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PhotoPress

Only good news

Wednesday
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SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES

Three years have gone by like 1,095 days

By Al Batt

I looked for signs in my wife's burnt toast at 4 a.m., but was unable to discern any.



I couldn't enjoy a slice of toast disguised as peanut butter as I was fasting as required by a clinical trial appointment.

Three years ago, just when I'd reached a comfortable cruising altitude, I was diagnosed with cancer. That concentrates the mind. Sometimes, it seems as if the majority of the people I know have or have had cancer. It's a case of what psychologists call the Baader-Meinhof phenomenon or frequency illusion. You've experienced it when you bought a car. Your brain takes note of your new car and alerts you when it sees an-

other like it. This confirmation bias affirms that your car is suddenly ubiquitous, when it was around long before you noticed it so often.

No one's high school graduating class votes a member as most likely to get cancer. I've heard most things get better by themselves. Cancer isn't one of those things. Medical professionals warned me I'd have difficult days ahead. They couldn't leave well enough alone as I wasn't well enough to leave alone. Molly Ivins said that having cancer was massive amounts of no fun. Cancer cured me of ever judging anyone in a waiting room. I had surgeries, a few hospital stays and abundant chemotherapy. Most of us get our medical education the hard way. The surgeon was a serious fellow. His job wasn't to keep people in stitches. His job was to keep stitches in people. On a good day, I felt like an old bruise that had become a

piñata. I became skin and bones and a walking stick, but I set no records. Many of you have had it much worse.

I had insurance, but as I walked in a gown, I discovered I wasn't fully covered. Hospitals are better at covering their own behinds than covering those of their patients. I learned one thing you don't want to hear in a hospital is, "The gown is supposed to open in the back."

I found strength in the words of Samuel Beckett, "You must go on. I can't go on. I'll go on."

Family, friends, nature, books and writing filled the space where worry wanted to live. The thickness of those relationships helped. Each day, I wrote about the things I was excited about. I filled countless pages and I left out a lot.

A well-meaning man told me, "You have cancer? You'll want to be careful with that." A nice woman gave me a St. Peregrine

coin. St. Peregrine is the patron saint of those suffering from cancer. I picked up another one at the Steele County Free Fair. I carry one always.

Every six months, I head to the Mayo Clinic for an action-packed day of testing. I become a hermit crab carrying a shell that is my health insurance card.

Trained professionals surveyed all my subdivisions. "Right up my alley" took on a new meaning. I told them to be gentle searching for my inner beauty as I'm a screamer.

On my last clinic visit, I knew some of the medical professionals and someone who runs an art gallery there, but other than that, I encountered no one I knew. That was a blessing. I'm happy to see familiar faces, but it's nice not seeing them in the cancer treatment area.

I did TV shows for several years; now I watch myself on the clinic monitors as tests are done. My insides flashed by the camera — an adventure series, I guessed. A sister-in-law

said the video caught my best side.

There is no end zone celebration dance yet. I practice Tapleyism when dealing with medical problems. It was named after Mark Tapley, a character in Charles Dickens's "Martin Chuzzlewit" who was extremely optimistic. When I had a tough day, I counted my blessings often. Some folks keep a blessing jar. Whenever they recognize a blessing throughout the year, they write it on a piece of paper and stick it in the jar. They dump the

jar out at the year's conclusion and read them. I can't do that. I'd fill a jar daily. Thornton Wilder wrote, "We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures." I couldn't have made it without my wife.

We are all broken. I wish you all good things and know that just as flowers grow back after being stepped on, so will you.

I hope you are going great guns.

© Al Batt 2019



An adult and an immature bald eagle. Photo by Al Batt

FCH

Fairmont Community Hospital Foundation

Following a diagnosis of heart attack or heart failure, or after a procedure such as heart surgery, participating in Cardiac Rehab is one of the best things you can do for your heart. Cardiac Rehab helps you regain control of your health. Help us take the steps to improve Cardiac Rehab at MCHS-Fairmont as the department is relocated and expanded.

Cardiac Rehab Renovation

Cardiac Rehab will be relocated from a small cramped space currently borrowed from the cafeteria to a new dedicated, larger, brighter, well ventilated space.

The department sees 1,300+ visits per year which outgrew the 581 square feet available; now with the expansion, the new 2,000 square feet space will much better serve the patient's needs.

- Re-designed space to meet the needs of the patients, including expanded gym space and creation of a walking path
- Dedicated patient restrooms, lockers and changing rooms
- Work areas designed to enhance patient flow and to seamlessly coordinate care
- Updated exercise equipment

"My experience was very positive and productive, but the bottom line is current Cardiac Rehab facilities are totally inadequate for the volume of patients coming and going."

- MCHS Fairmont Cardiac Rehab Patient

The renovation will cost \$250,000 and FCH Foundation has committed to fund the project.

Please help us support the local hospital by sending a donation to FCH Foundation or donate online at www.fchfoundation.com.

FCH Foundation
PO Box 826
Fairmont, MN 56031

Marriage License Applications

Danielle Lynn Eastman and Benjamin Louis Lubben

The winner of the **Holiday Delights Grand Prize Drawing** was Diane Steiner of Fairmont.

Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont hosts an **open door meal** Wednesday evenings from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m. each week. Wednesday, December 11th they will serve meatballs. On December 18th it will be baked potato. All meals include fruit, veggies, peanut butter/jelly sandwich, cookies, milk, water and coffee. Free will donation.

Aktion Club Theatre, a part of Kiwanis International, will meet Thursday, December 12th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the basement of Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont for their annual Christmas party. For any questions about the group, or if you need a ride to this event, please call Pat Kietzer at 507-848-5017 or the Arc office at 507-235-8580. The public's invited to join any of our theatrical practices.

The East Chain United Methodist Church will host the **monthly community coffee party** from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m., Saturday, December 14th. They will serve holiday treats, rolls, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and juice. Free will Offering.

Arc Different Drummer Dance Club will have a dinner and dance from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 15th at Fairmont's Holiday Inn. RSVPs for the dinner and/or if attending the dance will be taken up until noon on Thursday, December 12th. Please contact Pat Kietzer at 507-848-5017. The public is invited to attend.

Bomgaars Grand Opening Winners - Pair In-stock Boots: Lori Meyer, Fenton; Tom Campbell, Fairmont; Jack Meyer, Fairmont; Shirley Rihi; Christine Flatness, Amboy; Kristy Kittle-son; Larry Thoe, Fairmont; Eddy Cyphers; Terry Scultz, Granada; Mary Balcom, Granada; Lee Hanson; Cherie Pierce. Smokey Joe Grill: Deb Vagle. Yeti Tundra 45 Cooler: Myrna Schaefer, Fairmont; Dewalt 7 Tool Combo Kit: Paul Kloeckner, Fairmont; Milwaukee Pack out Rolling Tool Box: Jared Herman, Fairmont; Milwaukee Mechanic's Ratchet/Socket Set: Harvey Jahnke, Fairmont; Milwaukee M18 Fuel Hammerdrill & Impact Driver Kit: Joan Wink, Fairmont; Dewalt

Fire benefit for Kennedy family Saturday night

One of the most devastating things to happen to a family is to lose all of their possessions in a house fire.

That is what the Dustin and Jesse Kennedy family of Ceylon experienced when a fire on November 12th cost them not only their home, but all of its contents along with it.

Friends and family members of the Kennedys are coming together to have a benefit for the family on Saturday, December 14th from 4 to 8 p.m. at Legends II Bar in Ceylon.

There will be a meal by free will donation, silent auction, bake sale and a raffle drawing.

If you are unable

to make the benefit, but would still like to help the family, an account has been set up at Farmers State Bank of Dunnell, c/o Dustin & Jesse Kennedy Fire Acct., P.O. Box 67, Dunnell, MN 56127.

Special thanks for the fundraiser goes out to Legends II, Ceylon Fire and EMS, Brand FX and Friends of the Kennedys.



Greg Gellert-Blizzard Snowmobile Club member (right) accepts a donation of \$1,500 for the MN Snowmobile Veteran's Ride hosted by MN United Snowmobilers Association, to be held in January at Two Harbors, MN, from Steve Fosness-Lee C Prentice American Legion Post 36 Commander. (Submitted photo)

Town Hall meeting

Martin County MCSAP Coalition will be holding a "Communities Talk" Town Hall meeting to prevent underage drinking on Tuesday, December 17th from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Fairmont.

Talking to your kids about underage drinking,

vaping and other drug use can be awkward, but it can also be life-saving. Hear students' perspectives on what motivates them to make healthy choices and how the community can support them. Get resources to provide accountability and keep them safe this holiday season.

Roto Molded Cooler: Lony Bless, Fairmont; Traeger Wood Fired Grill: Al Wiemers, Algona; Fortress Gun Safe: H Brown, Fairmont; \$1,000.00 Shopping Spree: Jim Senenfelder; \$500.00 Shopping Spree: Jan Woodyard, Algona; Ste-

ven Meyer, Fenton \$50.00 Bomgaars Gift Cards: Greg Jacobsem, Ron Rosenberg, Karen Eustath, Linda Hoffman, Paul Zwachka, Heidi Origer, Darrel Kirchner, Bonita Johanneck, Betty Dalen, Mike Munsterman.



SCHULTZE 90TH - "Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. So blessed are we, his family." Lawrence Schultze, formerly of Ceylon will celebrate his 90th birthday Wednesday, December 11th at Lakeview Methodist Home in Fairmont. He was born December 11th, 1929. Cards can reach him at: Lakeview Health Services, 610 Summit Drive, Fairmont, MN 56031.



LEWISON-RUSCHY WED - Abigail Frances Lewison and Dalton John Ruschy were married May 25th, 2019 at the Chicago History Museum in Chicago, Illinois. The reception was held at the museum. Parents of the bride are John and Kelly Lewison of Chicago and the groom's parents are Dale and Deborah Ruschy of Fairmont. Abigail obtained her bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management and is currently an auditor with the Chicago Police Department. Dalton obtained his bachelor's degree in Management of Information Systems from the University of Minnesota: Carlson School of Management and is currently a database administrator. Photo courtesy of Artisan Events

Fairmont United Methodist Church continues its **Wednesday Evening Suppers** from 5 to 6 p.m. at the church, 119 E. 2nd Street in Fairmont. This Wednesday, December 11th they will serve fish fillets, mashed potatoes and coleslaw. Next Wednesday, December 18th they will not have a meal. All dinners include peanut butter and jelly sandwich, beverage and donated desserts. A \$2 donation is suggested.

The winners of the drawings held at **D&S Trophies & Embroidery** from Holiday Delights last Friday evening included: Blankets-Connie Urban and Liz Wheeler; Koozie-Lynn Davis; Cup-Lori Chirpich; Plaza Threads-Emily Jagodzinske and D&S Trophies Gift Card, Erica Larson.



KAHLER 70TH - Duane and Darlene Kahler of Truman will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on Thursday, December 12th. They were married at the Truman Church of Christ on December 12th, 1949. Cards will reach them at 1240 E. Business Hwy 83, Lot 63, Mission, TX 78572-9351.

CREST "Lunch & Learn" to feature Christmas fun

With Christmas just around the corner, you can enjoy some Christmas fun in Trimont next week.

A "Lunch & Learn" event sponsored by CREST will be

held on Wednesday, December 18th at 11:00 a.m. at First Lutheran Church, located at 61 Apple Street East in Trimont.

The program this month

will focus on Christmas fun. Following the presentation, a lunch of scalloped potatoes and ham, green bean casserole, and assorted Christmas goodies will be served.

Donations are welcome to defray costs. Anyone in the area is invited to join in the fun and socializing.

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Benefit for Jason Castillo at Eagles Club Saturday

On October 8th, 2019 things in Jason Castillo's life changed dramatically.

Jason, who is from the Fairmont area, became unresponsive that day and was

work for at least six months and likely longer.

A benefit for Jason and his family is planned for this Saturday, December 14th from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Fairmont



flown to Mayo in Mankato. After many tests, doctors concluded that he had several strokes near the brain stem area.

Presently, the plan is to try to get him into one of two neurological rehabilitation programs that will be either two or three hours away from his home. Jason is a single father of two children: Jaylee (age 5) and Jaeger (age 3). Because of the event and the ongoing therapy, Jason will be unable to return to

Eagles Club, 1228 Lake Avenue. A meal of soup, sandwich and dessert bar will be served for a free will donation, plus there will be a silent auction from 5 to 7 p.m. that night.

All donations will go to help with the care of his children, along with medical and travel expenses.

Cash donations can be sent in care of Jason Castillo Benefit to: US Bank, 103 North Park Street, Fairmont, MN 56031.

Portrait of a Veteran: Vince Small

Guest Columnist

Joseph Kreiss, Portrait of a Veteran Project

The Vietnam War was the lead story on the nightly TV news and in the daily newspaper headlines when Vince Small graduated from Fairmont High School in 1965. After a couple years of college education under his belt, Small made the decision to enlist in the United States Air Force to help the war effort.

Once through basic training, the Fairmont native was assigned work in accounts control at Nellis Air Force Base near Las Vegas, Nevada. "It was basically an office job," he admitted.

But Small's duties weren't limited to desk

work. He also worked on the flight line with the new F-111A swing wing fighter aircraft with the 474th Tactical Fighter Wing. At the time, the swept winged jet had experienced several crashes during sorties over North Vietnam, not due to enemy action but caused by wing and tail structural defects. The aircraft losses caused a storm of

criticism in the U.S. over the safety of the fighter plane. Small recalls the Air Force was still testing the airplane and making modifications to improve its reliability when he was stationed at Nellis AFB.

One of his most memorable jobs was working the flight line. "One of the jobs we did was to clean any radioactivity from the wings of the F-111As after

they returned to base following a mission." The Air Force was working with the aircraft's manufacturer to replace parts and improve the reliability of the cutting-edge moveable wing airplane. "We were trying to do something to help make that plane better and possibly help save lives of the servicemen fly-



Vince Small

- Born 1947 in Fairmont
- United States Air Force Vietnam-Era Veteran

ing them," Small said. "Our function on the ground was to be part of a team to get those aircraft back up and in-the-air again."

