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Wednesday
December 23, 2015
Volume 52 | Number 33

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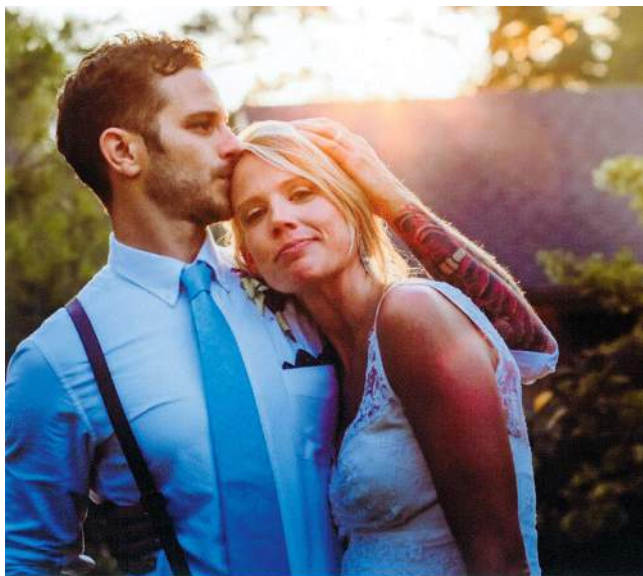
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SJOGREN-HUMESTON - Kiley Sjogren and Michael Humeston were married on September 5th, 2015 in Wheaton, Illinois. Parents of the couple are Dennis and Roxanne Sjogren of Trimont and Rich and Tina Humeston of Cleveland, Ohio. An outdoor reception was held at the home of the bride's sister. The couple lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, where Kiley teaches second grade and is program director at Daybreak Academy. Michael is an ER paramedic at the University of Utah and is completing schooling for his RN license.



NOLTE-TROMANHAUSER - Lauralee Tromanhauser and Tyler Nolte were married on June 6th, 2015. The ceremony was held in Viroqua, Wisconsin at Huntington Farms. The bride's parents are Kurt Tromanhauser of Fairmont and Michele Tromanhauser of Cashton, Wisconsin. The groom's parents are Andrew and Kathy Nolte of Sherburn. The couple lives in Holmen, Wisconsin.



ROSENAU 70TH - Russell and Norma Rosenau of Fairmont will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on Sunday, December 27th, 2015. They were married in San Antonio, Texas on December 27th, 1945. Cards may be sent to 109 Sylvan Drive, Fairmont, MN 56031.



Baby Buzz

Makaylee Jo Freking, daughter of Bryce and Bobbi Jo Freking of Ceylon, was born December 11th, 2015 at Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Fairmont. She weighed six pounds three ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches long. Makaylee is welcomed home by big sister, Aliyah. Grandparents are Lynn and Mary Thate of Ceylon and Richard and Dianne Freking of Heron Lake.

Evrhett Louis Malo, son of Katie and Adam Malo of Oxford, Wisconsin was born on November 24th, 2015. He weighed seven pounds 10 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Brad and Janet Malo of Fairmont, Shirley and Roger Moon of Meridian, Idaho and Sue and John Crass of Oxford, Wisconsin.

Martin Luther High School, Northrop invites all alumni who are home for the holidays to an **Open Gym** on Sunday, December 27th, from 1-3 p.m. They are invited to scrimmage the Lady Knights.

An informal meeting of the **Fairmont MN Area Multiple Myeloma Support Group** will be held Saturday, December 26th from 10 a.m. until Noon at Perkins in Fairmont. Info will be available on the three new drugs approved by the FDA to fight Multiple Myeloma. Come join a little holiday celebration with us! Patients, friends and family are welcome to attend. To RSVP and for more information phone Joyce Schultz at 507-230-0207.

A free hot meal will be served at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 901 South Prairie Avenue, on the fourth Sunday of every month. Join us this Sunday, December 27th at 6:00 p.m. in the hospitality area. All are welcome.

Shop with a Cop in Fairmont

Shop with a Cop last Sunday afternoon had people wondering what all the Fairmont Police cars were doing at the Fairmont Walmart!

Five lucky kids were picked up at their residence and brought to Walmart in Fairmont for a shopping adventure with a Fairmont police officer.

Each were given funds to purchase gifts for their immediate family and a gift for themselves to take home and put under the Christmas tree. The police officers helped the chil-

dren find just the right gifts as they shopped around at Walmart.

After the purchases, Subway gave each child and police officer a lunch while they waited for their gifts to be wrapped by the police wives. There was a good time and great conversation spent between the kids and officers!

A special thank-you goes to Walmart, Subway and the Fairmont Police Association for sponsoring such a wonderful positive event for these kids!



SAXTON 69TH - Arlene and Ellis Saxton of Fairmont will celebrate their 69th wedding anniversary on Saturday, December 26th, 2015. Cards may be sent to 1514 North North Avenue, Fairmont, MN 56031.



Marriage License Applications

Edward Marsh Powers and Brenda Lee Anderson

It is estimated that the single "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin is the best selling single of all time, with over 100 million sales worldwide.



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Local Volunteer Given Award For Work With Youth

Dennis Lockwood of Fairmont was named Community Champion at the MPRC (Minnesota Prevention Resource Center) 2015 Program Sharing Conference in St. Cloud

ings and training, assisting at community events such as health fairs, town hall meetings, sixth grade poster fair and informing the community about our coalition's prevention



Pictured at MPRC (left to right): Anna Garbers of Kinship, Mitzi and Dennis Lockwood and Steph Johnson of FSAP.

recently. This award was given to Dennis for his volunteer work in ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs) prevention with Fairmont Substance Abuse Prevention (FSAP) Coalition and SCY (Services for Challenging Youth.)

Dennis was instrumental in applying for and receiving a large grant from The Minnesota Department of Human Services Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division in 2011. He has put in many hours of volunteer work to create awareness around ATOD prevention among our youth by attending meet-

work. When asked about his award, Dennis said his passion for his work comes from his five kids and 15 grandkids. "We all have gifts and are asked to use our gifts for your whole life," Dennis said.

Lockwood is a retired Sears executive and lived in Bloomington, Minnesota for 20 years. While there he managed 82 stores and worked in the Burnsville Center and Mall of America. He has had many rolls in volunteering including college recruiting and regional diversity training and labor relations. He joined SCY in 2008.

Day Plumbing/Bryant Heating Honor Community Hero

Day Plumbing, Heating and Cooling, a Fairmont based heating and cooling contractor, and Bryant Heating and Cooling Systems teamed up recently to honor a local Community Hero who does "whatever it

their home, which was installed by Day Plumbing, Heating and Cooling on December 14th.

Brad and Tanya were nominated by Nancy Urban of Welcome. In her nomination Nancy said Tanya and Brad are in-



takes" to make a positive impact in their community. This Hero demonstrates how a person with passion and determination can use their time and energy to make a difference in the lives of others.

Brad and Tanya Tadlock of Sherburn, MN has been named the 2015 Bryant Community Hero winner from our area! Brad and Tanya received a new Bryant high efficiency gas furnace for

involved with many community activities. Nancy had recently gotten the food shelf up and running in Welcome. Brad has been involved with Kiwanis, the fire department and is studying to be an EMT. Both Brad and Tanya are very giving of their time to help strengthen their community, even though they are raising two small children. Congratulations Brad and Tanya!

Junior Achievement Program Receives Community Support

The Junior Achievement Program, facilitated by the Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce's Business Education Committee in cooperation with Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest, Inc., strives to provide relevant, fundamental learning opportunities for students in grades K-12, preparing them for a lifetime of success.

In 2014-15, more than thirty-five volunteers have taught business skills to Fairmont students in kindergarten through 8th grade in fifty-seven classrooms. Participating educational facilities are Fairmont Elementary School,

St Paul Evangelical Lutheran School and St. John Vianney School.

Sponsors for the 2014-15 and 15-16 Martin County Junior Achievement Program include: Rosen's Inc.; 3M; Kahler Automation; US Bank; Iberdrola Renewables; Wal-Mart; Sweet Financial; Dutch Creek Farms; Farm Bureau Financial Services-Jeff Schlomann; First Farmers and Merchants National Bank; Fairmont Early Risers Kiwanis; Mayo Clinic Health System-Fairmont; Bank Midwest; Associate Optometry, PA; Don Anderson and Wells Federal Bank.



Iberdrola Renewables recently contributed \$500 toward the Martin County Junior Achievement Program. Pictured left to right: Ron Kopischke-Board Chair 2016, Fairmont Area Chamber; Margaret Dillard, President-Fairmont Area Chamber; Kandi Menne, Fairmont Area Chamber Office Manager and JA Project Team Lead; and Joe Melsha, Director of Operations-Iberdrola Renewables.

Kids Lego Club at the Martin County Library in Fairmont

The Martin County Library in Fairmont is hosting a Kids Lego Club for kids ages six to 12.

Come and have fun building challenges with Legos! The Lego Club will meet

LEGO CLUB @ THE LIBRARY!



on the following date: Monday, December 28th at 4 pm.

There is no cost to attend and no need to register. Call the library at 238-4207 with questions.

Local Farmer Appointed as United Soybean Board Director

Rochelle Krusemark, a soybean farmer from Sherburn, was recently



appointed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to be a director

on the United Soybean Board(USB). Krusemark will serve as a volunteer farmer-leader for a three-year term and will represent her fellow soybean farmers. She will invest soy checkoff funds in marketing, promotion and research projects to increase the profit potential of all U.S. soybean farmers.

"We are excited to welcome Rochelle and the other new farmer-leaders who will be joining us on the United Soybean Board," says USB Chair-

man Jared Hagert, a soybean farmer from Emmerado, North Dakota. "This new leadership will bring fresh ideas to the soy checkoff and will help us continue to make the U.S. soy industry as profitable as possible for our fellow farmers."

Krusemark raises corn, soybeans and grass hay on her family farm near Sherburn. She also has a cow/calf and custom-finish hog operation. Along with holding offices in the Martin County Farm Bureau, Martin County Corn & Soybean Growers, Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council and Minnesota Farm Bureau Promotion & Education

Committee, Krusemark is active in 4-H, Minnesota Farming Today/Speak for Yourself, Trimont Community Band and Minnesota Agriculture & Rural Leadership (MARL).

"I have a passion for agriculture and have been active on a variety of local, district and state organizations," Krusemark says. "I respect and appreciate the mission and purpose of USB and am excited and honored to serve with them."

Krusemark was one of five new directors who were sworn in and began work at USB's annual meeting on December 10th in St. Louis.

Happy Holidays!



Lee, John & Michele

Wishing you all the best during the Holiday Season! We look forward to serving you in the new year!

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Judge Robert Walker Prepares For Transition To Life After The Courtroom Bench

by Jeff Hagen

He has been the familiar, yet sometimes “imposing” figure in a long black robe in the courtroom of the Martin County Courthouse for 26 years. Soon he will be trading in the robe for more casual attire in retirement.

Judge Robert Walker of Fairmont has been a District Court Judge in Fairmont since March of 1989 and after 26 years, he has decided it is time to spend some time with his wife and family in retirement. Actually, Judge Walker officially retired on October 30th, 2015, but then he was appointed as Senior Judge in a part-time capacity until a new judge could be sworn in January 4th. According to Walker, “I retired on Friday, October 30th, but then the next Monday I woke up and put

rience” position.

Walker stated that when his wife Laurie learned that he had been appointed judge, her comment to him was, “That’s very nice for both you and I, but you still will have to take the garbage out when it is time!” Walker said that he has been blessed through the years with a wife that “put up with a lot” in having a husband that was an appointed District Court Judge. “She has really been a blessing to keep me “grounded” in my position. Laurie also will be retiring soon from her position at the Martin County Library in Fairmont, so both of them can enjoy a life in retirement with their activities. They have a son in Washington, D. C. and a daughter in the Twin Cities along with family in Tacoma, Washington, so their retirement

some of the changes he has seen over his years on the bench, Judge Walker noted that when he first came here, there were actually two judges serving Martin County, but with their retirements, it eventually ended up being a single judge county, but the case loads were increasing in numbers while his staff numbers have decreased over time.

The judicial system has been an ever-changing one over the years, according to Walker, but the onset of the “digital age” has made certain things like doing research for cases and also email for input from other judges around the area easier. Walker noted that one of the biggest changes he has noticed in this area is the shrinking of the bar association in Martin County. He commented that you don’t see many young attorneys coming out to rural areas to begin their practices any more. Many would rather work in metro areas instead of starting out in outstate Minnesota.

When asked if he was able to keep his work and personal life separate over the years, Judge Walker noted that it has been challenging at times, especially in a small community like Fairmont. On the “flip-side”, Walker stated that he has always felt more secure and comfortable as a judge in Martin County because of the close-knit community like the Fairmont area. Walker went on to state “I hope that I have never offended anyone that I met in public that addressed me by name, but I was unable to remember theirs.” He went on to state that some of the people that he meets are associated only through the courtroom and because he has seen so many different people in that setting, it is hard to always be able to remember them on a personal level.

Walker has seen one

constant throughout his years on the bench. He has always encouraged the people that have stood

and play cards, but now meet twice a year. Walker enjoys the time together with other peers in a “non-

on” in 1979 at the Martin County Fairgrounds. He has been in many other productions since then, including “Oliver”, “Fiddler on the Roof”, “Music Man” and many more.

When asked what he will miss most in leaving his position, Walker stated that he “will certainly miss the people”. He also stated that he has been very blessed to have JoRae Determan as his assistant throughout his entire time as judge. In fact, the two have worked together for a total of 28 years, when he had his own practice and she was his assistant there. “JoRae has been very helpful to me - I wouldn’t have been able to do what I have done the past 28 plus years without her.”

Judge Walker will swear in his successor, Michael Trushenski on January 4th, 2016 and the ceremonial swearing in will be on January 15th, 2016. Walker said that he would be available to help out his successor after he turns over the bench to him, and he may still fill in for other judges from time to time, if needed. But he looks forward to moving on to personal life along with his wife and family and “finding a hobby that is much different than what I currently do.”

I’m sure one of those hobbies will be an occasional appearance on the local theater stage and singing with the “Brothers in Grace” at Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont.

Best wishes on a well-deserved retirement, Judge Walker!



Judge Walker (front) with his long-time assistant, JoRae Determan.

across from him in the courtroom to take responsibility for their actions, to own up to their mistakes and most of all, be truthful about it. He has told many that it could be a positive learning experience, if they let it be that way and that they could learn from their mistakes. “In all my time on the bench, I do value honesty in the courtroom and it many times went a long way in my decisions if they were honest to me and in their actions.

Through the years, a good golf game has been his “stress-reliever” and he plans to continue playing the game, but he also enjoys hunting and fishing. In the past he has been part of a foursome of judges that would go fishing and also loved to play bridge. They used to get together once a year to fish

judicial” environment.

