Don't Drink and Drive

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New Book to Benefit Ranchers

Page 4



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PhotoPress Only good news

Wednesday **December 25, 2019**

Volume 56 | Number 33

SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES

Highlighting the top ag issues for 2019

Guest Columnist



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

year, various publications, websites, etc. have their "Top 10" or "Top 5" list for that year. In this issue of "FOCUS ON AG", I am highlighting my "Top 5 Ag Issues" for 2019, based on issues that were discussed in the columns throughout the year. Following are my "Top 5 Ag Issues" for 2019:

1. Weather issues and crop production challenges.

"Mother nature" was not kind to many farmers in the Upper Midwest in ern Minnesota, along with 2019, as well as in some areas of the Eastern Corn Belt. Many weather reporting stations across the region reported record precipitation in 2019, with 10-20 percent below longseveral areas receiving 50% or more above the

very late planting in some areas, crop drown-out and poor growing conditions in other areas, and widespread areas of delayed to have a 2019 corn yield harvest. In fact, some portions of North and South Dakota, and adjoining areas of Western Minnesota, still have thousands of acres of corn yet to be harvested. Severe storms with hail and wind damage to crops also resulted in yield reduction in many parts of the region.

Some growers in West-North and South Dakota, are reporting their lowest corn yields since the disaster year of 1993. Overall, corn yields in region were term averages, and probably 15-30 percent lower

At the end of every rainfall. This resulted in yields. In general, soybean yields were 5-20 percent below long-term average yields.

Minnesota is projected of 170 bushels per acre, which compares to 182 bushels per acre in 2018 and the record yield of 194 bushels per acre in 2017. Other 2019 projected statewide corn yields that are below recent averages are North Dakota at 142 bushels per acre, South Dakota at 151 bushels per acre, Indiana at 165 bushels per acre, and Illinois at 179 bushels per acre. The projected 2019 corn yield for Iowa is better at 192 bushels per acre. USDA is estimating the 2019 Minnesota soybean yield at 45

33 bushels per acre, which are all below average yields in recent years.

2. The ongoing Trade

During 2019, the socalled "trade war" with China continued, which kept increased tariffs in place on many ag products being shipped to China. The total amount of ag exports has decreased in two years from over \$20 billion in 2017 to less than \$10 billion in 2019. Soybeans and pork have been two of the commodities hit the hardest by the added tariffs on grain and pork products being shipped to China. Tariffs have also remained in place on products traded with Canada and Mexico, the partners with the U.S. in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). China, Canada and Mexico account for over 40 percent of all U.S. ag exports on an annual basis.

The new United Statesbushels per acre, Iowa at Mexico-Canada Agree-53 bushels per acre, South ment (USMCA) to replace normal growing season than 2015-2017 average Dakota at 43 bushels per NAFTA was agreed upon University of Minnesota page 7

acre, and North Dakota at by the leaders of the three reported that the median approved within the various countries, including by the U.S. Congress, be-Congress did not take up any action on the USMCA agreement until very late in 2019, needing to work out some language in the agreement related to labor and environmental issues. that the USMCA agreement will be approved by Congress and implemented in early 2020, which should help stabilize agriculture trade among the three counties. Late in the year, there was also some phase #1 of a new U.S. and Chinese trade agreement. If implemented, this for 2019 are likely to again agreement could greatly enhance U.S. exports of certain ag products to China in the coming years.

3. Tight cash flow margins and the declining ing most of the year. The farm economy.

countries late in 2018. net farm income for Min-However, the USMCA nesota farmers in 2018 agreement needs to be was only \$26,055, which was the lowest in the past 23 years of analyzing farm business management refore being implemented. cords. 2018 was the fifth year in a row of sup-par net farm income levels in the State, which was the first time that this has occurred since the 1980's. Some farm operators across Southern Minne-As we end 2019, it appears sota had 2018 net farm incomes that were even lower, feeling the effect of reduced crop yields that resulted from excessive rainfall during the 2018 growing season, as well as the impacts of reduced crop and livestock prices, positive news regarding resulting from the U.S. trade wars.

> Net farm income levels be quite low in many portions of the region, due to the reduced crop yields and continued low grain and livestock prices dur-

Earlier in 2019, The Continued on



brown sugar



Windsor Accent Chair 30w 27d 31h, SKU# 1190122.

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Pinnacle Rocker Recliner 33w 38.5d 41h. SKU# 1051221.



New Years Day

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Jasper Leather Rocker Recliner



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sable sand James Reclining Sofa



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

Kids grades K-6 are invited to a Winter STEM Lab at the Fairmont Library on Monday, December 30th at 10:30 a.m. Explore a variety of winter-themed STEM experiments and activities. This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Call the library at 238-4207 with questions.

Fairmont United Methodist Church continues its Wednesday **Evening Suppers** from 5 to 6 p.m. at the church, 119 E. 2nd Street in Fairmont. This Wednesday, December 25th and Wednesday, January 1st they will be closed due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The Fairmont, MN Area Multiple Myeloma Support Group will meet Saturday, December 28th from 10 a.m. to Noon at Perkins in Fairmont. Please note the location change. This will be a social meeting and all patients, family, caregivers and friends are welcome to attend. For more info, call Joyce Schultz at 507-230-0207.

The Ceylon High School Reunion Committee is planning for the next Ceylon High School All-School Reunion, which will take place June 27th, 2020. Make sure you save the date! Do you know of any family members with address changes since the last reunion? If so, contact committee member Jim Plumhoff at 507-632-4368.

Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont hosts an **open** door meal Wednesday evenings from 4:45 to 6:00 they will not have meals due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

County Martin Extension/4H invites community members to its open house on New Year's Eve - Tuesday, December 31st from 2 to 4 p.m. Coffee punch and cookies will be served at the new office location at the Martin County Fairgrounds: 1300 N. Bixby Road, Fairmont.



The students of Martin Luther High School, Northrop gathered 252.5 pounds of food for Heaven's Table Food Shelf in Fairmont. Pictured (L to R) are Student Council members Alexys Flohrs, Lydia Steinhaus and Lizzie Oothoudt as they prepare to load the items. (Submitted photo)





It was fun for students to be out of the cold and p.m. each week. Wednes- enjoy a comry, cozy pajama day last week in Mrs. day, December 25th and Harris' early childhood classes at Fairmont Area Wednesday, January 1st Elementary School. (Submitted photo)





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happy to announce their marriage on March 2nd, 2019, at the East Chain Evangelical Free Church, before their family. We are thankful to God, our children, family, friends and community for their love and encouragement. We honor and stand on the love legacy and memory of Scott and Paula. Jeff practices dentistry and Ann farms in this community. Love is the greatest gift of all so we are thankful to have been granted each other in our remaining years.

MLHS Art outreach to supporting congregations

In 2018, the Art and much of His life. Technology Departments of Martin Luther High Department created large School, Northrop worked scale, hand painted maps together to create 3D prints of first century Israel. These of Solomon's Temple and maps provide spatial awaregifted them to the pastors of ness of the travels of Jesus area LCMS congregations. and show the physical-(This outreach also includity and actual history of the ed reaching south of the Gospels. They were painted Minnesota border into the on upcycled materials such Iowa District West Algona as coffee tables, wooden

circuit.) The goal was to give boards and framed pictures and then given out to the same association congregations.

