



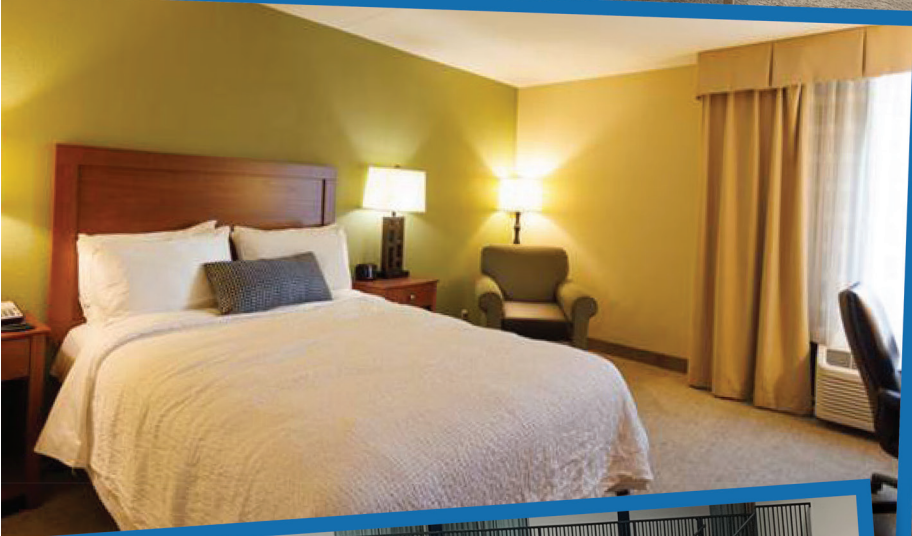
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Only good news

Wednesday  
January 19, 2022  
Volume 58 | Number 37

SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES



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Our name has changed to Best Western. While we may have gone through a re-brand, the quality and service you've come to expect from Fairmont's Holiday Inn hasn't changed.

- **REMODEL** Our business has undergone a 1.5 million dollar remodel, keeping our facilities new and fresh. We can't wait for you to see our bright, updated look!
- **GREEN MILL** Nothing is changing with our restaurant and bar. A reminder that we're open again for breakfast, as well as lunch and dinner. Take-out and delivery options are also available, or consider Green Mill Catering for your next event.
- **EVENT SPACE** Looking for a meeting or banquet space? Our newly remodeled rooms and Green Mill Catering are available for your next event.
- **BIRTHDAY POOL PARTIES** Our pool area is once again open for birthday pool parties. Contact us to book yours today. We are also available for open swim.
- **SERVING YOU** If you had reserved a room or are having an event, those reservations remain confirmed. Our goal is to provide quality hospitality to the Fairmont area.

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF FOR ALL THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION THROUGH THIS RENOVATION AND RE-BRANDING PROCESS. SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Dusty Bicknase | Jamie DeJaynes | Jennifer Goodman | Lynn Stade



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**OPAL MARIE KITTLESON** turns 94 on January 19th. Family and friends celebrate with joy the love this beautiful woman has brought to our lives. Birthday wishes can be sent to her at her at Pathstone Living #3312, 718 Mound Ave., Mankato, MN 56001.

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### UCC free drive-through meal

First Congregational United Church of Christ offers another free community drive-through meal, on Wednesday, January 26th. The menu includes chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, mandarin oranges and bottled water.

Serving hours are from 5:30 p.m. until food is gone. The church is located at 319 Downtown Plaza.

These free community meals are made possible, in part, by generous donations given in memory of Greg Ashland.

### Library Column

The Martin County Library in Fairmont is excited to begin offering "Library on Wheels" to homebound residents. If you or someone you know is homebound, the library will deliver up to five items to their home each month. You tell us what you like or enjoy, we'll pick it out for you and deliver! If you are interested in learning more, call Chris at 238-4207 or email chasek@tds.lib.mn.us. Don't have a library card? No problem...we can get that up and running for you too!

### NEW ARRIVALS

Addison Marie Weis, daughter of Steven and Sara Weis of Mankato, was born November 20, 2021 at Mayo in Rochester, MN. She weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce. Grandparents are Rod and Laurie DeBoer of Fairmont and Mark and Ann Weis of Chanhassen, MN.

Frances Evans Nyberg-Reeve, daughter of Matt Reeve and Kara Nyberg, was born December 11th, 2021 in Golden Valley, MN. She weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 22 inches long. Grandparents are Lynn and Beth Reeve of Fairmont and Kent and Wendy Nyberg of Bovey, MN.

# PINTS & POLITICS

6:30

Thursday, January 27

Knights of Columbus Hall

Dr. Neil Shah

Jim Schultz

Also, Rep Bjorn Olson

Explaining the election and caucus procedure.

Organized by the Martin County Republicans of Minnesota

### 8th annual Pints and Politics

Pints and politics have fueled and shaped our nation for most of the history of our American heritage. During the 18th century, the center of social and political life could be found at the town tavern, and the founding fathers were known to patronize several in the colonies. The early colonists were very well-read people, with the Bible and books of the law being the primary books read. Most every colonist knew more about the law than any other subject.

The City Tavern, located just a couple of blocks away from Independence Hall, was a favorite hangout of several founding fathers, including George Washington, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin to name a few.

On Thursday, January 27th, the Republican Party of Martin County will host

the last of the State candidates during their eighth Pints & Politics, at 6:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Fairmont, prior to the February 1st caucus. Dr. Neil Shah will be the gubernatorial candidate featured for the evening. Also appearing will be Jim Schultz, candidate in the Attorney General race.

Everyone is invited to participate. Earlier events have had up to 163 people in attendance. The evening is designed to inform, giving those who attend, the opportunity to listen to each candidate and ask them questions. Rep. Bjorn Olson will also be presenting how the caucus and party system works, including information as to how anyone can become involved in political party activities, boards and how to become a delegate with in the political arena.

## Are you invested properly? Get a second opinion.



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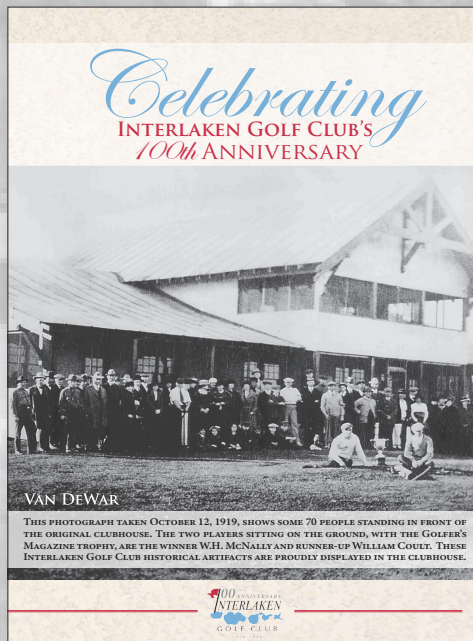
*When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new.*

- The Dalai Lama



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Subscription: \$42/1 year; \$24/6 months





FHS Senior student Ellie Hernes was named Rotary's "Student of the Week." Ellie is the daughter of Mark and Michelle Hernes. Her

post-graduation plans are to attend Bethel University to study nursing. Ellie was a guest speaker at the Rotary meeting on Monday, January 10.

HOPE CAFÉ

We are serving our free January meal in person on Sunday, January 23rd at 5 p.m. All are invited to join us for a delicious dinner at St. John Vianney Church, 901 S. Prairie Ave. If you are unable to join us in person due to lack of transportation please let us know so we can see about delivering meals to those who can't join us in January.

**Call Bridget at 235-2451** with your name and address.

**"The Viking Age" at MLHS**

An interactive history presentation "The Viking Age", will be held at Martin Luther High School, Northrop on Tuesday,

**Red Rock welcomes Eric Head**

Local musician Eric Head will present a classical piano concert at the Red Rock Center for the Arts on Saturday, January 29th at 7 p.m. Eric is currently studying piano at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He will perform a variety of works by J.S. Bach, Mozart, Liszt, Chopin, Prokofiev, and Grieg.

As a Fairmont native, Eric is familiar with the Red Rock, having performed here for the first time during a Lunch with the Arts in 2011.

Tickets are now available at Hy-Vee in Fairmont, or online at [www.redrock-center.org](http://www.redrock-center.org).

January 25 at 9 a.m. for grades 5-8 and at 12 noon for grades 9-12. Everyone is invited to this free event. Learn about our Scandinavian heritage and dispel the Viking myths.



**New Hy-Vee pharmacist**

**Nicole Zebedee, Pharm.D.**

I grew up on a farm in rural Blue Earth and graduated from Blue Earth Area High School. I attended pharmacy school at South Dakota State University.

My husband Jake and I moved back to Blue Earth last spring. In my free time, I enjoy reading, camping, and spending time with friends and family.

I am looking forward to getting to know the patients and customers at Hy-Vee Pharmacy, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the community in my new role.



**JULIE LAUE** was honored on January 13th at the MN School Board Association conference in Minneapolis for her 20 years of service as a school board member. Fairmont Area Schools greatly appreciates the many contributions Julie has made while serving in this important role. Pictured is Julie Laue with Fairmont Superintendent Andy Traetow.



Two retirees from Kahler Automation

Ag retail facility automation stalwarts EJ Beek and Steve Swift have announced plans to retire after 30-year careers with Kahler Automation, which itself marked its 30th anniversary in 2021.

Steve Swift is retiring as the leader for corporate sales. Steve joined Kahler Automation as one of its earliest employees, immediately applying a customer-focused sales approach gained through sales management training and experience growing up in the Swift family's grain dryer business. During his time with Kahler Steve shaped the ag retail industry in various ways, serving as Product Manager and Sales Manager, among other roles. Mark Mohr, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, has assumed responsibility for corporate relationships.