Following his honorable discharge from the Air Force, Small joined the Air Force Reserves and returned to Southern Minnesota before heading to Big Rapids, Michigan to earn an accounting degree at Ferris State University. He was given his final discharge from military service in 1971. Small became a certified Public Accountant and runs a CPA practice in Mankato.

Photo and story by Joseph Kreiss Photography

You can read more about local area veterans by going to the Portrait of a Veteran Photo Project blog: <http://sommvetphotoproject.blogspot.com/>. If you or someone you know is a veteran and would like to be included and featured in the Portrait of a Veteran Photo Project, contact Joseph Kreiss - josephkreissphotography@gmail.com

Join Us for an Open House celebrating Deb Matasovsky!



Wednesday, December 18
1 – 3 p.m.

Bank Midwest Support Center
1920 Center Creek Drive
Fairmont MN 56031

Cake, coffee, and water will be served.

Deb will be missed by all of her fellow employees and customers! We wish her the best in her retirement.

Bank Midwest
BankMidwest.com

Book signing at Sterling

Area residents will get the opportunity to attend a book-signing with local author Nathan Jorgenson this Saturday.

Sterling Drug in Fairmont will be hosting the event from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 14th in the store.

You will get the chance to meet local author Nathan Jorgenson as he introduces his latest work, "Contrapasso". Books will be available for purchase at the store that day.



eat play shop
LOCAL

The winners of the Dee's Floral Holiday Delights drawing from last Friday night included: Pat DeBerg, Joy Pollock, Lynn Davis and Rick Milbrandt, all of Fairmont.

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Martin County's First Court Case

Guest Columnist

Lenny Tvedten, Director, Martin County Historical Society



In the very early history of Martin County individuals existed that were considered somewhat less than desirable, often referred to as "scoundrels." In fact, some of those so called "scoundrels" were thought to be so perverse in their actions that lynching was considered a viable option in order to extinguish their undesirable acts.

In 1861, as the Civil War was just beginning, Martin County was the home to an individual named Philo Morse who was a noted undesirable character. He was accused of setting fire to a stable, out buildings, a team of horses, and other property owned by John W. Sleeier. In fact, regarding Morse, William Budd was quoted as saying that "He was the cause of more litigation, in the early days

of the county, than all the other settlers together." In addition, it was claimed that Morse burned his sister's home in Connecticut, where he had previously lived. Ironically, although jailed for that crime, he was later paroled under the condition that he leave the state of Connecticut. Consequently, that order prompted his journey to Minnesota and eventually, as luck would have it, to settle in Martin County.

Upon arriving in Minnesota, Morse resumed his incendiary passion for igniting fires. As a result, a letter was written to the prison authorities in Connecticut informing them of his crimes in Minnesota, perhaps in an attempt to convince Connecticut prisons to take him back. The response from the Connecticut prison of-

ficial that was contacted was their refusal to take him back as well as some unsolicited advice from them as follows: "Hang



William Budd

him!" They apparently didn't "mince" words back in Connecticut when it came to Morse! Perhaps we could assume that Mr. Morse was unremorseful for his pyromania.

Ironically, the hanging of Mr. Morse nearly came to pass. A posse on horseback from the vicinity of Winnebago had captured him and were determined to have a "hanging." However, a local well known pioneer, Holmes Fowler, intervened and persuaded the posse against carrying out the hanging of Mr. Morse.

During that period of time, in August of 1862, there were concerns among the settlers involving potential conflicts with Native Americans in the area. Consequently, many settlers fled the

area. However, Morse refused to follow and stayed behind. When the settlers returned, they found many of their homes and other buildings consumed by fire, apparently by the hand of Mr. Morse who had by that time become a seasoned arsonist.

Finally, Morse was scheduled to have his day in court. He was charged with the previously mentioned crime of arson regarding Mr. Sleeier's property with damages being asked at \$380.00. However, due to legal maneuvering on the part of Morse's attorney, the case instead went to trial in Blue Earth County.

The Blue Earth County jury awarded the plaintiff in the trial of the civil case, John W. Sleeier, damages in the amount of \$252.00. Judgement was also entered in Martin County on this verdict for principal, interest, and costs totaling \$360.14. Whether or not Mr. Morse paid what was due, or appealed the judgement, could not be

determined from court records at that time. This was said to be the result of a lack of consistency in record keeping in courts during those early years.

According to documents in the Pioneer Museum written by Judge Julius E. Haycraft coupled with William Budd's writings, there were certainly more than a few interesting characters in the history of Martin County that were not necessarily considered entirely law abiding citizens. Both Haycraft and Budd were very diligent in their efforts of recording history and providing it for future generations. They, as well as others, are to be commended for their endeavors in meticulously documenting events such as this for the knowledge and enjoyment of future generations.

For more information on this topic, or to become a member, visit the Pioneer Museum in Fairmont or www.fairmont.org/mchs

Are you taking advantage of changes to Ag homestead status for trust land?

by Brandon J. Edmundson, Krahmer, Shaffer & Edmundson, LTD

During the 2019 Minnesota legislative session several changes were made to laws affecting how homestead status is determined for agricultural property owned by spouses and held in a trust. These changes could mean substantially lower property and estate taxes for those affected. Under the prior laws, farm couples who chose to use trusts as part of their estate plan were losing the agricultural homestead status on part of the farmland after the death of the first spouse. The loss of the homestead treatment in some cases nearly doubled the property taxes each year on the farmland and may cause the surviving family to owe tens of thousands more in estate tax.

To address this problem, a group of attorneys from Greater Minnesota, including local attorney Brandon Edmundson, from the Krahmer, Shaffer & Edmundson law firm, worked together with the Probate and Trust Law Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association to propose a new law that would allow the surviving spouse to keep the agricultural homestead exemption on the whole farm after the first spouse's death—even when the farm was held in one or more trusts. After three years of working the law through the Legislature, Gov. Walz signed it during the 2019 legislative session, and it will be effective for property taxes payable in 2020.

We encourage own-

ers of agricultural land held in a trust to look at their proposed property tax statements for 2020 to determine whether the property is classified as homestead property. If it is not currently classified as homestead property or if you are unsure, you should contact your attorney or the county assessor's office to confirm whether your farm is now eligible to receive homestead treatment under the new law. If it is eligible for homestead classification, then you may need to submit a new homestead application and other documentation to the county assessor's office before December 16th in order to receive the lower property tax treatment for taxes payable in 2020.

Blue Earth to host Christmas Dessert Theater this weekend

The Blue Earth Town and Country Players announce their 2019 Christmas Dessert Theater, "Misdeeds at Mistletoe Mine or The Sanity Clause" by Tim Koenig, featuring many changes.

This year the Christmas Dessert Theater will be presented Friday, December 13th and Sunday, December 15th. There is no Saturday performance.

This year's event will be held at Blue Earth Area High School in the Unity Hall Commons and the Performing Arts Center.

Rather than a full roast pork dinner with all the trimmings, this year's offering will feature a choice

of three pre-show desserts, prepared by Jamie Gordon Kahm and the staff at Taher Food Service. Wassail and coffee will also be served. As in the past, the BEAHS Music Students will be serving the desserts and providing music as they raise funds for special travel events.

On Friday, December 13th doors open at 6:45 p.m. for wassail and coffee, with desserts served at 7 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, December 15th doors open at 12:45 p.m. for wassail and coffee and desserts will be served at 1 p.m. The show begins at 1:30 p.m. Desserts will be served in Uni-

ty Hall and the melodrama will be on stage at the PAC.

This year's show by Tim Koenig is produced in arrangement with Pioneer Drama Services, Inc. and is directed by Nancy Steinke. It tells the story of a poor little orphaned Holly Hock of Yule Falls, who has inherited a gold mine and a hotel with no guests. Villainous Mayor William Z. Lucifer has different plans for Holly and her inheritance. A cast of colorful characters help make things right and the holiday light.

Dessert and show tickets are \$15 and show-only tickets are \$10. All tickets will be sold at the door.

Small Sprouts Preschool and Fairmont Christian School would like to invite you to their **Christmas Program** which will be held on Friday evening, December 20th at 6:30 p.m. at Bethel Evangelical Free Church. Please come and join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior with our students, families, and members of our community.

The Regional Worship Center will host a **pancake, sausage and egg breakfast** Monday morning each week from 8 to 10 a.m. at the church, located at 2 Crossroads Drive, across from Kum and Go in Sherburn. All are welcome to join them.

The **Regional Ruby's Pantry food distribution** will take place Monday, December 16th at the Regional Worship Center, 2 Crossroads Drive in Sherburn. Registration begins at 5 p.m. and distribution is from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Bring two boxes or totes and \$20 cash. You will receive an abundance of food. Sorry, we are unable to accept checks or debit/credit cards.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 13 | 9AM - 4PM

Join us in celebrating the holiday season at our open house. Stop in for holiday treats and refreshments as our way of saying thank you and happy holidays to our customers and community.

1015 Highway 15 South, Fairmont, MN 56031

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What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Let it Snow!

Woke up this morning with a fresh layer of snow on the ground, does look fresh and clean and oh so much like the Christmas season! I am trying to think positive before I bundle up and head out for some errands.

I have been mulling over some menu options for our family Christmas meal and I think I might go with a taco bar this year and have a pan of enchilada. For good measure, its hard to think of a menu that appeals to the young and old alike and that in part can be prepared ahead of time. I may change my mind. I guess I will put out the word and see what feed back I receive! Today I am sharing a recipe for chicken enchiladas that can be made ahead and aren't so spicy. I hope that you will enjoy them too.

Sour Cream Chicken Enchiladas:

Two 10-ounce cans mild green enchilada sauce
1 10.5 ounce can condensed cream of chicken soup
One 8-ounce container sour cream
4 cups shredded cooked chicken
One 4-ounce can diced green chilis
One 14-ounce bag grated mozzarella cheese (3 1/2 cups)
Ten 10-inch soft four tortillas

Garnishes

Diced fresh tomatoes
1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
lime wedges

Spray a 9x13 inch baking dish with vegetable spray.

In large bowl, whisk together the enchilada sauce, chicken soup and the sour cream, spread about 1/2 cup of the sauce in the baking dish. Set aside the remaining sauce.

In a medium bowl, combine the chicken and chiles, toss until combined. Set aside about 2 cups of the shredded cheese for the topping.

Sprinkle some mozzarella on a tortilla, then add some of the shredded cheese and chilis. Tightly roll up the tortilla and place it seam side down in the prepared pan. Continue with remaining tortillas and filling until all are filled. Push the others up against each other as necessary so that all the filled tortillas fit in a single layer. Pour remaining sauce over the top, bake for 20 minutes at 350 degrees, remove and sprinkle the reserved mozzarella on top. Bake until the cheese is melted, about another 15 minutes. Serve hot with garnishes and Mexican rice. Have a great week

CREST offering Caregiver Support in Fairmont

CREST is offering assistance to individuals in the Fairmont area who are taking care of a loved one with dementia, Parkinson's, or other debilitating diseases.

Illnesses and life changes are difficult and stressful. Everyone struggles with the day-to-day changes and challenges of caring for a loved one.

Three Caregiver Support Groups meet monthly at various locations around Fairmont to offer support

and encouragement to caregivers that they aren't alone in the caregiving process and don't need to handle the situation by themselves. A specific topic is discussed each month and a time is available for questions that participants can ask regarding their caregiving experience.

For more information about the Fairmont Caregiver Support Groups, please call the CREST office at 235-3833 and ask for Joyce Peterson.

25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

**WEEK OF
DECEMBER 14, 1994**

Local musical group "The Bee Kays" were to present their annual benefit concert at the Fair Mall. The benefit concert assists families in Martin County through the Salvation Army.

* * *

Martin County Highway Department was named the "Highway Department of the Year" by the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust. Martin County was selected for the award because of its loss reduction, employee training and safety policies and procedures, along with a positive attitude toward risk management.

* * *

Eight Fairmont High School students recently attended the fifth annual "Students Are Concerned" Conference in St. Cloud. Fairmont students attending were: Angi Montgomery, Erin Danner, Erin Hale, Anne Shoen, Holly Dobson, Jeannine Schimmel, Katrina Koch and Cassie Olson. The two-day conference addressed peer pressure, drug and alcohol abuse, racism and sexual harassment.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

**WEEK OF
DECEMBER 14, 1969**

Minnesota was seeking solutions to the dropping pheasant population, which was estimated to be down from 50 percent to as much as 95 percent in parts of west-central and western counties. What is it - weather? habitat? predation? or changing farm practices?

* * *

Christmas ads in the Photo Press during December were crowding out some of the paper's regular features, and the compositors hoped that our readers would be busy reading about Fairmont merchants' bargains, ready to wait patiently to resume their favorite items next month.

* * *

Fairmont city council tentatively approved the establishment of a city ambulance service, to be operated by Donald Anderson, owner of Fairmont Fire and Safety Co.

eat play shop LOCAL

Salvation Army introduces "Kettle Pay"

You won't need to have cash this year to donate to the Salvation Army; all you need is a phone. This Christmas season, every red kettle in Minnesota and North Dakota will be equipped with Apple Pay and Google Pay, allowing donors to simply "bump" or scan their phones to make a digital donation.

The funds will be distributed to local Salvation Army units based on the donor's billing ZIP code, and an email receipt will be sent directly to the donor's phone. The Salvation Army will use all electronic kettle donations to provide food, clothing, shelter, family mentoring, disaster relief, and other critical services for people in need.

"We are excited about the new giving opportunities that Apple Pay and Google Pay will provide

for The Salvation Army and our iconic red kettles," said Lt. Col. Lonneal Richardson, leader of The Salvation Army Northern Division. "This technology allows The Salvation Army and our supporters to adapt to an increasingly cashless society."

