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Only good news

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SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES

The lane to the pasture

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer



It was when I was making a sweeping turn with the tractor and digger that I noticed it. I had never worked on this farm before so everything was new to me. It is the farm of a good friend and I was helping prepare his corn ground. His is a farm with a view. It provides the viewer with a full view of the rolling prairie of the area. It also provides a wonderful view of the nearby lake. It was when I approached the field's end that I noted what I thought was the farm line fence. What it really turned out to be was two fences. They ran parallel along the end of the field. The fences had been held in place by both wooden posts and steel posts. They were used intermittently throughout. The two fences were spaced about

ten feet apart. Some small trees and brush had found a good place to grow within these two fences. Tall grass had filled the area between the fences. Suddenly I recognized what was before me. This had once been THE LANE TO THE PASTURE. It has been a long time since I had seen such a lane. Such lanes have all but disappeared. The ones that do exist provide a way of pasturing a distant pasture. I looked to my left and noticed how the lane started somewhere behind the grove, probably at the barnyard. The oak posts were evenly spaced and showed the gray color of age. The steel posts were rust in color. Most of the fence itself had been taken down. It was only the posts that remained. Each post stood as a reminder

of what once was. Many of the posts had white electric fence insulators attached to them. The insulators, made of white crockery, glistened in the afternoon sun. Each seemed to want to call attention to its own post as though it was trying to say something. My eyes followed the lane as it followed the outer edge of the farm. The lane ended at a distant far corner. The low ground of the farm had been the pasture. It was satisfying to recognize the lane. We had such a lane on our home farm when I was a boy. The farm needed THE LANE TO THE PASTURE for it was the path to good eating for the cattle. The lane was like a piece of history from my past. I stopped the tractor and walked over to THE LANE TO THE PASTURE. It was

covered with the fresh grass of spring. However a telltale rut in the middle of the lane told the whole story. It told of how many cattle had walked this lane. The hundreds of cattle walking had produced a rut. The worn trench showed the entire length of the long lane. I shut my eyes in an effort to remember. I wanted to both hear and see something from so long ago. Even though the tractor sat idling at the end of the field, I could hear the cows walking in my mind. I could also visualize the many cows as they walked in a familiar single-file manner. I could hear the unique sounds of their footsteps as they walked the well-worn path. It was the familiar swishing sound of a dairy herd returning to the barn to be milked twice a day. I remember watching the ground as I walked the path. What could have been a worse experience than to step in a fresh cow pie as a barefooted boy? What could have been



a monotonous afternoon of driving tractor instead turned into something cherished. THE LANE TO THE PASTURE had provided me with a moment of fond memory. It had taken me back to my youth and our home farm. THE LANE TO THE PASTURE had provided something that seemed unimportant at the time. It had now become important enough to stop the tractor and dream.

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BORKENHAGEN 90TH - Marvin Borkenhagen of rural Amboy will celebrate his 90th Birthday on Sunday, March 5th, 2017 with an open house at the Lewisville American Legion in Lewisville, MN from 2 to 5 p.m. Cards or letters can reach him at 48528 111 Street, Amboy, MN 56010.

Chris Studer of Truman was winner of Dee's Floral valentine's Day prize giveaway.



The East Chain 4H meeting was held at the East Chain school Sunday, February 12th at 4 p.m. Roll call was "What are your parents middle names?" Birthdays were Camren Saxton, Abby Calkins, Oakley Hugoson, and Mikayla Hall. This month's meeting was lead by the adult leaders in place of the current officers. Our demonstrator was Dustin Benes and he told us about the 4H shooting sports program. Afterwards we made Valentines. There were 33 people that attended.

Respectfully submitted,
Sabrina Segar

Open house to honor Lincoln Becker

An open house honoring Lincoln Becker's successful battle against cancer will be held Sunday, February 26th at the Fairmont Knights of Columbus Hall. Hours are 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. with a short program at 4:30 p.m. Root beer floats and sugar cookies will be served.

Nine-year-old Lincoln, son of Lynn and Julie Becker of Northrop, was diagnosed in October 2014 with Stage 4 T-Lymphoblastic Lymphoma, a cancer of the lymph system. He has received treatment at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota for the past two years. This open house will celebrate the end of Lincoln's cancer treatments.



any questions at 507-236-1620.

Supplemental funds are furnished through Thrivent Financial.



Lauren Jean Reyelts, daughter of Nathan and Kellie Reyelts of Fairmont, was born February 10th, 2017, at United Hospital District in Blue Earth.

She weighed six pounds, six ounces and measured 19 inches. Lauren was welcomed home by her sisters Annie (7), Julia (3), and Mollie (2), and brothers Evan (6), and Collin (5). Grandparents are Dr. Steve and Donna Parnell of Fairmont and Karen Reyelts of St. Peter. Great grandparents are Irene Ponstein of Fairmont and Jerry Parnell of Green Valley, AZ.

A free hot meal will be served at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 901 South Prairie the fourth Sunday of every month. Join us this Sunday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m. in the hospitality area. All are welcome.

The **Compassionate Friends of North Central Iowa** will hold their quarterly meeting on Monday, March 13th at 7:30 p.m. in the Algona Public Library, at 210 N Phillips St in Algona, Iowa. Enter by the south door and follow the signs to the meeting room.

We are a support group for parents who have suffered the death of a child of any age and from any cause. We are a national organization and more information can be found at www.Compassionate-friends.org.

For questions or more information, call Cathy at 515-538-0572.

eat play shop
LOCAL

"Ole & Lena Win a Cruise" delights packed audiences at the Fairmont Opera House

By Joseph Kreiss, Joseph Kreiss Photography

Ole and Lena packed the house at the Fairmont Opera House (FOH) Saturday night, and FOH Director Blake Potthoff said they had just as many pre-sale tickets for the 2

p.m. Sunday matinee.

Ole and Lena are the husband and wife acting team of Michael and Julie Bateson. The couple is based in Cannon Falls, MN. They have eight dif-

ferent Ole and Lena two-act plays that they rotate as they tour Minnesota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa with their interactive comedy.

Talking in thick Minne-

sotan dialect, the couple brings to life the classic and universally loved Scandinavian couple "Ole and Lena." They also involve the audience as part of their performance.



(top left): Michael and Julie Bateson become Ole and Lena in the dressing room of the Fairmont Opera House before the curtain goes up.

(above): Lena wants Ole to clean out the shed and help haul all the junk to the church for the upcoming rummage sale. Ole wants no part in that.

(bottom left): With the lure of 24 hour food on the cruise ship, Ole is now in a rush to get on the boat, netting Lena as he heads out the door.

Photos provided by and copyright of: Fairmont Opera House and JKP Images

Conservation Corps Summer Service openings

Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa has started recruiting for more than 100 summer positions for young people aged 18 to 25.

According to central Minnesota district manager Dorian Hasselmann, Conservation Corps provides hands-on environmental stewardship and service-learning opportunities to young adults from diverse backgrounds while accomplishing conservation, natural resource management and emergency response work. AmeriCorps is a real-life education and work experience. Members will learn teamwork and leadership, gain technical skills and earn certifications in habitat restoration. They also will get the personal satisfaction of taking on challenges and seeing results.

"Practically speaking, these are fun and challenging opportunities that give young people a chance to demonstrate creativity and responsibility they can leverage as they move along their career paths," said Eric Antonson, Conservation Corps' senior director of programs.

Open to those aged 18 to 25, most of the summer AmeriCorps opportunities begin in late May and end in mid-August or early

September. Some continue later into the year. Positions include:

- Conservation Apprentice
- Field Operations Corps Member
- I Can Camp! Crew Member/Leader
- I Can Paddle! Crew Member/Leader
- Lake Country Forestry Crew Leader/Member
- Restoring Relations Youth Corps Leader
- Seasonal Field Crew Member/Leader
- Summer Youth Corps Leader and Leader/Interpreter
- Superior National Forest "Faces of Tomorrow" Crew Leader/Member
- YMCA Community Connections Corpsmember

Position descriptions, locations and an application are available at conservationcorps.org/apply.

Participants receive a monthly stipend, health insurance and forbearance on their student loans for the period of their service. Upon completion of the term, members receive an AmeriCorps education award - up to \$2,800 - that can be used for future tuition or to pay down existing student loans.

The application deadline is March 3rd, 2017.



Mrs. Forster's 4th grade class at Fairmont Area Elementary School held a Valentine's Box contest. Students winning top awards (L-R): 1st place - Ava Rodning; 2nd place - Dylan Hilpiper; 3rd place - Finley Reichel and Tyler Heckman. (Submitted photo)



Fifth and sixth grade students from Fairmont Elementary School performed the musical "The Tale of the Chinese Zodiac" February 10th. The tale tells how the 12 animals were chosen to be in the Zodiac. (Submitted photo)

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Classical Trio to appear at Red Rock Center



Red Rock Center for the Arts proudly presents a classical trio on Saturday, March 4th at 7 p.m. featuring world renowned musicians Lydia Miller Choorapuzha, violinist, Michael DeBruyn, celloist and his wife Francesca Tortorello, pianist.

The trio will present a collection of chamber music by Beethoven, Bach, Franck, and Muhly including the epic Violin Sonata by Cesar Franck and Beethoven's "Ghost"

Piano Trio. This activity is presented in collaboration with the Mankato Symphony Music on the Hill Series and the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

\$10 advance tickets available at Hy-Vee in Fairmont and \$12 at the door. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Early Childhood Screening scheduled

Minnesota law requires that all children entering kindergarten be screened prior to the start of school. It is strongly recommended that this screening be done early - around three years of age. The Fairmont Area Schools will be offering screenings at no cost to all families living in the school district.

Early Childhood Screening (ECS) is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21st

and 22nd. This session is being offered to children born between September 1st, 2011 and March 22nd, 2014. Screening will be held at fairmont Area Elementary School, located at 714 Victoria Street in Fairmont.

Appointments for ECS may be made by calling Fairmont Area Schools at 235-6205 between 8:00 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

WARNING! TRUCKERS FARMERS

Load restrictions of 10,000 pounds on any single axle are imposed on all Township and County roads in Martin County beginning February 17, 2017. These restrictions are imposed by law on all Township and County roads and posting with signs is not required.

To impose different weight restrictions on any road, such roads will be posted and the posted restrictions will govern.

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**Jeff Markquart,
Sheriff, Martin County**

**Kevin Peyman,
Highway Engineer,
Martin County**

Trimont Area Veterans Tribute meeting set

Trimont Area Veterans Tribute will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, February 28th at 7:00 p.m. at Trimont City Hall.

Some thoughts regarding World War II: Literally millions of men and women were called to serve in the armed forces during WWII. We were astonished to discover that well over 200 of them were from our little villages of Triumph and Monterey.

It seemed as though the whole country was called to action. Remember taking your dimes to school - when you had brought enough? (\$18.75, I think) You were presented with a \$25.00 war bond. Aluminum foil was saved, tires were rationed, ration books were in every household, every farm grove was searched for scrap iron to be turned in and everyone had a garden. The Red Cross conducted classes in every community, classes on bandage folding and first aid.

My aunt and mom

went to such classes one night a week. They were held in the Triumph hotel. My cousin and I would come along and while Mom and Aunt Lilly were in classes, Janet and I went across the street to the movies. The movies were usually very patriotic and inspirational in nature. There were always 'newsreels' telling of the war effort across the world. And it truly was a WORLD war - Atlantic to Pacific - most of Europe, the Middle East, Great Britain, Africa, the Far East and every place in between. Troop trains crisscrossed the country, taking troops from boot camps to specialized training camps to ports where they were finally sent to battlefields or ships to see action. Patriotism was widespread - it took EVERYONE to accomplish the victory. So many gave the ultimate price and many windows showed the gold star - even in Triumph and Monterey.