EJ Beek is retiring as the sales representative for Kahler Automation's Northern territory. Like Swift, EJ came to the Kahler team in the early 1990s — he was sell-



ing equipment to the ag retail industry and recognized a need for more efficient facility controls. EJ approached Kahler to automate a liquid facility at Madelia, Minn., and word of the successful results spread among neighboring retailers. As business grew across North America EJ served at various times as Sales Manager and independent sales representative. Jeff Speckman, former sales manager for Kahler's Northeastern territory, has assumed responsibility for the Northern territory.

Kahler Automation designs control systems for dry and liquid material handling, grain flow and truck traffic control, and a wide variety of industrial innovations and OEM partnerships. Headquartered in Fairmont, Minn., Kahler has been streamlining the operation of bulk material handling facilities across the United States, Canada, and around the world for 30 years. Visit [KahlerAutomation.com](http://KahlerAutomation.com) for more information.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**This is Life "Week"**

Dear Editor,

Martin Luther High School in Northrop has a Y4Life chapter, the youth branch of Lutherans for Life. In this group, we strive to learn about different life issues and how we can address them. Life issues extend beyond the infamous issue of abortion. They also include homelessness, human trafficking, marriage, abstinence, self-harm, suicide, pornography, family, contraception, end-of-life care, homosexuality, transgender, and so much more.

A recent project that our group took part in was packing about 70 kits for the homeless, which we gave to the Salvation Army in

Mankato to distribute. There is so much information about life issues being tossed around, whether true or false. We seek to sort out fact from fiction and learn to respect the other side without compromising the truth.

Sunday, January 16 through Saturday, January 22 is Life Week. This letter is meant to spread awareness of Life Week and its message. Y4Life's national theme this year is "God Chose You," based on John 15:16 - "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit" (ESV). God has chosen each one of us from the beginning of creation. God has also chosen our body to be

a temple. He gave us the beautiful gift of a body, and we are called to be stewards of that body, to take care of it and be aware of what we do with it.

God also chooses each one of us to belong. We all have a spot and purpose in God's family; not one of us is useless or random. God chose us with a purpose. Nothing he does is random. He is intelligent, caring, and purposeful. He knows you, and He knows your talents. God chose us with forgiveness. No one is perfect. We all do bad things, and we all have insecurities. God knows who He is choosing, and He knows that we are not perfect. God chose us for life in Christ. God does not want anyone

to go to Hell. He forgives, and He wants you to be part of His family. God chose you for Life together.

God does not want anyone to be alone. Humans need other humans to love. God gives us marriage, children, and friends to create the beautiful gift of family. We have the opportunity to create strong bonds and love between many people.

Today, we often find lines, divisions and hate. With this letter, we hope to spread a little love and a little hope. Life is a valuable gift at all ages and all stages of life, and it should be protected.

Sincerely,

Kambria Steinhaus and the Knights 4 Life

**Eagles hold fundraiser for Second Chances**

The Fairmont Eagles Club is holding a fundraiser this Sunday, with proceeds going to the Granada-based Second Chances. Hours for the fundraiser are 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Eagles Club, 1228 Lake Avenue, Fairmont.

There is no cover charge, but free will donations will be accepted. Dinner is from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with country music by Steve Lange and Bob Petrowiak, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Bake sale items will be available from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Second Chances is a non-profit group home for boys, located in a former church in Granada and is licensed for up to six boys, ages 11-18, by the Minnesota Department of Corrections. The home utilizes public resources by Mayo Clinic-Fairmont for medical; Euonia Family Resource Center or MAYO for psychological and psychiatric needs; Fountain Centers for outpatient substance abuse treatment; and the GHEC/Alternative School.

A unique feature of the Second Chance program has the boys involved with dogs, which teaches patience, understanding, unconditional love, compassion, kindness and enhanced job skills. The dogs are from local animal shelters. Second Chances will foster dogs that are less likely to be adopted, to help reduce the number of dogs that are euthanized.

**Fairmont Eagles** 1228 Lake Ave • 238-2555

**Saturday, Jan 22:** Raceway Banquet - Happy Hour 5-6, Awards 7pm, Buffet for \$15

**Sunday, Jan 23 • 4-8pm:** Second Chances Fundraiser Music - Steve Lang & Bob Petrowiak – Bake Sale Items Available



# Obituary Notices



## Andrea M. Luedtke, 87

Private family services for Andrea M. Luedtke, age 87, of Fairmont, MN,

were held at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Fairmont with interment in Lakeside Cemetery. Andrea passed away on Friday morning, January 14, 2022, at Goldfinch Estates in Fairmont. The Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Andrea Marie (Fogelberg) Luedtke died peacefully January 14th, 2022. She was born August 9, 1934, to Esther and Arthur Fogelberg of Marble, Minnesota. She attended Itasca Junior College prior to graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1956.

Andrea moved to Fairmont to work as a county social worker and met Robert Luedtke, whom she married in 1957.

Family life revolved around the farm where they lived and worked for 60 years. Robert died in 2013 and Andrea moved to Goldfinch Estates in 2017. She is preceded in death by Robert, as well as her parents, brothers (Warren, Tenny and Charles), sister Artelle, cousin, Jean Berg Anderson, and nieces Dawn Krumwiede and Jean Davis.

Andrea is survived by her children: Robert (Diane) Luedtke, Karen (Andy) Fisher, Lael (Gary Highland) Luedtke and Christine (Joseph) Montesano; grandchildren: Brandon (Alonso Me-

dina) Simon, Crystal (Tommy) Chapman, Brita Fisher, Henry Fisher, Natalie Montesano and Elizabeth Montesano; great grandchildren Axel and Vann Chapman.

Andrea's passions included gardening, baking/cooking (especially bread), big dogs (St. Bernards and Newfoundlands), international travel and St. Martin's Episcopal Church.

Andrea was laid to rest next to Robert after a private funeral ceremony. Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers to Martin County Humane Society or Martin County Historical Society.

[www.lakeviewfuneralhome.net](http://www.lakeviewfuneralhome.net)



## Tyler A. Bonin, 39

Services are pending for Tyler A. Bonin, age 39, of Fairmont, MN. Tyler passed away on Monday, January 10th, 2022

in rural Fairmont. The Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Tyler Adam Bonin was born on June 21st, 1982 to Craig and Rachel (Silva) Bonin in Fairmont, MN. He graduated from Fairmont High School with the Class of 2000. After graduating, Tyler lived in Burnsville, MN for five years where he attended Minnesota School of Business for Music. Tyler worked in sales for KFMC/KSUM and most recently was

self-employed doing screen printing.

Tyler's passion in life was music. Throughout his life, he had his own bands and loved singing and playing guitar. He will be remembered as a creative artist who enjoyed drawing, painting and designing new shirts. He loved to ride his Harley Davidson. Tyler had many friends and loved spending time with them. The most important thing in his life was his daughter, Lyric.

Those left to cherish his memory include

his father, Craig Bonin; mother, Rachel Bonin; Megan Magnuson and their children, Lyric and Victoria; brothers, Maxwell Bonin and Hayes Bonin; grandmother, Clotilda Silva; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Carl and Loraine Bonin and Arnulfo Silva; uncle, Todd Bonin; and infant sister, Miranda Bonin.

[www.lakeviewfuneralhome.net](http://www.lakeviewfuneralhome.net)



## Teresa A. Newville, 70

Funeral services for Teresa A. Newville, age 70, of Fairmont, MN will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont. Burial will follow the service at Riverview Cemetery in Elmore, MN. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Those wish-

ing to view the service may do so at the following link: <https://client.tribuncast.com/tcid/793463417> Teresa passed away on Friday, January 14, 2022 at Sanford Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD. The Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Teresa Ann Newville was born on December 13, 1951 to Joseph P. and Amaryllis J. (Hundt) Newville in Fairmont, MN. She graduated from Fairmont High School with the Class of 1970. Later in life, Teresa attended Rasmussen Business College in Mankato, MN.

On November 27, 1970, Teresa was united in marriage to Jeff Ziemer in Fairmont. This marriage was blessed with eight children, Shelly, Kerry, Heather, Jason, Aaron, Andy, Sarah and Jenny. Teresa and Jeff later di-

vorced.

Teresa worked as a cook at Highland Café in Fairmont and was a CNA at several different places around Fairmont and Truman. She spent many years as a homemaker raising her eight children.

Teresa enjoyed fishing and crocheting. She was a talented artist and loved to paint and draw. She liked painting pictures, making flower wreaths, decorative birdhouses, and other crafts. Faith was very important to Teresa and she knew she would be joining her Savior Jesus Christ. Her greatest love in life was spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren, whom she loved dearly. She was a kind and loving person, willing to help those in need.

Those left to cherish her memory include her eight children, Shelly (Larry) Wendel, Kerry

Schmidt, Heather (Jon) Gilderhus, Jason (Jenie) Ziemer, Aaron (Alba) Ziemer, Andy Ziemer, Sarah (Max) Longley and Jenny (Matt) Schuster; twenty-six grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; brother, Joseph Newville; step-brothers, Ron (Tami) Hensley and John R. (Tracy) Hensley; uncle, Ralph Hundt; and other extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Newville and Amaryllis Hensley and her grandparents.

*"I love my family dearly and pray that they all accept Jesus freely and never turn away from Him. Please don't cry for me because Jesus is my Savior and hope. I am ready to be with Him and look forward to that gladly."*

[www.lakeviewfuneralhome.net](http://www.lakeviewfuneralhome.net)

and to solve the Murphy murders once and for all. She knows the key to both lies in a secret that's haunted her for nearly fifteen years.