Over the years, Walker has been involved with a number of groups that helped promote the young people of our communities, including the Healthy Youth Committee, Youth First, and other groups working with the youth. He also was grateful to have been involved in working with Mayo Clinic Hospital in Fairmont to develop a program for proper disposal and dispensing of medications and other drugs in a responsible manner in the community.

Over the years, Walker has also shown another side of himself in his involvement in local theatrical productions through the Civic Summer Theater. His first play was the production “Paint Your Wag-

Bored of Education.
become weary of learning!
group of people who had
Coalition formed by a
answer

Cryptodup



Judge Robert Walker sitting at his desk in his “office in transition” at the Martin County Courthouse.

on my shirt and tie and returned back to my office in a Senior Judge role, albeit a part-time one. He is eligible to be a Senior Judge anywhere in Minnesota, but stated that he intends on staying within the 5th Judicial District, which covers much of Southwestern Minnesota.

In looking back over his 26 years behind the bench, Judge Walker remembers his first days on the job, stating he really had no “warm-up” for the position since there was only one judge in Martin County and his first case on the bench was an attempted murder case. He really didn’t have any “coaching” for the new position, so it was a “learn by experience” position.

can include a time for traveling “with no strings” tying them down.

Judge Walker’s father was in the Air Force when he was growing up, so the family did some traveling with his time in service, however he stated that he still has a lot to see in the Continental U.S.

Walker is a baseball fan, so his retirement plans could include some visits to both major and minor league ballparks around the country. He has visited the St. Paul Saints park, of course and the minor league stadium near Tacoma, Washington, but he plans on traveling to others, if he can “fit it into his new schedule.”

When asked about





REJOICE

May the blessings of the Christmas season bring you an abundance of happiness throughout the coming year.

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*Warmest wishes to
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wonderful holiday season*


- Bob



State Representative Bob Gunther
651-296-3240
rep.bob.gunther@house.mn

**Seasons Greetings
to you and all good
wishes for the
New Year!**

- Julie



State Senator
Julie Rosen
651-296-5713
sen.julie.rosen@senate.mn

What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Chicken Serenade

A company chicken dish!

I am having a difficult time getting everything I want to get done for Christmas this year. It actually seems like I have this problem every year! I have read my *Christmas Therapy* book twice so far. Today I am going to try my hand at making lefse. I made it a couple of times when the children were small, but I didn't have the right equipment. This year my cousins gave me my Aunt Dorothy's lefse rolling pin and a friend from my church gave me a beautiful lefse grill, so I am all set.

Here is a quote from *Christmas Therapy* by Karen Katafiasz that I have to keep in mind: "Relinquish superhuman efforts to produce Christmas-card perfect holiday celebrations. Christmas is about God becoming human not humans becoming God."

Today I am sharing a chicken recipe worthy of serving to company:

Chicken Serenade:

4 deboned chicken breasts, pounded thin to tenderize
2 Tbsp olive oil
1 tsp lemon pepper
1 Tbsp fresh minced garlic
1/2 lb fresh sliced mushrooms
2 cans (15 oz. each) artichoke hearts packed in water, drained and quartered
1 cup heavy cream
1/4 cup white wine
2 firm tomatoes, diced
parsley

Sauté chicken breasts in olive oil over medium heat until tender; season with lemon pepper, place in large preheated serving platter or dish. Sauté mushrooms, garlic and artichoke hearts for 2 minutes; slowly add heavy cream and wine, reduce heat and simmer 5 minutes. Add diced tomatoes and stir until tomatoes warm; pour over chicken breasts and sprinkle parsley over all, if desired. Good served with rice.

Have a very Merry Christmas!

10 Holiday Nutrition Tips From Mayo Clinic Licensed Dietitian

Holidays are usually full of family, food and joy. However, unhealthy habits can be attached to the jolly parties and gatherings. Anne Sheppard, Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont licensed dietitian, shares 10 tips to help you have a healthier holiday:

1. Don't skip meals.

Skipping a meal with the goal of saving calories prior to a holiday event can often backfire and lead to overeating due to ravenous feelings of hunger. Having a filling snack, such as fruit, string cheese, yogurt or a small handful of nuts, can help curb your appetite and prevent overeating.

2. Contribute a healthy dish.

Ensure at least one nutritious choice is available at potlucks by contributing a healthy dish.

3. Choose your splurges.

Scan the buffet or dinner table and choose a couple holiday favorites to splurge on instead of foods you can have any other day of the year.

4. Think Color. Make a plate look festive by including fruits and veggies. Aim to cover half the plate.

5. Choose drinks wisely.

Stick to calorie-free drinks, such as water, tea or seltzer, instead of high-calorie festive drinks. Alcoholic beverages contribute empty calories and can cause you to make poor judgments with food. If you do choose to drink alcohol, do so in moderation, and alternate each alcoholic drink with a glass of water.

6. Visit the people, not the food. Move socializing away from the buffet or appetizer table to prevent mindless eating.

7. Say no to food pushers.

If someone strongly encourages you to eat foodstuffs you're trying to avoid or to eat more than you're comfortable with, stand your ground by politely declining.

8. Savor seasonal treats.

Having treats once a year will not make or break your weight. Make sure you take time to really taste and enjoy that special treat when you have it.

9. Eat until you're satisfied, not stuffed.

No one likes that icky, stuffed feeling after a meal. Eat slowly, and check your fullness levels while you're eating. Remember - there are always leftovers.

10. Don't feel guilty.

If you did overindulge, don't beat yourself up. Just make sure your next meal is healthy, and be sure to incorporate exercise into your routine.

Mayo Clinic Health System consists of clinics, hospitals and other facilities that serve the health care needs of people in more than 60 communities in Georgia, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The community-based providers, paired with the resources and expertise of Mayo Clinic, enable patients in the region to receive the highest-quality health care close to home.

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CHECK IT OUT!

@ the Martin County Library

Please note the hours of Martin County Library in Fairmont and its branches (Sherburn, Trimont and Truman)

on the following days for the Christmas holiday: Thursday December 24th hours are 9-12, Friday December 25th and Saturday December 26th the libraries will be closed.

You may still access your account online during this time by visiting our website at www.martincountylibrary.org and clicking on the blue "Library Catalog" link.



Ask A Trooper: Are Xenon Lights Legal

by Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

Question: Are the blue or Xenon headlamps legal in Minnesota?

Answer: Xenon or (HID) high-intensity discharge headlights are legal if they comply with the same Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard requirements as halogen and incandescent headlamps.

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 169.468 requires the Commissioner to adopt vehicle safety rules in substantial conformance with federal motor vehicle safety standards for any new vehicle, or for any new item of motor vehicle equipment. These standards are contained in 49 CFR Part 571.

If the vehicle has not been altered since the time of purchase from a dealer, it is almost certain that the lights are legal, as the manufacturer and dealer would need to follow federal guidelines above.

The aftermarket use of Xenon lights may pose a more difficult problem. Most aftermarket systems are in compliance with SAE and federal standards, however, some "look-alike" systems are not. The vehicle lighting system in question would need to be inspected by a reputable mechanic. The

bulbs should contain the proper markings to permit the lighting device to be traced back to the appropriate SAE standard. If they are not in compliance, a citation may be issued.

If someone wants to convert their vehicle to Xenon HID they must purchase new Xenon HID headlamps. HID's installed in headlight systems designed for halogen lights produce substantially different beam patterns.

It is an important time of year to remind motorists that the law states that you must turn on your headlights during harsh weather, rain, snow, fog or anytime there is low visibility. This will help ensure that other motorists can see you. Do not to rely on your day time running lights alone as your tail lights will not be working, thus making your vehicle difficult to see.

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

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Wishing our friends the very best during the holidays and in the days to come!

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Hy-Vee Online Grocery Shopping Service Available

Earlier this year, Hy-Vee, Inc. launched Hy-Vee Aisles Online, a new service that allows busy customers to shop the way they want to shop — from anywhere and at any time. And now, just in time for the holidays, Hy-Vee Aisles Online is available in all of the supermarket chain's 240 stores across its eight-state region.

Through the Hy-Vee Aisles Online website, customers can shop for their groceries, pay electronically and choose to pick up their order or have it delivered to their home. Hy-Vee Aisles Online promises customers the same helpful, friendly service that they would

receive in stores. It also retains other benefits of in-store shopping, such as weekly specials, coupons and Fuel Saver + Perks™ discounts.

Customers can use their hy-vee.com account to select their preferred store before shopping that store's inventory. Customers also can create shopping lists and mark products as their favorites. When customers link their account to their Hy-Vee Fuel Saver + Perks card, their most recently purchased items will automatically be listed first, creating a seamless shopping experience.

Once customers place an order, an Aisles On-

line personal shopper hand-selects the products, which ensures the orders are fresh and accurate. The groceries are kept in climate-controlled totes until they are unloaded into the customer's vehicle or delivered to the customer's home. Store pickup and home delivery are both free with a \$100 order; orders under \$100 have a \$2.95 fee for pickup and \$4.95 fee for delivery.

Due to the holidays, customers should review the revised Aisles Online ordering schedule through January 2nd, 2016 at www.hy-veeaisles-online.com.

What's Happening at Fairmont Area CER

Saturday Boys' Basketball Ages 4-Kindergarten

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Saturdays, January 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the Fairmont Area Elementary School Annex Gym.

Saturday Boys' Basketball Grades 1-3

Get together to play games, work on basic fundamentals, basketball skills, and have fun. Coach: Jared Thompson. Fee: \$36 T-shirt included.

Saturdays, January 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and February 6th, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at the Fairmont Area Elementary School Annex Gym.

Pre-registration with payment is requested at Fairmont Community Education and Recreation, located at Fairmont Elementary School, 714 Victoria Street, Fairmont, MN 56031.

For more information, contact 507-235-3141 or online at fairmont.k12.mn.us. Click on web-store.

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by Mike Marland



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OBITUARY notices

Rosemary Borchardt, 89



Services for Rosemary Borchardt, 89, of Fairmont, were held Monday, December 21st, 2015, at Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Burial followed the service in Lakeside Cemetery in Fairmont. Rosemary passed away Wednesday, December 16th, 2015, at Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont is assisted the family with arrangements.

Rosemary Patricia (Eibner) Borchardt was born March 16th, 1926, in New Ulm, the daughter of Alois and Clara (Epple) Eibner. Rosemary attended parochial school at Holy Trinity School in New Ulm, and graduated from Holy Trinity High School. Following her graduation, Rosemary attended St. Catherine's in St. Paul.

On November 22nd, 1944, Rosemary was united in marriage to Gordon Borchardt in New Ulm. Together the couple made their home in New Ulm until 1953, when the couple moved to Fairmont and resided since. To this union four children were born, Paul, Patricia, Mark and Constance. Rosemary worked for many years as a bookkeeper for Reco Motors, retiring in 1988,

following the death of her husband.

Rosemary was a member of Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church in Fairmont and was also a member of the Lutheran Women Missionary Society. In her spare time, Rosemary enjoyed doing needle work and working on crossword puzzles and putting puzzles together.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, Paul Borchardt and wife, June Anne of Preston, ID; and Constance Masters and husband, Frank of Briceyn, MN; son-in-law, Isaiah Johnson; eight grandchildren, Tom, Bill, Jennifer, Jeff, Ann, David, Ryan and Tamara; fifteen great-grandchildren; a sister, Therese Juba of New Hope, MN; brother, Wilibald Eibner of New Ulm, as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Rosemary was preceded in death by her parents; son, Mark Borchardt; daughter, Patricia Johnson; sister, Marion Droege; and a brother-in-law, Richard Juba.

The family requests memorials be given in Rosemary's name to Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church or the American Cancer Society.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Helen Jagodzinske, 98



A Celebration of Life Service for Helen Jagodzinske, 98, of Fairmont, was held Friday, December

18th, 2015 at the Lakeview Methodist Health Care Chapel in Fairmont. Burial was in Emmanuel Cemetery of Fox Lake Township in rural Welcome, with full military honors by Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post 36 and Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1222. Helen was called to her eternal rest on Monday, December 14th, 2015 at Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont.

Helen was born on a farm north of Welcome on November 15th, 1917 to Bessie (Nelson) and Aaron Jagodzinske. When she was nine years old the family moved to the homestead where she and her siblings Harold, Rudy and Evelyn spent their formative years. Helen attended a one-room school house until she finished eighth grade. She finished her high school at Welcome Public School and continued her education at Mankato Commercial College in Mankato. During her life Helen worked in a variety of positions. She worked at a cannery in Fairmont at the time they were beginning to experiment with freezing vegetables. She also worked a variety of jobs in the Welcome area after returning home when her father had a stroke. After his death, her mother arranged for her to stay with relatives in Chicago while searching for work. She secured a position at a book bindery company and worked there until the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Wanting to do her part, Helen went to the recruiting station and joined the Women's Auxiliary Army Corp (WAAC). She signed up for the duration of the war. Assigned to the Army Signal Corps, an entity responsible for communications and information systems, Helen was sent to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, for basic training. She was then sent

to Camp Crowder, Missouri, for teletype training. During her time of service, Helen recruited women to the WAC, worked in the Post Office, and while in New Guinea, served as a transcriber. After the war, Helen was hired to work at the Pentagon. During her twenty-seven years there she was assigned to the adjutant general as a clerk typist, keeping records of people who were in the military, served as secretary to the chief of civilian personnel, and in a military personnel security role, analyzed records and worked to ensure the safety of the perimeter of her building. She retired in 1973. She then began working at the Smithsonian. Helen worked at the Smithsonian for thirty-eight years until 2011. At the age of ninety-four she retired. Helen made a point of acknowledging every family member's birthday and every couple's wedding anniversary.

Since 2012 Helen has been living in Martin County. While she missed her friends and faith community out east, Helen enjoyed being a part of the many family gatherings and reconnecting with old friends. Faith was a constant in Helen's life. For many years she was an active member of the Fairlington United Methodist Church in Alexandria, VA.

She is survived by her sister Evelyn (Jagodzinske) Schuler; nieces and nephews: Judy (Roland) Kratzner, Carolyn Schuler, Robert (Judy) Schuler, Maynard (Mary) Jagodzinske, Duane (Margaret) Jagodzinske, Charlene (Wayne) Kahler, Marcia (Gary Kroeger) Jagodzinske, Glenn (Brenda) Jagodzinske, Rose Marie (Tim) Skaife, Vic (Buck) Jagodzinske, Garret (Pam) Jagodzinske, Faye (Roger) Gilland, Gail (Gary) Keck, Lynn Jagodzinske, and many great-nieces and

nephews and great great nieces and nephews.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Harold and Rudy Jagodzinske, in-laws Greta (Gaalswyk) Jagodzinske, Avis (Olson) Jagodzinske, Vern Schuler and nephew Richard Schuler.

kramerfuneralhome.com

Francis "Frank" B. Koskovich, 90



Funeral services for Francis "Frank" B. Koskovich, 90, of Fairmont, will be 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 29th, at St. John's United Church of Christ in Fairmont. Burial will follow at Fairview Memorial Park in Fairmont. Visitation will be from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m., December 29th, at St. John's United Church of Christ.

