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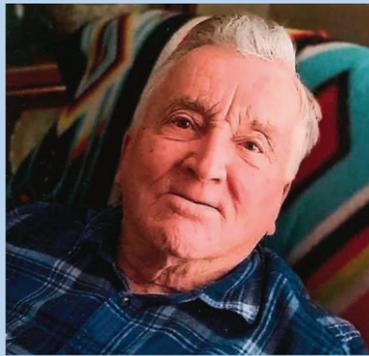
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WELDY LOOS will celebrate his 90th birthday on February 16. Cards will reach him 200 South Prairie St., Sherburn, MN 56171. (Submitted photo)



SHARON BLOMGREN'S 80th birthday is February 13th. She was born February 13th, 1941. Cards will reach Sharon at 23959 US Hwy. 169, Winnebago, MN 56098. She shares her birthday with her twin sister, Karen Gray of Albert Lea. (Submitted photo)



BILL AND DI-ANN DIEKMANN will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on February 20th, 1971. Cards will reach them at 108 W. Margaret Street, Fairmont, MN 56031. (Submitted photo)



HAROLD AND VELMA MILLER will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary at home on February 11th. Join their children in showering them with cards at: 79439 420th Street, Truman, MN 56088. (Submitted photo)



SAGGAU'S 100TH - A card shower is planned to honor Erma Saggau for her 100th birthday on February 13th, 2021. Greetings may be sent to 620 Summit Drive, #311, Fairmont, MN 56031. (Submitted photo)

Fairmont Jr/Sr High School's YOCO (Youth Coalition) members Vanessa Schultz, Grace Miller, and Brooke Van Geldren accept a donation from School Resource Officer Shannon Bass on behalf of the Fairmont Police Officers Association for our Youth Connections Magazine. The magazine will be sent out to all households with students in Martin County. For more information visit mcyoco.com. (Photo Courtesy of Martin County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.)



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PETROWIAK-KAHLER - Larry and Dawn Petrowiak of Fairmont, Minnesota and Ryan and Janet Kahler of Sherburn, Minnesota announce the engagement of their children, Macy Ann Petrowiak and Christopher Ryan Kahler. Macy, the bride-to-be, is a 2018 graduate of South Dakota State University and received her Bachelors' degree in Consumer Affairs Science with minors in Agriculture Business and Marketing. She is employed as a District Field Manager for the Minnesota Corn Growers Association. Chris, the groom-to-be, is a 2019 graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelors' degree in Agriculture Business. He co-manages the family-owned farm operation, assists with the family auctioneering business at Land Services Unlimited/Auctioneer Alley and is a Wyffels Hybrids seed representative. Macy is the granddaughter of the late Louis and Lucille Petrowiak of East Chain; Donna Hansgaard and the late Donald Hansgaard of Fairmont. Chris is the grandson of Allen and Marlys Kahler of Sherburn, and the late Delbert and Dorothy Luke of Ringsted, Iowa. The couple is planning an August 7th, 2021 wedding with family and friends at Holy Family Catholic Church in East Chain with a reception to follow in Fairmont. (Submitted photo)

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CIRCULATION AUDIT BY VERIFICATION COUNCIL

Forever In Love

By Judy Bryan, Freelance Journalist

Roland and Shirley Unke hold hands as they tell the stories of when they started dating, farming, their travels and raising their family. After 65 years of marriage, the action is instinctive and indicative of the unbreakable bond the two share.

Roland jokes that they started dating when he picked Shirley up in the street, but Shirley, the more talkative of the two, expands the story.

She thinks she was about 18 years old when she and a girlfriend were walking down the street. Roland pulls up in his truck and offers them a ride. Since they all knew each other, the girls accepted.

"I was hoping to get in the truck first so he'd have to take my friend home first, but she slid in beside him. I thought, well, there goes that chance, but he took her home first anyway," Shirley said with a giggle.

"Three years later, we got married," Roland said.

He was 24, and she was 21 when they exchanged vows on Dec. 10, 1955. The couple spent 50 years on a farm by Northrop. They raised beef cattle, milked cows and raised hogs.

Over the years, they also handled the responsibilities of raising their six children.

"Mostly we just worked those first years," Shirley said. "Farmers don't have a lot of free time. I was a city girl. I never intended to marry a farmer, but I feel I helped on the farm quite a bit."

She remembers putting the three oldest children in their sandbox which was located near a field and then jumping on the tractor to plow the field.

"I'd stop and talk to the kids every time I went down the field," she said.

"We were always close by," Roland said.

As the children got older, the three boys joined their father to help with the farm chores, and the three girls helped their mother with domestic chores.

"Our biggest problem was feeding everybody," Shirley said. "We always had extra men for meals. I always thought Roland must stand on the corner and yell, 'Come on down! Shirley's cooking today!'"

"One big challenge we had, it was like a taxi going to Fairmont and back with the kids," Roland said.

"I wanted my kids to have every advantage," Shirley said. "They were in choir. They were in band. They were good students because we encouraged them. Parents have to do this for their kids. Give them support."

When the old Fairmont High School burned in 1969, the school district went to a split schedule, with some of the students going to class in the morning and others starting class in the afternoon. The Unkes also had a child in kindergarten with a bus pick up at noon.

"Sometimes I'd feel like I was meeting myself on the road," Shirley said. "We went through that phase with split shifts. It was wild. We could never have meals together. I was blessed because I didn't have a job in those days."

The Unkes have added 13 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren to their family over the years. Sadly, their daughter, Laurie Goerndt, died about six years ago at the age of 49.

"That was a real blow to our family," Shirley said. "Our family is very close. Our kids are close. They always hug, or at least they used to. Right now, we can't do any hugging because of COVID, and it's really hard that we can't see each other."

Yet the family still finds ways to stay in contact. When Roland and Shirley were in Sioux Falls, they stopped by their daughter's home, rolled down their car windows and chatted from a safe distance.

"We couldn't touch. We couldn't hug, but we could see each other," Shirley said. Public health restrictions also have impacted Shir-



"I don't know when love started, but I know it hasn't stopped yet."
-Roland Unke

ley's visitations at the hospital and nursing homes, part of her outreach through their membership with the United Methodist Church. She also has managed to nurture her passion for children by reading the children's story during church services.

"They put a rocking chair in front of the church where I sit and read so now I'm the Rocking Grandma reading the children's story every Sunday," she said.

Roland and Shirley recently had their first round of COVID vaccine, with absolute-

ly no side effects, she says, and they eagerly await their second dose. They hope that some sense of normalcy returns so they can resume traveling "anywhere, just anywhere," she said.

They have gone to Mexico the last four years, where Roland says they were treated very well, but their previous trips have taken them all over the country and throughout Europe.

"We like to travel alone. Then there are no other distractions," Roland said. "We do a lot of things by ourselves. We rent a car. We

both will drive any place."

They tell of the challenge of renting a car in Germany without being able to speak German and laugh about repeatedly seeing a road sign for a town but never seeing the town until they realized the sign meant "exit ramp."

Shirley recalls getting lost in Switzerland and Austria. Roland was driving, and she was navigating using an atlas.

"We got lost in the staples," she said, referring to the seam in the atlas where the route was obscured by

a staple binding the maps together.

The couple retired from their farm 13 years ago, moving into a condo overlooking Sisseton Lake.

"Thirteen years already. Where does the time go?" Shirley said. "There have been ups and downs. We've seen bad times. We've seen good times. We've had a good life."

Roland and Shirley reach for each other's hand. He gives hers a gentle squeeze. "I don't know when love started, but I know it hasn't stopped yet," he said.



Christmas holiday celebration with the Unke family



Roland and Shirley with their six adult children

No AARP TaxAide in 2021

We regret to inform you that AARP TaxAide of Fairmont will not be open in 2021 to assist you in the preparation of your 2020 Income tax returns.

Our volunteers have enjoyed serving you over the past 50 years. We are sorry that circumstances forced us to make the decision to close our office.

Please seek other sources of assistance for tax preparation.

Ceylon Area Historical Society gifts, memorials

The Ceylon Area Historical Society acknowledges the following memorials and gifts received from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Memorials to Museum:

Dean Koehler from: Reed Klenz, Darrel and Muriel Klenz, Tom and Rita Beckendorf, Sherry Schmidt, Jim and Laurie Haugen

Clair Schmidt Sr. from: Sherry Schmidt, Delores Houseman, William Ditz, Laura Nagel.

