



PhotoPress

Only good news

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SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES 2020 Martin County & City of Fairmont Legal Newspaper

The Guy From Just Around the Corner

By Al Batt

My neighbor Crandall stops by.
"How are you doing?" I ask.
"Everything is nearly co-pacetic. I'm still getting all my table utensils at Wendy's. The whole political scene thing is something. I haven't seen such a ruckus since Hiram sat on the gopher trap down at the hardware store. I never talk politics with friends because most of them are morons. I'm thinking of taking up running, but I pulled a hamstring just thinking about it. I haven't done that since I ran cross country in high school. I should have started with a smaller country."



Nature by the yard
It was calm and quiet. There was no eerie groaning caused by the rubbing of one tree or branch against another in winter's bluster. I might have been able to hear a squirrel breathing had I listened hard enough. Squir-

rels carried on their ancient business. I'm not prone to criticizing. I'm into critter-sizing. I have three species of tree squirrels in the yard — red, fox and gray. The red is the smallest and the fox the largest. As you have already deduced, the gray squirrel is the middleweight entry of the three.
The quiet was disrupted by the sound of a murder of crows feeding on a raccoon carcass. It wasn't death by Kia. Folktale says that crows gather to decide the capital fate of another crow. Crows are scavengers, but the term "murder of crows" reflects a time when collective nouns of animals had colorful and poetic names.
I shoveled snow and considered how parts of Minnesota are blessed or cursed by more or less snow. According to Current Results, which uses weather data collected by the NOAA National Climatic Data Center, Albert Lea receives 37.8 inches of snow each year, Mankato 38.6, Brainerd 46.8, Rochester 51.9, Minneapolis 54,

International Falls 71, and Duluth 86.1 inches of annual snowfall.
Indoors, while searching for something else, I came across some seed packets. I wondered if the seeds were still viable. Seed viability varies depending on the plant and how they were stored. They should be stored in well-sealed, watertight containers in cool (50°), dark locations. I could conduct a ragdoll test. The ragdoll is a rolled tube of a moistened paper towel containing the seeds to be checked for germination, placed in a plastic bag, and stored in a warm place for several days. I'd assess the number of seeds germinating over the next few days. If the rate was less than 75%, I'd be better off buying new seeds. If the rate was between 75-90%, I'd use them but plant more seeds per planting.
Q&A
"How good is a turkey's eyesight?" Wild turkeys have excellent vision during daylight hours. Turkeys see color, have a wide field of vision, and generally, their eyesight is about three times better

than ours. You might not see them, but they see you.
"How many kernels on an ear of corn?" The number of kernels per ear of field corn can vary from 500 to 1,200. A typical ear has about 800 kernels. Much of the field corn plants are bred to develop just one large ear. This approach usually yields better production. A bushel of shelled corn weighs 56 pounds.
"Why do dogs turn in circles before lying down?" Robert Benchley observed: "A dog teaches a boy fidelity, perseverance, and to turn around three times before lying down." I've been told that it's an act of self-preservation in that a dog may innately know it needs to position itself to check for threats and to ward off possible attacks. Others have told me wolves sleep with their noses to the wind so they could detect a threatening scent and circle to determine wind direction. Still others think circling is done to roust vermin or to discover any stones or prickly vegetation that might prove uncomfortable. I think the theory that is most credible is dogs are creating a nest for themselves by trampling

down grass or perceived grass before settling down for a nap.
Keep an eye and an ear out for
1. Starling bills are dark in winter but begin to turn yellow as the breeding season approaches. They are changing now.
2. House finches singing their exuberant, tumbling song.
3. Cardinals whistling "what-cheer" in honor of a town in Iowa.
4. Wild turkeys gobbling.
5. Red-tailed hawks perching close to one another. This is a sign of Valentine's Day.

From the mailbox
Regarding a photo of a hen pheasant with wattles, Lucas Eichenberger wrote: "The picture isn't real clear but it almost looks like the wattles are blinders that a game farm puts on them to keep them from picking on each other."
Thanks for stopping by
"The point of life is to help others through it" - Peter Matthiessen, "In Paradise"
"The reason why worry kills more people than work is that more people worry than work." — Robert Frost
Do good.
Al Batt 2020



House finches and goldfinches feeding at the trough. Photo by Al Batt



~ POSSIBILITY MULTIPLIES IN A COMMUNITY ~ WOMEN FORWARD OF SWEET FINANCIAL PRESENTS THE PATH TO BECOMING A MILLIONAIRE 7 SIMPLE STEPS TO CREATING YOUR FINANCIAL PLAN

PLANNING FOR YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE COMPLICATED. THAT'S WHY WE BRING YOU THIS WORKSHOP WHERE WE WILL GIVE YOU 7 SIMPLE STEPS TO SAVING FOR YOUR FUTURE THAT IS NOT ONLY SIMPLE TO IMPLEMENT, BUT IS EXCITING TO WORK TOWARDS!

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RSVP TODAY AND JOIN US FOR THIS INFORMATIVE AND FUN EVENT!

THE PATH TO BECOMING A MILLIONAIRE

WHEN: 5:30 PM ~ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 2020

WHERE: HOLIDAY INN (AMBER ROOM), 1201 TORGERSON DR, FAIRMONT, MN 56031

THE RSVP LINK FOR YOU AND YOUR GUEST IS:
[WOMENFORWARDRSVP.COM/THE-PATH-TO-BECOMING-A-MILLIONAIRE](https://www.womenforwardrsvp.com/the-path-to-becoming-a-millionaire)
OR BY CALLING (507) 235-5587 OR (800) 658-2507

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Twin Kennedy to appear at the Red Rock Center

Twin Kennedy, blending styles from country to classical with outstanding sibling vocal harmonies and high energy, comes to the Red Rock Center in Fairmont Friday, February 21st at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available at Hy-Vee in Fairmont and the redrock-center.org online box office.

Join the Kennedys for a FREE Master's Class Thursday, February 20th at 7 p.m. This 1.5 hour workshop will cover performance skills, practice skill and encouraging



teaching style. Open to children and adults, this class is ideal for anyone who presents any genre, instrument, vocals, theatre and speech at any level. The class is free

and space is limited. Pre-registration is required by calling the Red Rock at 507-235-9262.

City council discusses rates and roundabout

Roundabouts and utility rates were the main topic of discussion at the Fairmont City Council meeting on Monday night.

After some initial discussion, the Fairmont City Council (minus Bruce Peters, who was absent from the meeting) unanimously approved a water service rate increase and a wastewater rate increase. The wastewater increase, according to City Finance Director Paul Hoye, will be mostly earmarked for capital improvements in the system. The last rate increase for that was in 2013.

The issue creating the most talk around town was the discussion taking place on the proposed mini roundabout at the corner of Blue Earth Avenue and Downtown Plaza (or at the corner of the Fairmont Opera House and El Agave Restaurant). The study on the proposed roundabout is coming into play mainly for two reasons: 1. It is potential part of a plan for the Lake Avenue Reconstruction project and 2. the State of Minnesota will no longer pay for traffic light replacement at that intersection.

The city council has been reviewing engineering studies that recommend placing a mini roundabout at that corner.

The state is not mandating this be done, however state funding is tied to this project. Councilor Randy Lubenow brought up concerns that he has along with some of his constituents surrounding pedestrian safety if a mini roundabout is put into place. Councilor Tom Hawkins also said he has been contacted by a number of citizens with the same concerns.

According to Fairmont Public Works Director Troy Nemmers, the cost to replace the stoplights at that intersection would be approximately \$200,000, of which the City of Fairmont would be responsible for that cost. If a mini roundabout was built, the projected cost would be \$4.8 million, according to Nemmers, but it would have a portion of the cost be state-funded.

Nemmers stated that Bolton & Menk is working on updating a presentation of the proposed mini-roundabout that will be provided to council members and city staff and that data on studies and project costs will be released to the public through the city website, media outlets and general communication from city staff in the coming weeks.

The Martin Luther High School, Northrop Class of 2020 will be hosting a Pie Auction at the school during the boys JAGS Basketball game vs. St. James on Thursday, February 20th in Northrop.



NOWAK 60TH - Harold and Joan Nowak will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, February 13th, 2020. They were married in Avoca, MN and have resided in the Fairmont area for the past 60 years. Cards can reach them at 1013 Martin Road, Welcome, MN 56181.

Red Rock Center to form an Artist's Club

Red Rock Center is planning to form an Artist's Club. The world of art in a fun, relaxed atmosphere.

Participation is open to all hobby and seasoned artists from around the area.

Regardless where your creativity lies we want to create a social environment for artists to network, build rapport, share ideas, and explore

This introductory meeting will be led by Nancy Katzer and will focus on ideas for a monthly art gathering.

Come and enjoy light refreshments and conversation with other creative people and visit about this exciting new club. Everyone welcome.



Girl Scout Cookies are here! Local Girl Scouts will start selling door-to-door on Saturday, February 15. Watch for booth sales coming soon. The Girl Scouts in Martin County appreciate your continued support which helps all girls and troops to fund their activities and service projects throughout the year. (Submitted photo)

All Martin County libraries will be closed on Monday, February 17th in observance of President's Day.

507-766-3910

Baha Gutter Company

Get your mind off your gutters!

Brett Meyeraan Owner
Meyeraanbw@gmail.com
Fairmont, MN

ZoBella
designer doodles



Goldendoodle Puppies!

MARGO HARRIS
message me on facebook
@zobelladesignerdoodles
507-236-2962



DOBIE 60TH - Cliff and Charlottee Dobie of Truman will celebrate 60 years of marriage on Friday, February 14th. Congratulations can reach them at 507-776-2391 or at 114 West First Street South, Truman, MN 56088.

The Martin Luther High School, Northrop Class of 2022 will be hosting a **Waffle Feed** at the school on Sunday, February 16th from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For a free will offering.

Ruby's Pantry Sherburn Pop-up Pantry will be having a food distribution on Monday, February 17th at Regional Worship Center, 2 Crossroads Drive in Sherburn. The distribution is from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. A \$20 CASH donation is required (registration begins at 5 p.m.) Make sure you bring two large boxes of totes for food. For more information, call 507-764-7491.



GREFE 90TH - Darla Mae Grefe of Fairmont will observe her 90th birthday on Wednesday, February 19th, 2020. Cards will reach her at 610 Summit Drive, Apartment 106, Fairmont, MN 56031.



UHD
Open House

Saturday, February 29

10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Open to the Public

Tour UHD's beautiful new Emergency Department and expanded Blue Earth Clinic

Refreshments will be served

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UHD Blue Earth Hospital & Clinic 515 S. Moore St 507.526.7388

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, February 12th they will serve A&W Swissburgers, baked beans and chips. Next Wednesday, February 19th it will be tacos and all the fixings and fruit. All dinners include peanut butter and jelly sandwich, beverage and donated desserts. A \$2 donation is suggested.