Frank passed away Wednesday, December 9th, 2015 at the Lakeview Methodist Health-care Center in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home of Fairmont is handling the arrangements for the family.

Francis Bernard Koskovich was born on March 8th, 1925 in Petersburg, Nebraska, the son of Claude and Helen Koskovich. The family moved to Blue Earth where Frank attended school. In March of 1943, Frank entered the Army Airborne Division and served during WW II. He served in Europe in action at the Seigfried Line, parachuted over the Rhine and served at the Battle of the Bulge. He was honor-

ably discharged in May of 1946 and returned to Minnesota.

Frank was united in marriage to Lorraine Malo on January 1st, 1948 in Fairmont, and raised two sons, Steven and Bruce. Frank worked at Fairmont Railway Motors until retiring in March of 1987.

Frank enjoyed his gardening and attended St. John's United Church of Christ in Fairmont.

Those that will cherish his memory include his wife of 67 years, Lorraine Koskovich of Fairmont; two sons: Steven Koskovich and his wife, Mary Claire of Hibbing; Bruce Koskovich and his wife, Carol, of Fairmont; five granddaughters: Alicia Yezi (Richard), Holly Frank (Nathan), Heather Reithmeier (Ryan), Jessica and Jayden Koskovich; six great grandchildren; sister, Jo Kropp and her husband, David; nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Frank was also preceded in death by a daughter-in-law, Ruth Koskovich; six brothers and two sisters; and numerous sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.

Memorials are preferred to the American Cancer Society or St. John's United Church of Christ.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

The Photo Press reserves the right to edit any obituary that is submitted for placement.

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

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Get Involved in Your Chamber

Guest Columnist

Margaret Dillard, President, Fairmont Area Chamber



As we look forward to a new year, the Chamber Board, Committee Boards and Staff invite members to take a look at opportunities to provide an excellent business environment in Martin County. The Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce is only as strong as the community of people who support it and participate in the platforms and opportunities it provides to achieve its mission:

"To provide a healthy business climate through leadership, communication and education for its members in the greater Fairmont area."

Members of the **Ambassadors Committee** meet at 3:00 p.m. in the Chamber Conference Room on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. This group serves as the goodwill arm of the Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce, often offering the first connections to our business community. Members facilitate ground breakings, ribbon cuttings, and grand openings, co-sponsor the Minnesota State Pork Masters Golf Outing and annually award a \$1,000 post-secondary scholarships to a local business student. The **Ambassador Committee is in need of enthusiastic, friendly representatives as well as all officers.**

The mission of the **Agri-business Committee** is to provide a means for farmers and businessmen to promote the importance of agriculture in Martin County. This productive group awards two \$4,200 ag scholarships to Martin County high school seniors each year, co-sponsors the Minnesota State Pork Masters Golf Outing, provides agricultural

awareness information to the community, supports ag related courses and FFA in the Fairmont Area School District, coordinates the Blue Ribbon Pork Cook-Off held each year at the Martin County Fair and, for some elections, the committee hosts the "Meet the Candidates Steak BBQ" **This group is looking for a Secretary. Please feel free to attend meetings held at various dining establishments on the third Tuesday each month November through April.**

Bureau 14 meets 6:00 p.m. every second Wednesday September through May. Locations vary Bureau 14 Provide education programs for committee members and is the premiere professional networking opportunity for business in Martin County in the areas current business trends, government affairs, local community happenings and general business. Chair for 2016 is Dr. Zephania Skow. Secretary is Jay Burmeister. **Business people are invited to call the office to be a guest at the next gathering.**

Other Committees and Task Forces meet as needed. They include:

The **Business Education Committee** which is dedicated to building partnerships between businesses, schools, parents, and the community in order to develop life-long opportunities for all learners. Projects are:

- Teacher Recognition Banquet, held in October that pairs business people with newly-hired educators providing great introduction to our community.
- Junior Achievement Program that pro-

vides business education in more than 50 local classrooms each year to students Kindergarten through 8th grade

- **ACE - Area Career Exploration**, an annual career expo for 500+ 10th graders in Southern Minnesota and Northern Iowa that informs of employment and educational opportunities.

The **Fairmont Glows Committee** that intends to create community spirit, pride, and involvement in the Fairmont area by making our community "Glow". Members coordinate the Glows Parade held in November, encourage businesses and residents to decorate for holidays, coordinates city-wide Christmas Decoration Fund and encourages city beautification.

The **Governmental Affairs Committee** meets to assist and promote Fairmont and Martin County business participation in government and legislative affairs through education. This group:

- Provides current information on legislative proposals
- Sponsors Candidate Forums for local elections
- Holds Legislative Education Luncheons
- Encourages local participation in "Business Day at the Capital"

The **Retail Committee** exists to provide a greater selection of goods and services by working with existing retailers and by attracting new businesses to the community. Projects led by the Retail Committee are:

- The county-wide Chamber Gift Certificates Program
- Workshops and Seminars (Lunch and Learn Seminars)

- Retail Recruitment

Please call the office or write an email if you have a desire to get in-

involved. We appreciate your input, opinions and constructive comments because we want to be recognized as the leader

in assisting area businesses to prosper in Martin County.

St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund November 2015 Contributions

The St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$1,208 in memorials during the month of November, 2015. **These were given in memory of:**

LORNA CODERRE: By Jim & Jeanne Anderson, Allen & Lorna Bremer, Roger & Pat Cochran, John & Darlene Eisenmenger, Stan & Betty Felber, Catherine Kasper, Dorothy Krick, Leon & Rose Marie Lammers, Gary & Rita Larson, Madalyn McCaffrey, Marjorie Marquart, Gene Palmer, Charles & Joell Schaefer, Dennis & Mary Beth Snyder, Bart Stadtherr, Steven & Karen Wright

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& Ann Gemmill, Gary & Grace Haeckel, Catherine Kasper, Dorothy Krick, Joe & Mary Beth Kurtzman, Leon & Rose Marie Lammers, Irene Lutterman, Linda Maday & Alison Lutterman, Madalyn McCaffrey, Ken & Marilyn Rusch, Bart Stadtherr, Vince & Angela Vaughn, Jr.,

FRANCIS 'FRAN' MCNERNEY: By Evelyn Betts, Pat Borowski, Agnes 'Stormy' Carter, Dan & Ann Harris, Loretta Mathiowetz

JOYCE MALHEREK: By Ken & Marilyn Rusch

RYAN MORTENSON: By Mike & Elizabeth Garry, Dorothy Krick, Lenor Waldschmidt

EILEEN SAGER: By Roxanne Adams, Pat Borowski, Clara Bulfer, Agnes 'Stormy' Carter, Rita Fitz, Mary Garbers, Mike & Elizabeth Garry, Burdean & Dorothy Hartwig, Jim & Julie Hill, Arven & Meda Holland, Jerry & Linda Kosbab, Dorothy Krick, Connie Lenz, Irene Lutterman, Linda Maday Gerald & Marlene Moeller, Fran

McNerney, St. Timothy's Circle, Gary & Marion Schweiger

PATRICIA TREMBLEY: By Bart Stadtherr

ALAN WAKEY: By Leon & Rose Marie Lammers

The St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund also gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$678.08 in general & special contributions given in November, 2015, by the following:

General Contributions: By Mike Carr, Carroll Collins, Barbara Denney, Mike & Elizabeth Garry, Bruce Hady, Jim & LuAnn Hahn, Arven & Meda Holland, Tom & Lisa Izen, Catherine Kasper, Leon & Rose Marie Lammers, Vincent & Anna Landsteiner, Gary & Kathy Langer, Dennis & Mitzi Lockwood, Kathy McGowan, Alice Malliet, Joe & Crystal Melsha, Chris & Amy Pierce, Ron & Karen Sandhurst, Beverly Villeneuve, Bob & Marlys Steger

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Jeff's Jottings

It was two days before Christmas and all throughout the Photo Press, employees and customers were hurrying about - you could really sense the stress;

This week's newspaper had been delivered from our printer to the north; Sherman was busy prepping papers for the car-

riers, carrying bundles to his car - carrying and packing, hurrying back and forth; There is urgency on making sure the Photo Press is delivered by carrier and by mail before Christmas Day, Sherm's in his element, delivering the bundles to our carriers, whistling Christmas carols to himself and enjoying his time away;



Jeff, Tari, Becky, Larry, Sam, Randy and Sherm

Meanwhile back at the Photo Press office, Tari is busy with customers - both on the phone and also in the store; she can sense the stress in their voices, and by the way

they are nervously scurrying around the sales floor. She too knows about the holiday stress, as she goes through her family's Christmas list in her head; "So much to still do before Christmas arrives - so much to prepare and buy before the day is over and I go to bed!"

Becky is busy working on last minute customers' Christmas letters; busy typing and proofing before the harried customers return to get them mailed out - even though they won't arrive before Christmas, they say that next year they'll do better. Becky is one of our graphic artists, she's good at what she does; just ask the many satisfied customers she

has created letters and artwork for - her ideas many times creates quite a buzz; Sam is relishing the completion of yet another edition of the Photo Press; she is the creative one behind the layout of each week's paper - (even if she has to deal with Randy and all the stress!). She too is now concentrating on the last minute preparations and gifts for her son Wil and her dog Thor; so much to prepare and think about before she heads out the Photo Press door!

Larry, our favorite press



operator is busy printing up last minute customer jobs from his work area, where he is known around here as the "basement dweller"; he is the best at what he does, even if sometimes challenging print jobs cause us to hear some grumbling coming from the cellar. Many may see Larry as someone with a gruff exterior; but to those of us who really know him, to his grandchildren he is superior;

Randy is busy scurrying about, visiting advertisers for New Year's ads with a promise that the ad will have the look that will give them the most clout; he moves around this office so quietly, most of us know whether he is "in" or he is "out". You can see him this time of year wearing his favorite hat; his biggest joys are taking in any kind of sporting events, whether it is watching football or taking pictures of a kid swinging a bat.

Jeff is busy running around the office, making sure everyone is doing their work so they don't have to stay late; only a

day more of business, before the Photo Press staff goes on a much-deserved Christmas break. Since it is now two days before Christmas, he knows now he can do his Christmas shopping; local retailers will see him in their stores running around picking out gifts for his wife and family, in order to finish by Christmas he needs to keep hopping!

The day is almost over, only a half day more of business before the "closed" sign gets pulled down; Jeff can be heard saying from his back office, "Merry Christmas to all of you and remember - be sure and shop local, keep your business in town!"

Before I go this week, I want to wish all of our readers, carriers and advertisers a very Merry Christmas this year. Most of all though, let us not forget the real meaning of Christmas and be sure to take the time to attend your place of worship on Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day. Jesus is the true reason for this season - let us not forget to put the focus on him this day.

Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - Eat, Play, Shop Local - Merry Christmas!

- Jeff



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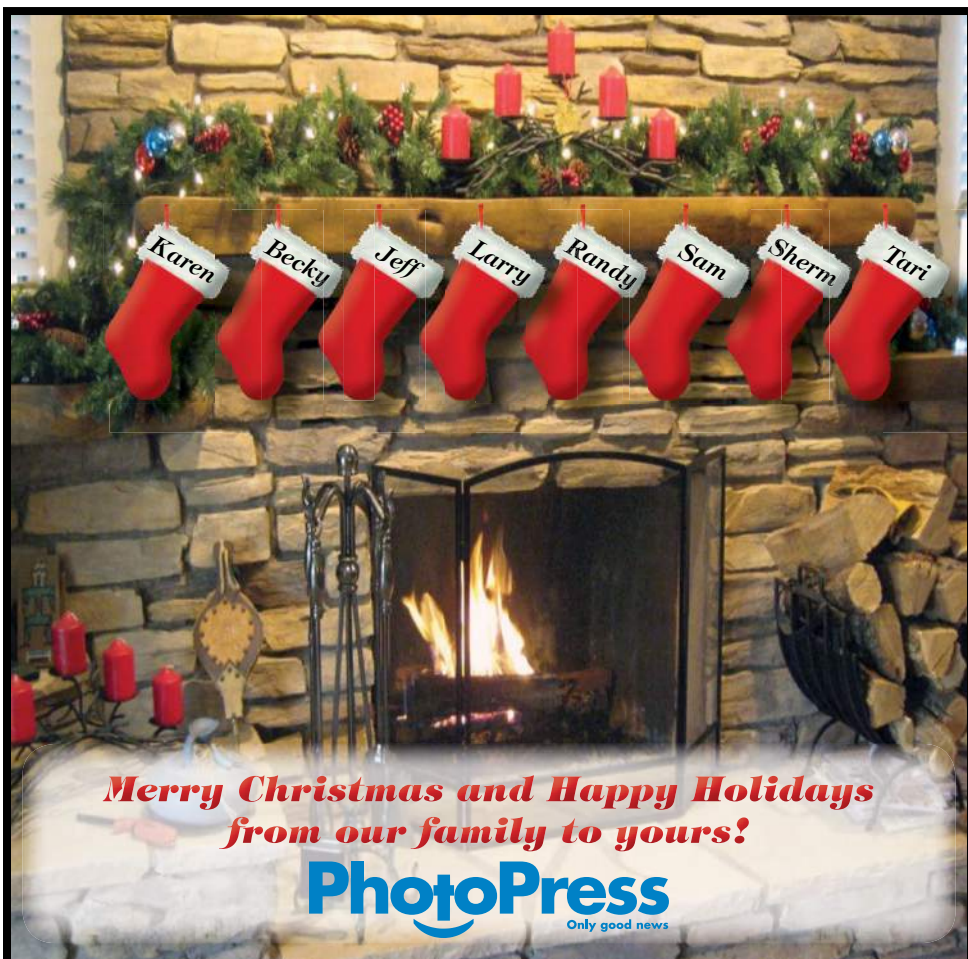


The following students were selected as "Students of the Quarter" for Fairmont Area Schools by a panel of teachers and administrators, and recognized by the Early Risers Kiwanis Club of Fairmont at recent past meetings. Pictured are: 7th Grader Acacia Schmidt, 8th Grader Bergen Senf, 9th Grader Johnathan Lutz and 10th Grader McKenna Mathews

The students were selected on the basis of initiative, effort, class achievements and participation in academic, or extra-curricular activities. As a part of the Early Risers "Youth First" projects, these students and parents were recognized and honored at a recent breakfast ceremony during a club meeting.