Now in its 129th year, The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign runs through Christmas Eve at varying locations in the Twin Cities. The iconic kettles are responsible for bringing in more than \$3 million of the Army's \$12 million Christmas goal in the Twin Cities this year. Donations are accepted at any of the traditional red kettles found on street corners and in front of stores, online at SalvationArmyNorth.org, or on your phone by texting KETTLE to 91999.

martincountylibrary.org

**CHECK
IT OUT!**

@ the Martin
County Library

Audiobooks are surging in popularity across the country—and it's easy to see why! They're portable, traveling stories that can go anywhere you go! Whether you're using an audiobook CD or downloading it to your phone or tablet, audio

is a great way to pass the time! Here are a few other benefits of using audiobooks:

-Audiobooks are easy on your eyes...give your peepers a break and just listen to the story!

-You can multitask while you listen. Clean your house, cook, pay bills or craft while you're listening!

-Audiobook narrators can add a lot to the story, enhancing the experience!

-They're portable and great for traveling, walking and moving on the go!



**LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR**

VOTE on the 6.5% Tax Increase

Recently, it was announced that there would potentially be a 6.5% property tax increase for property owners in the city of Fairmont to support a new community center.

This would be in addition to the ½% sales tax increase already implemented. If this is true, then I suggest that the City of Fairmont hold a referendum vote on the building of a new community center decision. The vote that supporters are banking on was a predominantly internet survey with a few community meetings and postcard response cards for a wide variety of community activities, not just the community center. If you know someone who participated in the survey, maybe you did yourself, ask them how many times they "voted." Many people who do not have internet access or do not use Facebook did not contribute this survey. I do not feel this survey reflects a true view of whether the community wants a new community center or not.

In the interim, I would like the City to conduct a USE Study that would look at existing facilities in the community and how we could make them work as a community center.

Could we make the K-Mart, JC Penny and Marketlink spaces collectively work? Maybe part of the money could help the Knight's of Columbus expand to serve larger events. What if we used part of the monies to enclose the Aquatic Park and make it usable year round? Perhaps we need to think about how long Mayo will be in town. Many people are thinking about this. Could we develop an agreement with the existing fitness businesses to increase memberships there instead of

"building new"?

The YMCA is a great organization, but they are not the only ones who can provide quality community programming. What about CER? They already manage over 1,000 activities throughout the year within our community. Could their capacity be expanded with some of the funds to add programming through their office? I would prefer to keep our money in town and support local people and their families living and working here.

Here is the list of what we would gain with a new community center via the Project 1590:

- to develop a place for people to gather

- to build upon youth programming

- an indoor place for numerous activities during winter months

- a community amenity to attract and retain people to call the Fairmont area home

- to encourage healthy living

- to strengthen social development within our community

Let's make our whole community a "center" and save some tax dollars. The sales tax collection could perhaps fund this without additional tax dollars. We already have most of these resources here and available. Local businesses might support this type of concept knowing their property taxes will not go up an additional 6.5%. We could score high with future businesses wanting to locate here because of our innovativeness and wise use of resources. I think this type of thinking can really bring all factions of the community together to improve the community overall.

Thank you for considering.

Linda Meschke
Fairmont

ADVENT WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN



Wonder
upon
Wonder

Join us in December

Wed. Noon & 6:30pm
Sat. 6:00pm
Sun. 8:30am & 10:45am

ALL are
Welcome!

300 S Grant St, Fairmont, MN 56031 • www.gracelutheranchurch.org

Five Lakes Centre Mall

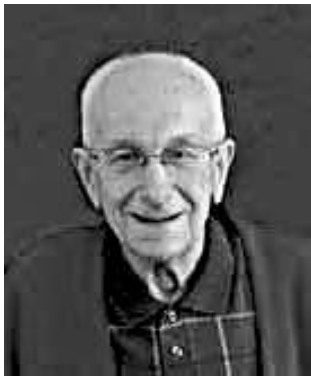
**TOY SHOW • Sat., Dec. 14
VENDOR & CRAFT SHOW
Sat., Dec. 14 • 10am - 3pm**

Stop in and start your fall and Christmas shopping!

*To join in our Vendor Show
call 507-210-6678*

OBITUARY notices

Ellis E. Saxton, 91



Funeral Services for Ellis E. Saxton, 91, of Fairmont, were held Friday, December 6th, 2019, at United Methodist Church

in Fairmont. Military honors by Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post #36 and Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1222. Burial was at Fairview Memorial Park Cemetery in Fairmont. Ellis passed away Sunday, December 1st, 2019 at Lakeview Methodist Care Center in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Ellis E. Saxton was born March 3rd, 1928 in Seneca, IA, to Lawrence and Zelda (Osborne) Saxton. He was the oldest brother to Shirley (Little) and Richard and, in times of need, to Ralph Saxton, Willis Saxton and Meryl Neubert.

Ellis attended District

105 County School and graduated from Fairmont High School in 1946. He married his high school sweetheart, Arlene Lidke, on December 26th, 1946. They shared almost 73 years together, working, traveling, raising their children and enjoying their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ellis served his beloved country in the US Army in Germany in World War II from 1946 to 1948. He was called back for service during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1952. In 1973 he joined the Minnesota Army National Guard and served as a civilian soldier until his retirement in 1989. After the war, Ellis was very active in the American Legion and the

Veterans of Foreign Wars in Fairmont. He served as Commander of Post #36 and continued his service to country as an Honor Guard Member to the end.

Ellis was hired by Bill Mickelson at the Fairmont Sentinel newspaper after his second discharge from the Army. He worked as circulation manager and at one time had over 120 carriers delivering papers in Southern MN and Northern IA. During that time daily circulation increased from 5,000 to 14,025. He later moved to the advertising department where he worked until his retirement in 1982. Ellis also worked as a Tour Guide for Travel Fun Tours, a subsidiary of the Sentinel, for 50 years.

Ellis was always willing to volunteer his time and service. He was a volunteer EMT with the Fairmont Ambulance Service for 11 years. He served as an Adult Leader in 4-H for 25 years. He was a Tour Bus escort for the City of Fairmont and a volunteer at Heritage Acres. He most loved the work he did for the United Methodist Church where he was a member most of his life. For all this service Ellis was a recipient of Outstanding Senior Citizen of Martin County and the Book of Deeds Award.

After a life of love for family, work, country and God, his footprints will always remain for others to follow.

Left to cherish his

memory are his wife Arlene of Fairmont; children Susan Beyer(William) of North Mankato, Bruce (Dale) of Fairmont, Dennis (Lynne) of North St. Paul and Dawn Peymann (Thomas) of North Mankato; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; sister Shirley Little of Faribault; brother Richard (Crystal) of Fairmont; brother-in-law, Rev. Norman Lidke, Apple Valley; sister-in-law LeaAnn McDonald of Fairmont; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be given in Ellis' name to Heritage Acres Fairmont and the United Methodist Church of Fairmont Building Fund.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Gary E. Reutzel, 63



Funeral Mass for Gary E. Reutzel, 63, of Fairmont, was held Saturday, December 7th, 2019 at

St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Fairmont with inurnment at a later date. Military Honors were provided by Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 and Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1222. Gary passed away on Sunday, December 1st, 2019, at his home in Fairmont surrounded by his family. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Gary Ervin Reutzel was born in Fairmont. He was the son of Ervin and Anna Mae (Sokoloski) Reutzel. Gary received his educa-

tion in Fairmont.

Gary enlisted in the Navy in March 1973. He served aboard the USS Buchanan until earning an honorable discharge in July 1976.

Gary was married to Norma Sunderman in 1978, in Austin. He was later united in marriage to Anne Paczkowski July 30th, 1993, in Bellevue, NE. The couple resided in Bellevue until moving to Fairmont in 1996, where Gary worked as a machinist as well as a hairdresser until his retirement in 2011. Gary and Anne shared over twenty-six years together.

Gary attended St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Fairmont. His dedication to caring for fellow veterans was important to Gary. He was a member of the Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars and twice served as Post Commander. Gary also served as DAV Commander, Martin County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Treasurer, Martin County Veteran's Memorial Chairman, as well as volunteering at St. John Vianney School.

During his free time, Gary enjoyed golfing, working in his yard, as well as traveling around the United States.

The family would like to extend a special "thank you" to Gary's sister-in-law, Jacki Buckalew for her care and compassion.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Anne Reutzel; children, Crystal Reutzel Halverson, Kristine (Mike) Fischer, and Ryan Paczkowski; grandchildren, Chandler Halvorson, Jagaar Halvorson, Hannah Fischer and Makenna Fischer; mother, Anna Mae Reutzel; father, Ervin (Dorothy) Reutzel; sisters, Gloria (Dave) Brownlee, Helen (Kim) Schroeder, and Becky Musser; father-in-law, Jack Golden; brothers-

in-law, Robert (Michelle) Chapps, and Jerry (Sylvia) Golden; sisters-in-law, Jacki Buckalew, and Sue (Bruce) Crabde; other extended family and many friends.

Gary was preceded in death by an infant sister, Debra Reutzel; brother, Roger Reutzel; nephew, Joshua Musser; grandparents, Stanley and Anna Sokoloski, and Henry and Anna Reutzel; and mother-in-law, Joyce Golden.

Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Financial Focus



Provided by:

Paul Schellpeper, Drew Schellpeper, Wyman Fischer, Dan Hamlet, Mandi Kosbab

Financial Advisors, Edward Jones, www.edwardjones.com, Member SIPC

Invest in Your Family and Community

Why do you invest? For many people, here's the answer: "I invest because I want to enjoy a comfortable retirement." And that's certainly a great reason, because all of us should regularly put money away for when we're retired. But you can also benefit by investing in your family and your community.

Let's start with your family members, particularly the younger ones. How can you invest in their future? One of the best ways is to help send them to college. A college degree is still a pretty good investment: The average lifetime earnings of a college graduate are nearly \$1 million higher than those of someone with a high school degree, according to a study by the U.S. Census Bureau.

To help your children or grandchildren pay for any college, university,

vocational school or other postsecondary education, you may want to open a 529 savings plan. With this account, withdrawals are federally tax free, as long as the money is used for qualified higher education expenses, including those from trade and vocational schools. (However, if you withdraw some of the earnings on your account, and you don't use the money for qualified expenses, it will be taxable and can also incur a 10% federal tax penalty.) Plus, you retain control of the funds until it's time for them to be used for school, so if your original beneficiary chooses not to pursue some type of higher education, you can name a different eligible beneficiary.

Another way to invest in your family is to help your adult children avoid feeling obligated to provide

financial assistance to you. For example, if you ever required some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home, could you afford it? The average cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000 per year, according to a study by Genworth, an insurance company. And Medicare typically pays very few of these expenses. So, to avoid burdening your adult children - while also preserving your own financial independence - you may want to consider some type of long-term care insurance. A financial advisor can help you determine what coverage may be appropriate.

Moving beyond your family, you may want to invest in the social fabric of your community by contributing to local charitable, civic, educational or cultural

groups. Of course, now that we're in the holiday season, it's the perfect time for such gifts. Furthermore, your gift will be more appreciated than in years past because one of the chief incentives for charitable giving - a tax deduction - was lost for many people due to tax law changes, which raised the standard deduction so significantly that far fewer people chose to itemize deductions. However, you might still be able to gain some tax benefits from your charitable gifts. To name one possibility, you could donate financial assets, such as stocks that have risen in value, freeing you of potential capital gains taxes. In any case, contact your tax advisor if you're considering sizable charitable gifts.

Saving for your retirement will always be important. But don't forget about investing in your family and your community - because these investments can provide satisfying returns.

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

DEATH notices

November 29 - Randy L. Ogren, Sr., 63, Trimont
Kramer Family Funeral Home
December 1 - Gary E. Reutzel, 63, Fairmont
Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
December 4 - Susanne "Sue" Whitehead, 76, Sherburn
Kramer Family Funeral Home
December 5 - Ruth P. Hanson, 100, formerly of Sherburn
Kramer Family Funeral Home
December 9 - James D. Payne, 70, Truman
Zaharia Family Funeral Home

In Memorium

One Year Ago This Week

December 3 - Walter A.J. Abel, 95, Fairmont
December 4 - Kevin W. Emery, 62, Blue Earth
December 6 - Susan L. Nelson, 57, rural Welcome
December 6 - Ricky L. Shoemaker, 59, Granada
December 6 - Raymond J. Hilman, 76, Northrop
December 7 - Helen A. Gould, 79, Fairmont
December 7 - Edward "Al" Haler, 92, St. James

We will be Closed
Tuesday, December 24 @ Noon & Wednesday, December 25
So our employees can spend the holiday with their families and friends.
PhotoPress
Only good news
112 East First Street | Fairmont, MN
P> 507.238.9456 | fairmontphotopress.com
info: frontdesk@fairmontphotopress.com



Fairmont Christian School students and Rebecca Denaway, their teacher, receive \$1,000, for electronic tablets, from Steve Fosness-Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 Commander. (Submitted photo)



A group of Fairmont Area High School seniors met with former Vice President Joe Biden in Mason City, Iowa on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2019. Pictured (L to R): Former Vice President Joe Biden, Zihao Yang, Campbell Krusemark, Dan Brummond, Superintendent Joseph Brown, Tyson Geerdes, Zach Soelter. Four years ago, Superintendent Brown took students to see five presidential candidates: Donald Trump (Republican), Jeb Bush (Republican), Rick Santorum (Republican), Hillary Clinton (Democrat), Bernie Sanders (Democrat). (Submitted photo)

Scholarships available to students of Federated members

This is the 13th year that Federated Rural Electric, Jackson, will award two \$1,000 Basin and L&O scholarships to two local Federated members' sons or daughters.

"This scholarship comes from Basin Electric Power Cooperative based in Bismarck, North Dakota, which became a wholesale power supplier for Federated in 2008 and L&O Power Cooperative in Rock Rapids, Iowa," stated Scott Reimer, Federated's general manager. "Basin awards 137 of these scholarships to local electric cooperatives. Federated is excited to distribute the scholarship materials and select two local students to receive the \$1,000 scholar-

ships."

The scholarships are available to high school seniors and college students who will be enrolled fulltime in an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school working on an undergraduate or master's degree. Previous Federated Basin scholarship winners are not eligible to apply again. Applicants must be 25 and under and a U.S. citizen.

