

Class/From page 1

organizations and partners who purchase notebooks, folders, writing tools, pencil pouches, glue sticks and more to support local families in need of assistance.

“It’s just a mix of essentials that go with these backpacks. So every kid gets a brand new backpack that’s filled with some things [that] will get them through the whole year and some things [that] will inevitably have to be replaced,” Spirov said. “But, you’re checking anywhere from \$40 to \$80 off of a list of things that you don’t have to worry about.”

After a few weeks of collecting supplies, ResourceWest will host two volunteer packing events to prepare the backpacks for student pickup appointments. At these events, a team of volunteers sorts through and organizes the donated school supplies before dividing them among the backpacks.



(METROCREATIVECONNECTION)

ResourceWest’s Back to School Program helps reduce financial stress for families in need of school supplies. Registration for the program is open now.

Once the backpacks are ready, program participants will receive their new backpacks at scheduled pickup appointments on Saturday, Aug. 22. Changes were made to this

year’s event to enhance the experience for students and families, including the addition of a resource fair. “We’re having an all-day event on Saturday, Aug. 22. For a backpack pickup

in the past, we’ve kind of just done it by appointment throughout the day, when we’re open, and this year we’re gonna just have a resource fair attached to the event and have a

bunch of volunteers,” Spirov said. Local organizations and community partners will be in attendance, informing families of the child-centered

community resources and services available to them throughout the year. Volunteers will also be assisting with event operations, as needed.

ResourceWest is still in need of program volunteers who will help provide local students with the school supplies needed for a successful back-to-school season.

“If you’re a new person looking for a really quick two-hour volunteer activity, as it relates to these programs, they’re a really fun entry point to how small nonprofits work and [volunteers] can do work in a fun way and have a positive impact while they’re doing it,” Spirov said.

Registration for the Back to School Program is now open and is required to receive school supplies. For more information on registration, school supplies wishlists, and backpack pickup appointments, visit resourcewest.org/back-to-school.

Obituaries

Harriet Alice (Day) Carlson

June 5, 1933 - July 7, 2026

The fifth of fourteen children, Harriet was born to Earl and Janet Day. By her own account, Harriet lived a long and happy life. She was a nanny as a teenager, a waitress at Hart’s Cafe, a clerk at a Minneapolis Jeweler, and a bookkeeper for her family’s business, Earl W. Day and Sons Plumbing & Heating until her retirement in 1996. On August 24, 1957, Harriet married Kenneth Carlson at Wayzata Community Church. Ken fondly boasted he married “a real hardworking plains-woman.” They made their home on Linner Rd. in Wayzata, raising 4 children. After Ken’s passing in 2006, she enjoyed caring for her yard, garden, and even snow-blowing, well into her 80s. She compiled an extensive Day family genealogy and was a featured speaker at the Wayzata Historical Society. She cared for all those she loved profoundly with unwavering devotion.

Preceded in death by husband Kenneth; parents Earl and Janet; siblings John, Bruce, Margaret (Lessard), Lowell, Lyle, Douglas, Harold, Marian (Bowser), Dennis, Doris (O’Neill), James.

Survived by siblings Jane (Freund) and William; children Rene Dodson (Bruce), Greg (Wendy), Jerry (Sonja), Brian (Beth); grandchildren Graham Dodson, Lauren Degeer (Dave), Taylor Dodson (Chelsea), Shannon Erlander (Sam), Jason Carlson, Sam Carlson, Alissa Frazzini (Bob) and Corey Carlson; great-grandchildren Brooklyn, Austin and Charlotte Degeer and Sloane Erlander.

Memorial service on July 30 at 1pm at Wayzata Community Church, 125 Wayzata Blvd., 55391, with reception immediately following in the Colonnade. Private interment at Summit Park Cemetery, Wayzata, MN. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Wayzata Community Church or Wayzata Historical Society in honor of Harriet.

Rettingerfuneralhome.com





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