

Inside this Issue:

A.G. Crooker - Pioneer Jeweler Page 4

Turn Clocks Ahead 1 Hour Saturday!



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Only good news

Wednesday
March 8, 2017

Volume 53 | Number 44

SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES

National Nutrition Month

Services

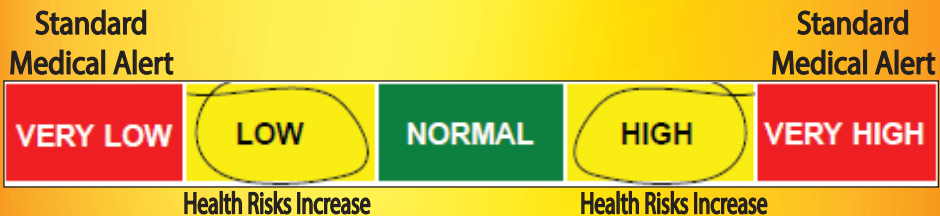
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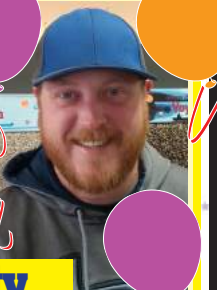
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RETIREMENT - An open house retirement party was held for Kay Wrucke, right, who has worked in the Martin County Recorder's office for 31 years, starting as Deputy Recorder for the first eight years. Pictured, left to right: Deputy Records Michelle Duncan and Nancy Kunkel and the new Recorder, Diane Sanders. Diane has served in the Recorder's office for 22 years. The open house was held last Friday afternoon at the Martin County Courthouse. (Submitted photo)

Martin Luther upcoming activities and events

The Region IV Lutheran Schools Fine Arts and Science Festival will be held at Martin Luther High School, Northrop Saturday, March 11th. Science and art projects made by students from many schools in south-

ern Minnesota will displayed. Students will also be performing musical and literary presentations. A large group concert featuring area choirs and bell groups will begin at 11:00 a.m. The public is welcome. There is no charge.

* * *

The Class of 2018 will be holding a Waffle Breakfast on Sunday, March 19th at Martin Luther High School, Northrop. Serving is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is a free will donation. Proceeds will help fund their class trip to Washington, D.C.

A sale of "Amish-like" oak furniture will be held

* * *

A "Dine to Donate" Night will be held at Perkins' Restaurant in Fairmont on Tuesday, March 21st from 4-10 p.m. Perkins will donate a percentage of the sales to the Martin Luther High

at the same time in the cafeteria. Many shelves, coat racks, quilt racks, tissue holders, small drawers and end tables are available. These items were donated to MLHS and are of exceptional quality. Measure your space and come shop. A preview is available at www.martinlutherhs.com under Special Events.

* * *

School Europe study trip. Perkins needs notification of your donation, please present this announcement to the cashier when paying your bill or mention "donate to MLHS Europe Study trip."

Ziemer named Martin County Pork Ambassador

Emily Ziemer of Dunnell, daughter of Don and Francie Ziemer, was named 2017 Martin County Pork Ambassador recently.

Emily will receive a \$1,500 scholarship, will read her winning essay at the Martin County Pork Producers banquet on March 27th and will compete for the title of Minnesota State Pork Ambassador at Farm Fest in August.



Emily Ziemer, Dunnell

First runner-up was Rachael Mielke, daughter of Chris and Patti Mielke. Second runner-up was Sierra Williamson, daughter of Jamie and Deb Williamson.

Rachael and Sierra will also receive scholarships and have the option to compete for the title of Minnesota State Pork Ambassador. Congratulations to these individuals!

Marriage License Applications

Jacquelyn Rose Slater and Adam Robert Schultz
Paige Elise Breneman and Payten Douglas Crosby

There will be a **Soup Luncheon** on Friday, March 10th at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Fairmont from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is a fundraiser for Heaven's Table in Fairmont. March is Minnesota Food Share month. All monetary contributions, food or toiletry items are counted as double during the month of March.

Arc Family and Friends will meet in the George Room at the Fairmont Holiday Inn on Monday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m. Join us to find out about a new event we want to develop for people with disabilities in Martin and Faribault counties. For questions, call the Arc office at 507-235-8580 for further details.

Noon Lunch with the Arts

The Noon Lunch with the Arts will be held Tuesday, March 14th, starting at noon at the Red Rock Center for the Arts.

The Fun Bunch will present a musical program featuring a variety of arrangements, with several classical Irish medleys performed by the woodwinds. The concert will also highlight a couple of saxophone solos, and sing-alongs.

The group is made up of Jane Brooks playing the clarinet and saxophone, Ann Gross on clarinet, Johanna Hocker on vocals, flute and accordion, and



HAND 90TH - Ernest Hand of Fairmont will celebrate his 90th birthday on Friday, March 10th. Cards can reach him at 2011 - 30th Street, Fairmont, MN 56031.

Discovery Place Preschool will hold a round up registration for the 2017-2018 school year on Monday, March 20th. Hours are 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Fairmont Elementary Preschool rooms. For more information call Sarah at Fairmont Elementary School, 235-6205. See advertisement in next week's Photo Press.

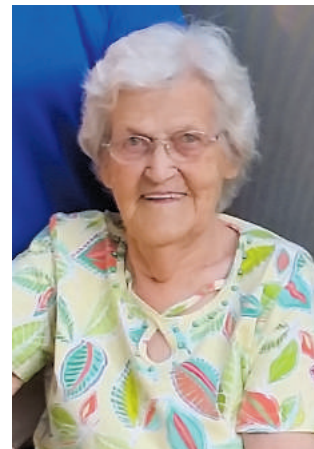


and ethnic music for festivals, nursing homes or any group looking for some fun, upbeat musical entertainment.

Bring a sack lunch if desired. Coffee will be available. Everyone welcome, and the event is free of charge.



SCHULTZ 90TH - June Schultz will celebrate her 90th birthday with an open house Sunday, March 12th from 2 to 4 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Welcome. All friends and family are invited to help June celebrate her 90th!



COTTEW 90TH - Join the family of Elaine (Cyphers) Cottew as they celebrate her 90th birthday with a party on Saturday, March 18th from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Goldfinch Estates dining hall in Fairmont. Please RSVP by calling 507-236-2710 or email ruth@admfg.com. If you are unable to attend, cards can reach her at 850 Goldfinch Street, #411, Fairmont, MN 56031.

eat play shop
LOCAL

AARP Tax Aide Service is available for FREE income tax preparation. The service is available Tuesday and Thursdays through April 18th at First Congregational Church at 319 Downtown Plaza in Fairmont (note new location). Call 507-230-4400 to make an appointment.

The East Chain United Methodist Church will host the **Community Coffee Party** on Saturday, March 11th from 8:30 to 11 a.m. They will serve rolls, donuts, coffee, tea and juice. Free will offering.

The **Martin County retired highway workers** will meet for breakfast on Tuesday, March 14th at 8:30 a.m. at the Ranch Restaurant in Fairmont.



The Fairmont Eagles recently donated a check to the local Girl Scout chapter. Pictured from left to right: Cathy Malo, Scout leader, Brenna Abel and Dave Nutt, President of the Fairmont Eagles Aerie. (Submitted photo)

Vangie Barber
Celebrates 90th Birthday

Vangie Barber of Sherburn will be celebrating her 90th birthday with an **OPEN HOUSE** on **Saturday, March 18th** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Fairmont United Methodist Church
119 East 2nd St., Fairmont, MN
CARDS CAN BE SENT TO:
782 90th Avenue
Sherburn, MN 56171

The Annual Meeting of the **Fairmont Farmers Market Association** will be Thursday, March 16th in the downstairs meeting room of the Martin County Library. The meeting begins at 5 p.m. All current Fairmont Farmers Market members and anyone interested in becoming a member are encouraged to attend.

Michelle Smith of Fairmont won a \$50 gift card at the **Fairmont Butcher Block's** recent grand opening. The Fairmont Butcher Block, owned by Jeff Schmidt, is located at 917 Winnebago Avenue and features custom meat processing and retail and smoked meats.

2017

planning calendars

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Local electric co-ops win national award

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) presented Southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative (SMEC) the "Cooperative Purpose Award" March 1st. This award recognizes their outstanding contribution to improving the quality of life and the purpose of the cooperatives in their area.

Federated Rural Electric, Jackson; and South Central Electric, St. James; are part of the 12 electric

cooperatives recognized with this award. In 2013 the Southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative (SMEC) was formed by 12 electric distribution cooperatives to be the single point of contact for the purchase of Minnesota electric service territory from Alliant Energy. SMEC engaged their local community and business leaders through a grassroots campaign to educate them on the cooperative advantage. In 2015 SMEC's vision be-

came reality as the cooperative welcomed more than 43,000 new consumer-members into the cooperatives' service area.

South Central added 1,896 members from the towns of LaSalle, Lewisville, Ormsby, Trimont, Odin, Bingham Lake, Darfur, Jeffers and Storden.

Federated gained 1,700 members in the towns of Heron Lake, Okabena, Kinbrae, Granada, Sherburn and Northrop.



And the award goes to . . . the local electric cooperatives! Twelve electric cooperatives involved in the Southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative accepted a national award for the Alliant acquisition. Pictured are nine of the local cooperative general managers: Scott Reimer from Federated Rural Electric (front row, far right) and Ronald Horman from South Central Electric (back row, far left). (Submitted photo)

Area College Student News



Mason Koeritz and the University A Cappella Choir from Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska, will travel to Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana for its annual tour March 22nd - 27th. The choir will conclude the tour with two local-area concerts on Sunday, April 2nd at 2 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas (Newman Center) in Lincoln and at 7 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward.

Mason is from Northrop.

The internationally acclaimed choir will perform concerts at churches and schools in four cities on their 6-day tour. Concert sites include First Immanuel Lutheran Ministries, Cedarburg, Wisconsin,

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Birmingham, Michigan, St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenthum, Michigan, and Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The choir performs full-length concerts, high school assemblies and church worship services. The repertoire of sacred and secular choral compositions spans all historical periods and is representative of many cultures. This year's concert features the works of Tomas Luis da Victoria, Giacomo Puccini, Francis Poulenc, Norman Luboff, David von Kampen, Austin Theriot, Moses Hogan and others.

The A Cappella Choir has toured the U.S. each

year and internationally approximately every four years since its inception in 1939, performing throughout Europe, the Middle East, Australia, Asia and Mexico. It also has participated in international choral festivals in Australia and Austria, placing first and third respectively.

* * *

Minnesota State University, Mankato has released their Dean's list for the fall semester of 2016.

Jonathan Soucek of Fairmont has been named to the Dean's List for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

In order to be included in the Dean's list, students must have earned at least a 3.5 GPA during that semester of school.

The sentence "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the alphabet.

The Fairmont United Methodist Church **Wednesday evening suppers** continue during Lent with soup suppers. The suppers are from 5 to 6 p.m. at the church. This week it will be chili and cornbread. Wednesday, March 15th they will serve broccoli cheese and chicken noodle soups. The dinners include peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, jello, homemade deserts and beverages. A donation of \$2 is suggested.

Honor the veterans in your family

By Kay Pope, Trimont

Each of us has friends and relatives who served, putting their young lives on hold, typically dedicating two or more years defending the constitution which guarantees the many freedoms we enjoy. Within living memory, many American lives were lost. WWII cost 405,000, 54,000 during Korea, 58,000 in Vietnam, 7,200 more in Iraq and Afghanistan. And we must not forget the significant number who suffered physical and mental wounds. All of them deserve to be remembered and respected, along with those who returned, thankfully undamaged, to their families.

Those of you who were in uniform, but were not in combat or otherwise exposed to significant danger, may think your effort was undeserving of recognition. Well, it may be such to you, but your service is important to your parents, siblings, children and grandchildren. They are proud of your service, and a record of that service, so important to local history, belongs on the black marble

monument on permanent display within the Area Veterans Tribute in Trimont Memorial Park on Main Street.

One of the plaques on the Tribute will be for M. L. Nelson, who was Triumph and Monterey's original Music Man. Maynard arrived in Triumph in 1940, after college, hired to teach industrial arts and be the band master for Trimont High School Band. In a relatively short time he had a great high school band program going. For many years it was one of the best high school bands in the area, winning A's in several categories: marching bands, pep bands, concert bands, ensembles and soloists. But in the meantime, Pearl Harbor happened and he joined the Navy as Lt. J. G. on October 15, 1943, and sailed from Bremerton, Washington, to the Central Pacific. His ship was involved in the Iwo Jima and Okinawa engagements. Once, when his ship was in Hawaii for repairs, he happened to meet up with Dr. Lowell Carlson (Triumph's town dentist!) Dr. Carlson was stationed in Hawaii as a

dentist for the U. S. Navy from 1943 to 1946. They both were glad to spend some time with someone from back home. Maynard was finally discharged at Great Lakes Naval Station in 1946. He returned to Triumph and continued his great success with the Trimont High School Band program. There will be a plaque with his name, rank and service time on the Tribute in Trimont, put there by members of the Trimont Area Centennial Band, a community band Maynard started in 1999 for Trimont's centennial. We are proud to have him on "our wall".

Be sure that you and those in your family who have worn the uniform of the nation are included, no matter when or where they served. Just complete an application available at the Trimont Town Center and local banks, and send with your remittance to the address noted.

The next meeting of the Trimont Area Veterans Tribute will be 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 28th, 2017, Trimont City Hall.

Profinium Elects New Talent to Board of Directors

Profinium, Inc., a Minnesota banking company, has announced the election of three new board members to its team: Christine Rotthoff, Steve Sorenson and Matt Ketelsen.

Rotthoff brings broad knowledge and experience in commercial real estate investment and management. Rotthoff is a long-time resident of Owatonna and is director of operations for ARISE Group, LLC, a private equity commercial real estate firm and managing partner and President at CRK Properties, LLC. As a seasoned commercial property owner, manager and realtor, the bank board will benefit from her insights about the future growth of our region.

Sorenson, a resident of Madelia, joins the Profinium Board of Directors and will contribute his expertise in finance and agriculture. Sorenson has spent his career working for agricultural based companies including NuWay Cooperative and Associated Milk Producers, Inc. as well as

growth oriented, closely held companies including Kurt Manufacturing Company, Coughlin Companies, and Jordan Sands.

Sorenson recently started working for Krahmer Inc. as COO/CFO of all farm operations. In total, Sorenson has 25 years of experience in all phases of finance, operations, administration and systems management.

Ketelsen is a resident of Lakeville and is currently the General Manager of KOWZ/KRUE Radio in Owatonna, Minnesota.