Applicants must complete a two-page application, including a grades' transcript, ACT/SAT scores, write an essay and have an outside appraisal (reference checklist). The one-page essay should address: Describe how a

cooperative can be economic engines for their local communities.

The deadline to apply for this scholarship is January 30th, 2020. Applications are available from Federated's website (www.federatedrea.coop), at Federated's office (507-847-3520 or info@federatedrea.coop) or from local high school counselors.

The scholarship must be used for college during Fall 2020. Checks will be made payable to the school as paid by Basin/L&O. Scholarships will be distributed in August.

Last year's Basin scholarship winners were Anna Rose, Alpha; and Trenton LaCanne, Windom.

New Coalition Aims to Impact the Health of the Community

A diverse group of organizations across Faribault and Martin Counties are partnering to address the top concerns impacting the health of Faribault and Martin Counties, according to a recent Community Health Needs Assessment.

Human Services of Faribault and Martin Counties, Mayo Clinic Health System, Fairmont and United Hospital District are all individually required to complete a Community Health Needs Assessment and subsequently develop a Community Health Improvement Plan. This time, the three organizations have partnered together, in hopes of reducing duplication and aiming to make a stron-

ger impact across both counties.

"We started this work about 2 years ago," says Community Health Administrator for Human Services of Faribault & Martin Counties, Chera Sevcik, "and we decided it made the sense to work together, verses working in silos."

The assessment process heavily sought feedback from the community.

"Our Community Health Needs Assessment was very focused on listening to what the community believed are the biggest challenges to health and wellness. Our process included reviewing data trends - administering an adult health survey, utilizing the Minnesota Student Survey, and reviewing state level data indicators, but also included using social media to ask community members opinions on health, utilizing a community dot polling activity at county fairs, school conferences and community events, and talking with key community leaders to better understand the concerns. It's a process that moves beyond just looking at the data, and really working to understand what's impacting the health of our communities," says Sevcik.

In March, 2019, a community meeting was held to review the findings from the Community Health Needs Assessment and asked community members in attendance to prioritize key health concerns. Over 50 community members across both counties prioritized Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Mental Health, Substance Use, Chronic Disease and Access to Health Care and Dental to be the top issues impacting the health of the community.

In the months since, work has been underway to develop the Community Health Improvement Plan.

A Community Health Leadership Coalition was convened and includes broad membership from across both counties. This coalition has convened three action planning teams who are in the process of developing the Community Health Improvement Plan that will drive this work into the future.

To get connected to this work, or for more information, people are encouraged to visit the Facebook Page, Stronger Together- Faribault & Martin Counties: <https://www.facebook.com/strongertogetherfaribaultmartin>.




Join Megan Gilmore, M.D., as she discusses how bariatric surgery can improve your health and quality of life. From pre-surgical education to post-surgical support, our bariatric surgery experts partner with you to ensure long-term success.

Tuesday, Dec. 17, noon

Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont, Main Classroom

Register by calling 507-399-0182.
Free and open to the community.






Christmas rose

This plant blooms in early winter in mild climates, and late winter or early spring where the soil freezes hard. Native to Europe and western Asia, this plant loves shade or dappled sun and moist soil. It ranges in many colors from white and cream to pink, rose, burgundy and light green. Amend the soil with plenty of organic matter, such as aged leaf mold and compost.

— Brenda Weaver

Source: www.hgtv.com, www.whitetulowerfarm.com





Karis and I spent part of last week-end writing out Christmas cards to send out to family and friends. While we were doing this annual task, the conversation turned to seeing an "electronic Christmas card" that Karis saw on Facebook and the person who sent it said

that is all they are going to do for Christmas cards this year. In recent years, many of the tasks we used to do "manually" are being done online or in electronic form, especially by the younger generations. I grew up with the understanding that bills were to be paid either with cash or by check. Now

many companies want you to pay your bills online "so you can save on paper". How many can remember being so excited with the Sears and Roebuck "Wish Book", JC Penney or Montgomery Ward Christmas catalogs came in the mail? I can remember spending hours going through the thick books looking and dreaming



of what I would like for Christmas. Online shopping has done away with that tradition now too. Call me old fashioned, but I still like receiving Christmas cards in the mail, I still pay by check more often than I do with credit and I still get excited when I see old Christmas catalogs in an antique store. You get so much more out of being able to turn the pages, instead of staring at a cold computer screen or telephone.

"What is it?"

Last week's "What is it?" item was known by a number of people. Robert Nelson was the first one to correctly identify it as an old fashioned reflector for the back of a wagon or truck. It has glass marbles that reflect the light when it shines on it and was used on old vehicles that didn't have regular tail lights. Other correct answers came from



Brian Olson, Diane Jorgensen, Darwin Peterson, Arlyn Bur-



hardt and a host of others. This week we have an item that I think will be more of a challenge to identify that was brought in by Darwin Peterson. It is made of metal and measures 14 inches wide and 7 inches tall. It has a hook that appears to be adjustable. I have it in my office if anyone would like to come in and look at it. It has six holes in the bracket base. So do you know what it is? If you know the answer or want to guess what it is, email me at jeff@fairmont-photopress.com or call us at

507-238-9456 with your answer. Do you have an item you think would be good to have in this column? Just bring it in and we will take some pictures and get measurements and you will see it featured in a future Photo Press.

Don't spoil what's good for a community

A group of citizens, the city and business people have been spending a lot of time, and money, fixing up the store fronts on Main Street in Sherburn, putting new awnings, painting empty store windows and adding new lights, putting bright colored flowers during the summer in pots and more. As I was driving through town over the weekend, I noticed some pink graffiti spray-painted on the building wall in "Pocket Park". It's too bad someone has to deface things that are good.

Soup, fish fillets and conversation

Here are a brief list of some of the events happening in the coming week:

- Wednesday, December 11th Fairmont United

Methodist Church will serve fish fillets, mashed potatoes and coleslaw from 5 to 6 p.m. • Wednesday, December 11th at Grace Lutheran in Fairmont they will serve meatballs from 4:45 to 6 p.m. • Thursday, December 12th, the Shepherd's In will serve soup starting at 5 p.m. at the Blazer Bar Hall on Downtown Plaza in Fairmont. • Saturday, December 14th East Chain United Methodist Church will host the monthly community coffee party from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the church. • Monday, December 9th the Regional Worship Center in Sherburn will host a pancake, sausage and egg breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. and later in the day will host Ruby's Pantry food distribution from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the church. Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - eat, play, shop local - send a Christmas card to someone special!

Jeff

"Just the other day"

Guest Columnist

Tom Palen, broadcaster, pilot, writer



A Difficult Day Gone Right

It had been a difficult day to say the very least. Dealing with a challenging person (who I'm sure thought it was me who is challenging) had me about worn out. I was into the 24th hour of what should have been a two-hour project; and I wasn't done yet. I was still waiting...

My patience was wearing thin, as was theirs, I'm sure.

I went to the mall to kill time while waiting. A mall security cop smiled at me. I asked him, "Has anyone wished you a Merry Christmas yet?" He said no, so I said "Well then, let me be the first. Merry Christmas, my friend." He reached his hand toward me, when I

shook his hand, he pulled me close, embracing me with a big hug, pats on the back and also wished me a Merry Christmas.

He introduced himself, but I didn't hear what name he said. "My friends call me Casey." Then he introduced me to a man in a kiosk, who also wished me a Merry Christmas. Yes, this was the second nice cop I've met into recently, named Casey.

I felt very good about the encounter. I went to Starbucks, inside Target and ordered my decaf-coffee. The cashier asked, "Will that be all?"

There was a teenage girl behind me, and a boy behind her on the other side of the roped

off line. "Are you two together." I asked; she said they were. I told the cashier, "I'd like to buy theirs too." The girl smiled and ordered a chocolate latte fluff-o-rama foo-foo something or another with extra cream. (I was at Starbucks...) The young man thanked me for my offer but said he was fine with his sport drink, holding up a clear bottle with a florescent blue liquid inside.

I handed the girl her drink. She thanked me again, "Merry Christmas, sir, that was so kind of you." I smiled and wished her and her brother a Merry Christmas, also. They both held up their fingers, giving me the peace sign. That warmed

my heart.

The cashier said, "Your total is \$7.91"

I swiped my card and got my receipt. "Where's the line for a tip?" I asked her. She explained they are not allowed to accept tips. "Well if I could, I would give you a million-dollar tip." She blushed and I said, "You have a Merry Christmas."

She smiled a big smile and said, "Thank you. That is a million-dollar tip. Merry Christmas sir."

Christmas is coming soon. The Christmas Spirit is already here.

I'm sorry. What difficult person...?

Love...

To easily share this story, visit our web site at fairmontphotopress.com. You can also request a paper copy by calling our office at 507-238-9456.

eat play shop LOCAL

The Granada-Huntley-East Chain Junior and Senior Classes will be holding a **Class Trip Fundraiser** to raise money for their class trip to Washington, D.C. and New York City in March of 2020. On December 19th, from 5 to 8 PM a taco feed meal will be sold during the boys' basketball game against Mankato Loyola. Come out and support the Jaguars and our Junior and Senior classes.

Low interest rates getting you down? Let's talk.



Paul Schellpeper
Financial Advisor

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Drew Schellpeper
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

MKT-58941-A

There is no time more fitting to say

Thank You

and to wish you a

Happy Holiday Season!



from the staff at

Hefty

SEED COMPANY

1025 Fairview Ave., Fairmont, MN
(507) 235-3422 • www.heftyseed.com

JOIN US FOR OUR

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE!

Friday, December 13th
11:00 to 2:00pm Fairmont Office

Join us as we celebrate an amazing holiday season!



PROFINIUM

Fairmont 105 Lake Avenue 507.235.5538
Truman | Mankato | Owatonna
Member FDIC | www.profinium.com

Dining and Entertainment

Fairmont Toy Show

(under new promoter)

December 14th & 15th 2019
Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 10am-3pm
Five Lakes Centre
400 S State Street, Fairmont, MN
**Farm toys, cars, trucks
& various collectibles**
More information call:
Wendy: 507-381-8234
Jim: 507-381-8235


Special Holiday Gift Idea

With every purchase of \$50 worth of gift cards, get a \$10 gift card FREE!

Now thru December 24

Call El Agave Today for your Catering Needs!

EL AGAVE
MEXICAN RESTAURANT

507-235-8835
62 Downtown Plaza
Fairmont, MN

Sun-Thurs 11:00-9:00; Fri-Sat 11:00-10:00
www.elagaverestaurantmexicano.com

Fairmont Eagles

1228 Lake Ave • 238-2555

Friday, December 13 • 5-7pm: Burger Night

Month's Burger:

Yum Yum Burger

Burgers \$6

1/3# burger topped with American cheese, lettuce, tomato and Yum Yum sauce

Saturday, December 14: • 5-8pm Jason Castillo Benefit

Sunday, December 15 • 8:30am to 12:30pm: Breakfast Buffet • \$10

Monday, December 16: Kitchen opens 5pm • Bingo 7pm

Tuesday, December 17: Dart League • 7pm

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



Coming to the
Fairmont Opera House...

Holiday Hoopla!

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
FROM 4:00PM-7:00PM**

Join us for a festive afternoon with movies, games, snacks, and more. We'll even have a special guest: Santa!

**THIS EVENT IS FREE TO THE PUBLIC!
FREE WILL DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

507-238-4900 or fairmontoperahouse.org

Jason Castillo Benefit


**Saturday, December 14, 2019
5pm – 8pm**
**Fairmont Eagles Club
1228 Lake Ave.**
**SOUP, SANDWICH, AND DESSERT BAR
FREE WILL DONATION**

In addition to the meal, there will be a silent auction from 5pm to 7 pm.
All donations received will go to help with the care of his children, medical and travel expenses that are incurred during this difficult time. Your help/support is greatly appreciated!
Please contact Sarah at 507-848-5511 with donations or questions! Cash donations can be sent
In Care of Jason Castillo Benefit to: Profinium Financial 105 Lake Ave – Fairmont, MN 56031

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Menus subject to change.

DEC 12 - 18
THUR: Beef stew, dinner roll, strawberries.

FRI: Sloppy joe, tater tots, cucumber slices, peaches.

MON: Taco, chips, banana.

TUE: Shrimp poppers, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, bread, applesauce.

WED: Calico beans, corn muffin, veggie slices, peaches.

HOT MEALS ON WHEELS

Hot Meals on Wheels are Monday through Saturday for convalescents and persons who cannot purchase and prepare adequate meals. Meals are prepared by Lakeview Methodist Healthcare and volunteers deliver in Fairmont between 11 a.m. and noon each day. This is a community project and is non-profit and not government funded. For more info on Hot Meals on Wheels, contact Karen Toupal 507-236-8781.

Jeff's Jottings!



top ten

Christmas Tree Producers

1. Oregon
2. North Carolina
3. Michigan
4. Pennsylvania
5. Wisconsin
6. Washington
7. Virginia
8. New York
9. Maine
10. Connecticut

Source: USDA

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN ST. JOHN VIANNEY ARISE ACADEMY FAIRMONT

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

DEC 12 - 18
THUR: Cheeseburger, baked beans, broccoli, mandarin oranges.

FRI: Cheese stuffed breadsticks, carrots, applesauce.

MON: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner roll, carrots, pineapple tidbits.

TUE: Softshell taco, rice, corn, cucumbers, grapes.

WED: Mini turkey corn dogs, tater tots, broccoli, peaches.

Upcoming Events

Fri. Dec. 13
5:00 pm
**All You Can Eat Fish
\$12 per Person**
Sat. Dec. 14
1:30 pm
**Cribbage Tourney
\$10 per Person**
Sat. Dec. 14
8:00 pm
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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.

DEC 12 - 18
THURS: Pork roast, mashed potatoes, mixed veggies, custard.

FRI: Golden broil fish, creamed potatoes, beets, cake.

MON: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, baby carrots, pumpkin dessert.

TUE: Chicken strips, potato salad, green beans, cake.

WED: Tater tot hotdish, peas & carrots, beet pickles, jello with fruit.