In 2019, the MLHS Art

Martin Luther High School is grateful to have the talented teachers and students to make this oppor-





Rev. David Fretham (left), vacancy pastor at St Paul's, Truman and Rev David Schultz holding the hand painted map of first century Israel.



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Blood donation opportunities in new year

giving, the American Red St. Cross urges eligible donors to give the gift of life to help ensure patients the availability of blood St. this winter. Blood donations of all types are needed, especially type O.

As a special thank you for being the lifeline for Prairie Ave. patients this holiday season, those who come out to give blood with the Red Cross Dec. 19-Jan. 5 will receive a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

Local opportunities include:

• Blue Earth

January 2nd, 2020: 10 pointment. a.m. - 4 p.m., United Hos-

During this season of pital District, 515 S. Moore

Elmore

January 6th, 2020: 1 - 7 p.m., United Methodist don't have to worry about Church, 311 E. Mondale

• Fairmont

January 6th, 2020: 2 -7 p.m., St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 901 S.

• Madelia

January 9th, 2020: 1:30 -6:30 p.m., Salem Lutheran Church, 109 3rd St. SE

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an ap-

Over 55 Defensive Driving Refresher Course

Driving-Refresher need to retake the 8-hour Course is being offered class. in early January through Fairmont CER.

The offered January 8th from 5:30 1017 Room Room).

auto insurance if they Preregistration attend these classes every three years.

than three years since For more info, call 235you last attended, just 3141. the 4-hour refresher is

An Over 55 Defensive needed, there is not a

These sessions are interactive, informative class will be and interesting, including Wednesday, videos and handouts. Attendees are able to to 9:30 p.m. at Fairmont fine-tune their driving Area Elementary School, skills, learn about the (Budd latest in auto technology, traffic laws and safe Drivers 55 and older driving techniques. The are eligible to receive a fee for this course is \$22 10% discount on their for the 4-hour course. payment is requested through CER at 714 If it has not been more Victoria Street, Fairmont.

Snowmobile Safety Class to be offered in Fairmont

ty class will be offered have first completed the through Fairmont CER in online Snowmobile Safety Ianuary.

Saturday, January 4th at 9 a.m. in the Fairmont Area Elementary School cafeteria. This class is a one-day review and riding performance course. Students must complete one of the online courses: snowmobilecourse.com before sigining up for the class.

along with a copy of their sota. birth certificate.

classroom review/per- class.

A snowmobile safe- formance test unless you Course. Parent or guard-The class will be held ian must accompany youth to sign the waiver.

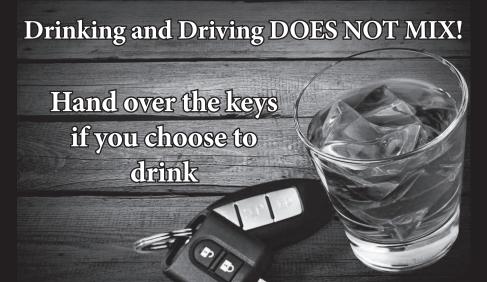
Each student must have proper attire: helmet, gloves, snow pants, jacket and boots. A snowmobile will be available.

Youth must be 11 years old by the date of the class attended. All residents in Minnesota born after De-Once they complete the cember 31st, 1976 MUST online course, students have a snowmobile safety print out a "youth follow- certificate to operate a up voucher" and bring it snowmobile in Minne-

Please pre-register with Students will not be al- CER in Fairmont (235lowed to participate in the 3141) before attending

Key Tips That Save Live

- FOOD FIRST. If you plan to drink, eat foods that are rich in protein (meats, cheese, vegetables) and never drink on an empty stomach.
- EASY DOES IT. One drink per hour sets the pace for moderate drinking. Never exceed three drinks per party regardless of your body weight.
- SIZE UP THE SITUATION. Remember that a 12 oz. mug of beer, a 5 oz. glass of wine and a 1¼ oz. shot of hard liquor all pack the same punch.



- JOIN THE KEY CLUB. If you want to indulge, hand over your keys to a designated driver for the evening.
- TAKE CONTROL. Insist on driving home any friend or guest who appears intoxicated. If this is not an option, offer to call a cab or have this person sleep over.
- NONE FOR THE ROAD. Remember, you don't have to drink at all to have a great

When it comes to drinking & driving, make a resolution to use good judgement this holiday. This message sponsored by these concerned businesses:



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New book by locally-raised author to benefit ranchers across the country

Every time I see an ampainted 40 barns to celten surprised them," Reisay a prayer because odds are, I know the person riding inside," says Adam Jones, rancher near St. Francis, Kansas.

It's a sentiment many in Rural America share, where neighbors may not be just around the corner, but the bond of community is thick. His family ranch, Crooked Creek Huntley East Chain High Angus, is one of 40 stories included in the new coffee table book Sheltering Generations — The American Barn.

The book features stories of beef producers in more than 20 different states, cataloging ranch life, rural community and the role of barns in our landscape.

Produced by Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB), each family featured in the book has one thing in common: they all have the brand logo painted on their barns. In 2018, in a throwback to "old school" marketing,

Cozad, Nebraska, and her these families colleague Nicole Lane has a story to Erceg, of Wooster, Ohio, tell." co-authored the book in their roles with the brand. Miranda is the daughter of Mark and Karla Malo of Granada, and is a 2002 graduate of Granada-



Co-author Miranda Reiman.

"People have asked if I've always wanted to write the brand a book, and my answer of-

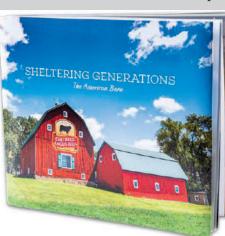
bulance go by, I stop and ebrate the 40th anniver- man says. "It's not that I wanted to write a book so Miranda Reiman, of much as I saw that each of

Captivatimages ing and short, entertaining stories fill the pages of the book, but in the spirit of community that inspired it, the funds from sales will support farmers and

ranchers. The entire purchase price of each book will benefit the newly launched Certified Angus Beef Rural Relief Fund, helping cattlemen recover from natural disasters.

"We've all heard some weather event referenced as the drought/flood/blizzard/fire of our generation too many times already," says John Stika, president of the brand. "As a mem-

ber of the beef community, when our farmers and ranchers are hurting, our brand is committed to pro-



viding help."

The book is dual purpose: a way to share the stories of everyday ranch life and to help provide relief when those who produce it need aid.