Ketelsen has been a major advocate for the Owatonna community serving as the Chairman of the Owatonna Chamber of Commerce and Tourism board. Formerly, Ketelsen worked for the office of U.S. Senator Norm Coleman. Ketelsen brings

the knowledge of growing a closely held business, market and branding expertise as well as a deep understanding of agriculture.

"I believe the additions of Chris, Matt and Steve to the Profinium Board continues our tradition of having vested and talented business people help guide our bank to further growth and success. These new board members bring knowledge, youth and passion to our pursuits," said Fred W. Krahmer, Chairman of the Profinium Board of Directors.

The current Board of Directors of Profinium, Inc. is Fred W. Krahmer (Chairman), Fred C. Krahmer (Vice Chairman), Michelle Krahmer, Larry Swanson, Wayne Kahler, Marques Doppler, Matt Ketelsen, Steve Sorenson and Chris Rotthoff. Profinium, Inc., is a locally-owned community bank focused on full financial health with full financial services. Profinium has four locations in Southern Minnesota, including Fairmont, Truman, Owatonna, and most recently, in downtown Mankato in the Profinium Place office tower. The organization has served Southern Minnesota since 1875, and provides banking, mortgage, insurance, trusts and investment services.



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A. G. Crooker – Pioneer Jeweler

Guest Columnist



Lenny Tvedten, Director, Martin County Historical Society

Albion G. Crooker was a jeweler and watch maker who came to Martin County in the 1860s. Crooker was born in Stockton, Maine, in 1856. He came to Fairmont when he was nine years old with his parents in a covered wagon from Cannon Falls. His father, Dr. Crooker, had taken a soldier's homestead and was one of the founders of Rutland Township. At that time, the courthouse was the only frame building and Fairmont's population numbered about fifty. There was a log hotel called the A. Andrews Hotel located in what is now Ward's Park. It was later owned by E. M. Hyatt and called the Lake House.

Crooker attended school in Fairmont and worked for Col. C. A. Lounsberry, editor of the Martin County Atlas. He taught school in Rolling Green Township and at Handy, now known as Granada. One of Crooker's star students in Granada was Archie Handy. He also spent a year at Carlton College in Northfield where he witnessed the notorious James Gang robbing the Northfield Bank.

Crooker studied the jeweler's trade in the east and returned to Fairmont in 1883 and worked for George Chapman. In 1899, Crooker and Frank

Canright bought out Mr. Chapman and continued in partnership until 1908. Then, Crooker bought out Canright and went into business by himself.



Mr. & Mrs. A.G. Crooker, circa 1880s.

He established his jewelry store at 108 North North Avenue, now Downtown Plaza, across the street from Dee's Floral. By 1950, he was acclaimed as Fairmont's eldest businessman. When he was in his 80s, he said he had no intention of applying for "old age pension," as he didn't consider himself

old enough yet. He also said he didn't think the "gubment" owed him a living! Crooker was known to be kind, generous, and he provided a college education to each of his eight children.

Although considering retirement by the time he reached 94, he still spent his time shoveling snow

from his sidewalk, walking to the store to handle bills and write checks, and to expound on his view of world affairs. He gave his opinion on the U. S. involvement in Korea, his view of the Chinese Communists, and Joseph Stalin. Crooker planned to remain active. After all, he didn't think he wanted to quit altogether being that he was just 94 years old!

Crooker never owned an automobile, never used liquor, walked to work every day, and had tuberculosis in his 40s and was told he wouldn't live much longer. He was obviously a survivor and had a positive attitude.

For more information on this topic visit the Pioneer Museum in Fairmont or its website at www.fairmont.org/mchs.



Crooker Jew Street Clock

Senior Piano Recital at Red Rock Center Sunday

Mason Koeritz of Northrop will be presenting a Senior Piano Recital at the Red Rock Center in Fairmont on Sunday, March 12th at 1:30 p.m.

Mason is a graduate of Martin Luther High School and is currently a senior at Concordia University of Seward, Nebraska, earning his degrees in both Music and Chemistry.

The program will include an original composition, as well as classical

and modern selections. In addition to composing his own music, Mason enjoys being a member of the University A Cappella Choir, which will be traveling in May to South Africa, where they will share the Gospel in song at churches and schools throughout the country.

In order to help with expenses, any free will donation will be gratefully accepted. The public is invited to attend.

Don't miss your chance to get Girl Scout cookies!

Girl Scout Cookie Sales continues through Sunday, March 26th.

If a Girl Scout hasn't stopped at your home, or if you need additional cookies, upcoming cookie booth sales will be held at Hy-Vee, Fareway Foods,

Shopko or Walmart over the next few weekends.

If you need cookies and can't get to one of the booth sales, please contact Judy at 236-2540 to arrange a cookie delivery. The Girl Scouts appreciate your support!

Kum & Go to give ten winners free fuel

Kum & Go is known for delivering more to customers, and now &Rewards members have even more reason to swipe their card or scan their app with every visit.

The Great &Rewards Giveaway launched recently and gives members the opportunity to win a year's worth of free fuel just by using their card! Ten lucky winners will be chosen at random in early May. Kum & Go is also giving away 25,000 instant win prizes in the next two months –

including bonus points, free food & drink, whole pizzas, candy, chips, fuel discounts & more.

Visit The Great &Rewards Giveaway to learn more about the campaign, or kumandgo.com/rewards to sign up for an &Rewards membership. &Rewards is free, incredibly easy to use and customers earn points just by purchasing items they buy every day – things like fuel, food, soft drinks, coffee and more count toward earning a reward.

Strange BUT TRUE

• It was award-winning American author Ann Patchett who made the following sage observation: "The question is whether or not you choose to disturb the world around you, or if you choose to let it go on as if you had never arrived."

• As St. Patrick's Day approaches, you might want to remember that the color originally associated with the Apostle of Ireland was blue, not green.

• In 1861, when a group of Unionist counties decided they didn't want to be part of Virginia any more, West Virginia became the only state formed by breaking away from a Confederate state. That wasn't the only attempt, however; a group of citizens in northern Alabama and eastern Tennessee wanted to band together and form a new state that would be allied with the Union. Unfortunately for this pro-Unionist faction, plans for the would-be state of Nickajack never came to fruition.

• Are you a coodiwompler? You are if you sometimes travel purposefully toward an as-yet-unknown destination.

• At the time of its completion in 1885, the Washington Monument, at 555 feet, was the tallest building in the world. The cornerstone had been laid on July 4, 1848, but insufficient funds and other interruptions repeatedly delayed the work. When the monument finally opened to the public in October 1888, visitors could take a 10-minute steam-powered elevator ride to the top. During the last 12 years of the 19th century, more than 1.5 million people visited.

• Hibernation doesn't always happen in cold weather; warm-weather hibernation, known as estivation, is common among some species of lizards, turtles and snails.

Thought for the Day: "The radical novelty of modern science lies precisely in the rejection of the belief ... that the forces which move the stars and atoms are contingent upon the preferences of the human heart." — Walter Lippmann

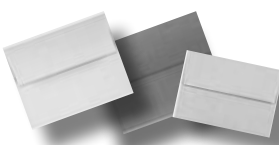
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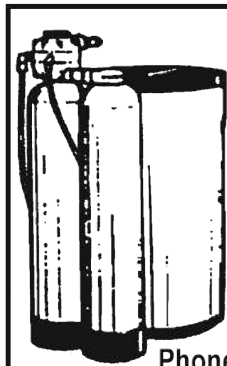
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Martin County Library - Fairmont to host Lego Club

Kids ages 6-10 are invited to join the Martin County Library - Fairmont for Lego Club at the Fairmont Library! Come build with us! The Lego club

will be held on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. on March 14th and 28th. There is no cost to attend and no need to register. Call the library at 238-4207 with questions.



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What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Chicken Cream Cheese Pockets

The robins are back! It must be spring. Pa Lloyd was out on the bike trail today and saw a flock of robins, a sure sign of spring! My tulips are also up. That man of mine put a fence around them so the bunnies won't have a spring salad!

A couple of weeks ago I shared a recipe with you for chicken pockets, which I have to admit take time to make. My granddaughter, Samantha, shared her recipe for a much easier version to make. She and her husband make them often and say they freeze well, so here is her version of chicken pockets!

- Chicken cream cheese pockets**
2 cups cooked and pulled chicken
4 Tablespoons butter, divided
1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
4 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 large can Pillsbury crescent rolls

- Sauce**
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine chicken, cream cheese, half of butter portion, mushrooms, salt and pepper. Lay out a single crescent roll triangle. Stretch it out so that it is slightly bigger than normal. Place about 1/4 cup chicken mixture in the center of the crescent roll. Wrap dough around chicken mixture sealing edges, creating a pocket. Do this for each crescent roll. Place onto a parchment lined cooking sheet. Melt remaining portion of butter and brush onto each roll. Bake in oven for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. While baking, combine evaporated milk and cream of chicken soup over medium heat. Stir to incorporate and heat until simmer. Turn off heat let cool, spoon over rolls when serving.
Have a great week!

Truman Public School's

KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

Thursday, March 16 • 6:00 p.m.

This is for all students who will be 5 years old by September 1st and their parents. You will get the chance to meet the Kindergarten teacher, see the classroom and get a tour of the school.

We offer All Day - Every Day Kindergarten
Small class sizes! If you have any questions, please call (507) 776-2111.

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

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FARGO is a friendly and well adjusted guy. He is probably about 7-8 months old and very playful. Fargo is orange tabby with white. He does well with other cats
ALISSA is a 4-paw declawed diva. She is sure that the other cats should either not exist or only exist to do her bidding. She is a little more tolerant of people since they supply her food. Alissa can be very sweet and enjoys being petted on her terms. Do you need a diva in your life?
WHISPER is a gray and white tuxedo. She was rather ill as a small kitten. As Whisper started feeling better, she became a ball of energy and spunk. Whisper is in the colony room, and while she doesn't play with the other kittens, she does tolerate them and plays by herself. If you want an independent and energetic girl, Whisper might be just right for you.

A FEW OF OUR DOGS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:
JAX is a silver Schnauzer mix, who is a little picky about his friends. His best friend is Dolly, another Schnauzer mix. Jax also strongly prefers women to men, and does not do well with children. Jax is very loving and sweet to those that are on his friend list.
WILLOW is black with a little white on her chest. She has tall, alert ears and we are guessing her to be part shepherd or kelpie. Willow is good with people and some other dogs. She is a young adult with lots of potential.
COCOA is a cocoa colored Chihuahua cross. This neutered male is a little skittish at first, but will settle nicely with a little patience and TLC. Cocoa likes are current warm weather, but is not a fan of winter in general.

Red Rock Center and SMILES team up for art

During the month of March Red Rock Center for the Arts and SMILES, Center for Independent Living teamed up to display artwork by area artists with disabilities in The



Underground Art Gallery. The exhibit provides an opportunity for them to promote their creative talents and raise awareness for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities during National Disabilities Month. There will be a Meet & Greet Open House on Sunday, March 19th from 2 to 4 p.m. Come and view the artwork and visit with

some of the artists behind the work. Light refreshments will be served, and everyone welcome.

The Underground Art Gallery is located in the lower level (south en-

trance) of the Red Rock Center, and is available to area artists, schools and groups who wish to display just a few pieces of work at a time or a group exhibit. During the month of March The Underground is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., nights and week-ends by appointment.

Fairmont Quilters to meet

The Prairie Star Quilt Guild will meet Monday, March 13th at Fairmont Covenant Church. This will start with a class at 9:00 a.m. taught by Sandi Irish of Irish Chain Designs. Those interested in signing up for the class should contact Sherry Bremer. Class members will take a break for a pot luck at noon. The board will meet at 1:30 p.m., followed by a general membership meeting at 2:30 p.m., one hour later than usual.

Following reports from Secretary Lin Hilgendorf, and Treasurer Jane Traver, Roxy Brummond, the PSQG librarian will report on magazines and books that have been added to the guild library and will be followed by show-and-tell. Members who are working on the patriotic quilts as part of the service project are encouraged to bring them to show.

Members are reminded of the Dream Catcher challenge - create a small quilt (maximum 100" perimeter) with the theme of dreams.

There is still room for two more members to join

the Quilt Retreat to be held at the Granada Retreat Center on April 20th-23rd. This is a great time to get sewing done, as well as the opportunity to reconnect with friends. Interested members can contact Sandy Sorgenfrie. Following the meeting, the program will be a trunk show by our Teacher, Sandi Irish. Sandi is an entertaining and prolific quilter who has a series of patterns and tools under the umbrella of her company, Irish Chain. Sandi will present the trunk show a second time at the evening meeting. Lunch will be provided by Jan Shaffer, Nancy Paris, and Linda Bakken, with the door prize provided by Kathy Elkins. The evening group will meet at 5:30 p.m.

The Prairie Star Quilt Guild meets on the second Monday of each month at the Covenant Church at 901 Woodland Avenue in Fairmont. Information and photos can be found on Facebook at Prairie Star Quilt Guild. For more information, contact PSQG President Barb Mager at 507-776-7601.

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Are you looking for a way to spice up your kid's reading habits? Look no further than Storyline Online! This online site serves as a next-generation Reading Rainbow! Enjoy video recordings of favorite children's books, read aloud by actors and actresses. Each video includes an introduction from the actor, along with full page, animated illustrations from the

book. Audio effects add to the story too. Story-line Online really brings the books to life and can be a fun way to encourage your little readers. It can also be a great way to hear and view a favorite story in a totally different way! You can even chose to use closed captions or leave them off. Listen and watch as Betty White reads Harry the Dirty Dog or Rita Moreno reads I Need My Monster and Christian Slater reads The Coal Thief. There are many selections to choose from. Visit Storyline Online by following the link on our library website (on the green bar that runs across the top) or head straight there at <http://www.storylineonline.net/>.

MN Teacher of the Year candidates narrowed to 37

The field of possible candidates for this year's Minnesota Teacher of the Year honor has been narrowed to 37. A selection panel of 23 community leaders chose the semifinalists from an initial field of 132 candidates from across the state.

The panel will review the semifinalists' portfolios again in late March and will select about 10 finalists from among the group. The current Minnesota Teacher of the Year, Abdul Wright, will announce his successor at a banquet May 7th at the Radisson Blu Mall of America in Bloomington.

Education Minnesota, the statewide educators union, organizes and underwrites the Teacher of the Year program. Candidates include pre-kinder-

garten through 12th-grade and Adult Basic Education teachers, from public or private schools. The Minnesota Teacher of the Year Program also receives support from the following organizations: Education Minnesota ESI, Educators Lifetime Solutions, EFS Advisors, Harvard Club of Minnesota Foundation, McDonald's Restaurants of Minnesota, Radisson Blu Mall of America, SMART Technologies and United Educators Credit Union.