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Tim Plath from: Tom and Rita Beckendorf

Donations to Museum:

Ceylon Wood Carvers

Ruby's Pantry

Ruby's Pantry will once again be held in Sherburn at the Regional Worship Center on Monday night the 15th of February. The church is right across the street from the Kum and Go gas station.

Ruby's Pantry is held the third Monday of each month. We serve from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. At this time, we are doing a drive through. We ask that you get in line in your cars. We will then have someone standing by to take \$20 cash from you. Then you continue to drive through and the volunteers will load the groceries into your

trunk. We ask that your trunks be empty.

We are not able to organize the food in boxes for you. There is no reason to get out of your car. Stay in and stay warm and allow us to serve you.

Please remember that sometimes we get miscellaneous foods. You may not get the same products as your neighbor will. It all values out to the same amount which is way more than the \$20. Anyone who eats is welcome to come. There are no income guidelines. We do not have registration at this time.

We hope to see you there.

NEWS DEADLINE

Monday Noon for Wednesday issue

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December 2020 MLHS memorials

It is with sincere appreciation that we recognize these Memorial donations given to Martin Luther High School, Northrop from December 1 to December 31, 2020. These gifts are instrumental in the success of our Christian educational ministry to teenagers.

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Update on Local COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts

Contact: Tim Langer 507-238-4757; tim.langer@fmchs.com

Weekly Update: 2/9/21 Vaccination work

- As of 2/6/21
- Faribault County: 1,155 individuals have received at least their first vaccination for COVID-19. 8% of the population has received at least 1 dose.
- Martin County: 1,912 individuals have received at least their first vaccination for COVID-19. 9% of the population has received at least 1 dose.
- Community Health & Human Services received 200 1st doses of Moderna vaccine on 2/3. All 200 doses were distributed to individuals identified in priority group 1A within 72 hours as directed by MDH. All doses were in arms by Friday, 2/5 at 5PM.
- Community Health expects to receive 200 1st doses on 2/9 or 2/10. This allocation is designated for the K-12 and childcare provider workforce.
- Mayo Health System Fairmont is estimated to receive 204 doses of vaccine this week to provide to patients age 75+.
- United Hospital District is scheduled to receive 300 doses of vaccine this week to provide to patients 65+.
- Dulcimer Medical Center is not scheduled to receive any doses of vaccine this week.

Weekly Update: 2/2/21

- As of 1/30/2021
- Faribault County: 903 individuals have received at least their first vaccination for COVID-19. 6.5% of the population has received at least 1 dose.
- Martin County: 1,307 individuals have received at least their first vaccination for COVID-19. 6.5% of the population has received at least 1 dose.
- Community Health

& Human Services received 100 1st doses of Moderna vaccine on 1/26, one day ahead of schedule. All 100 doses were distributed individuals identified in priority group 1A within 72 hours as directed by MDH. All doses were in arms by Friday, 1/29 at 4PM.

• Community Health expects to receive 200 1st doses on 2/2 or 2/3. This allocation is intended to help us complete work with the 1A priority population which includes: hospital staff, skilled nursing facilities (staff and residents), certified EMS/EMT workers, COVID testers, COVID vaccinators, assisted living facilities (staff and residents), urgent care settings/clinics, dialysis centers, dental offices, home health care (staff), group homes (staff & residents), pharmacists, correctional health care providers, school nurses, funeral home staff, specialty health care providers including optometry, audiology and chiropractic care and staff with direct client care (with no ability to work remotely) working in public health, mental and behavioral health settings.

• Mayo Health System Fairmont will receive 36 doses of Pfizer vaccine this week to provide to dialysis patients.

• United Hospital District is not scheduled to receive any doses of vaccine this week.

• Dulcimer Medical Center will be receiving 300 doses of vaccine this week to provide to patients age 65+.

Weekly Update: 1/26/21

Efforts are underway in Faribault & Martin Counties to provide COVID-19 vaccinations.

• There continues to be a very limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine in Minnesota.

• Currently, MN is receiving 60,000 doses of vaccine per week. With our population of 5.6 million, that is just 1% of the supply needed.

• As of January 22, 2021, 649 vaccinations had been provided to Faribault County residents and 822 vaccinations to Martin County residents.

• The total population of individuals who would be eligible (by age) for vaccine in Faribault & Martin Counties is approximately 25,000. This means just 5% of our counties have received vaccine as of today. We have a long way to go.

• Mayo Clinic Health System Fairmont, United Hospital District and Community Health & Human Services of Faribault & Martin Counties are partnering together in this effort with support from county emergency management and the South Central Health Care Coalition.

Who is providing COVID-19 vaccine in Faribault & Martin Counties?

• The vaccine distribution system in Minnesota is complex and involves multiple vaccination providers, including health care providers/health systems, local public health agencies, pharmacies and community vaccinator programs.

• Mayo Health System, Fairmont and United Hospital District received allocations of the Pfizer vaccine to vaccinate staff and individuals in priority group 1A.

• Mayo Health System Fairmont has vaccinated 328 individuals.

• United Hospital District has vaccinated 151 individuals.

• Human Services of Faribault & Martin Counties received the Moderna vaccine and has vaccinated 300 individuals in priority group 1A.

• Outside vaccinators - through the Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program - are responsible for vaccinations happening in long-

term care settings.

Who is currently eligible to receive the vaccine in Faribault & Martin Counties?

• Individuals who work or live in Faribault & Martin Counties

• The current directive is to provide vaccine to all individuals in the Priority 1A group before moving onto providing vaccine to those over age 65 and those working in education or childcare sector.

• Priority Group 1A includes: hospital staff, skilled nursing facilities (staff and residents), certified EMS/EMT workers, COVID testers, COVID vaccinators, assisted living facilities (staff and residents), urgent care settings/clinics, dialysis centers, dental offices, home health care (staff), group homes (staff & residents), pharmacists, correctional health care providers, school nurses, funeral home staff, specialty health care providers including optometry, audiology and chiropractic care and staff with direct client care (with no ability to work remotely) working in public health, mental and behavioral health settings.

• As of 1/31/21 we anticipate we will have approximately 200 individuals left to vaccinate in Priority Group 1A.

• Vaccine is only available by appointment.

What do we know about vaccine distribution?

• All vaccines are made available to the states through the federal government.

• Each week we learn what allocations we will be receiving for the following week from the Minnesota Department of Health.

• Human Services received notification on 1/22/21 that they would be receiving 100 1st doses of Moderna vaccine on 1/27/21. Outreach is currently happening to individuals in group 1A.

• Mayo Health System Fairmont and United Hospital District have exhausted their allocation of 1st dose vaccine and have not received information about the next shipments.

• The threshold was set last week by Minnesota Department of Health to administer 90% of the doses within 72

hours of receiving the shipment and the remaining 10% within 7 days. All three agencies are on track to meet this metric moving forward.

• The state of Minnesota is offering a statewide vaccination pilot program. This program provides vaccine to those age 65+ at one of nine established pilot sites around Minnesota. Individuals can learn more or register for this pilot program by going to: <https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/find-vaccine/index.jsp>

• The state of Minnesota is also offering vaccine to the education and childcare sectors by providing an allocation to each school district. Schools will prioritize their allocations and those staff and childcare workers will be invited to make an appointment at the pilot sites.

What should I do if I want a vaccine?

• Be patient. Eventually all people who want a vaccine will be able to access it. We encourage people to remain patient as more vaccine arrives in the weeks and months ahead. Currently, we are asking that patients do not call their local healthcare provider or community health & human services requesting vaccine.

• Health officials in Faribault & Martin Counties will communicate with you when it's time to schedule your vaccine. Information will be provided in a variety of ways, including (but not limited to) - newspaper, radio, social media, websites and by sharing information through community partners.

• Planning is underway - if you would like to be contacted by e-mail, phone or mail when it is your turn to receive the vaccine, you can provide your contact information in this survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Vax-surveyFM>. If you do not have access to the internet or need help completing the form, you can call 507-238-4757 and someone will take down your information.