Kay Pope, Trimont

Ruby's Pantry Saturday

Ruby's Pantry will have a food distribution in East Chain on Saturday, February 25th from 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the East Chain Evangelical Free Church, located at 507 280th Avenue.

There are no income or residency guidelines. Ruby's Pantry is funded by the \$20 cash donation per participant for operational costs. Please bring two large boxes or laundry baskets for food. They receive an abundance of food.

Ruby's Pantry is in its

eleventh year of serving rural communities with donated surplus food and goods to fight hunger and disease. It provides large quantities of food for distributions directly to families in 46 rural communities covering sixteen underserved counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin distributing food to over 10,000 families per month.

For more information see their website at www.rubyspantry.org, email goodnews@rubyspantry.org or call 507-236-4653.

City of Lakes Garden Club to meet in March

City of Lakes Garden Club of Fairmont will meet Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at The Ranch Restaurant, in Fairmont. Each person is responsible for their own meal.

The club meets the first Wednesday of each month. The host/hostess for the month may choose the location and time for the meeting. "The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage all forms of horticulture in the home

and community and to increase the pleasure derived therefrom."

The theme for 2017 is "Herbs - Their Uses in Our Lives". There will be a business meeting followed by a presentation on Alternifolia Melaleuca; the Herb of the Month.

If you are interested in becoming a member or would like more information, please call Myrtle Heifner at 507-235-8535. New members are always welcome.

Fairmont Lapsit Storytime

Join us for Lapsit Storytime at the Martin County Library in Fairmont.

These storytimes are for children ages birth to two and an adult and will be held on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. Storytimes start March 1st and run through

April 6th.

There is no need to register and no cost to attend. Come and join us! Call the library at 238-4207 with questions or visit our website at www.martin-countylibrary.org for more information.

Area College Student News



The following students from this area were named to the **Dean's List** at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln:

Cordell Weber, Welcome, junior, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, PGA Golf Management.

Taylor Shoen, Truman, senior, College of Business Administration, Finance (Banking & Financial Institutions).

Open house for I-90 road construction project

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDot) will be conducting an open house on Tuesday, February 28th, 2017 at the Holiday Inn in Fairmont, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and will address current plans for the Interstate 90 construction scheduled for later this year.

Businesses that rely on traffic from Interstate 90 exits 99 and 102 are encouraged to attend and are asked to RSVP at FairmontChamber.org.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions or voice any concerns about the project. There will be valuable information and insight into how the I-90 project is expected to im-

pact our local economy and practical tips on what businesses can do to mitigate any adverse effects that may result.

Anyone is invited to attend but businesses are encouraged to RSVP online through the Chamber's website at www.FairmontChamber.org. You will also find information regarding this project by clicking on the link in the right sidebar labeled "MN-DOT PROJECT 2017."

Please direct any questions to Stephanie Busiahn, Executive Director of Visit Fairmont at 507-235-8585 or Margaret Dillard, President of the Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce at 507-235-5547.

Help us squash hunger

The Minnesota Food Share March Campaign brings together various Minnesota organizations, businesses, and places of worship to help keep 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. The March Campaign is the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, having raised \$8.2 million dollars and 5.2 million pounds of food in 2016.

One in 10 Minnesotans, or more than 500,000 state residents, are food insecure on a regular basis. That is more people than attended Minnesota Vikings games during the 2015 regular season. 10% of seniors in Minnesota reported being threatened by hunger. Senior hunger is expected to rise as more Baby Boomers reach 60. There were more than 3.2 million visits to Minnesota food shelves in 2015. Almost half of these visits

were made by children and seniors.

Imagine the entire populations of Ohio and California going to bed hungry each night. Does that number sound too high? 49 million Americans, including more than 13 million children, which is the equivalent of the populations in those two states, live in households that do not have consistent access to nutritious food.

Heaven's Table Food shelf operates food shelves in Fairmont and Sherburn that provide food assistance to needy residents of Martin County. Heaven's Table also handles the distribution of the Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors (NAPS) and the backpack program for children in the Fairmont, Truman, GHEC, and Martin County West school districts. All workers which includes the HTFS Board Members are volunteers.



Set out catnip seedlings in a sunny, well-drained spot after the last frost of spring, spacing them 18"-24" apart (some can grow to 5 feet tall). Water regularly, and pinch back any spindly growth to get fuller, more robust foliage. Outdoor cats can be rough on these plants, as they like to roll and lay on them; try placing bamboo stakes every few inches to prevent their destroying them. For "indoor" kitties, pick off a sprig and bring it inside for your cat to enjoy on the floor or in its favorite bedding. — Brenda Weaver

Source: bonnieplants.com

Are We There Yet?

Guest Columnist

Kim Kreiss, Realtor Cavers Realty



Buying a house is not a quick process, especially if you're financing the purchase of your new home.

Once you decide on a house, negotiate the price, and both parties accept, it's time to prepare to close the sale.

Closing is simpler when you purchase with cash so you can sometimes close as soon as two weeks. Buying with cash is always the fastest and simplest way to buy real estate because there aren't any lenders involved.

However, many buyers purchase their home with financing from their lender. Typically, closing a sale with financing will take 45-60 days. The date of closing is always a moving target when purchasing a house with financing. The time it takes to close can depend on the lender, the type of loan (conventional or the various government loans), or the buyer's credit, among other variables.

What takes place during 45-60 before closing?

If you have opted for an inspection contingency, you will be responsible for hiring an inspector to inspect the property.

The inspection contingency will state that all inspection(s), test(s), and resulting negotiations, if any, shall be done within a certain number of days. You will receive the results from the inspector where he/she will red flag some items that could be repaired/replaced. You will then have to decide a few things: 1) whether to go forward to the purchase of the house or cancel the purchase, 2) whether you want to pay for the red flagged items or negotiate to have the seller pay for the repairs/replacements. Assuming you want to go forward with the purchase of the house and have negotiated the inspection results, it's time for the lender to take over. The rest of the 45-60 days the lender and the closing-title company take over.

The lender/loan officer secures the loan and orders the appraisal of the property. They will guide you through the entire loan process. Once the appraisal comes back and is satisfactory to the lender, the lender will complete the rest of the paperwork required to secure your loan. The lender will give the "clear to close" and

then a closing date will be assigned.

The closing-title company will make sure all the documents related to the ownership of a property are ready for the closing. The closing-title company will also update the abstract and make sure the title is free and clear of any issues (example: liens on the property). The closing-title company will assign a closing agent to take you through all the paperwork on the day of closing.

On closing day at the closing-title company you may see several attendees, which can vary depending on the property. However, you may see the following people all at the same table: you as the buyer, your real estate agent, your loan officer (if you financed your purchase), the seller, the seller's real estate agent, and the closing agent. Typically, the seller's paperwork is discussed first, followed by the buyer's paperwork.

At the end of signing all the paperwork, you will finally receive what you've been waiting for all along - the keys! Congratulations on the purchase of your new home!!



Women Forward
SWEET FINANCIAL



Guest Columnists Amber Knips & Lynne Burgraff

Wealth Advisors, Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. at Sweet Financial Services and Women Forward Leaders

Do not File Your Tax Return Until You Read This -

Now that tax season has begun, here's a piece of advice that you'll find useful:

If you have taxable accounts (individual, joint, trust, transfer-on-death, etc.), you should not file your return before March 31st.

That's because employers, banks, insurance companies, mutual funds and brokerage firms are required to mail W-2s by January 31st and most 1099-DIVs and 1099-Bs by February 15th. However, as we've all learned from experience, some of these early 1099s are later amended with updated information - sometimes two or three times.

If you file before receiving the final 1099, you'll have to file an amended return later, adjusting the amount you may owe or any refund. This could cost you additional fees from your tax preparer - not to mention the extra time and hassle for you.

That doesn't mean, however, that you should do nothing about your tax return until March. You should gather all of your tax information and get it to your preparer as soon

as you can so that he or she can start working on your return. Just hold off on filing until after the end of March - in case you receive an amended 1099s.

Please note, however, that this advice applies to taxable accounts - not to tax-deferred accounts, such as IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s, 457s, 529s or annuities. You won't receive 1099s for those unless you took a distribution from one of them. If you did, then you will receive a 1099-R reporting the distribution. But 1099-Rs typically do not need correcting, so you can file earlier in that situation.

The information contained in this article does not purport to be a complete description of the securities, markets, or developments referred to in this material. The information has been obtained from sources considered to be reliable, but we do not guarantee that the foregoing material is accurate or complete. Any opinions are those of Amber Knips and Lynne Burgraff and not necessarily those of Raymond James. Expressions of opinion are as of this date and are subject to change without notice. There is no guarantee that these statements,

opinions or forecasts provided herein will prove to be correct. While we are familiar with the tax provisions of the issues presented herein, as Financial Advisors of RJFS, we are not qualified to render advice on tax or legal matters.

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Minnesota Century Farm Applications Deadline is April 3

Minnesota families who have owned their farms for 100 years or more may apply for the 2017 Century Farms Program.

Produced by the Minnesota State Fair in conjunction with the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the Century Farms Program was created to promote agriculture and honor historic family farms in the state. More than 10,000 Minnesota farms have been honored since the program began in 1976.

Family farms are recognized as Century Farms when three requirements are met. The farm must be: 1) at least 100 years old according to authentic land records; 2) in continuous family ownership for at least 100 years (continuous residence on the farm

is not required); and 3) at least 50 acres.

A commemorative certificate signed by State Fair Board of Managers President Sharon Wessel, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation President Kevin Paap and Governor Mark Dayton will be awarded to qualifying families, along with an outdoor sign signifying Century Farm status.

Applications are available online at mnstatefair.org (click the "Recognition Programs" link at the bottom of the home page); at fbmn.org; by calling the State Fair at (651) 288-4400; or at statewide county extension and county Farm Bureau offices. The submission deadline is Monday, April 3rd. Recipients will be announced in May. Previously recognized fam-

ilies should not reapply.

Information on Century Farms will be available at the Minnesota Farm Bureau exhibit during the 2017 Minnesota State Fair. A Century Farm database is also available at fbmn.org.

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and best-attended expositions in the world, attracting more than 1.9 million

visitors annually. Showcasing Minnesota's finest agriculture, art and industry, the Great Minnesota Get-Together is always 12 Days of Fun Ending Labor Day. Visit mnstatefair.org for more information. The 2017 Minnesota State Fair runs August 24th - Labor Day, September 4th.

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What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Savory Italian Rounds - A favorite!!

I have gone months forgetting this recipe. I don't know why, because it's a favorite! It's especially good with an Italian menu, but good with just about anything. I even like them room temperature when they are left over. I hope that you will enjoy them too! I found this recipe in a Taste of Home magazine.

Savory Italian Rounds

2/3 cup grated parmesan cheese
1/2 cup mayonnaise (reduced-fat or fat-free doesn't work)
1/4 tsp. dried basil
1/8 tsp. garlic powder
1/8 tsp. garlic salt
1/8 tsp. dried oregano
Dash of onion salt
1 tube (12 oz.) refrigerated buttermilk biscuits (large size)

In a small bowl, combine the first seven ingredients. Separate biscuits and place on two ungreased baking sheets. Let stand for 5 minutes. Flatten biscuits into 4-inch circles. Spread about 1 tablespoon mayonnaise mixture over each circle to within 1/2 inch of edge.