Area Semifinalists for 2017 Minnesota Teacher of the Year are listed, including the district, school, subject area and grade taught:

Pam Brolsma: Fairmont, Fairmont Elementary, elementary, 1st

CREST Festival of Music this Sunday in Fairmont

The 22nd annual Festival of Music will be held Sunday, March 12th at 2 p.m. at the Evangelical Covenant Church, located at 901 Woodland Avenue in Fairmont.

The purpose of this festival is to come together as fellow believers in the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to declare our praises to Him. The music reflects the tradition of the area churches and the theme of

the music will be about the suffering of Jesus and/or his resurrection. The program will consist of solos, instrumentals, ensembles & choirs. There will also be scripture readings and a hymn sing during the festival.

An offering will be received at this event and will go to support the ministry of CREST in Martin County. The public is cordially invited to attend.

JOIN US FOR OPEN HOUSE, TOUR AND QUESTIONS

PRESCHOOL

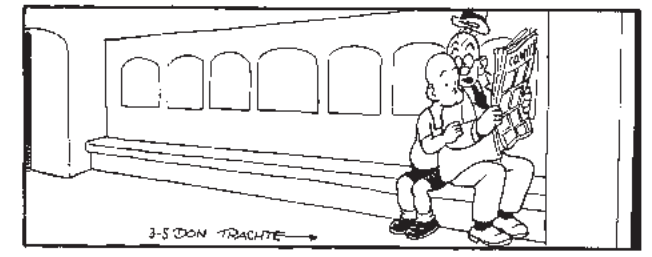
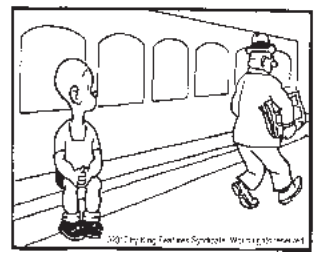
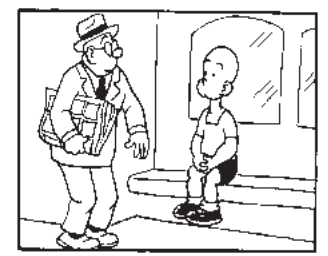
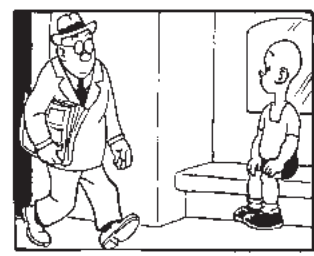
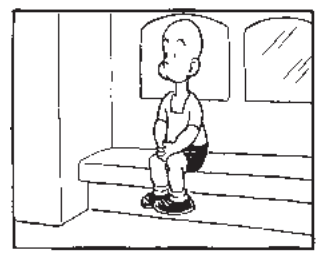
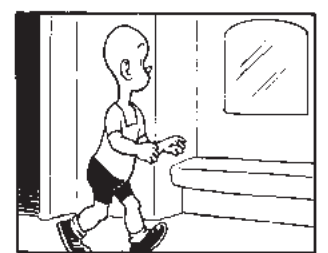
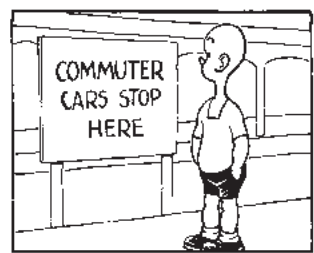
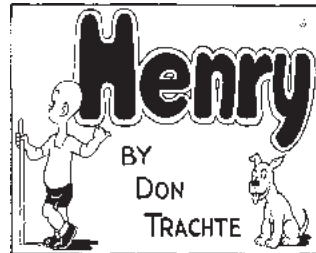
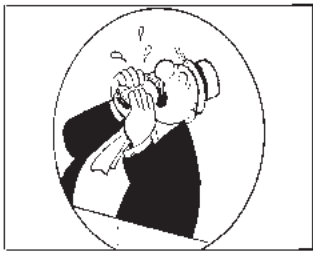
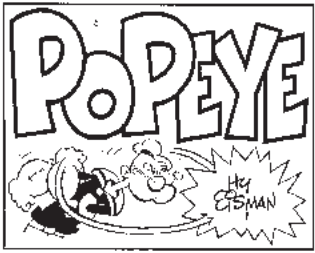
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Friday March 10 at 7:30 PM
ACROBATS OF CIRQUE-TACULAR
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MUST SEE TO BELIEVE!**

Adult - \$17.00
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Next Events:
Friday 3/17
7:30 PM
Close To You:
The Music of
the Carpenters
Sunday 4/9
2:00 PM
Seussical
the Musical

Sat., March 11th
6:30 pm

Ma's (Irene Umbreit)
95th Birthday Party
Entertainment by Jim and Jessie
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Always a good time
at the U-Turn Bar!

CryptoQuote

answer

Somewhere in the world
there is an epigram
for every dilemma.
— H.W. Van Loan

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Last Rocky Mountain
Oyster Feed!

SATURDAY, MARCH 18
7-11pm: White Sidewalls
\$14 Cover

SATURDAY, MARCH 25
Scotch Doubles Pool
Tournament \$40/team

FRIDAY, MARCH 31
All You Can Eat Fish Fry

LEGENDS II Pub & Grill
CEYLON, MN
Good food, good friends, good times!

COUPON

Pizza + Pins + Pepsi
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1 pizza + 1 hour bowling + pitcher of Pepsi

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1228 Lake Ave • 238-2555

Wed, March 8 • 7pm:
Pool League

Fri, March 10 • 5-7pm:
Burger Night. \$5 Burger
Basket. French Fries, Sour
Cream & Chive Fries or
Tater Tots

Fri, March 10 • 6-7pm:
Music by Bucky

Mon, March 13 • 7pm:
Bingo

Tues, March 14 • 7pm:
Dart & Pool League

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

Fairmont VFW

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Hamburger Night
Every Thursday
5:30-7:30 p.m. **\$5**

Hamburger or Chicken
Filet and French Fries. Open to
the public "DINE IN ONLY"

Fri, March 10 • 5:30-Gone

**STEAK &
SHRIMP FRY**

Grilled sirloin **\$12⁹⁹**
steak or shrimp:

Grilled sirloin **\$13⁹⁹**
steak & shrimp:

Comes with salad bar

Saturday, 5:30-Gone

All-You-Can-Eat
Spaghetti

\$7⁹⁹
served with garlic bread

*Do you need something to
do the 2nd weekend of March?*

The 57th Annual Wells Rifle & Pistol Club

- GUN SHOW -

Over 300 Tables!

Saturday-Sunday, March 11 & 12

Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Sun. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

\$5 admission • Public Invited

Delicious breakfast & lunch available:
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Children under 14 yrs of age must be accompanied by an adult.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN ST. JOHN VIANNEY FAIRMONT

Menus subject to change due
to inclement weather, short-
ages or delays in shipping.

MAR 9 - 15

THUR: Chicken, gravy,
mashed potatoes, dinner roll,
apple crisp, celery sticks, peach-
es.

FRI: Cheese pizza, broccoli,
caesar salad, pineapple tidbits.

MON: Chicken nuggets,
mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner
roll, sweet corn salad, apple.

TUE: Ham and cheese flat-
bread fold, corn, caesar salad,
applesauce.

WED: Dutch pot pie filling,
biscuit, broccoli, mandarin or-
anges.

SENIOR DINING WEEKLY MENU

Senior Dining is served each weekday at 11:30 a.m. at Friendship Village Monday thru Friday. Meals catered by Lakeview Methodist Healthcare. To reserve your meal, call 238-1650 between 9 a.m. and noon the day before. All area seniors welcome. LSS Senior Nutrition is made possible in part under the Federal Older American Act through an award from the MN River Area Agency on Aging under an area plan approved by the MN Board on Aging.

MAR 9 - 15

THURS: Tator tot hotdish, peas and carrots, dinner roll, beet pickles, jello with fruit. **FRI:** Lemon pepper fish or alternate, red skin potatoes, broccoli, chocolate pudding.

MON: Beef stroganoff, corn on the cob, Eclair.

TUE: Chicken cordon bleu, hashbrown bake, brussel sprouts, bread pudding.

WED: Hamburger, tri-tator, bush beans, angel food cake.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Menus subject to change.

MAR 9 - 15

THUR: Creamed chicken,
rice, mixed veggie, pineapple.

FRI: BBQ riblet, mac and
cheese, broccoli, fruit, cupcake.

MON: Calico beans, corn muf-
fin, cheese stick, veggies, pears.

TUES: Hot dog, fries, peas,
apple slices, cookie.

WED: Roast turkey, mashed
potatoes, gravy, corn, bread,
mandarin oranges.

FAIRMONT AREA

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

Breakfast menu can be found online.

MAR 9 - 15

THUR: K-6: Taco salad,
sunbutter and banana roll up,
refried beans, fixings, orange,
applesauce. **JR/HS:** Chicken,
mashed potatoes, gravy, apple
crisp, dinner roll, spinach and
cranberry salad, celery sticks,
apple, peaches.

FRI: K-6: Cheese pizza,
blueberry muffin and goldfish
fun lunch, broccoli, carrots,
apple, pears. **JR/HS:** Mini
cheese stuffed ravioli, bread-
stick, broccoli, caesar salad, car-
rots, orange, pineapple tidbits.

MON: K-6: Chicken nug-
gets, dinner roll, gravy, blueber-
ry parfait with granola, mashed
potatoes, celery sticks, apple,
pears. **JR/HS:** Chicken nug-

gets, mashed potatoes, gravy, din-
ner roll, sweet corn and pepper
salad, jicama sticks, apple, pears.

TUE: K-6: Mini turkey corn
dogs, ham and cheese chef salad,
dinner roll, baked beans, carrots,
banana, peaches. **JR/HS:** Spa-
ghetti, breadstick, corn, caesar
salad, broccoli, orange, apple-
sauce.

WED: K-6: Pepperoni pizza
pasta bake, breadstick, turkey
and cheese sandwich, broccoli,
marinated tomato and cucum-
ber salad, apple, mandarin orange
and pineapple. **JR/HS:** Dutch
pot pie filling, biscuit, broccoli
ranch salad, carrots, apple, man-
darin oranges.

PhotoPress
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Deadline Monday at Noon for Wednesday's publication

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Healthcare and volunteers
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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.

eat play shop
LOCAL



Jeff's Jottings

The signs of spring are starting to appear! While I was out delivering my two paper routes last week, I noticed



OOPS! Some of my "handy work".

alongside a couple of the houses that the tulips were starting to emerge from the ground. They were located next to the house on the south side of the houses, so it is protected from some of the harsh elements. I was also visiting with a couple of fellow Sherburn Lions club members at our pancake feed last Sunday about robins making their return to the area, which is always a good sign of spring. Karis and I took advantage of the nice weather

on Sunday afternoon and started doing some cleaning up around our farm yard. There are always plenty of branches on the ground after winter and I

also noticed that I have a number of "oops" divots in the lawn from the last snow. The soft ground did not help when I was pushing snow with the loader and my lawn paid for it with some black gouges in a few spots. Karis pointed out to me the buds that were already forming on some of our bushes up by the house and our tu-

lip plants were also starting to emerge from the ground. Many of the trees are also forming buds on them, so I hope that the frigid temps are over with so that the trees don't get "stressed out" from the weather changes. There was probably about a dozen robins hopping around on the lawn, looking for something to eat. At one point, I could hear geese honking and looked up to see a large group of them heading north toward some open lakes. Even though this wasn't a harsh winter, I am still ready for spring to begin!

What is it?

In the past, I have asked for your help in identifying various items that have either been brought in to me or I have come across while attending antiques

shows. There have been quite a few who have been able

to identify the items I have brought to your attention in the past four years! Well, this week could be more of a challenge to identify what the item is. A former neighbor and good friend of many years, Darv Roebke of Sherburn, showed me a coin recently that he has been carrying around in his pocket for a number of years. He said he remembers receiving it in the mail, but can't recall where it had been sent from or what the coin is supposed to be. As you can tell by the picture (the gold coin is on the left), it is the same size as a quarter and has a gold color. It has the same image on both sides of the coin, of an angel appearing to float above some clouds and lines like sun rays behind the angel. There are no words to be



found on either side of the coin and the edges of it are completely smooth, with no markings. So far I have come up emptyhanded in my searches online, but maybe some of you might have a similar coin or may know the origin of the coin (or value also). Drop me an email at jeff@fairmontphotopress.com or call me at the office at 507-238-9456 if you have any information on the coin. Thanks for showing it to me, Darv!

Soup, more soup and our alarm clocks!

Before I go this week, I have a few events that are coming up in the week ahead to point out to you. The Fairmont Methodist Church is holding their Wednesday evening suppers throughout Lent. This Wednesday they will serve chili and cornbread with sandwiches and next Wednesday will be broccoli and chicken noodle soups. Serving is from 5 to 6 p.m. (or until food runs out!) A \$2 donation is suggested. On Friday, March

10th St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Fairmont will have a Soup Luncheon fundraiser for Heaven's Table Foodshelf from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church. Saturday night before you go to bed, don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour as we "Spring ahead" this weekend. If you don't do that, whatever you have planned for Sunday (church?) will be missed because you are an hour behind. Speaking of Sunday, this Sunday, March 12th, catch the CREST Festival of Music at Evangelical Covenant Church in Fairmont at 2 p.m. This is a fundraiser for CREST and will feature many local music groups and individuals performing.

Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - Eat, Play, Shop Local - turn your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night!

- Jeff

The Shoreline

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer



It is one of those places that seems to be a world in itself. I speak of the shoreline on a Southern MN lake.

Now that we have a cottage on the lake, I am sure I will learn more of this world for it needs to be watched closely. The trees hang over the water

grow fast in these wet areas. I have been told that these are excellent areas for birds and fish as it is shaded, protected, and cool. Then there are the linden, cedar, and oak trees that are behind them on the shoreline. They grow away from the shore as they like it drier for

if by dropping their leaves to cover those treasures of the years.

As the summer progresses, the leaves change to full grown mature leaves of abundance. They seem to be waiting to do something. What could it be? We will find out, for in late fall they

of the tree trunks and branches which seem to highlight and divide each tree.

It is a painting that has been painted by God through nature, something that artists try to duplicate but only capture a minute part of the beauty. Yes, the shoreline of the lake is a world by itself. It is nice to own a part of this world.

It will take some getting used to understanding it.



on Southern MN lakes. It is like little rooms under those arched branches of leaves as their weight forces the branches to bend and the leaves on the end of the branches touch the water. We like to get into these little rooms with the canoe for it is sheltered, quiet, and a good place to rest after paddling hard.

There were willow trees that line up next to the water area. They like lots of water and need it to grow. They have a twisted look about them and they

their feet.