What should I do if I want to volunteer to support vaccination efforts?

• Community Health & Hu-

man Services will be utilizing the Minnesota Responds lists to active volunteers needed for vaccinator or support roles. If you would be interested in volunteering your time and skills to support MN's COVID-19 vaccination efforts, please register at Minnesota Responds: <https://www.mnresponds.org/>.

About COVID-19 Vaccines approved under the Emergency Use Authorization:

• Vaccines help your body build up the ability to fight off a virus. A vaccine may not prevent you from getting COVID-19 virus but may keep you from becoming seriously ill or developing complications due to illness.

• If you have a history of severe allergic reactions not related to vaccines or injectable medications, you may still get a COVID-19 vaccine. You should be monitored for 30 minutes after getting the vaccine.

• Should I get the COVID-19 vaccine even if I've already had COVID-19? Getting COVID-19 might offer some natural protection or immunity from reinfection with the virus that causes COVID-19. However, it is not clear how long this protection lasts. Because reinfection is possible and COVID-19 can cause severe medical complications, it's recommended that people who have already had COVID-19 get a COVID-19 vaccine.

• Can I stop taking safety precautions after getting a COVID vaccine? Experts are still learning more about the protection that a COVID-19 vaccine provides and how long immunity lasts. Current guidelines are still necessary and may be adjusted when more is known. Factors such as how many people get vaccinated, and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect these recommendations.

• Continue to practice social distancing, wear a mask properly outside your home, wash your hands frequently, stay home if you are sick, and follow recommendations provided by the state.

Bloodmobile to visit Martin County

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Martin County on the following dates in February:

Fairmont

Tuesday, February 16: 12:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Holiday Inn, 1201 Torgerson Drive

Wednesday, February 17: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Holiday Inn, 1201 Torgerson Drive

Thursday, February 18: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Holiday Inn, 1201 Torgerson

Drive

Trimont

2/22/2021: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., Evangelical Covenant Church, 61 Main St. E

Blood donation appointments can be made by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. As a thank-you

for helping ensure a stable blood supply, those who come to give this February will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Amazon. (Restrictions apply. Additional information and details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Together.)

Important COVID-19 information for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for

COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether an individual developed COVID-19 symptoms. Red Cross antibody tests will be helpful to identify individuals who have COVID-19 antibodies and may now help current coronavirus patients in need of convalescent plasma transfusions.

Convalescent plasma is a type of blood donation collected from COVID-19 survivors that have antibodies that may help patients who are actively fighting the virus. Plasma from whole blood donations that test positive for COVID-19 antibodies may be used to help COVID-19 patients.

COVID-19 antibody test results will be available within one to two weeks in the Red Cross

Blood Donor App or donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity. The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test. To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

Obituary Notices



Daryl D. Bebernes, 98

Funeral Services for Daryl D. Bebernes, age 98, of Fairmont, MN, will be 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 11, 2021, at the

Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont with a flag presentation and taps held following the service. Burial will be held in Lakeside Cemetery in Fairmont.

Daryl passed away Friday morning, February 5, 2021 at his son's home in Fairmont. The family asks that people are mindful of social distancing guidelines, wearing masks and best practices in helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The number of people in attendance will be monitored. Those wishing to view the service are asked to use the link provided: <https://client.tribucast.com/ctid/8338102>

The family requests

memorials be directed towards Martin County West Dollars for Scholars. The Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Daryl Dennis Bebernes was born April 25, 1922 in Howard County, NE to Fritz (Fred) and Margaret (Boilsen) Bebernes. He moved with his family to Dunnell, MN in 1939, and subsequently graduated from Jackson High School in 1942.

He entered the US Navy (WWII) September 7, 1942, where he was stationed on the East Coast. It was here that he met Lorma Parsons, and they were married on October 24, 1945. After he was discharged on March 8, 1946, with a rating of Aviation Chief Machinists

Mate, Daryl and Lorma moved to Dunnell, MN and farmed in that area until purchasing a farm near Fairmont, MN in 1955, where they raised their three children.

Daryl and Lorma retired from active farming and moved into Fairmont in 1982; later in 2012, they moved into Goldfinch Estates in Fairmont. He continued assisting his son Dan on the family farm, particularly during planting and harvesting, until he was no longer able to climb into the tractor at age 92. He kept busy with woodworking, and enjoyed making projects for friends, as well as teaching his grandchildren how to plan and create wood projects.

Daryl and Lorma enjoyed square dancing and were founding mem-

bers of the Lake Promenaders Club in Sherburn, MN. He was a round dance cuer and teacher for many years, with 35 years as a Round Dance Leader. Both he and Lorma served on committees at the state and local levels, as well as dancing in other states and other countries in the course of their travels. They eventually visited all 50 states and 20 other countries and were particularly proud of their work in Arizona with a UMC group working with the homeless and working on restoration projects in flood areas.

He was a 4-H leader; served on the Midland Co-op Board; active member of the Fairmont United Methodist Church; member of the Early Risers Kiwanis Club; and served on vari-

ous other boards and youth programs.

Daryl is survived by his daughter, Linda Bebernes (Kate) of Portland, OR; son, Tom Bebernes (Cindy) of Ottumwa, IA; son, Dan Bebernes (Fran) of Fairmont, MN; grandchildren: Ann Marte (Ivan), Janet Sahlstrom (Dan), Cheryl Bebernes, Nancy Bebernes, and Adam Bebernes (Sara); great-grandchildren: Sarah, Ryan, Kendra, and Lisa Sahlstrom and Harley Bebernes; brother, Gene Bebernes of TN; and nephews: Jack Bebernes (Sue), Jeff Bebernes (Sheryl), and Steve Bebernes.

Daryl was preceded in death by his parents, Fritz (Fred) Bebernes and Margaret (Boilson) Bebernes; wife, Lorma Bebernes; and sister-in-law, Coyla Bebernes.

DEATH notices

- February 2 - Leland "Butch" Pierson, 77, Trimont. Kramer Family Funeral Home
- January 5 - Daryl D. Bebernes, 98, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
- February 7 - Gary L. Smith, 77, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
- February 7 - Helen B. Roebbeke, 90, Sherburn. Kramer Family Funeral Service

IN MEMORIAM - ONE YEAR AGO

- January 30 - Susan K. Gersch, 62, Fairmont
- February 3 - Golda G. Schwab, 93, Fairmont
- February 4 - Daniel A. Sandven, 85, Hill City, SD (formerly of Fairmont)
- February 5 - Dennis H. Ziemann, 88, Fairmont
- February 5 - Gertrude M. Kassube, 93, rural Vernon Center.
- February 5 - Lisa B. Uhlig, 52, Minneapolis
- February 7 - Thomas B. Treider, 73, Fairmont

COLLEGE NEWS

Minnesota State College Southeast in Red Wing and Winona, Minnesota, is proud to announce the President's List for Fall Semester 2020. 295 students were named to the Fall 2020 President's List, including Reyce Freeman of Fairmont.

The following local residents were among 420 students receiving degrees from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls following commencement in December. Bachelor's degrees were awarded to 386 undergraduates, while 34 students received master's degrees.

From Fairmont: Cassidy Krusemark, Bachelor of Science, Health & Human Performance

Sarah Tschumperlin, Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, Senior Merit

Emma Hobson has been named to the Fall Semester 2020 Dean's List at UMN Crookston. Students named to the fall semester 2020 Dean's List were announced recently by the Office of the Registrar. The U of M Crookston is one of the most respected career-oriented, technology-based universities in the nation. To qualify for a place on the Dean's List, students must complete 12 or more letter-graded (A-F) credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average. The Crookston campus is the online leader in the University of Minnesota system and the only campus providing every full-time student with a laptop computer.

Students named to the Dean's List include Emma Hobson from Fairmont, MN, majoring in English B.S.

Fairmont's January Students Of The Month

Early Risers Kiwanis, Hy-Vee and Fairmont Jr. Sr. High School recognize the following Fairmont Jr. Sr. High School students as January Students of the Month.

Student and families recently participated in a Zoom recognition and will receive a certificate and gift card.