Bake at 400 degrees for 10-13 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.

Enjoy our warm temperatures and have a great week!

Open House to **CELEBRATE** Lincoln Becker's end of treatment & **KICKING CANCER'S BUTT!**

Sunday, February 26, 2017 • 3-6pm
at Knights of Columbus in Fairmont

Short Program at 4:30pm



Lincoln was diagnosed in October 2014 at age 9 with Stage 4 T-Lymphoblastic Lymphoma, cancer of the lymph system. Lincoln has received treatment at Children's Hospitals & Clinics of MN for the past two years overcoming many obstacles.

JOIN US for ROOTBEER FLOATS & COOKIES!



All proceeds raised from the day will benefit the #Lincolnstrong Relay for Life team.

For more information contact Laurie Quinn 507-236-1620

Supplemental funds from Thrivent Financial

Dollars for Scholars receives scholarships funds

Fairmont Dollars for Scholars would like to thank the following individuals who have donated funds to our chapter this last year. With the help of our community, we were able to award 161 scholarships totaling \$252,600 during our most recent award cycle!

In memory:

Dennis Murphy: Ronald and Elaine Hested, Lisa Klein, Bruce and Jennelle Cuning, Deb Heinrich, Jim Simser, Willis and Mary Jo Cole, Kathleen and Rodney Bailey, Timothy Murphy, Kevin Murphy, Kim Bailey, Kim Niss, Blazer Bar

Ray Prochniak: Jack Gerhardt

Diane Gerhardt: Julie Rosen, Alan and Audrey Gerhardt, Nancy and Dominick Driano, Julie Leichtnam, Daryl and Carol Bartz, Eric and Catherine Johnson, Siri Heille, Kevin and Mary Hugoson, Brad and Vonnice Cone, Andy and Brenda Noll, Wes and Barbra Pruet, Wayne and Char Kahler, Dan and Patty Fitzgerald, Jeff and Jacqueline Portz, Jim and Julie Jorgenson, Mary and David Staley, Dick Gerhardt, Todd and Patricia Heminover

Donald Feuerhake: Jolene Tanke

Donations:

Leon Lammers, ITW, Martin County Bankers, School District 2752 (Hunt Fund), Bolton and

Menk, James Peterson, David and Mary Staley, Eric Johnson, Profinium Bank, Dr. Paul Siebert, Jim Bock, Fairmont School Employee Credit Union, Greg Gellert, Tom Arneson, Martin County Conservation Club, Bank Midwest, Chartwells Dining Service, Terrance and Jane Dilling, Keith and Wanda Waterbury, Marlowe and Jean Potter, Larry and Bar Schmidt, Jerry Mathwig, Metro Sales, Loren Dunham and DeeAnne Helfritz, Lakester Car Club, Bill and Sharon Richardson, Nuveen Investments, Pam Hefner Hopf, Susan Billett, Scott Unke, Mark and Robyn Churchill, Varde Partners, Mary Jo Moltzen, David's Consulting, Barbra Nehls, River Bend Business Products, Teresa Lenort, Thomas and Gayle Mueller, Kenneth Jorgensen, Lorri and Paul Jensen, Charles and Mary Kiester, Alice Peters, Judith Beckman, Class of 1966, Class of 1968, Class of 1976.

In-Kind Donations:

Erickson, Zierke, Kuderer and Madsen, P.A.

If you would like more information on endowing a scholarship or creating a one-time scholarship in honor or memory of someone, contact Loren Dunham at 507-238-1172. For other information on Fairmont Dollars for Scholars, find us at www.Facebook.com/FairmontDFS.



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ChFC®, CLU®, RHU®
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MARTIN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

The Carl Nettie Memorial Animal Shelter
522 E. MARGARET ST. • FAIRMONT, MN • 238-1885

pawprints.petfinder.com
Email: pawprints01@hotmail.com

HOURS: Tue & Thurs 6-8 p.m. • Sat 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

A FEW OF OUR CATS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

FIBBER is a great cat, we tell you no lies. Friendly to both people and other cats, he is a social guy. Fibber also has striking black and white markings, with interesting markings on his face. Come and meet this great guy!

SNOWBALL and **SUNSHINE** are cagemates. These two girls are very different in personality and looks, but are great friends. Snowball is almost pure white, while Sunshine is a gray tabby. Sunshine has always enjoyed the attention of people, while Snowball was very shy with people. What they both have in common is that they are playful but homeless. (Reminder, if you adopt one cat, the second one is free.)

ALISSA is a 4-paw declawed female. She is mainly white with some black patches on her head. Alissa is best as a single cat, since she doesn't feel the others are up to her standards

A FEW OF OUR DOGS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

SAMMY is an 11 year old husky mix. This black and gray neutered male, has pretty blue eyes. He is staying in his original home while we help his family find him a new home. Sammy has a touch of mild separation anxiety, which seems much better if there is another pet in the house. Can you offer Sammy a retirement home for his senior years?

ELSA is a cute little girl. She is about 12 weeks old, spayed and up to date on shots. Elsa is mainly white with some light tan markings on her ears and face. Elsa is an American Bulldog, perhaps with pitbull. She is very playful, and likes to wrestle with the other foster puppies, play tug of war, and chase toys.

martincountylibrary.org

CHECK IT OUT!

@ the Martin County Library

You might remember learning about the Dewey Decimal System in school. Well, even though the system was created in 1876, many public libraries, including ours, use it today!

Before Dewey, libraries put their non-fiction books on shelves in the order they received them, which wasn't very user friendly. This system worked well for the

librarians, but made it hard for the public to find what they needed! With the Dewey System, non-fiction books are grouped together by subject, which means our dog training books are all together, cookbooks are together, and auto repair manuals are together too. It helps make our library shelves more easily browse-able, but all those little numbers can be confusing! Dewey starts by using 10 main groups to classify books, and gets more specific from there. Stay tuned for next week's column as we take a closer look at the Dewey system and how it can help you navigate the library shelves a little easier!



Ask A Trooper: Reporting bad drivers

by Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol

Question: My husband was driving while I was a passenger and an elder man driving ran a stop sign and cut in front of us. My husband honked his horn to alert the driver prior to him attempting to come into our lane. However, he did not appear to hear us. Fortunately, we were able to avoid being hit, as my husband was an alert driver and saw this coming. Is this something we can report? I am not sure if this man should be driving, as he appeared to have no regard for anyone else on the road. I am not sure what police could have done, as there was no accident or injury. I guess I am curious to know what the protocol is in such a situation.

Answer: This situation is a good reminder of the importance of avoiding all distractions while behind the wheel, as you might see a potential hazard or crash before it happens. Your husband was able to avoid a crash because he was attentive.

If you witness any dangerous driving conduct, call law enforcement and report the incident as soon as possible. Report your location, direction of travel, the driving conduct you are seeing and attempt to get the license plate number. We will do our best to stop that vehicle before anyone is injured. Law enforcement will talk to

the driver to determine if they are/were impaired, distracted, fatigued, the reason for their driving conduct as well as if they are valid to drive.

Law enforcement officers can send a request for review to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services (DPS-DVS) if they identify a driver who they believe should re-test or be checked by a doctor. DPS-DVS can allow the person to continue to drive with increased limitations such as roadway speed, daylight only, certain times of the day or within a set limit of miles from his or her home. They can also require follow-up doctor's exams.

Avoiding distractions while behind the wheel will increase your chances avoiding a crash and could save your life. Take driving seriously each time you get behind the wheel.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848, or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us.

Are your savings earning what they should?



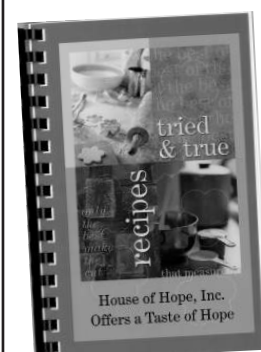
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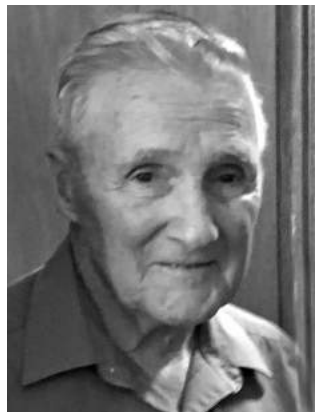
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at the Photo Press.

PhotoPress
Only good news

112 E. First Street
Fairmont, MN

OBITUARY notices

Oliver W. Garlick, 85



Funeral Services for Oliver W. Garlick, 85, of Fairmont, were held Satur-

day, February 18th, at the United Methodist Church in Fairmont. Burial with full military honors by the Martin County V.F.W. Post 1222 and the Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 followed at Lakeside Cemetery in Fairmont. Oliver passed away Tuesday morning, February 14th, 2017 at Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Oliver Wendell Garlick was born July 16th, 1931 to Roscoe and Gertrude (Griffith) Garlick in Rutland Township, Martin County. Growing up he attended District 105

School in Pleasant Prairie Township and later Fairmont High School where he was a member of the 1949 graduating class. After high school, Oliver enlisted in the United States Air Force on November 4th, 1950. He proudly served his country while stationed in Colorado and Texas during Korean War Time until his honorable discharge October 27th, 1953.

On April 16th, 1955 Oliver was united in marriage to Marveta Lewis at the Delavan Methodist Church in Delavan, MN. This union was blessed with four children: Rickard, Robin, Roxanne and Rebecca. Together they made their home on the

farm near Pleasant Prairie Township. Oliver worked for the US Postal Service for many years and later farmed until his retirement on January 1st, 1998. Marveta passed away on April 14th, 1997. On March 30th, 2002, Oliver was united in marriage to Joyce (Wolters) Ravnkilde at the Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca, MN.

Oliver was a member of the Martin County Pork Producers, the Martin County Farm Service Co-op, 4H Federation and the United Methodist Church in Fairmont. He was a former member of the Granada American Legion and a current member of the Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Joyce Garlick, of Fairmont; children: Robin Garlick of Dundas, MN, Roxanne Scholl and her husband, Gary Lutmer, of St. James, Rebecca Nichols and her husband, Scott, of Wauke, IA; daughter-in-law, Sherri Roforth and her husband, Kevin of Fairmont; eleven grandchildren: Benjamin Scholl (Jessica), Jeffrey Scholl (Dana), Tyler Scholl (Kelly), Brianna Kattenhorn, Bryan Garlick (Kristen), Jayden Garlick, Colby Garlick, Kellynn Garlick, Jaxen Garlick, Sarah Nichols and Jacob Nichols; eight great-grandchildren: Barret, Bryce, Blakeley, Trevin, RaiAnn, Jonah, Owen and

Huxton; two sisters: Dorothy Saxton of Fairmont, and Arlene Ellis of Iowa City, IA; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Bonnie Garlick, Lloyd Lewis Jr., Lowell Wolters, Bill Wolter, Ruth and Mike Simmons, Donna Hartman, Dwight Wolter; nieces and nephews, other extended family and many friends.