**How Not to Fall in Love** by Jacqueline Firkins. Harper thinks romance is a marketing tool. Nothing more. Her best friend Theo is her opposite. One date and he's already dreaming of happily-ever-afters. When Theo finds himself nursing

his umpteenth heartbreak, Harper offers to teach him how not to fall in love. Theo agrees, as long as Harper proves she can date without falling in love. As the lessons progress and Theo takes them to heart, Harper has a harder time upholding her end of the bargain. If she confesses her feelings, she'll undermine everything she's taught him. Or was he the one teaching her?

25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

**WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1997**  
Knights of Columbus Council 1575 announced the free throw championship winners. They were Jayden Grupe, Luke Nowicki, Tyler Horkey, Ryan Nelson, Jeff Schmitz, Tonya Carlson, Angie Hugoson, Heather Compton, Laura Whitman and Carry Cyphers. Militello Motors was holding its 10th annual Indoor Sale, all under one roof, at the Fairmont America Legion Hall. The 15th annual Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Update was published in the Photo Press. Among the items were the naming of KSUM's Mike Murphy as recipient of the Minnesota State Media award, by the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Districts. And after 20 years of service to the Martin SWCD, Herman Greffe did not seek re-election to his board supervisor position. Robert and Nancy Smith of rural Sherburn were selected as Martin County's Conservationists of the Year for 1996.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

**WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1972**  
A final disposition of the Luedtke Slough in Fairmont won't be determined for at least 60 days, according to the Minnesota Water Resources Board. The city had been trying to decide whether to fill the slough with silt from the local lake dredging operations, or preserve it as a natural wildlife habitat. The argument had caused the intervention by the State Department of Natural Resources which had issued the Fairmont council its permit to dredge the local lakes. The combined weekly Trimont Progress and Ceylon Herald, published by Gordon and Phyllis Spielman for 24 years, was sold to Robert Francis of Hector, MN.



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## DEATH notices

- January 10 - Tyler A. Bonin, 39, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
- January 12 - Kirsten M. Wicksell, 55, St. James (formerly of Trimont). Kramer Family Funeral Service
- January 14 - Teresa A. Newville, 70, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
- January 14 - Andrea M. Luedtke, 87 Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
- January 16 - Mary A. Philipp, 84, Welcome. Kramer Family Funeral Home
- January 16 - Faye A. (Byker) Moore, 89, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
- January 16 - John V. Hilgendorf, 91, Fairmont (formerly of Welcome). Kramer Family Funeral Home

### IN MEMORIAM - ONE YEAR AGO

- January 10 - Ardith D. Heupel, 86, Fairmont.
- January 12 - Helen M. Peterson, 84, Armstrong.
- January 12 - Betty J. Pannkuk, 96, Fairmont.
- January 12 - Paul L. Anderson, 93, Dunnell.
- January 13 - Brenda J. Neumann, 59, Fairmont.
- January 14 - Douglas H. Fink, 74, Ceylon.
- January 14 - David A. Ehlers, 72, Fairmont.
- January 15 - Daniel R. Jose, 55, Sherburn.
- January 17 - Patricia M. Kneeland, 82, Fairmont.

[martincountylibrary.org](http://martincountylibrary.org)

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
@ the Martin County Library

Library Column By Jenny Trushenski, Library Director  
Everything We Didn't

**Say by Nicole Baart.** Juniper Baker had just graduated when Cal and Beth Murphy, her neighbors, were murdered. When her younger brother became the prime suspect, June's world collapsed and she left, promising never to return. Until now. Officially, she's back to help manage the local library. But really, she's returned to fix her relationship with her teenage daughter—



# Anderson Park

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer

The triangle shape of land adjacent to the highway approaching Trimont had become somewhat of an eyesore. It was once cattle holding pens for a packing plant that was no longer in the community. What remained were dilapidated wooden pens and an unmowed grass area. The widow of the packing plant owner lived adjacent to the area. She lived in a beautiful home and her view had become destroyed by the unkempt area.

I knew Sophie Anderson well and decided to explain my idea to her. I remember knocking on her door and being greeted with a smile of friendship. I mentioned that I would like her opinion on something. I went on with a question. "How about

making the area in front of her house into a park?" I explained that I was sure that other members of the community would help in tearing down the pens and clearing the area. What I remember the most was the smile that came to her face. It was immediate! Her first words were, "Darwin, it is a wonderful idea, and I am all for making the area into a park. However, I do have two requests. I would like the park to be named 'Anderson Park' and there be a sign that indicates the name of her deceased husband, Eph Anderson."

It happened! Several members of the community fulfilled the promise, and the park became a reality. It now has a "much used" shelter house,

which was most-ly built by one volunteer, basketball, volleyball and horse shoe courts, and a well used playground. Families have donated trees in honor of family members, it is the location of the annual summer festival, which includes an annual tractor show, competitive runs, and entertainment. An electronic sign stands in the park near the highway, flashing community events.

The promised sign is being kept in good condition. City employees keep it restored. It continues to stand next to the highway as though Eph Anderson is welcoming everyone to the community and to use the park.



# College News

Calvin Guritz of Fairmont was recognized for being on the Dean's list for the Fall 2021 semester at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato. He is majoring in Sports Marketing and Business.

The Office of the Registrar at the University of Minnesota Crookston recently announced its list of fall semester 2021 graduates. Students completed their degree requirements during the fall semester 2021. Fall session graduates include Emma Sadie Hobson of Fairmont, MN, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in English.

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2021 fall semester honors list. The Dean's List includes 172 students who earned a grade-point average of 3.25 to 3.74. From Truman, Sedrick Parker, Dean's List.

Alexandria Technical & Community College, Alexandria, MN, recognizes individual students for academic excellence during fall 2021. The following students were named to the Dean's List for achieving a GPA of 3.5 or higher Fall Semester 2021:

Fairmont, MN - Brandon Williams Truman, MN - Autumn Wolf

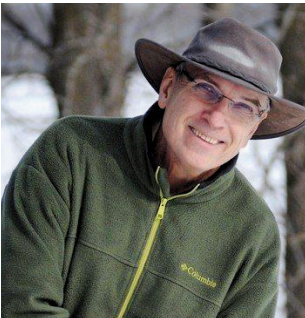
More than 1,800 graduates received

degrees from Iowa State University, Ames, in December.

Fairmont, MN: Nathan Kaltenbach, Bachelor of Science, Finance, Magna Cum Laude. Collin Steuber, Bachelor of Science, Biology (AGLS), Magna Cum Laude

The following students from the area have been named to the University of Wisconsin-Stout Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester. The award is presented to students who have a grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Fairmont, MN - Gray Heille, Sophomore, Pre Animation & Digital Media. Emma Hoffmann, Sophomore, BS hotel, restaurant and tourism.



# Naturally

By Al Batt

I shouldn't have been surprised when a fox squirrel fell from the roof of the house onto a window feeder held in place by suction cups. The result was, as would be expected, the squirrel and the feeder both crashed to the ground, creating a blizzard of fleeing songbirds. Why I shouldn't have been surprised was that the weather forecast had called for strong winds, rising temperatures and falling squirrels.

I saw many red-tailed hawks as I drove about the region. This hawk has a football shape when perched. I stopped in a small city and watched house sparrows eating street food. It was food on an actual street. Your doctor might not approve of that diet.

Crows and jays demonstrate bird identification skills, as evidenced by their mobbing of a great

horned owl in the yard. I put peanuts in the shell into a bird feeder. Like a great magic act, the peanuts disappeared and were replaced by blue jays.

My favorite conspiracy theory

From their official site: "The Birds Aren't Real" movement exists to spread awareness that the U.S. Government genocided over 12 Billion birds from 1959-2001, and replaced these birds with surveillance drone replicas, which still watch us every day. Once a preventative cause, our initial goal was to stop the forced extinction of real birds. Unfortunately this was unsuccessful, and the government has since replaced every living bird with robotic replicas. Now our movement's prerogative is to make everyone aware of this fact." The creator is joking.

## Q&A

"I'm seeing flies in my house in the winter. What are they?" They could be cluster flies, sometimes called attic flies. This fly is large and sluggish, with golden hairs on the thorax. Their larvae feed on earthworms. They snuck into your home last fall, congregated in the walls, found openings in window frames and appear on warm winter days. They like the southern exposure of a home. The other possi-

bility is the blowfly, which resembles a housefly, but may be shiny green, blue, bronze or black. These metallic-colored flies are called blow or bottle flies. They gather around windows and produce a buzzing sound. They lay eggs in decomposing organic matter, like garbage, animal manure, decaying vegetables, dead animals

You won't find them in the deserts of the southwest. Males feed more on small branches and weed stems during the winter, and females feed on larger branches and trunks of trees.

"What eats milo?" Milo or sorghum isn't a favorite food of birds. Wild turkeys, pheasants, pigeons, Eurasian collared-doves,

they move north?" Their breeding range has expanded northward for several reasons. A warmer climate has led to a reduction in snow depth and greater winter foraging opportunities; suburban growth has increased suitable edge habitat; and backyard winter bird feeders have provided food.

"Why are juncos called

snow. Both juncos and winter could be described as having leaden skies above and being snowy white below.

"What's the difference between a dove and a pigeon?" There's no difference between a pigeon and a dove in scientific nomenclature, but colloquial English categorizes them by size, with doves being smaller.

"How strong is a great horned owl?" That owl's strong, clenched talons require a force of 28 pounds to open. I've also read that the grip strength in those feet is 200 to 500 pounds per square inch and up to six times stronger than the handshake of a bodybuilder, but I don't know where those numbers come from. Sorry. Hold a bathroom scale between your hands, its face toward you and with your hands on the side of the scale, squeeze as hard as you can. Divide that number by the square inches of your palm and it will give you your grip strength.

Thanks for stopping by

"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."—William James.

"If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough."—Meister Eckhart.

Do good.

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and grass clippings.

"Everywhere I go, I see downy woodpeckers. Are they in every state?" I hope you're not seeing them everywhere you go, as that would be kind of creepy and would drive your dentist crazy. They are in all states but Hawaii.

cowbirds and cows may feed on it. I think grackles might eat some and I'm told some western quail species will. Milo is a waste of money as food for wild birds.