The 7th through 12th grade students includes

Sawyer Laven, Lakyn Pitcher, Nelson Remington, Cadence Montgomery, Blaze Geiger, Grace Pendergast, Gavin Junkermeier, Lillian Laven, Noah Tenney,

Cadence Becker, Lathon Rogge and Lauren Green. Congratulations on making the school a better place.



Sawyer Laven 7th



Lakyn Pitcher 7th



Nelson Remington 8th



Cadence Montgomery 8th



Blaze Geiger 9th



Grace Pendergast 9th



Gavin Junkermeier 10th



Lillian Laven 10th



Noah Tenney 11th



Cadlee Becker 11th



Lathon Rogge 12th



Lauren Green 12th

Register now for Small Grain Workshops

The University of Minnesota Extension is holding a series of virtual small grain workshops in February to address successful small grain management. "Whether you're a farmer or crop consultant already producing small grains, or looking for another crop to add to the rotation, these workshops are for you," says Jared Goplen, Extension Educator in Crops. "Workshops will be informal conversations around production agronomics, variety selection, and economics."

These workshops will be held over Zoom, so you can join these workshops from any-

where convenient for you, via computer, tablet, phone, or other mobile device. These workshops will be held in lieu of the in-person southern Minnesota small grain workshops in 2021. Workshops will focus on small grain production in southern Minnesota, but are open and applicable to all small grain producers. Workshops are sponsored by the Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council.

Registration is free, and will be required to access the virtual zoom link. Please register by visiting <https://z.umn.edu/southern-small-grain> or contact Jared Goplen at 320-589-1711

x2128 or gople007@umn.edu for more information.

Dates, Locations, and Times are as follows:

Monday, February 15 - 1:00 - 3:00 Southeastern Minnesota Focus

Wednesday, February 17 - 4:00 - 6:00 Southwestern Minnesota Focus

Friday, February 19 - 9:00 - 11:00 Central Minnesota Focus

Panelists will include Jochum Wiersma, University of Minnesota Extension Small Grain Specialist, Jared Goplen, University of Minnesota Extension Crops Educator, and Daniel Kaiser, University of Minnesota Extension Soil Fertility Specialist.

Regional Worship Center news

Regional Worship Center in Sherburn is cancelling Monday Morning breakfasts for all of February. Thank you to everyone who has come for our breakfasts. We hope to be up and running again soon.

Regional Worship Center in Sherburn is having Wednesday Night Family Night starting on February 3rd. This will be every Wednesday night. There will be a supper served at 6:00 p.m. Then at 7:00 p.m. there will be a service/bible study. After the worship time the kids will be dismissed to Kings Kids for a time of learning and fun. Kings Kids is for kids Kindergarten through 6th grade. The meal will be free will offering. Everyone is invited.

WHAT'S COOKING with Kathy Lloyd

Stay Warm!

It certainly feels like a Minnesota winter this week! These cold temperatures call for cozy warm up crock pot meals, like I am sharing with you today!

Reading has always been a passion of mine especially during this year of isolation. I have so appreciated our local library. Routinely I call in a list of books that the staff gather for me to pick up. Last fall as I was unloading my books I brought home I found a small crock pot cook book compiled by the staff of our Martin County Library tucked in at the bottom of the plastic bag under my books! I have tried many of them and they all are make again recipes! Today I am sharing one of the most versatile ones that was submitted by Deb!

Fiesta Chicken

- 4 chicken breasts, frozen or raw
- 1 pkg. dry Fiesta Ranch dip
- 1 can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can Rotel tomatoes
- 1 can corn, undrained
- 8 oz. cream cheese

Place all ingredients (chicken on bottom) in slow cooker. Cook 4 hours on high or 6 hours on low. Shred chicken with forks and mix back in.

Use for tacos, enchiladas or serve over rice.

Have a Happy Valentine's day, stay warm and safe!

Free family magazine coming to Martin County mailboxes

A free magazine will soon be in many family mailboxes in late March as the result of a new project by MCSAP (Martin County Substance Abuse Prevention) Coalition. "The pandemic has really increased feelings of stress and isolation, and we wanted a way to encourage people with information on making healthy choices while showcasing some of the amazing things our young people are doing in their schools and communities," said Steph Johnson, MCSAP project coordinator. "The best way to do that," she said, "is to reach out to people where they are—at home."

The inaugural issue of Youth Connections magazine will be mailed out to every home in the county that has a school-aged child registered with the public or parochial schools. The cover for the March issue features Car-

los Gonzalez and Francisco Sifuentes, a mentor and mentee with Kinship of Martin County. "We have a lot of adults in our community who care so much about our kids," Johnson said. "Mentors, coaches, teachers, youth pastors, neighbors—it's fun to highlight some of those people investing in our youth and perhaps give others an idea of how to get involved."

The first issue will have articles written by experts on cultivating trusting relationships, how to be an askable adult, tips for staying mentally well, and what parents should know about vaping.

The magazine also includes several sections that highlight local students making important contributions to our area. "I think the magazine has some great information in it," Johnson said, "but I'm really excited about being able to brag on the kids in

our area. I think a lot of adults would be surprised to see the many ways our students are involved in making our world a better place."

Advertisers have also been very supportive. "Once we began making calls to potential advertisers, we had our advertising space filled in about three or four days," Johnson said. "The Fairmont Police Officers Association, which supports a lot of youth-oriented activities in town, didn't want an ad, so they just made a straight donation. Fairmont Foods paid for a whole page ad and then donated half of the space to non-profits, and Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont also provided a grant of \$1,450 to help get our project off the ground, and for that, we are very thankful!" Said Johnson.

"This project has really been an encouragement to me. So many people

have reached out to me to tell me how excited they are about this magazine, and the fact that it is actually printed and mailed to homes." Johnson said. "MCSAP is about youth substance abuse prevention. Perhaps the number one way to prevent youth from using or misusing substances is by having adults surrounding them who care about them and are talking to them about what they expect. And our community does have so many people who want to see our kids do well and help them make healthy choices. I hope this magazine conveys that message to our students, and their families."

If you would like to start your free subscription to Youth Connections, you can sign up at www.mcsapcoalition.com and provide your name and mailing address, and how many copies you would like.

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25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

February 7, 1996

Mary Jane "Dottie" Brammer of Fairmont was part of the inspiration for the 75th anniversary portrait of General Mills' Betty Crocker. She was selected as one of 75 women in America who most embody the principles and characteristics of Betty Crocker - one of the most trusted and familiar trademark names in the food world. Brammer, along with the 74 other winners, would serve as an inspiration for artist John Stuart Ingles' portrait which

will be incorporated into a single computer-generated composite image. Dottie observed "I know you don't want a fat Betty Crocker, and certainly no one wants my body, but maybe the new Betty Crocker composite could use my eyebrows!"

Curt Nelson, president of Martin County National Bank announced the promotion of Neil Lee as assistant vice president; Vicky Sagehorn as executive administrative officer and Vicki Terhark as customer service representative, in addition to serving as customer service supervisor and coordinator for the bank's Top of the

Hill Club.

Marland Meyer retired from Fairmont Tamper with 25 years of service to the firm.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

February 7, 1971

Edwin G. Meyer, owner and operator of Meyer Machine Works, died suddenly of a heart attack in Fargo, ND, while he and his wife were visiting a daughter.

The city had been waiting for the past ten years for approval by the state legislature of a construction fund to build a state junior college. The State Junior College Board had requested \$2,340,000 for the Fairmont buildings. A hundred acres had already been purchased by the city on the west side of Lake Sisseton.

The Fairmont School Board was pondering purchase of the Lakeside Clinic building south of the courthouse for administrative office space. Offices were housed at the old Lincoln Building on North Avenue.

A double page ad Valentine's Day ad was ideal for the Photo Press spot color printing, which was quite new to the printers at that time.



Naturally By Al Batt

It was one above zero. Crows gathered in the woods near my window. It was a murder in the first degree.

A friendly chickadee landed on a feeder while I was filling it. It snacked on nyjer seeds. I don't see chickadees as regular consumers of those thistle seeds. Robert Louis Stevenson wrote, "A birdie with a yellow bill Hopped upon my window sill, Cocked his shining eye and said: 'Ain't you 'shamed, you sleepy-head!'" A European starling's bill turns yellow as the breeding season approaches.

I'm seeing flocks of horned larks. Some spend the winter in southern Minnesota. The horned larks that migrated south begin returning north into Minnesota in early February.