Early Risers Kiwanis meets every Wednesday at 6:30 a.m. at The Ranch Restaurant.
Uptown Kiwanis meets every other Tuesday at noon at Tami's on the Ave.

For more information or to become a member, contact: Uptown Club President Louise Hendricks, 235-3090; Early Risers Club President Mike Katzenmeyer, 235-9534.



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PhotoPress
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BRIDGESTONE
Firestone

T'was the Night Before... Photo Press Style

'Twas the night before deadline,
When all through the Press,
Every creature was stirring...it was really a mess!
The proofs were hung on the hooks with care,
In hopes that the Printer soon would be there.
The paper was stacked all neatly in piles,
While workers were busy digging through files.
As our Printer was pacing, I busied myself
Fixing errors and colors liked a frazzled old elf!
When out from the basement there arose such
a clatter,
The Printer sprang from his seat to see what was the
matter!
Away to the Impressia he flew like a flash,
Tore open the cover and rebooted the dash!
The green on the letterhead looked a bit more
Like Pantone 348...not 354!
And then what to the Printer's eyes did appear,
But a message that read, "there's an error in here!"
The Impressia...it shuddered, it moaned and it spit,
The Printer knew in a moment that it must be
real sick!
More rapid than bullets, his words they did tumble;
And he shouted, and swore, and boy did he
grumble,
"Now come on! Now work! It's you that I'm fixin'..
I've tweaked you! I've tried! But now you I'll
be kickin'..
To the top of the stairs! To the top of the hall!
It'll dash you to pieces! It will, 'cause you'll fall!"
So he heaved the Impressia upon his back,
And twisted the cords to take up the slack;
And up to the top of the stairs they flew,
The Printer, his Impressia, and a few of us, too.
And...then! In the twinkling of the lights we did see
A flicker! A spark! A light that was green!
The Printer drew his head up and then turned
around,
The Impressia! It heaved! It made a hum sound!
The machine, it was covered with shreds and
with dust,
And its insides were tarnished with toner and rust.
A bundle of paper that was stuck in its tray,
It looked like a few were wrinkled and gray!
The dash - it then twinkled! The rollers - they
moved!
The motor - it purred! The feeder - it grooved!
The Printer, his lips drawing up in a bow,
Spoke his first kind word of the day, which
was, "Oh..."
The pliers he held tight in his fist,
Loosened a bit with the flick of his wrist.
He smiled a little as an idea crept in his head,
"I think I've got it! I'll fix it!" he said.
He pried and he twisted, both left and right;
The Impressia just sighed, not wanting to fight.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work;
And fixed the Impressia, then turned with a jerk,
"It's done!" he said. "I've fixed it at last!"
"And now I think it'll do what I ask!"
He sprang back to the basement, and then gave
a sigh
"At last," he said, "From Amazon I can buy!"
As he surfed the website, we heard him chime,
"Look at all the good deals...and free shipping
with Prime!"



The Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus recently selected Jack Newville as their "Knight of the Year". Jack was recognized for his support of the local council, as well as his continual willingness to give of his time in service to others. Pictured (left to right) Pat Bulfer - local KC Council Trustee, Jack Newville - award recipient, Chad McGowan - Deputy Grand Knight of the local council.



During the month of October the Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus sponsored their annual pork loin dinner. The \$1,052 in proceeds was given to our local Presentation College program. Pictured (left to right): Joe Schaffer-KC Event Chair, Chad McGowan-Deputy Grand Knight, Chris Pierce-Grand Knight of local KC Council, Susan Barnes-Presentation College Admission Counselor, Denny Pytleski-KC Event Overall Chair.



The Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus was recently presented with the "Star Council Award". This award recognized the local council for achieving membership and insurance quotas, as well as conducting projects in each of the six established categories. Pictured (left to right): Pat Bulfer-local KC Council Trustee, John Zschetzsche-KC District Deputy, Chris Pierce-Grand Knight of the local KC Council.

Mistletoe (*Viscum album*) is from the Anglo-Saxon word *misteltan*, which means "little dung twig" because the plant spreads through bird droppings.



NANCY THIESSE (second from right) a long-time employee at Fairmont Family Dentistry, was honored at a retirement party on Friday, December 18th.



REDBAG PICKUP - Volunteers unload one of the several vehicles that was used to pick up the Salvation Army's Red Bags on Saturday December 12th. Fairmont was divided into 16 zones and drivers and runners covered their zone to pick up the Red Bags filled with food, paper goods, etc. Boy Scout troops picked up the Red Bags in the other Martin County towns.



SALVATION ARMY volunteers unload, weigh, sort and store some of the 3,300 pounds of food, paper goods, etc. that were donated. According to Salvation Army Major JoAnne Hixenbaugh, the 3,300 pounds donated matches the amount given last year.

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Top 20: The Season of Miracles

Guest Columnist



Michael Riley, Top 20 Committee Member

The Christmas Season is a wonderful time to focus on the many miracles and blessings in our lives. First and foremost, there is the miracle of Christmas, the incarnation; "the Word made flesh and dwelt amongst us." This is of course, the 'reason for this season' that we celebrate. "The angel said to them; do not be afraid, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people, to you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord" Luke 2: 10-11. "Rejoice in the Lord Always, rejoice."

Also, much of the literature, movies, theatre, television & radio we read, see and hear this time of year often tell of stories and reflect on miracles during this special season. This is the season where we move from dark to light, literally and figuratively. In the classic novel *The Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, the main character Scrooge experiences the miracle of a change in his attitude and perception, when he joyfully awakens on Christmas morning after an eventful dream filled night, a changed man full of good cheer

and good will. There's also Frank Capra's wonderful classic film, *It's A Wonderful Life*, where the lead character George Bailey experiences the miracle of realizing how much he really matters to his family, friends, his community, and what a 'wonderful life' he really has, and joyfully celebrates that new perspective. Then there is the *Miracle on 34th Street*, and so many other great stories of miracles and Christmas blessings. The Jewish celebration of Hanukkah, The Festival of Lights, is about an important miracle in the Jewish tradition.

This Christmas season it is certainly also a time of giving and receiving, but some of the best gifts are not found under the tree but in warm smiles, joyful greetings and loving words spoken by the people around us. Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets said, "Embrace and open up your love, your joy, your truth, and most especially your heart." This special season is also a time to reflect on the past year with gratitude. As I reflect on this past year I am grateful for so many blessings and miracles in my life. We now have two

beautiful grandchildren, a darling, happy little girl in Boulder, Colorado and a handsome, happy little boy in Miami, FL.

As many of you know I am now retired and it's so nice that we have more time to enjoy trips and spend time in both Colorado and Florida. It also has given me time to recharge, renew and reimagine what I want to do with my life going forward. I am so grateful that I continue to be free of cancer that I was treated for in 2014. I am grateful to my Creator, my faith, my wife, my family, both immediate & extended, to my friends, my amazing health care providers, for TOP 20 in my life, and for all the good people & the good things going on in this community. I am blessed and continually receive so much amazing support, kind words, and encouragement. There are so many wonderful people who have helped me to succeed in my life, and helped me to realize that my life really matters. These are two very important principles in TOP 20 training; "Help others succeed, and tell others that they matter."

There are many, many more blessings in my life too numerous to mention here. I truly believe that when I focus on the positive and give thanks for all

the blessings and miracles in my life, more blessings show up. Oprah Winfrey says, "The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is to celebrate."

Also, I believe it's important to look for the miracles and blessings in our lives, even when things don't go exactly as we'd like. In TOP 20 terms, looking for miracles and blessings in life helps us stay 'above the line.' Sometimes it takes a real focus to be positive when things don't seem to be going our way. That is when it is even more important to look for the good in life, to be grateful for the blessings in life and to express appreciation and love to others. The Christmas season is a great time of year to express appreciation and love. I am thankful for the many people in my life who have offered me so much love and support that makes me feel that I really matter. "Let us be grateful to people who make us happy: as they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." Marcel Proust

So, during this wonderful, miraculous Christmas Season and into the New Year here are some ideas I'd like to suggest to add more meaning in life:

1. Look for miracles and blessings in your life and really celebrate them with the people around you. Sometimes the miracle is just a change in our attitude and perception. Perhaps it's forgiving someone for an old hurt or wound that we've been carrying around for some

time, or looking at something from a different perspective. Bless rather than blame.

2. Express appreciation and love to those around us who love, support, and encourage us, as well as to those we know or meet who really need a kind word or helping hand. We can tell them all how much they matter to us in our life, and give them a hand in whatever struggle or challenge they might be going through at this time. When Warren Buffett, the legendary investment expert was asked what the number one key to success in life he responded, "Give unconditional love. There is no power quite like this."

3. "Give presence, not presents." Jack Canfield, the coauthor of the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* and the Chicken Soup series of books suggests that: "we keep this simple idea in mind - and remember that the best gift you can offer you loved ones is YOURSELF." Take time to realize

and appreciate how much we are a gift to others and how much we are loved in this special season of grace.

4. We can remind ourselves to keep the miraculous Christmas spirit all year long like Scrooge in *The Christmas Carol*, when he "awakens on Christmas morning with joy and love in his heart..... a changed man, Scrooge now treats everyone with kindness, generosity, and compassion, he now embodies the spirit of Christmas. And it was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas, if any man alive possessed the knowledge."

5. And as Tiny Tim said in the final passage of Christmas, in the final passage of *The Christmas Carol* and in the true spirit of Christmas: "God bless us everyone." Merry Christmas!

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- Check for critters on the trunk and branches before bringing inside, then set the tree up in a cool area away from heat sources. Keep the root ball lightly moist. Decorate your beautiful live tree!
- On a mild day, remove decorations and root coverings and place the tree into its hole, with the base of the trunk at ground level. Fill in with the dry soil from the hole. Mulch around its base, and water well. Protect the young tree from harsh winds. — Brenda Weaver

Source: www.missouribotanicalgarden.org, www.bhg.com

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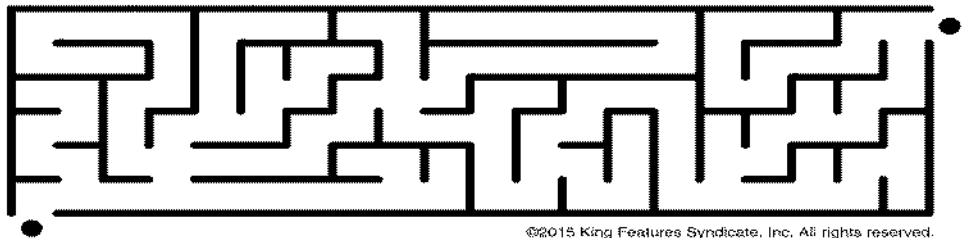


10 Students from Fairmont Area High School's YOCO (Youth Coalition) Group attended YLA (Youth Leadership Academy) along with 90 other students from nine other communities across Minnesota who have similar youth programs under the same grant from the MN DHS-ADAD (Minnesota Department of Human Services Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division.) At YLA the students learned leadership skills and strategies to make positive changes around their school and our community. Here they are pictured with KSPT Sports anchor and author Joe Schmit who taught the kids, "We make our biggest impressions when we are not trying to be impressive." Pictured (back row, left to right): Jewel Relmers, Tiffany Pena, Taylor Elholz, Keynote Speaker Joe Schmit, Kassandra Lopez, Emily Lobenow, Teresa Kiehl, Crystal Morton, Allison Lardy, Steph Johnson (FSAP Coalition). Front row: Madeline Mathiason, Josh Flesner, Kaesha Koch.



Fairmont Area High School Students made connections and learned leadership skills with students from 10 communities across Minnesota at Youth Leadership Academy held in Baxter, Minnesota.

Kids' Maze



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Good Tidings!

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The Mixed Choir from St Paul Lutheran Church, Fairmont made a guest appearance at the "Christ is Come" Christmas Concert presented by the Martin Luther High School Music Department recently. They blended their voices in the closing number "All is Well", directed by MLHS Music Director Mr. Evan Sanft.



top: Mrs. Gratz's Pre-K 4's class from St. Paul Lutheran School in Fairmont held their yearly Christmas program recently. above: Mrs. Closs' Pre-K 3's class from St. Paul Lutheran School in Fairmont held their yearly Christmas program recently. Pictured above is the Tuesday/Thursday class.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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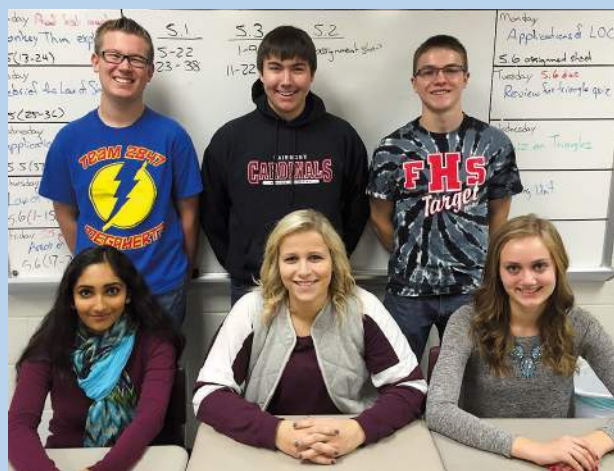
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Fairmont Area Math League Results

On Monday, December 14th the Fairmont Area High School Math League team participated in the third meet of the year for the Minnesota Valley Division of the State High School Math League. The meet was hosted by Waseca High School. Fairmont finished in fourth place with a team score of 35 points. Mankato West won the meet with a score of 72, Mankato East finished second with a score of 66, and Minnesota Valley Lutheran finished third with a score of 39. Blue Earth ended up finishing in seventh place with a score of 19. The Minnesota Valley Division is made up of nine schools that compete in

five meets throughout the season. Team points accumulate from the five meets throughout the season. After three meets Fairmont is in third place in the Division.

Participants for Fairmont who do well at each meet earn the title of "Mathlete of the Meet." For the third meet seven individuals attained this honor. Anagha Komaragiri and Kellen Rodriguez led Fairmont with individual scores of six; Thomas Willett scored five; Cassidy Krusemark, Ellie Tonder, Eli Green and Cameron Hainy each scored four points. St. Peter will host meet #4 on Monday, January 25th at 3:45.



Mathletes: Sitting: Anagha Komaragiri, Cassidy Krusemark, and Ellie Tonder. Standing: Cameron Hainy, Kellen Rodriguez, and Eli Green. Missing: Thomas Willett



Students from Martin Luther High School, Northrop collected food for Heaven's Table. They gathered a total of 2,157 points and the weight was 461.7 pounds of food. They also gathered \$59 donation during the Chapel offering. Pictured (left to right) are student council officers preparing the food for delivery: President Rachel Krome, Hannah Watt, Lindsey Miles, Savanah Krenz and Mrs. Amanda Bergt, Advisor.