FAIRMONT AREA

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

Breakfast menu can be found online.
DEC 12 - 18
THUR: K-6: Tacos, rice, peach parfait, refried beans, celery sticks frozen strawberries, pears.

JR/HS: Chicken fajitas, corn, refried beans, pea salad, jicama, apple, peaches.

FRI: K-6: French bread pepperoni pizza, bagel and egg fun lunch, carrots, caesar salad, orange, pineapple tidbits.

JR/HS: Cheese stuffed breadsticks, carrots, chicken caesar salad wrap, corn, celery sticks, banana, peaches.

MON: K-6: Popcorn chicken, egg & cheddar chef salad, dinner roll, baked beans, tomatoes, orange, applesauce.

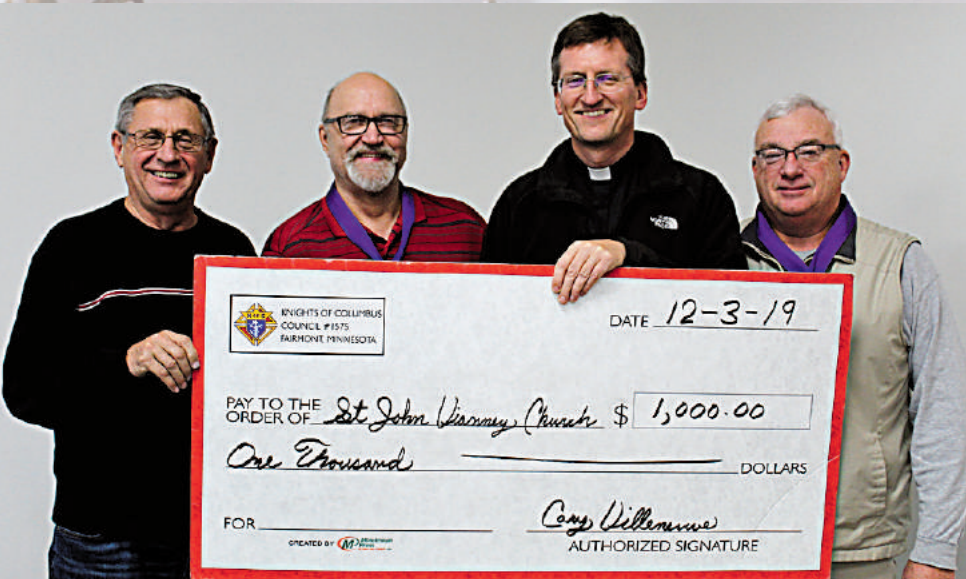
JR/HS: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes,

gravy, dinner roll, green beans, carrots, broccoli, apple, pineapple chunks.

TUE: K-6: Pancakes, turkey sausage, turkey & swiss on pretzel roll, tater tots, carrots, apple, pineapple tidbits.

JR/HS: Soft-shell taco, rice, corn, Mexican black bean & cilantro salad, cucumbers, grapes, fruit cocktail.

WED: K-6: Mini turkey corn dogs, chicken caesar salad wrap, corn, celery sticks, banana, peaches.

JR/HS: Stuffed baked potato, broccoli, dinner roll, cauliflower salad, celery sticks, kiwi wedges, peaches.


The Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus sponsored a breakfast on November 17th benefiting the St. John Vianney Good Samaritan Fund. A check for \$1,000 was presented at the December 3rd KC Membership Meeting. Pictured (L to R): Denny Pytleski—KC Event Chairman; Cary Villeneuve—Grand Knight of the local KC Council; Fr. Beerman—Chaplain of the Fairmont Council/Pastor of St. John Vianney and Holy Family Parishes; and Hugh Fraser—Deputy Grand Knight of the local KC Council. (Submitted photo)



The Ambassadors of the Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce were present last week to hold a ribbon-cutting at the new Bomgaars store in Fairmont. Bomgaars employees on hand for the event were: Terry Kosek-District Manager, Eva Wagner-Key Carrier, Danealle Kuperus-Key Carrier, Mike Dehrkoop-store manager, Jane Bomgaars-owner, Roger Bomgaars-owner, Roger Scholz-General Operations Manager and Torrey Winger- CFO/Vice President.



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CarCare2019

—Where to go to keep you moving—

3 tips for safe holiday driving

(BPT) - The holidays are wonderful. They can also be stressful.

The good: special times with family and friends. The bad: all the travel in between. The ugly: when winter roads become snowy and icy, turning a joyful journey into a jittery one.

Fortunately, your safety this season is partially under your control. By following these three

tips, you'll increase your chances of safely navigating any winter wonderland.

1. Make sure you're driving the right set of tires

The best way to stay safe on the roads this holiday season: choosing the right tires to guide your journey.

While many drivers use all-season tires year-round, that's not the safest choice in most areas of

the United States. Once temperatures drop below 45 degrees, all-season tires harden and lose a lot of their grip. They also aren't equipped to handle snow and ice.

The answer: buying a set of winter or all-

against winter's worst.

For drivers who face unpredictable winter conditions, all-weather tires are a great choice. Unlike all-season tires, all-weather products are approved for winter use. Unlike winter tires, drivers

shouldn't have to worry about staying safe on the road," said Nokian Tyres Director of Products and Pricing Steve Bourassa. "Premium winter and all-weather tires provide peace of mind to help drivers and their families

Each 10-degree drop in temperature can cause your tires to lose as much as 1 psi of pressure. That's why you'll sometimes see your dashboard's tire light glow on a cold morning.

"Tires are designed to be used at their optimal inflation level," says Bourassa. "Look on your driver's-side door jamb or in your owner manual to find the recommended pressure level for your vehicle's tires, then keep them inflated throughout the season."

If you're traveling to a colder climate or at higher elevation, it is worth considering increasing the inflation pressure by 2-to-3 psi to help offset environmental changes.

While you're at it, take a look at your tires' tread depth, which is vital for sturdy traction. Use the penny test to measure how much tread you've got left; if you can see Abraham Lincoln's head when you're holding the penny upside down inside the tread, it's time for new tires.

3. Get rotated and aligned

The holidays can wear on all of us. Holiday driving should wear evenly on our tires.

That means it's important to get your tires rotated and check your alignment if you haven't done so in a while. Nokian Tyres recommends rotating your tires every 4,000 to 6,000 miles to make sure they're wearing the right way. Uneven tire wear can lead to unpredictable - and potentially unsafe - performance.

Be sure to visit your local tire shop to check your rotation and alignment before hitting the road for the holidays.

You don't need a reindeer with a red nose to travel as safely as possible this holiday season. You simply need to buy the right set of tires and keep a close eye on their maintenance. Then, you'll be able to eliminate an area of stress and bask in the most wonderful time of the year.



Wishing You Safe Holiday Travels

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weather tires. Winter tires are perfect for areas that experience consistent and/or severe winter weather. Drivers who install them during the colder months are protecting themselves

can use them year-round. For that reason, they're also a great choice for people who are traveling north for the holidays.

"Families who are traveling for the holidays

enjoy this special time of year."

2. Stay deep and keep the pressure high

During the holidays, there's high pressure to get to your destination safely. For that reason, there should also be high pressure in each of your tires.

Properly inflated tires have stronger grip and are less prone to blowouts. They also improve gas mileage by decreasing friction where the rubber meets the road.

But your tires' inflation level requires extra attention this time of year:

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CarCare2019

—Where to go to keep you moving—

New technologies boost winter road safety while reducing salt use

(StatePoint) Last year's long and brutal winter depleted road salt supplies throughout much of the U.S. As a result, a number of cities have experienced significant price spikes when placing their salt

road before it has a chance to work. Even those U.S. cities that do use wet salt primarily use a mixture that's less efficient than those used in Europe -- as little as a 5% brine mixture in the U.S. as compared

and tanks aren't large enough to accommodate the additional brine. In addition, they don't offer precision placement technologies that carefully and consistently spread salt on the primary driving surfaces. Instead, they randomly drop excessive amounts of salt.

Experts say that smarter salt spreaders offer a variety of spreading patterns to cover multiple lanes simultaneously, allowing for greater coverage in less time so that salt trucks don't need to make multiple passes to sufficiently clear the roads. As

a result, roads can be driven on safely without delay, reducing labor time and related costs, which is attractive to budget-strapped municipalities.

According to Scherer, several cities in the U.S. have already incorporated smart Swenson spreaders into their fleets and have documented salt and labor savings as high as 35%. Such success opens the door to additional testing in other markets, especially given the public's increased focus on the environmental impact of road salt and the growing burden of ris-

ing salt prices on city and department of transportation budgets.

For more information

on the latest smart salt spreading technologies, visit spreadsaltsmarter.com.



orders this year. At a time when experts are highlighting the environmental and infrastructural damage caused by excessive salt use on roads, new technologies are helping American communities reduce their growing dependence on salt, while still keeping roads safe.

The U.S. spreads up to 22 million tons of salt per year, a large portion of which finds its way into rivers, streams and soil. Numerous environmental groups and universities have documented the tremendous damage that road salt does to soil conditions, water quality and wildlife. What's more, excessive road salt also damages roads and bridges, creating the need for millions of dollars' worth of repairs nationwide every year.

Experts say all this salt is not necessary, pointing to Europe where, thanks to smarter technologies, less salt is spread on roads without comprising safety, even in countries with significant snowfall.

"The U.S. lags Europe by at least a decade in the adoption of smart salt spreading technologies," says Marcus Scherer, senior vice president of research and development for Aebi Schmidt, manufacturer of Swenson smart spreaders. "Heavier, wetter salt sticks where it is put down and jump-starts the melting process. However, we still see some municipalities in the U.S. using dry salt, which is highly inefficient because it bounces or blows off the

with Europe's 70:30 ratio which includes 30% brine."

Scherer goes on to explain that most salt spreaders currently on the road in the U.S. cannot handle the preferred mixture used in Europe, largely because their pumps

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CarCare2019

—Where to go to keep you moving—

Winterize your vehicle now

The recent record cold weather in a large part of the country should be a wake-up call to motorists who have not yet winterized their vehicles, warns the Car Care Council.

"Freezing cold temperatures can stress out a vehicle, as well as its driver," said Rich White,

executive director, Car Care Council. "The recent record low temperatures are a harsh reminder to be car care aware. Motorists should invest a little time now to check their vehicles so they have one less worry when arctic temperatures strike again."

Very cold

temperatures reduce a vehicle's battery power so it's important to keep the connections clean, tight and corrosion-free. Batteries don't always give warning signs before they fail completely, so if the vehicle's battery is more than three years old, it's wise to replace it.

Be diligent about changing the oil and filter at recommended intervals. Dirty oil can spell trouble in winter.

tire pressure should be checked weekly.

Winter magnifies existing problems such as pings, hard starts, sluggish performance or rough idling, so if you're due for a tune-up, have it done before the temperatures drop again. Also, clean, flush and put new antifreeze in the cooling system and have the exhaust system checked for carbon monoxide leaks,

use cold weather washer fluid. Wiper blades that are cracked or torn, or that chatter, streak and don't properly clean your windshield should be changed.

Keep the gas tank at least half full at all times to decrease the chances of moisture forming in the gas lines and possibly freezing. Lastly, stock an emergency kit with an ice scraper and snowbrush, jumper cables, flashlight, flares, blanket, extra clothes, candles/matches, bottled water, dry food snacks and needed medication.

The Car Care Council is the source of information for the "Be Car Care Aware"

consumer education campaign promoting the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair to consumers.



For the latest car care news, visit the council's online media room at <http://media.carcare.org>. To order a free copy of the popular Car Care Guide, visit the council's consumer education website at www.carcare.org.

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Consider changing to "winter weight" oil if you live in a cold climate. Check the fuel, air and transmission filters at the same time.

Have the brakes inspected and check the tire tread depth and tire pressure. If snow and ice are a problem in your area, consider special tires designed to grip slick roads. During winter,

which can be especially dangerous during cold weather driving when windows are closed.

For good visibility, make sure that exterior and interior lights work and headlights are properly aimed.

Also check to see that heaters, defrosters, lights and wipers work properly. Consider winter wiper blades and

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The Fairmont Lion's Club recently donated \$1,000 to Fairmont High School's Automotive Academy. This tremendous show of support is greatly appreciated. Pictured accepting the donation is superintendent Joseph Brown (left) and Lion's Club president, Tony Rosener. (Submitted photo)



Rob Stauter, Crest Executive Director (right) received a donation for local programs from Steve Fossness, Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 Commander recently. (Submitted photo)

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. THEATER: "West Side Story" was inspired by which earlier play?
2. MUSIC: What is the real name of songwriter/rapper Lizzo?
3. SCIENCE: How many people total have walked on the moon?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Under whose administration did Spiro T. Agnew serve as vice president?
5. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Chile?
6. ARCHITECTURE: In what decade was the Empire State Building completed?
7. ADVERTISING: What was the name of Honey Nut Cheerios' mascot?
8. U.S. STATES: What is the least populous state in America?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the name of Dick and Jane's dog in reading books used in schools in the mid-20th century?
10. INVENTIONS: Who is credited for inventing the modern lockstitch sewing machine?

Answers

1. "Romeo and Juliet"
2. Melissa Viviane Jefferson
3. 12
4. Richard Nixon
5. Santiago
6. 1930s
7. BuzzBee
8. Wyoming
9. Spot
10. Elias Howe

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Martin Luther High School announces Memorial donations

It is with sincere appreciation that we recognize these Memorial donations given to Martin Luther High School from September 1st to November 30th, 2019. These gifts are instrumental in the success of our Christian educational ministry to teenagers.