"I didn't see many cardinals when I was a child, now I see them. Why did

snowbirds?" They are characteristic of our winter months. They probably got the moniker because they appear not long before the snow. It's as if they arrive early to get things ready for the snow. The juncos become more visible against a blanket of



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## Financial Focus

Provided by:



**Drew Schellpeper, Wyman Fischer, Dan Hamlet, Mandi Kosbab**  
Financial Advisors, Edward Jones, [www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com), Member SIPC

If you're extremely busy with your career and family and you've accumulated a fair amount of assets, you might be concerned about a variety of issues related to financial management and legacy planning. Specifically, you might think you don't have the time or expertise to deal with these matters effectively. If this is the case, you might want to consider using a trust company.

You might think you need to have a large estate or millions of dollars to benefit from working with a trust compa-

ny, but that's not the case. And if you're not familiar with what a trust company can do, you might be surprised at all the services it can provide, including the following:

- **Wealth management** - Typically, when working with a trust company, you'll receive investment management designed to help you achieve various goals, such as a comfortable retirement and college for your children. The company can manage retirement accounts, monitor investments and disburse funds, make changes as

needed and ensure compliance with government reporting for contributions, withdrawals and rollovers. While different companies operate in different ways, you may have an arrangement in which you work with a personal financial advisor and a separate portfolio manager.

- **Financial management during incapacity** - If you were to become incapacitated and couldn't make financial decisions, a trust company can step in, giving you peace of mind from knowing that your financial assets

will be managed by a team of professionals, helping protect you and your family from potentially dire consequences.

- **Trust administration** - A trust company can perform several essential tasks related to administering your trust. The company can act as trustee for a trust you've established, such as a revocable living trust, which can allow your estate to avoid probate while providing you with great control over how your assets will be distributed at your passing. Alternatively, the trust company can work alongside an individual you've designated to execute the terms of a trust. If your selected trustee resigns or becomes unable to make decisions, the trust company can serve

as successor trustee. When it's time to settle your estate, the trust company can handle the valuation, dispersion and re-titling of assets, pay off any debts and expenses, and complete any tax returns related to your estate.

- **Bill payment and recordkeeping** - A trust company can keep up with all the trust's bills (household maintenance, medical bills, etc.) and provide statements summarizing receipts, disbursements and the value of assets within the trust.

In addition to providing these practical services, a trust company may benefit you in a more intangible way. It's unfortunate but true that, in many families, dividing up assets can cause

conflict and bitter feelings. But when a trust company serves as trustee, it impartially administers distribution of the assets based on the instructions you've provided in the trust - helping minimize family disputes over inheritances.

If you ever feel like the complexities of wealth management and trust administration are getting to be more than you can handle - or perhaps more than you want to handle - consider contacting a trust company. You might find that it can make your life a lot easier.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*

## New study: What does it really cost to take out a small loan?

(BPT) - If you've ever had a financial emergency - like a car breakdown or unexpected medical bills - you know how stressful it is. Especially if you have no savings

and little or no credit history, borrowing a small amount of money may seem like your best option - but not all loans are created equal. Make the wrong choice, and you can end up paying several times more than the amount you borrowed, when you can least afford it.

A new study reveals how much people lose by borrowing money from sources like payday loans or online installment loans. High interest rates, balloon payments and fees can send you into a downward spiral of debt that increases over time, further damaging the credit history you wanted to build. The new "True Cost of a Loan" study by Financial Health Network and commissioned by Oportun shows how the kind of loan you choose can cost thousands of dollars over the life of the loan.

**What to look for in a loan**

In the study, people without a credit score or a marginal credit score (near prime and below) or a solid credit history who borrowed small dollar amounts like \$500 through online-only installment loans ended up paying interest and fees of over \$2,400 over the life of that loan.

**How do you know how much a loan will really cost you?**

Certain types of loans are likely to be far more expensive in the end. The True Cost of a Loan study found:

- \* Online-only installment and payday loans incurred interest and fees totaling over \$3,000 on a loan of \$1,500 - tripling the borrower's original loan.

- \* Typical \$3,500 payday loans were the costliest, adding a whopping \$10,775 in interest and fees over time.

Before you borrow

money, research or ask questions like:

- \* What is the interest rate?
- \* Is that rate fixed, or could it change?
- \* What are the terms of repayment?
- \* Are there origination or other fees added to the cost?
- \* What fees are charged if you miss a payment or can't repay the loan?

"It can be difficult for consumers to assess loan costs as credit products vary widely in their structures and fees," said Marisa Walster, VP of financial services solutions, Financial Health Network. "This rigorous analysis shows that responsible loan construction paired with competitive interest rates can contribute to substantial savings for consumers."

**Better options for borrowing and building a credit history**

One option to consider is a loan from Oportun, which the

study found to be six times more affordable than other available loans of equal amounts, on average for non-prime credit consumers, including those with little to no credit. The company uses advanced data analytics and 15 years of consumer insights to serve low- and moderate-income consumers with a responsibly structured, easy-to-understand, unsecured installment loan with fixed payments and fixed interest rates throughout the life of the loan. This contrasts with many other loans that are built for failure, as those companies make their money on fees.

"The reality is that the people who most need affordable credit often pay the greatest amount in interest and fees," said Matt Jenkins, COO and general manager of personal loans for Oportun. "But we have designed our loans to help borrowers succeed in repay-

ing them."

**Loans from Oportun are structured to:**

- \* have no prepayment penalties
- \* have no balloon payments
- \* charge below 36% Annual Percentage Rate (APR)
- \* range from \$300 to \$10,000
- \* have repayment terms of 12-48 months

Using artificial intelligence (A.I.) to evaluate credit risk, the company scores 100% of its loan applicants - even those with no credit history. By reporting its customers' repayment performance to major credit bureaus, Oportun has also helped over 945,000 people begin establishing their credit history.

To learn more about understanding credit reports, how to build your credit history or to apply for a loan, visit [Oportun.com](http://Oportun.com).

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## Dann Saxton speaks at Rotary

Dann Saxton spoke to the Fairmont Rotary Club on Monday, January 10th about his amazing life journey from Granada to

Los Angeles and back home again as he has followed his dreams in show business. He shared his exciting adventure of a brand new weekly video podcast called

Cabin Chat. <https://cabinchatweekly.com/>

"I made this move to Fairmont because I'm inspired to make an impact, and this weekly show will be an Emmy level highlight of life here in Martin County. I am hoping to help kids find their spark and follow their dreams, as I did, while also sharing the positive things that are happening in our community," said Saxton.

This program is only sustainable when advertisers and sponsors support it. Check

it out at <https://cabinchatweekly.com/> and let Dann know what you think and how you can work together to show the world what

a great community we live in and the amazing things that are happening here in Martin County, Minnesota.

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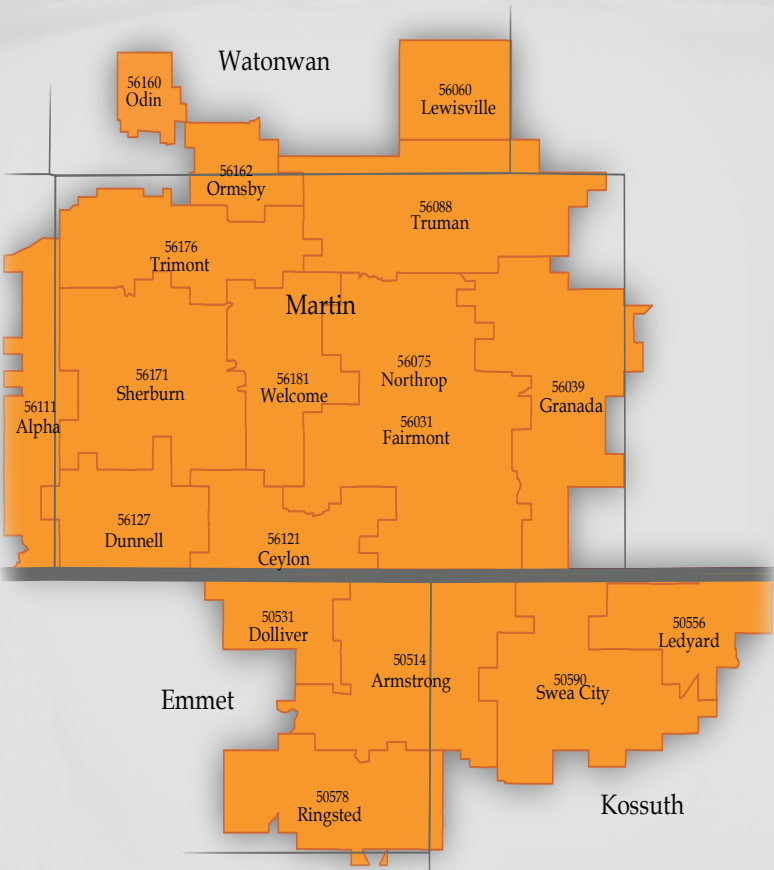


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# Senior Life



## 2022: Lakeview Moves into Future

Jason Sorensen, Freelance Journalist



FAIRMONT – Forget what you think you know about traditional nursing home facilities. Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center in Fairmont has taken a big leap into the future of skilled nursing care with its new \$24 million building.

The new facility exudes a warm and inviting atmosphere with several lounge/meeting areas, a cafe, salon, gift shop, a large group meeting area, and spacious personal rooms. As soon as they walk in the front door, residents and visitors are greeted by a breath-taking “town-center,” consisting of high ceilings, an abundance of natural light, and a beauty shop and cafe.

Deb Barnes, Lakeview’s administrator, shared that the goal was

to give people a welcoming and comforting feeling.