Oliver was preceded in death by his first wife, Marveta Garlick; son, Rickard Garlick; son-in-law, Doug Scholl; grandson, Andy Lee Scholl; grandson-in-law, Rob Kattenhorn; brother, George Garlick; sister-in-law, Darlene Lewis; and brothers-in-law, George Ellis and Lyle Saxton.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Alvin "Bud" Thompson, 77



A Celebration of Life for Alvin "Bud" Thompson, 77, of Welcome and Fox Lake, will be from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 23rd, 2017 at the Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont. Bud passed away Tuesday morning,

February 14th, 2017, at his home on Fox Lake. The Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Alvin "Bud" Fred Thompson was born July 10th, 1939 to Fred and Ethel (Smith) Thompson in Fairmont. Growing up he attended country school in Welcome and began helping on the farm at a young age.

On August 4th, 1957 Bud was united in marriage to Alma Pochardt in Sherburn. Together they made their home in Martin County and were blessed with three children: Tim, Tom and Tammy.

Bud worked many years as an independent truck driver and retired in 2007. He enjoyed hobby farm-

ing, gardening, puttering around in his shop, and most importantly making memories with family and friends. Bud could often be found socializing with many of his friends and family members. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children: Tim Thompson of Welcome, Tom Thompson of Fairmont, and Tammy Nowak, and her special friend, David Hill of Welcome; grandchildren: Melissa and Joe Waller, Brad and Brooke Nowak, Jessica Nowak, and Dylan Thompson; great-grandchildren: Madison, Hailey and John Waller, and Hannah, Graham, and Quinn Nowak; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: James

Mathiason, Leroy Paulson and his wife, Judy, Sharon Lampton and her husband, Richard, Pat Matheney and her husband, Bob, Nanvy Egtvet, and Melvin Pochardt; many nieces and nephews; other extended family and friends.

Bud was preceded in death by his wife, Almie Thompson; parents; mother-and-father-in-law, Melvin and Alma Pochardt; siblings: Richard and Charlotte Thompson; Robert and Fern Thompson; Eileen and Marlin Ebeling; Alice Paulson; Billy Schultz; Doris Armstrong; Elinor and Emy Rikerd; Phyllis Mathiason; Arnold Egtvet; Gary White, and Hank Wistrom.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

DEATH notices

February 12 - Douglas L. Nelson, 64, Fairmont.

Kramer Funeral Home

February 14 - Oliver W. Garlick, 85, Fairmont.

Lakeview Funeral Home

February 14 - Alvin F. Thompson, 77, Welcome.

Lakeview Funeral Home

February 17 - Anna Mae Iverson, 88, Fairmont (formerly of Ceylon and Dolliver, IA).

Lakeview Funeral Home

February 18 - Louis L. Petrowiak, 95, Fairmont.

Lakeview Funeral Home

In Memoriam

One Year Ago This Week

February 14 - Arthur A. Martin, 74, Fairmont

February 16 - Lauris "Laurie" Nelson, 92, Ceylon

February 16 - Stephen R. Slater, 66, Fairmont

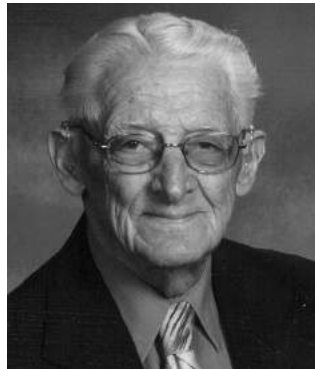
February 17 - Hazel M. Armbrust, 90, Fairmont

February 19 - Linda L. Palm, 65, Lakefield

February 20 - Joseph H. Altman, 88, Sherburn

February 20 - Dorothy M. Jorgenson, 65, Fairmont

Louis L. Petrowiak, 95



Mass of Christian Burial for Louis L. Petrowiak, 95, of Fairmont, was held Wednesday, February 22nd, 2017, at Holy Family Catholic Church in East

Chain. Interment was in the church cemetery with full military honors by Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 and Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1222. Louis passed away Saturday, February 18th, 2017, at Goldfinch Memory Care in Fairmont.

Louis LeRoy Petrowiak was born August 29th, 1921, in Silver Lake Township. He was the son of Edward and Anna (Pytleski) Petrowiak. He attended District 92 school in Silver Lake Township and in 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Force. Louis was stationed in Yuma, Arizona

and later in Jamaica until earning his honorable discharge in 1946.

Louis was united in marriage to Lucille Gawinski May 18th, 1954, at Holy Family Catholic Church in East Chain. Together with Lucille, Louis farmed in East Chain as well as being a salesman for Kruger Seeds for many years. He enjoyed farming even after retirement. In August of 1997, they moved into Fairmont.

Louis was a lifelong member of Holy Family Catholic Church in East Chain where he was active in the Knights of Columbus and Holy Name Society. He

was also a member of the Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars. During his free time, Louis enjoyed playing cards and he loved to dance and sing. He also loved spending time with family and friends.

Those who will honor and cherish his memory include eight children: Kathy Petrowiak of Fairmont; Bernie Petrowiak and wife, Julie, of East Chain, and children, Laura (Tom), Anna (Tedd), Rebecca (Jake), Cathryn; Larry Petrowiak and his wife, Dawn, of Fairmont, and children, Celia, Macy and Holly; Mike Petrowiak and his wife, Patty, of East

Chain, and children, Wes, Chris, Adam and Jacob; Sharon Dallager and husband, Lee, of East Chain, and children, Joe, James (Allison), Emily and Michael; Mary Wittmus and husband, Herbie, of Fairmont and children, Ryan (fiancée-Shana), Mitchell and Tailyr; Bob Petrowiak and wife, Maureen, of Fairmont, and children, Evangeline and Elizabeth; Lynnda Braun (Fiancée-Scott) of Mankato and children, Cole and Ally; five great grandchildren, Carter, Kennedy, Cecelia, Tyler and Claire; one sister, Dolores Bursaw of Fairmont; sister-in-law, Genevieve

Jagodzinski of Joliet, IL; many nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Along with his parents, Edward and Anna Petrowiak, Louis was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille Petrowiak; son-in-law, Alan Braun; sisters, Regina Sukalski and husband, Tom, Viola Maday and husband, Walter, Alice Petrowiak, and Margaret Stefanski and husband, Carl; brother-in-law, Duane Bursaw; and parents-in-law, Bernard and Julia Gawinski.

Memorials are preferred to United Hospital District Hospice.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Anna Mae Iverson, 88



Funeral service for Anna Mae Iverson, 88, of Fairmont, formerly of

Ceylon and Dolliver, was held Monday, February 20, 2017 at Lakeview Funeral Home Chapel in Fairmont. Burial was in Fairview Memorial Park in Fairmont. Anna Mae passed away Friday, February 17th, 2017 at Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center in Fairmont.

Anna Mae (Prust) Iverson was born November 6th, 1928 in Ceylon, the daughter of Otto and Anna (Senf) Prust. She was baptized December 17th, 1928, and confirmed May 24th, 1942, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Cey-

lon. Anna attended District 17 country school and graduated from Ceylon High School in 1946. She then attended Mankato Commercial College and worked as a secretary for Blanchar Corporation at Fox Lake for two years.

Anna Mae was united in marriage to Gerald Iverson of Dolliver, IA September 4th, 1949 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Ceylon. They farmed near Dolliver until March of 1952, when Gerald was drafted into the U.S. Army. After basic training, he was sent to Arlington, VA

and Anna Mae went with him. They stayed there until November of 1954 and then returned to farm near Dolliver.

Anna Mae and Gerald spent several winters in Mesa, AZ. When in Arizona she did volunteer work in the office of Eternal Life Lutheran Church. Gerald passed away on August 2nd, 1982. Anna Mae along with her sister, Alice moved to the Maplewood Residence in Fairmont in 1996. Anna Mae and her sister knitted many lap robes and sent them to the Veterans Hospital.

Anna Mae is survived by a very special family, Ken and Coleen Herum of Dolliver and their sons, Darren (Rhonda), Scott, and Calvin (Kristen); very special couple, Mary and Jerry Milow who helped her with everything; and many nieces and nephews, other relatives and

friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Otto and Anna Prust; husband, Gerald Iverson; four brothers, Walter, Lawrence, Bertram and Robert Prust; three sisters, Laura Detert, Evelyn Detert and Alice Hemphill.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

The Photo Press reserves the right to edit (as necessary) any obituary submitted for placement.

All obituaries must be submitted by noon on Monday of the week that it is to be placed. Any photos submitted must be in high resolution and high quality. Any questions on the Photo Press obituary policy can be directed to Jeff Hagen at 238-9456 or jeff@fairmontphotopress.com

the BILLBOARD

Dining and Entertainment

6th Annual Spring Vendor Show

Saturday, March 4 • 10 am-3 pm

Fairmont Knights of Columbus
920 East 10th Street, Fairmont

Free Admission. Over 30 Vendors attending! Coupons and discounts that day only! Something for everyone... including men!



FAIRMONT AREA

Menus subject to change due to inclement weather, shortages or delays in shipping.

Breakfast menu can be found online.
FEB 23 - MAR 1

THUR: K-6: Cheeseburger, sunbutter and grape jelly sandwich, baked beans, coleslaw, orange, applesauce.. **JR/HS:** Chicken and cheese quesadilla, rice, refried beans, corn and pineapple salsa, red pepper strips, orange, fruit cocktail.
FRI: K-6: Cheese pizza, nachos fun lunch, carrots, caesar salad, apple, pears. **JR/HS:** French toast sticks, turkey sausage, banana squares, broccoli salad, carrots, apple, pineapple tidbits.
MON: K-6: Chicken nuggets,

dinner roll, gravy, sunbutter and banana roll up, mashed potatoes, celery sticks, grapes, peaches. **JR/HS:** Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner roll, coleslaw, carrots, apple, pears.
TUE: K-6: Spaghetti, breadstick, turkey and cheese sandwich, carrots, caesar salad, orange, pears. **JR/HS:** Korean chicken bulgogi, rice, broccoli, caesar salad, celery sticks, banana, fruit cocktail.
WED: No info provided.



AT THE READY - a tank stands ready to "defend" Fairmont-day or night. This creation is made out of pallets and was recently constructed by Bob Stradtman of Fairmont. Stradtman has made many other creations from wood pallets in past months, that also have adorned his front yard. (Submitted photo)



NORTHROP BASEBALL

Shrimp Feed & Registration
Sat., March 4 • 5-8 p.m.
Northrop Legion
Includes all you can eat shrimp, baked potato, coleslaw & bread
Chicken strip option available
\$13 Adult
\$6 Children (12 & under)
Celebrate a successful 2016 season & kickoff 2017! This will also be final registration night for all Northrop teams.

Fairmont Eagles

1228 Lake Ave • 238-2555

Thurs Feb. 23 • 5-7pm:
Liver & Onion Dinner

Fri, Feb. 24 • 5-7pm:
Burger Night. \$5 Burger Basket. French Fries, Sour Cream & Chive Fries or TaterTots

Fri, Feb. 24 • 6-10pm:
Paul Stewart

Mon, Feb. 27 • 7pm:
Bingo

Tues, Feb. 28 • 7pm:
Pool League

Wed, March 1 • 7pm:
Pool League

Fridays: Full Menu Available
Full Service Bar! Everyone Welcome!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	1	8	4	6	7	3	5	9
9	3	6	1	5	8	4	7	2
4	5	7	6	7	4	9	3	8
1	2	5	3	2	9	1	8	6
8	4	9	5	1	3	6	2	7
7	6	3	8	9	2	5	1	4
5	9	2	7	4	1	8	6	3
6	8	4	2	3	5	7	9	1
3	7	1	9	8	6	2	4	5

TRUMAN AREA

Menus subject to change due to inclement weather, shortages or delays in shipping.