Sheltering Generations The American Barn is on sale now at shop.certifiedangusbeef.com or you can stop by the Photo Press to purchase a copy for \$20 plus tax.

to traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota hazard while you are send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson practice the 3-second Minnesota State Patrol (plus) following rule. at 2900 48th Street NW, If everyone were to Rochester MN 55901the legal following Watch the vehicle in follow this simple rule, 5848. (Or reach him many crashes that at, Troy. Christianson@ state.mn.us)

eat play shop

Avery WeighTronix lists R.S. **Bradley Scholarships**

A proud tradition at Avery is a student at Minnesota Weigh-Tronix in Fairmont is West Community and Techthe R.S. Bradley Scholarship nical College. He is studying

Richard Bradley was the founder and owner of Weigh-Tronix. The scholarship fund originated from a 1979 Christmas gift of money from University in Mankato. She Weigh-Tronix employees to Richard to start a scholarship fund in his name. Additional employee contributions were Cory Hainy (Engineering): made in 1980 and 1981. Mr. Cameron attends South Da-Bradley was a firm believer kota School of Mines and in higher education, and the Technology studying Me-Avery Weigh-Tronix team chanical Engineering. continues to support this program with annual awards.

Avery Weigh-Tronix regular, of Minnesota studying Archifull-time employees who are tecture. attending an advanced educational program are eligible Head (Manufacturing Engito apply for the scholarship. The program may be in a vo- Luther College working tocational or academic field, ward a degree in Music and but be a minimum of two years and lead to a specific degree or certification. This Head (Manufacturing Engiincludes a two-year technical school, two-year junior college or present enrollment to acquire a B.A or B.S. degree.

The scholarship winners \$500.00. They are:

Cook (Maintenance): Jaiden Technical College.

to become an Electrician.

 Jacquelyn Frerichs, daughter of John Frerichs (Repair Dept.): Jacquelyn is attending Minnesota State is working toward a degree in Elementary Education.

• Cameron Hainy, son of

 Sydney Hainy – daughter of Cory Hainy (Engineering): All dependent children of Sydney attends the University

> • Eric Head, son of Jim neering): Eric is a student at Communications.

• Tyler Head, son of Jim neering): Tyler is attending the University of North Dakota studying Marketing and Sport Business.

• Alexander Johnson, son for 2019 will each receive of Roman Johnson (IT Dept): Alexander is studying Law • Jaiden Cook, son of Tim Enforcement at Alexandria

CREST "Lunch & Learn" to focus on 2020 Census

A "Lunch & Learn" census. event sponsored by CREST will be held on Wednes- tation, a soup and sandday, January 8th at 11:00 wich lunch will be served. a.m. at the Senior Citizens Donations are welcome to Center, located at 21 East defray costs. 1st Street in Sherburn.

will take a look at the 2020 socializing.

Following the presen-

Anyone in the area is in-The program this month vited to join in the fun and



Ask A Trooper: Safe following distance

by Sgt. Troy Christianson, **MN State Patrol**

distance? What can front of you. When that I do when someone vehicle gets past an is following too close object such as a sign, behind me? Isn't there a rule of so many vehicle lengths for You should not arrive at every 3 to 5 seconds so miles per hour to use that spot sooner than you know what is going as a guide?

Answer: The only law regarding following distance pertains to vehicles pulling trailers. second for every hazard driving habits. This includes trucks that exists. as well as semi-truck include but are not tractors with trailers. limited to heavy traffic, simply buckle up, drive They must maintain a rain, snow, fog, driving at safe speeds, pay minimum distance of 500 feet.

While state law does not require a specific distance for vehicles not pulling trailers, it does say that you shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the traffic upon and the conditions of the highway.

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Question: What is following distance rule. pole, bridge, etc., then prevented. count off three seconds. your count to three. If around you. you do, then you are we cannot control the following too close! vehicles around us, we Also, you must add one can control our own Hazards into the sun, etc. In attention and always some cases you might drive sober. have to allow six, seven us drive Minnesota seconds (or even more) Toward Zero Deaths to be safe because of existing hazards.

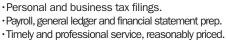
Learn how recognize any kind of driving out there, and cause serious injuries and or death could be

Check your mirrors While

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you Help

.If you have any questions concerning

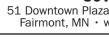
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Christmas Tree Recycling

December 26, 2019 - January 12, 2020 Take your Christmas tree to any of the following locations for recycling:

Fairmont:

Fairmont City Street Shop 417 East Margaret Street - Fairmont Drop Site Sherburn / Dunnell:

Sherburn Nursery Drop Site

Questions: Contact Billeve Rabbe, Solid Waste Coordinator (507) 776-3232

Thanks To:

*Sherburn Nursery

*Fairmont City Parks and Recreation Department *Martin and Faribault County Sentence to Service Program

PLEASE: <u>Trees ONLY</u>, <u>NO</u> wreaths, roping or artificial trees!` NO tree stands, metal or ornaments on trees.

What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Special Friends!

Except for family, today is my last holiday entertaining. I am having my birthday group (the friends I do some traveling with) for lunch. I love spending time with them and today we can share our mental health holiday woes to get us through the coming two weeks! Its such a blessing to have friends. One can bear their soul with and know we aren't judged! Maybe it's time I get my Christmas Therapy book out

Today I am sharing a cozy soup recipe with you. Its always nice after the holidays to get back to regular food. I hope this recipe warms you up!

Creamy Tomato Tortellini Soup:

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 medium onion, finely chopped

4 large cloves garlic, minced

28 oz. diced tomatoes

2 teaspoons Italian seasoning

1/2 tsp. red chili flakes (optional)

4 cups chicken broth

28 oz. jar tomato puree

3 Tablespoons tomato paste

1 cup heavy cream

salt and pepper to taste

2-9 oz. packets cheese tortellini, refrigerated or

1/2 cup parmesan cheese

4 cups baby spinach leaves

1/4 cup fresh basil

Heat oil in a large pot over medium heat. Saute onion until soft, then add garlic and saute until fragrant (about 1 minute).

Add tomatoes, Italian seasoning and chili flakes if using. Let tomatoes cook about 5 minutes, then mix in chicken stock, tomato puree and tomato paste. Season with salt and pepper. Partially cover pot with a lid, bring to a simmer on low heat for 15 minutes. Stir in cream and tortellini, cook on medium-low heat until tortellini is just cooked about 6-7 minutes. Add the parmesan cheese, spinach and basil, stir until wilted, serve hot.

Merry Christmas!

CER Winter Adult Co-Ed Volleyball League Forming

The Fairmont CER January 9th. Winter Adult Co-Ed Volleyball League will contact the CER Office be played on Thursday located in the Fairmont evenings at the Fairmont Elementary Elementary School Little Door 15A, 714 Victoria Cardinal Gym.

Team registrations 507-235-3141 or email with payment of \$159 rdauer@fairmont.k12. are due by January mn.us<mailto:rdauer@ 2nd at the Fairmont fairmont.k12.mn.us>. Community Education and Recreation Office. with Play begins on Thursday, Mastercard/VISA is also

NOTICE OF **PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF GRANADA**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Granada will hold a Public Hearing on January 8th, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at Granada City Hall.

This will be an informational meeting to discuss the Emergency Siren, including economic and environmental impacts, service area, alternatives to the project, and potential funding sources, including USDA Rural Development. All residents and property owners within the City of Granada are encouraged to attend.