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ADAM BAUMGARD- Anonymous

DARREL BAUMGARD- Anonymous

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DEBRA BELGARD- David Kuehl, Lowell and Ardis Sieg, Paul and Cindi Tomlinson, Robert and Vivian Traetow

DELANO BERGE-MANN- Robert and Vivian Traetow

VIOLA A BERNHARDT- Ronald and Donna Kuehl, Steve Salzman

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CRAIG BREITBARTH- Jerry and Mary Milow, Greg and Deb Schulz, Paul and Cindi Tomlinson, Lyle and Bonnie Ann Wolle

HOLLY BRUMMOND- Larry and Elaine Brummond, Scott and Dawn Halverson, Robert Huemoeller

JUDY BUHMANN- Marvin and Lola Talledge

JOE BURNS- Dale and Eva Martens- Arno and Karen Norman

NORMA CAQUELIN- Marvin and Lola Talledge

MEL CARLSON- Martin Krause

SUE CHRISTENSEN- David Kuehl, Ronald and Donna Kuehl, Steve Salzman

ROBERT CLARK- Martin Krause

VERIL DEAN CONRAD- Darlene Black, Brian and Cindi Riewe, Richard and Gerry Schulz

JULIE DALE- Ronald and Mary Reinke

PHYLLIS DEINHARDT- Robert and Norma Brolsma

VICTOR DREYER- Dolores Eimers, Eunice Vaudt

ELAINE EMKOW- Rosaleen Zenk

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HELMUTH FEDDER- Scott and Dawn Halverson

RALETTA FLOHRS- Daryl and Carol Bartz, Gerald and Pauline Bergt, Ruth Engelby, Tyler and April Garrison, Sandra Giese, Scott and Dawn Halverson, Martin Krause, Ronald and Donna Kuehl, Darlene Lutz, Melvin and Carol Schultze, Joanne Wink, Lyle and Bonnie Ann Wolle

KIETH GIESEKE- Daryl and Carol Bartz, Joan Closs, Marvin Goebel, Keith and Mary Jo Hartmann, Robert Huemoeller, Martin Krause- Gary and Connie Peymann, Richard A and Kathryn Schultz

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PEGGY WYNNE- Dale and Eva Martens

SIEBERT ZINKE- Brad Borkenhagen, Larry and Elaine Brummond.

Minnesota Association of Townships announces Scholarship Program

The Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) is proud to announce its 2020 Scholarship Program, which will award up to five \$2,000 scholarships to high school juniors. (This is an increased amount from previous years.)

All students currently enrolled in 11th grade and attending a Minnesota public, private, or parochial school, or a home-study program, are eligible to apply for this program. Since its inception in 2001, the MAT Scholarship Program has had almost 2000 submissions and 82 winners.

Applicants should submit a written essay on the theme of MAT's 2020 Education Conference, "Township Day," by May 1st, 2020. Winners will be chosen by an independent panel of judges and will be notified by October 1st, 2020. They will also be invited to attend MAT's Awards Banquet in St. Cloud, Minnesota on November 20th, 2020.

"Townships are proud to offer the Scholarship Program, and encourage as many high school juniors as possible to apply, whether they are from

the largest cities or from smaller rural areas. We know the MAT Scholarship Program has made a real difference for our recipients in furthering their education. It is also an opportunity for learning about township government, which embody the values of "grassroots government" where local citizens directly participate," said MAT Executive Director David Hann.

For more information and application details, please call the MAT offices at 1-800-228-0296 or visit www.mntownships.org.

Extra DWI patrols during the holidays on Martin County roadways

A holiday beer with a friend. A glass of wine at a family member's home. One shot for the road.

A drink here or there can seem insignificant, but one

drink can affect a driver's judgement. This holiday season, give the gift of life by choosing a sober ride every time you decide to have even one drink.

To help keep families together this holiday season, Martin County Law

Continued on page 15

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USDA announces CRP sign-up

Guest Columnist

Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank

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



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced an open sign-up period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) from December 9th, 2019 through February 20th, 2020. This will be the first sign-up period for the General CRP program since the enactment of the 2018 Farm Bill and will be the 54th CRP sign-up period since the CRP program started in 1986. There is also an ongoing sign-up for the Continuous CRP program.

The CRP program was established in the 1985 Farm Bill and will be entering its 35th year of existence in 2020. CRP was originally established to take large segments of marginal crop land out of production and to stabilize crop prices and to control soil erosion. Over time, the CRP program has become more targeted toward taking more environmentally sensitive crop land out of production, with a focus on protecting water quality, enhancing wildlife habitat, and im-

proving air quality, as well as controlling soil erosion.

According to USDA statistics, during the 35-year history of the program, CRP has resulted in the following environmental benefits:

- Prevented more than 9 billion tons of soil erosion, enough to fill 600 million typical dump trucks.

- Reduced nitrogen runoff by 95 percent and phosphorus runoff by 85 percent on previously tilled land.

- Sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, which is the equivalent removing 9 million cars from highways in the U.S.

- Created in excess of 3 million acres of restored wetlands and protected more than 175,000 miles along rivers and streams through grass buffers and waterways.

- Resulted in increased populations of ducks, pheasants, wild turkeys, quail, and other birds and wildlife, as well as benefiting bees and pollinators.

From 1986 to 1995,

the maximum acres that could be enrolled in the CRP program at any one time was 45 million acres. Over time, the maximum CRP acres was gradually reduced through various Farm Bills, reaching a low at a maximum of 24 million acres in the 2014 Farm Bill. The maximum CRP acreage will now be gradually increased under the 2018 Farm Bill to a maximum of 27 million CRP acres by 2023. There were over 30 million acres in the CRP program from 1990 to 2010, with CRP acreage declining since that time. Currently, there are just under 22 million acres enrolled in the CRP program, which includes 13.2 million acres under General CRP contracts, 6.5 million acres under Continuous CRP contracts, and balance enrolled under special CRP programs.

Any land that was under a CRP contract that expired in 2017, 2018 or 2019 is eligible to be considered for enrollment in the current CRP sign-up period. There has not been

an opportunity for re-enrollment of those acres through a General CRP sign-up since 2016. Any of the 5.4 million acres under a CRP contract that will be expiring on September 30th, 2020 are also eligible for re-enrollment into CRP during the current sign-up period.

Land owners and producers may also want to consider possibly putting new land into CRP during the General CRP enrollment period. To be eligible for CRP, the land must have been owned or operated for at least 12 months prior to the end of the CRP enrollment period. In addition, CRP eligibility requires that the land has been planted or considered planted in four of the past six years from 2012 to 2017. It is permissible to include alfalfa and hay acres that were included in a crop rotation as qualifying CRP acres. Farm operators and land owners may want to evaluate some difficult crop acres, which have been particularly exposed in the 2018 and 2019 crop years, for potential enrollment into the CRP program.

Under the General CRP program, producers and land owners submit bids to enroll land into the CRP program beginning on October 1st, 2020, follow-

ing the 2020 crop year. The duration of the CRP contracts is for 10 to 15 years. The CRP bids will be evaluated and ranked based on the "environmental benefits index" (EBI) to determine which acres will be accepted into the CRP program in 2020. The EBI factors include:

- Wildlife habitat benefits resulting from the proposed cover on the CRP acres.

- Water quality benefits from reduced erosion, runoff, and leaching.

- On-farm benefits from reduces erosion.

- Long-term benefits that will likely endure beyond the CRP contract period.

- Air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion.

- Cost factor, as producers are allowed to submit rental bids for the proposed CRP acres.

The 2018 Farm Bill established the maximum CRP rental rates at 85 percent of the average county rental rates for CRP acres enrolled under the General CRP program. Producers and land owners may offer lower rental rates lower than the maximum rate under the General CRP program in order to enhance the likelihood of their CRP bid being accepted, as part of the com-

petitive bid process. The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) also provides cost-share assistance up to 50 percent of the total cost to establish the approved cover on acres that are accepted into the CRP program.

Producers and land owners may enroll eligible acres into the Continuous CRP program at any time. This program is for the most environmentally sensitive land, which is devoted to specific conservation practices. The Continuous CRP program does not require a competitive bidding process to have the acres accepted into CRP, and the annual rental rates are pre-set at 90 percent of the average county rental rate. The potential 50 percent cost-share for cover crop establishment is also available for Continuous CRP contracts.

For more information on either the General or Continuous CRP programs, or to find out the maximum county CRP rental rates, producers or land owners should contact their local FSA office. More information on the CRP program is available on the FSA website at: www.fsa.usda.gov/crp

Continued from page 14

Enforcement Agencies will be participating with law enforcement statewide in an extra DWI enforcement campaign running on weekends through December 28th.

During the period of the day before Thanksgiving to December 30th, from 2013 to 2017 a total of 12,490 arrests for DWI were made. That compares for a year-round number of DWI arrests from 2014 to 2018 of

126,512.

"When people head to establishments, knowing they are going to drink, many plan ahead for a sober ride," said Officer Colin Hagert of the Fairmont Police Department. "Unfortunately, a sober ride home from dinner at a family member or friends' house is not always thought of as much as when people go to bars, but it's just as important. As your guests arrive, ask them about their plans, and if they don't have a plan, get them a ride home

or offer them a bed for the night."

The consequences of a DWI include:

- loss of license for up to a year, thousands of dollars in costs and possible jail time

- repeat DW offenders, as well as first-time offenders arrested at 0.16 and above alcohol-concentration level, must use ignition interlock in order to regain legal driving privileges for one year.

- offenders with three or more offenses are required to use interlock for three to six years, or they will never again regain driving privileges.

What can you do to not have to deal with the consequences? Here are some tips:

- Plan for a safe ride - designate a sober driver or seek alternative transportation, or stay at the location of the celebration

- Speak up and offer to be a designated driver or be available to pick up a loved one anytime, anywhere.

- Buckle up - the best defense against a drunk driver

- Report drunk driving - call 911 when witnessing impaired driving behavior. Be prepared to provide a location, license plate number and observed dangerous behavior.

The enhanced DWI enforcement campaign is a component of the state's "Toward Zero Deaths" program.

Mick Sterling's "At Christmas" a big hit at Fairmont Opera House

Story and photos by Joseph Kreiss Photography



Christmas came a little early to the Fairmont Opera House Friday night, December 7th. And, so did great holiday music and belly-laughing comedy with Mick Sterling's "At Christmas."

One of the Twin Cities most recognized musical artists, Sterling belted out song after favorite holiday song, backed by a 6-piece band under the musical direction of Peter Guertin.

The 90-minute show was punctuated by side-splitting comedy sketches performed by noted alumni of Dudley Riggs Brave New Workshop Shannon Custer,

Michelle Cassioppi and Jim Robinson.

But wait, there's more Christmas holiday shows and happenings to come this month at the Fairmont Opera House! Friday, December 13th from 4 to 7 p.m., it's the annual "Holiday Hoopla" featuring cartoons and movies, snacks, games and a visit from Santa Claus and one of his favorite elves! This community event is free to the public. Free will donations will be accepted.

Then, just added, Mankato Playhouse presents Miracle on 34th Street: A live Musical Radio Play at 7:30 p.m. on

Thursday, December 19th. This is a general admission only show.

'Monroe Crossing' brings their holiday-flavored bluegrass show to the Opera House on Saturday, December 21st starting at 7:30 p.m. Then, ring in the New Year at the Fairmont Opera House Tuesday, December 31st with their 3rd annual New Year's Eve Craft Beer Tasting starting at 3 p.m., followed by a double bill show featuring Heart tribute band 'Even It Up' and the Midwest's premiere John Mellencamp tribute 'Rumble Seat.'

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Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

Ask A Trooper: Left turns on yellow

by Sgt. Troy Christianson,
MN State Patrol

Question: When turning left on a blinking yellow light, should one pull into the intersection?

It seems like a blinking yellow should let at least one car through, but often cars will wait behind the line, negating the ability to move traffic through the intersection.

Answer: If you are preparing to turn left at a flashing yellow light you must enter the intersection with caution as oncoming traffic has a green light. Drivers are able to turn left after yielding to all oncoming traffic and

to any pedestrians in the crosswalk. Drivers must wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic before turning.

If a vehicle ahead of you is signaling for a left turn, slow down and prepare to stop. Do not enter the intersection in case the traffic light turns red as you might not be able to clear the intersection. This type of maneuver is against the law per Minnesota statute 169.15 IMPEDING TRAFFIC; INTERSECTION GRIDLOCK.

The intersection gridlock law applies specifi-

cally when entering an intersection at a traffic control light when traffic is already blocking the intersection due to a red light, train, etc. Entering the intersection in this case is against the law. When one direction of traffic is unable to proceed on a green light because vehicles on the cross road are stopped and blocking the lanes of traffic it creates issues with the flow-of-traffic

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.

**Continued on
page 17**



The Fairmont Dance Team showcase took place last Friday evening at the Fairmont Area High School. The JV and Varsity teams performed their jazz and high kick routines to a packed house. Their next home half-time performance is Friday, December 20th. (Submitted photos)

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WARRANTY DEEDS

Joan J. Wede to Nickolas Holm, EX E½ of Lots 6 and 7, Block 6, Morgans Addition Sherburn

Barwick Poelstra LLC to Missouri & Minnesota Postal Holdings LLC, Lots 17 and 18, Block 9, Original Plat of Dunnell

Sara J. Junkermeier, Troy E. Junkermeier to Brian Louis Hill, Valerie Hill, Lot 4, Block 1, Valley View Addition

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Paul E. Miller, Ruth A. Miller to Paul E. Miller, Ruth A. Miller, Lot 9, Block 2, 1st Extension Wards Central Addition

TRUSTEE DEEDS

Joan K. Peterson Trust, Dennis A. Peterson Trust, Anne L. Sheppard Trust to Dennis A. Peterson, W½ EX 10.00 AC in NW¼, 8-103-33 and NE¼NW¼, 8-103-33

Joan K. Peterson Trust, Dennis A. Peterson

FILING NOTICE Affidavits Of Candidacy CENTER CREEK TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at her home:
**2849 150th Street
Granada, MN**
Between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
from December 31, 2019
through January 14, 2020

For the following:
One Supervisor - 3 Year Term
One Clerk - 2 Year Term
Filing Fee: \$2.00
Kim Shoemaker, Clerk
CENTER CREEK TOWNSHIP

NOTICE To The Voters Of NASHVILLE TOWNSHIP

Filing for the following offices to be elected at the 2020 Annual Election will open Tuesday, December 31, 2019.