FEB 23 - MAR 1

THUR: Chicken, biscuit, mashed potatoes, CA blend, fruit cup.

FRI: BBQ, potato salad, veggies, orange, apple.

MON: Max sticks, spinach salad, veggies, fruit.

TUE: Ribette, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, peaches.

WED: No info provided.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN ST. JOHN VIANNEY FAIRMONT

Menus subject to change due to inclement weather, shortages or delays in shipping.

FEB 23 - MAR 1

THUR: Chicken and cheese quesadilla, rice, refried beans, red pepper strips, orange.

FRI: French toast sticks, turkey sausage, tator tots, broccoli salad, pineapple tidbits.

MON: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner roll, carrots, pears.

TUE: Hot dog, baked beans, caesar salad, banana.

WED: No info provided.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Menus subject to change.

FEB 23 - MAR 1

THUR: Scalloped potatoes and ham, corn, bread, peaches.

FRI: Meat and cheese wrap, cucumber salad, potato chips, pears, cupcake.

MON: Hot ham and cheese, fries, peas, banana.

TUES: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, pineapple tidbits.

WED: No info provided.

HOT MEALS ON WHEELS

Hot Meals on Wheels are Monday through Saturday for convalescents and persons who cannot purchase and prepare adequate meals.

Meals are prepared by Lakeview Methodist

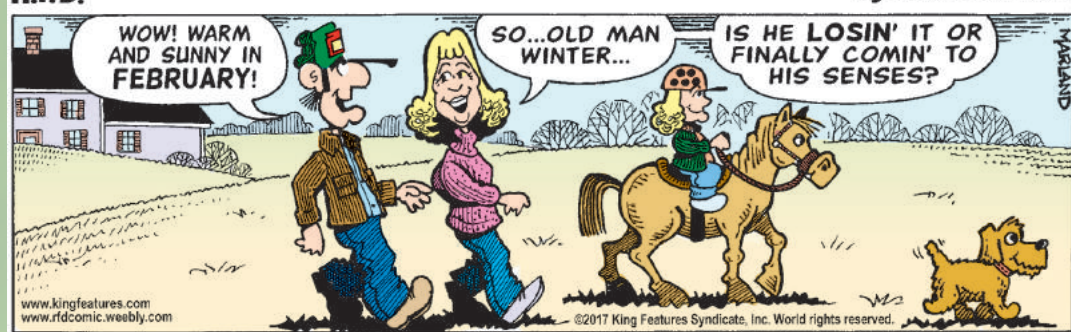
Healthcare and volunteers deliver in Fairmont between 11 a.m. and noon each day.

This is a community project and is non-profit and not government funded. For more info on Hot Meals on Wheels, contact Linda

Bach-Quade 507-235-3820.

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus were recently presented with a "Columbian Award". This annual Supreme Council award recognizes Councils throughout the Knights of Columbus, who excel in programs benefiting their local Church, Community, Council, Youth, Family and Pro-Life organizations. Pictured (left to right): Pat Bulfer, Trustee of the local Knights of Columbus; Chad McGowan, Grand Knight of the local KC Council and John Zschetsche—KC District Deputy. (Submitted photo)



During the month of December, the Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus presented a check for \$1,000 to the St. John Vianney Parish. The check was the result of their annual Good Samaritan Benefit Breakfast held in November. Pictured (left to right): Bob Bishop, Trustee of the St. John Vianney Parish and KC Member; Chad McGowan, Grand Knight of the local KC Council and Merlin Oddan, KC Event Chairman. (Submitted photo)



Jeff's Jottings

I was very happy to be part of the Kids Against Hunger food pack at the Fairmont National Guard Armory last Saturday. All day long the place was buzzing with activity and energy as the many teams that took part in the pack helped to pack up 123,654 meals for Kids Against Hunger! Last year a total of 103,000 meals were packed in Fairmont, so the committee set a goal of packing 120,000 meals this year. The many volunteers worked hard and we far surpassed that goal. The only reason we had to stop was because we had run out of rice,

which is a main ingredient in the meal. For the second year in a row, my family (and a friend) formed the "Hagen's Heroes" team,



packing 19 cases of food for the cause. The team included my wife Karis, Mom and Dad, sister Larissa and her husband Chris, their son Chase and



"Hagen's Heroes" at the food pack.

his friend Jaxson, and my other sister Angie and her stepson, Ty. We were all tired and somewhat dusty from the powder, but it was a good feeling to be tired. Thanks to the many volunteers who gave up their Saturday (and the nice weather outside) to help out a great cause! The meals that were made up were put into boxes, which were then placed on pallets and shrinkwrapped. Some of the meals will stay right here in Martin County for the food shelves, but the majority of the food will be shipped overseas to Haiti, to help feed the hungry kids and families in that country, especially after the recent disasters that have struck that area. Make sure you reserve your time for helping with Kids Against Hunger 2018!

And how was your weekend?

Even though I spent the majority of the day last Saturday indoors at the Kids Against Hunger food pack, I still took full advantage of the unseasonably warm weather we had last weekend. It was absolutely gorgeous outdoors, so I spent

as much time outside as possible, just to have the chance to "soak in some rays" and work out in my shop. A Fairmont resident called me Monday to tell me they saw a number of robins in their backyard that day, and that was about a month ahead of when they arrived last year. My favorite part was the sunsets we had this weekend. It provided such vibrant colors, which made for some great photos. Karis decided to take a bunch of pictures and post them on her Facebook page and they turned out great. Now if only I could find a job that paid me to sit and watch sunsets!

Change the world one person at a time

Usually I take this part of my column to promote

upcoming events for the week, but it is the slow time of the winter, so events are few and far between. So, I have decided to instead leave you with a parting for this week. It seems like there are so many negative things going on in this world lately - the news is filled with hatred, chaos and despair; social media has become a place to complain (or whine) about what is all wrong with this person or that person; and the general mood of our country is



Sunset on the Hagen farm.

one of division. Isn't it about time for all of us to step up and change all this negativity and hatred? It only takes one person to start something, but it takes many more to continue a new direction.

Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - Eat, Play, Shop Local - do something positive!

- Jeff

An American Adventure

Guest Columnist

Claire Pritchard, Blogger and Writer

Hi, my name is Claire and I'm from England - Oxford to be more precise. My family (husband, Matt and our 20-month-old son, Elijah) moved to Armstrong, Iowa in September of 2016. "Why" I hear you ask? Well, Matt was given the opportunity to work out here and following many, many late-night discussions we decided to make the jump and take on this once in a lifetime adventure! Even though we all (sort of) speak the same language, living in the Midwest compared to living in the UK, could not be more different! Because of this I decided to start writing about our adventure, I hope you enjoy reading.

The biggest question people always ask when they realize we aren't from here is about the weather. Well let me tell you, we have never experienced freezing temperatures like this before! Winter is so cold, going to fetch the mail feels like a polar expedition at times! And the snow, wow! We are lucky in the UK to get a light dusting once or twice

a year, so when we had 10 inches fall here in one night, we all woke up with our mouths dropping to the floor! It looks beautiful but I do miss being outdoors, spring can't come soon enough for me!

Sport is usually the next topic of conversation we get faced with. In the UK the main sport is football



(known to you as soccer) however, since being here we have been attempting to watch American football, and let's just say it's not gone great. Even after the Superbowl, I still don't have a clue what's going on, why play seems to stop constantly and all the advertising that goes on during the game drives me crazy! Still, I am trying so maybe next season I'll understand it more - maybe. I'm also very aware

that baseball season will be here before we know it, and I haven't got a clue about that either, think I need to get reading up!

Apart from sport, another great American love I've realized is for food. Eating out is a slightly different experience to the UK, for one thing you guys all love lots of ice in sodas but the best thing is that everywhere is free refills (we don't get this in many places in the UK, not even McDonalds). Your portion sizes, however, are massive! I don't think I have finished a meal since we've been here and my waistline is still screaming at me to put down the fork! (another reason I'm willing spring to arrive is that I miss my outdoor runs!)

Despite the winter, we have been managing to see some places, (grotto of the redemption for example) and I'm eager to explore lots more places this year! It's certainly a different style and pace of life we are living now, but I'm excited to be on this adventure!

'Til next time!
Claire



MCW FFA finishes top at Region 6



On Thursday, February 9th, students from Martin County West FFA competed at the Region 6 Proficiency and State Degree Judging.

A proficiency is an application where students complete a project in an area that they are interested in to develop competency, career success and skills through their project.

The top 3 proficiency applications in our region will move on to the state judging in March and will be recognized at the State FFA Convention in April.

Two students, Nic Potthoff and Grace Meyers, also served as a Region 6 delegate to select the new Region 6 Officer Team.

Proficiency Results are

as follows:

JACOB EBELING: 1st - Fiber/Oil Crop, 1st - Diversified Crop, 1st - Grain Production Placement, 1st - Diversified Agriculture, 2nd - Swine Production Placement

SADIA ZAFAR: 1st - Vet Science, 3rd - Beef Placement

SIERRA WILLIAMSON: 2nd - Environmental Science, 2nd - Agricultural Education

REMINGTON KUEHL: 1st - Ag Mechanics Design and Fabrication, 2nd - Ag Sales

LOGAN POTTHOFF: 1st - Agriculture Processing, 4th - Vegetable Production

EMILY ZIEMER: 2nd - Diversified Agriculture, 5th

- Diversified Crop
EMELIA MELSON: 1st - Turf Grass Management

CARSON KAHLER: 2nd - Diversified Crop Entrepreneurship

LOGAN EBELING: 2nd - Beef Placement

LINDSEY BETTIN: 1st Forage Production

COLLIN CLIFFORD: 2nd Agriculture Processing

KOOPER JANSSEN: 2nd - Ag Mechanics Design and Fabrication

EMILY MATEJKA: 2nd - Vegetable Production

BRYAN BRANDT: 3rd - Diversified Agriculture

JORDAN STAHL: 1st - Ag Services

AARON BURMEISTER: 2nd - Ag Services

ETHAN ASK: 4th Swine Production Placement

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New Rehab Department and Administrator at MCHS in Fairmont



(above): Fairmont Area Chamber Ambassadors were present for a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new rehabilitation department at Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Fairmont, along with welcoming new administrator, Amy Long. (Submitted photos)

(left and below): Rehabilitation department staff demonstrate the new equipment that makes up part of the rehab center at Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Fairmont.



Naturally

By Al Batt

A lone Canada goose flew overhead, honk-a-lonking at a good goose speed. Its head turned from side-to-side. I hoped it would find whatever it was searching for. There are a number of subspecies of Canada goose that have been recognized, with only a couple being distinctive. In general, Canada geese are smaller in the north and darker in the west. The smallest forms are considered a different species called the cackling goose.

Skunk smell was in the air. It's a sign of spring. That's worth honking about.

Q-and-A

"Are birds able to sleep while they are flying?" There are bold pilots and there are old pilots, but there are no bold, old, sleeping pilots. Sleeping while flying, even with autopilot, isn't a good idea for humans. Some birds, such as the frigate bird, fly nonstop for weeks without landing. Many bird species are known to fly without stopping for days, weeks or months. Sleep deprivation has adverse effects on humans, but birds can sleep while flying. Frigate birds sleep with both hemispheres of the brain or in just one cerebral hemisphere while in flight.