Fairmont Youth Hockey hosted their 11th annual Hockey Day on February 1st, 2020. A great time was had by all players from mini mites through high school. Two sponsors were part of the many that made this event possible. Thank you to Martin County Pheasants Forever for sponsoring our Caricatures by Casey, and to Hawkins Chevrolet for helping to buy equipment for our players! Each of these sponsors donated \$500 to the association. (Submitted photo)



In January Kinship of Martin County was notified that they had been chosen as a recipient of Valero's Benefit for Children Grant. Pictured (L to R): Joe Frerichs, Sandy Gries, Kathy Carlson, Jen Kahler, Katy Gonzalez, Sarah Caballero, Nicole Gries, Roy Spatz Sr., Josh McCarthick. (Submitted photo)

eat play shop LOCAL

CREST to launch "Spice of Life"

by Joyce Peterson, CREST Coordinator

The challenges of living with memory loss can sever social connections at a time when that is needed most.

Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia have in the past had a "stigma" attached to it. It was not talked about, and those living with the disease and their care partners were often excluded from social settings, leading to isolation and increasing the downward spiral of both persons. Fortunately, this is changing in our society today.

In the Netherlands in 1997, Dr. Bere Miesen worked on a new concept that he called a "Memory Cafe" to break through the stigma associated with various forms of memory loss.

CREST is undertaking this new venture. On February 20th, the first

Spice of Life event will be held at the CREST office in Fairmont from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

This is a social event in a safe, welcoming place, where those living with memory loss and their care partners come together and enjoy the planned activities and company of others in similar situations. It is not a place to drop off your loved one, but rather a place where you can come together to enjoy activities and break you from your normal routine. There is no charge for these monthly events and the Spice of Life is open to anyone in the county and surrounding areas.

Watch for more details in the Photo Press and shared at churches. If you have any questions or want to sign up for the program, call CREST at 235-3833.

CREST Lunch and Learn to focus on U.S. Presidents

Which U.S. President was never married? What American President has won a Grammy award? Which Presidents passed away on July 4th? The answers to these questions and much more will be revealed at the "Lunch & Learn" event sponsored by CREST.

It will be held on Wednesday, February 19th at 11:00 a.m. at First Lutheran

Church, located at 61 Apple Street East in Trimont.

The program this month will look at interesting facts and trivia about our U.S. Presidents. Following the presentation, a soup and sandwich lunch will be served with brownies for dessert. Donations are welcome to defray costs. Anyone in the area is invited to join in the fun and socializing.

Minnesota Lions Club eyeglass collection info

The Minnesota Lions Club have for many years collected eyeglasses that people no longer use. The program is called "Lions Recycle for Sight".

According to a recent board of directors meeting, the organization took a trailer load (89,250 pair) of eyeglasses to Rosholt, Wisconsin. The total collected is now 11,340,168 eyeglasses collected. This

helps reduce the waste in our landfills.

If you have eyeglasses that you no longer need or use, you can drop them off at a number of locations in Fairmont. They are located at: Profinium Bank, Twelve Baskets, Family Eye Care, Shopko Eye Care, Mayo Eye Clinic, Associate Optometry, Walmart and CCF Bank.

County library offering meditation workshop

Join the Martin County Library for a workshop on the mechanics and applications of meditation and other mindfulness based practices.

This program takes place Thursday, February 20th at 2 p.m. at the Trimont Municipal Building and again at 5:30 p.m. at the Martin County Library in Fairmont.

This workshop is relevant for beginners as well as experienced practitioners.

The program is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant provided by the Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Sukalski announces candidacy for Dist. 23A

Michael Sukalski of Fairmont has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for District 23A in Minnesota.

The position, long held by Bob Gunther of Fairmont, is open this fall due to the announcement by Gunther that he is retiring.

Sukalski will have an open house on Monday,

February 17th from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Fairmont. Members of the public will have the opportunity to meet Sukalski and will get the chance to share their ideas and discuss the issues facing the local district.

More information can be found on www.sukalskiformn.com

Do you like to read?

We need people to help read the short story: The Death of Ivan Ilyich by Leo Tolstoy.

This tale will be read to the public at the Red Rock Center for the Arts in Fairmont next month, March,

2020.

Practice sessions are happening now.

For information, please call the Tolstoy Reading Committee of Fairmont at: 507 848-4414 or 507 236-7413.



UHD Celebrates Heart Health Awareness Month

FREE CHOLESTEROL AND GLUCOSE SCREENINGS IN FEBRUARY

- Every Monday 7:30-9:00 a.m. Winnebago Clinic
- Every Tuesday 7:30-9:00 a.m. Wells Clinic
- Every Wednesday 7:30-9:00 a.m. Blue Earth Clinic
- Every Thursday 7:30-9:00 a.m. Fairmont Clinic

No appointment necessary.

Persons wishing to participate in the screening should present to UHD Clinic fasting, with nothing to eat or drink after midnight the night before. Results will be mailed to participants.

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Fairmont Clinic	221 E. First St.	507-238-1287
Wells Clinic	55 First St. SE	507-553-6550
Winnebago Clinic	1 N. Main St.	507-893-3399

www.uhd.org

Think Spring!
New Member Special

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Rose Lake
Golf Club

2020 Spring Special

Single:

1st Year
\$550.00 + tax= **\$587.81**

Additional \$125.00 for A stock

Family:

1st Year
\$650.00 + tax= **\$694.69**

Additional \$125.00 for A stock

Call Rose Lake 507-235-5274 or Bonnie 507-399-2128 for more details

Health care career scholarships available

Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont Foundation is offering two Blanche Kindstrom Hospital Auxiliary Scholarships to local students pursuing health care careers. The deadline for applications is April 3.

This year's scholarships include:

- One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a Fairmont High School senior
- One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a high school senior in the Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont service area

The Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont Scholarship Com-

mittee reviews all scholarship applications and selects a recipient and alternate. Scholarship recipients and alternates will be notified by April 15th, 2020.

Scholarship recipients must enter college within one year of being awarded the scholarship. Applications and additional information are available through area high school counselors or online at mayoclinichealthsystem.org. On the home page, type "Blanche Kindstrom Scholarship" in the search bar at the top of the page.

MARTIN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

The Carl Nettifee Memorial Animal Shelter

522 E. MARGARET ST. • FAIRMONT, MN • 238-1885

pawprints.petfinder.com

Email: pawprints01@hotmail.com

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

A FEW OF OUR CATS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

SONNY has stolen the hearts of volunteers at the shelter. He was tossed out a window of a truck and rescued by Good Samaritans when he was little. He is super playful, sweet, cuddly and loving. He gets along with other cats, and his favorite toy is a bell ball to chase around. He's white with tabby spots.

A FEW OF OUR DOGS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

ROCKO is a Belguim Malonois mix. A people pleaser, he loves head scratches and big hugs. Rocko has a medical condition called Lupus, but that doesn't slow him down. He loves to play fetch and tug-of-war. His medication is inexpensive and he takes pills like a champ.

Looking for emotionally rewarding volunteer opportunities?
Visit us during our open hours and find out how you can help the animals.

Miss Martin County of 1949

Guest Columnist

Lenny Tvedten, Director, Martin County Historical Society



What was life like in 1949? Society has evolved significantly since then. Some examples of what things cost in 1949 are as follows: the average cost of a new house was \$7,450.00; average wages were \$2,950.00 annually; a gallon of gas was \$0.17; the minimum wage was \$0.70/hour; and a new car cost \$1,420.00.

According to accounts documented in the Pioneer Museum, Martin County was celebrating the Minnesota Territorial Centennial in 1949.

There were luncheons, parades, speeches, contests, and more in honor of the occasion. A committee made up of county residents headed up the planning of these events. Perhaps the most exciting of these events involved a local person

and a nationally known individual. The local celebrity was Miss Martin County of 1949, Truman native Joan Williams. Of national

prominence was Miss America of 1948, Miss BeBe Shopp, who was visiting Martin County for the celebration. Miss Shopp was the first Miss America to be crowned from the state of Minnesota.

Of additional interest, a midshipman from the U. S. Naval Academy, who also happened to be the captain of the Navy Football Team, was in Fairmont. He was in Fairmont to serve as Miss Shopp's escort. It was obviously quite a festive time in Martin County during that July of 1949.



SURROUNDED BY ROYALTY—Is Martin County Centennial Chairman Don R. Peterson of Truman. At his right is Miss BeBe Shopp, Miss America of 1948; at his left is Joan Williams of his home town of Truman, who was named Miss Martin County.—Guckeen Photo & Engraving. 5 July 1949

There were a number of costuming events scheduled. One included four of the "oldest women" in the audience wearing

sunbonnets. They were selected by the "whisker patrol," with one of those selected declared the winner.

Also, a prize was given for the oldest life-long resident of the county. Participants were selected from what was referred to as the "advanced age group." The two winners were 72 years old and 56 years old. Apparently 56 and 72 was "really old" by 1949 standards. It would seem best not to mention to anyone today in that age category as being in the "advanced age group." That comment might spark some unintended fireworks.

The July day that witnessed the arrival of the Shopp family was described as "sweltering" as the temperature approached 96 degrees F. Mr. and Mrs. Shopp, BeBe's parents, were in a room at the Augusta Hotel in Fairmont trying to keep cool. BeBe was in the process of selecting her wardrobe for the subsequent

events and preparing for a musical recital. As an accomplished Harpist, she took painstaking pride in her recitals.

The Shopp's were described as being quite humble and very proud of their daughter's accomplishments. They were to visit the Sumner Scott's home on Hazelmere to meet Phil Ryan who would serve as the official escort for BeBe Shopp. As previously mentioned, Ryan was a midshipman at the U. S. Naval Academy and was also the Captain of the Navy Football Team.

Included in the festivities that were to follow was a dinner party for Miss America and Miss Martin County at the Augusta Hotel. Another individual attending the dinner party was the Palomino Queen with her beautifully decorated riding costume. After the dinner party, there was a Palomino show followed by a private dinner at the Oaks



THE SHOPP FAMILY—E. E. Shopp, who prefers to be called "Ed", BeBe Shopp, Miss America of 1948 and Mrs. E. E. Shopp, posed for this informal picture at the Sumner Scott home Sunday. They were in happy mood, marvelled at the size and beauty of Fairmont. BeBe and her official escort, Midshipman Phil Ryan of Annapolis Naval Academy, later went swimming in Budd Lake off the Scott lakeshore.—Guckeen Photo & Engraving. 5 July 1949

where Mr. & Mrs. Scott served as the hosts.

Martin County's queen, Joan Williams of Truman, was selected to be the local representative for the 1950 Queen of the Lakes

Miss Martin County To Compete At Aquatennial



MISS MARTIN COUNTY—Brunette Joan Williams of Truman is shown here in conversation with Midshipman Phil Ryan, who was official escort for BeBe Shopp, Miss America of 1948 at the Martin County Centennial.—Guckeen Photo & Engraving.

at the Minneapolis Aquatennial. It was, obviously, quite an honor to be included in that event.