Supervisor - 3 Year Term
Clerk - 2 Year Term
Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk at:
**110 E. Ciro Street
Truman, MN 56088**

Filing will close on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Published by Order of The
**NASHVILLE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
Mary Tomlinson, Clerk

FILING NOTICE Affidavits of Candidacy LAKE BELT TOWNSHIP

Filing for the offices to be elected at the 2020 Annual Election will open Tuesday, December 31, 2019 for:

One Supervisor - 3 Year Term
One Clerk - 2 Year Term
One Treasurer - 1 Year Term

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at:
**1043 65th Street
Ceylon, MN 56121**
Filing Fee is \$2.00

Filings will close Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5 p.m.

Published by Order of the
**LAKE BELT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
Jeff Hagen, Clerk

FILING NOTICE Affidavits Of Candidacy TENHASSEN TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at his home:
**1674 40th Street
Ceylon, MN 56121**
Between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
from December 31, 2019
thru January 14, 2020

For the following:
ONE SUPERVISOR - 3 Year Term
ONE CLERK - 2 Year Term
ONE TREASURER - 1 Year Term
Larry Simpson, Clerk
TENHASSEN TOWNSHIP

NOTICE To The Voters of PLEASANT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP

Filings will open for a two week period on Tuesday, December 31, 2019, and Affidavits of Candidacy may be made in person with the town clerk for the following offices:
Supervisor - 3 Years
Clerk - 2 Years
Filings will close on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
Filing fee is \$2.00. Offices to be filled at the March Annual Election.
Published by order of

**Pleasant Prairie
Town Board**
Gregory B. Murphy, Clerk
882 250th Ave
Fairmont, MN 56031
(507) 236-5350

son Trustee, Anne L. Sheppard Trustee to Carol J. Barrett, Anne L. Sheppard, E½ of NE¼, 7-103-33 and W½ of SW¼, 18-103-33

D DEED

Estate of Dustin Craig Arlin Nelson, Daniel Joseph Nelson Personal Rep to Nancy Ann Nistler, E½ of Lot 5, Block 15 and Lot 4, Block 15, Original Plat Triumph

Area College Student News

Minnesota State University, Mankato will award 1,709 degrees at the end of the fall semester, with commencement ceremonies on Saturday, December 14th in Taylor Center's Bresnan Arena on the Minnesota State Mankato campus.

Graduates from the local area will include:

Armstrong, IA: Michael Larsen, BS, Exercise Science

Fairmont, MN:

• Nicholas Frisch, BFA, English: Creative Writing, Cum Laude

• Johnathon Harris, BS, Psychology

• Sierra Schultz, BS, Finance, Summa Cum Laude

• Kersten Shantz, BS, Nursing

• Dustin Slaughter, BS, Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude

• Jonathan Soucek, MA, History

• Pramod Vadnala, MBA, Business Administration

• Zachary Vicenti, BS, Computer Information Technology

Trimont, MN:
• Hilary Hallman, MS, Spanish for the Professions

• Hailey Holtz, BS, Exercise Science

Truman, MN:

• Aubrey Clay, BS, Applied Organizational Studies

Gift ideas for gardeners

- Compost bin
- Herb-drying rack
- Seed-starting kit
- Grow-light kit
- High-quality gloves
- Planting boxes
- Potting station
- Self-watering planter
- Gardening tool belt
- Plant markers
- Gardening clogs
- Gardening hat
- Rainwater collection system

Source: morningchores.com

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FILING NOTICE Affidavits Of Candidacy FRASER TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at her home:

**1486 130th Street
Welcome, MN**
Between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
from December 31, 2019
thru January 14, 2020

For the following:
One Supervisor - 3 Year Term
One Clerk - 2 Year Term
Rita Garbers, Clerk
FRASER TOWNSHIP

FILING NOTICE Affidavits Of Candidacy ROLLING GREEN TOWNSHIP

Filing for the offices to be elected at the 2020 Annual Election will open

Tuesday, December 31, 2019

One Supervisor - 3 year term
One Clerk - 2 year term

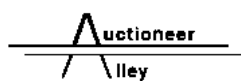
Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at:
**1544 90th Street
Fairmont, MN 56031**
Filing fee is \$2.00.

Filing will close Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Published by order of the
**ROLLING GREEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
Dan Bebernes, Clerk

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

SALE PENDING - 120 Acres +/- Bare Farmland located in Section 26 of Waverly Twp., Martin Co., MN. For Sale by Private Treaty! PLEASE CONTACT KEVIN KAHLER 507-920-8060 OR DUSTYN HARTUNG 507-236-7629 FOR PRICE, TERMS, ETC.



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



For upcoming auction flyers:
auctioneeralley.com

**105 South State Street, Fairmont, MN
(507) 238-4318**

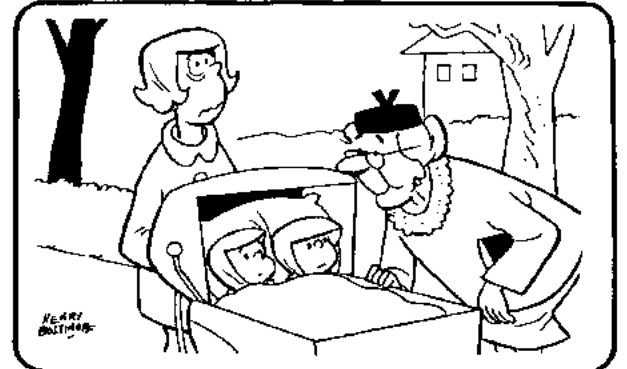
Continued from page 16

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your ques-

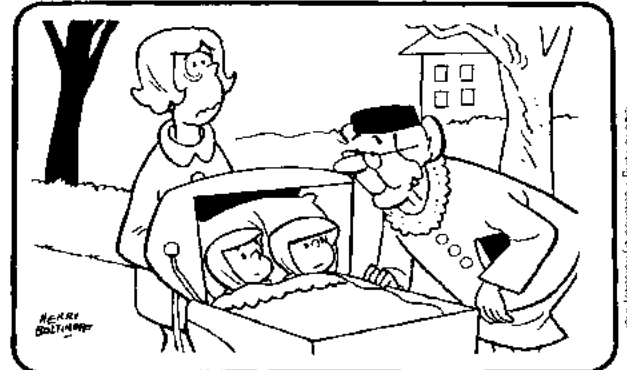
tions to Sgt. Troy Christianson - Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Woman's hat is different. 2. Blanket has a different pattern. 3. House has more windows. 4. Woman's coat has a different collar. 5. Tree has extra limb. 6. Mom's bangs are different.

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112 E 1st St, Fairmont • 507.238.9456

FILING NOTICE Affidavits of Candidacy RUTLAND TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at her home:
**1477 208th Avenue
Fairmont, MN**

Between 1:00-5:00 p.m.
from December 31, 2019
thru January 14, 2020

For the following:
One Supervisor - 3 Yr. Term
One Clerk/Treasurer - 2 Yr. Term
Filing Fee: \$2.00

Roxane Wedel, Clerk
Rutland Township

NOTICE To The Voters Of FAIRMONT TOWNSHIP

Filing for the following office to be elected at the 2020 Annual Election will open Tuesday, December 31, 2019.

Supervisor - 3 Year Term

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk at:
**926 Budd Street
Fairmont, MN 56031**

Filing will close on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
Published by Order of The

**FAIRMONT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
Heather Gunther, Clerk

FILING NOTICE Affidavits Of Candidacy MANYASKA TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at her home:
**20 Circle Drive
Welcome, MN**

Between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
from December 31, 2019
thru January 14, 2020

For the following:
One Supervisor - 3 Year Term

Diane Glidden, Clerk
MANYASKA TOWNSHIP

FILING NOTICE Affidavits Of Candidacy SILVER LAKE TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk at his home:
**1943 70th Street
Fairmont, MN**

Between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
from December 31, 2019
thru January 14, 2020

For the following:
One Supervisor - 3 Year Term
One Clerk - 2 Year Term

Randy Musser, Clerk
SILVER LAKE
TOWNSHIP

PhotoPress Classifieds

FAIRMONT PHOTO PRESS classified advertising deadline is **MONDAY noon**. Call **507-238-9456** and have your credit card number ready; fax **507-238-9457**; e-mail **frontdesk@fairmontphotopress.com**, or stop in at **112 East 1st Street**. Payment must accompany all classified ads.

1 Card of Thanks

REDINGTON - Randy and Elaine Redington would like to thank all of you for the best wishes and beautiful cards we received for our 60th anniversary. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. Wishing you blessings in 2020. *31-1tp-1*

LUTTERMAN - Thank you to everyone who came to my 98th birthday open house or sent a card. ~Irene Lutterman. *31-1tp-1*

3 Notices

AMAZON RETURN QR CODES - The Photo Press is unable to scan QR codes from Amazon. Please email or call Amazon to have them email you the shipping label for UPS.

7 Help Wanted

CLERICAL/SECRETARIAL position. 24 hrs/weekly, Mon., Wed., Fri. Resumes may be dropped off at Dr. Joseph Switras' office, 208 West Second Street, Fairmont. *31-3tp-7*

9 Wanted to Buy

LAND WANTED: IF YOU own land that you might want to sell in Galena, Long Lake, Waverly or South Branch Townships in Martin and Watonwan counties, I am interested in buying. Vaughn Kuehl, 507-235-3886. *30-3tp-9*

BUYING AND SELLING gold & silver, collector coins, diamonds, gold jewelry, silver dollars, rare currency. No collection too big. Kuehl's Coins, Fairmont, Minnesota, 507-235-3886, 507-399-992. Open 11am - 6pm. *29-3tp-9*

10 Apartments For Rent

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

Interested in advertising your business with a Display Ad? We reach over 12,461 readers. Call Randy in our Advertising Department 507-236-6644 or e-mail: **ads@fairmontphotopress.com**, serving you since 1963!

25 Musical Items

CORT GUITAR. Includes soft case, capo, pics, beginners books and girls strap. Like new condition. \$200 Firm. 507-236-7415. *31-2tnc-25*



CLASSIFIEDS

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The National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the below classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll free numbers may or may not reach Canada. ADVERTISE to 10 million homes across the USA! Place your ad in over 140 community newspapers, with circulation totaling over 10 million homes. Contact Independent Free Papers of America (IFPA) at **danielleburnett-ifpa@live.com** or visit our website **cadnetads.com** for more information.

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Pregnant? Considering Adoption? We help with food, housing, medical, counseling, etc. You can relocate. Choose adoptive family for your baby. We're friendly, caring, completely confidential. Call 866-621-0933

Pregnant? Maybe Adoption? Living Expenses Paid. Nationwide Agency. Talk With Us 24/7. 866-716-3041. Online Chat. Online Application. **www.onetruegift.com**. Text 515-778-2341. Not valid in FL, NM, & OR

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Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-609-2189

Lung Cancer? Asbestos exposure in industrial, construction, manufacturing jobs, or military may

be the cause. Family in the home were also exposed. Call 1-866-795-3684 or email **cancer@breakinginjurynews.com**. \$30 billion is set aside for asbestos victims with cancer. Valuable settlement monies may not require filing a lawsuit.

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Attention all Homeowners in jeopardy of Foreclosure? We can help stop your home from foreclosure. The Foreclosure Defense helpline can help save your home. The Call is absolutely free. 1-855-516-6641.

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Wanted To Buy

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, Co. 80201

ADOPTION

PREGNANT? MAYBE ADOPTION? Living Expenses Paid. Nationwide Agency. Talk With Us 24/7. 866-716-3041. Online Chat. Online Application. **www.onetruegift.com**. Text 515-778-2341. (MCN)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NICE FIREARMS AUCTIONS: Online Only, Ends Dec 14. All FFL Regs Apply. View Catalog & Bid At: **tinyurl.com/vvx6rwn** (MCN)

AUTOMOBILES

CASH FOR CARS: We Buy Any Condition Vehicle, 2002 and Newer. Competitive Offer! Nationwide

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DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-855-977-7030 (MCN)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

MAKE \$3,000 PER DAY! Here's How! 1) You call this number: 1-618-355-1121. 2) Give the promo code: "tjdavis77" 3) Review Details and join or request a callback. (MCN)

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Get NFL Sunday Ticket FREE w/ DIRECTV Choice All-Included Package. \$59.99/month for 12 months. 185 Channels PLUS Thousands of Shows/Movies On Demand. FREE Genie HD DVR Upgrade. Call 1-844-245-2232 or **satellitedealnow.com/MFCP** (MCN)

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Trailer Sale: (40 models) Utility trailers (Steel & Aluminum); (16 models) different 6'X12' V-nose cargos; (20 models) tandem axle Cargos; (14 models) Dump trailers; Tow Dollies; FREE SPARE with any single axle or Enclosed cargo trailer with this ad. **www.FortDodgeTrailerWorld.com** for prices. 515-972-4554 (MCN)

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Lung Cancer? Asbestos exposure in industrial, construction, manufacturing jobs, or military may be the cause. Family in the home were also exposed. Call 1-866-795-3684 or email **cancer@breakinginjurynews.com**. \$30 billion is set aside for asbestos victims with cancer. Valuable settlement monies may not require filing a lawsuit. (MCN)

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Early Deadlines

Christmas Holiday

NEWS: Wednesday, December 19, 5 p.m.
ADS: Thursday, December 20, Noon
The Photo Press will be CLOSED
on Tuesday, December 24 @ Noon
& Wednesday, December 25

In order to get the Photo Press out in a timely manner, we MUST adhere to these deadlines.
Thank you for your cooperation!

112 East First Street | Fairmont, MN
P> 507.238.9456 | info: frontdesk@fairmontphotopress.com

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HELP WANTED

Zierke Built Manufacturing, Inc. is looking for a Purchasing Agent to join our team!

Prepare purchase orders, anticipate and order production supplies, negotiate pricing and payment terms, organize shipment of materials, track and confirm receipt and accuracy of ordered materials. Respond to customer and supplier inquiries about order status, changes, or cancellations.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Experience in purchasing, ideally with metals or manufacturing
- Strong negotiation, analytical, communication and computer skills
- Proven ability to work effectively in a team environment

Full-Time Benefit Eligible Position

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ZMB, 1500 Winnebago Ave., Fairmont, MN 5603
Phone 507-399-2154 ext. 4

ZIERKE BUILT MANUFACTURING INC

Lung Cancer?