The St. Paul Lutheran Church hand bell choir performed for the residents of Lutz Wing in Fairmont recently and then showed them the bells following the performance.



"Caring" is the respect theme at Fairmont Area Elementary in December. To show they care, students in pre-school thru 6th grade collected 1,460 pounds of food for the local food shelf. Pictured are representatives from each grade level. The food drive was facilitated by Respect Coach Deb DeBoer. The 6th grade student council helped gather and load the food into the trailer. Special thanks goes to the following businesses: Olson Rental - trailer, Rippe Grain - weighing of the food, Rick DeBoer Signs - loading, hauling and unloading the food.



As a part of the Fairmont Area School District the Respect Team at Fairmont Elementary has implemented a program called "Character of the Month". In December the character trait focused on is Caring.

These students in grades K-6 show great "Caring". Front row (left to right): 2nd grade Kira Massey, 1st grade Manuel Rojo, kindergarten, Ty DeBoer. Back row (left to right): 6th grade Grace Miller, 5th grade Gunner Wells, 4th grade Makenna Anderson, 3rd grade Mariah Moeller.

Along with their certificates, students received a pizza courtesy of Jake's Pizza. There were 75 other students in the drawing that received a treat courtesy of Rick DeBoer Signs.

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TIED UP - Cardinals' Tyler Johnson and St. Peter's Colton Lusty wrestle for a loose ball. Cardinal's Walker Tordsen and St. Peter's Koleman Lund look on. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



THROUGH TRAFFIC - Cardinals' Walker Tordsen puts up a shot between St. Peter defenders #21 Noah Hildebrandt, #42 Colton Lusty and Antoine Williams. The Saints down the Cardinals 58-51 last Friday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



ON PRANCER, ON DANCER - Santa and Mrs. Claus, Santa's elves and reindeer made an appearance at the Fairmont Area boy's basketball game vs St. Peter. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



ONE TIMER - Cardinals' Leyton Becker winds up for a slapshot against the Marshall Tigers. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



GETTING DOWN - Marshall's goalie Morgan Morrill makes a roadblock on the Cardinals' Cori Emler's diving shot. Marshall's Mikayla Campion also defends on the play. *Courtesy Greg Abel Photography*



BEEN PLAY'N LONG? - Little girls' CER hockey played during intermission at the Cardinal boys and girls hockey doubleheader versus Marshall last Thursday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



RACE TO THE PUCK - Cardinals #13 Reilly Hoefker and Marshall's Nicholas Fosvick goal for a loose puck. The Tigers nipped the Cardinals 2-0 last Thursday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



JOUSTING - #19 Cardinals Courtney Williams and Marshall's Sydney Mauch cross sticks vying for the puck. The Tigers edged the Cards 1-0 last Thursday night at the Martin County Arena. *Courtesy Greg Abel Photography*

Merry Christmas

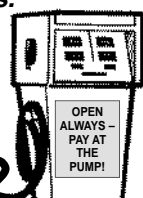
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Red Bull Wrestling Results

Red Bull varsity wrestlers had an awesome tournament at Redwood River Riot held in Redwood Valley.


Thirty-one teams and over 500 wrestlers participated according to head coach Adam Williamson. "Our goals coming in were to be a top 10 team and have at least a handful of

placers. Well, we smashed both goals with an 8th place finish with 8 placers!"


Jaxson Rohman-2nd, Jordan Wolter-4th, Zach Ringnell-8th, Chris Ettse-vold-6th, Payton Anderson-7th, Mario Maldonado-4th, Collin Steuber-7th and Mark Washa-8th.



The teachers and administrative assistants in the Fairmont Area Schools conducted a food drive during American Education Week in November. Pictured are Bob Millette, Education Minnesota (left) and Major Dale Hixenbaugh of the Fairmont Salvation Army with the food items that were collected.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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oto LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Elf Shop combines the best of the gift-giving season which makes it a great project to work on! Each year, community members donate new or gently used items to the shop. The shop then sets up in the Budd Room at the Fairmont Elementary

lot to accomplish in four days. It was fun to meet Sue DeWar, Darcia Schmidt, Joan Bartingale, and Taylor Egeland, as well as spend some time during this fun shared experience with Char Kahler, Joy Okerman, Laura Dunker, Roni



School for a one-day, free shopping excursion for students in grades kindergarten through second as they carefully select gifts for members of their family.

Some volunteers help each student select appropriate gifts, others help lovingly and creatively wrap the gifts, while still others help the students prepare the to/from gift tags before sending the shoppers on their way with their gifts. So many people have been involved in this program, and it's a joy to be a part of it! Thank you to the Fairmont cheerleaders and members of the Youth Coalition (YOCO) who helped wrap and shop. Thank you to the community for donating so many great items.

And a big thank you to the grown-up elves who helped set up the shop, spent hours wrapping or reorganizing, or helped tear down the shop - a

Dauer, Melanie Schaal, Cheryl Loughmiller, and Stephanie Johnson.

And a special thank you to the staff at the school, especially the janitors, who do a lot behind the scenes to make sure the Elf Shop happens.

Merry Christmas!
Liz Wheeler

Neither of our organizations have taken an official position on the DNR proposal to stock muskies in the Fairmont Chain of Lakes, The City Council did not seek input from our organizations regarding the supportive data involved in the DNR's pursuit of the proposal. And, because the DNR, not the city, has jurisdiction over the management of all public waters in Minnesota, we feel that the council proposal to not support

the DNR's intent was not representative of what is best for our public resource. This item did not appear on the Council agenda, but was brought forward in the "11th hour" of the Council meeting by two members. The item was pushed through without public comment.

The DNR is not required by law to hold public hearings regarding the stocking of muskies, but they did. The meeting held in Fairmont hosted approximately 100 people, of which 10 were DNR officials, providing research data standing for questions following the meeting. There were only three members of the City Council that attended that meeting. Given the fact that the input received by the DNR from that small sampling was split for and against the proposal, we do not believe the City Council had enough public input to take a position contrary to the DNR muskie stocking proposal.

Further, we find the Council action lacking, in the fact that they did not have an alternative management plan to submit that would support all of the issues our lakes face, e.g. the management of the rough fish population. The DNR provided stark statistics that our Chain contains on the average, 900 POUNDS OF ROUGH FISH PER ACRE.

Fairmont Lakes Foundation, Inc. and the Mar-

tin County Conservation Club support a similar desire to reduce and manage the rough fish population in our lakes. With advice from the DNR, Fairmont Lakes Foundation, Inc. bought and stocked approximately 3,000 Bluegills in our lakes in 2014, as part of a long range "carp abatement plan." The desired effect would be that a healthy population of Bluegills would eat enormous amounts of carp eggs. On the top end of the food chain, our plan was to introduce a predator. This is needed, as according to DNR surveys and statistics we see that the northern population has diminished to the point that it is ineffective in the role as a predator.

The DNR is charged with the responsibility of protecting ecosystems, not harming them. If the City Council wishes to take a formal position on the management of our ecosystem, maybe they can start by listening to voices expressing concern over a "lakes ordinance" which has not been updated since 1979. We believe they would find more public support for this issue than they would for their ill founded position rejecting the DNR proposal of stocking muskies in our lakes.

Michael J. Katzenmeyer
Bruce Moore

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: J equals P

SQKOUIUQC BQALZG RV K

YAQHJ QB JZQJOZ PXQ XKG

RZSQLZ PZKAV QB OZKACUCY:

RQAZG QB ZGHSKIUQC.

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Season's Greetings

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Wayne Wannarka

Naturally

By Al Batt

The light snow that had fallen on the deck had been crosshatched with the footprints of song-birds.

A bit of the macabre presented itself. Crows fed



on a deer head in the middle of a gravel road. The head was likely dragged there by a dog or coyote.

I took part in the Christmas Bird Count in Mankato. At Calvary Cemetery, two friends and I encountered several hundred cedar waxwings feeding on the abundant berries of the cedar trees. The birds are aptly named.

Each CBC brings something so magnificent that

words fail to do it justice. The Calvary Cemetery cedar waxwings were amazing.

Q-and-A

“How do squirrels put their leaf nests together so that they don’t fall apart?” Once leaves have fallen, squirrel nests or dreys are easy to see, often in an oak providing acorns or near a grapevine offering support. Location is important and a leafy nest can be built near a tree trunk, between limbs, in the crotch of a tree or on a strong limb at least 20 feet above ground.

Built in summer or early fall, the drey begins as a collection of small, chewed-off branches bearing green leaves that are woven together. Even though they have browned by winter, the leaves continue to cling tightly to their branches because they were harvested before the tree began dropping

its leaves. The branches are loosely woven into a hollow sphere, the inner surface of which is lined with a variety of materials, including grass, leaves, moss, pine needles and shredded bark. The outer



Fox squirrel, red squirrel and two forms of gray squirrels. Photo by Al Batt

layer of leaves sheds rain and provides protection from wind while the lining insulates against cold. The entrance hole faces the tree trunk.

Dreys that appear flat or incomplete are either the remains of summer sleeping platforms or the

efforts of young squirrels. Squirrels usually build a couple of dreys, allowing an option should one nest be disturbed by a predator or lice and fleas. Hollow trees are the preferred nest sites for raising young.

“You mentioned on your radio show that women’s hats were once made of not only feathers, but of birds. How prevalent was that?” During two walks on Manhattan’s streets in 1886, Frank Chapman, the American Museum of Natural History’s ornithol-

ogist, identified 40 native species of birds including sparrows, warblers and woodpeckers that had been killed, stuffed, and attached to over 500 of the 700 women’s hats he saw.

“Could I have seen an Oregon junco in Minnesota?” It’s possible. Among the 15 described races of the dark-eyed junco, six forms are easily recognizable and five were considered separate species until the 1980s. There are two widespread forms of the dark-eyed Junco--the slate-colored junco of the eastern United States and most of Canada, which is gray above and the Oregon junco, found across much of the western U.S., which has a dark hood, brown back and rufous flanks.

The two interbreed, so identification can be tricky because of the hybrids.

“What are the most common names for a lake in Minnesota?” According to the DNR, the

top 10 in descending order are: Mud, Long, Rice, Bass, Round, Horseshoe, Twin, Island, Johnson and Spring.

“Do cardinals migrate?” Cardinals don’t migrate and their brilliant plumage makes fine winter company for a birder. They are most often seen at feeders at dawn and dusk.

Thanks for stopping by

“If at first you don’t succeed, failure may be your style.”--Quentin Crisp

“Life does not have to be perfect to be wonderful.”--Annette

“One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day. Don’t clean it up too quickly.”--Andy Rooney

DO GOOD.
© Al Batt 2015

Holiday Season Food and Wine Pairing Tips

(StatePoint) In chilly weather, the kitchen heats up for the holiday season. How can you top last year’s decadent holiday feasts? The trick is to be thoughtful when pairing wines with food.

Welcoming Wines

Medium-bodied crisp white wines will complement your hors d’oeuvres course.

A tasty California Chardonnay is a classic choice and easily found at your neighborhood store. With notes of fresh pear and pineapple, it makes a fantastic



pairing for mild cheeses and rich seafood appetizers, such as crab or salmon.

A great example is St. Francis Sonoma County Chardonnay 2013. It is made from grapes picked in the cool of night to create a wine with delicate aromas, crisp acidity, and a rich, lingering finish.

For your main course, try out a Zinfandel, a

deeply aromatic red wine with flavors of juicy berries and a touch of spice. It is perfect to pair with flavorful dishes, savory cheeses, and, of course, roast turkey. Consider picking up a bottle of St. Francis Sonoma County “Old Vines” Zinfandel 2012, which features notes of wild blackberries and clove along with a long, smooth finish.

“Old Vines’ Zinfandel is one of my family’s seasonal traditions.

From stuffing to pumpkin pie, it complements every flavor: spicy, savory, sweet and bold,” says Christopher W. Silva, president & CEO, St. Francis Winery & Vineyards.

Hearty Food

If you’re looking to outdo yourself, try a twist on the classic potato dish with a recipe for Smoked Twice Baked Potatoes from Chef Bryan Jones of

St. Francis Winery.

Ingredients:

- 3 lg. German Butterball Potatoes
- 1 Tbsp. kosher salt, plus more for seasoning
- 1 Tbsp. canola oil
- 2 cups applewood smoking chips soaked in water for 1/2 hour
- 3 Tbsp. heavy cream
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 3 Tbsp. crème fraiche
- 1/4 cup aged white cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2 Tbsp. parmesan, finely grated
- Bunch of chives, finely chopped
- 1 tsp fresh marjoram, finely chopped
- Salt and white pepper to taste

Preparation:

- Coat whole potatoes with oil along with 1 Tbsp. of salt. Place wood chips in the smoking chamber of grill, light only the burner needed for smoking and place potatoes on rack off to the side of the direct heat. Smoke for 30 minutes.
- Remove potatoes from grill. Place in a 9 X 11

inch oven-safe pan with 1/4 inch water on bottom. Cover with aluminum foil and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, or until a paring knife pierces easily. Let cool.

• Cut potatoes in half, scoop out most of inner potato, leaving about a half inch of potato all around for the shell.

• Use potato ricer to “rice” scooped out potatoes into bowl.

• Heat cream and butter together and add to potatoes.

• Mix, then stir in crème fraiche, cheeses, chives and marjoram. Season with salt and white pepper to taste.

• Place potato mixture in pastry bag. Pipe mixture back into potatoes and mound just over the level of the potato.

• Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes until hot.

• Pair with Sonoma County “Old Vines” Zinfandel

This holiday season, celebrate with great wines and mouth-watering dishes.

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E E L J P C H F O Y Y A E U D

R C M M A A Y W B A E I T S N

S V U E S R E Y A L K C I R B

T S T Q R P N L L P C I R O K

I H F E C I L O P A O S W T E

C B Z Y W V F U S B J U R C Q

S R E Y A L P L F N P M N A M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Actors	Laborers	NBA players	Teachers
Bricklayers	Miners	NFL players	Umpires
Firemen	MLB players	Nurses	Writers
Jockeys	Musicians	Police	

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Fox Lake Conservation League 2015 Print

“Restoring Nature” This print is a view from North Shore Drive looking out over 4 Corners WMA just north of Sherburn. You can view the print at Welcome Legion and Amborn Lumber.

Purchase before 10am on Monday, December 21 for Christmas delivery. Contact Doug 507-236-1700; Nate, 507-236-2075; or Tim 507 236 8404.

FOX LAKE
CONSERVATION LEAGUE

Smarter Women

Guest Columnist

Julie Leichtnam and Lynne Burgraff

Wealth Advisors, Raymond James Financial Services Inc. at Sweet Financial Services and Co-Founders of SmarterWomen

Common Scams to be Aware of and How to Protect Yourself

Nine commons scams, often targeted at elderly individuals that you should be aware of.