What I have noticed about the shoreline near the cottage is the progress of the year as these trees grow and change through the summer. They started early producing buds and they seemed to develop quickly. They stand against the waves of the lake as they are so exposed on a stormy day. They seem to bend in the right places and mold to their environment. There is always driftwood and other things under them and they seem to protect

will spill their secret as they have waited all year to show us their splendor, the varied fall colors. As if that is not enough, these trees give us a double showing as they reflect from the lake making it a mirror image for those of us that take the time to notice. Each tree is separate, but part of a collage and as you look down the shoreline you see what is truly a special time of the year. The greens, golds, reds, yellows, and combinations of all these colors mixed with the dark col-

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Ears some good news for me

By Al Batt

Birds sang. I listened.

I spend time in Juneau, Alaska every year. I've done so for years. I love Juneau. It's cloudy and wet, but captivating. There is so much to see. Mendenhall Glacier, Alaska State Museum, Shrine of St. Therese, Mount Roberts and a long list of other breathtaking sights. One of my favorite aphorisms is, "Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." The author is disputed, so I want you to take the credit for saying it.

I stay in the same hotel every year. Why? Because it's reasonably priced. I like a hotel room that has



a bed and a shower. I also enjoy having walls, floor and ceiling. A door is nice, too. Anything else is fluff.

It isn't at the corner of broken dreams and failed promises. The hotel is located in a spot where I can get to places I need to get to. It's not far from the airport. The City and Borough has a population of approximately 33,000, but it covers a large area. Being the capital of Alaska makes it a busy place.

The hotel offers a continental breakfast, allowing me sit quietly in a corner, eating yogurt and cereal, drinking tea and trying not to listen to a blaring TV.

The hotel provides unintentional entertainment. One afternoon, two men wrestled in an argument over who would pay the bill. I sprung into action and took the opportunity to checkout before them.

Another night, two young men who had been over-served, were duking it out in the hotel's parking lot. They were too inebriated to do much damage. They were being encour-

aged by their girlfriends who were also sloshed. I tiptoed by to get to a bakery.

When I came back to the hotel, the police had arrived. They warned the combatants to break it up or they would be going to jail. The miscreants were like the comedian Ron White, who said, "I had the right to remain silent, but I didn't have the ability." They lipped off and were handcuffed and put into the squad car. One of the girlfriends protested, "What are you arresting him for? He didn't do nothing!" A police officer recommended that she stifle herself. She was unable to do so and was handcuffed and taken away. The other young woman remained silent, having reached the point where she was unable to form words.

A band was kicked out of the hotel one year, only to have an ex-wife of one member sneak them in the back door. Entertainment like this would cost an arm, a leg and a pint of

blood in Las Vegas.

Part of the reason I stay where I do is because I'm a creature of habit. It's not a superpower, but it's me.

Ravens are smart.

How smart? Had there been a raven in my high school class, we'd have had a class valedictorian. The school had refused to give that award to our leading student who had nearly a C- average.

I watched ravens walking through the drive-through lane of a nearby fast food restaurant. Two of them, checking the ground for fallen french fries and homeless hamburgers, bumped into one another. It was a feather bender.

Humans stop at that eatery and often get bags of grub to go. Some of them walk the short distance to a bakery to get a doughnut or sweet roll to put the finishing touches on a meal. The walk is just long enough that the meals are eaten and the bags deposited in a proper waste receptacle.

The ravens fly to the

trash container and use their big bills to pull the bags out. They shake, rip, tear, slice, dice and maybe even make julienne fries of the bags. They find tasty morsels in forgotten fries and broken buns. They are chronic litterers, but I forgive them.

To the ravens, each bag of fast food is a happy meal. Happy me. You see, I go to Juneau to revel with the ravens.

Q-and-A

"Is there an ugly bird?"
No living creature is ugly.

"What eats poison ivy berries?" Deer, raccoon, muskrat, rabbit, wild turkey, robin, quail, bluebird, white-throated sparrow and European starling.

Thanks for stopping by
"I take care to appear happy and especially to be so."-- St. Therese of Lisieux

"Traveling makes one modest: one sees what a tiny place one occupies in the world."-- Gustave Flaubert

DO GOOD.

© Al Batt 2017



RAVEN, by Al Batt



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The 9th annual Kids Against Hunger Food Pack successfully packed 123,654 meals on February 18th at the Fairmont National Guard Armory. The goal of raising \$24,000 was surpassed by raising over \$34,000! Almost 10% of what was packed has been delivered to local food shelves, and the rest is on its way to Haiti to feed people who depend on this life-saving "super

food." Kids Against Hunger food can be prepared by simply adding boiling water, and it is so scientifically formulated and vitamin-fortified that it supplies all the nutrition a person needs for one full day!

We would like to THANK all the businesses and individuals who made this possible! It takes hundreds of donations - big and small - to raise this

kind of money. It takes the participation of hundreds of people - young and old - to plan the event and to pack these meals. We'd like to thank the committee for all their hard work - Bridget Becker, Lauren Carlson, Mary Cole, Karla Ebert, Becky Guetter, Jeff Hagen, Chris Hasek, Mark Hernes, Rhonda Hines, Jen Kahler, Julie & Trent Liljenquist, Roger Mach, Donna McMurtry, Crystal Melsha, Kelly Quiring, Doris Rosener, Sandy Soelter, Kateri Wellman, and Rita Willett. We thank the many others who taped boxes, ran a fork-lift, cleaned up, filled bins

throughout the day, delivered boxes to local food shelves, donated signs, a dumpster, or food for the workers.

The Fairmont area has generously supported Martin County Kids Against Hunger for nine years. We truly appreciate every donation of time, talent, and treasure! This includes the high school students' concert which raised money for the pack, the church collections, the business donations, the hospitality of the Fairmont National Guard Armory, the teams of packers who gave up their Saturday to package meals for the

needy in our area and for those in a country they've never even seen! This is what people in our area are made of - love and compassion for others! May God bless you all for

your contributions to another successful pack!

Sue Homan,

Beth Reeve,

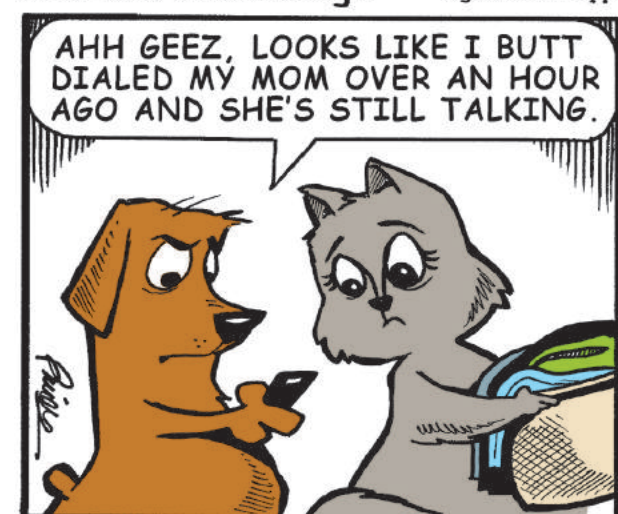
and Karen Sandhurst

Martin County Kids

Against Hunger Co-Chairs

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Fairmont Speech Team competes in Bloomington

On February 25th, 2017, nine Fairmont Cardinal speakers attended the 47th Annual Bloomington Tournament, a large AA invitational with upwards of 40-60 people in each category.

As a team, five Cardinal speakers made it into the top 12 in their categories with the exception of one entry in the top six; as a result, five entries earned honor finals placings and one earned a top finals placing.

Sophomore, Eric Head, placed 7th in Creative Expression Honor Finals, Junior, Lexi Fischer, placed 4th in Humorous Honor Finals, Junior, Ben Hernes, placed 3rd in Prose Honor Finals, Junior Emma Koehler placed 4th in Program of Oral Interpretation Honor Finals, and Senior, Mikayla Soelter, placed 5th in Storytelling Honor Finals. Emma Koehler placed 5th in Poetry Finals. Freshman, Apoorva Komaragiri and Seniors, Tony Joseph, Emily Haugen, and Lauren Carlson earned respectable scores in preliminary rounds facing the rigor of

more than 60 speakers in their categories of Prose, Oratory, Informative, and Extemporaneous Reading.

This small but mighty varsity team earned 11th place with 73 points respectively. This tournament was an important one for these Cardinal Speakers as they are preparing for similar competition this Friday and Saturday, March 10th-11th, 2017, at the National Qualifying Tournament in the cities.

The following speakers are competing at the National Qualifying Tournament this weekend: Lauren Carlson (Informative and Duo), Tony Joseph (Oratory), Emma Koehler (Program of Oral Interpretation and Duo), Lexi Fischer and Sydney Hainy (Humorous), and Ben Hernes, Mikayla Soelter, and Apoorva Komaragiri (Dramatic Interpretation). This tournament is in conjunction with an invitational held at Eagan High School where additional Cardinal Speakers are joining for competition on Saturday.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's getting to the time when nobody will listen to my horror stories of bleak temperatures, chilly winds and months of nothing but ice and snow. But, as with the winter of 2015-16, the mild weather has become an expectation. Perhaps in southern Minnesota, we got luck with these relatively mild winters, which have been a bright spot in the otherwise gloomy part of the year.

The snowfall of the past two years has not been massive, but has rather come in bits and pieces. Many of us can remember in 1965 when Albion Avenue looked like the tundra, and the storms of 1973-75 when you couldn't see your next step in front of you. I remember those winters leading to much discussion of the negative aspects of living in Minnesota. I also remember when East Chain was out of electricity for more than a week, and when a foot of snow was very common.

But then there are re-

cent days when the weatherman gets everything right with the temperatures at 60 degrees, when all the jackets are shed and everyone enjoys their sweaters. Everyone was so elated mostly because it was so unexpected. How different is this from the feelings we have with a November storm, when we dread the expectancy of the coming snow that might not be gone until spring.

Being somewhat housebound, how wonderful it is to see so much sunshine and blue sky in the last four months. Our spirits will be lifted with the beautiful blue sky and the bright red streaked sunsets.

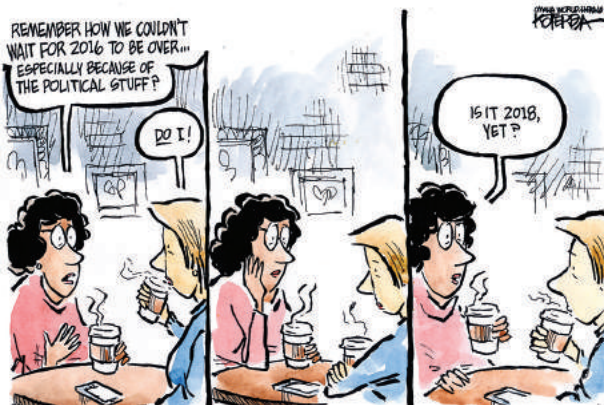
It's nature at its best and we were there. Mother nature has given us a gem. This is a loving tribute to the Almighty and we give thanks.

Mike Garry and
Tammie Hested,
Fairmont

Prairie Ecology Rockin' Reptiles in Truman



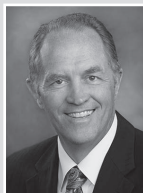
Truman Community Ed would like to thank Alisha and Jessica from the Prairie Ecology Bus Center for teaching us about Rockin Reptiles last week. We learned so many cool things about reptiles and even got to see & touch three live turtles and a snake. Thanks to all who attended! (Submitted photos)



Toddler Tinker Lab at the Fairmont Library

The Fairmont Library will host a Toddler Tinker Lab on Wednesday, March 15th at 9:30 a.m.

The "lab" is designed to allow toddlers to explore, grow and create with a variety of activities each month-the best part? Leave the mess behind at the library! Call the library at 238-4207 with questions. No registration is required and this event is free and open to the public.



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The Martin County Area Foundation held their annual grant awards ceremony last August at the 2016 Martin County Fair. MCAF Board member Tabitha Bicknase (left) presents a check to Jenny Trushenski, of the Martin County Library. (Submitted photo)



Fairmont Rotary Trivia Quiz Night will be Tuesday, March 21st at the Blazer Bar, downtown Fairmont. Registration is by 7 p.m. This is a Rotary club fundraiser to support an orphanage in Paraguay. (Submitted photo)

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Ask A Trooper: Losing Control

by Sgt. Troy Christianson,
Minnesota State Patrol

Question: Why do officers assume someone was speeding when a driver hits ice and loses control? That can happen to the most experienced drivers. Using 169.14.1 to give a person a ticket because he hit some ice and went off the side of the highway seems like that officer has very little compassion.

Answer: Our main mission is to promote traffic safety through education and enforcement. One of the top contributing factors to why people are losing their lives and being injured on our roadways is speeding or traveling too fast for conditions. Law enforcement sees this far too often. In most cases, these tragic crashes are preventable.

Many of the fatal and serious injury crashes that I have investigated are the one-vehicle rollovers -or a two-vehicle crash where one of the vehicles was traveling too fast for conditions, lost control and struck another vehicle.

We all have an obligation to drive with due care and adjust our driving skills to the weather, road and traffic conditions. This is especially true in winter when weather and road conditions can frequently change.

Losing control of a vehicle is evidence that the driver committed a violation of a traffic or equipment law. Failure to drive with due care is the most common violation when a vehicle loses control and goes off the roadway.

The number one thing we can all do is slow down

and increase our following distances, especially when roads are slippery and the visibility becomes poor.

In my experience and when talking with my co-workers, the reasons found for a vehicle losing control on slippery road surfaces are typically:

- Traveling too fast for conditions.
- Using cruise control on poor road conditions.
- Following too close.
- Distracted driving
- Unsafe tires
- Driving while impaired

Each year, 20-30 State Patrol squad cars are struck while at the scene of a crash or traffic stop because of one or more of these factors. Other factors include drivers that fail to move over for emergency vehicles.

We take traffic enforcement very seriously. Our goal is to reduce crashes and keep everyone safe on our roadways.

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 Sgt. Troy Christianson - Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

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KSUM/KFMC Spring Expo - Five Lakes Center

Over 70 vendors were on hand this past weekend at the KFMC/KSUM Spring Expo held at the Five lakes Centre. Rich from Midwest Garage Doors, John from The Boat House discuss spring plans with show goers. Chuck Mixson explained the location of the new Veteran's Memorial planned in Fairmont. Howard Taylor of Armstrong, Iowa won the KFMC/KSUM "Perfect Camping Package" give-away grand prize.



The Garden Bug

Shamrocks in pots

Like all bulb-type plants, shamrocks require a period of dormancy every once in a while. Those grown in containers will need two or three rest periods each year to continue growing well. When a potted shamrock fades, stop watering it, and as the leaves turn brown, pull them off. Set the pot in a place where it can remain cool and dry for a few weeks, then resume watering; the plant will revive. Water shamrocks from the bottom so that the fragile stems of the plant don't get waterlogged.