“One of our big issues in our old building was that feeling of continued hospitalization,” she said. “In this building, we wanted a feeling of normalcy. Residents can invite family and friends to come down to the cafe, just like they’re going to a restaurant, and then we have the gift shop for shopping.”

The building also boasts a large meeting room where residents can gather for a potential movie or other activities, and a balcony is included for residents on the second floor who may not want to travel to the main floor. The space is also large enough that Barnes hopes for it to be open to

community groups.

The residential area consists of two floors, each with a spa and two wings. Every room is a single room, and each comes with a shower.

The wings each have a “neighborhood” that contains a kitchen and serving area, open seating areas, and a comfortable fireplace area for friends and family to visit.

“It just feels more upscale,” said Barnes. “Our old building was just one straight hallway, like a hospital, and that’s what we wanted to get rid of here. We wanted it to feel like home. If you’re told you have to live in a setting with nurses to help you, our old building was a disappointment.”

“It was wonderful when it was built, but



**MAIN ENTRANCE** – The main entrance of the new facility can be seen here.

needs, preferences, desires, were all different then. Now seniors have different expectations. They want places that feel comfortable, that feel like home and offer amenities, and that’s what we wanted to do.”

The second floor also contains a balcony for residents to enjoy some fresh air and take in the outdoors from a safe location.

In addition to the homey residential areas, the facility also comes with a brand new physical therapy department that boasts several new pieces of equipment, including a half-car sponsored by Hawkins-Chevrolet.

“A big problem for people when they break a hip or have hip surgery is that function of getting in and

out of a car,” said Barnes. This will help therapists know how strong they are and if they are able to do that again.”

One final aspect of the new facility is completing a space for Building Blocks Learning Center and Childcare.

“This is the last part of the project now,” Barnes said. “We are looking at what kind of contingency money we have left from the major project and where else we can get funds to get this completed as soon as possible.”

“This is space for 99 kids. So we can take a big dent out of the daycare problem in the county when we get this completed. We’ve got this space ready, we’ve just got to finish it.”

Barnes shares that she

is extremely grateful to everyone who came together to make the new facility a reality.

“We’re very thankful for our board,” said Barnes. “You can have a vision, but to act on that vision takes some fortitude and we’re so thankful that our board saw what we needed to do and what it would take to be viable in the future.”

Barnes stated that residents begin moving in this week, and a ribbon cutting will take place in early February. An open house will occur later this year, when warm weather will permit an outdoor picnic and small groups can walk through the facility.

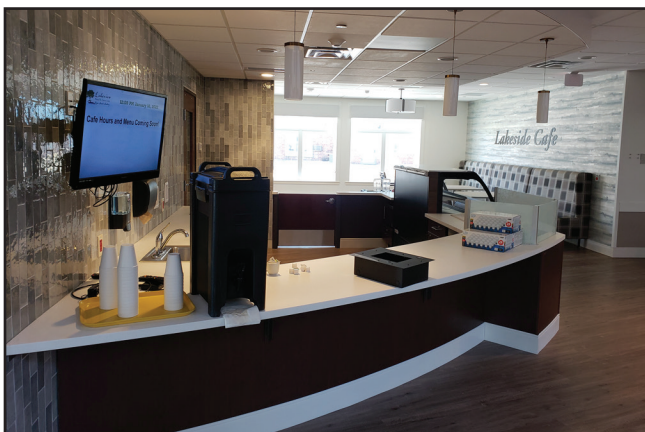
**Cont. on page 9**



**BRYON AND DEB** – Director of Nursing Bryon Nelsen and Lakeview Administrator Deb Barnes stand at the main fireplace in the new facility’s town center.



**TOWN CENTER A AND TOWN CENTER B** – The Town Center of the facility utilizes large, open spaces and natural lighting to provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere.



**CAFE** – Just off the town center is the fully furnished Lakeside Cafe, a place for residents and family to share a meal without having to leave the building.



**DAYCARE** – Lakeview Administrator Deb Barnes shows off the area set aside for the Building Blocks daycare center. Though incomplete, Barnes shared that more funding is being sought out to finish the area.



**MAIN FIREPLACE** – The town center fireplace is just one of many comfortable areas for residents to visit with family and friends.



**Cont. from page 8**



**RESIDENTIAL ROOM** – Each residential room is tailored for individual occupancy.



**SPA – Both floors of the facility boast a spa for residents to enjoy.**



**NEIGHBORHOOD FIREPLACE** – A comfortable area near residents' rooms to gather with visitors and each other.



**SALON** - A beauty salon is provided for hair styling and other cosmetic needs.



**OUTDOOR BALCONY** - An outdoor balcony will allow residents to enjoy fresh air and sunlight.



**MEETING ROOM** - A large meeting room allows residents to gather for a movie showing or other group events. In the future, the meeting room may also be opened up to community groups.

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**PHYSICAL THERAPY** - A new physical therapy area boasts new equipment for residents.



**NEIGHBORHOOD KITCHEN** - A kitchen and serving area, each with a dietary aide, will be the main place in which meals are provided for residents.



**GIFT SHOP** – A gift shop allows residents and visitors to enjoy a fun shopping experience.



### Rosen Nursing Scholarships

Fairmont Community Hospital Foundation announced that applications for the 2022 Erma Rosen Nursing Scholarship are now being accepted. This scholarship is available to students who will be entering their fourth year of study in an accredited baccalaureate nursing program in the fall of 2022. Preference is given to students who graduated from a

high school in Martin or Faribault county or surrounding areas. Please visit our website at [www.fch-foundation.com/scholarships](http://www.fch-foundation.com/scholarships) for more information and the application form. Applications are due by April 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Kayla Caven at (507) 236-3397 or [kayla.caven12@gmail.com](mailto:kayla.caven12@gmail.com).

### 3M's CFC donates \$31,500

This past week 3M Fairmont Representatives Hubble Werre, Plant Senior Manager and Tia Schweiss, HR Administrator, traveled to local non-profit organizations that were recipients of their 2021 CRC Grants. We were fortunate enough to be able to give \$31,500 to five local organiza-

tions.

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# Qualities to look for in a post-retirement job

The notion of relaxing on a beach all day in one's golden years is still a retirement dream for millions of adults across the globe. But many individuals also harbor a desire to keep working after retiring. Whether it's a volunteering gig or a part-time



job retirees are looking for, certain qualities can make an opportunity uniquely suited to a post-retirement job. Flexibility: Retirees may be looking to contribute to their communities or simply earn a little spending money, but they will likely still want the freedom to travel or spend time with their families whenever they choose. So flexibility is something to look for in a post-retirement job. This is what makes con-

sultant work so attractive to retirees. In-person hours may not be required of consultants, who can then offer their input while visiting their grandchildren or traveling the world. Socialization: Though the ability to work from home can make it eas-

ier for retirees to earn some extra money, some seniors aren't concerned about their finances but want to work so they can get out of the house. In that case, look for a job that offers the opportunity to socialize and meet new people. Socializing as an older adult is a great way to fend off loneliness. In addition, one study published in 2007 in the journal of the American Public Health Association found that social support networks

have a positive effect on cognition among older adults. So a post-retirement job that enables retirees to socialize could delay or reduce the severity of age-related cognitive decline.

Engagement: A job seniors find engaging also is more likely to provide the types of benefits seniors are looking for in post-retirement work. For example, researchers at Boston College's Sloan Center on Aging and Work found that seniors who find a job or volunteering opportunity truly engaging are more likely to benefit psychologically from those experiences than those whose post-retirement work is not engaging. If seniors find themselves simply going through the motions with their post-retirement work, they can look for opportunities that they can be more enthusiastic about.

Pressure-free Regardless of what retirees did for a living prior to calling it a career, chances are they dealt with work-related stress. In fact, the American Stress Institute reports that 83 percent of workers in the United States suffer from work-related stress, while Statistics Canada reports that 62 percent of

Canadian workers say work is their main source of stress. After a lifetime of confronting work-related stress, individuals who want to work in retirement should look for pressure-free opportunities. This is an important qual-

ity, as the ASI indicates that stress has been linked to increased rates of heart attack, hypertension and other disorders.

The right post-retirement job may differ from what individuals looked for during

their careers. Various qualities can combine to make for a post-retirement gig that benefits seniors in myriad ways.

(Source: Metro, Feb. 2022)



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# Simple strategies to stretch retirement savings

Running out of money is a common concern among retirees. And that anxiety is not necessarily unfounded, as a recent study from the Society of Actuaries found that people routinely underestimate just how much money they will need in retirement. Similarly, a 2019 model created by the employee benefit experts at EBRI found that nearly 41 percent of households in which the head of household is between the ages of 35 and 64 are projected to run short of money in retirement.

Such figures underscore how important it is for younger professionals to save for retirement, but what about current retirees or those on the cusp of retiring? Individuals who fit those descriptions may need to embrace these strategies designed to stretch their retirement savings.

· Downsize your home. Homes are many individuals' greatest expense, and that does not necessarily change in retirement. Downsizing to a smaller residence allows homeowners to pad their savings with money earned in the sale of their homes and also reduce their monthly overhead, as utilities, property taxes and maintenance expenditures are typically much lower in smaller homes than larger homes.

· Look for other ways to downsize. Individuals also can stretch their retirement savings by downsizing in other areas. Lower monthly expenses by shopping around for less expensive auto insurance policies, downgrading cable television packages or cutting the cord entirely. And though individual streaming services may not be too costly,

these expenses can add up for individuals who have five or more subscriptions. Downsizing streaming services to one or two packages at a time can help individuals keep more money in their retirement savings accounts each month.