As people age, they may experience insecurities with the unfamiliar or simply become overwhelmed, and that may make them anxious. It also makes them more susceptible to the kind of people who make a living preying on the elderly - especially widows and widowers, who no longer have a partner with whom to discuss challenges and opportunities and who may be particularly inclined to trust strangers who offer help or friendship. In order to protect those we love as well as ourselves, it's important to be aware of the most common scams to which older Americans fall victim.

1. Lottery scam - You get an unsolicited phone call or email that says you've won a large prize. All you need to do is send money to pay for shipping, taxes or some ancillary fee.

2. Grandchild needs money scam - Your grandchild calls to confess her troubles. Or so you think. It's not at all uncommon for someone posing as your grandchild to call and, preying on your compassion, claim to be in a crisis situation and need money urgently. She may also beg you not to call her parents (which could give the scam away).

3. Charity scam - You donate to one charity and end up being on every charity list. That's because they sell your name, phone number and email to other nonprofit and commercial organizations. These could include companies with similar names to charities you support - but they exist solely to scam donations.

4. Computer scam - Someone calls pretending

to be from a major company, such as Microsoft, and says he can see that your computer has a virus. He offers to help you get rid of it by asking you to log into a website that lets him control your computer - then steal your ID information.

5. Time-share scam - If you own a time-share you may get a call from someone who says she is authorized to sell it for you, for a fee. After you pay, you never hear from her again.

6. Homeowner scams - When a man comes to your door and offers to clean your gutters or trim your trees, it may sound like a good idea. Until he asks for prepayment and never completes the job. Hire only people you know well or who are referred to you by trusted sources.

7. Medical scam - You get an unsolicited call about a discounted price for some kind of medical equipment (i.e., heart monitor, wheelchair or bathtub bench). He asks for a deposit and your personal information or Medicaid number to send the equipment, which never arrives.

8. Foreclosure scam - You're approached by a "professional" who claims your home is under threat of foreclosure and offers to pay off your mortgage or taxes if you sign over the deed to the property. With your deed, he can then refinance the mortgage for the full value of your home and take the money. Keep in mind, even if you sign over a deed to someone, you are still liable for your mortgage obligations.

9. Caregiver scam - A caregiver who gains access to your accounts may conduct identity fraud, theft or overcharge you. It's important to recognize that these scams are common and widespread. But you're not alone in trying to decide what to do.

Rely on trusted family and friends to work through financial decisions, as well as your financial advisor. He or she can discuss any challenges or opportunities you may encounter and provide sound advice.

Seven Ways to Protect Yourself

- Never pay for anything you have no memory of ordering, and avoid giving out personal information to unknown third parties.

- Work with financial institutions that have fraud protections in place to protect your credit card and banking information.

- It's not a good idea to click links in the body of an email, especially if they purport to come from your bank or credit-card company. Instead, navigate to the bank's official page, log in and address the issue that way, if there really is one.

- The same holds true for phone numbers. Find the official phone number first, then call to take care of any bank business.

- Never let a stranger in your house; ask him to leave his business card and say your spouse, son or lawyer will get in touch.

- Be wary of family or caregivers with alcohol or drug problems.

- If you donate or pay by check, recognize that you're giving out your home address and other key data - limit this information to the bare minimum.

The information has been obtained from sources considered to be reliable, but we do not guarantee that the foregoing material is accurate or complete. Any opinions are those of Julie Leichtnam and Lynne Burgraff and not necessarily those of Raymond James.

Super Crossword

TA-DA!

ACROSS

1 Laughing sound
5 Friends, in French
9 Black Sea port
15 Tick away
19 Univ. VIP
20 Not yet finalized, in law
21 Dorn-mate, e.g.
22 Yam, for one
23 Pulling a plug while at work?
26 Airport for Air France
27 "Old MacDonald" sequence
28 Part of NYC
29 Avoid booze
31 Rough amt.
32 Cat covering
34 Water balloon battles?
38 — boredom (endure extreme tedium)
40 Frazier's longtime foe
42 Waikiki neckwear
43 "That's neither here — there"
44 Unaffected by killjoys?

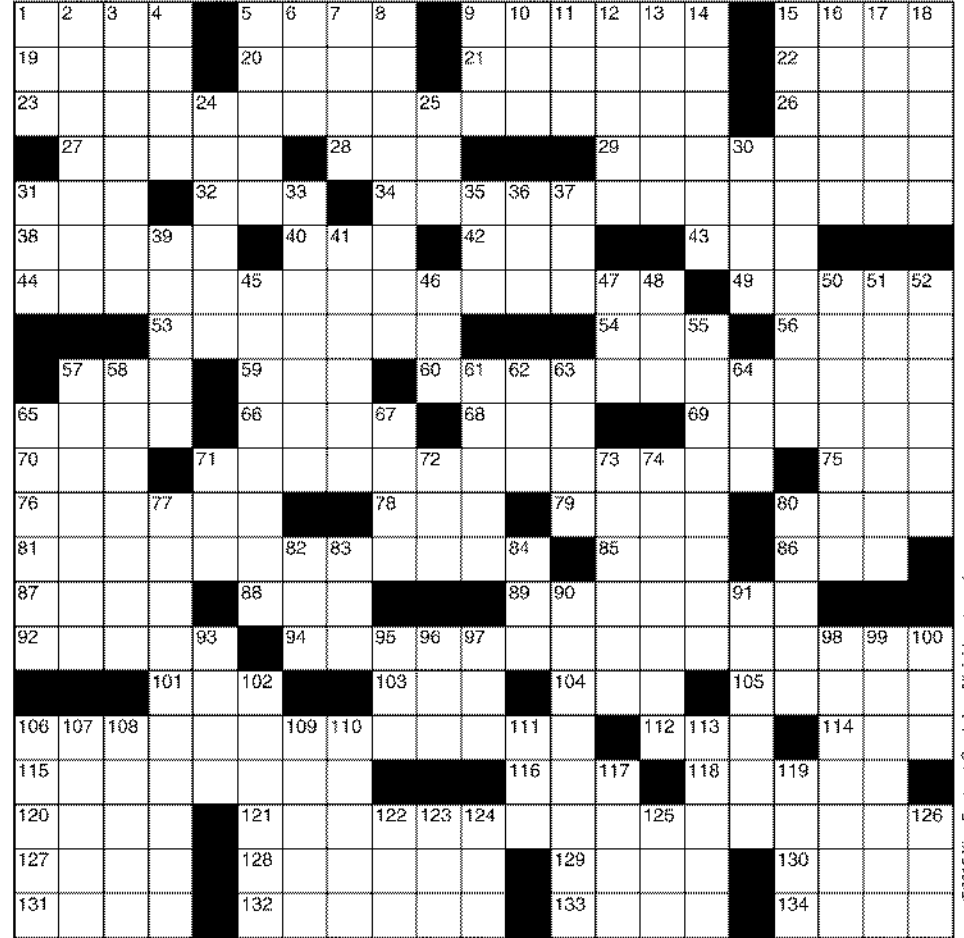
49 Strips (off)
53 Vehicles like Santa's
54 Rowing tool
56 Jai — (fronton sport)
57 Put in words
59 Avenues: Abbr.
60 Ancient valley where female spouses lived?
65 Brick haulers
66 Part of a full house
68 "If — told you once ..."
69 Symphony writer
70 Bear, in León
71 Decide against divorce?
75 Suffix with hero
76 Entice
78 Letter after sigma
79 Legitimate
80 Electrolysis atoms
81 Basketballer Rodman is a suitor?
85 Mr., in India
86 Houston-to-Chicago dir.

87 TV's "How — Your Mother"
88 Water, in Paris
89 Heavy bases under statues
92 Firma or cotta lead-in
94 Finish doing the dishes prior to going shopping?
101 Hand-talking syst.
103 Scot's cap
104 Above, to bards
105 Muscat citizen
106 Circus beast after tipping?
112 Maple syrup source
114 Fashionable
115 Singer of the 1969 #1 hit "Dizzy"
116 Conger, e.g.
118 Utter impulsively
120 "—, James!"
121 Twenty cents in change?
127 Straight — arrow
128 Barcelona's country, to its natives
129 Smell — (be leery)

130 Dialogue bit
131 Pad for a bird
132 Gold-medal gymnast Mary Lou
133 Light hits
134 Playwright William
DOWN
1 "Veep" aier
2 More than forgetfulness
3 Huge seller
4 Naggging pain
5 Pear type
6 "O Sole —"
7 13-digit publishing ID
8 Entrée go-with
9 "... boy — girl?"
10 "— amuse you?"
11 Just about forever
12 Singer Kate
13 Vigorous strength
14 Rhodes' sea
15 Scans for errors
16 Crucial artery
17 Sunny?
18 Elegance
24 Paris' — Tower
25 He defeated Mondale to become pres.

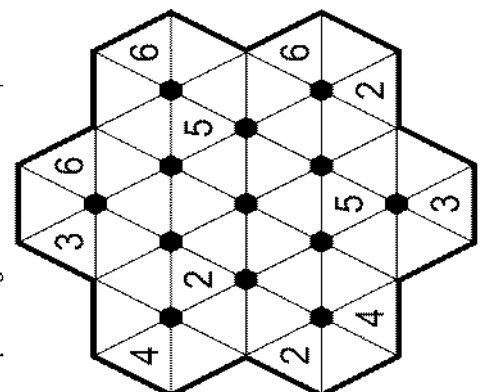
30 Like a rain forest's climate: Abbr.
31 Bymes who was "Kookie" New Jersey river
33 Letters after kays
36 Bottom-line
37 American spy org.
39 Windows or Linux, briefly
41 Goes by foot
45 Answer
46 Same: Prefix
47 "— did not!"
48 Final Hebrew letter
50 Great joy
51 Jack of fitness
52 Kitchen strainers
55 Kingly state
57 "I gooted ... big whoopi!"
58 Prettifier
61 Mil. rank
62 Movie format
63 Dress up in
64 Prefix with mount
65 "Not so fast!"
67 Q followers
71 Half of M/V
72 Laughing sound
73 Hunger for
74 Ones getting wages

77 Snaring
80 As a recap
82 He's no gentleman
83 — Lady
84 Beach lotion abbr.
90 Observed
91 Hullabaloo
93 Pale-looking
95 Since Jan. 1
96 Taproom
97 Ostrich's kin
98 Persian Gulf country
99 Linking up
100 Pound sound
102 Pantry
106 Joel Coen's brother
107 Unfettered
108 Thompson and Watson
109 Cacophony
110 Entice
111 Beatty of film
113 Aids in crime
117 Old Italian money
119 Aptly named citrus fruit
122 Have a bite
123 "That's —" ("Ixnay")
124 East Indian flatbread
125 Hiking aid
126 By birth



SNOWFLAKES
by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦♦
♦ Easy ♦ Medium ♦ Difficult

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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 24 - 30
THURSDAY: Roast Turkey, dressing, gravy, winter mix veggie.
FRIDAY: CLOSED.
MONDAY: Bean Soup, cornbread, twinkie dessert.
TUESDAY: Pot Roast, red skin potatoes, gravy, baby carrots, cake.
WEDNESDAY: Chicken a la King, beet pickle, lettuce salad, pie.

Fairmont Eagles

1228 Lake Ave - 238-2555
Wed, Dec. 23 - 7 pm: Pool League - Public - Bar Open
Thur, Dec. 24 - CLOSED
Fri, Dec. 25 - CLOSED
Mon, Dec. 28 - 7 pm: Bingo
Tue, Dec. 29 - 7 pm: Dart League - Public - Bar Open
New Year's Eve Prime Rib Supper. Call for reservations!
Fridays: Full Menu Available
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Taco Salad \$5
Wednesday -
Soup & Sandwich:
Bowl of Soup and Sandwich \$8
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Thursday:
Fish Sandwich. \$5.50
Fish Sandwich Basket. \$7
Friday:
Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich \$6.50
Philly Steak Basket .. \$8

UGLY sweater PARTY

Saturday, Dec. 26
8:00 pm - Close
FREE jukebox music Starting at 8:00 pm!
Two-for-One Drinks Starting at 9:00 pm.
1st & 2nd Prizes for Ugliest!
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507-235-9862

Fairmont VFW
1500 S. ALBION AVE.
507-235-9308

Open Christmas Eve: 11-5
Closed on Christmas Day
No Thurs. Burger Nite!
Open Reg. Hours New Year's Eve & Burger Nite!
Open New Year's Day: 11-5
Saturday, 5:30-Gone All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti
served with garlic toast \$7.99

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Pizza Ranch

Fairmont VFW
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507-235-9308

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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Luccio Moscato d'Asti, Rosso and Pink Sparkling Wines \$8.49 750ml
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Barefoot Bubbly All 6 Varieties \$8.49 750ml
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WARRANTY DEEDS

Charles D. Fritzinger, Atty.-in-fact, Bradley Dean Schouten, Natalie Suzanne Schouten to Talon Paul Maron Nelson, W.135' exc. N.55', Lot 24, Block 1, Southside Addn., Sherburn

Kevan Brekke, Rosemary Brekke, Broderick R. Cook, Palmer Welcome, Susan Welcome to Debra A. Holz, Lots 3 and 4, Block 4, Original Plat Welcome

Marcie J. Lee, Michael J. Lee to Justin Fenlon, Kelsey Steuber Fenlon, Kelsey Steuber Fenlon, Lot 18, Block 11, Subd. B 8, 11, 13, T&J 3rd Addn.

Cassandra Kay Cegelske to Michael James Cegelske, Pt. W½SE¼, 28-102-29

Charlene L. Norris, Lyle E. Norris to James W. Marushin, Megan D. Marushin, Lot 8, Block 1, Highland Addn.

Kathy Perowiak, Atty.-in-fact, Louis L. Petrowiak, Lucille B. Petrowiak, Lot 22, Block 2, Holdens Addn.

Joan R. Ziemann, Neal L. Ziemann to Ziemann Family Real Estate Trust, Joan R. Ziemann, Trustee, Neal L. Ziemann, Trustee, Und. 1/2 Int., SE¼, 15-103-30

John Richard Larson, Mary Alice Larson to Kelsey E. Lombard, Lots 10, 11, 12, Lot 13, Exc. E.30', Block 2, Campbells 3rd Addn., Welcome

Cheryl A. Dietz, Michael W. Dietz to Stacy L. Mcaley, Lot 2, Block 1, Coult & Dixons Subd.

Conesco Finance Home Loan Grantor Trust 2002-C, US Bank Trustee to ROI US Holdings, LLC, Lot 1, Block 16, Original Plat Tenhassen-Ceylon

Marcia K. Jentz, Mark R. Jentz to Ashley DeJong, Dustin Wiederhoeft, Lot 7, Block 1, Southwood Addn.