— Brenda Weaver
Source: www.thegardenhelper.com, houseplant411.com

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Birding BITS

BY Cindy Brook

Feeder Basics

Find a bird feeder that works for you. Make sure it's easy to clean. I like my large, open-tray feeder. I get lots of birds from warblers and titmice to blue jays and woodpeckers. Also, simply tossing seed on the ground near brush cover will bring songbirds to your yard. Enjoy!

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This feature will be ending on 3/27/17.

Sale Barns

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer

SALE BARNS were once plentiful in the small towns of Southern Minnesota. In fact, we still have two in the area, one in Blue Earth and the other in Jackson. We will be marketing our spring lambs at one next Saturday. They have always provided a way to sell and buy animals, straw, and hay. Each had a "sale day" that was well-known by the farmers and buyers for it provided them with not only a market, but a meeting place. A large building at the end of a series of buildings housed the auction ring and seating area. The scale for weighing animals adjoined the auction ring. There were a series of pens with large gates that would swing open into the alleys which led to the auction ring. Every area of such SALE BARNS was a place of great activity on "sale day". The animals were unloaded and marked with a numbered paper sticker that was placed on the hip of an animal. These numbers identified the seller. There were more people at the winter sales because the seating around the auction ring was heated. It provided a warm place for neighbor to meet neighbor. It was not only a market place, it was a place of social gathering.

I started attending SALE BARNS when I was a child. I would sit next to my father who loved making new acquaintances. He was "highly skilled" when it came to starting a conversation. He

could find "that subject" on which a conversation could build. Attending such auctions was a form of entertainment for my father. He lived a lonely life on the farm as my mother was teaching country school. He loved people and attending the auctions gave him an opportunity to meet others. The SALE BARN near our farm held a sale every Saturday. I did not have to go to school so I could go with my father. My father made a game out of almost everything. He wanted me to learn how to work with numbers and he developed a game of guessing the weight of livestock. There was an electronic sign on the scale that flashed the weight of the animal after it was sold. We would each guess on the weight of the animal when they came into the auction ring. Once it was sold the scale showed the weight. I was to write down the weight that each of us had guessed and then subtract the difference. I was to record the difference and then the differences at the end of the sale. We would bet on who would be the closest on the actual weights at the end of the sale.

My mother would not allow any of the family to eat in a restaurant. They had weathered financial

hardship and my mother saw "eating out" as something extravagant. She felt that we could eat much better and cheaper at home. However, my father seemed to forget that rule when we went to a sale. He made a special deal with



me on sale days if I would promise not to tell my mother. We would share a hot beef sandwich at the end of the sale. There was a small cafe in the SALE BARN that offered "short orders". One of these was a hot beef sandwich which was made up of sliced beef between two slices of bread that was cut "down the middle" with a huge measure of mashed potatoes and gravy over the whole thing. We would each eat one half of the order. We would relish the warm food away from home. Neither of us could lose the bet as we shared the winnings.

We have an insurance agency booth at the Martin County Fair each year. An elderly gentleman walked up to the booth and asked me, Are you Tom Anthony's son?" I told him that I was. It was then that he told the story

of meeting my father. It was a cold January day and he had decided to attend the auction. He wanted to see what livestock was bringing as he thought he would have to sell his cows. He was seated next to my father and my father asked him, "How is it going"? He said that for some reason he started to share his problems with my father. He told my father that things were not going well. He lived on a rented farm and that it had been sold.

He was going to have to sell out as he had to move by March 1st and it was the middle of January. He told of the look in my father's eyes. The were sympathetic

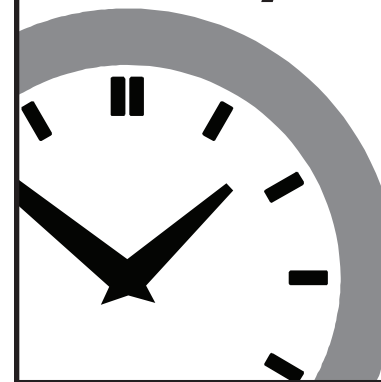
eyes. They talked for some time and he remembered my father asking him two questions. They were, "Are you a good farmer?" and "Are you honest?" My father listened to his reply of yes to each question. It was at that time that the real surprise came. My father asked him to come with him. My father and a friend who owned several farms and was also into real estate. They went into his office and my father mentioned that this man had his rented farm sold from under him and he had no place to farm. My father then asked the question, "Do you have a farm for rent?" They were both surprised when he replied with a "yes". He went on to tell me that he

rented the farm for several years. My father's friend contacted the farmer one day and asked him "Would you like to buy the farm?" He remembered replying that he did not have the money to buy a farm. My father's friend replied with "I did not ask you about money, only if you would like to buy the farm." They worked out a low annual payment on a contract for deed and that was the start of his land ownership. They now have several farms in a large farming operation. He closed the conversation by thanking me for having such a father.

A SALE BARN was an unusual place. The auction ring was surrounded by a high cable fence. The fence was needed to protect the crowd from a bull or livestock that became wild. An auctioneer and clerk sat behind a high desk at the edge of the ring. The chant of an auc-

tioneer was like music. Nothing could be as quiet as an empty SALE BARN. Gone was the auctioneer's call and the noise of the animals. An empty SALE BARN was quiet and cold. It had the unique smell of livestock, but there was no livestock in the empty barn. There was a mystery that related to sale barns. The farmers would consign odd animals. They were usually smaller than the others in the lot and as a result they were not "doing well". However, the animal would fit into the herd if the farmer had other animals the same size. Some farmers would try to consign sickly animals and to bring them home might infect the buyer's entire herd. The decision to buy or not buy was something very important. My father was very good with livestock. He had learned to recognize the difference.

Spring forward Sunday, March 12



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25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF MARCH 11, 1992

Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 and Auxiliary were to celebrate their 73rd anniversary. Guests were Flossie Kesselring, Second District Auxiliary President; Sharon Jeffers, Department Auxiliary President; Ray Bales, Second District Vice Commander and Stan Ludwig, Department Commander.

Fairmont, Jackson and St. James escaped the cutback of the Minnesota National Guard armories, as announced by the state Guard. Worthington and Windom units were two units doomed to be deactivated, along with ten other state units. Fairmont, by virtue of its fairly

new armory building, its expandability and excellent training facilities was saved from demobilization and its 137 guard members will remain here. The Fairmont unit was a combat support company and would become an infantry company.

Vista Telephone customers in East Chain were to get information about the phone service upgrade slated for their community. The meeting was to be held at the old East Chain Store. Vista planned to convert all four-party phone lines in East Chain to one or two-party service.

Fairmont Railway Motors, the city's largest industry dating back to the early part of the century, sold one of its spin-off industries to an Illinois com-

pany. Fairmont Hydraulics was launched by the Railway Motors Company after World War II when the company was experiencing decreasing railroad transportation which had been its main business outlet. Fairmont Hydraulics became the property of Greenlee Textron Corporation. The Greenlee management hoped to be able to enlarge the Fairmont outlet while continuing its present staff.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF MARCH 11, 1967

Fairmont's chain of lakes from George on the north edge of the city, to South Silver, about ten miles south, was destined to be sterilized in the summer of 1967. The City Council approved a fish kill in the chain of eight lakes and their tributaries. A chemical called rotenone was to be used - a substance harmless to humans and all animals except fish. The application was to begin during the hot months, and restocking with game fish would be done in the fall. It was stated that the sterilization was needed because of the gradual increase of rough fish in spite of winter commercial seining, and of late years becoming a serious menace to good fishing. The city has been assured that the rotenone was completely non-toxic to humans. Fairmont was noted as being one of a very few municipalities in the state using surface water for its drinking water supply.



Andy Hagen was recently named a Rotary "Student of the Month." Andy is a senior at Fairmont High School and is the son of Kory and Lisa Hagen. He has four siblings: Madison, Emily, Jack, and Kate. Andy serves as the captain on the tennis team, plays in the high school band, and is active in the Cardinal Leadership Council and FCA. Following graduation, Andy will be attending Bethel University where he will major in engineering and minor in computer science. (Submitted photo)



Fairmont High School senior Myah Lytle was honored as a Rotary "Student of the Month." Myah is the daughter of Tim and Darla Lytle and has two siblings, Marisa and Matt. Myah's school activities include serving as a captain on the soccer team, playing hockey, and participating in the Cardinal Leadership Council. Myah's post-high school plans are to attend the University of MN, Duluth and major in accounting. (Submitted photo)

2017 LAWN MOWING SEASON BIDS The Sherburn Cemetery Board

The job includes but is not limited to; mowing, trimming, picking up trash and general lawn mowing maintenance. You must have your own equipment.

Please submit your bid by March 17th
to: Sherburn Cemetery Association
PO Box 944, Sherburn, MN 56171

Information or questions contact
Penny Claussen at 507-764-8082.



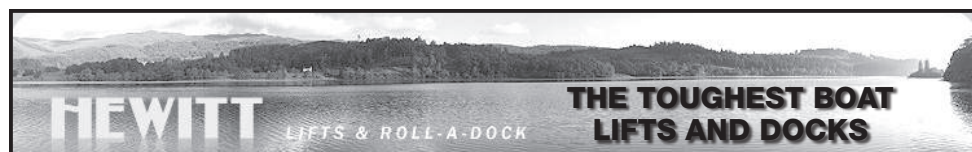
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This year's Fairmont Area High School Triple A winners, Lauren Carlson and Tony Joseph, were introduced at the February 28th school board meeting. The board commended Tony & Lauren for their many accomplishments and school board president Rufus Rodriguez (left) presented each with a Certificate of Achievement. (Submitted photo)



The St. James Lutheran School of Northrop 7th & 8th grade students recently visited the Pioneer Museum in Fairmont to conduct genealogical family research. (Submitted photo)

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OBITUARY notices

Daryl J. Quinn, 54

Daryl Jay Quinn, 54 of Minneapolis, formerly of Armstrong, Iowa, passed away Sunday, February 26th at Hennepin County Medical Center. A graveside Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Daryl was born October 17th, 1962 in Fairmont, the son of Allan and Loretta (Craig) Quinn. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Armstrong. He attended Armstrong-Ringsted Public School and graduated

in 1981. He grew up on the family farm outside Armstrong, and then Daryl worked various jobs after graduation.

Daryl's passions were gardening, biking, going to the beach, dog walking and countless hours of volunteering at Aliveness Project in Minneapolis. He was known and loved by many friends and neighbors throughout his life.

Left to cherish his memory are father and step-mother, Allan and Velva Quinn; brothers: Dennis (Linda) Quinn, Duane Quinn, Doug (Laurie) Quinn and Darwin Quinn; brother-in-law Randy Mart; step-sisters: Shelly (Karl) Andre, Lisa (Tom) Hansen, Renata

(Steve) Moore, Tonia Solberg-Kennedy and Ilana (Jeff) Bohren; nieces and nephews: Melanie Mart Preuss, Mitchell Mart, Chalsie (Quinn) Smith, Cory Quinn, Matthew Quinn, Michaela Quinn, Myranda Quinn, Shelby Quinn, Macy Quinn, Tyler Quinn, Austin Quinn; great-nieces and nephew: Carter Smith, Avery Smith and Kaylee Quinn; as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins and step-nieces and nephews.

Daryl was preceded in death by his mother, Loretta (Craig) Quinn; sister Paula (Quinn) Mart; maternal and paternal grandparents; step-brother Loni Solberg and several aunts and uncles.

Eugene W. Tyson, 72



Funeral services for Eugene W. Tyson, age 72, of Mound, Minnesota, formerly of Granada, were held February

25th, 2017 at Bethel United Methodist Church in Mound. Eugene died unexpectedly February 21st, 2017.

After growing up on his family farm, he worked as a farmer for several years. He soon went to trade school and became an electrician, a proud member of local union IBEW-292. Gene was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and will be remembered for his generosity to his family, friends, and neighbors. His great passion was fishing, logging countless hours on the water across Minnesota, and beyond.

Eugene is survived by his wife, Cathy; children, Lori (John) Lawler, Troy (Sarah) Tyson, Scott (Amy) Tyson, and Lindsay (Nick) Peters; grandkids, Anna Kinnetz, Courtney (Aaron) Lamb, Leo Lawler, Gavin Tyson, William and Everly Tyson; great-granddaughter Abigail Lawler; mother, Irene; and many other loving relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, William, and sister, LaVonne. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to the Westonka Food Shelf.

huberfunerals.com

Todd S. Funke, 52



A memorial service for Todd Stephen Funke, 52, of Camdenton, Missouri,

was held Friday, March 3rd, 2017 in Camdenton United Methodist Church with Reverend Marc Magana officiating. He passed away Saturday, February 25, 2017 in Phelps County Regional Medical Center, Rolla, Missouri. Arrangements were under the care and direction of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel of Versailles, Missouri.

Todd was born November 29th, 1964 in Omaha, Nebraska, the son of Robert Francis, Jr. and Elizabeth (Sund) Funke. Todd was raised in Kansas City.

The family moved to Camdenton when he was a sophomore in high school. He graduated from Camdenton High School in the class of 1983. He attended University of Missouri Rolla and later finished his degree at Columbia College. He worked in radio broadcasting from 1984 into the 1990's at several local radio stations. He worked for Central Bank Lake of the Ozarks in the computer technology area. Todd has worked for Lake Regional Hospital as a database analyst for the past sixteen years.

On August 22nd, 1992 in Osage Beach, Missouri, he was united in marriage to Lucinda Kay Christiansen and to this union one son was born. Together they shared twenty-four years of happy marriage.

Todd was a member of Camdenton United Methodist Church. He has been a coach and mentor for the Robotics Teams at Camdenton Schools since its inception. He enjoyed doing leather work, barbecuing and traveling. Most of all, Todd was a family man who loved spending time with his family.

Survivors include his wife, Cindy Funke; his son, Kyle Funke; his mother, Elizabeth Funke all of Camdenton, Missouri; his siblings, Kristina Trester and husband Gary of San Diego, California and Jason Funke and wife Lyndsay of Camdenton, Missouri; his best friend whom he considered a brother, Steve Hynek and wife Brenda of Kansas City, Missouri; his nieces and nephews, Stephanie Siers and husband Doug and Michelle Trester all of San Diego, California, Rayne Christiansen of

Osage Beach, Missouri and Zoe Funke of Camdenton, Missouri; great niece and nephew, Scarlett and Maddox; his parents-in-law, Larry and Rosalie Christiansen and brother-in-law, Miles Christiansen all of Osage Beach, Missouri and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Bob Funke.