· Be flexible with your withdrawals. The "set it and forget it" model of retirement investing helps professionals avoid the tricky process of trying to predict the markets. Retirees may take the same approach when it comes to withdrawing their money, following the industry standard and automatically withdrawing 4 percent from their accounts each year. But individuals who want to stretch their savings should remain flexible with their annual withdrawals and routinely examine their spending habits. An individualized approach to retirement withdrawals can help retirees avoid taking more than they need out of their accounts each year. The 4 percent rule has its merits, but retirees should recognize that they may not need to take that much out every year.

· Work with a financial advisor. Ensuring you don't outlive your retirement savings can be complicated, as it often involves navigating fluid concepts such as inflation. A certified financial professional can help retirees plan for changes that are beyond their control and even recommend when certain risks might be worth taking.

Many individuals will need to stretch their retirement savings in the years ahead, and various strategies can help individuals do so.

(Source: Metro, Feb. 2021)

# Bomgaars makes UHD donation

United Hospital District and Clinics (UHD) recently accepted a donation of nearly \$750.00 from Bomgaars Corporation. The gift of \$739.43 represents a portion of total sales from Bomgaars' annual Ladies' Night shopping event held on October 24, 2021. As a hospital and provider of women's health services, UHD was selected as the beneficiary of Bomgaars' Blue Earth location.

UHD's CFO Patrick Justin accepted the donation from

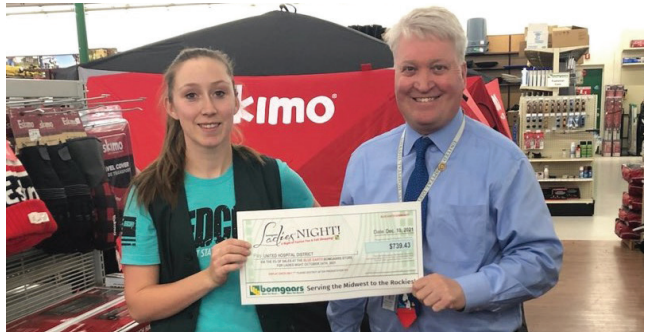
Bomgaars Blue Earth Store Manager Ali Foth, marking the fourth such award.


To date, Bomgaars' donations to UHD total just over \$3,100.00. Donated funds

have been applied towards various women's health initiatives, including enhanced mammography equipment and updates to the hospital's Labor and Delivery rooms. This year's funds are ear-

marked for labor and delivery costs for the uninsured.

For the past several years, Bomgaars has joined with local hospitals, cancer centers and women's groups to raise awareness of women's health issues by hosting a night of shopping that offers a 20% discount to ladies in attendance. Proceeds from the evening's total sales are donated to the community to help local agencies. Bomgaars announced their 2021 donation for all 106 participating locations was up 59% to \$104,581.88.







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## What seniors should know about social media safety

Seniors might not be the demographic individuals initially associate with social media. However, Pew Research notes that seniors' social media usage has been steadily rising for a number of years, proving that individuals 65 and over are not tech-averse.

Pew data from 2019 indicates that 46 percent of individuals 65 and older use Facebook. Social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram can be a great way to stay connected with family and

friends and stay up-to-date on community events. But social media usage is not without risks, especially in regard to users' safety. Seniors without much social media experience can heed these safety tips as they navigate popular platforms and discover all they have to offer.

Examine your account settings. Social media users can control their privacy settings so they can decide who can (and can't) view their online activity. Each platform is dif-

ferent, but profiles set to public generally allow anyone to view individuals' activity, so seniors should set their profiles to private to limit access to their information.

Be mindful of your social media social circle. It's easy to make virtual friends via social media, but seniors should be mindful of who they accept as online friends. Carefully consider each friend request and decide just how big or small you want your social media community to be. Many in-

dividuals prefer to limit their online social circles to individuals they know well and want to stay in touch with, and that can serve as a good measuring stick when deciding whether or not to accept a friend request.

Avoid sharing personal information. Seniors are no doubt aware that they should never share especially personal information, such as their Social Security number. However, seniors also should hesitate to share personal in-

formation like vacation plans. Seniors who post about upcoming trips could return home to find they've been victimized by criminals who scoured their social media accounts and learned when they were going to be away. A good rule of thumb is to keep personal information private and limit posts to information that is not overly specific or sensitive.

Recognize the threat posed by scammers. Social media platforms have had varying degrees of success in regard to keeping their sites scam-free.

But scammers find a way, and users must take steps to avoid being victimized. Never click on a link within a post from someone you don't know and avoid anyone soliciting donations through social media platforms.

Seniors are engaging with social media more than ever. Such engagement requires seniors to be mindful of the many ways to protect their privacy when spending time online.

(Source: Metro, Feb. 2022)

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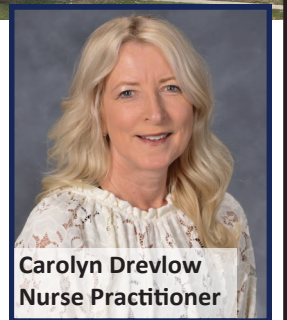
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## Ag Update:

### Guest Columnist

**Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank**

Phone: (507) 381-7960 • E-mail: kent.thiesse@minnstarbank.com



#### JANUARY WASDE REPORT OFFERS LITTLE CHANGE

The monthly USDA World Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report released on January 12 was basically viewed as "neutral" by most grain marketing analysts and had a very minimal effect on corn and soybean prices. The January WASDE Report, which is often known as a "market mover," showed only slight adjustments to final 2021 corn and soybean production numbers and total demand figures; however, the report did show a slight increase in ending stocks for both commodities by the end of the 2021-22 marketing year on August 31, 2022, as compared to estimates in the December WASDE report.

#### CORN

The National Ag Statistics Service (NASS) report, which was also released on January 12, estimated the final 2021 U.S. average corn yield at the record level of 177 bu./acre, which is the same as the December estimate. The 2021 corn yield estimate is an increase from 171.4 bushels per acre in 2020 and 167.5 bushels per acre in 2019. Minnesota is estimated to have a final 2021 statewide average corn yield of 178 bushels, while Iowa is projected to have a record final corn yield at 205 bushels per acre for 2021. Other estimated average record corn yields for 2021 included Indiana at 195 bushels per acre, Nebraska at 194 bushels per acre, Ohio at 193 bushels per acre, and Wisconsin at 180 bushels per acre, with Illinois estimated at 202 bushels per acre. The drought-stricken States of North and South Dakota are projected to have final 2021 corn yields of 105 and 135 bushels per

acre respectively.

The latest WASDE report showed a slight increase in the total 2021 U.S. corn production, which is now estimated at just over 15.1 billion bushels, representing an increase of approximately 1 billion bushels from 2020 corn production levels. The latest USDA report also showed that the total demand for corn usage in 2021-22 will be only slightly above the 2020-21 usage levels of just over 14.8 billion bushels. Corn export levels are projected to decrease by 328 million bushels in 2021-22; however, this will be offset in an expected increase of 297 million bushels in corn used for ethanol production in the coming year. USDA listed the projected beginning stocks in the January report at 1.235 billion bushels, which was a reduction from 1.9 billion bushels from a year earlier.

USDA is now estimating 2021-22 U.S. corn ending stocks at 1.54 billion bushels, which is an increase of 47 million bushels from the December WASDE report. Interestingly, USDA was also projecting 2020-21 corn ending stocks at approximately 1.5 billion bushels a year ago in the January WASDE report; however, the final 2020-21 ending stocks closed at an estimated 1.235 billion bushels on August 31, 2021. The U.S. corn stocks-to-use ratio is now estimated at 10.4 percent for 2021-22, which would be an increase from 8.3 percent in 2020-21. The 2021-22 ratio remains fairly tight compared to recent corn stocks-to-use ratios of 13.7 percent for 2019-20, 14.6 percent for 2018-19, and 14.5 percent in 2017-18. This means there could be some potential for short-term rallies in the cash corn market in the coming months, especially

in areas of the U.S. with tight supplies and high local corn demand.

USDA is currently estimating the U.S. average on-farm cash corn price for 2021-22 at \$5.45 per bushel, which is at the same level as the December estimate. The projected 2021-22 market year average (MYA) corn price represents the highest WASDE estimated average corn price since the 2013-14 marketing year. The 2021-22 USDA price estimates are the expected average farm-level prices for the 2021 crop from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022; however, they do not represent estimated prices for either the 2020 or 2021 calendar year. The current projected 2021-22 average price of \$5.45 per bushel compares to national average corn prices of \$4.53 per bushel in 2020-21, \$3.57 per bushel for 2019-20, \$3.61 per bushel for 2018-19, and \$3.36 per bushel for both 2017-18 and 2016-17.

#### SOYBEANS

The latest NASS report estimates the final 2021 U.S. average soybean yield at 51.4 bushels per acre, which is just slightly above the final U.S. average yield of 51.0 bushels per acre in 2020. Total U.S. soybean production for 2021 is now estimated at 4.435 billion bushels, which is an increase of 219 million bushels from final 2020 production levels. The recent WASDE report estimates total soybean demand at 4.357 billion bushels for the 2021-22 marketing year, which is a decline of 147 million bushels from 2020-21 soybean demand levels. Soybean crush levels are expected to increase by nearly 50 million bushels in the current marketing year; however, soybean export levels are expected to decline by 215 million bushels

during 2021-22.

The U.S. soybean ending stocks for the 2021-22 marketing year in the latest WASDE Report are estimated at 350 million bushels, which was an increase of 10 million bushels from the December WASDE report. The projected 2021-22 soybean ending stocks are an increase from the estimated 2020-21 carryout level of 257 million bushels; however, the 2021-22 ending stocks would still be among the lowest in past decade. The projected 2020-21 soybean ending stocks compare to other recent year-end carryout levels of 525 million bushels for 2019-20, 913 million bushels for 2018-19, 438 million bushels for 2017-18 and 302 million bushels in 2016-17.