Todd Thap Phanchan to David R. Ramnarain, Pamela S. Ramnarain, Block 1, Exc. S.127'W179', Cardwells 2nd Addn., Ceylon, Lots 2, 3, 5, 4, 7, 6, 9, 8, 11, 10, 12, Block 16, Original Plat Tenhassen-Ceylon

Margaret Gochanour, Todd Gochanour to Danny Klous, Lots 5, 6, 7, Exc. N.305', Block 2, Jahns 3rd Addn.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to Andrea L. Malmanger, Brady J. Malmanger, Lot 8, Block 1, Martin Park 2nd Addn.

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Ryan W. Unke, Sarah J. Unke to Ryan W. Unke, Sarah J. Unke, Lot 1, Block 2, Eastside First Addn.

Verna L. Lunz to Robert J. Lunz, Und. 1/2 Int. N.24' SE¼NW¼, Und. 1/2 Int. Pt. NE¼NW¼, 24-102-30

Carroll Behne to Carroll L. Behne, Trustee, Carroll D.

Behne Revocable Trust, N½ Lot 9, Block 3, Southside Addn., Sherburn

Alice Shriver, Atty.-in-fact, Alice G. Shriver, Gentius L. Shriver to Alice G. Shriver, Lot 4, W½ Lot 5, Krause Subd., Truman

D-DEEDS

Diane K. Tietje, Co-Per. Rep., Philip R. Tietje, Co-Per. Rep., Roland W. Tietje Estate to Deann Eversman, Debra Eversman, Jeffrey Eversman, Jon Eversman, Und. 1/2 Int. Pt. NE¼, Und. 1/2 Int. Pt. E½NW¼, 15-101-31

Diane K. Tietje, Co-Per. Rep., Philip R. Tietje, Co-Per. Rep., Roland W. Tietje Estate to Jeffrey A. Laue, Julie A. Laue, Julie M. Laue, Russell M. Laue, Und. 1/2 Int., Pt. NE¼, Und. 1/2 Int. Pt. E½NW¼, 15-101-31

TRUSTEE DEEDS

Marvel M. Snyder, Marvel M. Snyder Revocable Living Trust to Marvel M. Snyder Irrevocable Trust, Kevin D. Whitaker, Trustee, E½NE¼, E½SE¼, 26-103-29; NW¼, 19-103-29

25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 1990

On the Wall was holding its 8th annual Needlework contest, taking entries in these categories: Cross Stitch, Hardanger, Needlepoint, Crewel, Long Stitch and All Others.

Class Ad of the Week: "JOHN LIVERMORE, 90 years old. The judge for his court trial required Livermore's mind to be tested. The doctor found his mind 25 years younger than 90 years - the same age as a 65 year old. Livermore's fee in Phoenix will be \$100, but in Fairmont only \$10 and free if you take him out for coffee any afternoon. Subjects: Farming, wrecking building and remodeling them, county fairs, cafes and legislature. Gordon Stahn has shown South Dakota how to raise big crops in South Dakota."

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 1965

Gloria Mahar, wife of KSUM's sports director Dick Mahar, was to appear on the Ted Mack Amateur Hour, a coast-to-coast television show that was popular at the time. Mrs. Mahar had become well known in this area as a singer and songwriter, and was scheduled to sing one of her own compositions on the program originating in Chicago.

A 4-piece bedroom set with "all the big features" was being offered for \$129.95 at Gambles Store.

Fairmont merchants were in the midst of their after-Christmas stock-reduction and clearance sales. New Year's Eve parties were planned in the local bistros with no cover charge and no minimum charge.

NOTICE To The Voters of PLEASANT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP

Filings will open for a two week period on Tuesday, December 29, 2015, 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 12, 2016 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
Townboard**

Gregory B. Murphy, Clerk
882 250th Ave
Fairmont, MN 56031
(507) 235-3644

FILING NOTICE RUTLAND TOWNSHIP

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Clerk from December 29, 2015 to January 12, 2016 for the following:

Supervisor - 3 Years
Clerk-Treasurer - 2 Years
Filing fee \$2.00.

Filing will close on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Published by order of
RUTLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
Roxane Wedel, Clerk



Build a Bird Sanctuary

Five ideas to get you started:

1. Build a brush pile.
2. Make a ground feeding area near some bushes.
3. Put up a large central feeder on a four-by-four post.
4. Have at least 2 birdbaths filled with clean water daily.
5. Don't use pesticides.

E-mail: birdingbits@flr.com
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NOTICE To The Voters Of FAIRMONT TOWNSHIP

Filing for the following offices to be elected at the 2016 Annual Election will open Tuesday December 29, 2015.
Supervisor - 3 Year Term
Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the clerk at:

834 225th Avenue
Fairmont, MN 56031

Filing will close on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Published by Order of The
**FAIRMONT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
Heather Trembley, Clerk

DEATH notices

December 7 - Rodney W. Studer, 63, Clive, Iowa (formerly of Sherburn). Kramer Funeral Home
December 9 - Francis "Frank" B. Koskovich, 90, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
December 16 - Rosemary P. Borchardt, 89, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
December 16 - Mae E. Larson, 100, Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home
December 16 - Virginia M. Stahn, 83, Goodyear, Arizona (formerly of Fairmont). Lakeview Funeral Home
December 17 - Wayne L. Weber, 88, Sherburn. Kramer Funeral Home
December 19 - Hermina I. Leimer, 98, Truman (formerly of Lewisville). Zaharia Family Funeral and Cremation Service

In Memoriam One Year Ago This Week

December 14 - George H. Saxton, 73, Fairmont
December 16 - Jeanne F. Luedtke, 96, Fairmont
December 17 - Diane J. Larson, 79, Fairmont

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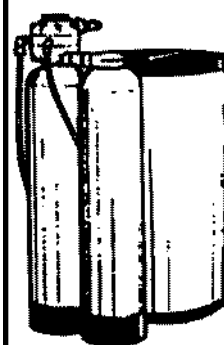
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Allen Kahler, 764-3591 • Ryan Kahler, 764-4440
Kevin Kahler, 235-5014 • Dan Pike, 847-3468 • Doug Wedel, 236-4255
Dar Hall, 327-0535 • Dustyn & Leah Hartung, 236-7629
Larry Bremer, 236-4175

PhotoPress

Classifieds

1 Card of Thanks

ZIEMANN - We and our families would like to thank all of the neighbors, friends and acquaintances who attended the memorial or funeral of Weldon Ziemann. Your very presence and outpouring of love and concern was very heartfelt. We would like to thank you for the visits, cards, food and all the ways you showed your support for us. Your acts of kindness are greatly appreciated. We hope and pray that as you read these words, you can in some way carry on the character traits that made Weldon such a well-loved man. May God bless you all. LaVonne, Pamela, Bruce Ziemann and Jacci (Ziemann) Schumaker. 33-1tcc-1

WALTERMAN - A special thank you to our family and friends for the cards and gifts we received for our 60th wedding anniversary. Your thoughts and wishes were greatly appreciated. Marlyn and Beverly Walterman. 33-1tp-1

FISHER - A big thank you to my family for the dinner party for my 90th birthday. Also to my relatives and friends for the cards, flowers, gifts and phone calls. It was such a special day. Thanks to all. Luella Fisher. 33-1tp-1

3 Notices

QUITTING - HELMETS and snowmobile clothing sale! Another 10% off our already low, low prices on helmets and jackets, until gone. Great Christmas gifts. Darryl's Motor Sports, Ormsby. 507-736-4131. 29-5tc-3

7 Help Wanted

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10 Apartments For Rent

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23 For Sale

(1) 740CS Proform Treadmill, (1) 590XP Proform Treadmill. Both in excellent condition and with manuals. Call 507-848-3153. 33-3tp-23

TOOLS AND WORKSHOP equipment. Household basement SHOP for sale: drill press, band saw, belt-disc sander, power tools, saws, drills, Dremel saw, Air Brush Compressor with paint guns, workbench, rolling carts and hardware cabinets. Call Gary, 507-238-2704. 32-3tp-23

ANTIQUE ROLL TOP DESK, 1890's antique shotgun, misc tools, furniture, Tonka and Ertl toys. Call 507-238-4157. 32-3tp-23

HARDWOOD FIREWOOD for sale. Split, dry, stored inside. Will deliver or you haul. Camping, home heating. John Mike Kimmet. 507-238-1724. 18-15tp-23

24 Household Items

REFURBISHED APPLIANCES for sale. Dan's Appliance Sleepsource and TV. 1255 Hwy 15 South, Fairmont. 507-238-2333. 25-tfn-24

31 Automobiles For Sale

1997 CHRYSLER LHS. 186,000 miles. Runs well. \$700. 507-848-4326 32-3tcc-31

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Ag Review for 2015... Part 2

Guest Columnist

Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank

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

This is the second of a two-part article highlighting what happened agriculturally in 2015. Last week's article provided a review of 2015 crop production and weather conditions. This week we will focus on some highlights regarding the avian flu virus outbreak, livestock production, input costs, and grain prices for 2015.....

Avian Flu Virus Outbreak --- Most likely, one of the top agriculture stories for the year in the Upper Midwest will be the sudden and deadly outbreak of the H5N2 virus, or avian flu virus ("bird flu") in the Spring of 2015. There were a total of 219 cases of avian flu in 15 States reported in the U.S. from late December, 2014 until mid-June, 2015, resulting in a loss of over 48 million birds nationwide. The States of Minnesota and Iowa were hit particularly hard by the avian flu outbreak, accounting for

approximately 80 percent of the total reported cases, and 85 percent of the total birds lost.

Minnesota had a total of 101 cases of the avian flu virus from early March until early-June in 2015, resulting in the loss of nearly nine million birds, with the turkey industry being hit very hard. Minnesota is the largest turkey producing State in the nation. Central Minnesota was hit particularly hard, with 73 cases of avian flu in the counties of Kandiyohi, Stearns, Meeker, Swift, and Renville. The outbreak also affected the supply of turkeys at some locations, as well as resulting in work slowdowns at some processing plants. Fortunately, there have been no new cases of the H5N2 virus reported in Minnesota since June 5th, 2015, and most turkey production facilities are back operating at capacity by year-end.

In Iowa, it was the egg laying industry that was devastated by the avian

flu outbreak. There were 75 cases reported in Iowa from mid-April until mid-June, resulting in the loss

2015 started the year with some profitability in the cattle feeding industry, but ended the year with very negative profit margins.

of 31.7 million birds, primarily laying hens. This affected processing plants and egg supplies, resulting in localized increases in retail egg prices. The procedures to return the egg laying industry back to full production is a much longer process than in the turkey industry. The good news is that the Iowa egg laying flocks are re-populating, and there have been no new cases of the avian flu virus in Iowa since June 17th, 2015.

The severe outbreak of the avian flu virus resulted in all live poultry exhibitions at County Fairs and the State Fairs in Minnesota and Iowa being cancelled in 2015. State Fairs and some County Fairs held very creative poultry events, without live birds, as an alternative to the normal 4-H poultry shows. Minnesota lifted the ban on live Poultry exhibitions late in 2015. Most egg laying operations, turkey facilities, and other poultry producers have significantly increased on-farm biosecurity measures to help prevent future avian flu outbreaks. As we head into 2016, the poultry industries of Minnesota and Iowa will again be on

the watch for another potential occurrence of the H5N2 virus.

Other Livestock Production --- A continual pattern of low profit margins in recent months is significantly impacting hog, beef, and dairy producers as we end 2015. Farrow-to-finish hog producers continued to see modest profit margins through the first three quarters of 2015; however, profit margins declined later in the year. Wean-to-finish profit margins were negative throughout most of 2015; however, low feed costs have helped keep production costs fairly low. According to Iowa State University, the current total cost to take a hog from weaning to market weight is about \$68.00 per cwt. of lean carcass weight, which compares to a current market hog price of less than \$60.00 per hundredweight (cwt.), or less than \$45.00 per cwt. on a live weight basis. By comparison lean hog prices were in a range of \$70.00-\$85.00 per cwt. throughout much of 2014.

2015 started the year with some profitability in the cattle feeding industry, but ended the year with very negative profit margins. Total production costs for finishing cattle remained relatively high throughout the year, due to high feeder calf costs earlier in the year, which has resulted in negative cattle feedlot margins of as much as \$300 to \$500 per head by year-end. Fed cattle market prices have dropped to near \$120 per cwt. by the end of the year, compared to \$160 per cwt. in April and May, 2015. Similarly, profit margins for beef cow/calf producers have also gotten much tighter during 2015, with the current price for 500-600 pound calves below \$150 per cwt. at most locations, compared to over \$250 per cwt. earlier in the year. Dairy producers have also experienced negative

profit margins throughout much of 2015, with the current average milk price near \$15.00 per cwt. at many locations. The breakeven level for most dairy producers is probably above \$18.00 per cwt. of milk produced.

Input Costs --- Crop input costs in 2015 were slightly lower than 2014 levels in most instances, with fairly steady seed and chemical costs, and slightly lower fertilizer and fuel costs. Crop input costs are expected to remain fairly steady again for the 2016 crop year. Corn drying costs in 2015 were quite low in the Upper Midwest, due to the favorable growing season and the ideal Fall harvest weather. Land rental rates in most areas of the Upper Midwest were steady to slightly lower in 2015; however, many average land rental rates were higher than breakeven levels for crop producers in 2015. Feed costs for livestock producers moderated significantly in the second half 2014, and dropped even lower during 2015. Agriculture interest rates, both for operating loans and lon-

ger term loans, remained quite low in 2015; however, there may be slight adjustment upward in 2016, now that the Federal Reserve has made a modest increase to the prime interest rate, which is used to set local interest rates.

Grain Prices --- Local cash grain prices in Southern Minnesota started 2015 at about \$3.70-\$3.80 per bushel for corn, and from \$9.50-10.00 per bushel for soybeans. Local cash prices dropped to near \$3.30 per bushel for corn, and below \$9.00 per bushel for soybeans, by August of this past year. Regional cash grain prices are near \$3.40-\$3.50 per bushel for corn, and \$8.00-\$8.30 per bushel for soybeans, as we end 2015. New crop prices for the Fall of 2016 at local grain markets are very close to the current cash prices for both corn and soybeans. Breakeven grain prices in Southern Minnesota for the 2016 crop year, based on average crop yields, input costs, and land expense are expected to be near \$4.00 per bushel for corn and over \$9.50 per bushel for soybeans.

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by Linda Thistle

		8		1	7	2		
4			3				5	
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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PhotoPress
Only good news



The Martin County Area Foundation held its annual grant awards ceremony at the 2015 Martin County Fair. MCAF Board member Jean Burkhardt (right) presents a check to Sherri Ettesvold, Coordinator for Granada Huntley East Chain Community Education.