A cardinal and a house sparrow are each missing a tail in my yard. Not the same tail. If a feather is broken, it re-

mains broken until the next molt. If a feather is pulled out, regrowth begins immediately. I doubt it's a fraternity initiation. Birds could lose their tail feathers in a fright molt while trying to avoid being captured. Those feathers come out easily, leaving the would-be predator with a mouthful of feathers. Tails are important, but not critical to survival.

I've heard from a good number of people who have seen Carolina wrens this winter. Matt Young, the collections management leader at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Macaulay Library, said the red crossbill is the most recorded bird in that library with the Carolina wren next.

Q&A

"How do you pronounce 'leucism'?" I hear it sometimes pronounced "loo-si-zim," but I say "loo-kiz-em." Leukemia is pronounced "loo-kee-mee-ah," not "loo-see-mee-ah." Both words come from the Greek word leukos (lyookos) meaning white.

"How can an owl catch a crow?" Great horned owls snatch them from the crows' nightly roosting sites.

Joyce Tabor of Askov wrote, "When I sit in the living room at night, I hear owls hooting. Are they calling so they can mate or is it too early?" Great horned owls can be noisy during territorial formation and pair bonding in December

and January. They lay eggs in late January into March, varying with location. When a pair of owls call a duet, the female usually hoots first and hers is higher-pitched. The male replies in a deeper voice. Females are larger than males, but the smaller male has a bigger syrinx.

"What do opossums eat?" If opossums went to school, they'd flunk spelling, but they'd eat their homework because opossums eat almost anything, including birdseed, worms, compost, snakes, acorns, insects, slugs, eggs, young birds, berries, decayed or over-ripe fruit, grain, ticks, garbage and carrion. Winter is tough on them. The opossum's naked ears, nose, and tail are susceptible to frostbite.

"Does a camel's hump hold water?" No, it stores fat. The camel uses it as nourishment when food is scarce.

"Do juncos eat suet?" They do, especially any bits that fall to the ground. It makes sense as juncos feed on spruce budworms and consume insects during their breeding season.

"Does the osprey eat anything other than fish?" The osprey is the only hawk on the continent that eats almost exclusively live fish, which account for 99% of an osprey's diet. On rare occasions, ospreys have been observed feed

Continued on page 9

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Financial Focus



Provided by:

Drew Schellpeper, Wyman Fischer, Dan Hamlet, Mandi Kosbab
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Financial Gifts for Your Valentine

For many of us, the COVID-19 pandemic may be putting a hold on dinner at the charming local bistro, but the spirit of Valentine's Day cannot be extinguished. This year, perhaps more so than in the past, you may want to make your Valentine's Day gifts even more meaningful. So, for example, what can you give your loved ones to help them along on the road to financial security?

Here are a few possibilities:

- Contribute (indirectly) to an IRA. Virtually anyone with earned income can contribute to an IRA, which offers tax benefits and an almost unlimited array of investment options. Yet, most people never contribute the maximum amount allowable each year, which, in 2021, is \$6,000, or \$7,000 for those 50 and older. You can't contribute to another person's IRA, but you can give that person the money for that purpose. However, an individual can't contribute more to an IRA than

he or she earned during that year. So, if you were to give someone \$1,000 to be placed in an IRA, that individual must have at least \$1,000 in earnings. Be aware, though, that the recipient can use the money for any purpose.

- Give shares of stock. You probably are already familiar with the products your loved ones use - so why not give them shares of stock in the companies that make those goods or services? Most people enjoy being "owners" of busi-

nesses whose products they use. Furthermore, owning stocks for the long term can be a valuable component of anyone's financial strategy. If you are unsure of how to give stocks, you may want to consult with a financial professional.

- Stay protected. If your valentine also happens to be your spouse, you can give a gift of tremendous value by simply working to protect what you have. For example, if something happened to you, would your spouse be able to maintain the household, educate children, pay the mortgage and so on? A financial professional can help you find the protection you need, as well as suggest ways to defend yourself against the devastating costs of long-term care. A private room in a nursing home can cost \$100,000 or more each year,

according to the insurance company Genworth, and Medicare typically pays few of these expenses, so you'll want to be prepared.

- Create (or revise) your estate plans. It doesn't sound very romantic but making sure your estate plans are in order is one of the best gifts you can give to all your loved ones. If you haven't created your plan yet, contact an attorney who specializes in estate planning. You may also want to involve your tax and financial advisors. And if it's been a while since you looked at your existing plan, take the time to review it - this is especially important if you've had changes in your family situation.

On Valentine's Day, the chocolate hearts and flowers are certainly always appreciated. But financial gifts can help you make a

truly lasting impact on your loved ones' lives.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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Continued from page 8

ing on dead fish, birds, snakes, voles, squirrels, muskrats and salamanders. The osprey is one of the few birds found on every continent except Antarctica. The peregrine falcon is another.

"Do vultures circle dy-

ing animals?" They don't stalk dying creatures as a wounded animal could harm them. Circling vultures don't necessarily indicate the presence of a dead animal. Circling vultures may be gaining altitude for long flights, searching for food or exhibiting playfulness. Vul-

tures soar on thermals of warm, rising air that allow them to conserve energy in flight. They rely on thermals of warm air to remain aloft while scanning the ground for food.

"Will screech owls eat fish?" Eastern screech owls eat many kinds of small animals, including mammals (especially mice and voles), birds, insects, reptiles and amphibians. Their diets include bats, tadpoles, moths, crickets, worms and fish. A bald eagle and an osprey aren't the only birds that watch fish like a hawk. If they can catch it, screech owls eat it.

"Why are moths attracted to lights?" Like a moth to a flame, moths and other insects gather around lights. Scientists don't know why this fatal attraction occurs but speculate moths might

think the light is the moon that aids their navigation. Or they might mistake it for daylight and become confused.

Thanks for stopping by "When February sun shines cold, there comes a day when in the air the wings of winter slow unfold, and show the golden summer there." — Philip Savage

"The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." — Proverbs 12:18

Do good.

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This cardinal had lost his tail and didn't know where to find it. The good news is that it's growing back. Photo by Al Batt

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Hours: Monday-Friday 9-5 | Thursday 9-6 | Saturday 9-3



SHOT BLOCK - Cards Isabella Larson's shot just misses as Marshall goalie Emma Klenken sweeps it wide. Marshall's Regan Loft trails the play. The Tigers edged the Cards 1-0 on a penalty shot goal last Friday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



EAGLE STOPPER - Shaye Dietz deflects the puck on a shot by New Ulm's Maddi O'Connor in front of Cardinal goalie Hadley Artz. Artz had 43 saves in the Eagle's 5-0 win last Tuesday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

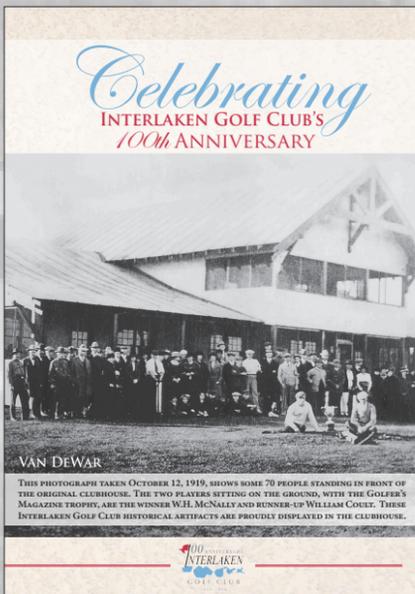


DEFENSIVE SWEEP - Alexander Moeller clears the puck from the offensive zone in front of goalie Rachel O'Conner. Card teammate Hudson Artz and Marshall's Braxton Meyer look on. The Tiger's up-ended the Cards 8-4 last Friday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

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CHIN UP - Red Bulls Aden Welcome works for position on the Tiger's Brighton Logan. Welcome's pin of Logan was one of six in the Red Bulls 51-21 win over Morris Area in a triangular meet last Saturday. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



CRADLE PIN - Martin County Red Bulls Class AA 126 lb #1-ranked Jaxson Rohman pins the Kommets Joseph Kennedy. The Class AA #3-ranked Red Bulls were defeated 36-33 by #2-ranked Kasson Mantorville. Rohman also defeated Class AA #3-ranked Ethan Lebrija of Morris Area in a triangular meet last Saturday. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

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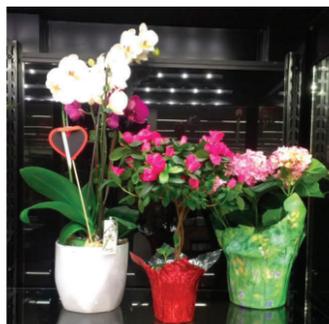
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UP AND OVER - Cards Zach Jorgensen flies over the top of Tristan Simon as Panther teammate Jacob Schuller looks on. The Cards (3-3) defeated New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva 62-41 last Tuesday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

Squirts hockey

The Fairmont Squirts White Hockey team defeated the Luverne White team 8-2 in a regular season game played Sunday,

February 7 in Fairmont. In a second game, Luverne Red defeated the Fairmont White team 17-1. Fairmont White lost to Worthington 9-2, also on Saturday.