Memorial donations may be made to a college fund for his son, Kyle.

Online condolences may be left at: kidwellgarber.com.

Dr. Clair A. Johannsen, 79



A Celebration of Life Service for Dr. Clair Adrian Johannsen, formerly of Huntley, MN, will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 11th at Truman Church of Christ, 401 W.

Ciro Street in Truman. Visitation will be from 10 to 11 a.m. at the church. Burial will be at Center Creek Cemetery, Granada. Clair passed away peacefully February 10th, 2017.

Born November 29th, 1937 in Fairmont, to Hans Hartwig and Grace (Jeffries) Johannsen, he was a graduate of Huntley High School and Augsburg College, with additional studies undertaken at Northwestern College. He received his Master's degree from Union Theological Seminary's School of Sacred Music and his Doctoral of Music Arts from the Catholic Univer-

sity of America, Washington, DC. Dr. Johannsen completed additional study at New College, Oxford, England and at the International Academy of Organists, Haarlem, Holland. He served as the Organist and Director of Music and Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hagerstown from October 1964 until the spring of 2008. He then served as the Organist and Director of Music for the Beaver Creek - Keedysville Lutheran Parish, serving both the St. Matthew's and St. Peter's congregations. He served as an Instructor of Music at Shepherd College,

Shepherdstown, West Virginia, was the founder and conductor of the St. Cecelia Choral Society of Hagerstown, and was a harpsichordist with the Potomac Symphony Orchestra. He wrote articles and reviews of new music for the Journal of Church Music and taught on the faculties of the Institute on Worship and Church Music at Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Illinois, and at the Gettysburg Seminary, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He was a member of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), a long-time officer

of the Cumberland Valley chapter of the AGO, and a charter member of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

An exceptional musician, Dr. Johannsen inspired and shaped the lives of many young organists and choralists over the course of his life, as well as enriched and uplifted the lives of those who heard his musical artistry. He is remembered fondly for his always kind and courtly demeanor, his love of good music, literature, and art, and his deep and generous friendship.

Dr. Johannsen was predeceased by his par-

ents; brother, Frederick Johannsen of Amboy. He is survived by his siblings Maurice (Ruthann) Johannsen of Truman, Twyla Geiken of Cannon Falls, Minnesota, Grace (Gary) Haeckel of Fairmont, Wanda Kubly of Weston, Missouri, sister-in-law Carole Johannsen of Amboy, and many nieces and nephews.

Cards of condolence can be sent to the family c/o Grace Haeckel, 2540 Stella Street, Fairmont, MN 56031. Donations may be made in memory of Dr. Johannsen to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 211 Budd Street, Fairmont.

Margaret J. Meier, 100



Funeral service for Margaret J. Meier, 100, of Fairmont was held Tuesday, March 7th, 2017 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Burial followed in

the Lakeside Cemetery in Fairmont. Margaret went peacefully to the Lord Tuesday, February 28th, 2017 at Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Margaret Janette Mair was born July 22nd, 1916 to Hugh and Minnie (Duff) Mair in Huntley, Minnesota. She was one of five sisters and four brothers. Margaret graduated from Huntley Consolidated School in 1934 and then attended Minneapolis Business College where she graduated from in 1935. She worked in several businesses in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

On May 29th, 1941 Margaret was united in marriage to Hugo J. Meier at the Mair home farm in Huntley. They lived in Stillwater and Minneapolis until 1948. This union was blessed with two sons, Gordon and Jon.

In 1948 Margaret and Hugh moved to Fairmont and opened and ran Meier's Café for ten years in the shopping center with Gunther's Grocery Store, Kretzchmar Drug and several other businesses. In those days, Margaret was an active member of the ladies bowling league. In 1957 Margaret became the school secretary for Budd School and held that position until her retirement in 1977, after twenty years of

service.

Margaret had a very active retirement for the first eleven years. She traveled every winter with her good friend. Margaret spent six winters in Arizona, two in Hawaii, one each in San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Orlando. She was an avid reader and great cook, and a huge Vikings, Twins and golf fan. Margaret attended many Twins and Vikings games until she was in her late 80's. She was a member of Rose Lake Golf Club and golfed until she was 88. Margaret loved driving her new cars, but at age 90 gave up driving - which was a big adjustment! Margaret was a member of St. Paul Lutheran church for 68 years,

and was a member of the Ladies Aid.

In 2007, after a slight stroke, Margaret moved into Woodland Manor where she stayed for five years until she had a severe stroke and moved into Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center.

Left to cherish her memory include her sons: Gordon Meier and his wife, Kay of Brooklyn Park, MN and Jon Meier and his wife, Jody of Woodbury, MN; granddaughter, Heather Meier of Minneapolis; great-grandson, Brandon Meier of Cape Coral, FL; step grandchildren: Ryan and Megan Lee of Woodbury; great step grandchildren: Hudson and Willow Lee of Wood-

bury; sister, Eleanor Johnson of Winnebago; other extended relatives and many friends.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents; grandson, Gregory Meier; three sisters, four brothers; and former husband.

Margaret's family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the 2nd floor staff of Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center for the outstanding friendship, care and compassion they gave to Margaret. She truly loved the Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center and 2nd floor staff.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials to the Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Erma H. Rosen, 96



Funeral service for Erma H. Rosen, 96, of Fairmont, was held Saturday, March 4th, at the First Congregational Church in Fairmont. Burial was in Lakeside Cemetery in Fairmont. Erma passed away Tuesday morning,

February 28th, 2017 at Lutz Wing Nursing Home. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont handled the arrangements for the family. Erma Hazel (Niss) Rosen was born on September 4th, 1920 in Waverly Township, Martin County, the daughter of John C. and Lena (Reinke) Niss. She attended country school in Waverly Township and then Fairmont High School. After high school Erma worked at Fairmont Railway Motors. On April 29th, 1942, she married Elmer H. Rosen in Fairmont. They had two sons together, Thomas and Richard. First and foremost Erma loved being a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, her

family was the light of her life. She thrived with her friendships, whether it was playing bridge with her friends or hosting visitors for coffee and dessert. She was involved with the Martin County Historical Society and active in the First Congregational, United Church of Christ where she was a Deaconess and taught Sunday school. Erma loved and respected the nursing profession and helped nursing students by funding a scholarship foundation. Those that will honor and cherish her memory include her two sons, Thomas Rosen of Fairmont, and Richard Rosen and his wife, Anna Marie, of Frankfort, KY; three grandchildren, Wade Rosen of Boulder, CO,

Karin Rosen of New York City, NY, and Reid Rosen of Kansas City, MO; one great granddaughter, Lina Reimann; cousin, Jerry Reinke; niece, Beverly Wharton and her husband, Roger; other relatives and many friends. Erma was preceded in death by her parents, John C. and Lena Niss; two sisters, Elda Sorem and her husband, Howard, Gladys Smith and her husband, Harry; brother, John R. Niss and his wife, Audrey. Memorials are preferred to the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Martin County Historical Society, Fairmont Community Hospital Foundation or donor's choice.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

DEATH notices

February 26 - David F. Holtz, Sr., 79, Sherburn. Kramer Funeral Home
February 26 - Laird J. Moore, 93, Dunnell. Kramer Funeral Home
February 28 - Erma H. Rosen 96, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
February 28 - James J. Burkhardt, 57, Trimont (formerly of Sherburn). Kramer Funeral Home
February 28 - Margaret J. Meier, 100, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
March 2 - Dennis D. Snyder, 70, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
March 2 - Timothy D. Woods, 55, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
March 3 - Ramona A. Walter, 79, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home

In Memoriam One Year Ago

February 29 - Anna G. Kloczek, 77, Fairmont
March 6 - Lorma Bebernes, 94, Fairmont

Ramona A. Walter, 79



A Celebration of Life service for Ramona A.

Walter, 79, of Fairmont, will be 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 11th, 2017, at Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Visitation will begin that day at 12:30 p.m. and continue until the start of the service. Ramona passed away Friday morning, March 3rd, 2017, at her home in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements. Ramona Ann (Jensen) Walter was born on August 26th, 1937, in Albert

Lea, the daughter of Leslie and Evelyn (Paulson) Jensen. She graduated from Albert Lea High School in 1955. Ramona attended Mankato State College in Mankato, where she earned a Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Music and Library Science. Ramona and her siblings were extremely close and found great joy in many adventures, including singing in a family quartet. Ramona taught in numerous schools while offering private piano lessons

throughout her life.

On June 3rd, 1972, Ramona was united in marriage to Rolf A. Walter at Calvary Baptist Church in Albert Lea. Together the couple made their home in Trimont, later Fairmont, and were blessed with two children, Gregory and Jenna.

In her retirement, Ramona enjoyed her involvement in CBS, her friendships, crossword puzzles, genealogy, and her life-long love of music led her to take piano

lessons again. She loved her family, cherished time spent with her children and grandchildren, and followed all of their activities with great interest. Left to cherish her memory are her children, Gregory (Grete) Walter and Jenna (Isaac) Stevens; grandchildren, Carsten and Erik Walter and Leslie, Drew, and Oliver Stevens; brothers, Doug (Bette) Jensen, Galen (Carol) Jensen, and Emery Jensen; as well as many nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law

and sisters-in-law. Ramona was preceded in death by her husband, Rolf Walter; parents, Leslie and Evelyn Jensen; sister, Darla Christianson; brother-in-law, Darrell Christianson; and a sister-in-law, LeAnn Jensen.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Dennis D. Snyder, 70



Memorial service for Dennis D. Snyder, 70, of Fairmont, was held

Wednesday, March 8th at the First Congregational-United Church of Christ in Fairmont. Military honors followed the service at the church by the Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 and the Martin County V.F.W. Post 1222. Dennis passed away Thursday evening, March 2nd, 2017 at his home in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Services handled the arrangements for the family. Dennis Dean Snyder was born June 8th, 1946 in Fairmont, the son of Earl and Minnie (Abel) Snyder.

He attended elementary school in Welcome and then graduated from Fairmont High School in 1964. In 1965, Dennis entered the U.S. Navy and served on the USS Yancey in the Mediterranean and during Vietnam he served on the USS New Jersey in Vietnam. After his honorable discharge in 1969, Dennis returned to Fairmont and united in marriage to Mary Beth Smed on June 13th, 1970. They lived in Fairmont and Dennis worked at Teledyne - Aerospace for twenty seven years before becoming a full time

cabinet maker for seventeen years, retiring in 2009. Dennis was a member of the Interlaken Golf Club and a former member of the Fairmont Rotary Club and. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and playing cribbage. Those that will cherish his memory include his wife, Mary Beth Snyder of Fairmont; daughter, Jennifer Ping and her husband, Ray, of Winona, MN; son, Michael Snyder and his wife, Deirdre, and daughter, Vivian, of Mequon, WI; brother, Ronald Snyder; sisters-in-law and broth-

ers-in-law, Karen Snyder, Dick Loomis, Rita and Gary Larson, Karen Blaha, Roger and Jan Smed; nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. Dennis was preceded in death by his parents, Earl and Minnie Snyder; brother, Larry Snyder; sister, Judy Loomis; parents-in-law, Anker and Velma Smed; and mother-in-law. Mathilda (Wannarka) Smed.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

top ten

IRISH

Girl Baby Names

1. Emily

2. Emma

3. Ava

4. Sophie

5. Amelia

6. Ella

7. Lucy

8. Grace

9. Chloe

10. Mia

Source: Central Statistics Office

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James "Jim" Burkhardt



James "Jim" Burkhardt passed away peacefully on February 28th, 2017 at his home in Sherburn. James John Burkhardt was born May 18th, 1959 at Trimont

Community Hospital. His parents were Warren (Buddy) Burkhardt and Marion (Wolf) Burkhardt. He grew up on a farm in Cedar Township with siblings Jean, Paul, Dale and Ann. He was part of a large extended family and community that loved him and that he loved back. Jim has lived at a home in Sherburn staffed by Community Options and Resources since 1996 and spent his work days at STEP Inc in Fairmont. He was a visible presence in Martin County in his purple power wheelchair. He was an avid sports fan and especially loved the MCW Mavericks. Please join Jim's immediate family: Jean Burkhardt; Paul and Deb-

bie Burkhardt (Ryan and Clara); Dale and Jane Burkhardt (Dawson Burkhardt, Nick and Christina Peters); Kevin Hilgendorf (Tanna and Darby), and his extended clan for an open house visitation/celebration Saturday, March 11th, 2 to 5 p.m. at the Trimont Community Building, 546 East Main Street (east end of Main Street). Thank you for your friendship to Jim and our family over the years. We will have some of Jim's favorite food and beverages and his sports paraphernalia. The building is wheelchair accessible. Funeral arrangements by Kramer Family Funeral Home, Trimont. Private family burial will take place at a later date. The

full obituary is posted on the website. Memorials are preferred to Gillette Foundation, Community Options and Resources, STEP Inc, ARC of Southwest Minnesota or organizations of your choice serving people with disabilities. kramerfuneralhome.com

The Photo Press reserves the right to edit (as necessary) any obituary submitted for placement. All obituaries must be submitted by noon Monday of the week it is placed. Any photos submitted must be in high quality. Any questions obituary policy can be directed to 238-9456 or jeff@fairmontphoto-press.com

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR

is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

RVLTFMTPT UJ SMT FVPGI

SMTPT UR BJ TZUCPBL

YVP TXTPE IUGTLLB.

— M.F. XBJ GVBJ

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WARRANTY DEEDS

Virginia Anne Gehrett to Flint Creek Trust, Und. 1/4 Int., E½SE¼, 21-103-29; Und. 1/4 Int., Pt. S½SW¼SE¼, Und. 1/4 Int. SW¼, 22-103-29

US Bank to Michael Sassman, Lot 9, Block 2, Milbrandts Addn.

Holly D. Sommerland, Michael C. Sommerland to Susan Krueger, Jeanne L. Leiding, Karen M. Markowski, Kathy A. Smith, Pt. E½NE¼, 20-101-32

Martin M. Krause to Lea Lyons, Pt. Lot 12 and 11, Block 1, Budds Addn.

Sandra K. Peters to LRB Properties LLC, Lot 3, Block 2, Milbrandts Addn.

Lea A. Lyons to Laura A. Justice, Lot 6, Block 4, Webster & Johnsons Addn.

Shirley Bramstedt to Loren Tusa, Marilyn B. Tusa, S½N½NE¼, 22-102-32

Deborah Ann Winch, Thomas R. Winch to Arlys J. Jorgensen, Ronald A. Winch, W½NW¼, W½SW¼, 8-103-29

Graciela Gonzalez, Juan Gonzalez to Connie Behrends, Lot 5, Pt. Lot 4, Block 8, Ext. to Gambles Addn., Pt. Outlot 1, Gambles Addn.