The recollection

of that year, 1949, will likely stir up fond memories for those that lived during that era. However, for those too young to remember, it may be difficult to envision a true concept of the "way it was" in 1949.

Society, culture, and values have evolved during the decades that have since passed. Detailed newspaper accounts of personal information regarding contestants in beauty pageants or participants in other events would be presented much differently today, or not at all. Descriptions of "old" or "advanced" age groups would not be tolerated. The description of an event, such as the Minnesota Territorial Centennial, would likely be portrayed much differently in today's media.

For more information, or to become a member, visit the Pioneer Museum in Fairmont, or its website at www.fairmont.org/mchs.

Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont receives 4 stars in CMS rating system

Thirteen hospitals across Mayo Clinic received star ratings from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for Overall Hospital Quality. Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont received 4 stars out of 5, up from 3 stars last year.

Six of Mayo Clinic's 13 hospitals earned five stars — the best score possible. The national average is 3 of 5 stars.

The star rating provides patients with information about multiple dimensions of quality in a single score. Star ratings are assigned based

on a hospital's composite score of 51 quality metrics from Inpatient and Outpatient Quality Reporting programs.

"Congratulations to all Mayo Clinic hospitals that received excellent CMS star ratings," says Henry Ting, M.D., Mayo Clinic's chief value officer. "This award reflects the very best of Mayo Clinic's total commitment to patient care, the extraordinary depth and breadth of Mayo's medical practice, and the remarkable impact that each and every Mayo Clinic employee makes every day."

"We're so proud of the

commitment our staff have to providing the best care to our patients across all of our communities, and the CMS Overall Hospital Quality ratings offer one recognition of the hard work of so many every day," says Bobbie Gostout, M.D., president, Mayo Clinic Health System. "All ten of our health system hospitals that meet ratings criteria ranked above the national average and received four and five stars, with our hospitals in Eau Claire, La Crosse and Menomonie, Wisconsin, receiving the top rank of five stars."

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MEMBER FDIC

What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Happy Valentine's Day!

Just think, on Valentine's day this month will be half over and spring will be that much closer! I remember getting ready for Valentine's day when I was a child, always decorating a shoe box in school that were our Mail boxes to receive those cards. Then working in the evening writing out the valentines for my class mates trying to pick just the right one for each of my classmates and being careful not to pick a too mushy one for the boys. Then the years I helped my four children make out their cards around the table and then helping my granddaughter Samantha with hers. I would usually bake a heart shaped cake for dessert for our Valentine's day supper! Fond memories for sure.

I'm sharing a red velvet cake recipe that I received from my friend Faye Miller, that I think is appropriate for the holiday. Its also easy, I actually used to make a red velvet cake from really scratch when I was a newlywed but I have gotten smarter with age!

Red Velvet Cake:
1 yellow cake mix (a gluten free cake mix works too)
1- 3 oz. pkg. vanilla instant pudding mix
2 Tablespoons unsweetened cocoa
1 cup water
1 stick softened butter
3 large eggs
1 Tablespoon vanilla
3 1/4 tsp. red food coloring

Mix all together, beat 2 minutes, pour into a greased 9x13 inch cake pan or make into cupcakes. Bake in a 350 degree preheated oven for 20-25 minutes, for cupcakes 18-20 minutes, until a tooth pick comes out clean when inserted into the center. Cool and frost with the following frosting:

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1/2 stick softened butter
3 cups powdered sugar
1 tsp. vanilla

Beat together the cheese and butter until smooth and fluffy, then add sugar and vanilla.

Have a great week!

Quilters to meet in Blue Earth


The Blue Earth Valley Quilters will hold the fifth meeting of the 2019-2020 year this Monday, February 17th, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Blue Earth Area High School Choir Room. Please enter through Door V on the south side of the building.

Planning for this summer's Quilt EXPO will be discussed. This will include choosing a new name as the Woodcarvers are no longer a part of the show. Linda Bakken will present the program.

The Blue Earth Valley Quilters meet on the third Monday of each month under the umbrella of Blue

Earth Area Community Education. Each meeting consists of a brief welcome and introductions, a quilt related demonstration, show and tell, a question and answer session and a few minutes to talk with other quilters. The Blue Earth Valley Quilters is open to everyone who enjoys quilts or quilting - quilters of all skill levels are welcome!

Announcements and photos can be found on Facebook under the group name Blue Earth Valley Quilters. For more information contact Jan Shaffer at 526-3979.



LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

Kids Against Hunger Pack

The Annual food pack for Kid's Against Hunger will be Saturday February 15th at the Fairmont National Guard Armory.

We are in need of volunteers for the food pack, we can use any and all to help on Saturday. If you would like to participate but are unable to be there Saturday, financial assistance is always welcome.

When Fairmont Kids Against Hunger first came to the area I was curious about the pack, I just didn't take the time to help but, knew that it was something I wanted to know about and to be a part of. Last year Rotary, which I am a member of, decided to have a team at the pack. I signed up and was so surprised at how fast our shift went. Two hours can fly by when having so much fun! A little friendly competition is always fun, we wanted to pack as many

meals as we could and do it accurately! We helped reach the goal and even went beyond that!

Our goal this year is to pack 125,000 meals and raise \$25,000 to pay for the meals and shipping. Donations can be sent to Kids Against Hunger in C/O Sue Homan, 921 Hengen Street, Fairmont MN 56031.

I am on the KAH committee and have been amazed at the impact these packs have on those who help and how many are helped globally and locally with the food.

To find out more about KAH please find us at www.kahfairmontmn.weebly.com

Thank you for your sincere consideration in helping this year's pack achieve our goals.

Jodie Whitmore
Fairmont

* * *

Paying it forward

Friday, Dan and I had some errands we needed to do and decided that we would also go have lunch just to get out of the house and treat ourselves.

After we were finished with the errands, we went to Green Mill where we experienced a most pleasant surprise - an unknown couple who were sitting

near us had paid for our lunch when they finished theirs and left the restaurant.

Whoever you are, Dan and I would like to thank you for your generosity and kindness and are planning to 'pay it forward.' God bless you!

Ann Harris
Fairmont

* * *

Martin County Relay for Life

We are planning our 2020 Relay for Life. There are many ways to participate and be involved in Relay. There's no participation trophy, but the reward is much sweeter. You can join an existing team, start your own team, or volunteer at the event. Every one of us has been touched by cancer in some way. Friends, relatives, caregivers, and survivors - we all use our special passion to help the American Cancer Society

save lives, celebrate lives, and lead the fight for a world without cancer. And there's no better time than now to start!

February is National Cancer Prevention Month. Please help reduce your risk of cancer by making healthy choices like eating right, staying active, and not smoking. For more information go to cancer.org!

Marsha Williams
Martin County
Relay for Life

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

martincountylibrary.org

CHECK IT OUT!

@ the Martin County Library

You may have heard that reading aloud to children is a great thing to do! It helps build vocabulary, language and narrative in those young brains! Here are some more tips to get the most out of your read aloud experience:

*Let the child pick the read aloud book. They will absolutely be engaged

in a title they selected.

*Don't be afraid of wordless picture books! Children will use their imaginations to tell a story out loud from the pages, even without words.

*Be creative with your voice! The more fun you have reading, the more fun the child will have listening.

*Read it over and over again if you'd like, repetition helps build those literacy skills!

*Explain the big words, if they're uncertain of the meaning. It helps build the context of the story!

*Read aloud to big kids too! Even if they can read on their own, it's still great to read to older kids!

Fairmont Blood Drive next week

Fairmont will be the host site for the blood drive next week.

The American Red Cross will conduct the blood drive on Tuesday, February 18th through Thursday, February 20th in the Budd Room at Fairmont's Holiday Inn.

Hours are from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday.

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCross-Blood.org and enter FAIRMONTMN to schedule an appointment.

Ruby's Pantry food distribution

Ruby's Pantry will have a food distribution in East Chain on Saturday, February 22nd from 10-11:30 a.m. at the East Chain Evangelical Free Church, located at 507 280th Avenue.

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

Ruby's Pantry is in its

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

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

25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 1995

A fund was set up for Dennis and Karon Johnsons of Fairmont. Their home was destroyed by fire in early February. Donations were encouraged to be sent to Bank Midwest c/o Dennis or Karon Johnson Fire Fund.

* * *

Bass Seekers announced the winners of the 1995 local Bassmaster CastingKids Competition. Caleb Abel of Welcome took the 7-10 year old class and Justin Evan of Fairmont took the 11-14 year old class. Both winners were to advance on to state competition.

* * *

Northwestern National Life general agent Gene Hackett of Fairmont was the recipient of the Ralph Westlund award. The tribute is given to the top producer for the Southern Minnesota region.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 1970

After turning down two similar proposals Fairmont voters were being asked to pass a bond issue of \$3.9 million for a new four-year high school building on the Johnson Street site in south Fairmont.

* * *

The Photo Press announced that there would be no issue published the following usual Wednesday, but would come out the following Saturday instead. "Please don't call the office at midweek because you miss the paper - it will appear on Saturday with some special things to see," the announcement said. There was no apparent reason given by the editors, but readers were assured the paper would be coming on the usual Wednesday after that.



Picture Peddler

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



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OBITUARY notices

Dennis H. Ziemann, 88



Funeral Services for Dennis H. Ziemann, 88, of Fairmont, were held Saturday, February 8th, 2020 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Burial followed the service at Fairview Memorial Park in Fairmont. Dennis passed away Wednesday, February 5th, 2020, at Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Dennis Henry Ziemann was born June 9th, 1931, to Arvin and Laura (Rediehs) Ziemann in Rolling Green Township, Martin County. He graduated from Fairmont High School.

On September 13th, 1950, Dennis was united in marriage to Corinne Schuler in Fairmont. This marriage was blessed with four children, Wendy, Randy, Sharon and Cindy. Corinne passed away in 1970.

On March 17th, 1979, Dennis was united in marriage to Eunice Silverthorn in Fairmont blending their families for 40 plus years. He was a good and dear husband. They made their home in Fairmont and spent many winters going to their home in Ocala, FL. At the age of 18, Dennis became an entrepreneur and started many businesses, including Ziemann Recycling, now known as B & K

Salvage in Fairmont. Dennis conducted his business with integrity and sometimes a handshake was good enough. He was a man of few words but led his family by example. He believed work came first and then it was time to have FUN!