The soybean stocks-to-use ratio for 2021-22 is now estimated at 8.0 percent, compared to 5.7 percent in 2020-21, which was at the lowest level since 2.6 percent in 2013. The projected 2021-22 ratio is considerably lower than other recent soybean stocks-to-use ratios of 23 percent for 2018-19 and 13.3 percent for 2019-20. The expected rather tight soybean supply may offer some opportunities for continued strong cash soybean prices in the coming months, especially if weather issues in South America continue to develop.

USDA is now projecting the U.S. average farm-level soybean price for the 2021-22 marketing year at \$12.60 per bushel, which

was an increase of \$.50 per bushel from the December estimate. The estimated 2021-22 U.S. average soybean price would be the highest since the 2013-14 marketing year. The 2021-22 soybean price estimate of \$12.60 per bushel compares to other recent yearly average soybean prices of \$10.80 per bushel in 2020-21, \$8.57 per bushel for 2019-20, \$8.48 per bushel for 2018-19, and \$9.35 per bushel for 2017-18.

#### Marketing Decisions

Many farm operators will tell you that grain marketing decisions are the hardest part of farming, which is especially true during periods of highly volatile markets such as we have experienced the past 12-18 months. A year ago, December corn futures on the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) were around \$4.40 per bushel for "new crop" 2021 corn, with a local Southern Minnesota 2021 Fall harvest price of around \$4.00 per bushel. By May, the futures price had risen to near \$5.50 per bushel and the local harvest cash corn price to above \$5.00 per bushel, where prices remained for the balance of 2021. Similarly, CBOT November soybean futures for 2021 were over \$11.50 per bushel in January last year, with a local Southern Minnesota harvest price near \$11.00 per bushel for the Fall of 2021. By June, the CBOT November futures price and some local cash soybean bids had topped \$13.00 per bushel;

however, by October the local Fall harvest cash price had declined to near \$11.50 per bushel.

During 2020 and 2021 many farmers began selling their anticipated corn and soybean production quite aggressively early in the year, once the local cash price got into a profitable price range, thus missing higher potential prices that occurred later in the year. Given the scenarios that existed prior to planting in both years, these were not bad marketing decisions to sell some of the anticipated crop production at profitable levels in order to reduce risk. Now producers are wondering what to do about protecting prices for the 2022 corn and soybean crop. Being able to "lock-in" local 2022 cash prices over \$5.00 per bushel for corn and over \$12.00 per bushel for soybeans is the best marketing opportunity that we have had prior to Spring planting in many years. This may not be a bad place to reduce some financial risk and begin some grain marketing strategies for the 2022 crop year.

*Note For additional information contact*

*Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst and Sr. Vice President, MinnStar Bank, Lake Crystal, MN. Phone (507) 381-7960 E-mail kent.thiesse@minnstarbank.com Web Site www.minnstarbank.com*

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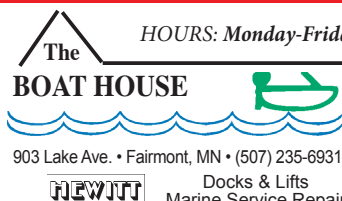
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# How to create structure after retirement

Professionals typically look forward to retirement and the freedom that comes with it. The notion that commuting and deadlines will one day be a distant memory is enough to make anyone excited for retirement. But when the day to leave the daily grind behind arrives, many retirees admit to feeling a little anxiety about how they're going to find structure.

Retirement is a big transition, and Robert Delamontagne, PhD, author of the 2011 book "The Retiring Mind: How to Make the Psychological Transition to Retirement," notes that

some retirees experience anxiety, depression and even a sense of loss upon calling it a career. Some of those feelings can undoubtedly be traced to the perceived lack of purpose some individuals feel after retiring. Without a job to do each day, people can begin to feel useless. Overcoming such feelings can be difficult, but finding ways to build daily structure can make the transition to retirement go smoothly.

Find something to truly engage in. Professionals who truly enjoy their work tend to be fully engaged, so it's no surprise if such individuals have a hard time adjusting to retirement.

Some may suggest volunteering can help fill the void created by retirement, but researchers with the Sloan Center on Aging and Work at Boston College have found that only those individuals who are truly engaged in their post-retirement volunteering enjoy the psychological benefits of such pursuits. So before retirees dive right in to volunteering as a means to creating structure, they should first exercise due diligence and find an opportunity they'll find genuinely engaging.

Embrace the idea of

"bridge employment." "Bridge employment" is the name given to the trend that has seen retired individuals take on part-time or temporary employment after they have retired from full-time working. COVID-19 has no doubt skewed post-retirement working statistics since the World Health Organization first declared a pandemic in March 2020, but a 2019 survey from the Lhat 27 percent of pre-retirees with at least \$100,000 in assets planned to work part-time in retirement. Even part-time work can provide enough daily structure to help retirees feel

as though each day is not just a free-for-all.

Make a concerted effort to be more social. Volunteering and working are not the only ways to create structure in retirement. A concerted effort to be more social can help retirees fill their days with interactions with like-minded individuals who may be experiencing the same feelings. Join a book club, a local nature group that goes on daily or semi-daily morning hikes or another local community organization. These are great ways to build structure and meet new people. Retirees can create so-

cial media accounts to find local community groups that cater to their interests. Even if it seems hard to believe, plenty of retirees are seeking to create structure in retirement life, and social media can make it easier to find such individuals in your community.

Structure and retirement may seem like strange bedfellows. But many retirees seek structure after calling it a career, and there are many fun ways for seniors to create more organization in their lives.

(Source: Metro, Feb. 2022)

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#### WARRANTY DEEDS

CTW Group Inc. to Jose F. Diaz, Lot 6, W.2' Lot 5, Block 1, Maple Grove Ext. Wards Central

Sharon Koch to Chad William Hastad, Pt. NE¼SE¼ 25-104-32

Mark D. Kowalke, Tonya T. Kowalke to Ana Castillo, Nicolas Sanhueza Castillo, Nicolas Sanhueza Castillo, N.33.12' Lot 4, S.16.88' Lot 3, Block 1, Hecht Addn. Truman

James D. Anderson, Jean M. Anderson, Jeanne Anderson to Joni Spenger, Lots 21 and 22, Block 1, Shoreacres Addn.

Ann K. Sandbo, Norman J. Sandbo to David T. Sandbo, Kaydra A. Sandbo, Pt. SW¼NW¼, 8-104-33

Ross B. Sheppard to Benjamin Kain, Brooke Kain, Lot 3, Block 3, 1st Ext. Hillcrest Addn.

Evalynne R. Hoppe, Nicholas M. Hoppe, Evalynne R. Milne to Jean L. Johnson, Roman E. Johnson, Lot 3, Block 1, West 9th Street Addn.

Dennis D. Sjogren, Roxanne F. Sjogren to Dennis D. Sjogren, Roxanne F. Sjogren, Pt. SW¼, 5-104-32

Greg L. Farmen, Wendy L. Farmen to Greg L. Farmen, Wendy L. Farmen, Pt. SW¼, 5-104-32

Jessica L. Wiederhoeft to Austin Thompson, Pt. Lot 4, Block 1, Christensens Interlaken Addn.

#### QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Brian L. Scott, Heidi E. Scott to Heidi E. Scott Revocable Trust, Pt. SE¼, Pt. SE¼, 16-101-33, Pt. SW¼, 30-02-33, NW¼ 16-101-33

Brian L. Scott, Heidi E. Scott to Brian L. Scott Revocable Trust, Pt. W½NE¼, SE¼NE¼, 26-102-33, Pt. SW¼ Ex. Lt1BK1 Scotts Addn., Pt. SW¼, 30-102-33

#### CONTRACTS FOR DEEDS

Donald F. Hoffmeister, Judith L. Hoffmeister to Christopher Kahler, Lot 9, Block 2, Gemmills Subd., Sherburn

## East Chain 4-H meeting

President Jazlyn Geerdes called the November 7, 2021 East Chain 4-H club meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the East Chain Activity Center. Pledges were led by Spencer Salic and roll call was taken by answering the question "Something your family does together to have fun". There were 31 members present, 1 visitor and 0 new members. Henry Hugoson made a motion to approve the Secretary's Report Alayna Kurt seconded that motion. Motion Passed. Henry Hugoson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Zoe Hugoson seconded that motion. Motion Passed. There was one bill. Gavin Sukalski made a motion to pay the bill Morgan Ruppert seconded that motion. Motion Passed. There were no correspondence. There were no additions to the agenda. Henry Hugoson made a motion to approve the agenda and Brooke Ruppert seconded the motion. Motion passed.

PDC- Rabbit was November 4th. Council- October 25th meeting recap Jazlyn reported that federation approved giving more money to PDC's Federation- East Chain Club won the attendance award for 2020-2021. We had a Pizza Party because of high attendance. Annual Federation Meeting Recap Jazlyn announced new officers. Annual Fall Volunteer Training recap. Banner - Vote on Ideas in December. There was nothing for Scrapbook. Community Pride- Operation Christmas Child Boxes recap. Signing authority at Profinium. Current signers: Marie Barrick, Ann Kurt, Lynsie Salic, and Jazlyn Geerdes

for 2021-2022 4-H Year.

GHEC Trunk or Treat Event was October 29. Marie Barrick Family had a 4-H booth. Club Charter completed and turned in. Christmas Party- December 5, 2021 at East Chain Activity Center, 1:00. Potluck signup via Sign Up Genius. County Recognition Banquet is same day, December 5 at 5:00 in Trimont. Do we want to change the date of our Christmas Party? Activities to decide on \$5 gift exchange, ugly Christmas sweater contest, food shelf items, etc. Cloverbuds are welcomed to do demonstrations anytime.

Enroll or re-enroll in 4-H for the 2021-2022 year: Enroll by November 30 to be placed in the early enrollment prize drawing. Horse PDC is November 10 6:00 p.m. at the 4-H office. Remember to read the Martin County Mini-Clover Update. There are many reminders and lots of information in these publications. If you are not getting the emails from Marie Barrick or the Remind notifications, please talk to Marie after the meeting. Henry Hugoson made a motion to adjourn the meeting Alayna Kurt seconded that motion.

