June 6, 1971, this time at the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Island Lake Township. Ron attended grade school in Tyler and moved to Lynd school in the 6th grade. He graduated from Lynd with the high school class of 1966, and it was there that he met his future wife, Ms. Carol Kor. Ron and Carol were united in marriage on July 10, 1971, at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. They made their home in Lynd for six years before moving to the country, where they still lived today. Ron and Carol were married for almost 55 years and built a beautiful life together on the hill. Ron worked at the Appleton Silo Company, then worked in construction for several years before finishing his career as a driver delivering parts for Carquest Auto Parts. He was a member of the Marshall American Legion and Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. Ron found joy in the simple things in life - archery, Rolle Bolle, hunting, fishing, and just about anything that got him outdoors. But as much as he loved the outdoors, nothing mattered more to him than his family. Over the past 20 years, he rarely missed a grandchild's sporting event and loved to take credit for their athletic abilities. His kids and grandkids were his pride and joy, and he always looked forward to spending time with his family. Ron was known for his quick wit, endless supply of jokes, and his talent for delivering them with just the right flair. He also took great pride in keeping family, friends, and even his nurses on their toes, never passing up an opportunity to hide around a corner or in a closet and deliver a well-timed scare. Whether he was sharing a laugh, telling a story, or sneaking up on an unsuspecting victim, Ron had a way of bringing joy and laughter wherever he went.

While his absence leaves a space that can never be filled, the memories, laughter, and stories he gave us will continue to bring smiles for years to come. Ron will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Ronald Jensen died on June 21, 2026, in Tyler, Minnesota, just five days after his 78th birthday. Blessed be his memory.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Carol Jensen of Lynd; children, Chad (and Sandy) Jensen, Shawna (and Terry) Christianson, Jeremy (and Kristi) Jensen; 8 grandchildren, Hannah Jensen, Alivia Jensen, Allie Christianson, Chase Christianson, Kyah Christianson, Eastyn Jensen, Archer Jensen, Tracker Jensen; sister, Vonnie Doll; brother, Wade (and Gerri) Jensen; mother-in-law, Marilyn Kor; siblings-in-law, Kaye Jensen, Mary (and Bob) Lensing, Joyce (and Randy) Gravley, Joel (and Karen) Kor, Randy (and Val) Kor; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, Einer and Elna Jensen; brothers, Dale Jensen, Gene Jensen, Leon Jensen; father-in-law, Joe Kor; and brother-in-law, Jack Doll.



1949

Stewart "Stu"

2026

The service celebrating and commemorating the life of Stewart "Stu" Peterson, 76, of Ruthton, MN, will take place at Peace Lutheran Church in Ruthton, MN, at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10, 2026. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Following the service, the celebration and fellowship will continue at the Ruthton Community Center. Attendees are encouraged to wear sports apparel for their favorite team. A private family interment will be held at a later date.

Stewart Wayne Peterson was born on August 13, 1949, in Pipestone, MN, to Wayne and Bert (Holck) Peterson. He grew up in Ruthton and graduated from Ruthton High School. Stu was among the first class of students to attend Southwest State University in Marshall. He was married to Patricia Wiese Peterson and to this couple was born daughter Sara. Stu later followed his father's footsteps and took a job with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. This became a more than 40 year career as he worked for MNDOT in several capacities. He knew every road in the State of Minnesota. This was especially important during road construction season. Stu was an avid sports fan and enjoyed following many local teams. He also participated in sports, including basketball, football, baseball, golf, softball for the Wooden Nickel and bowling at Lindy's Lanes. He especially enjoyed following his grandchildren's teams: Hannah played basketball and volleyball, Ava ran track and played basketball and volleyball and Barrett's football, basketball and baseball. Stu also enjoyed watching every RTR athlete, if the grandkids were not playing, there was other athletes he would cheer for. He was not just a spectator, but a supporter-always willing to give when he could. Stu loved talking sports with the grandkids, especially Barrett. He was so excited for Ava to continue her volleyball career at MN West, and one can only imagine the excitement when he was able to see Hannah at all those Jackrabbit games when she attended SDSU. He was so proud of those three, Hannah Christine, Ava Jane and Barrett Richard.

Stu enjoyed an annual trip to Omaha, NE, for the College World Series and enjoyed going to Canterbury Downs. He looked forward to "mini vacations" with Sara and her kids, to destinations like the Mall of America, Vikings games and other places. He had a goal to attend every NFL Stadium. There would never be a time that Stu did not run into someone that he knew. He would always try and make a bet with Sara on who would see someone they knew first when out shopping or going out to eat. 99% of the time, he would see someone first!

Stu enjoyed collecting coins, dust and other items. Stewart believed in giving back to his community and served on the Ruthton City Council for several terms.

After a brief bout with aggressive colon cancer, Stu died on Friday, June 26, 2026, at the Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center in Marshall. He is survived by his daughter Sara Karbo of Ruthton, grandchildren Hannah Jensen, Ava Karbo and Barrett Karbo, their father Chad Karbo of Ruthton, brother Donald Peterson and sister Jule Reese, nieces and nephews Brendon (Tanya) Reese, Erica (Paul) Varcoe, Amanda (Dave) Becker and Lynsey (Mason) Schultz. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Russell Community Newsletter
PO Box 360
Russell, Minnesota 56169

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