Dennis was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairmont where he was an elder and served on the Board of Education. His faith and church were top priority to him, along with his family. He was a great Dad and loved being a grandpa to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Dennis put many miles on his truck and trailer buying, fixing

and selling antiques.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Eunice Ziemann; children, Wendy (Dan) Yahnke, Randy Ziemann, Sharon Schmid, Cindy (Aidan) Murphy, Judy (Ron) Buckmeier and Marcia (Jack) Rooney; grandchildren, Amy (Jesse Main) Yahnke, Justin Yahnke, Connie Ziemann, Katie (Joe) Ruiz, Courtney (Bryan) Schlee, Erica (Scott Loftus) Schmid, Sara (Chris) Runnells, Corinne (Nick) Wenz, Austin (Jess Grisom) Murphy, Aidan Jr. (Julie) Murphy, Conor (Danielle) Murphy, Jamie (Jess) Buckmeier, Jill (Philip) Johnson, Jeremy (Marie) Buckmeier, Melissa

(Chad) Wieneke and Maria (Jared) Klug; eighteen great-grandchildren; and other extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arvin and Laura Ziemann; first wife, Corinne Ziemann; brother, Weldon Ziemann; and sister, Shirley Keating and sons-in-law, Bob Schmid and Mike Draper.

The family would like to thank Tom and Mary Westcott and their children for all the love and fun times they shared with Dennis over the years.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Regina Boese, 88



Regina Boese, 88, of Greenbush, MN, passed

away February 6th, 2020 at LifeCare Greenbush Manor under the care of Hospice.

Funeral will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 14th at Bethel Lutheran Church in Greenbush. Visitation will be Thursday, February 13th after 6:00 p.m. at the church, with a 7:00 p.m. prayer service, and one hour before the funeral. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Fairmont.

Regina Boese was born December 17th, 1931 to Martin and Emma (Tietje) Schultze in Tenhassen Township, Martin County.

She attended St. Paul's Lutheran School in Wilbert through the 8th grade and completed her GED diploma in 1975. Regina married Arthur Boese on June 7th, 1954 and celebrated 65 years of marriage in 2019.

Regina was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church. She helped start many Lutheran World Relief projects in the early 1970's including the Feed The Hungry sale where she donated many items including homemade jams, knitting, crocheting, embroidery, hardanger, oil paintings, homemade

soaps and candles. She raised money for Bethel Seminary students and missionary work, and made baby quilts to raise money for the clean water project of the ELCA. Regina had a passion for quilting and helped make 1000's of quilts for Lutheran World Relief, along with many for friends, family and acquaintances, entering some in the Roseau County Fair and winning 30+ Grand Champion ribbons. She worked as a nurse's aide at Greenbush Manor for many years and played her guitar for many functions there.

Regina knew that just one person could make the world a better place and because of this she received the Mary Magdalene Award in 2019 from the Woman of the ELCA.

Survived by husband Arthur Boese of Greenbush, MN. brother; Lawrence Schultze (Lola) of Wilbert, MN. daughter; Julia Boese Bremer (Donovan Bremer of Wilbert, MN and grandson Zachary Bremer of Mankato). son; Robert Boese (Kathy Idso Boese, granddaughter Maggie Boese) of Fargo, ND, son in law; Tom Kays of Thief River Falls,

MN, grandson; Jon Kays (Kaitlyn) of Madison WI and grandson; Brian Kays of St. Paul MN.

Preceded in death by parents Martin and Emma Schultze, daughter; Diane Boese Kays, sisters; Irma Schultze Bremer (Edward), Ruth Schultze Bremer (Lyle) and Lorene Schultze. Brother; Clarence Schultze (Marie).

All of Regina's memorial gifts will go towards the ELCA Clean Water Well Project.

Arrangements are with Gieseke Funeral Chapel of Greenbush.

Daniel A. Sandven, 85



Daniel Alexander "Dan" Sandven, 85, of Hill City, SD passed away February 4th, 2020, at Monument Health Home and Hospice House in Rapid

City, SD.

Dan was born May 6th, 1934, in De Smet, SD to Daniel D. and Gretchen (Casberg) Sandven of Carthage, SD. He was baptized May 6th, 1934, at West Bethany Lutheran, near De Smet. Daniel attended a country school near Letcher, SD and graduated High School at Carthage in 1952. He enlisted in the U. S. Army from 1952-1954. Dan worked for the U. S. Postal Service in San Rafael, CA; Boeing in Seattle, WA. He furthered his education by attending Southern State Teacher's College in Springfield, SD and graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor's Degree in English Education. While attending college Dan

met Lucile Anderson and they married August 21st, 1960. He taught English at Hayti, SD from 1962-1965. He moved to Fairmont in August 1965 - May 1992 teaching High School English and Building Trades. After he retired June 1992, they moved to Hill City, SD. Dan sang in many church choirs, Barbershop Chorus and the Al Zinter Chorus.

Dan is survived by his wife, Lucile Sandven of Hill City, SD; sons, Steven Sandven of Hill City; Darrin (Nicki) Sandven of Hill City; daughters, Michele Sandven of Rapid City, SD; Shirlene (Julius) Allgier of Baltic, SD; sister, Karen Lorenz of Idaho; brother in law, Emil Jares

of Colorado Springs, CO; sister in law, Rena Sandven of Portsmouth, NH; grandchildren, Shaylynn, Mandan, Melissa, Taylor, Carter, Spencer, Wyatt, Kierstin, and Sophia; and one great granddaughter Brynleigh. Dan is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Darrell; sisters, Gretchen and Mary Beth.

Services were held Monday, February 10th, 2020, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Custer, SD. Committal services was at the Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis, SD.

Arrangements have been placed in the care of Chamberlain McColley's Funeral Home in Custer, SD.

great-granddaughter; sister, Pam Treider; brother, Dr. Jerry Ziemke; as well as many other extended family and friends.

Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, Willard and Phyllis Ziemke and Roy Treider, and his wife, JoAnn Treider.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Thomas B. Treider, 73

A private burial for Thomas B. Treider, 73, of Fairmont, was held Monday, February 10th, 2020, at Fairview Memorial Park Cemetery as per his wishes.

Thomas passed away Friday morning, February 7th, 2020, at the Parkview

Care Center in Wells, MN. The Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

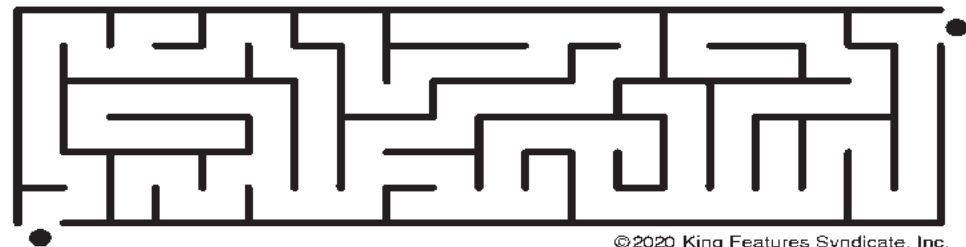
Thomas Brent Treider was born July 3rd, 1946, in Bemidji, the son of Roy Treider and Phyllis Reinke and was later welcomed into the family of Willard Ziemke, following his mother's marriage to

Willard. He was united in marriage to JoAnn Johnson and lived his entire life in Fairmont.

Thomas worked for over 25 years at Fairmont Railway Motors and also owned and operated his own refrigeration business for many years.

Left to cherish his memory are his children, Cindy Treider and Nikki Treider; three grandchildren; one

Kids' Maze



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The Shepherd's In Soup Kitchen will serve a **free soup meal** every Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Blazer Hall, 95 Downtown Plaza in Fairmont. Free rides are available by calling Curt at 507-236-5362.

DEATH notices

January 30 - Susan K. Gersch, 62, Fairmont
Zaharia Family Funeral Home
February 3 - Golda G. Schwab, 93, Fairmont
Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
February 4 - Daniel A. Sandven, 85, Hill City, SD
(formerly of Fairmont)
February 5 - Dennis H. Ziemann, 88, Fairmont
Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
February 5 - Gertrude M. Kassube, 93, rural
Vernon Center. Zaharia Family Funeral Home
February 5 - Lisa B. Uhlig, 52, Minneapolis
Kramer Family Funeral Home
February 7 - Thomas B. Treider, 73, Fairmont
Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service

In Memorium

One Year Ago This Week

February 1 - Lawrence H.E. Krenz, 93, Truman
February 3 - Marilyn K. Johnson, 77, Truman
February 4 - David A. Shelstad, 66, Fairmont
February 4 - Frank P. Nowak, 95, Fairmont
February 5 - Jonathan E. Sumey, 56, Fairmont
February 5 - Darlene A. Isenberg, 91, Fairmont
February 8 - Arlen L. Maschoff, 94, Fairmont
February 9 - Hazel Plumhoff, 101, Alpha

Registration to play **2020 Spring/Summer Soccer** for birth years 2002-2009 is open. Registration fee is \$115 until February 15th. After the 15th fees increase to \$165. To sign up, go to www.fairmontsoccer.org or check out the Fairmont Soccer Association Facebook page for more information. If you have questions, please email fm tfsa sport cord@gmail.com

Aktion Club Theatre, a part of Kiwanis International, will meet Thursday, February 13th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the basement of Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont. For any questions about the group, or if you need a ride to this event, please call Pat Kietzer at 507-848-5017 or the Arc office at 507-235-8580. The public is invited to join any of our theatrical practices.

MCHS-Fairmont Community Update

As we settle into a new year and new decade at Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont, it's important to reflect on how far we've come and underscore the values that have remained constant.

As always, we are committed to providing high-quality health care to Fairmont and its surrounding communities, as well as being a strong community partner. The services Mayo Clinic Health System offers in Fairmont are always influenced by the needs of our patients and what's sustainable for the organization.

With this in mind, we'd like to share a few highlights and a few sneak peaks for what's to come in 2020:

2019 highlights

- Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont boasts a Hospital Quality Index score in the 91st percentile nationally. The Hospital Quality Index is a key performance indicator measured by Vizient Inc., the nation's largest member-driven

health care improvement company. The Hospital Quality Index consists of measures of mortality, total knee and hip complications, hospital readmissions, and excess days spent in the hospital.

- Staff dedicated more than 1,600 hours to volunteering, hosting and participating in education events, support groups and workforce development activities with students. Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont also provided 33 organizations more than \$22,500 in health and wellness grants.

- All Mayo locations now share the same electronic health record. Regardless of which Mayo location you visit, your health information is readily available to our care teams. This allows for the most efficient and effective care.

- Mayo Clinic funded the \$1.7 million Lutz Cancer Center development.

- Thanks to a generous \$250,000 grant from the Fairmont Community

Hospital Foundation, Cardiac Rehabilitation services were relocated to the vacant area of the Lutz Wing and expanded. Equipment also was added. The chapel was renovated, and a new prayer wall was installed. An open house and ribbon-cutting celebration will be held Tuesday, Feb. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m., in the new Cardiac Rehab facility.

- We invested close to \$1 million in radiology and imaging upgrades, including a new MRI machine, 3D mammography and a new CT machine.