Respectfully submitted, Avery Kurt

## CITY OF FAIRMONT

#### MAYOR

Debbie Foster  
dfoster@fairmont.org  
(507) 236-8322

#### COUNCILMEMBER-AT-LARGE

Michele Miller  
mmiller@fairmont.org  
(507) 236-3226

#### WARD 1

Bruce Peters  
bpeters@fairmont.org  
(507) 238-4507

#### WARD 2

Britney Kaweck  
bkaweck@fairmont.org  
(952) 210-1431

#### WARD 3

Randy Lubenow  
rlubenow@fairmont.org  
(507) 236-3862

#### WARD 4

Wayne Hasek  
whasek@fairmont.org  
(507) 399-9292

## MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### Chairman:

Elliot Belgard

#### Vice Chairman:

Richard Koons

#### FIRST DISTRICT

(Elected Position, Term up 12-31-24)

Elliot Belgard

213 N 3rd Av E

Truman, MN 56088

507-776-2106 (H)

507-236-1173 (cell)

e-mail: elliot.belgard@co.martin.mn.us

Chairman

#### SECOND DISTRICT

(Elected Position, Term up 12-31-22)

James Forshee

1306 School St

Fairmont, MN 56031

e-mail: james.forshee@co.martin.mn.us

#### THIRD DISTRICT

(Elected Position, Term up 12-31-24)

Kathy Smith

529 Budd Lake Drive

Fairmont, MN 56031

507-236-3489 (cell)

e-mail: kathy.smith@co.martin.mn.us

#### FOURTH DISTRICT

(Elected Position, Term up 12-31-22)

Richard Koons

1172 125th Street

Welcome, MN 56181

507-236-2902 (cell)

e-mail: richard.koons@co.martin.mn.us

Vice Chairman

#### FIFTH DISTRICT

(Elected Position, Term up 12-31-24)

Steven Flohrs

1056 230th St.

Ormsby, MN 56162

507-639-3071 (H)

507-236-5995 (cell)

e-mail: steve.flohrs@co.martin.mn.us



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- Operates and maintains shop equipment.
- Communicate with owners and managers about tasks, problems, questions, and supplies needed.

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- Knowledge of farm mechanics preferred.

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Dianne Bettin, LB Pork Inc., Northrop, MN  
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**Tuesday, February 22, 2022 @ 10:00 A.M.- STENZEL FAMILY-** 160 Acres +/- in Section 34 of Rome Twp., Faribault County, MN. Sale to be held at Average Jo's Bar & Grill at 115 E 6th St., Blue Earth, MN. Hartung, Kahlers, Wedel & Associates

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ST. JOHN VIANNEY

<b>24</b> No School	<b>25</b> American Classics • Seasoned Beef Taco Meat • Soft Flour Tortilla • Mexican Style Refried Beans • Shredded Cheddar Cheese • Shredded Lettuce • Salsa Extra Extra • Sliced Cucumbers • Sliced Fresh Apples Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Lactose-Free Skim Milk • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing	<b>26</b> American Classics • Boneless Chicken Wings with Honey BBQ Sauce • Potatoes Au Gratin • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Extra Extra • Fresh Carrots • Chilled Pineapple Chunks Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Lactose-Free Skim Milk • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing	<b>27</b> American Classics • Macaroni and Cheese • Seasoned Peas • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Extra Extra • Caesar Salad • Chilled Pineapple Chunks Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Lactose-Free Skim Milk • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing	<b>28</b> American Classics • Cheesy Italian Pull Apart • Marinara Sauce • Sliced Carrots Extra Extra • Caesar Salad • Chilled Pineapple Chunks Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Lactose-Free Skim Milk • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing
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FAIRMONT ELEMENTARY

<b>24</b> No School	<b>25</b> Classics • Macaroni and Cheese • Garlic Breadstick Alternate Entrees • Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich Sides for All Meals • Baked Beans • Sliced Cucumbers • Chilled Pineapple Chunks • Sliced Fresh Apples Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Skim Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Skim Milk, Lactose Free • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing	<b>26</b> Classics • BBQ Chicken Sandwich Alternate Entrees • Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sides for All Meals • Fresh Carrots • Seasoned Peas • Applesauce • Fresh Red Seedless Grapes Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Skim Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Skim Milk, Lactose Free • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing	<b>27</b> Classics • Turkey Sausage Patty • Pancakes Alternate Entrees • Crispy Chicken Caesar Wrap Sides for All Meals • Fresh Cherry Tomatoes • Hash Brown Patty • Assorted Fruit Juice • Fresh Banana Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Skim Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Skim Milk, Lactose Free • Ketchup • Yellow Mustard • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing	<b>28</b> Classics • Cheesy Italian Pull Apart • Marinara Sauce • Sliced Carrots Alternate Entrees • Bagel with Yogurt and String Cheese Sides for All Meals • Seasoned Peas • Sliced Cucumbers • Mandarin Orange and Pineapple • Fresh Golden Delicious Apple Milk & Condiments • 1% Low-fat Milk • Skim Milk • Chocolate Skim Milk • Skim Milk, Lactose Free • Ketchup • Salsa • Mayo • Light Ranch Dressing
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# Martin County Area Foundation

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If you are interested in helping the Martin County Area Foundation in our efforts, please contact us! For more information on the Martin County Area Foundation, visit: [www.mcareafoundation.org](http://www.mcareafoundation.org)



The Martin County Area Foundation recognizes Jason Subbert for his years of service on the Martin County Area Foundation Board.

Thank you, Jason!

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Ameriprise Financial  
Ann Hinz  
Arlen & Sharon Moeller  
Baarts Trucking Inc.  
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## Southern Minnesota Pond Hockey Championship Weekend - Fairmont MN



**KATO HOCKEY DAY** - The Fairmont 10U Hockey team took part in the 2022 Hockey Day Minnesota in Mankato on Sunday. Fairmont 10U played a Mankato team on a rink setup on the Blakeslee Stadium football field. Hockey Day events will continue this weekend. Team members include: Logyn Luhmann, Halyn Haycraft, Nola Hazard, Hayden Olson, London Truesdell, Taylor Truesdell, Paige Hartwig, Evelyn Folkerts, Ellie Steuer, Corinn Wells, Kylie Flanagan. Coaches: Kris Olson, Eric Olson, and Aaron Haycraft. Submitted photo



**SHARP SHOOTER** – Cards Maggy Totzke launches a three pointer as coach Sara Junkermeier looks on. Totzke had 3-three pointers in a row in the second half to erase Waseca's 23-20 half time lead. The Cards downed the Bluejays 61-42 last Thursday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



**SHOULDER SAVE** – Card goalie Carson Johnson takes a puck off the shoulder as Minnesota River's Connor Bjorling looks for a rebound. Thomas Claeys had the game winning goal in the Cards 3-2 win over the Bulldogs last Tuesday Night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*

## Red Bulls 2nd at BSC Meet

Big South Conference Tournament, Sat., Jan 15 in St. James.

**Team Results:**  
1 Jackson County Central 263.5; 2 Red Bulls 188.5; 3 St. Peter 163.0; 4 Marshall 137.0; 5 New Ulm Area 112.0; 6 Pipestone Area 97.5; 7 Worthington 92.0; 8 Waseca 87.0; 9 Blue Earth Area 73.5; 10 Windom-Mountain Lake 62.5; 11 Redwood Valley 31.5; 12 Luverne 11.0; 13 Saint James Area 9.0

**Fairmont-Martin County West Red Bulls Results:**  
106 3rd Place – Maddex Faber - 3rd place match - Maddex Faber 13-7, over Preston Xayachak (Windom-Mountain Lake) 15-6. 113 6th place – Berent Kosbab - 5th place match - Dawson DeCamp (Marshall) 13-7, over Berent Kosbab 4-9, (MD 16-6). 120 3rd Place – Rylan Cutler - 3rd place match - Rylan Cutler 16-5, over Gavin Brandt (Redwood Valley) 20-9, (MD 11-2). 126 1st Place – Jesse Potts - 1st place match - Jesse Potts 21-0, over Hudson Burnett (Pipestone Area) 18-1, (Fall 2:36). 145 1st Place – Kain Sanders - 1st place match - Kain Sanders 21-4, over Dylan Withers (Jackson County Central) 19-11, (Dec 6-0). 152 3rd Place – Aden Welcome - 3rd place match - Aden Welcome 15-6, over Isaiah Rodriguez (Jackson County Central) 14-15, (Dec 8-2). 160 3rd Place – Carver Rohman - 3rd place match - Carver Rohman 18-4, over Christian Rodriguez (Waseca) 8-3, (Dec 12-8). 170 5th Place – Gage Cyphers - 5th place match - Gage Cyphers 9-4, over Jackson Melcher (Pipestone Area) 15-7, (Fall 0:30). 182 6th Place – Riley Allen - 5th place match - Adam Schavey (Blue Earth Area) 20-7, over Riley Allen 8-10, (Fall 1:16). 195 5th Place – Wyatt Williamson - 5th place match - Wyatt Williamson 13-10, over Gavin Schaefer (Marshall) 10-12, (Dec 4-3). 220 1st Place – Max Olson - 1st place match - Max Olson 19-1, over Julian Hernandez (New Ulm Area) 7-3, (Fall 0:34). 285 2nd Place – Alec Thompson - 1st place match - Cole Hennings (Worthington) 18-1, over Alec Thompson 12-10, (Fall 1:15)

**JCC Sweetheart Invite** – Martin County Magic 4th. Team Results: New Prague 145.775 Worthington 142.425 Jackson County Central 132.625 Martin County Area 128.175 Windom Area 127.175