2020 Season Registration Is Now Available Online At www.fairmontbaseball.com

Register for our **Summer I-90 League**
Minor - grades 4&5 Junior - grades 6&7
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Registrations must be submitted by Friday, March 13.

Registrations received after this date will be assessed a late entry fee.
We look forward to another great summer of baseball

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WARRANTY DEEDS

Connie L. Hinz, Rodney Hinz to MNCO LLC, Lot 8, Block 2, Milbrandts Addn.

Kyle T. Brown to Michael Cegelske, Pt. SE¼, 30-103-29

James A. Thate, Melodie K. Tate, Melody K. Tate to Jamie Campbell, Zach Campbell, Zachary Campbell, Lot 18, Block 1, Arthur Stades West Amber Lake

Jamie N. Campbell, Zachary M. Campbell to Annelene Ravnholt Vester Post, Dylan G. Post, Annelene Ravnholt Vester Post, Lot 1, Block 2, First Ext. Cedar Creek Addn.

Annelene RV Pedersen, Annelene RV Post, Dylan G. Post to Jesse Kolander, Lot 6, Block 2, Gemmills Subd., Sherburn

Anton Petersen, Emily

Petersen, Jason Petersen, Melissa Petersen to Keith Petersen, Mary Petersen, W½ Lots 7, 8, 9, Block 6, Original Plat of Dunnell

Joan M. Engquist, Lee Eric Engquist, Atty.-in-fact to Colby Durand Zavaglia, Megan Marie Zavaglia, Lot 4, Block 2, Maple Grove Ext. Wards Central

Megan M. Hurcek, Colby Zavaglia, Megan M. Zavaglia to Victor Nino, Pt. Lots 4 and 5, E.50' S.26' Lot 3, Block 9, Goulds Addn.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

Alecia R. Driscoll, Daniel D. Driscoll to Alecia R. Driscoll, Daniel D. Driscoll, Lot 4, Block 1, McLellan Subd.

Jeremy Evans to Carl Hill, Lot 2, Block 2, Gilberts Addn.

Silver Lake Farms, Inc.

to Vickie Nasby, Wayne A. Nasby, Pt. Govt. Lot 1, NW¼ 27-102-31

Alan Gerhardt, Audrey Gerhardt to AG Farms LLC, Pt. NW¼NE¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 3, NE¼, 7-101-30, NE¼ W/Ex. & W/Esmt., NE¼, 7-101-30, E½NE¼ Ex. Hwy, 7-101-30, N½N½SE¼ W/Esmt., W/Ex., SE¼, 24-102-32

Janice M. Mosloski, Ronald L. Mosloski to Janice M. Mosloski, Ronald L. Mosloski, Pt. SW¼SE¼, Pt. SE¼SE¼, 26-101-30

TRUSTEE DEEDS

Ardell E. Ehlers, David and Ardell Ehlers Trust to Phillip E. Puckett, Sarah J. Westbrook, E.50' Lots 2 and 3, Block 2, Highland Addn.

Bradley A. Clow, Michael Clow, Allene M. Clow Irrevocable Trust to Gale J. Carlson, Kenny W. Carlson, N.11' Lot 8, S.52' Lot 7, Block 2, Hechts Addn., Truman

Tom Salsbery, Mary Ann Waldron Trust Agreement to Dutch Ridge LLC, S½SW¼, 23-102-33

Tom Salsbery, Mary Ann Waldron Trust Agreement to Brian Heemstra, Michelle Heemstra, W½NW¼, NW¼SW¼, 23-102-33

Tom Salsbery, Mary Ann Waldron Trust Agreement to Heemstra Revocable Trust, NE¼SW¼, Pt. E½NW¼, 23-102-33



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American Heart Association



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CITY OF FAIRMONT

Fairlakes Avenue Street & Utility Improvements
City of Fairmont
Fairmont, MN

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS: Proposals for the work described below will be received online through QuestCDN.com until 2:00 p.m. on February 18, 2021, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read via conference call only. Use the number and conference ID below to join the meeting:

Conference Call Number: 1 (612) 428-8778

Conference ID: 876 309 376#

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work includes the construction of approximately:

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|------------------------------|-------|--------|
| Remove Pavement | 1,910 | SQ YD | 12"-54" RCP Storm Sewer | 1,982 | LIN FT |
| Common Excavation (EV) (P) | 3,900 | CU YD | 8" - 21" PVC Pipe Sewer | 1,684 | LIN FT |
| Select Granular Borrow | 2,730 | TON | 4"-12" Watermain | 1,669 | LIN FT |
| Aggregate Base Class 5 | 2,125 | TON | Construct Drainage Structure | 152 | LIN FT |
| Bituminous Pavement | 1,140 | TON | Construct Sanitary Manhole | 69 | LIN FT |
| 8" Concrete Pavement | 1,200 | SQ YD | Concrete Curb & Gutter | 1,824 | LIN FT |
| 4" Perf PE Pipe Drain | 1,550 | LIN FT | Turf Restoration | 7,830 | SQ YD |

together with numerous related items of work, all in accordance with Plans and Specifications. This project is subject to Responsible Contractor Certification.

COMPLETION OF WORK: All work under the Contract must be complete by September 17, 2021.

PLAN HOLDERS LIST, ADDENDUMS AND BID TABULATION: The plan holders list, addendums and bid tabulations will be available for download on-line at www.bolton-menk.com or www.questcdn.com.

TO OBTAIN BID DOCUMENTS: Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.bolton-menk.com or www.questcdn.com. You may view the digital plan documents for free by entering Quest project #7520677 on the website's Project Search page. Documents may be downloaded for \$45.00. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, viewing, downloading, and working with this digital project information.

BID SUBMITTAL: A bid shall be submitted online no later than the date and time prescribed. For this project the City will only be accepting online electronic bids through QuestCDN. To access the electronic bid form, download the project document and click online bidding button at the top of the advertisement. Prospective bidders must be on the plan holders list through QuestCDN for bids to be accepted.

BID SECURITY: A Proposal Bond in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total amount bid, drawn in favor of City of Fairmont shall accompany each bid.

OWNER'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the Owner would be best served thereby.

Dated: January 21, 2021 /s/ Cathy Reynolds
City Administrator

Published:

Fairmont Photo Press: January 27, 2021; February 3, 2021; and February 10, 2021

Administrator seeks guidance on harassing communications

By Judy Bryan, Freelance Journalist

City Administrator Cathy Reynolds asked the Fairmont City Council on Monday for guidance in communicating with community members, naming one in particular.

Reynolds told the council that when she was hired in May of 2020 "a few particular council members" instructed her to maintain communication with Todd Smith, and she had complied. However, messages from Smith have become high in frequency, contain statements not questions, and have a harassing derogatory tone.

During a conversation between Reynolds and Smith on Jan. 8, he "declared that he controls council, and that council does what he says," Reynolds stated in the council's meeting packet information. In one text message to Reynolds on Jan. 29, Smith stated, "Now u (sic) are very close to being gone."

Reynolds emphasized to the council that she welcomes and encourages communication with residents, but when these messages get to the point of harassment, she wanted the council to accept that she would not respond.

Council members weighed in with their thoughts.