PUBLISHED IN THE FAIRMONT PHOTO PRESS DECEMBER 25, 2019



The Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus were recently informed that they received the Supreme Council "Columbian Award" for the 2018-2019 Council Year. This prestigious award recognizes councils' for excellence in programming conducted in four categories: "Faith", "Family", "Community" and "Life". Pictured (L to R): Cary Villeneuve—Grand Knight of the local KC Council and Jim Kasel—Award Recipient and 2018-2019 Grand Knight. (Submitted

Ruby's Pantry food distribution in East Chain

280th Avenue.

per participant for operational costs. Please bring

Ruby's Pantry is in its 4653.

Ruby's Pantry will eleventh year of serving have a food distribution rural communities with in East Chain on Satur- donated surplus food and day, December 28th from goods to fight hunger and 10-11:30 a.m. at the East disease. It provides large Chain Evangelical Free quantities of food for Church, located at 507 distributions directly to families in 46 rural com-There are no income munities covering sixteen or residency guidelines. underserved counties in Ruby's Pantry is funded Minnesota and Wisconsin by the \$20 cash donation distributing food to over 10,000 families per month.

For more information two large boxes or laun- please see their website dry baskets for food. They at www.rubyspantry.org, receive an abundance of email goodnews@rubyspantry.org or call 507-236-

Additional memorials to **Martin Luther High School**

ther High School recently accidentally omitted some dy and Deb Morrison names from their list of ber 1st to November 30th, 2019:

IN MEMORY OF: by LUCILLE

A list sent by Martin Lu- Philip and Pam Hartmann VERIL CONRAD: Ran-

RALETTA FLOHRS: memorials from Septem- Philip and Pam Hartmann PEGGY GOEKE: Philip and Pam Hartmann

> LOREN WESSEL: Ron BECKER: and Mary Reinke

Celebrate the New Year at the Sherburn Legion

on Tuesday, December cluded with all meals.

Club will be having their Lions Club and funds annual New Year's Eve raised will go to support Supper from 5 to 8 p.m. community projects for that night. They will serve the Lions Club. steak, shrimp, pork chops

Ring in the New Year at and combos. The cost per the Sherburn American person is \$16. A baked Legion Hall in Sherburn potato and salad is in-

This event is spon-The Sherburn Lions sored by the Sherburn

martincountylibrary.org

@ the Martin County Library

New year, new books! Here are a few big titles coming in early 2020 that we are excited to read!!

crisis is plaguing our country. This is a twisty instead of growing tomystery where one of gether-forcing one of a string of murders are cret.

happening in their Philadelphia neighborhood.

Followers by Megan Angelo: This debut novel traces the stories of three women, unexpectedly connected, who find themselves on the brink of high-profile success while discovering what their follower counts really means for their goals and dreams.

Love Her or Lose Her by Tessa Bailey: Bailey Long Bright River by is back with a juicy rom-Liz Moore: The opioid com about a couple who seemingly grows apart two inseparable sisters them to establish a maraddicted to drugs goes riage boot camp and the missing. All the while other to expose a big se-

YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF **DECEMBER 28, 1994**

Heather Wenzel won "World's Largest the Christmas Stocking" given Farm agent, and was to be away at the Fairmont replaced by Jim Dahlstrom Happy Chef. Heather of Springfield. is the daughter of Faye Wenzel of Fairmont and Dean Wenzel of Ceylon.

The Drive won the Christmas contest, sponsored by the Fairmont GLOWS N. Elm Street.

Edward D. Jones had a Montana. front page advertisement promoting 8.50% on

eat play shop

YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF **DECEMBER 28, 1969**

Rufus Goetz announced his retirement as State

Gordon Patterson, administrator of Lakeview Methodist Retirement Southwood Home if Fairmont, was neighborhood preparing to also take Fairmont over administration of lighting the Truman Lutheran Retirement Home. who Patterson, has committee. Second place a degree in business neighborhood went to administration from the Homewood Drive and University of Minnesota, third to a residence at 820 came to Fairmont a year ago from a similar administrative job

George Musser was Insured Corporate Bonds. named to the Fairmont Housing Authority, replacing the unexpired term of Rev. Gary Gilbertson, who had accepted a new Episcopal parish in Fargo, ND.

CER Winter Men's Basketball League forming

nings at the Fairmont El- 507-235-3141 or email istrations with payment fairmont.k12.mn.us>. of \$180 are due by January munity Education Recreation Office.

Play begins on Mon- at the CER Office located in

The CER Winter Men's the Fairmont Elementary Basketball League will be School Door 15A, 714 Vicplayed on Monday eve- toria Street, Fairmont. Call ementary School Little rdauer@fairmont.k12. Cardinal Gym. Team reg- mn.us<mailto:rdauer@

Online registration with 2nd at the Fairmont Com- payment by Mastercard/ VISA is also available at the CER Web Store located www.fairmontareasday, January 13th. For chools.com<a href="http://www. more information, contact fairmontareaschools.com.

PhotoPress Picture Peddler

For more information,

Street, Fairmont. Call

payment

available at the CER Web

Store located at www.

fairmontareaschools.

Online

School

registration

Deadline Mon at Noon for Wed's publication

1 week, your picture and 20 words for \$17; Run 2 weeks, your picture and 20 words for \$27. We'll take the picture at the Photo Press for an additional \$3.50



2012 KIA SORRENTO SX AWD, Loaded, 3rd Seat, One Owner, 47,000 Miles, Sale Price \$13,995 Welcome Motor Co., 1310 N. State St., Fairmont, MN, 235-3447, welcomemotorcompany.com

A Heartfelt Thank You...

from our family to yours. Thank you for all the prayers, thoughts and support for our darling angel Emmalyne!

> Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year

with love, Tom, Laura, Carter, Kennedy and CC Spitzer



from my normal column this week because some of you will be reading this before Christmas and others the day after Christmas. I am bringing back a column I wrote December 23rd, 2015 - but with some updates to December 24th, 2019 - so here

Twas the day before Christmas and all through the Photo Press, employees and customers were scurrying about - you could really sense the stress.

This week's newspaper had been delivered from our printer to the North; Sherman was busy prepping paper bundles for the carriers, carrying bundles to his car - carrying, packing and hurrying back and forth; There is urgency on making sure the Photo Press

Tam going to deviate is delivered by carrier before Christmas Day and via the post office the day after. Sherm's in his element, delivering the bundles to our carriers, whistling Christmas carols to himself and taking in all the cheer and laughter.

> Meanwhile back at the Photo Press office, Tari is busy with customers - both on the phone and in the store; she can sense the stress in their voices and the way they nervously scurry around the sales floor. Tari also knows the holiday stress herself, as she goes through her family's Christmas list in her head; "So much to think about, prepare for and buy before the day is over and I go to bed!"

Becky is busily working on last-minute customer

Christmas letters; busy typ- last minute customer jobs fice, making sure eving and proofing before the from his work area, where harried customers return to he is known around here as pick them up, pay for them better!" Becky is one of our cause him problems, which graphic artists who works creates some grumbling with customer and business print jobs and is good Some see Larry as having a at what she does; just ask the many satisfied customers she has created letters, art work for - her ideas and creations many times create quite a buzz.