There are two types of sleep in birds: the rapid eye movement (REM) and the slow wave sleep (SWS). Researchers attached small flight data recorders to the heads of female frigate birds. When the birds landed, researchers caught

them and removed the recorders. Data showed that the birds remained awake during the day to actively search for hunting opportunities. At sunset, the frigate birds entered SWS for a few minutes that occurred in one or both hemispheres.

I'd think that sleeping birds in flight would face the dangers of colliding with other objects or birds and falling from the sky. Researchers found this unlikely. When mallards sleep at the edge of a group on the ground, they keep one brain hemisphere active and that corresponding eye open. The open eye is directed away from the other mallards and toward a possible threat. It keeps an eye out for predators.

Scientists believe that flying birds depend on a similar autopilot process to navigate and maintain control. Birds do have an ability to cheat sleep. Researchers found that flying birds often sleep less than one hour a day, much less than when they snooze on land.

Those who enjoy nature are never bored.

Owl enthusiasts from around the world will gather on March 3rd-5th at the 15th annual International Festival of Owls in Houston, Minnesota. The festival is family-friendly with live owls, field trips, nest-box building, photo contest and art projects for children. Information is available at visitingfestivalofowls.com

The "All Things Spring" Horticulture Day is at the Waseca Southern Research and Outreach Center on March 4th. Information can be found at <https://sroc.cfans.umn.edu>

Prairie Smoke and Chester Woods will be hosting a prescribed burn class March 21st at 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Chester Woods

Park, 8378 Highway 14 East SE in Eyota. Learn how to plan a burn on a prairie, important factors to consider before burning and how to safely perform the burning process. Sign up by email at wbnigon@gmail.com or call 507-285-0496, before March 14th. It's free of charge with a free will donation encouraged.

On April 1st, the Minnesota Native Plant Society Annual Symposium, Restoration and Conservation of Native Landscapes and Species will be held at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Register by emailing smkooyman@gmail.com

On April 22nd, the Bluebird Recovery Expo will take place at the Northfield Middle School, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. There will be an abundance of vendors, speakers and helpful advice. Email jeanieandcarl@hotmail.com to register.

The National Eagle Center in Wabasha will be holding SOAR with the Eagles events every weekend in March. These include flying bird shows, live animals, arts & crafts, exotic birds, insects and more. March 4th-5th features Earthquest, March 11th-12th Wild World of Animals, March 18th-19th Wings to Soar and March 25th-26th brings the Cincinnati Zoo. For info, soar to nationaleaglecenter.org/soar-with-the-eagles/

Thanks for stopping by
"A sense of curiosity is nature's original school of education."--Smiley Blanton

"One small crack does not mean that you are broken, it means that you were put to the test and you didn't fall apart." --Linda Poindexter

DO GOOD.

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A mallard is keeping an eye on you. Photo by Al Batt

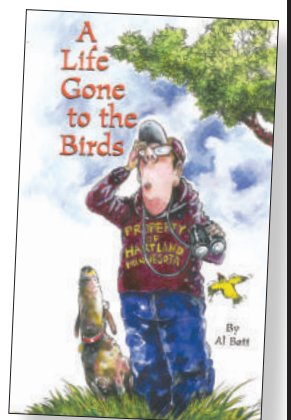
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Prom 2017

Fashion and prom dresses 2017

Each girl dreams to wear the most beautiful dress in the world for going to prom night. We will help you to pick it up, guided by fashion 2017 trends among shades and styles for prom dresses. So what prom dresses are in fashion in 2017?

Main styles of prom dresses 2017

Every year, on fashion catwalks for graduates, pop up various innovations, but more often they remain within classic frameworks. Evening dresses have their own special rules, which can be traced in any collection. Nevertheless, occasionally, designers offer something completely new.

We begin with topical length. First place is surely taken by long prom dresses and what could be better for the prom? Option to the floor was always in demand, so it happened also for season 2017. Short prom dresses are also in demand, and certain have their own place in fashion 2017.

The most frequent graduation dresses are form-fitting ones and it's very topical for dresses with a fluffy skirt. They look very pretty, and the length of such graduation dresses often doesn't reach the floor, but to the knees and occasionally a little higher.

Still enjoying success is the convertible dress. It is better to choose the floor length dresses, because such long prom dresses look the most elegant. Also many people are interested in options with a corset and fluffy skirt. It is hard to name a trend, however you can find quite a lot of such models in collections. Great successes have enclosed 2017

prom dresses with bodies from lace or other transparent material. Also in graduation dresses found are found boat-neck, oval, deep swing collars, cutout heart or "Carmen" with open arms options. Separately should be mentioned, the one shoulder strap. They could be wide or narrow.

The most beautiful prom dresses 2017

Now let's talk about which trendiest graduation dresses appeared on



catwalks this year.

The main ornament of season 2017 is expensive and luxurious lace. 2017 prom dresses sewn entirely from lace are often quite extensive inserts. Branded clothes imply complex elements, but simultaneously have simple cut, and

besides material, style is also very important. Often the first place in designer collections has been taken by colors of 2017 prom dresses, which become the main ornament or evening dresses. Delicate pastel shades of pink, yellow, blue and orange will be at the height of fashion during this season.

Fashionable colors of 2017 prom dresses

Now let's talk about the trendy colors of 2017 prom dresses.

Designers from around the world regularly offer something new that will attract attention and impress, but simultaneously everyone is trying to remain within classics and elegance, since its limitation imposes the collection itself. Bright colors, cyan, blue, emerald, turquoise, ultramarine and yellow can be recommended from rich-bright to rich-dark options.

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Preparing a checklist before prom

PROM CHECKLIST

The dress. Make sure to try on your gown before prom to make sure everything fits perfectly! You can always bring it to a tailor if you're having fit issues.

The shoes. Pick a shoe that will complement your outfit. Not used to wearing heels? Break them in by walking around your house the weeks prior to prom!

The jewelry. Glam it up! You're only at prom once, so pile on the bracelets, necklaces and rings! Stick to one base color, (silver or gold).

The hair. Getting your hair done professionally? Make sure you make an appointment weeks before prom. If not, (thanks to Pinterest) you can find hundreds of DIY hair styles online! Practice to see which looks best on you, or even enlist a friend to help!

The perfume. Find out the perfume that's right for you! Test it out before the big day.

The bag. You'll want

something that can fit all the essentials and also match your dress.

The nails. Whether you're a nail art fanatic or more of a salon girl, you'll want to plan out what design/color you want ahead of time.

☒ Pic a place for before prom pictures and have fun!

Trends for Prom Flowers. Prom Flower Wristlet. Two popular styles are wrist corsages and small hand-held nosegays (and they look great with strapless dresses!).

Popular flowers are mini (or sweetheart) roses, standard roses, dendrobium orchids, alstroemeria, lilies, mini carnations and other small flowers such as cornflowers and freesia. Flowers for your hair or neck or corsages pinned to an evening bag are also great choices for prom!

Talk to your florist about the options and ask to see photos of these different styles.

Don't forget:

- ☒ Your date's corsage
- ☒ Ride arrangements
- ☒ Picture perfect make-up. (bring some along for touch up)
- ☒ Money and a camera!



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Coaches vs. Cancer Committee would like to thank the community and families for a very successful fundraiser event held on February 3rd and 4th at Fairmont Area High School.

Fifty-four businesses and families donated very generous baskets, clothing and gift certificates for the raffle drawings. THANK YOU! Paper basketballs were also purchased in honor of or in memory of a loved one who has fought this difficult battle. They are hanging on the south wall of the gymnasium for the remainder of the basketball season for many to reflect and feel for

the families affected by this dreadful disease.

Our student athletes and their families, in the basketball program, raised \$3,300 for MCHS Fairmont infusion lab, Martin County Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. Their efforts are making a difference in the lives of those affected with the disease. Funds this year were the highest in the last four years, thanks to our generous community support.

Thank you for making a difference!

Cancer vs. Coaches
Committee

Thank you to all the blood donors that answered the call to come and donate. Here are the results from the February blood drive:

Tuesday, February 14th - 88 units collected with a goal of 101 units

Wednesday, February 15th - 101 units collected with a goal of 96 units

Thursday, February 16th - 51 units collected with a goal of 56 units

In total 242 units were collected on the goal of 253.

Special thank you to all the volunteers:

•Thanks to all the long time volunteers and the new volunteers who have

answered the call for greeter and canteen volunteers. Anyone interested in volunteering please contact Cathy Stapel @ 507-381-2066

•John McDonald and Kyle Redenius with Sentenced to Serve

•And always, Holiday Inn for the fine facilities and great staff, especially Mike Christians and Megan Johnson for their assistance.

The next blood drive will be June 6th, June 7th and June 8th. Please contact Red Cross for appointments 1-800-RED CROSS.

Cathy Stapel
American Red Cross

With the 2017 legislative session now in full swing, the list of prospective recipients for Minnesota Legacy funding is rapidly expanding.

As chairman of this committee, I can tell you we're hearing numerous requests for financing; everything from Minnesota Public Radio programming to new exhibits at the Como Zoo. The goal is to find the projects that have most economic value and benefit the most residents in our state.

The committee is a product of the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, which Minnesotans passed into law via the 2008 general election ballot. It raised the state sales tax by three-eighths of 1 percent and diverts that portion to support Minne-

sota's outdoors, environmental and cultural causes. The tax generates around \$600 million biennially.

Many of the requests are for new projects that are quite unique and exclusive to rural Minnesota. They include children's museums in Hutchinson and Mankato, along with an exhibit dedicated to the Jolly Green Giant.

Trails and hunting fishing habitat make up many of the other requests, but to me, the most important funding provision will center on clean water. It's the most important natural resource.

I'm hopeful our final Legacy funding proposal can be debated on the Minnesota House floor by mid-April.

Rep. Bob Gunther,
Dist. 23-A, Fairmont

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Clint D. Forstrom to Timothy S. Smick, Tonja J. Smick, Lot 17, Block 2, Holdens Addn.

Elizabeth A. Haskins to Terry Anderson, E.125'N.60', Lot 4, Block 6, Lake George 2nd Addn.

Dorothy R. Bushman, Dorothy R. Plath to Fairmont Investment Group LLP, Pt. 4 Tracts, Govt. Lot 13, SW¼, 6-102-30

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Bruce Whitehead, Deborah Whitehead to John A. Edman, Pt. SW¼NW¼; Pt. NW¼SW¼, S½N½NW¼, Pt. NW¼SW¼, Pt. S½NW¼, 23-103-32; Und. 1/3 Int. E½SE¼, 21-102-31

John A. Edman to Bruce Whitehead Trust, Deborah Whitehead Trust, Bruce Whitehead, Trustee, Deborah Whitehead, Trustee, Pt. SW¼NW¼; Pt. NW¼SW¼, S½N½NW¼, Pt. NW¼SW¼, Pt. S½NW¼, 23-103-32; Und. 1/3 Int. E½SE¼, 21-102-31

Kristy Lynn Prafke to Kevin Lee Prafke, Pt. W½SW¼, 7-103-31

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TRUSTEE DEEDS

Marilyn J. Rock, W. James Rock, Rock Revocable Trust to Susan J. Rock, Pt. Outlot B, Barkers Hall Lake Addn.

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Fairmont Area High School 2nd quarter honor roll

Fairmont Area High School has announced the 2016-17 second quarter honor roll.