- Dry eye services were added to the Eye Clinic, including treatment options that aren't available anywhere else between Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and the Twin Cities. The equipment was purchased thanks to a grant by the Fairmont Community Hospital Foundation.

- Mark A. Wikenheiser, M.D., Orthopedic Surgery, Kendra Kamlitz, M.D., General Surgery, Jauclyn Green, nurse practitioner, Orthopedics, Sara Snyder, nurse practitioner, Urology, and Maria Doran-Threat, nurse practitioner, Oncology, joined the medical center staff.

- Urgent Care hours were expanded, and an additional provider was added due to high demand.

- The medical center awarded the first Outstanding Community Health Engagement award to Faribault and Martin County Community Health Services because

of the partnership with the Community Health Needs Assessment and Baby Café.

- We collaborated with our health care providers through participation in the Stronger Together Community Health Care Coalition, which focuses on improving local health care. We appreciate this partnership and the leadership of Faribault and Martin County Community Health Services.

2020 and beyond

- We are committed to innovation. Digital models of care will play a bigger role in the near future.

- Patients can access their care team through Patient Online Services, Mayo's online portal; seek real-time services for basic care needs via Mayo Clinic Express Care Online; and get expert medical advice by calling the Nurse Care Line.

- We look forward this year to welcoming Apple Tree Dental to the medical center campus to provide dental services to the Fairmont community and surrounding areas.

- Our collaboration with Mayo Clinic will continue to connect you to thousands of the world's leading medical experts. No matter what medical condition you and your family may face, you know you'll receive quality care.

All of the highlights and future efforts are only possible because of strong community support and dedicated, compassionate staff. We look forward to continuing to serve you in this new and exciting decade.

-Marie Morris, M.D., medical director, Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont

-Amy Long, administrator, Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont

Contact Amy Long at 507-238-5070 or long.amy1@mayo.edu with any comments or questions.

Area College Student News



The following local students have been named to the Deans' and President's Lists at Drake University.

To be eligible for the Deans' List, students must have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher during the Fall 2019 semester at Drake.

To be eligible for the President's List, students

must have earned a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2019 semester at Drake.

Fairmont:

- Christopher Lebert, Dean's List
- Madison Pierce, President's List
- Mikayla Soelter, Dean's List

* * *

Joshua Baldus of Fairmont has been named to the Deans' List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the fall semester of the 2019-20 academic year.

Baldus, a senior PGA golf management major,

was named to the Dean's List for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

More than 5,700 students at Nebraska have been named to the Deans' List for the fall semester.

* * *

Kirkwood Community College has released its Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester. These students have achieved a 3.3 grade point average or higher after completing 12 or more

credit hours at the college. Kirkwood students from the area earning this distinction are listed below.

Armstrong, IA:

- Claudia Kinnander

* * *

The following students have been named to the dean's list for academic excellence after the fall 2019 semester at South Dakota State University. To earn dean's list distinctions in SDSU's colleges, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credits and must have earned at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Students with an asterisk received a perfect 4.0 GPA.

School Codes:

SAFES - College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences

SAHSS - College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

SEHS - College of Education and Human Sciences

SENGR - Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering

SNS - College of Natural Sciences

SNURS - College of Nursing

SPAHP - College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions

MINNESOTA:

- Andrew Steven Tusa Alpha, MN SAFES

- Whitley Alexis Hoff-

mann, Blue Earth, SNS

- Jared Thomas Kennedy, Blue Earth SEHS

- Athena Marie Peterson*, Blue Earth SEHS

- Emily Jane Ziemer, Dunnell, SAFES

- Jack Martin Ziemer, Dunnell, SAFES

- Shawn Robert Busche, Fairmont, SNS

- April Marie Cihoski, Fairmont, SNURS

- Tyler Michael Fogelson*, Fairmont SENG

- Matthew John Larson, Fairmont, SPAHP

- Dustin Thomas Meyer, Fairmont, SENG

- Andrew James Moeller, Fairmont, SAFES

- Alex Ray Okerman*, Fairmont, SAHSS

- Sara Kristine Schellpeper, Fairmont, SAHSS

- Erica Christine Pietz, Jackson, SEHS

- Elise Jillian Rasmussen, Jackson, SPAHP

- Kristin Elizabeth Stoltenberg, Jackson, SNS

- Tyson Wayne Crosby, Sherburn, SEHS

- Carson Allen Kahler, Sherburn, SAFES

- Ally Marie Ringeisen, Sherburn, SAFES

- Derrek Duwayne Edwin Russenberger, Trimont, SAFES

- Samantha Michele Gonzalez, Truman, SAFES, SAHSS

- Cole Alan Hendrickson, Winnebago, SAHSS

- Christopher Gregory Jenkins, Winnebago, SAHSS

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.

Venga a explorar el mundo de Kínder con su hijo/a.

Bienvenida a Kínder

Registraciones y tour de la escuela para el año escolar 2020-2021

Jueves, 27 de febrero de 2020
4pm a 7pm

Registraciones por internet estarán disponibles comenzando el 10 de febrero en la página web de Fairmont Area Schools.

El tour durará aproximadamente 30 minutos. Venga a hacer preguntas, conozca a las maestras de Kínder, y participe en actividades con su hijo/a



Escuela Primaria de Fairmont
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Teléfono: 507-238-4487

www.fairmont.k12.mn.us

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American Red Cross

Fairmont Community Blood Drive • Holiday Inn

1201 Torgerson Drive (Budd Room) • Fairmont

Tuesday, February 18 • 12:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Wednesday, February 19 • Noon - 6 pm

Thursday, February 20 • 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

You can donate if: You are 17 years of age or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and are in good health • A photo ID or Red Cross blood donor card is required.

Blood is especially needed this time of year, so please schedule your donation today!

All presenting donors will receive a \$5 food certificate to Green Mill Fairmont

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Come Explore The World Of Kindergarten With Your Child.



KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

Round-Up & Online Registration

For The 2020-2021 School Year

Thursday, February 27
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Online registration will be available on the Fairmont Area Schools website starting February 10th

Your Open House Experience Should Last About 30 Minutes. Ask Questions, Meet The Kindergarten Teachers And Participate In Activities With Your Child.



Fairmont Elementary School

714 Victoria St., Fairmont, MN
Phone 238-4487

www.fairmont.k12.mn.us



As I draw closer to my last column, things have been pretty busy here around the Photo Press. I am moving forward with my new journey, preparing for beginning Seminary this fall to study to become a minister. My wife Karis and I traveled to Burnsville last Thursday to meet with our District Pre-Seminary Committee and we were both interviewed on a number of topics and

subjects about our new journey (yes, the pastor's spouse is also taking this journey) and following the interview with the committee, we both met with our District President, Pastor Woodford and had a very good visit with him. Luckily the weather cooperated that day and we had a nice drive to and from the cities. More to come on my progress there. Here at the Photo Press, things have been moving briskly also



as we have now hired our new manager, who will be taking over for me. Sandy Gethmann of Fairmont has accepted the position and begins training this week. Make sure you stop in to say "Hi" to Sandy the next time you are in town!

"What is it?" a mystery

Our "What is it?" item for the past couple weeks continues to be a mystery as we just can't figure out what it

is. Oh well, I guess everything can't be answered. This week we have an item brought in by Carl Beckendorf of Fairmont. It is made entirely of metal and measures 3 inches long when it is retracted and 4 1/2 inches long when fully extended. It is cylindrical in shape, but has a button you push and a v-shaped metal piece comes out the one end and it has measured "stops" on the cylinder to extend out to different lengths. It was patented in 1903. So what is it? If you know the answer or want to guess what it is, email me at jeff@fairmontphotopress.com or call us at 507-238-9456 with your answer.

This weekend is the big food pack!

Well, it is hard to believe a year has gone by, but this weekend is the big Fairmont Kids Against Hunger food pack. It is the 12th annual food pack for Fairmont and has been a big contributor

to families in need around the world and also in the local area, where 8,208 meals stayed locally from last year's pack. The venue has returned back to the Fairmont National Guard Armory on the west side and will take place during the day this Saturday, February 15th. Teams have signed up for a two hour shift and have also helped collect contributions toward the cost of the food that is packed that day. It is definitely a worthwhile project, so if you aren't signed up yet and want an experience you will remember, stop in that day and we will find a team to place you with!

Waffles, soup and a pop-up pantry

Here are a brief list of some of the events happening in the coming week: • Wednesday, February 12th is the open door and community meals at both Grace Lutheran Church and Fairmont United Methodist Church in Fairmont. Grace holds the meals from 4:45 to 6 p.m. and the Methodist Church holds the meal from 5 to 6 p.m. Check out

this week's paper for details on the meals. • Thursday, February 13th Shepherd's In will be serving free hot soup at the Blazer Bar Hall on Downtown Plaza in Fairmont from 5 to 7 p.m. • Friday, February 14th is Valentine's Day, so check out this week's special section for food and gift ideas! • Saturday, February 15th, is the Kids Against Hunger Food Pack at the Fairmont Armory from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Sunday, February 16th from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. is the Martin Luther High School Waffle Feed at the gym in Northrop. Proceeds will help fund the class of 2022 trip to Washington, D.C. • Monday, February 17th is the pop-up Ruby's Pantry at Regional Worship Center in Sherburn from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. \$20 cash donation. Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - eat, play, shop local - spoil your Valentine!

Jeff



"Just the other day"

Guest Columnist

Tom Palen, broadcaster, pilot, writer



"The new phone book's here! The new phone book's here!" (Navin R. Johnson, The Jerk, 1979.) On the driveway at the gas station, he couldn't stifle his elation. "Page seventy-three. Johnson, Navin R. I'm somebody now!"

I picked up the new Dex, Northland Directory, that came in the mail last Friday. I did my very best to impersonate Steve Martin, as I danced around the kitchen. Our dog, June and our cat, Edgar Allen, watched with confused amusement.

I put on my reading glasses and thumbed rapidly through the pages, landing on page fifty-six. "Right there!" I exclaimed pointing sharply with my index finger, "Right there between Palaszzi and Palfe! That where my name should be!"

Should be? It seems I'm not in this addition of the phone book. How disappointing.

The arrival of the new phone book was always an exciting day for people. Upon my first recollection of its arrival we lived in Madison, Wisconsin. We had a phone upstairs, one in the kitchen and another in the basement, so we got three copies of the directory. It was a big, thick book - even bigger than the Sears Catalog. I opened it and scrolled through the pages until I found it; Palen, Daniel C. 4304 Hegg Ave. 222-1038. I found comfort and pleasure in that.

When we moved to Otumwa, Iowa, I was still living at home. We got four copies of the directory. Back then, only the phone company could install a phone, so they knew we had a phone on each floor of the house and one in the barn. (Dad didn't like walking all the way to the house when a call was for him.) When the new phone book came,

I looked through it right away. There it was: Palen, Daniel C. RR#5. 683-1776. Again, I was thrilled to see that and dreamed of a day when I would have my own listing in the book.