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 our salesman Randy and all of the any time to rest from that labor soon; as next week's paper will have to be done and "out the door" to the printers by next Monday before noon.

Larry, our favorite press operator, is busy printing up

"the basement dweller"; he and get them in the mail is the best at what he does, - saying "Next year I'll do even if those print jobs that rumbles from the cellar. gruff exterior; but to those of us who really know him, to his grandchildren he is considered "superior".

Randy, our ad salesman is busy running about, visit-Morgan is relishing the ing advertisers for for New completion of yet another Year's ads with a promise that the ad will have the look that will give them the most clout; he moves around the office so quietly, most of us don't know whether he is "in" or he is "out". You can stress!). She doesn't have see him this time of year wearing his favorite hat; his biggest joy is taking in any kind of sporting event, whether it is watching a resomeone swinging a bat.

> Jeff, the manager, is busy scampering around the of-

ervone is doing their work so they don't have to stay late; after all it is the day before Christmas and we all need a break. Since it is Christmas Eve. he knows he can now finish up his Christmas shopping; local retailers will see him running around picking up last-minute gifts for his wife and his family, in order to finish he needs to keep hop-

The day is almost over, just a few more hours of business before the office gets shut 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!"

Some things may change ceiver catching a football or in the new year ahead; but one thing that never changes, the real reason for the season - the birth of Jesus and the manger to which



wish all our readers a Merry Christmas, we just love your positive reviews; whatever lies ahead for all of us, one thing you can count on from everyone at the Photo Press is "Only Good News!"

Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shutin or family member - eat, play, shop local - Merry



"Just the other day"

Guest Columnist

Tom Palen, broadcaster, pilot, writer

The Tree

shines alone in the night bringing comfort and joy to weary travelers. As brilliant

I love this tree. It home, other's going places; maybe to join family and friends, or to, work.



as the stars in the sky, she draws the attention of all. Some, such as myself, on their way

solitude, stands strong, matter the weather. The tree offers, peace,

contentment hope; warmth on a bitterly cold night. She encourages me.

Her gentle light dances on the soft bed of clean, white snow beneath her. Along the busy interstate, she sings softly: Silent night, Holy night, all is calm, all is bright.

I drive on into the cold, dark night; I will be home for Christmas.

Merry Christmas. I-35 near Faribault,

MN West administrators visited classes in the Fairmont High School vocational wing. Pictured (L-R): Bruce Peterson, MN West Chief Academic Officer; Terry Gaalswyk, MN West President; Jake Tietje, high school co-principal; Bob Bonin, high school vocational teacher. (Submitted photo)



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



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EVEN IT UP AND RUMBLE SEAT Starts at 7:30pm

Ring in 2020 with the music of Heart and John Mellencamp!

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Wednesday, January 1: Happy New Years Thursday, January 2 • 7pm:

Friday, January 3 • 5-7pm: Burger Night

Burgers \$6

Sunday, January 5 • 8:30am to 12:30pm: Breakfast Buffet • \$10

Monday, January 6: Kitchen opens 5pm • Bingo 7pm

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

Come ring the New Year in at.... Starting at 5pm JR CUT (802)-\$19.99 QUEEN CUT (1002)-\$23.99 KING CUT (1602)-\$34.99 Includes Choice of Potato, Soup & Salad Bar and Free Dessert. Reservations are very much appreciated. Please call 507-235-8979 Full Menu Avaliable

New Year's

Cre Tuesday, Dec. 31 Sherburn American Legion

5:00-8:00 pm - Serving: Steak, Shrimp, Pork Chop

& Combo for **\$16** Baked Potato and Salad with all meals

Sponsored by the Sherburn Lions Club

Everyone Welcome!!

HOT MEALS ON WHEELS

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

'St. Martin's Episcopal Church' **SOUP LUNCH**

Fundraiser Friday, January 3, 2020

Benefitting: ARC SOUTHWEST

Thrivent Supported

Serving time is from 11:00am until 1:00pm

IV PLAY - Band

Tue., December 31

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Fairmont National Guard Armory Advanced Tickets: \$6 • At Door: \$10

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NEW YEARS EVE

<u>Tuesday,</u> <u>December, 31</u>

Good Times Karoake 8:00 p.m.

LEGENDS II Pub & Grill

Stocking Stuffer Winner.

Happy New Year

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Open New Years' Eve!! Open New Years' Day at 1 p.m.

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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.

THURS: Meatballs, baked potato, winter mix veggie, bread pudding.

WED: Closed. Happy New Year!

Motor Frustration

DEC 26 - JAN I

 $\textbf{FRI:} \ Tilapia, scalloped \ potatoes, tomatoes \ \& \ zucchini, ice \ cream.$ MON: Meatloaf, creamed potatoes, peas & carrots, pie. TUE: Pork chops, rice, corn, spiced apple ring, blueberry crisp.

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer

mowing our church lawn kindness! when I was in junior high. lawn mower.

We did not have a pickup truck, so the heavy mower had to be loaded Ma into the trunk of our 1949 Packard and hauled to and from the church. The mower had small engine

the motor and pulling. Pulling on the rope forced the motor to turn. However, it was always a surprise when it started. This was my first experience with MOTOR FRUSTRATION. The motor would sometimes stop and starting it was something terrible. I didn't understand its workings. A good thing came out of this situation. A man with small motor knowledge was visiting his relative who lived next to the church. He witnessed my problem and came over to help me. He taught me "the what" to do and how

I took on the chore of to do it. I appreciated such ment as possible. The baler

However my most re-This was before the time of membered MOTOR FRUS- it. The flywheel was located rotary mowers, so I used TRATION comes from try- on the side of the baler near our "old-style" reel-type ing to start a hot Wisconsin the ground. A drive belt



mounted on its very top. It motor had to be cranked by didn't seem to understand. was started by winding a hand. What made it hard Hismanner of cranking was small rope around a circu- was the motor was high on done by producing an unlar extension on the side of the baler, had a short crank, and I could not brace myself to get the power needed. It was a very awkward situation. I thought it was only me! However, I have learned that anyone who tried to start a hot Wisconsin motor agrees with my assessment. They produced true MOTOR FRUSTRA-TION.

genious neighbor. He had TION when trying to start a plan as to how to start your own lawn mower, boat such a motor when it was hot. His plan was to completely empty the baler so that there was as little resistance to its internal move-

had a large flywheel that had several spokes within engine on our hay baler. The powered the baler which

ran over a pulley on the motor then over the outside of the flywheel. The neighbor taught me the trick of starting such a hot motor. He called it "shocking" the motor as though it

interrupted effort of starting to the motor instead of the interrupted effort of cranking it by hand. It was done by stepping down on a spoke of the large flywheel and pulling down. It was as though the motor was "shocked" into starting by someone's determination.