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Rebecca Ann Whitman to Carol Lee Koskovich, Pt. S½NW¼, 22-102-30

Bruce R. Koskovich, Carol Lee Koskovich to Bruce R. Koskovich, Carol Lee Koskovich, Pt. S½NW¼, 22-102-30

Bruce R. Koskovich, Carol Lee Koskovich to Rebecca Ann Whitman, W½SW¼, 8-101-29

TRUSTEE DEEDS

Delphine F. Hanson, Hanson Family Revocable Trust, Milton H. Hanson and Delphine F. Hanson Family Revocable Trust to Lupe Stromberg, Scott Stromberg, Lot 27, Block 2, Highland Addn.

CONTRACT FOR DEEDS

Beverly Forstrom, Bruce Forstrom, Carla Forstrom, John Forstrom, Kathleen Forstrom, Kathleen For-

strom, Keith Forstrom, Thomas Forstrom, Ronald Reicherts, Susan Reicherts to Kyle Forstrom, Pt. NE¼NE¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 2, NE¼, 1-103-33

DEEDS OF DISTRIBUTION

Virginia Ann Gehrett, Per. Rep., Virginia D. Gehrett Estate to Joseph Owen Gehrett, Virginia Anne Gehrett, Und. 1/2 Int. SE¼, 21-103-29; Und. 1/2 Int. SW¼, 22-103-29; Und. 1/2 Int. S½SW¼SE¼, 22-103-29

D-DEEDS

Betty Lou Krueger Estate, Keith Krueger, Per. Rep., Joanne Schmidt, Per. Rep., to Zachary Landkamer, Lots 3 and 4, Block 1, SS Addn., Campbells Addn., Welcome

Notice of Annual Meeting & Election of Officers**SILVER LAKE TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Silver Lake Township, Martin County, Minnesota that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017** at Boy Scout Camp, North Shore of Iowa Lake.

In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed until Tuesday March 21, 2017.

Annual Meeting will commence at 4:00 p.m.
Polls open 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to elect the following:

- (1) SUPERVISOR - 3 yr term
(1) TREASURER - 2 yr term

The Board of Canvass will meet immediately following the closing of the polls. (must meet within 2 days of the close of the election).

Published by order of the
SILVER LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD
Randy Musser, Clerk

NOTICE to the residents of PLEASANT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Pleasant Prairie Township, State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017. In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Polls open at 4:00 p.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. for the following offices:

- (1) Supervisor - 3 years
(1) Treasurer - 2 years

The Annual Meeting will commence at 3:00 p.m. to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

The Annual Election and Meeting will be held at the Pleasant Prairie Town Hall.

The Board of Canvass will meet at 8:15 p.m.

Published by order of the

PLEASANT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD
Gregory B. Murphy, Clerk

Notice of Annual Meeting & Election of Officers & Board of Canvass for**CENTER CREEK TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Center Creek Township, Martin County, Minnesota that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Township Meeting will be held on

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at the Township Grader Shed in Granada.

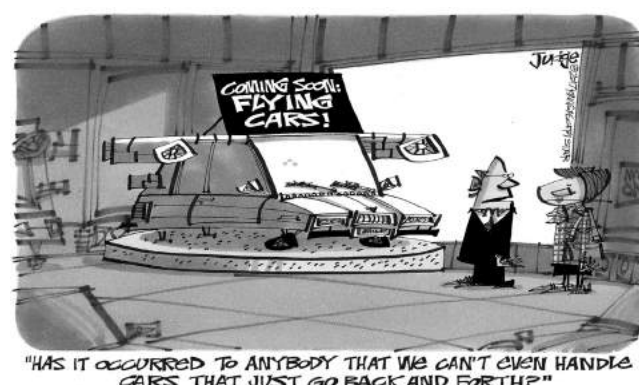
Voting times are 5:00p.m.- 8:00 p.m. to elect the following:

- (1) SUPERVISOR - 3 year term
(1) SUPERVISOR - 2 year term
(1) TREASURER - 2 year term

Annual Meeting will commence at 8:00 p.m.

In case of bad weather, the above will be held Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Published by order of the
CENTER CREEK TOWNSHIP BOARD
Kim Shoemaker, Clerk



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UPCOMING AUCTIONS

Ceylon Community Day Auction
Saturday, April 8, 2017 8:30 A.M.

Anderson Machinery Retirement Auction
(north of Armstrong)
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, 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

Saturday, March 25, 2017.- MARTIN LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL, "What A Knight" Supper & Auction preview. Starts at 4:30pm
KAHLER & KALLEMEYN AUCTION

Monday, March 27, 2017.- 10:30 am- NEITZEL ESTATE - 80 acre land auction at Lakefield Legion Club - **DAN PIKE AUCTION**

Monday, April 10 - C & C SUPPER & FUN AUCTION at Sherburn Legion Club. **KAHLER AUCTION**

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. Contact Dustyn Hartung at 507-236-7629.

PRIVATE LISTING: 240 acres +/- of prime farmland located in Center Creek Twp., Martin Co., MN. Top producing farm w/excellent soil types, has some woodlands/pasture with county tile. Being sold by private sales method. Please contact Dustyn Hartung 507-236-7629 or Allen Kahler 507-764-3591 for details!

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Kahler, Hartung & Wedel Auction Companies and Dan Pike Auction Company, (507) 238-4318; Dar Hall Auction Co.

Notice of Annual Meeting & Election of Officers**MANYASKA TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Manyaska Township, Martin County, Minnesota that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017** 3 Main Street, Fox Lake Village, Welcome, MN

Polls open 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to elect the following:

- (1) SUPERVISOR - 3 yr. term
(1) TREASURER - 2 yr. term

The Annual meeting will be held at 8:15 p.m.

The Board of Canvass will be held at approximately 8:25 p.m. In case of inclement weather the meeting and election may be postponed to Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Published by order of the
MANYASKA TOWNSHIP BOARD
Dianne Glidden, Clerk

Notice of Annual Meeting & Election of Officers**LAKE BELT TOWNSHIP**

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Lake Belt Township, Martin County, Minnesota that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017** at Lake Belt Township Grader Shed / Town Hall.

Business Meeting will commence at 4:00 p.m.
Polls open 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to elect the following:

- (1) SUPERVISOR - 3 year term
(1) TREASURER - 2 year term

The Board of Canvass will meet immediately following the closing of the polls. In case of inclement weather the meeting and election may be postponed to Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Published by order of the
LAKE BELT TOWNSHIP BOARD
Jeff Hagen, Clerk



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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT J.J. "JOSH" WISE - 641-420-7355

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1 Card of Thanks

RATIKE - Thank you everyone for the many cards, wishes, gifts and flowers for our anniversary. It is truly appreciated. Blessings to all. ~Marvin "Butch" and Marlene Ratike. 44-1tp-1

ARMBURST - We want to thank all those who remembered us on our 60th anniversary. You helped to make it special. God bless you all. ~Muriel and Albert Armbrust. 44-1tp-1

JANSSEN - Thanks for the gifts, cards and good wishes given to me for my 80th birthday. I especially thank my family for the nice party on February 19 at Legends II in Ceylon. ~Mary Ann. 44-1tp-1

3 Notices

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23 For Sale

HARDWOOD FIREWOOD for sale. Split, dry, stored inside. Will deliver or you haul. Camping, home heating. John Mike Kimmel. 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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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Ag Update: Estimated 2016 ARC-CO payments

Guest Columnist



Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank

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

Most crop producers in the Upper Midwest are enrolled in the county yield-based Ag Risk Coverage (ARC-CO) farm program choice on their corn and soybean base acres for the 2014 to 2018 crop years. Many producers in the region earned a significant 2014 corn ARC-CO payment, while farm operators in some counties also earned a substantial 2015 ARC-CO payment on their corn base acres. As farm operators finalize their cash flow estimates for 2017, they are wondering what level, if any, that the 2016 ARC-CO payment will be in October, 2017. ARC-CO payments for soybeans were much lower and less likely for the 2015 crop year, due to above average soybean yields in most areas, which is a trend that will continue for 2016 payments.

The benchmark (BM) prices for corn and soybeans for the 2016 crop year are \$4.79 per bushel for corn and \$11.87 per bushel for soybeans, which is down from \$5.29 per bushel for corn and \$12.27 per bushel for soybeans in both 2014 and 2015. The BM prices are adjusted each year, using the USDA market-year average (MYA) price for the preceding five years, then dropping the high and low MYA price, and averaging the other three MYA prices. The benchmark County yield for 2016 is calculated by taking the average

County yields for the previous five years (2011-2015), dropping the high and low yield, and the averaging the other three yields. The 2016 County benchmark revenue for a given crop is the County BM yield times the 2016 BM price, which is then multiplied by 86 percent (.86) to calculate the "County Revenue Guarantee".

The County BM corn yields in most Minnesota counties in 2016 will be similar to 2015 BM yields, after declining from 2014 County BM yield levels, due to the very low average County yields in 2014. 2010 was dropped for the 2016 BM yield calculation, which was a very strong yield year in most counties, and was replaced by a very high corn yield year in 2015. The result was no change in County BM corn yields from 2015 to 2016 in a large majority of counties in Minnesota. The reduced County BM corn yields in 2015 and 2016 lowers the potential maximum ARC-CO payment per crop base acre, as well as lowering the potential for ARC-CO payments at similar actual corn yield levels in a given year. County soybean BM yields did not vary greatly from 2015 to 2016, except in a few counties. Due to two years in a row of very strong corn and soybean yields in 2015 and 2016 in most Upper Midwest counties, the BM yields should increase for the 2017 crop year.

2016 ARC-CO payments for a given crop are paid when the actual 2016 County revenue for the crop falls below the 2016 County benchmark (BM) revenue guarantee. The actual County revenue is the final 2016 County FSA yield times the final MYA price for 2016. The 2016 MYA price is the national average corn or soybean price from September 1st, 2016 to August 31st, 2017, which will be finalized on September 30, 2017. The MYA price is the 12-month national average price for a commodity, based on the average market price received by farm operators across the United States, which is then "weighted" at the end of the year, based on the volume of bushels sold in each month. As of February 1st, 2017, USDA is estimating the estimated 2016 MYA prices are \$3.40 per bushel for corn, and \$9.50 per bushel for soybeans.

The USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) recently released the 2016 estimated average County yields for corn, soybeans, and other crops. The 2016 NASS county yields offer a good estimate of where final 2016 ARC-CO farm program payments are likely to end up, depending on the final 2016 MYA price level. The NASS yields may be adjusted slightly by USDA to arrive at the final 2016 County FSA yields, which are used to calculate the

2016 ARC-CO payments. However, any adjustments in the final 2016 county yields will likely be lower than the 2016 NASS yield estimates, which will increase the likelihood or payment level for 2016 ARC-CO payments, especially for corn. The 2016 NASS County yields are available on the NASS web site at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

The relationship between the final 2016 County yield and the 2016 County benchmark (BM) yields is extremely important in calculating potential 2016 ARC-CO payments for corn and soybeans. Expressing the 2016 County yield as a "% of BM Yield" is actually more important than the final County yield in determining estimated ARC-CO payments. Any County that has a corn "% of BM yield" of less than 107% will likely realize the maximum estimated 2016 corn ARC-CO payment for that county. Counties with a "% of BM yield" of 121% or higher will likely not receive a 2016 corn ARC-CO payment. For soybeans, counties with a "% of BM yield" of 108% or higher will likely not receive a 2016 ARC-CO payment.

There will likely be a large difference in the 2016 corn ARC-CO payments from county-to-county, depending on the final 2016 County yield, expressed as a "% of BM Yield". It appears that most counties in South Central and Southeastern Minnesota, as well as some counties in Central Minnesota, will get a partial 2016 corn ARC-CO payment; however very few will get the maximum payment. Many counties in

this region had 2016 corn yields that were similar or lower than 2015 corn yields. Except for a few isolated counties, most counties in Southwest and West Central Minnesota will not receive a 2016 corn ARC-CO payment, due to the very high 2016 corn yields compared to the BM yields in most counties. No counties in the Upper Midwest are expected to receive a 2016 soybean ARC-CO payment, as a result of very strong 2016 soybean yields, and the increase in the estimated soybean 2016 MYA price, compared to 2015.

Overall, 2016 ARC-CO payments for corn and soybeans are likely to much less prevalent in most portions of the Upper Midwest, as compared to 2014 and 2015 ARC-CO payment levels. In both 2014 and 2015, the \$5.29 BM price for corn, compared to the final MYA prices in both years, resulted in some significant corn ARC-CO payments in many counties. Soybean ARC-CO payments were much more variable in 2014 and 2015. The 2016 corn and soybean yields were well above average in most areas of the Upper Midwest, which together with a lower national BM price for corn and soybeans, has reduced the likelihood of significant 2016 corn ARC-CO payments in many counties, and will result in no 2016 soybean ARC-CO payments in most counties.

The current 2016 corn and soybean ARC-CO payment estimates are based on the 2016 NASS County yields and the current MYA prices; however, the final payments could vary based on changes in

the MYA price levels between now and August 31st, 2017. If MYA prices decline, the likelihood or the level of ARC-CO payments increases, and vice-versa if the MYA price increases. Given the current corn and soybean market situation, we are not likely to see major movement in the MYA prices from current levels by the end of the marketing year. USDA could also make adjustments in the announced NASS yields to arrive at the final 2016 FSA County yields, which are used to calculate 2016 ARC-CO payments. There will likely be a 6.8 percent Federal sequestration reduction on all 2016 ARC-CO payments that paid in October, 2017, similar to the 2014 and 2015 ARC-CO payments.

Previous county yields for corn, soybeans, and other crops, benchmark yields and revenues, FSA yields, 2014 and 2015 ARC-CO payment levels, and other farm program information are available on the FSA ARC-PLC web site, which is at: www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc. Kent Thiesse has prepared an Information Sheet titled: "Estimating 2016 Corn and Soybean ARC-CO Payments", which contains several tables relating to 2016 ARC-CO payments. He has also prepared 2016 ARC-CO Payment Estimate Tables for most counties in Minnesota and Northern Iowa, as well as Eastern North and South Dakota. To receive a free copy of the Information Sheet and the Payment Tables, send an e-mail to: kent.thiesse@minnstarbank.com

Women Must Act to Overcome Financial Challenges

International Women's Day, observed on March 8th, celebrates the social, cultural and political achievements of women. Yet, women continue to face many challenges. For one thing, women still encounter gender-specific obstacles to their important financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement. If you're a woman, what can you do to get past these barriers?

First of all, you need to recognize them. Here are a few to consider:

- Longer life spans – A 65-year-old woman is expected to live, on average, another 20.5 years, compared to 17.9 years for a 65-year-old man, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. That's another 2½ years of life – and 2½ years more of expenses.