When I moved out of my parents' house and into an apartment with my brother, the new phone book arrived. Keep in mind, I moved out the same year the famous hit movie, The Jerk, was released. Prepared to dance and celebrate, I immediately flipped through the pages looking for my name - I'm sure that's what everyone did as soon as the new phone book arrived.

...Where's my name... tucked into the front of my pants like a pistol...I was going to get some answers...

For the rest of this story, visit our website at www.fairmontphotopress.com/tom-palen-archives

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont hosts an **open door meal** Wednesday evenings from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m. each week. Wednesday, February 12th they will serve scalloped potatoes and ham. On February 19th it will be tacos. All meals include fruit, veggies, peanut butter/jelly sandwich, cookies, milk, water and coffee. For a free will donation.

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 Plumbhoff at 507-632-4368.



The East Chain 4-H club met at the Red Rock Center on December 8th, 2019. Roll call was "Name one thing on your Christmas list?" We did presentation of awards and a candle lighting ceremony for our 4-H officers. We then enjoyed a potluck meal, played a gift exchange game, and went caroling.

The East Chain 4-H club met at the Martin County arena on January 5th, 2020. Roll call was "What was one thing you did over winter break? We had two January birthdays. We voted on the banner and discussed a new T-shirt idea. The club went ice skating after the meeting.

The next meeting will be at the East Chain activity center at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 2nd, 2020.

Respectfully submitted, Addison Barrick

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



IRA? Don't wait to contribute.



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Menus subject to change.

FEB 13 - 19

THUR: Ham, scalloped
potatoes, sliced carrots,
bread, pineapple.

FRI: Egg & sausage biscuit,
tri tators, broccoli, pears.

MON: No school.

TUE: Chicken patty sand-
wich, mac & cheese, mixed
veggies, apple.

WED: Calico beans, cole-
slaw, corn muffin, mixed fruit.

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FEB 13 - 19

THUR: Cheese pizza, corn,
broccoli, pears.

FRI: No school.

MON: No school.

TUE: Nachos, corn, cucum-
bers, applesauce.

WED: BBQ chicken sandwich,
baked beans, carrots, grapes.

FAIRMONT AREA

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Breakfast menu can be found online.

FEB 13 - 19

THUR: K-6: Cheese stuffed
breadsticks, berry parfait, peas,
tossed salad, apple, fruit cock-
tail. **JR/HS:** Chicken tenders,
dinner roll, baked beans, potato
salad, pepper strips, banana, fruit
cocktail.

FRI: K-6: Cheese pizza, turkey
& cheese sandwich, broccoli w/
cheese, cucumbers, orange, man-
darin orange & pineapple. **JR/
HS:** Mini turkey corn dogs, has-
brown patty, broccoli w/cheese,
carrots, tomatoes, orange, pine-
apple chunks.

MON: No school.

TUE: K-6: Chicken nuggets,
dinner roll, ham & turkey chef
salad, tater totes, carrots, apple,
peaches. **JR/HS:** Beef nachos,
rice, corn, jicama, cucumbers, or-
ange, applesauce.

WED: K-6: Chicken alfredo,
breadstick, ham & cheese sand-
wich, green beans, caesar salad,
grapes, baked apple slices. **JR/
HS:** BBQ chicken sandwich,
baked beans, broccoli, coleslaw,
celery sticks, grapes, baked apple
slices.

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FEB 13 - 19

THURS: Roast turkey,
dressing, gravy, winter mix
veggie, cream pie.

FRI: Shrimp, hashbrown
bake, mixed veggie, ice
cream.

MON: Closed.

TUE: Pot roast, red skin
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WED: Chicken a la king,
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Martin County 4H attend leadership event



Martin County 4-H attendees at BLU event. Front Row (L to R): Alyx Stahl, Kalie Hanna, Kaylee Sukalski, Callie McCorkell, Ellie Rose Nelson. Back Row: MN 4-H Ambassador - Liz Fisher, Sarah Fisher, Ryelynn Forsberg, Shanna Amborn, Anika Jensen, Chaperone - Lori Jensen, Chaperone - Jessica Fisher, Chaperone - Tiffany Jandl. (Submitted photo)

Minnesota 4-H held the Southwest BLU leadership retreat on February 1st at Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall for 86 youth from across our region.

"The Southwest BLU leadership retreat was one of five 4-H events offered this month to Minnesota youth in grades

6-12," said Karen Beranek, Extension Educator with the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development. "4-H uses these retreats to help youth learn valuable leadership skills they can apply in their communities and make connections with people from other counties. In addition to

the youth teaching youth component, participants learned more about life post-high school as they explored the SMSU campus, including campus

tours, a Q&A session with current college students, and the dining center. All youth also had the opportunity to learn more about a specific program at SMSU: Agriculture, Performing Arts, Culinary and Business. A huge thank you to SMSU faculty and student organizations for leading those sessions."

BLU - Building Leadership and Understanding - is an annual leadership retreat offered regionally across Minnesota. This year's theme, Unmask Your Inner Leader, encouraged youth to discuss their strengths, leadership styles, and the characteristics of great leaders. Youth participants engaged in a variety of activities throughout the event, including small and large group discussions, team-building activities, personal awareness experiences, and informational sessions. The leadership retreat was facilitated by

youth leaders from the Minnesota 4-H State Ambassador program and supported by a team of adult chaperones.

"I really enjoyed the small group work," said Martin County 4-H'er and East Chain Club member,

Kalie Hanna. "We talked about leadership and what inspires us."

4-H offers leadership and civic engagement experiences throughout the year. To learn more, visit z.umn.edu/4HLeadership

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The St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$3,724 in memorials during the month of January, 2020. These were given in memory of:

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* * *

The St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund also gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$602 in general contributions given during January, 2020, by the following:

CONTRIBUTIONS: By John and Kate Boyle, Carroll Collins, Margie Dahlstrom, Barbara Denney, Archie and Marsha Farnham, Stan and Betty Felber, Leon and Rose Marie Lammers, Kathy Langer, Dennis and Mitzi Lockwood, Kathy McGowan, Bob and Mary Millette, Carol Pierce, Clayton and Mary Ann Pytleski, Ron and Karen Sandhurst, Jack and Joyce Schultz.

Financial Focus

Provided by:

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

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

Protect Yourself Against Long-term Care Costs

If you're fortunate, you'll live independently and in good health throughout your retirement years. However, if you ever needed some type of long-term care, such as a stay in a nursing home, would you be financially prepared?

To answer this question, you may want to evaluate two variables: your likelihood of needing long-term care and the cost of such care. Consider the following:

- Someone turning age 65 today has an almost 70% chance of eventually needing some type of long-term care, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

- The average cost for a private room in a nursing home is about \$100,000 per year, while a home health aide costs about \$50,000 per year, according to Genworth, an insurance company.

Clearly, these numbers are worth

thinking about. If you needed several years of long-term care, the expense could seriously erode your savings and investments. And keep in mind that Medicare typically pays only a small percentage of long-term care costs. Therefore, you may want to evaluate the following options for meeting these expenses:

- Self-insure** - You could "self-insure" against long-term care expenses by designating some of your investment portfolio for this purpose. However, as the above numbers suggest, you'd likely have to put away a lot of money before you felt you were truly protected. This could be especially difficult, given the need to save and invest for the other expenses associated with retirement.

- Long-term care insurance** - When you purchase long-term care insurance, you are essentially transferring the risk of paying for long-term care from yourself to an insurance company. Some policies pay long-term care costs for a set number of years, while others cover you for life. You can also choose optional features, such as benefits that increase with inflation. And most long-term care policies have a waiting period between 0 and 90 days, or longer, before benefits kick

in. You'll want to shop around for a policy that offers the combination of features you think best meet your needs. Also, you'll want an insurer that has demonstrated strength and stability, as measured by independent rating agencies. Here's one final point to keep in mind: Long-term care premiums get more expensive as you get older, so if you're interested in this type of coverage, don't wait too long to compare policies.

- Hybrid policy** - A "hybrid" policy, such as life insurance with a long-term care/chronic illness rider, combines long-term care benefits with those offered by a traditional life insurance policy. So, if you were to buy a hybrid policy and you never needed long-term care, your policy would pay a death benefit to the beneficiary you've named. Conversely, if you ever do need long-term care, your policy will pay benefits toward those expenses. And the amount of money available for long-term care can exceed the death benefit significantly. Hybrid policies can vary greatly in several ways, so, again, you'll need to do some research before choosing appropriate coverage.

Ultimately, you may decide you're willing to take the chance of never needing any type of long-term care. But if you think that's a risk you'd rather not take, then explore all your coverage options carefully. There's no one right answer for everyone - but there's almost certainly one for you.

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



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Marvelous forms

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer



A friend of mine had an idea. He visualized the MARVELOUS FORMS, the many windmills that are now a part of the landscape of our prairie. It was his vision that brought them into reality. I attended a community meeting wherein he explained his dream to his neighbors and those who were interested.

He led the meeting with a confidence that we could all appreciate. He explained his idea and the others listened. He spoke with so much confidence that the people were motivated by his idea. He asked for questions at the end of the meeting. His confidence was reflected in his answers. He was able to answer the questions of even the most critical of those at the meeting. After he shared the idea it became a dream of many. The process began.

The MARVELOUS FORMS became a reality

this summer. Building them was done in stages. Truck after truck hauled the gravel to fill the deep holes that had been dug. The gravel formed the base for the huge amount of cement and steel rods that were needed. The cement trucks began the huge task of hauling the loads of cement. The three huge cylinders for each tower were hauled to each site by a semi, one at a time. Each of the three great blades and the heavy transformer was delivered to the individual sites. The components of the MARVELOUS FORMS were ready. A dream was becoming a reality. A giant crane lifted the dream into place piece by piece. When one windmill was finished, the crane moved to the next site. Its huge tracks moved the crane across the fields on a prepared path. We watched as it happened. One by one the MARVELOUS FORMS could be seen

from a great distance. Visitors came to the community to witness his dream. All showed the same reaction. They marveled at the size and complexity of the MARVELOUS FORMS. They watched in anticipation. They waited for the day when they could see them turn in the prairie wind.

The MARVELOUS FORMS were connected together with a series of underground cables. These would carry the electricity to the main transmission line. The miles of cable, buried deep within the ground, would be the unseen connector of power. The project was getting close to completion. The MARVELOUS FORMS were no longer a dream. They were started. The tall blades reached into the sky and caught the wind. They had been designed to make their dream come true. It happened! They began producing electricity.