Have you ever faced However, we had an in- such MOTOR FRUSTRAmotor, snowmobile, chain saw or leaf blower? Have you asked yourself how others find starting them "so easy"?

level of crop insurance carried by farm operators for the 2019 crop year, along with grain and livestock marketing decisions that were made, will likely have a significant impact on profitability for individual farm businesses. It is estimated that government payments will make up one-third or more of potential net farm income for 2019 in the U.S farm sector. These payments will primarily come from crop insurance indemnity payments, disaster payments, and market facilitation program (MFP) payments to farmers that are being paid to offset income loss from the ongoing trade wars.

4. RFS waivers and

The granting of "small

newable fuels and has negatively impacted the profitability of the ethanol and biodiesel industries. Since EPA increased the use of SRE's, 19 ethanol plants in the U.S. have either closed or idled production, including the Corn Plus ethanol plant at Winnebago, MN, with additional plants reducing their production levels. It is estimated that the 2.5 billion gallon per year biodiesel industry in the U.S. has lost nearly 10 percent of the total demand due to the SRE's granted by EPA in the past three years. The Trump Administration has proposed some changes to the procedures for the Renewable Fuel Standard that will hopefully address some of the issues related to the granting of the SRE's. However, as we end 2019, it is still unclear if the EPA will limit the use of SRE's in the future or implement the strategies to stabilize demand for renewable fuels.

5. Implementation of the New Farm Bill.

The new Farm Bill, titled the "Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018" will govern U.S. farm programs from 2019 through 2023. Sign-up for the new farm program for the

2019 and 2020 crop years is currently ongoing at local USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) office and will continue until March 15, 2020. Producers will have a choice between the price-only "price loss coverage" (PLC) and county yield revenue-based "ag risk coverage" (ARC-CO) program choices for the 2019 and 2020 crop production years. Beginning with the 2021 crop year, producers will be able to make an annual election between the ARC-CO and PLC program choices. Farm operators with prevent plant acres in 2019 may also consider the "ag risk coverage individual" (ARC-IC) program option, which utilizes farmlevel crop yields. FSA and University Extension Services are hosting many farm program information meetings in early 2020.

Kent Thiesse has prepared an information sheet titled: "Evaluating Farm Program Decisions for the 2019 and 2020 Crop Years" To receive a free copy of this information sheet, send an e-mail to: kent.thiesse@ minnstarbank.com

Continued from page 1

the impact on the ethanol industry

refinery exemptions" (SRE's) by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has garnered considerable attention by ethanol and biodiesel plants, farm organizations, and political leaders during 2019. In the past couple of years, the EPA has granted an unusually high number of SRE's, which has impacted demand for re-

Be in the present like a cat By Al Batt

"Aisle do it!"

I said that because someone had to run to the store to get a couple of things. I was that designated someone to participate in combat-shopping. It gives me that happy holiday feeling broke.

I know it's getting close

Christto mas when the pumpkin spicescented cat litter loses its odor.



We have watch-

cat. During the night she makes pre-upchuck sounds as warnings. Those wake me more effectively than any alarm clock. Staggering out of bed, I step in her production. The cat doesn't believe in throwing up on bare floor. That would be embarrassing for her. She must vomit on carpet, as is the traditional feline way. When I step in it, I make pre-upchuck sounds. The cat watched, pleased with my apparent appreciation of her Christmas gift. We each give what we can. Then she waddled off to reboot at her food bowl. I growled that hers would be a parting gift, but that was an empty threat. The cat loves to see gifts opened. She sits in the boxes. Cats live in the pres-

I was lucky to have both river and woods on the farm where I was hatched. Over the river and through the woods, to grandmother's house we go. The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh, through the white and drifted snow. Our horse couldn't have carried a sleigh even if we'd had a horse and a sleigh. My father came from a big family. He told me his best Christmas as a boy was the year when it was his turn to get the Christmas gift. For me, having so many cousins made life interesting.



If Grandma got my name right on the fourth or fifth try, that was reason for celebration.

Christmas isn't This my first rodeo. I've been to town before and I've learned things. chewed gum serves as a nice option when you run out of tape while wrapping presents. There is hope for the world as long as people continue to turn sawdust and apples into fruitcake. It might be a good idea to gnaw on a bedpost for a few weeks prior to Christmas so you'll be ready for the fruit-

Hy-Vee Purified Water

Hy-Vee Midwest Boneless

Hy-Vee Bacon Wrapped

Coupon must be presented to your cashier

Limit 4 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer

at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Dec 26-31, 2019 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store.

Sirloin Steaks - 4 oz.

America's Cut Pork Chops - 8 oz.

Limit 10 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Jan 1-7, 2020 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store.

WEEK 1

LU 95615

16.9 oz. 24 pk.

Hu**y**ee

HyVee.

cake. If you get socks for Christmas, try to think how your feet feel about them. If you want to spice up your Christmas letter, pretend you are Warren Buffett or Oprah Winfrey.

While ringing bells for the Salvation Army, I saw so many people wearing Carhartt watch caps, I'm guessing they were a popular Christmas gift last year. It may be because they are warm or low-priced — or both.

love Longfellow's words, "May your merriment never stop, but turn

down the music or I'm calling a cop." Those were yelled at me by my old neighbor, Shorty Longfellow. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote something quite good, too: "I heard the bells on Christmas Day. Their old, familiar carols play, and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

I don't believe he was any kin to Shorty.

I'd love to be able to give my wife everything. But you can't have everything. Where would you put it? Instead, I give my wife an odd gift because I'm sure it isn't something she'd buy for herself. That takes the tense

out of presents. I'm giving her a new lens for my camera this year. There should be a bit of the giver in a gift. That won't be her only gift. I'll give her pepper, cinnamon, ginger, turmeric, and nutmeg. Seasonings' greetings. Last year, she told me, "I don't yearn for caviar or gaudy jewelry. Thanks for the Christmas gifts and for going to all the trouble of getting them."

"It was no trouble," I responded modestly.

"I didn't think it had been," she said with a sigh.

One year, I planned on giving my father a box of slightly used nails I'd picked from the ground after the neighbors had

shingled their house. I was gift-wrapping each individually in tissue paper when my mother convinced me that a Zane Grey book would be more appreciated. Later, I heard them talking at the kitchen table.

"What did you get Allen?" whispered my moth-

"I got him a pail of coal," said my pappy.

"Oh, no. I got him the same thing."

I had enough coal that year. This year, my plan is to have a Merry Christmas. I'm hoping for an alarm clock that sounds like a cat about to throw up.

© Al Batt 2019



Limit 4 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Jan 8-14, 2020 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store Valid Jan 8-14, 2020 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store Hu**y**ee. WEEK 2 WEEK 2

8 pc. Chicken Bucket



Limit 2 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer Coupon must be presented to your cashier

Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase.

Pepsi - 24 pk. 12 oz. cans

Limit 2 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Jan 1-7, 2020 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store

Hy**y**ee. WEEK 1 LU 95616

.98 Hy-Vee Butter - 1 lb.

Limit 2 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Dec 26-31, 2019 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store.

Valid Jan 8-14, 2020 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store Hu**y**ee. WEEK 2 Hy-Vee Cheese (select varieties) half lb.