Britney Kawecky said she found it "very concerning" with Reynolds' handling of the situation, fearing it could lead to a lawsuit, and saw it as an attempt to silence

citizens. She said Reynolds should have first discussed the situation with Smith before bringing it up at a public meeting.

Reynolds said she had met with Smith on occasion and had conversations about the issue and the tone of his messages. She also noted that the communications were on her city-issued cell phone and city email, making them public information.

Bruce Peters disagreed with Kawecky, saying it was not an attempt to stop his freedom of speech, just that Reynolds would quit responding to his messages.

Wayne Hasek equated Smith's behavior to bullying.

Randy Lubenow said he shared Kawecky's concerns and wondered why the communications with Smith were suddenly a problem, but he added that Reynolds should not be required to respond to all the texts and that Smith could contact council members if he had a legitimate question.

Hasek also said Smith should not be allowed to contact the city attorney.

Mark Rahrck, Fairmont city attorney, agreed. Whenever he is contacted by Smith or any other citizen, he does not respond but forwards the communication to Reynolds.

Reynolds told the council that she had received the guidance she requested and could now "move on."

In other business, the council postponed a public

hearing on the city's five-year capital improvement plan, action required before bonds could be issued for the proposed public works building. The hearing was rescheduled for a special meeting at 5 p.m. Feb. 24.

Troy Nemmers, city engineer/public works director, said the city received 130 "extremely competitive" bids for the 30 segments of the \$9.8 million project.

Kawecky had requested an addition to the council's agenda for more discussion on the public works building. While she does not dispute the need for a new building, she questioned the cost and location, directly east of the existing Margaret Street facility. She lobbied for building it next to the electric department building on Marcus Street.

Michele Miller expressed her concern about the almost \$10 million price tag, but also added that a new building is needed.

Lubenow said a \$5 million building would be more reasonable and that the council needed to listen to the taxpayers.

Mayor Debbie Foster said the public works building proposal is an example of the city's long term planning efforts, not a decision that was made quickly. The initial feasibility study for the structure was done in 2014, and the city has been researching, planning and setting aside money for six years.

Continued on page 13



2021 Seal Coat Projects
2021-C
City of Fairmont
Fairmont, MN

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS: Sealed proposals for the work described below will be received at the Office of the City Administrator, City of Fairmont, 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 until 11:00 a.m. on March 4th at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work includes the construction of approximately:

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Chip Seal Coat FA-2 | 74295 S.Y. |
| Fog Seal CRS-2Pd | 3400 GAL. |

together with numerous related items of work, all in accordance with Plans and Specifications. This project is subject to Responsible Contractor Certification.

COMPLETION OF WORK: All work under the Contract must be complete by September 18, 2021.

PLAN HOLDERS LIST, ADDENDUMS AND BID TABULATION: The plan holders list, addendums and bid tabulations will be available for download on-line at www.fairmont.org or www.questcdn.com. Any addendums may also be distributed by mail, fax, or email.

TO OBTAIN BID DOCUMENTS: Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.fairmont.org or www.questcdn.com. You may view the digital plan documents for free by entering Quest project #7543067 on the website's Project Search page. Documents may be downloaded for \$25.00. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, viewing, downloading, and working with this digital project information. An optional paper set of project documents is also available for a nonrefundable price of \$50.00 per set, which includes applicable sales tax and shipping. Please make your check payable to City of Fairmont and send it to 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 (507) 238-9461.

BID SECURITY: A certified check or proposal bond in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total amount bid, drawn in favor of City of Fairmont shall accompany each bid.

OWNER'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the Owner would be best served thereby.

DATED: 2/9/2021 /s/ Cathy Reynolds
City Administrator

Published:

Fairmont Photo Press: 2/10/2021, 2/17/2021, 2/24/2021

CITY OF FAIRMONT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT, MINNESOTA AND THE CITY'S INTENTION TO ISSUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Fairmont, Minnesota, (the "City") meet on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., at the Fairmont City Hall, located at 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, Minnesota, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the City's proposed Capital Improvement Plan prepared under Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.521 and the City's intention to issue bonds in one or more series, in an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000 (the "Bonds") to finance a public works facility as identified in the Capital Improvement Plan and pay the costs of issuing the Bonds. The payment of the Bonds and interest thereon shall constitute a general obligation of the City secured by the full faith and credit of the City. PLEASE NOTE, due to COVID-19, attendance of the public hearing will be limited in Council Chambers. Communication will be allowed via telephone or other electronic means as allowed under Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.021. Please refer to the City of Fairmont's website at <https://fairmont.org> or call City Hall at (507)238-9461 to learn how to attend the public hearing via telephone or electronically. All interested persons may appear and be heard at the time and place set forth above. Individuals unable to attend the public hearing can make written comment by writing to Cathy Reynolds, Fairmont City Administrator, 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 or via email at creynolds@fairmont.org. Written comments must be received prior to the public hearing. If a petition requesting a vote on the issuance of the Bonds is signed by voters equal to five (5) percent of the votes cast in the City in the last municipal general election and is filed with the City Clerk within thirty (30) days after the public hearing, the Bonds may only be issued upon obtaining the approval of the majority of the voters voting for the question of issuing the Bonds.

BY ORDER OF THE FAIRMONT CITY COUNCIL

/s/ Cathy Reynolds
City Administrator

Published in the Fairmont Photo Press on February 10, 2021.

Continued from page 12

Turning to another matter, the council unanimously approved advertising a request for proposal (RFP) for the potential sale of 414 Downtown Plaza, the senior citizens building. Linsey Preuss, economic development coordinator, said several parties have expressed an interest in buying the building.

The RFPs would allow the city to consider, not just the offered price, but the future use of the building.

Lubenow asked if it was normal to ask about the intended purpose of the building after the sale, and Preuss said it often is done to make sure the use is allowed in zoning and also that it will benefit the community.

In another item added to the agenda, Lubenow brought up that a day care was proposed for the west end of town, in the former MRCI building, but the city said it wasn't interested due to the site being a light industrial zone which does not allow child care businesses. He was upset that the project was not brought to the city's Planning Commission for further study and recommendations.

Reynolds said she had conversations with the person involved and looked through historical analysis of the city's zoning to figure

out a way for the project to go forward. She explained that the person would have to apply for rezoning, and then the matter would go to the Planning Commission for a public hearing before it would come to the council for a second public hearing, pending the commission's recommendation.

In other business, the council:

- Heard a report from Paul Hoyer, finance director, that the total revenues at the Fairmont Liquor Store were up 20 percent in 2020 while operating expenses were down by almost 4 percent. This allowed more than \$800,000 to be reinvested in city projects like the Ward Park boat landing and shelter house repair, the Margaret Street trail, airport projects, the accessible playground at Gomsrud Park and replacing the pool surface at the Fairmont Aquatic Park.

- Approved the purchase of a new vacuum sweeper for \$226,000 and a new lift station pump for \$55,000.

- Accepted the low bid of \$343,500 from Maguire Iron of Sioux Falls to paint the interior as well as exterior of the water tower by CHS. Nine competitive bids were received, and the cost savings allowed the exterior painting to be added to the project and still be under the engineer's estimate of

\$350,000.

Fairmont City Council meetings can be viewed on the city's website, www.fairmont.org under the "Citizens" tab or on Fairmont Cable Channel 13 at 2 and 10 a.m. and p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and at 7 a.m. and p.m. on Wednesdays.

"LAKE BELT CEMETERY ASSN ANNUAL MEETING AND BID REQUEST"

Tue Feb 16, 2021 at 7 p.m.
A virtual meeting on Computer via Zoom and parties can also phone in, both can connect with special instructions.

To get those instructions and agenda please phone Sec/Treas *Joyce Schultz* at:

507-230-0207.

We are also asking for bids and copy of commercial liability insurance for 2021 for the following jobs:

- 5, Mowing/Trimming
- Weed Spraying twice a year
- Removal of West Fence
- Except fence posts

Please give individual bids for each of the above.

For information as to where to mail the Bids phone the above number.

Bids must be received by: Mon Feb 15, 2021.