Asbestos exposure in industrial, construction, manufacturing jobs, or the military may be the cause. Family in the home were also exposed.

Call 1-866-795-3684 or email **cancer@breakinginjurynews.com**.

\$30 billion is set aside for asbestos victims with cancer. Valuable settlement monies may not require filing a lawsuit.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Martin County Farm Service Agency (FSA) has an immediate opening for a **Temporary, Full-time Program Technician.**

Starting pay ranges from \$14.54/hr - \$26.20/hr, depending on the qualifications of the applicant.

This position is located at the Martin County FSA Office, 923 N State St, Fairmont, MN.

Work is office based. Strong computer and customer service skills are required.

Applications must be filed on form FSA-675 and may be obtained at the Martin County FSA Office or online. FSA-675 must be submitted by **4:30 PM CST on December 20, 2019**

For questions, please contact the Martin County FSA Office at 507-235-6661, ext. 2.

FSA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

fairmontsports.com

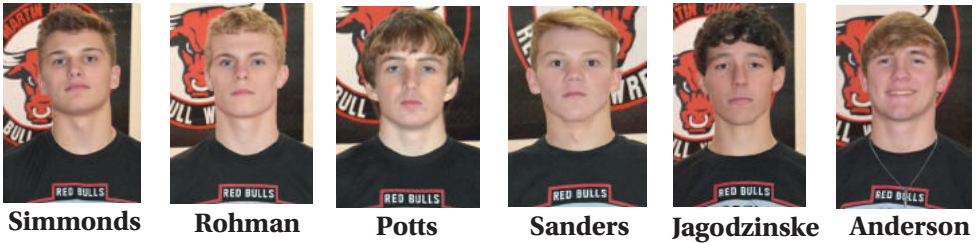
LIVE CARDINAL WEBSTREAMING VIDEO

Red Bulls First at Maher Invite

The Fairmont-Martin County West Red Bulls with nine first place wrestling champions captured the Maher Invite title this past Saturday in Blue Earth. The Red Bulls out distanced the field with a score of 232.5. Host Blue Earth Area finished second 157.0 and Lake Mills, IA was third, 149. Red Bull individual champs included, 106 - Jesse Potts, 113 - Kain Sanders, 120 - Lucas Jagodzinske, 126 - Jaxon Rohman, 138 - Connor Simmonds, 152 - Payton Anderson, 160 - Miles Fitzgerald, 182 - Nathan Simmonds, 220 - Jacob Rahn. Also placing were 106 - Cooper Steuber, 2nd, 145 - Cale Steuber, 3rd, 120 - Aden Welcome, 5th, 145 - Carver

Rohman, 6th.
Team Results: Red Bulls 232.5; 2 Blue Earth Area 157.0; 3 Lake Mills, IA 149; 4 Mankato East 132; 5 Maple River 131.5; 6 Westfield, MN 69; 7 WEM-JWP, 46.5; 8 Madelia-Truman-Martin Luther 3.
Finals - Individual Results: 106 - 1st Place Match - Jesse Potts (Red Bulls) 2-0 won by tech fall over Cooper Steuber (Red Bulls) 2-1 (TF-1.5 4:00 (16-0)). 113 - 1st Place Match - Kain Sanders (Red Bulls) 3-0 won by fall over Carson Sturtz (BEA) 2-1 (Fall 1:55). 120 - 1st Place Match - Lucas Jagodzinske (Red Bulls) 2-0 won by decision over Ty Peterson (Blue Earth Area) 1-1 (Dec 7-0). 126 - 1st Place Match - Jaxon

Rohman (Red Bulls) 3-0 won by decision over Davis Sunken (Blue Earth Area) 2-1 (Dec 12-5). 138 - 1st Place Match - Connor Simmonds (Red Bulls) 2-0 won by tech fall over Caleb Beeler (Blue Earth Area) 1-1 (TF-1.5 5:55 (16-0)). 145 - 3rd Place Match - Cale Steuber (Red Bulls) 3-1 won by major decision over Cooper Ochsendorf (Maple River) 5-2 (MD 18-4). 152 - 1st Place Match - Payton Anderson (Red Bulls) 2-0 won by fall over Casey Hanson (Lake Mills) 3-2 (Fall 3:10). 160 - 1st Place Match - Miles Fitzgerald (Red Bulls) 3-0 won by decision over Caden Ochsendorf (Maple River) 4-1 (Dec 5-1). 182 - 1st Place Match - Nathan Simmonds (Red Bulls) 3-0 won by decision over Nathan Trio (Maple River) 5-1 (Dec 6-4). 195 - 3rd Place Match - Max Olson (Red Bulls) 2-1 won by fall over Mitchell Fiebigler (Westfield Razorbacks) 2-4 (Fall 0:48). 220 - 1st Place Match - Jacob Rahn (Red Bulls) 3-0 won by fall over Brant Melchert (WEM-JWP) 2-1 (Fall 2:23).



PeeWee Hockey results

The REMAX PeeWee team participated in the Lancers Youth Hockey Tournament this past weekend in La Crescent MN. After being shut out in the first three games, the REMAX PeeWee's defeated the Albert Lea Tigers

6-3 last Sunday to take 7th place in the tournament. Eric Determan put the first goal on the board with an assist from Kegan Roloff from Klay Beemer. Klay Beemer had a hat trick with two unassisted goals and an assisted goal from Tyler Kurt. Gavin Kester added 2

goals, one unassisted and the other had assists coming from Tyler Kurt from Klay Beemer. Goalie Barrett Scholl had 28 saves. The REMAX PeeWee team travels to Redwood Falls this Saturday, December 14th for a district game.



(At left): BIG STOPPER - Carsen Musser stops Minnesota River Charlie Weick's blast. Musser had 66 saves in the Cards second victory of the season, a 3-2 win over the Bulldogs, last Tuesday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

(At right): STICK BLOCK - Cards Rachel O'Connor blocks Minnesota River Anna Pavlo's shot as teammate Brooklyn Meyer looks on. The Bulldogs defeated the Cards 7-2 last Tuesday. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



Fairmont 12u girls hockey took 2nd place at their home hockey tournament last weekend. (L to R): Front Row: Ilana Moeller. Back Row: Abi Sundeen, Brooklyn Murphy, Jadyn Musser, Maia Goerndt, Keara Flanagan, Lily Truesdell, Brittany Lopau, Madison Sokoloski (Submitted photo)



FAIRMONT CARDINALS BOYS BASKETBALL - Team members of include: front (l-r): Carter Bell, Carson Toomer, Jackson Francis and Thomas Klanderud. Middle: Ryan Hennager, Tony Ortega, Tanner Rosch, Jack Hested and Sedrick Parker. Back: Luis Reyes, Caden Baarts, Zach Jorgensen, Blake Buntjer, Wyatt Frank, Dan Betts, Jackson Utermarck. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



FAIRMONT CARDINALS GIRLS BASKETBALL - Team members of include: front (l-r): Faith Olson, Madysen Allen, Maggy Totzke, Emma Gudahl, Claire Nemmers, Cadence Becker and Laura Thompson. Back row: Maddy Schwieger, Carissa Saxton, Rayah Quiring, Bryn Miller, Brittney Mosloski, Cassidy Schultz, Emily Frank. Photo courtesy of Greg Abel, Sentinel



FAIRMONT DANCE - Team members include, front (l-r): Gwen Kallemeyn, Cadence Breitbarth, Kinze Stradtman, Olivia Haugen and Briana Joseph. Middle: McKenzie Johnston, Paige Hainy, Anika Haugen, Grace Klunder, Libby Totzke. Back: Victoria Meier, Jasmine Hansen. Photo courtesy of Seifried Portrait Design



MARTIN COUNTY AREA MAGIC GYMNASTICS - Team members include: front (l-r): Ava Thate, Mariah Moeller, Kara Osmundsen, Breanna Groskreutz, Grace Danner, Samantha Domeier and Hannah Fischer. Second row: head coach Be-rahiah Peterson, manager Kirsten Steuber, assistant coach Courtney Schultz and assistant coach Blessing Reynolds. Third row: Ella Meyers, Adelin Lenway, Alayna Haefner, Abigaile Chavez, Sady Ringnell, Anna Bachenberg, Kaitlyn Freese, Rylee Maday, Theadocia Peterson, Anna Utermarck. Back row: Ellie Plumhoff, Ellie Schultze, Emily Hagen, Ellie Hernes, Hailee Schuett, Emma Schultze, Hudson Ringnell, Sabrina Segar and Marah Steele. Not pictured: Hannah Linse, assistant coach Brighton Peterson. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

Holiday Delights Fun



Santa with "the gals from Armstrong, Iowa".



SGT Bernard Loosbrock-Charlie Battery MN National Guard at Fairmont (left) accepts a donation of \$1,900, to cover costs for a Family Readiness Group Banquet, from Steve Fosness-Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 Commander. (Submitted photo)



www.theotherbigfair.com • themartincountyfair@frontiernet.net
507-235-9576

~ Thank You ~

Thank you to all who contributed to the Martin County Fair's Endowment Fund from October 2018 to September 2019:

ESTATE/ TRUST DONATIONS

Ruth Draut Estate
Kenneth West Estate
Dick and Diane Gerhardt Charitable Trust.

In Memory of Marabelle Lindell:

Dorothy Petrowiak, Ted and Gary Stusse, Gregory and Kimberly Hickcox, Bonnie Larson, Fred C. Krahmer, Jared and Tanya Pomerence, Charlotte Murphy, Jeanne Celander, Steve and Lori Pomerence, Lee and Betty Anne McAllister, T.W. and J.A. Lindell, Marlene Sherwood, Stephen and Linda Olson, Kevin and Jean Ratz, Ladonna Levik and Ingrid Gangestad, Dan and Deb Thate, Charles and Mary Jo Neusch, Bill Christianson and Pam Wedel, C.K. and Paul Grussing, Calvin and Gloria Mattson, Brad and Jackie Mattson, Daryl and LeAnn Pytleski, Harland and Mavis Anderson, Virgil and Barbara Jacobson, Bruce and Jayne Peymann, Joe and Lisa Kallemeyn, Richard and Marlys Traetow, Jeff and Lori Felkey, Doug and Laurie Quinn, James and Luann Hahn, Merle and Beverly Brinkman, Wayne and Bernie Jurgens, Jerome and Laurie Wille, Burdean and Dorothy Hartwig, David and Dona Nawrocki, Dwayne and Jean Ehler, Marla and Cliff Anderson, Brian and Julie Thate, Cory and Karen Erickson, Mark and Karla Malo, James and Carol Dick, David and Karen Shumski, Tom and Brenda Zehnder, Nick and Ingrid Gangestad, John Houfer, Tyra Thate, Cory and Karen Erickson, Lester and Elaine Lenz, Randy and Carmen Deling, Darrell and Janice Buhmann, Winnifred Luhmann, Woody and Janice Stromberg, Bruce and Cheryl Brockmann, Tom and Jeannie Green, Brenda Whitman, Dot Petrowiak, Geerdes Family, Wegener Family, Saxton Family, Wedel/Stromberg Family, Bremer Family, Hanna Family, Salic Family, Kurt Family, Mielke Family, Murphy Family, Doug Wedel, Becky Berg, Hugoson Pork, K&W Electric

In Memory of Roger Saxton:

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In Memory of Jill Douglas:

Cynthia Celander

In Memory of Leslie Lewis:

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In Memory of Lois Nienkerk:

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In Memory of Jack Potter:

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In Memory of Shirley Place:

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In Memory of Barb Mages:

Darla Philipp

In Memory of John Jefferies:

Dorothy Jefferies

In Memory of Delano Bergemann:

Bob Stromberg

For more information or to contribute, contact Jared at: 507-236-0666 or email: martincountyfair@frontiernet.net
"A lifetime of memories all in one place"

The Martin County Fair is a grassroots 501(c)3 non-profit, tax exempt organization.



• Be sure to eat a hearty breakfast before heading out to the airport. Pack a piece or two of whole fruit or a portion of nuts for snacking, and bring an empty water bottle so that you can make it through airport security and fill the bottle when you are at the gate. Being hydrated and having healthy snacks will make your travel experience more pleasant.

• "Print a physical copy of your travel itinerary, including flight numbers. Stow a copy inside a secure spot in your luggage so that if it gets lost, you'll be easy to find. I like to put mine inside the zippered net bag that's attached to my suitcase." — E.L. in Ohio

• Pack a hanging luggage scale. This is especially helpful at the holidays, when you may be both taking gifts to give and returning with gifts given to you.

• When planning a vacation or even a visit home for the holidays, it's important to manage everyone's expectations. Imagine Mom expects her grown kids to spend most of their time seeing extended family, while they are making plans to see childhood friends while in town. Have a chat with parents, siblings and extended family so that everyone has a good idea of what the plan is.

• "For large gatherings, borrow what you need from local friends and family. That includes chairs, servingware, place settings, silverware and linens! Most people are happy to help." — R.R. in Alabama

• "We have a large family, and when we all get together at the holidays — or anytime — we share a screenshot of our itinerary in a group text as we make plans. This way, we can try to group up for pickups from the airport or car rentals." — C.A. in Oregon

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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communities talk
town hall meetings
to prevent underage drinking

youth coalition
Martin County students
living ABOVE the influence
of alcohol & drugs.

Tuesday
December 17, 2019
5:15-6:15 p.m.
Holiday Inn, Fairmont

Because preventing underage drinking, vaping and other drug use in Martin County is going to take all of us working together and it starts with YOU!

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

MCSAP Coalition
MARTIN COUNTY
SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

MCSAPcoalition.com

Talking to your kids about underage drinking, vaping and other drug use can be awkward, but it can also be life saving! Hear students' perspectives on what motivates them to make healthy choices and how we can support them. Get resources to provide accountability and keep them safe this holiday season.

Green Mill pizza and beverage provided.