Hy-Vee Ice Cream

(select varieties) 1.75 quart

Limit 1 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase.

with purchase of 1 lb. Hy-Vee deli meat - select varieties

Limit half lb. per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Jan 1-7, 2020 at your



Coke Products - 6 pk. 1/2 Liter bottles Limit 5 per coupon. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon must be presented to your cashier at the check stand at the time of purchase. Valid Dec 26-31, 2019 at your Fairmont Hy-Vee Store

WEEK 2 Earn 50¢ Off Per Gallon On Your \$50 Purchase **Exclusions Apply**

Limit 1 coupon per Fuel Saver + Perks card per week. Purchase of \$50 or more required. Limit 1 coupon per transaction. Limit to 1 time use only. Cannot be combined with any other offers, Not \$5xcabele. Limitations apply (please see store for détails). Excludes alcohol, tobacco, pharmacy, diff cards, money orders, Western Union and postage. Offer HyVee. WEEK 1 LU 95618



Earn 50[¢]

Exclusions Apply

Off Per Gallon On Your \$50 Purchase

Exclusions Apply

Limit 1 coupon per Fuel Saver + Perks card per week. Purchase of \$50 or more required. Limit 1 coupon per transaction. Limit to 1 time use only. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Not Stackable. Limitations apply (please see store for details). Excludes alcohol, tobacco, pharmacy, gift cards, money orders, Westem Union and postage. Offer good at your Farmont Hy-Vee Store, Dec 26-31, 2009.

"The Piltz girls" of Welcome, Minnesota by Boyd Schuler, Charleston, SC

Schuler is the nephew of former Martin County residents Bernie Schuler. He Fraser Township. The famwrote a story in 2018 about his foster parents Walter and Carolyn Abel. In this story he writes the history of the "Piltz girls" of Welcome, particularly Carolyn (Piltz) Abel and her family.

This is a short story about the 4 Piltz Girls (Jean, Betty, Carolyn, and Lois) from rural Welcome in Fraser Township.

To understand the girls one needs to go back several years when their grandparents came to Minnesota as homesteaders.

The Piltz girls grandparents were Edward C Klussman and Caroline (Grinsell) Klussman. They settled in section 18 of Fraser Township in 1890 to 5 children but; will add a daughter named Caroline Emily Klussman. Caroline the Welcome area, Irvin (Carrie as she was called) was born on the homestead in Fraser Township, May 24th, 1891. This is where the story begins.

ily was very neighborly and attended church regularly. Edward and his 4 sons will help build the Emmanuel Welcome. This church still stands today but since has been moved to Heritage Acres in Fairmont.

While attending church, Carrie saw a young man, or the young man saw Carrie and made her acquaintance. His name, George E Piltz, who will later become of the 4 Piltz Girls. George was born in Naperville, Illinois October 2nd, 1888. He lived with his family, in Downers Grove, Illinois, attended school, and later begin their lives, with their to find more meaningful

> and Hervey Phillips. The that Emmanuel Method-

Editor's Note: Boyd farmed, raised horse, and worked and lived with the sent all their children to Phillips on their homeschool at District #14 in stead, homesteading was arduous and difficult work, long hours, and the Phillips were thankful for cousin George's help.

> World War I changed Methodist Church in rural George's life, the US Army drafted him along with George Goetz another man he worked for. They both served in the Army until the end of the war. George Piltz returns to Welcome to marry Caroline (Carrie) E Klussman on March 25th, 1919.

> That marriage was held her husband and the father in Fairmont. The couple were driven to Welcome in a buggy, then by the train to Fairmont where they were married at Sam Starks home, a close friends of Carries. The honeymoonventured out to Minnesota ers left for Minneapolis via the train and then returned to the Klussman farm in ru-George had cousins in ral Fraser Township and to begin their married life.

George and Carrie Piltz Phillips also lived in Fra- continued the Klussmans' ser Township and attended farming operation, started a family, by giving birth to ist Church where George the four Piltz girls. George The Klussman family first saw Carrie. George farmed until 1951, retired

and continued living and enjoying his retirement on the family farm, passing away May 5th of 1964 at age 75.

Carrie continued living on the farm, and she was 106 when she passed away on May 19th, 1998. Always living and the farm and home that she was born at. These are the Piltz Girls:

Jean is the oldest, the first born February 3rd, 1920. Jean attended school said her most exciting job years of the depression as was with radio personality "Annabelle Webb" of ready for the world, she radio program hostess welcoming guest, serving coffee, and making everyone Each summer Betty worked feel at ease and comfortable. Jean returned to the camp in Wisconsin, there farm to help her parents and sadly died in 1971 from cancer.

Betty, the second of the four girls, was born in 1921 in District #14, as did her on September 6th. She too



Piltz Family — November, 1943 Back Row: Jean, Betty, Carolyn. Front Row: George, Lois, Carrie.

mother and sisters. Jean attended that rural school. finished school, worked then high school in Weland lived with the Dewar come, graduating in 1939.

family in Fairmont. She Betty emerged from the a vibrant young woman KSUM radio. Jean was the enrolled at a Aurora, Illinois Bible College, where her uncle Harry Piltz lived. at the college's summer she met a nice young man from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. That courtship stayed active as both return to their respective colleges; but the war interrupts Betty's college life, she returns home and to work in Fairmont before joining the Unites States Coast Guard.

> The early 1940 were uncertain years, lots of unknowns, life was worrisome, people were ready to live as much as they could. The four girls wanted to be together, see one another, talk, laugh, and just be sisters. At the conclusion of World War II, Betty returned to college, re-established her courtship with Richard Parson, the nice young man from Pittsburg who she later married in 1955 at the family home in Fraser Township. Richard

Continued on page 10

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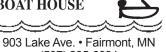


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WARRANTY DEEDS

Summit Construction LLC to Teresa S. Zaharia, PT Lots 13 and 14, Block 2, Grafs 4th Addition Truman

Dawn Willner, Douglas A. Willner to Wyatt Burmeister, Jordan Meyer, PT 5.7 AC, SW¼NE¼, 27-102-

Christpher M. Gaalswyk, Laruen E. Gaalswyk to Madison Mahle, Nicholas Mahle, Lots 1 and 2, Block 9, Original Plat Monterey

Marlene Ratike to Danny Klous, Lot 5, Block 14 and EXC S½ Lot 8, Block 14, Original Plat Truman

Carol J. Dick, James E. Dick to Andrew Jorgensen, Erica Jorgensen, PT NW1/4NW1/4, 16-102-29

Amy Maday, Louis Maday to Lucas Maday, PT 5.61 AC, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄, 23-102-31

Corey Olson, Stephanie Olson, Stephanie Olson to David Meschke, Lisa Meschke, PT NW1/4NW1/4, 6-102-

David Meschke, Lisa Meschke to Northern Natural Gas Company, PT NW1/4NW1/4, 6-102-31

Melissa M. Garry, Robert T. Garry to Connor L. Garry, E½ PT SE¼, 2-102-29

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Mary K. Murphy, Michael W. Murphy, Mary K. Zarling to Mary K. Murphy, Michael W. Murphy, Lot 2, Block 2, Heritage Park 2nd Addition

KT&Z Venture LLC, Monkey Biz LLC, Anthony Psaila, Traci Psaila to KT&Z Venture LLC, Lot 1, Block 1, Hardees Addition

TRUSTEE DEED

Norman J. Secrest Special Needs Trust, Secrest Family Trust, Cynthia L. Secrest and Lawrence M. Secrest Trustees to Cynthia L. Secrest Trustee, Lawrence M. Secrest Trustee, PT N½ of SE¼, 34-103-32 and PT NE¼SW¼, 34-103-32

Estate of Robert Allen Nutt, Estate of Robert Allen Weber, Angie M. Detert Personal Rep to M-Mar Properties LLC, Lot 11, Block 3, Taylor & Johnson Addition

Tween and Teen Vision Boards at Fairmont library

Tweens and teens boards.