More red bag photos: *below*: At the Salvation Army, volunteers sort through the food that was collected. *bottom*: Sherman Kumba unloads his car with the help of Wil Hillmer.



Financial Focus

Provided by:

Paul Schellpeper, Drew Schellpeper, Wyman Fischer, Christy Selbrade, Mandi Kosbab
Financial Advisors, Edward Jones, www.edwardjones.com, Member SIPC

Check Out These End-of-Year Investment Tips

Who knows where the time goes? Although 2015 is almost in the books, you can still make some year-end investment and financial moves that may help you get off to a good start in 2016. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Boost your 401(k) contributions.** Ask your employer if you still have time to add more to your 401(k) before the year ends. If not, at least increase your contributions in 2016, especially if your salary goes up.

- **Consider "tax-loss" selling.** We experienced considerable turbulence in the financial markets this past year, so you may own some investments that have lost value. Generally speaking, it's a good idea to hold these investments if they still meet your needs, but if you do decide to sell them, you can use the loss to offset capital gains taxes on investments you've sold that have appreciated. If the loss from the sale was greater than your com-

bined long- and short-term capital gains, you can deduct up to \$3,000 against other income. And if your losses exceed your capital gains by more than \$3,000, you can carry the remaining losses forward to future tax years.

- **Review your asset allocation.** Make sure your asset allocation – that is, your investment mix – is still appropriate for your time horizon and goals. You might consider being a bit more aggressive if you're not meeting your financial targets, or more conservative if you're getting closer to retirement. If you want greater diversification, you might think about adding an asset class that tends to react to market conditions differently from your existing investments. Diversifying your portfolio may help reduce the impact of volatility; however, diversification, by itself, can't guarantee a profit or protect against loss. If you do need to adjust, or "rebalance," you can do so fairly easily in tax-deferred accounts,

such as your IRA or 401(k) – but for those investments held in a taxable account, you should talk to your tax advisor on how to manage the tax consequences of rebalancing.

- **Evaluate your insurance situation.** This past year, did you undergo any changes in your personal life, such as marriage, divorce or the addition of a new child? If so, review your life and disability insurance to make sure they are sufficient for your needs, and list the proper beneficiaries on all insurance policies.

- **Start an emergency fund.** If you don't already have one, start an emergency fund before the year is out. Ideally, you'd like to have between six and 12 months' worth of living expenses in such a fund; without it, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace, a major car repair or a big medical bill. For this fund, you're less interested in re-

turn than in preservation of principal, so put your money in a low-risk, liquid account.

Making these moves can help you close out 2015 on a positive note – and ring in the new year with greater confidence in your financial future.

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



- Generally, for every degree you lower your thermostat during heating season, you reduce your energy costs by 3 percent.
- Want to include more produce in your diet? Sources say prep is the step that makes it work. Clean, chop, slice and otherwise prepare all your produce choices for the week on the day you shop. When it's ready and waiting, you're less likely to skip it in favor of something more convenient (and likely less nutritious).
- To save a pot of burning soup, remove from the burner and DO NOT stir. Pour the unburned contents into a new pot, while trying not to disturb the burned-on bottom of the pot.
- Deodorize carpets with baking soda: Sprinkle liberally, and leave on overnight. Vacuum in the morning. Be sure carpet is dry before starting.
- "On a health kick: Step one is to keep a food and activity diary for a week. You can get an idea of what you eat, what times of the day you are overeating and the areas where you can make improvements. Knowledge is power!" — V.R. in Oregon
- Remember that as temperatures drop and layers of clothing increase, children in a car seat need special consideration. Remove heavy coats before strapping in a small child or baby. Winter wear can compress during an accident, and it interferes with the straps.

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

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Old Rusty Wagon; The Way It Was; So Goes the Silos

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer



The first OLD RUSTY WAGON came with the deal. We purchased a cabin on Cedar Lake near Trimont several years ago. It had a storage shed that contained some old "keepsakes" that the previous owners left behind. One of these was an OLD RUSTY WAGON. The wagon sat in the corner of the storage shed as though it had been forgotten. We decided that OLD RUSTY

idea who the owner was and put it in the junk pile. We both felt bad as the wagon had a double purpose. It was a place to keep the trays of flowers that we used on the graves of my relatives each Memorial Day. It was also something that could be moved into the garage when there was a predicted frost in the fall.

The sign at the corner of the country road pointed

The Way It Was Done

I remember our farm as a very ordinary farm. It had very few of the modern conveniences of today. It was a farm with a few milk cows, hogs, chickens and sheep. Most of the work was done by hand, including the milking. The milk cows stood in wooden stanchions on the dirt floor in an area at the backside of the barn. Our cows were a mixture of almost every kind of dairy breed. Some were white with black spots, a trait of a Holstein, some were white with brown spots, the marks of a Guernsey, and others were a mixture of dark brown and white, a trait of the Shorthorn breed. All of the cattle were a mixture of what my father would raise or buy at a sale barn. IT WAS THE WAY IT WAS DONE IN THOSE DAYS.

The cows were milked by hand twice a day. The milk was separated and the cream was put into a tall can with a lid and kept in "the cooler". It was a small wooden tank that stood near the windmill. The water from the well would flow through "the cooler" on its way to the large wooden tank from which most of the livestock drank. The skim milk was carried to the hog house where it was poured into a barrel. This mixture of ground oats, water, and skim milk was known as "slop". The hogs loved such feed. They would stand by the fence and squeal in anticipation of such a treat. IT WAS THE WAY IT WAS DONE IN THOSE DAYS.

One of the highlights of the week was going to

town on Saturday nights. We would load some egg cases, a wooden cage of culled chickens, and the can of cream into the 1937 Pontiac and "go to town". The whole family looked forward to Saturday night as it was time away from the routine of the farm. It was a time when my father would give me some money that I could spend. It was seeing other people and being able to "go to the show" and enjoy a chocolate sundae after the show. IT WAS THE WAY IT WAS DONE IN THOSE DAYS.

Our first stop would always be the creamery. Most farmers had the traditional cream can full of cream. We didn't need a large can for our cows never produced that much cream. I loved going to the creamery for it was a place of banging cans, pipes and steam. The creamery worker would open the lid of our can and insert a dipper that had a long handle. He would then pull up a small amount of cream and empty it into a small glass container. This was used to test the cream for butter fat. He would also taste the cream to see if it was sour. The can was then steamed out and it was my job to carry it back to the car. I would then go into the office with my father to get the check. It was always just a few dollars, but any income was appreciated in those lean times. IT WAS THE WAY IT WAS DONE IN THOSE DAYS.

I drove past the old creamery yesterday. It stands empty as a sign of those times. Most of those who sold cream in such a way are gone. However, the permanent sign remains above the doorway. It is a part of the very building that offers so many memories. IT WAS THE WAY IT WAS DONE IN THOSE DAYS.

So Goes the Silos

In the early 1960's almost every farm had feeder cattle in this area. The cattle would come in from the Dakotas as light calves in November after harvest. We had a cost of gain advantage in our area as each acre of corn would produce several tons of chopped corn silage. This was cheap feed at that time for the price of corn was low. The ration of silage, shelled corn, and protein offered a rich ration. The corn was increased as the cattle grew. The key to a successful feeding operation was cheap feed and the way to reduce the cost was the use of a silo. It could be filled with a few acres of corn and last the entire feeding season.

I remember each of the three silos being built throughout the 1960's. Construction crews would come to the farm with truckloads of cement staves and steel bands that would

be attached to the outside of the silo. The crew would work from an inside platform that could be raised as the silo grew. Almost every farm had at least one silo. The first silo on our farm had no silo unloader. The silage, sometimes frozen around the outer edge, had to be chopped loose and then thrown down by hand. Sometimes the frozen silage had to be ground up as the frozen chunks could not be eaten by the cattle. The silo unloader would circle the top of the silage, clear the frozen silage away from the wall, and throw it down a chute to the feed room.

The silage was then carried in baskets to the cattle by hand. The silo unloader and bunk feeder, which distributed the feed into the feed bunks, were great labor savers. I often wonder how many thousand cattle we have fed from these silos over the years. The silos have been loyal helpers. However, the two smaller silos show their age. The staves are cracked and some have fallen to the ground, so the silos must be taken down. A contractor is coming next week. The newest and largest silo is in good condition and is in use today.

At one time we were a part of a silo ring, a group of farmers that would work together in the fall to fill their silos. It was much the same as the threshers

of another time. Each would bring a tractor to pull the large unloading wagons of silage. They would be pulled up to the silage blower that would blow the silage up into the silo through a pipe. This was time

of large meals and day after day of intense hauling from the field chopper. SO GOES THE SILOS, SO GOES THIS ACTIVITY OF OUR PRAIRIE.

Most farmers have quit feeding cattle because of the cash price of corn and the added expense, labor and risk of feeding cattle. Many of the silos have been taken down.

I write this essay with certain sadness. Taking down something that has served us so well for so long brings a lump to my throat. I will miss the tall cement giants that seemed to reach the sky.



WAGON could be put to a good use. We put it in front of our garage. It was a perfect place for flowers. My poem and picture called RUST MATCHING RUST tells the story. Being out in weather caused a lot of damage to the wagon. It became something that needed much repair. The wheels, which were fastened to the axles with bent nails, were loose. The bottom of the box had rusted out and the wheels had broken away from the body. It needed some serious repair. I took the wagon to a machine shop. The owner was not in the shop at that time. I decided to leave it and call him to let him know who had left the OLD RUSTY WAGON. I forgot to make that call. The shop owner had no

out the direction to a rural antique shop. We decided to see if they had a wagon. The owner was in the yard and I asked him if he had a children's wagon. He walked to another building and appeared with another OLD RUSTY WAGON. He apologized for its age and condition. In reality it was just what we were looking for. We bought the wagon and it now sits in the same place of importance. We have decided that this OLD RUSTY WAGON is a treasure. Even though it is rusty, we can read the Radio Flyer lettering on the side. The wheels are solid and it probably costs less than it would have cost to repair the first OLD RUSTY WAGON.



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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

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

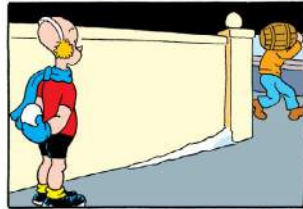
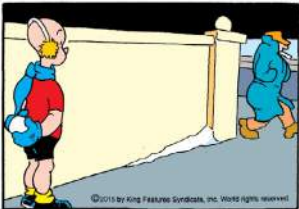
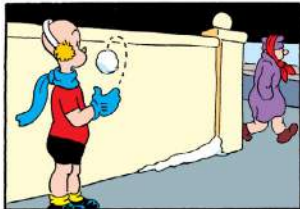
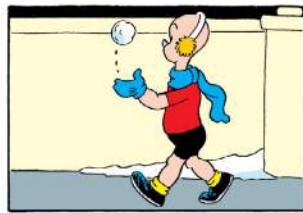
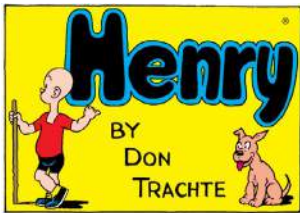
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1. Who released "A Mess of Blues" in 1960?
2. Name the first collaboration by songwriting duo Burt Bacharach and Hal David.
3. Who released "Pretty Flamingo" in 1966?
4. Which artist saw his career launched with "Nothing Rhymed"?
5. Name the song that includes this lyric: "I believe we can reach the morning light, Fly me high through the stary skies, Maybe to an astral plane, Cross the highways of fantasy, Help me to forget today's pain."

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commercial on TV.

recently the song was used in a pizza advertisement. "God" Most Harrison, "A Biography of a Yogi," by a book given to him by George in 1976. Wright says he was inspired by "Dream Weaver," by Gary Wright. 4. Gilbert O'Sullivan, in 1970. Stewart and the Everly Brothers. including Bruce Springsteen, Rod been covered by over a dozen artists. 3. Manfred Mann. The song has dozens of artists as well as films. Over the years they've penned hits for the song as a single in 1983. 2. "The Story of My Life," in 1957. Now or Never," Status Quo released the song as a single in 1983.

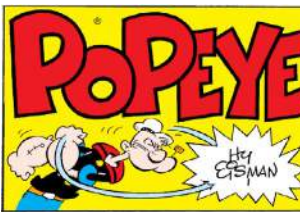
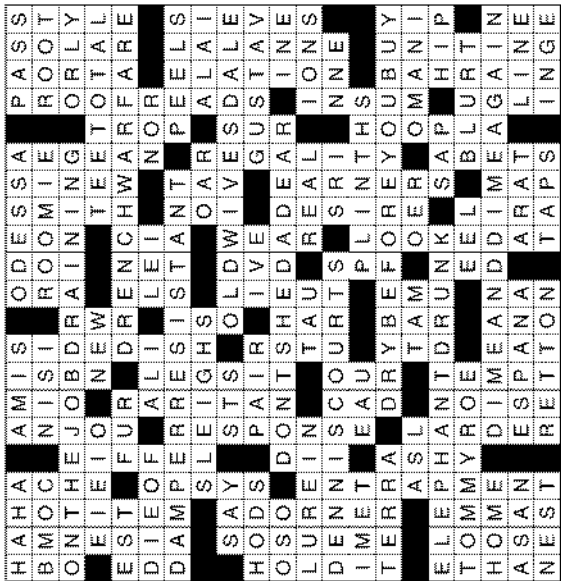
Answers

It is as hard for the good to suspect evil as it is for the bad to suspect good. — Cicero

CryptoQuote

Super Crossword

Answers



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#T15104

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'16 DODGE JOURNEY SE



#T1603

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'16 DODGE JOURNEY AWD



#T1608

Crossroad, heated leather, remote start navigation, camera. MSRP \$34,135.

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'15 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE



#T15236

Limited, tow pkg., 8.4, radio, navigation ready. MSRP \$41,650.

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Limited, loaded with Luxury II pkg, MSRP \$44,260.

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4X4 ltd slip, 5.7 hemi, back-up camera, brake cont. tow mirrors. MSRP \$40,700.

\$35,882

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#T1529

Outdoorsman, r. camera, htd. buckets, tow mirror & brake. 28 mpg eco-diesel. MSRP \$49,745.

\$39,745 SAVE 10K

'15 RAM 1500 CREW BIG HORN



#T1584

Htd seats, r. camera, ltd slip, side steps, brake cont. 28 mpg eco-diesel MSRP \$50,380.

\$40,380 SAVE 10K

'16 RAM 1500 CREW, LARAMIE



#T1623

SOLD

Htd/cooled leather, navigation, remote start. MSRP \$49,555.

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'15 RAM 2500 CREW BIG HORN



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