GRADE 12 - HIGHEST HONORS: Leyton Becker, Alexander Bertram, Lauren Carlson, Cody Freese, Andrew Haugen, Molly Hawkins, Tyler Head, Madison Hennager, Ben Huinker, Tyler Johnson, Antony Joseph, Matthew Larson, Cameron Militello, Taylor Nuss, Jenna Pavich, Sadie Sandersfeld, Mikayla Soelter, Michael Soucek, Walker Tordsen

HIGH HONORS: Hannah Ammann, Rachel Anders, Dominic Armitage, Carter Baarts, Haley Burmeister, Shawn Busch, Yi K Chen, Dakotah Cheney, Jarrod Daniel, Dylan Gerken, Emily Haugen, Sam Holland, Alexis Jette, Carter Lloyd, Cory Lyons, Myah Lytle, Lillian Nordquist, Sara Schellpeper, Thomas Willett

HONORS: Noah Becker, Connor Eckmann, Cori Emmer, Christopher Fausch, Cassidy Foster, Ramsey Freeman, Kade Fritz, Allison Johnston, Joshua Keltgen, Javier Martinez-Neri, Brian McFarland, Gary McKnight, Nicholas Moeller, Dani Morris, Evangelina Petrowiak, Jewel Reimer, Madison Reischl, Tyler Schleining, Austin Schwidder, Justin Schwiager, Carlos Sifuentes, Shyiem Thomas, Amanda Torres

GRADE 11 - HIGHEST HONORS: Justin Byrne, Morgan Cihoski, Alexandra Fischer, Laura Hartke, Ben Hernes, Nathan Kallenbach, Ericka Kim, Carter Klanderud, Emma Koehler, McKenna Mathews, Alexa Mosloski, Madison Pierce, Kellen Rodriguez, Camren Saxton, Sam Schwiager, Celia Simpson, Aryanna Skaug, Collin Steuber, Elizabeth Subbert, Anna Sundblad, Conner Tordsen, Jacob Weisbrod

HIGH HONORS: Lance Becker, Claudia Bleess, Seth Carlmark, Brenna Cutler, Mallory Gochanour, Mariah Gochanour, Brooke Hunwardsen, Ana Krause, Brielle Meade, Annie Mittelstadt, Megan Monahan, Kyle Mun-

sterman, Hannah Petschke, Elora Ramon, Iliana Ramon, Lucas Simpson, Marina Speckman, Colin Stone, David Stone, Kiara Wittmus

HONORS: Brady Allen, Ida Bonenberg, Sydnea Brinkman, Christian Burmeister, Adam Carstensen, Claire Cutler, Taylor Eicholz, Chloe Graif, Bryan Grotte, Kaelyn Hargan, Megan Hawkins, Amanda Heinze, Brenna Horkey, Hannah Johnson, Kyla Kainz, Alyssa Kellander, Colby Kuhl, Jaiden Leiding, Emily Lubenow, Jacob Mitchell, Crystal Morton, Mallory Mosloski, Emily O'Connor, Dayton Pasch, Holly Petrowiak, Wyatt Quiring, Tanner Rank, Elizabeth Schultze, Shawn Ian Shoen, Lindsey Tonne, Rosa Yska

GRADE 10 - HIGHEST HONORS: Natalie Abel, Hayden Berhow, Maiya Dietz, Tyler Fogelson, Jebediah Green, Sydney Hainy, Sarah Harstad, Eric Head, Melinda Lopez, Madeline Mathiason, Makena Rodriguez, Whitney Scott

HIGH HONORS: Britany Bass, Kierstyn Camp, Taylor Crissinger, Abigail Dewitt, Nicholas Eversman, Joseph Gerken, Madison Hagen, Grace Higgins, Megan Junkermeier, Christopher Lebert, Bethany Linse, Jonathan Lutz, Charles Nissen, Anna Nordquist, Anthony Nuss, Alex Okerman, Justin Olson, Pedro Ortega, Pramit Patel, Ashlyn Quist, Jacob Raney, Hanna Reischl, Daniel Reiter, Dustin Schultz, Jacob Tennyson

HONORS: Olivia Anderson, Madison Boyd, Sawyer Brau, April Cihoski, Rodrigo Cordova, Kaytlin Eckmann, Jordan Ehlert, Jenna Lee Gustafson, James Joyner, Dalen Keltgen, Alexis Lunn, Michael Maakestad, Hailey Meyers, Andrew Moeller, Matthew Moeller, Meagan Reischl, Carter Reutzler, Brooke Rosenberg, Lauren Scott, Halle Siegler, Stuart Smick, Dustyn Vandever, Acacia Winegard

GRADE 9 - HIGHEST HONORS: Tyson Geerdes, Blake Haugen, Emily Kerekes,

Campbell Krusemark, Jade Lockwood, Zihao Yang

HIGH HONORS: Caden Baarts, Joni Becker, Daniel Betts, Daniel Brummond, Mckayla Chambers, Anna Dewitt, Kaitlyn Freese, Marley Fuhrman, Tianna Goodlock, Joshua Heinze, Aaron Hendricks, Sophie Johnson, Apoorva Komaragiri, Kaylee Larson, Brycen Lutterman, Isabella Munsch, Chloe Murphy, Madison Northwick, Antonio Ortega, Kady Pedroza, Elizabeth Petrowiak, Jacob Rahn, Caitlin Schwiager, Bergen Senf, Zachary Soelter, Carson Toomer, Shelby Van Gelderen, Andrea Westcott, Brandon Williams, Morgan Zebedee

HONORS: Cambrie Anderson, Macy Anderson, Savannah Baker, Macey Bearson, Evan Carlson, Graciela Figueroa, Shelby Fogelson, Kylee Green, Hailie Handevit, Ryan Hennager, Kamden Hildreth, Lillian Hohensee, Katie Jahnke, Jacob Johnson, Alexis Kaufman, Mason Kotewa, Isabelle Lenort, Kaylene Lindquist, Jacob Lueth, Martin Mittelstadt, Jennifer Moeller, Victoria Nelson, Carter Olson, Kaleb Petschke, Emma Schultze, Katelyn Schultze, Hayden Solberg, Cale Steuber, Autumn Wolf, Tyrell Zieske

GRADE 8 - HIGHEST HONORS: Lauren Green, Morgan Hoong, Ameya Komaragiri, Bryn Miller, Kevin Schavey

HIGH HONORS: Connor Artner, Gibson Berg, Josie Bleess, Carolinne Ciramagua Valencia, Kainen Craig, Isabell Geiger, Ethan Grunewald, Emily Hagen, Faith Heille, Gracia Heille, Thomas Klanderud, Audrianna Lewison, Jacob Melsha, Brooklyn Meyer, Janessa Nelson, Hannah Neusch, William Saari, Maddy Schwiager, Kaitlyn Scott, Sabrina Segar, Sara Sundblad, Jackson Utermarck, Raquel Vaughn, Annika Wheeler

HONORS: Brenna Abel, Madysen Allen, Eden Becker,

Mckayla Byers, Mia Collazo, Gabriel Detert, Alex Dorow, Cesar Flores, Tessa Fowler, Jackson Francis, Dustin Harstad, Dakotah Hoefker, Weston Loughmiller, Skyeli Malo, Nayeli Morales, Katie Mueller, Johana Munoz Revolorio, Angel Osorio, Jennifer Rangel, Jacalyn Reischl, Tanner Rosch, Acacia Schmidt, Steven Schrunck, Allison Schwiager, Natalie Tonne, Brooke Van Gelderen, Ty Wintheiser, Gracie Ziemer

GRADE 7 - HIGHEST HONORS: Justine Eisenmenger, Ellie Hernes, Dakota Hockel, Briana Joseph, Aili Lockwood

HIGH HONORS: Cadence Becker, Vanessa Bliesmer, Cadence Breitbarth, Kaycie Brookens, Hayden Clabaugh, Presley Clarey, Flavia Correa, Lauren Davis, Skye Dobbie, Brenden Eckmann, Kara Fischer, Emily Frank, Adriana Gervais, Emma Gudahl, Leeban Gullid, Jasmine Hansen, Riley Henzler, Andrew Johnson, Jaya Johnson, Angelica Kerekes, Samantha Lenort, Alyssa Lutz, Bailey Martinson, Macy Militello, Grace Miller, Alexander Moeller, Brittney Mosloski, Claire Nemmers, Alexis Newville, Cayla Phinney-Colby, Rayah Quiring, Jenna Raney, Alec Reutzler, Autumn Rogge, Hannah Sanvig, Carissa Saxton, Aubrey Scholl, Ellie Schultze, Grace Slinde, Lily Steuber, Kinze Stradtman, Laure Thompson, Libby Totzke, Maggy Totzke, Preston Vaughn, Katherine Zellmer

HONORS: Trinity Allen, Eli Anderson, Hudson Artz, Klay Brown, Lili Bulfer, Lincoln Clary, Jacob Crissinger, Eden Dunker, Dawson Gatewood, Kyler Gronewald, Jacob Harris, Olivia Haugen, Dominic Hegdal, Alexis Hinz, Mackenzie Householder, Cyrus Kapp, Lila Kuhl-Hinz, Dominic Loos-Striemer, Marisela Morales, Rachel O'Connor, Mariana Reyes Santiago, Gavin Rodning, Cassidy Schultz, Hailie Striemer, Trent VanEgdom, McKayla Weyandt

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

2	1				7	3		
9				5				2
		7	3				8	
		5	6			9	3	
8				1				7
	6			2		1		
	9			4			6	
		4		5				1
3			9	8		2		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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April 1, 2017

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Gary Helmers - 507-236-2921
Larry Howell - 712-260-9693

Mark Howell - 712-260-9690
Jack Rooney - 712-260-9694

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

Thursday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.-JAMES RILEY ESTATE- 80 acres bare farmland. Auction to be held at to be held at the Lakefield Legion Hall, located in Sec. 7 Sioux Valley Twp - Jackson county. Dan Pike & Associates

Thursday, March 16, 2017, 10:30 a.m.- GRANT ESTATES- Outstanding 200 acres bare farm land located in sec 29 Amboy twp. Cottonwood county, to be offered at 80 & 120 acre parcels. Sale to be held at the Windom MN Comm Center

PRIVATE LISTINGS: Check with us for private listings on 151 acre parcel in Westford Township and 273 acre parcel in Fraser Township. Both by private sale method. **Please contact Dustyn Hartung at 507-236-7629.**

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PhotoPress Classifieds

1 Card of Thanks

KNUTH - I thank "God" for family, friends and fellowship! Humbled by all of the cards, handshakes, pats on the back, good wishes, WOW. Thanks to "ALL" who put this 90th birthday party together. 112 people for lunch, hope you had a good time together as I did. God bless! ~Harold Knuth. 42-1tp-1

3 Notices

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA - May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, Worker of Miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day; by the 8th day, your prayers will be answered. It has never known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. 42-1tp-3

7 Help Wanted

Drivers needed for spring season April-July, home every night. Must have class A or B CDL with Hazmat & Tank endorsement. Must have clean MVR, pass Drug Screen and DOT physical. Apply in person at Rosen's Inc. 1120 Lake Ave, Fairmont, MN. 42-3tc-7

10 Apartments For Rent

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Are you 18 or older? Looking for a 1 bedroom apartment? 1 bedroom apartment available. You choose the layout. Move in special of \$499 per month. Heat and more included in the rent. Call 800-873-1736 for more information. Amber-Field Place Apartments - Trimont. 39-4tc-10

KRUEGER REALTY: one or two bedrooms, some with heat provided. Garbage, water, on-site laundry. EHO. Call Krueger Realty at 507-235-9060. 25-tfn-10

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23 For Sale

EXTRA LARGE LIFT CHAIR, blue tweed, 40Hx-36Wx25D, professionally cleaned, works great! 10 pictures available via email. \$300. Call 612-867-3767. 41-3tcc-23

HARDWOOD FIREWOOD for sale. Split, dry, stored inside. Will deliver or you haul. Camping, home heating. John Mike Kimmet. 507-238-1724. 41-15tp-23

24 Household Items

REFURBISHED APPLIANCES for sale. Dan's Appliance Sleepsource and TV. 1255 Hwy 15 South, Fairmont. 507-238-2333. 24-tfn-24



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Ag exports on the forefront

Guest Columnist



Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank

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

During the 2016 Presidential Election, and even more so since the beginning of 2017, trade agreements between the United States and other countries have come under scrutiny. In late January, new U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order to end U.S. participation in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement. President Trump has also indicated a desire to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which governs foreign trade with Mexico and Canada. NAFTA and other U.S. trade agreements are very important for the export of many agricultural products, and ultimately to farm profitability.