Bring any photos or quotes of inspiration you brary at 238-4207 for would like to use. All oth- more information. er supplies are provided.

Come and get creative are invited to join us at with a vision board for the Fairmont Library on 2020 and beyond. This Friday, December 27th program is free and open at 1 p.m. to make vision to the public and no registration is required.

Call the Fairmont li-



One of many online auctions. Bidding begins Dec. 23rd. Check website for new auctions beginning regularly. Local pick-up in Blue Earth, MN and shipping available.

www.KoonsAuctions.Hibid.com

Ryan Berndt, 507-525-2423 or Richard Koons, 507-236-2902

Continued from At the dance was a young page 9

becomes a teachers in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadel-

Betty and Richard will have children and Betty will live to be 94, passing away in 2015 near her Pennsylvania home.

Carolyn May Piltz, is the third born February 6th, 1925. Yes, she too attended District #14, it's a family tradition, then high school in the city of Fairmont, graduating in 1944.

Following high school Carolyn worked at the Martin County Bank before moving to Aurora, Illinois to live with Uncle Harry and Aunt Ethyl Piltz. Living in Aurora adjacent to Chicago area gave Carolyn the opportunity to work within the new field of computers.

Beginning in 1947 Carolyn was part of the office staff at work key punching data into IBM computers. Carolyn returns to Welcome in 1949 found employment with Sears and Montgomery Wards and then attended a dance with a girlfriend at Hans Park.

man, Walter (Wally) Abel, who saw her across the dance floor. Walter was quite taken with this young woman and didn't have the chance to meet Carolyn that evening. Walter asked around, got her name, where she worked, and showed up the next week at her place of employment and asked for a date. They courted, saw one another, danced and the rest is history. They were married in 1951 on October 26th. That marriage took place right during the harvest season, Walter said to his brothers, "You get the crops out, I'm getting married." The wedding was held at St Paul's Evangelical and Reformed

Church in Welcome. Carolyn and ter moved onto the Piltz homestead in rural Fraser Township to begin farming. Several years later Walter and Carolyn purchased their own farm south of Welcome in Rolling Green Township, where they farmed until retirement.

Walter Abel is the oldest of eight children from Charles and Elda Abel of East Chain. Carolyn and Walter will adopted two children, Donna (Abel) Hunt of Amery, Wisconsin

and Greg Abel of Fairmont. They also raised a foster child, Boyd Schuler, who came to live with them in 1958.

Lois Fern Piltz, number four of the Piltz girls, the last born, the baby of the family. Lois was born May 28th, 1928. She was the last girl to attend that county school #14 in Fraser Township. Lois attended high school in Fairmont, but graduated later from St Cloud Agricultural High School in1947.

Carrie, always the mother who made sure her girls were well-educated, would drive Lois to elementary and then high school in Fairmont daily. This driving got to be a chore, and the four girls wanted to see more of each other during those uncertain war years of the 40s. Carrie made arrangements for her girls to be together by renting an apartment on the south side near the old Fairmont Hospital. This was briefly during Carolyn's senior year (1943-44). Jean and Betty were both working in town and Lois was starting high school. What a time that must have been for the four Piltz Girls from the farm to live together the during those war years in Fairmont. A city where there were picture shows, shopping, restaurants and maybe dancing at the ballrooms.

Following graduation from St Cloud Ag School, Lois found employment at the Fairmont Hospital and later met a young man, Lewis Handevidt, at a dance near Sherburn at the Fox Lake Ballroom. That dance and other social events lead to their marriage at the Salem EUB Church in Fairmont.

Lois and Lewis (they called him Bud) farmed in rural Sherburn with their children. Bud became a Martin County Commissioner in the 1960's and sadly died young in an automobile accident. Lois remained on that farm in Sherburn until she acquired and moved to the family homestead in Fraser Township.

Today the Klussman/ Piltz homestead of Section 18 in Fraser Township still remains in the family of Lois (Piltz) Handevidts daughter, (Handevidt-Piltz) Judy Hemiller and her husband Glen. A farm that began as a homestead in 1890 has never been sold and still remains in the family today.

The story was written in June 2018 by, Boyd Schuler, the foster son of Carolyn and Walter Abel who never left them. He is a retired teacher from Minnesota who lives in Charleston, South Carolina. Y'all take care, ya hear. You betcha!

Annual MLHS auction set for January 18

urday, January 18th at 9:15

clothing, many collectible Fostoria. toys, dishes, crocks, furniture and primitives.

are: Ornate Pastor's Study therhs.com/antique-aucchair used by Rev. Emil tion.html.

The 16th annual Gen- Geistfeld, Truman area. eration to Generation An- 1932 Ohio Art, Mickey & tique Auction will be held Minnie Mouse Tin Tea Setat Martin Luther High Classic Disney artwork. School, Northrop on Sat- 1969 Peanuts Snoopy Skediddler & Sopwith Camel Plane by Mattel 4954. This is a huge, all-day RARE 1965 SNOOPY & sale that benefit Student His Flying Doghouse Toy Tuition Aid. On the auc- Game. 1950's Kitchen Tation is a collection of very ble and Chairs in pristine old children and women's condition. Collections of

A complete listing and pictures can be found at Of particular interest https://www.martinlu-

notices

December 19 - Catherine M. Kasper, 98, Fairmont Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service

> In Memorium One Year Ago This Week

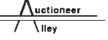
December 18 - Agnes L. Williamson, 93, Fairmont December 19 - Marie S. Ricard, 93, Truman

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020 @ 9:15AM - Martin Luther High School Top Quality Antique Auction, MEMBERS OF AUCTIONEER ALLEY

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· Doug Wedel, 236-4255 105 South State Street, Fairmont, MN (507) 238-4318

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LEFTY LAYUP - Cadee Becker scores two of her game high 20 points as Tri-City United's #2 Erica Jackson and Isabelle Factor look on. Becker made 10 consecutive second-half free throws including for two. Teammate Brittney Mosloski battles for posithe game tying one and one and the go ahead free throw with 2.7 seconds left in the game. Courtesy fairmontsports.com



FLOATER - Cards Maggy Totzke floats in the lane tion for a rebound against Tri-City United's Jess Dull. The Cards edged the Titans 43-42 last Thursday night. Courtesy fairmontsports.com

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