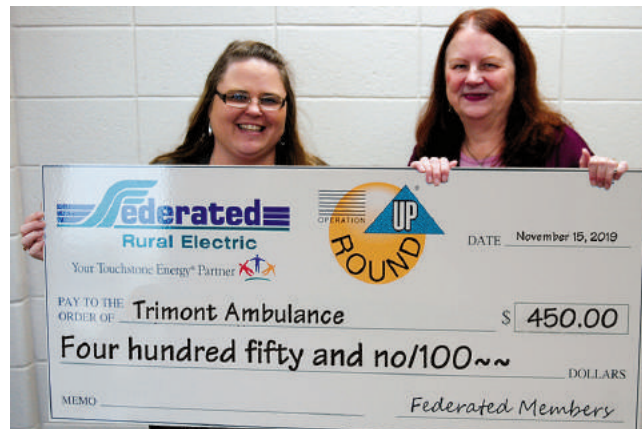
I took one of my

grandchildren out to see them. I wanted him to understand the concept of how a dream can become a reality. We stood under one of the MARVELOUS FORMS. It was one of the sixty-even that dot the prairie in an organized manner. I explained how plans are being made to expand the windmill farm. We looked up along the side of its tall body to something wonderful. At its very top was the secret of the dream. Even though I knew better, it looked like a small box at the top of the tower. When the blades turned its center, it produced electricity. The winds of the prairie were no longer being wasted. The three blades of the windmill turned with a hard-to-believe quietness. The blades adjusted to the winds by changing their pitch. They allowed the windmill to turn at the same speed, neither to fast nor to slow. The windmill was making energy from a free source of power—the wind.

This was the idea of one but the dream of many.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge presented a \$264 check to the Welcome Fire Department. Darin Cook accepted the check. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The \$264 helps buy two lights that attach to helmets for hands-free lighting at fires.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (right) presented a \$450 check to Trimont Ambulance. Brenda Nielsen accepted the check. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will go toward a two-way radio for a newly hired first responder living beyond the city limits.



February is American Heart Month

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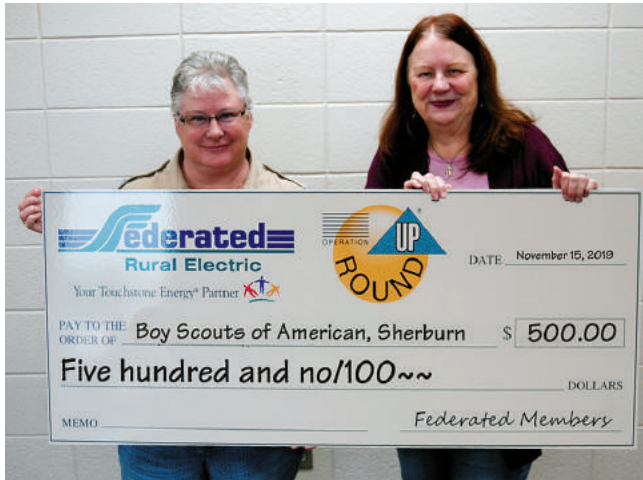
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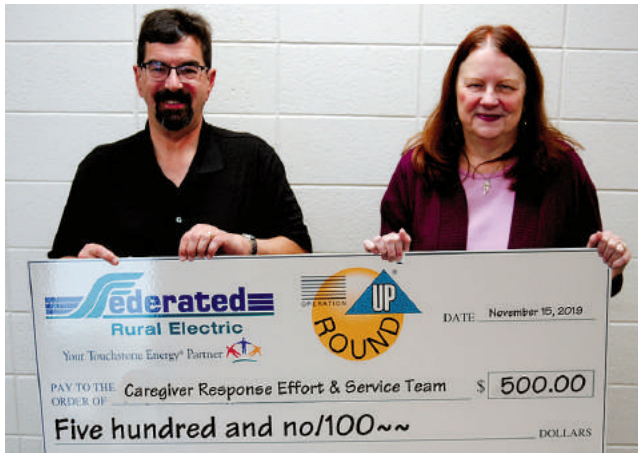
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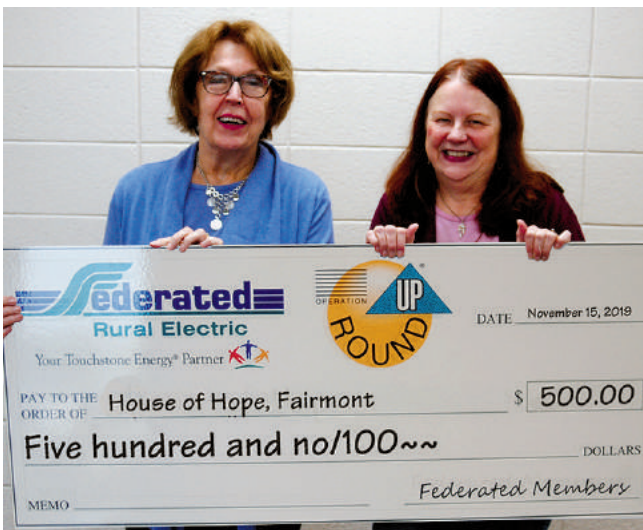
Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (right) presented a \$500 check to Beth Clymer, representing the Boy Scouts of America, Sherburn. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will go toward 10 cots for outdoor camping.



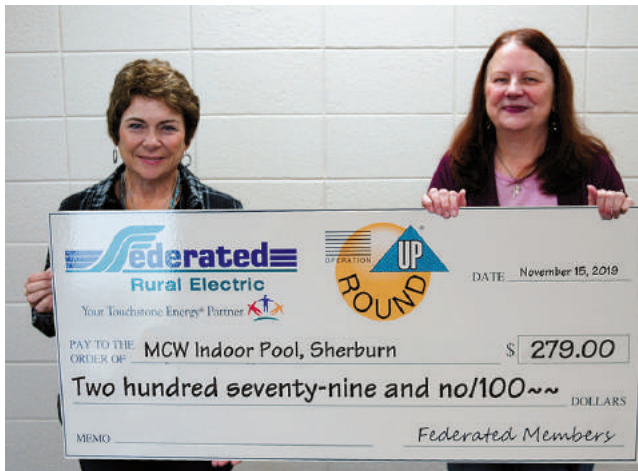
Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge presented a \$500 check to Rob Stauter from the Caregiver Response Effort & Service Team (CREST), Fairmont. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money goes toward 20 "Healthy Aging" handbooks for senior citizen classes.



East Chain Activity Center received \$223 from the Federated Rural Electric Trust Board. President Marlys Runge presented the check to Bob and Lori Calkins. The check is courtesy of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will go toward a stainless-steel table for concession stand and food prep.



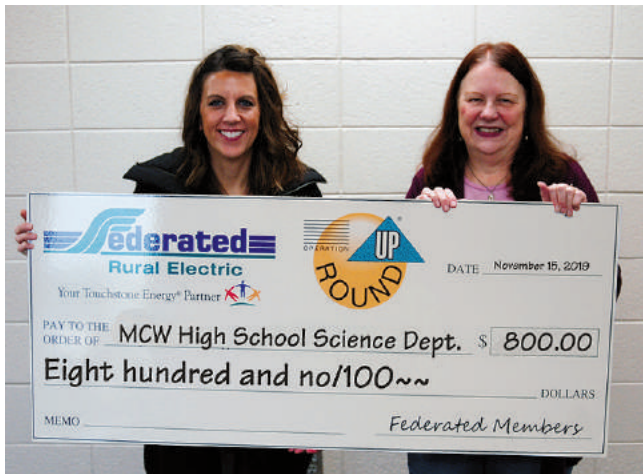
Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (right) presented a \$500 check to House of Hope, Fairmont. Diane Norland accepted the check. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The \$500 will go toward LED lights at the adult treatment facility.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (right) presented a \$279 check to MCW Indoor Pool, Sherburn. Dianne Armbrust accepted the check. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will buy two new rescue tubes and new regulation/rules signs.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (right) presented a \$615 check to Dianne Armbrust from MCW Preschool/ECFE. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money goes toward replacing old, outdated toys for free choice play.



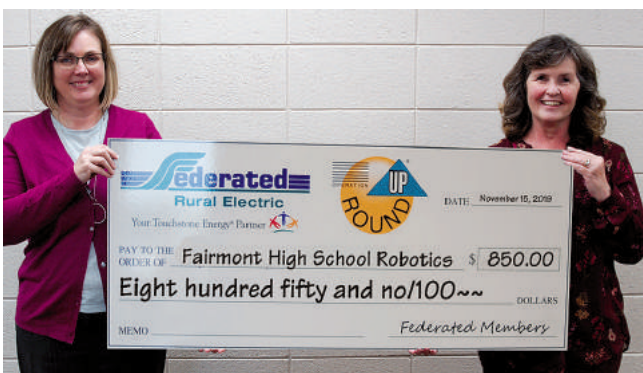
Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (right) presented a \$800 check to Autumn Welcome from MCW High School Science Dept. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will buy two new microscopes.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge presented a \$265 check to the Martin County Historical Society, Fairmont. Lenny Tvedten (left) and Jim Marushin (right) accepted the check. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will go toward replacing an old male and female mannequin to display military clothing.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge (center) presented a \$500 check to Northrop Citizens for Parks. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. Mayor Tom Wakey and Lynn Bales accept the check. The money will refurbish city parks with new wood chips and border around the play area; paint slides & merry-go-rounds.



Federated Rural Electric Office Manager Julie Resch (left) presented a \$850 check to Cindy Vieselman from Fairmont High School Robotics. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will buy power tools used for building a robot for competition.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge presented a \$647 check to Emery Armbrust representing Truman Public Preschool. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money goes toward STEM Toys: block kit, light kits, perception spheres and water kit.



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Marlys Runge presented a \$295 check to the Sherburn Fire Department/Ambulance, represented by Sam Meixell. Runge presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The department will buy an electronic thermometer for the ambulance.

Financial Focus



Provided by:

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

Is Market Timing a Smart Investment Strategy?

You may have heard that timing is everything. And in many walks of life, that may be true – but not necessarily when it comes to investing.

To understand why this is so, let's look at three common mistakes investors make:

- Selling investments and moving to cash when stocks are predicted to drop – If you follow the financial news on cable TV or the internet, you're eventually bound to discover some "experts" who are predicting imminent, huge drops in the stock market. And on rare occasions, they may be right – but often they're not. And if you were to sell some of your stocks or stock-based investments based on a prediction and move the money to cash or a cash equivalent, you could miss

out on possible future growth opportunities if the predictor was wrong. And the investments you sold still could have played a valuable part in your portfolio balance.

- Selling underperforming assets in favor of strong performers – As an investor, it can be tempting to unload an investment for one of those "hot" ones you read about that may have topped one list or another. Yet there's no guarantee that investment will stay on top the next year, or even perform particularly well. Conversely, your own underperformers of today could be next year's leaders.