- Lower incomes – Women working full time in the United States typically are paid 80% of what men earn, according to Census Bureau

data.

- More time away from the workforce – Men work an average of 38 years, compared to just 29 for women, according to the Pew Research Center and the Social Security Administration. The gap is largely due to women taking time off to care for young children and elderly parents. Women who work substantially fewer years than men will miss out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in earnings and many years of contributions to 401(k)s or other retirement plans.

These statistics certainly are sobering – but they don't mean you are powerless to improve your financial security. In fact, you can do quite a lot, including the following:

- Boost your retirement plan contributions – Put in as much as you can afford to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan, and increase your contributions whenever you get a

raise. And even if you have a 401(k), you may still be eligible to contribute to an IRA.

- Invest for growth – Some studies have shown that women may invest less aggressively than men. If you invest mostly in conservative vehicles, you may run the risk of falling short of your financial goals. To achieve these goals, you'll need a reasonable amount of growth potential in your portfolio.

- Extend your working life – If you like your job, you may want to consider sticking with it a couple of years past when you initially thought you'd retire. You'll be able to add to your retirement accounts, and the extra years of work may help you increase your Social Security benefits. These payments are based on an average of your highest 35 years of earnings, so if you have a zero in some of these years, it will pull the average down. Consequently, your

extra years of work may help erase those zeros. But even if you have a long, unbroken work record, your extended career can help you in regard to Social Security, because the extra money may mean you can afford to de-

lay collecting benefits – and the longer you wait past 62, the bigger your checks will be – at least until you turn 70, when they "max out."

You'll help yourself by becoming familiar with the special issues women face in meeting their long-term goals. As you know, women

have met challenges successfully for a long time. After all, Ginger Rogers did everything Fred Astaire did – except backwards, and in heels.

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

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- **Route 26:** Cambridge Street, 200 to 400 blocks of Forest Street, 400 to 600 blocks of South Hampton Street and South Prairie Avenue, 300 and 400 blocks of Victoria Street, 300 to 400 blocks of Willow Street.

- **Route 29:** 300 to 600 blocks of Albion Avenue, Lake Park Boulevard and Lake Park Place, Linden Drive and Sisseton Drive.

- **Route 32:** Budd Lake Drive, 100 to 500 blocks of Woodland Avenue, Cedar Street, Circle Drive, Homewood Drive, Walnut Street.

- **Route 39:** 900 to 1000 blocks of Shoreacres Drive, 900 block of Summit Drive, Union Street, Capital Heights Court, Embassy Road, Heritage Court, Independence Drive, Liberty Lane, Rona Court, Channel Inn.

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Fairmont Squirt A takes second place in District

The TPI Hospitality Fairmont Squirt A team took home a second place trophy in the year end District 4 Tournament in New Ulm. They had three wins and one loss in the tournament.

•Fairmont won Game 1 vs. NUSE 6-5 in overtime. Brock Lutterman had two goals, including the overtime winner. Luke Kester had two goals, Gavin Kester and Connor Gronewald each had one assist and Tyson Pankow had one goal. Ethan Geerdes had 27 saves in the win.

•Fairmont won Game 2 vs. Worthington 9-7. Hank Artz had five goals and two assists, Luke Kester had two goals and two assists, Brock Lutterman had one goal and three assists, Jace Tevelald had one goal and Connor Gronewald had

one assist. Ethan Geerdes had 21 saves in the win.

•Fairmont won Game 3 vs. Redwood Falls 6-5. Hank Artz had three goals and one assist, Jace Tevelald had two goals, Connor Gronewald had two assists and Brock Lutterman had one goal and two assists. Ethan Geerdes had 24 saves in the win.

•Fairmont lost the championship game to NUSE 5-3. Ethan Geerdes had 16 saves. Luke Kester, Brock Lutterman and Hank Artz each had one goal and Mathew Cone had one assist.

We would like to thank TPI Hospitality for their sponsorship and Dave Cone, Oliver Kollofski and Casey Kester for coaching this year. Our record this season was 22-4-2. (Submitted photo)



SHORT JUMPER - Cards' Derek Missling pulls up for a shot over the Saints' Sandin Skow. The Cards downed St. James Area 62-51 Monday night in the opening round of the Section 2AA playoffs. The #4 seeded Cardinals (17-9) meet #1 Waterville-Elysian-Morristown (24-3) 6:00 p.m. Thursday at Mankato East High School. *Courtesyfairmontsports.com*



Fairmont Cardinal 8th Grade Basketball Team finished 3rd at the Austin Tournament. Pictured (front L to R): Steven Schrunck, Jacob Crissinger, Gavin Rodning, Jake Melsha, Creed Moore. Back: Coach Jason Zinter, Zach Jorgenson, Thomas Klanderud, Tanner Rosch, Jackson Utermarck, Jackson Francis, Coach Joe Melsha. (Submitted photo)

GIRLS HOCKEY - Final Standings

SECTION 3A	SEC	REC
Mkto East/Loyola	7-0-0	17-11-1
Marshall	12-2-0	19-8-1
Luverne	7-4-1	10-12-3
Fairmont	5-7-1	9-14-2
Mkto West	3-6-0	7-18-2
Windom	4-7-0	10-15-0
Worthington/Fulda	0-12-0	0-20-0
BIG SOUTH	BSC	REC
New Ulm	14-0-0	19-3-4
Marshall	12-2-0	19-8-1
Luverne	6-6-2	10-12-3
Fairmont	6-7-2	9-14-2
Waseca	6-7-1	11-14-1
St. Peter/L-H/TCU	5-6-3	5-18-3
Windom Area	4-10-0	10-15-0
Worthington/Fulda	0-15-0	0-20-0

GIRLS BASKETBALL - FINAL

SEC 2AA - SOUTH	SEC	REC
NHREG	11-1	23-5
BEA	10-5	15-12
Maple River	5-8	16-11
WEM	7-6	13-15
Fairmont	5-5	11-15
Medford	2-9	6-19
LCWM	2-6	6-19
St. James	0-8	0-25
BIG SOUTH - EAST	BSC	REC
New Ulm	8-2	23-5
St. Peter	8-2	23-5
Waseca	8-2	22-6
BEA	3-7	15-2
Fairmont	3-7	11-15
St. James	0-10	0-25

BOYS HOCKEY - Final Standings

SECTION 3A	SEC	REC
Luverne	15-1-0	22-5-1
Marshall	14-5-0	19-8-1
New Ulm	11-4-1	14-11-1
Litchfield/DC	6-2-0	14-11-1
Redwood V	12-8-0	15-13-0
Hutchinson	5-3-1	7-17-3
Windom Area	6-12-0	7-18-0
Fairmont	5-10-0	5-19-0
Willmar	2-8-0	4-23-0
Worthington	1-14-0	2-21-0
Morris/Benson	1-10-0	1-20-0
BIG SOUTH	BSC	REC
Luverne	14-2-0	22-5-1
Marshall	12-3-1	19-8-1
Waseca	11-4-1	16-9-2
New Ulm	10-6-0	14-11-1
Redwood Valley	9-7-0	15-13-0
LSHSPTCUC	9-7-0	13-13-1
Windom Area	3-13-0	7-18-0
Fairmont	3-13-0	5-19-0
Worthington	0-16-0	2-21-0

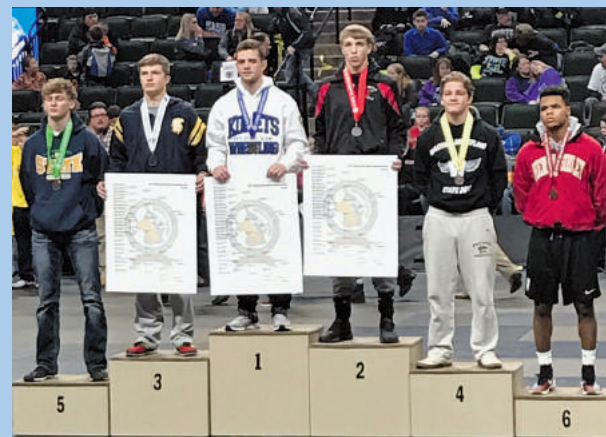
RED BULL WRESTLING - FINAL

SEC 2AA - SOUTH	SEC	REC
Worthington	12-1	20-6
TMB/VWG	8-6	16-10
RED BULLS	8-5	15-9
Luverne	3-7	7-9
New Ulm	2-9	9-20
Fulda/MCC	0-10	0-17
BIG SOUTH - EAST	BSC	REC
BEA	5-0	20-5
St. Peter	5-1	18-9
RED BULLS	3-2	15-9
Waseca	2-4	5-13
St. James Area	1-4	9-12
New Ulm	0-5	9-20

Red Bulls wrestling take seconds at state

Three Fairmont/Martin County West Red Bull wrestlers finished runner-ups at the Class AA

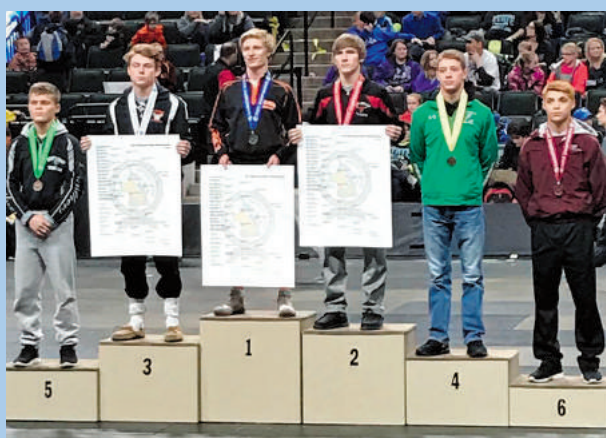
wrestling meet held this past weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. (Submitted photos)



Collin Steuber (42-5), 160 lb. #6-ranked junior lost a 25-10 tech fall to No. 1-ranked senior Brady Berge (45-0) of Kasson-Mantorville in his championship match. Steuber had 6-4 decision over Watertown-Mayer's Jobe, then decided Plainview-Elgin-Millville's Dittrich 9-5, and upset #2-ranked Kelly of Henry Sibley 7-2 semi-final.



Jaxson Rohman 106 lb. #2-ranked eighth-grader lost 3-1 in the championship bout to #1 ranked senior Matt Petersen (39-0) of Byron. Rohman (39-2), opened state with 19-4 tech fall over Hibbing's Fuenfing, a 9-7 decision over Simley's Berg and 9-5 decision over Garceau of Foley in the semi-final.



Freshman 132 lb. Payton Anderson collected the Red Bulls third silver medal. #1-ranked senior Tucker Sjomeling (42-1), of Delano had a 9-1 major decision vs. Anderson in the final. Anderson (39-8) opened with a 6-3 upset decision over #2-ranked DeFrang of Plainview-Elgin-Millville and decided Fite of Fridley 7-2. Anderson got a semi-final bye when South St. Paul's Cortez didn't make weight in the final weigh-in.

Sophomore 126 lb. Zac Ringnell had 1-2 record at state. Ringnell lost an opening 10-5 decision to to Grand Rapids' Holm, then had a 16-0 tech fall over Beck of Orono in the wrestlebacks. Litchfield's Kaping edged Ringnell 5-3 ending his season with a 37-4 record.



LANE RUNNER - Cardinals' Abby DeWitt tosses up a shot in the lane over Waterville-Elysian-Morristown's Brielle Bartelt. The Bucs ended the Cards (11-15) season with a 67-59 Section 2AA playoff win last Tuesday night. *Courtesyfairmontsports.com*

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Fairmont Area Elementary School celebrates Dr. Suess' birthday

Many classes at Fairmont Area Elementary School dressed up to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday on Thursday, March 2nd. (Submitted photos)



Mrs. Aukes, Grade 1



Mrs. Bass, Grade 2



Mrs. Brolsma, Grade 1



Mrs. Fitzgerald, Grade 2



(right) Mrs. Rodning, Grade 1



(left) Mrs. Schmidt, Grade 2



(right) Mrs. Traetow, Grade 2

Speech Team hosts Cardinal Invite

The Fairmont Cardinal Speech Team hosted their annual Cardinal Speech Tournament Saturday, March 4th, 2017, at Fairmont High School.

Head Coaches Kathleen Perry and Erik Walker and assistant coach Maylen Anthony would like to thank all teams and parents for their support to help the tournament run smoothly. Parents volunteered to make food to sell at concessions and teams' coaches helped in the tabulation room, and without these individuals, the tournament would not be possible.

45 Cardinal Speakers ranging from 7th grade to 12th grade competed on Saturday. Fairmont earned 176 points as a team earning the highest amount of points at the tournament, yet, Fairmont gave the team sweepstakes trophies to the following teams; River Valley with 92 points, Windom Area with 40 points, and Jackson County Central with 30 points.



Ask A Trooper: Two License Plates

by Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

Question: We live in Minnesota but travel south for several winter months. Many other states only have a rear license plate. Why does Minnesota have two? Thanks!

Answer: Minnesota state law required two license plates on your vehicle with some exceptions.

Some vehicles are allowed to display only one license plate: motorcycles; a dealer's vehicle or vehicle in-transit; a collector's vehicle with a pioneer, classic car, collector, or street rod license; a vehicle that is of model year 1972 or earlier (not registered as a collector vehicle), and is used for general transportation purpose.

License plates cannot be displayed in the front windshield or the rear window; they must be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle.

All plates must be securely fastened to prevent them from swinging, displayed horizontally with the identifying numbers and letters facing outward from the vehicle, and mounted in the upright position.

The person driving the motor vehicle shall keep the plate legible, unobstructed, and free from grease, dust, or other blurring material (dirt, mud, snow, etc.) so that the lettering is plainly visible at all times.

It is unlawful to cover any assigned letters and numbers or the name of the state of origin of a license plate with any material whatever, including any clear or colorless material that affects the plate's visibility or reflectivity. This also includes obstructing license plate brackets that block the state of issuance, and tabs.

License plates issued to vehicles must display the month of expiration in the lower left corner of each plate and the year of expiration in the lower right corner of each plate.

Why do we need to have two license plates? It is the law in Minnesota and from a law enforcement perspective it is safer to have two plates as it helps law enforcement a great deal in properly identifying vehicles for many different reasons. Properly identifying vehicles will help in locating possible impaired drivers, suspects in many different criminal activity events, hit and run and gas drive off vehicles, to name a few.

If you happen to lose or damage any of your license plates, order duplicates through the Minnesota Department of Vehicle Services (DVS). When you obtain your new plate(s), secure them to front and/or rear of the vehicle, typically to the bumper, as soon as possible.

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 Sgt. Troy Christianson - Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

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84389195	Disk Openers	\$35.35	
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