CITY OF FAIRMONT

Grant Street Watermain Replacement
2021-G Improvement Project
City of Fairmont
Fairmont, MN

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS: Sealed proposals for the work described below will be received at the Office of the City Administrator, City of Fairmont, 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 until 2:00 p.m. on February 17th at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work includes the construction of approximately:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| REMOVE CONCRETE/BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT | 140 SY | REMOVE CONCRETE WALK | 59 SY |
| BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT PATCHING | 50 SY | 4" CONCRETE WALK | 525 SF |
| 6.5" CONCRETE PAVEMENT PATCHING | 90 SY | 6" WATERMAIN, HDPE | 47 LF |
| 6" WATERMAIN, HPDE (PIPE BURST) | 345 LF | | |

together with numerous related items of work, all in accordance with Plans and Specifications. This project is subject to Responsible Contractor Certification.

COMPLETION OF WORK: All work under the Contract must be complete by October 1, 2021.

PLAN HOLDERS LIST, ADDENDUMS AND BID TABULATION: The plan holders list, addendums and bid tabulations will be available for download on-line at www.fairmont.org or www.questcdn.com. Any addendums may also be distributed by mail, fax, or email.

TO OBTAIN BID DOCUMENTS: Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.fairmont.org or www.questcdn.com. You may view the digital plan documents for free by entering Quest project #7525772 on the website's Project Search page. Documents may be downloaded for \$30.00. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, viewing, downloading, and working with this digital project information. An optional paper set of project documents is also available for a nonrefundable price of \$40.00 per set, which includes applicable sales tax and shipping. Please make your check payable to City of Fairmont and send it to 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 (507) 238-9461.

BID SECURITY: A certified check or proposal bond in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total amount bid, drawn in favor of City of Fairmont shall accompany each bid.

OWNER'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the Owner would be best served thereby.

DATED: 1/26/2021 /s/ Cathy Reynolds
City Administrator

Published:
Fairmont Photo Press: 1/27//2021, 2/3/2021, 2/10/2021

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Picture Perfect Moments



Celebrating our mom's 84th birthday (Jan Wohlford) at Lakeview Health Care Center



Finding the sun's warmth on a cold winter day - Diane Nelsen, Ringsted, IA.



Joshua Emery happy as can be



Ken Seibel, 104, getting his COVID-19 vaccine at Goldfinch Estates in Fairmont

E-mail your picture perfect moments to: Orders@fairmontphotopress.com by noon on Fridays to be highlighted in the following publication.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS February 15-19

Menus Subject to Change. We try our best to serve our menus as posted; however, sometimes last minute changes occur. Please check with the cafe manager prior to the meal if you have any concerns.

ST. JOHN VIANNEY

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 15 Presidents' Day | 16 American Classics • Chicken Nuggets • Baked Beans • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Extra Extra • Fresh Carrots • Chilled Pears | 17 American Classics • Crispy Fish Filet • Potatoes Au Gratin • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Extra Extra • Strawberries | 18 American Classics • Penne Pasta • Creamy Alfredo Sauce • Diced Chicken • Herb Breadstick Extra Extra • Seasoned Broccoli Florets • Applesauce | 19 American Classics • Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks • Marinara Sauce Extra Extra • Seasoned Corn • Fresh Orange Wedges |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|---|

SOUTHERN PLAINS

| | | | | |
|------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 15 No School | 16 American Classics • Chicken Nuggets • Baked Beans • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Extra Extra • Fresh Carrots • Chilled Pears | 17 American Classics • Crispy Fish Filet • Potatoes Au Gratin • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Extra Extra • Strawberries | 18 American Classics • Penne Pasta • Creamy Alfredo Sauce • Diced Chicken • Herb Breadstick Extra Extra • Seasoned Broccoli Florets • Applesauce | 19 American Classics • Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks • Marinara Sauce Extra Extra • Seasoned Corn • Fresh Orange Wedges |
|------------------------|--|---|---|---|

FAIRMONT JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| 15 American Classics • Roasted Turkey • Whole Grain Hamburger Bun • Tater Tots 2Mato • ARCHIVE Meat Lover's Pizza • Cheese Pizza Extra Extra • Fresh Broccoli Florets • Pineapple Tidbits | 16 American Classics • Chicken Nuggets • Baked Beans • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Grill • Classic American Cheeseburger Extra Extra • Fresh Carrots • Chilled Pears | 17 American Classics • Crispy Fish Filet • Potatoes Au Gratin • Whole Grain Dinner Roll 2Mato • Italian Sausage Pizza • Cheese Pizza Extra Extra • Sliced Cucumbers • Strawberries | 18 American Classics • Penne Pasta • Creamy Alfredo Sauce • Diced Chicken • Herb Breadstick 2Mato • Bacon Cheeseburger Pizza • Cheese Pizza Extra Extra • Seasoned Broccoli Florets • Applesauce | 19 American Classics • Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks • Marinara Sauce Grill • Spicy Chicken Sandwich • Crispy Chicken Patty Sandwich Extra Extra • Seasoned Corn • Fresh Orange Wedges |
|--|--|---|--|---|

FAIRMONT ELEMENTARY

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| 15 Main Entrees • Popcorn Chicken • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Sides for All Meals • Mashed Potatoes • ARCHIVE Turkey Gravy Extra Extra • Applesauce | 16 Main Entrees • Penne Pasta • Creamy Alfredo Sauce • Diced Chicken • Herb Breadstick Extra Extra • Seasoned Peas • Chilled Peaches | 17 Main Entrees • Macaroni and Cheese • Whole Grain Dinner Roll Sides for All Meals • Savory Green Beans Extra Extra • Baked Apple Slices | 18 Main Entrees • Boneless Chicken Wings • Whole Grain Dinner Roll • Baked Beans Extra Extra • Sliced Fresh Apples | 19 Main Entrees • Crispy Fish Filet • Homemade Tartar Sauce • Whole Grain Hamburger Bun Sides for All Meals • Seasoned Broccoli with Cheese Extra Extra • Fresh Orange Wedges |
|--|---|---|---|--|

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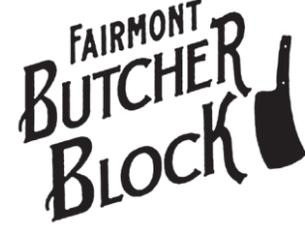
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A G O O L T H R J A M E S B U C H A N A N E A U W R X S H T Y X W L I M E P T O
M D S J R O B H A J G E R A L D F O R D T O J W I F S P U A X L H L K V O H K T
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P E Y R F V T Z F U P G Y F U O W Z Q G I F J C Z V V R J S Q E L Z L H L A Q X
N L S N K M C U R Z Y P R A B W W C B J Z U B E C A W O C A I Z O R J F H D Q P
M O H P L W V M G J U K K P G W S O F Q H W E E J P J U N U C Q A K F O L L G K
N O O O U M I S K R D K H M O I R S K E W L R L E H Y H V G S L G O L M P G J V
J O V J X J F Z C B X Z D Y M L X O J I Y T X O E T I F T X K Q U A M J D T N X
P M U R T D L A N O D L Z N C S S X U K V Y X R L C R I C H A R D N I X O N Q D
F N G O C M B U Z D Z I T G W O H D L O T J E L C Q U H Q D Y C U D Y O C G V N
S G H P E A C L G I P T G S O N Z L R H A S X Y H N E D T E Z Q W G X Q X H R Y
G R I P P A O S K K F O S G L U F E S G K F C P C J D J J C O L J N L Q Q L Q I
T W N T W R P D Z Q Y M Z P K H H W I O O Z K H U Q W H S U B W H E G R O E G W

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The winner of this puzzle will be drawn on February 19, 2021



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FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021 @ 10:30 A.M.-BARE FARMLAND AUCTION-160 Acres +/- in Rost Twp., Jackson County, MN. Sale to be held onsite at the farm-see website for details. Pike & Associates

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 @ 10:30 A.M.- Ruth Draut Revocable Trust- 80 Acres +/- of Bare Farmland Located in Section 11 of Clay Twp., Clay County, IA! Sale to be held at Royal Community Center 302 Main St, Royal, IA. Please contact Doug Wedel 507-236-4255 with any questions. WEDEL, KAHLERS, HARTUNG & PIKE

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• Allen Kahler, 841-3466
• Ryan Kahler, 764-4440
• Kevin Kahler, 235-5014
• Doug Wedel, 236-4255

• Dustyn Hartung 236-7629
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