The TPP trade agreement was reached in 2015, involving twelve countries in North and South America and Asia, including the United States, Mexico, Japan, Vietnam, and Chile. The TPP agreement would have reduced tariffs on the export of U.S. products going to participating nations. Many of the Asian nations have been growing export markets for some U.S. agricultural products in recent years. However, the TPP agreement would have also reduced tariffs and duties on goods coming into the U.S. from other countries, which may compete with similar goods already being produced in the U.S.

Concerns with TPP have been raised by many groups and political leaders, including some agriculture organizations, related to monetary policies, labor laws, and the lack of environmental regulations in some of the

participating countries. Even if President Trump had not signed the executive order for the U.S. to withdraw from TPP, there were no guarantees that the TPP agreement would have passed Congress. Several Congressional leaders, and other major 2016 Presidential candidates, have also expressed reservations about the TPP trade agreement in the past.

The NAFTA trade agreement with Mexico and Canada, which has been in place for 21 years, has been criticized quite extensively by the new Administration. The NAFTA agreement allows many goods and services to be traded back and forth between the participating countries without significant tariffs. President Trump and others have indicated the desire to renegotiate the NAFTA trade agreement. U.S. agriculture exports have grown from \$9 billion per year to approximately \$39 billion in the past two decades, since the NAFTA agreement was enacted. The U.S. currently has a market-share of about 65 percent for ag products purchased by Canada and Mexico.

In 2015, the U.S. sent \$18 billion in ag products to Mexico, led by corn (\$2.3 billion), soybeans, dairy products, pork and beef (all between \$1.1 to \$1.4 billion). The U.S. imports of ag products from Mexico totaled about \$21 billion in 2015, including fresh vegetables (\$4.8 billion), fresh fruit (\$4.3 billion), as well as wine and beer, snack foods, and processed fruits and vegetables. Mexico is the third

largest U.S. trade partner, trailing only China and Canada. U.S. pork exports for 2016 were estimated at 5.2 billion pounds, with Mexico accounting for 31 percent of the U.S. pork exports.

Trade relations with China are also of high importance to the agriculture industry, with China being the largest market for U.S. agricultural products. Based on USDA data, U.S. exports to China peaked at \$26 billion in 2012, and have declined slightly since then, primarily due to changes in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to China currency. In addition, China's rapidly growing economy has slowed a bit in recent years. China is major buyer of U.S. soybeans, coarse grains, and feed products to support China's growing livestock industry. In recent years, there has also been growing demand in China for U.S. dairy products, pork, and other food products.

Much of the recent discussion in the media and by political leaders has been focused on how the U.S. is losing on trade agreements with other countries. While that may be true in some industries, it is not necessarily true in many segments of the agriculture industry. Based on the latest U.S. trade data, the U.S. is expected to export \$129.7 billion in agricultural goods in fiscal year 2016, and import \$113.1 billion, resulting in a \$16.6 trade surplus. The U.S. ag trade surplus was over \$40 billion as recently as 2013. Despite slow growth in overall U.S. trade, the export levels of many agricultural products are expected to increase in the coming year,

including exports of corn, soybeans, and wheat.

Approximately 47 percent of the total 2016 U.S. soybean production of 4.3 billion bushels is expected to be exported during the 2016-17 marketing year, with China being the largest customer for U.S. soybeans. The U.S. accounts for approximately 40 percent of the international corn trade, with Japan being largest importer of U.S. corn. USDA is estimating total U.S. corn exports for 2016-17 at just over 2 billion bushels, which is about 15 percent of the total U.S. corn production of 15.1 billion bushels in 2016. U.S. wheat production in 2016 was 2.3 billion bushels, with about 42 percent of that total expected to be exported to foreign countries.

In addition to the large growth in grain exports in the past twenty years, there has also been significant growth in the export levels of many consumer orientated products, many of them derived from agricultural production. This includes meats, processed meat products, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, nuts, oils, and beverages. Foreign exports fruits, vegetables,

and other horticulture related products are expected to total approximately \$33 billion for 2016, with total U.S. exports of meat, dairy, and other livestock products close behind at about \$25.6 billion. Mexico also purchased approximately 2 million metric tons of dried distillers grains (DDG's) from the U.S. in 2015-16, which is a key by-product of corn-based ethanol production in the U.S.

The export of Minnesota agriculture and agriculture products totaled approximately \$7.3 billion in 2014, accounting for about one-third of the State's total export dollars from all goods and services generated from sales to foreign countries. Minnesota ranked fourth in the U.S. in total agricultural exports in 2014, trailing only California, Illinois and Iowa. Soybeans are the largest are the largest Minnesota ag export, with whole soybeans and soybean meal accounting for 32 percent of the total value of the State's ag exports. The value of soybean exports followed by corn (13%), pork (11%), and animal feed (11%) in value for Minnesota ag export products. Lead

by soybean purchases from Minnesota, China is the biggest purchaser of Minnesota's agricultural products, purchasing 19 percent of the State's ag products, followed closely by Canada (14%) and Mexico (13%).

Trade negotiations are very complex, and usually take years to develop. In many situations, it is not just economic issues that are difficult to negotiate with other nations, but also labor, environmental, and social issues that may vary among the negotiating countries. It is probably far too early to predict dire consequences to the U.S. from any renegotiation of trade deals under NAFTA or with China, or with any other country, and there are possibilities for new trade deals to be developed between the U.S. and other countries. However, the U.S. also needs to recognize that the agriculture industry, and ultimately farm operators and rural communities, have a lot to gain or lose, depending on the outcome of future U.S. trade relations and trade deals with our foreign partners.



STUDENTS WORKING TOGETHER! Addy Young (top center) is the smallest student in Mr. Buss' class at Fairmont Elementary School. As his students walk through a doorway each day, they reach up and tap the frame. Addy is not tall enough to do the same, but it was her goal to tap the frame. See how her classmates rallied together to help her reach that goal! (Submitted photo)

PhotoPress
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Truman Jaguars Youth Wrestling team took part in the All Trophy Tournament held last Saturday at the Waseca High School. They will compete in the Buccaneer Individual Tournament at Blue Earth Area High School on Sunday, February 26th. (Submitted photo)



TALL ORDER – Cardinals' Brady Allen shoots over the Bluejays' 6'7" Jake Guse. The Cards Nate Kalenbach hit a last second three and Walker Tordsen blocked Guse's layup at the buzzer to help the Cards upset Big South Conference leader and Class 3AAA #8 ranked Waseca 80-79 last Tuesday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



RASSLER RUNNER-UPS – The Fairmont/Martin County West Red Bulls finished runner-ups to Worthington at the Section 3AA Meet in Wabasso last Saturday. Scores: Red Bulls 72, Fulda/MCC 7. Red Bulls 38, TMB/WWG 24, Red Bulls 34, Marshall/Lakeview 27. Championship - Worthington 34, Red-Bulls 25. (Submitted photo)

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LIVE CARDINAL WEBSTREAMING VIDEO



Sunday, February 19th the Fairmont Mite Hockey Team hosted the Mite teams from Redwood Falls, Windom, and Marshall for a day of ADM training and game. There were a total of 54 kids on the ice. The Fairmont Mite team is sponsored by Green Plains. (Submitted photo)



CONTESTED LAY-UP – Cards' Brooke Hunwardsen goes for a lay-up against Jackson County Centrals' Annika Lilleberg as teammate Abby DeWitt looks on. DeWitt had 16 points in the Cards' 55-45 win over the Huskies Tuesday night. Hunwardsen had 13 points in the Cards' 64-55 loss in the Big South Conference cross-over rematch Friday night. Courtesy gregabelphotography.com



The Cards Dance Team performed during the boys varsity basketball game Tuesday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



TOP ALL-AROUND - Martin County Magic's Bryanna Peterson captured the all-around title at the Section 3A Meet held in Windom last Saturday. The Magic finished third as a team. Results: Worthington 142.575, JCC 142.5, Magic 139.875, Hendricks 134.75, Luverne 133.035, Redwood 132.425, Windom 124.075, Marshall 119.715. (Submitted photo)



SENIORS HONORED – Martin County Magic seniors were honored at the Section 3A Meet. Pictured left to right: Bryanna Peterson, Jenna Steele, Cara Behrends, Andrea Thate and Maggie Bachenberg. (Submitted photo)

Girls Traveling Basketball Invitational results

Following are the results for the Girls Traveling Basketball Association Invitational Tournament held Saturday and Sunday, February 18th and 19th:

4th Grade

1st Marshall

2nd Austin

3rd Jackson County Central

Consolation Martin County West

5th Grade

1st Worthington

2nd Mankato

3rd GHEC/Truman

Consolation Albert Lea

6th Grade Lynx Pool

1st North Union

2nd Albert Lea

3rd Worthington

6th Grade Wolves Pool

1st Mankato Purple

2nd Jackson County Central

3rd Luverne

7th Grade

1st Austin

2nd Fairmont White

3rd Fairmont Red

8th Grade

1st Worthington

2nd Fairmont

3rd North Union



Rick DeBoer of Fairmont donated blood at the Fairmont blood drive last week. With this donation, DeBoer has now donated over 60 gallons.



Fr. Andrew Beerman (center) presented religious awards to youth from St. John Vianney at the school Mass on February 8th. Isaiah Lockwood and Gabriel Striemer were awarded the Parvuli Dei emblem and Jonah Striemer was awarded the Light of Christ emblem. They are from pack 69 located in Sherburn. Clare Striemer was awarded the Family of God medal and she is in the American Heritage Girls Troop MN 3737, Fairmont. (Submitted photo)

Fairmont Ambassador recent ribbon cuttings



Fairmont Ambassadors were on hand for a ribbon cutting at "The Butcher Block", which is a new butcher shop on Winnebago Avenue in Fairmont.



Fairmont Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting at Lakeview Methodist Healthcare Center in Fairmont. Lakeview Methodist recently opened a new gift shop at its facility. (Submitted photos)



NEW LOCATION - Blue Box Bridal has now moved into its new location at the Five Lakes Centre in Fairmont. Pictured are Michelle Morris (left) and Karla Boettcher, owners and bridal stylists.



MOSS (Many Offerings of Special Support) is currently raising funds for a handicapped accessible playground in Fairmont. Brad Wallace (left) of the Borderline Cruisers Car Club and Amber Elliot (center) of SMILES (Southern MN Independent Living Enterprises and Services) are shown presenting checks from their organizations to JoAnn Krueger of MOSS for the playground. (Submitted photo)

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