- Waiting for today's risk or uncertainty to disappear before investing – Investing always involves risk and uncertainty. Instead of waiting for the

perfect time to invest, you're better off building a portfolio based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

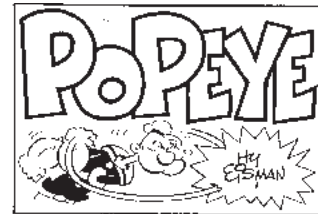
All these mistakes are examples of a risky investment strategy: trying to "time" the market. If you try to be a market timer, not only will you end up questioning your buy/sell decisions, but you also might lose sight of why you bought certain investments in the first place. Specifically, you might own stocks or mutual funds because they are appropriate for your portfolio and your risk tolerance, and they can help you make progress toward your long-term financial goals. And these attributes don't automatically disappear when the value of these stocks or funds has dropped, so you could end

up selling investments that could still be doing you some good many years into the future.

While trying to time the market is a difficult investment strategy even for the professionals, it doesn't mean you can never take advantage of falling prices. In fact, you can use periodic dips in the market to buy quality assets at more attractive prices. Suppose, for example, that you invested the same amount of mon-

ey every month into the same investments. One month, your money could buy more shares when the price of the investment is down – meaning you're automatically a savvy enough investor to take advantage of price drops. While your money will buy fewer shares when the price of the investment is up, your overall investment holdings will benefit from the increase in price.

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WARRANTY DEEDS

Judith A. Harris, Michael B. Harris to Bruce Norgard, Mary Norgard, Lots 3 and 4, Block 12, Original Plat Truman

Doyle A. Moeller, Sharon S. Moeller to Brian L. Helmers, PT w/easement, NE¼NW¼, 35-102-33

James Johnson, Keith Johnson, Martina Johnson, Eileen Stoffels to Rhonda R. Potts, Lots 6 and 7, Block 2, H.L. Jenkins Addition Monterey

Amanda G. Bakken to Dakotah Longton, Lot 1, Block 5 and E½ Lot 2, Block 5, Bernhardtts Addition Triumph

Dennis J. Tino to Benjamin Kotewa, Lot 4, Block 2 and W½ Lot 5, Block 2, Meyers Addition

Laree L. Rowan, Terry Rowan, Kenneth Vlieger, Mi-

chelle K. Vlieger to Kathleen M. Roskop, Lot 202, Block GSE, Albion Place Condominium #5

Barbara Salmela Lind, Kevin Marshall Lind, Barbara Salmela-Lind to Kiley Meyers, Zachariah Meyers, Lot 1, Block 3, Heritage Park 1st Addition

Annette Bremer, Corliss Bremer, Dennis Bremer, Gail Bremer, Jan Bremer, Larry Bremer, Melvin Bremer, Wayne Bremer, William Bremer to Amy Laue, Michael Laue, Lot 7, Block 1, South Siver Oads Addn. S 30-101-30

Myron G. Latzke to David A. Latzke, Jeffrey S. Latzke, Steven R. Latzke, N½ of SW¼ and PT S½ of NW¼ and SE¼, 1-102-30

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Robert A. Strom to Brandi L. Fletcher, Justin F. Fletcher, Lot 7, Block 7, Ext to Gambles Addition

Bridget M. Belknap, Gregory W. Belknap to Bridget M. Belknap, Gregory W. Belknap, W½ UND ½ INT, SW¼ and EX E. 1105.5' UND ½ INT in SE¼SW¼ and EX E. 1105.5' UND ½ INT in SW¼, 19-101-31 and W½ UND ½ INT in NW¼ and UND ½ INT in NE¼NW¼, 30-101-31 and E½ EX 6.87 AC in NE¼ and NE¼SE¼, 24-101-32 and E 1105.5' in SW¼ and E 1105.5' in SE¼SW¼, 19-101-31 and EX 4.85AC in SW¼SW¼, 12-101-31

Xiomara Patricia Ajuria Claros, Jose Navidad to Xiomara Patricia Ajuria Claros, N70' of Lot 8, Block 22, N70' of W½ Lot 7, Block 22 and S6' of E21' of W75' of S½, Lot 9, Block 22, Original Plat of Fairmont

Cynthia Kay Ovrebø, Robert G. Ovrebø to Emily K. Ovrebø, Peter D. Ovrebø, PT SE¼, 9-103-30

Daryl Anderson, Deanna Anderson to Denise Galls-wyk, Kelly Holm, PT 1.174 AC in NE¼, 6-102-32

Kathleen A. Stade to Kathleen A. Stade Trust, Kathleen A. Stade Trustee, PT EX 8.07 AC in SW¼NW¼, 21-104-32

Kathleen A. Stade to Kathleen A. Stade Trust, Kathleen A. Stade Trustee, PT EX 8.07 AC in SE¼, 21-104-32
Sandra Fredrickson to Sandra J. Frederickson, Sonya R. Frederickson, Lot 2, Block 2, Smiths Addition

CONTRACT FOR DEED

Jackie L. Christensen, Judy K. Christensen to Gary Janssen, Nicholas Janssen in NW¼, 30-101-32

TRUSTEE DEED

Myron G. Latzke, Myron G. Latzke Trust to Myron G. Latzke, PT S½ of NW¼, and N½ of SW¼ and SE¼, 1-102-30

PERSONAL REP DEED

Estate of Elaine Ficken, Paul D. Ficken, Darrel Ficken Personal Rep to James M. Ebeling Trust, James M. Ebeling Trustee, PT UND ½ INT in SW¼ and PT UND ½ INT in NE¼ and PT UND ½ INT in SE¼, 32-103-32

D DEED

Home Point Financial Corporation to Sandra Fredrickson, Lot 2, Block 2, Smiths Addition



Ask A Trooper: Snow on vehicles

by Sgt. Troy Christianson,
MN State Patrol

Question: I see many vehicles driving down the road with ice and snow coming off of them. What is the law about clearing ice and snow from your vehicle prior to driving?

Answer: The law states that no vehicle shall be moved on a roadway, unless the load is secured to prevent any leaking, blowing, shifting or falling debris. Ice or snow that may fall from a vehicle could be considered an unsecured load.

Drivers should always take the time to remove all snow and ice from the vehicle so it does not become a hazard on the roadway. It is also important to always clear all frost, snow and ice from all windows so vision is not obstructed.

Drivers should be aware of civil liability if they fail to take reasonable steps to remove snow and ice that result in property damage or injuries from a crash.

When traveling behind a vehicle with an unsecured load or ice/snow falling from it, give yourself plenty of room to avoid any obstacles that may fall off and strike your vehicle. Pass the vehicle only if it is safe to do so.

If your vehicle is damaged and/or crashes due to falling debris, try to get a license plate number and report it to law enforcement and your insurance company.

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

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

The Lake Belt Cemetery Association is accepting bids for 2020 mowing and spraying of the cemetery.

Please send bids to Lake Belt Cemetery Assn,
% Joyce Schultz, 402 E Main St. Ceylon, MN
56121. Bids must be received by Noon on
Thursday, February 13th, 2020.

Any questions, phone 507-230-0207.

**Lake Belt
Cemetery Association
Annual Meeting
will be held on
Thursday,
FEBRUARY 13, 2020
6:30 p.m. at
Legends II
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Ceylon, MN.**

Any question, please
phone 507-230-0207

2020 Auction Calendar

March 21st	McGregor - 1st Auction Starting at 9:30 am Coins, toy tractors, Collectibles & Household Auction Site: 116 N 4th Street – Estherville Iowa (One block North of Ace Hardware)
March 28th	McGregor - 2nd Auction Starting at 9:30 am Antiques, Collectibles, Large Collector Tractors & Machinery Auction Site: 1950 Hwy 32 1950 410th Avenue, Estherville Iowa
April 18th	84th Annual Ceylon Community Day Auction Starting at 8:00 am Auction Site: Ceylon MN
May 16th	Doug & Jennette Lietz Starting at 9:30 am Very Large Collection of Sports Cards, Nascar, Toy Tractors, Antique Furniture & much more. Auction Site: 116 N 4th Street – Estherville IOWA (One block North of Ace Hardware)
June 9th	Annual Armstrong Spring Consignment Auction Starting at 9:00 am Auction Site: West side of Hwy 9 Armstrong IA
June 20th	Farm Retirement Auction Starting at 9:30am Auction Site: South Martin County MN
June 27th	Marvin & Lola Talledge Starting at 9:30 am Large selection of single cylinder engines, Maytag engines, antiques & collectibles, and much more. Auction Site: 1662 150th St. Fairmont MN.
July 25th	2nd Annual Ceylon Summer Community Day Auction Starting at 8:00am Auction Site: Ceylon MN
August 11th	Annual Armstrong Late Summer Farm Machinery Consignment Auction Starting at 9:00am Auction Site: West side of Armstrong IA on Hwy 9.

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MARTIN COUNTY NOTICE OF TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

Election of Officers and Annual Meetings will be held on:
Tuesday, March 10, 2020. (In case of inclement weather, the meetings
and Elections will be postponed to March 17, 2020.)

POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 5 TO 8 P.M.

(Unless otherwise stated.)

The voters will elect: ONE SUPERVISOR for a 3-year term
ONE CLERK for a 2-year term
(* certain townships may have different positions up for election and
those notices will be posted separately)

TOWNSHIP	LOCATION	MEETING TIME
CEDAR	Cedar Town Hall	8:01 PM
CENTER CREEK	Center Creek Town Hall	8:00 PM
EAST CHAIN	East Chain Activity Center-Old School	8:00 PM
ELM CREEK	Trimont Fire Hall	4:00 PM
FAIRMONT*	Fairmont Elementary School Cafeteria	8:01 PM
FOX LAKE	Fox Lake Township Hall	4:00 PM
FRASER	Welcome City Hall	8:01 PM
GALENA	Galena Township Hall/ Grader Shed	8:01 PM
JAY	Regional Worship Center	4:00 PM
LAKE BELT*	Lake Belt Grader Shed/Town Hall	4:00 PM
LAKE FREMONT	Lake Fremont Grader Shed	4:00 PM
MANYASKA*	Fox Lake Township Hall	8:15 PM
NASHVILLE	Nashville Township Hall	4:00 PM
PLEASANT PRAIRIE	Township Hall-Section 20 (Election 4-8)	3:00 PM
ROLLING GREEN	Rolling Green Township	8:05 PM
RUTLAND*	Rutland Township Hall	8:15 PM
SILVER LAKE	Boy Scout Camp/Iowa Lake MC Hwy 41	4:00 PM
TENHASSEN*	Tenhassen Township Hall	4:00 PM
WAVERLY	Waverly Township Hall	4:00 PM
WESTFORD	Westford Grader Shed	4:00 PM

Martin County Township Association

Jeff's Jottings!



What is it?

RUTLAND TOWNSHIP

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

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

at Rutland Township Hall, 1448 St. Hwy 15. In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Polls open 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at which time the voters will elect:

(1) SUPERVISOR - 3 years
(1) CLERK/TREASURER - 2 years

The Board of Canvass will meet following the election to certify the official election results. The Annual Meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. to conduct all business prescribed by law.

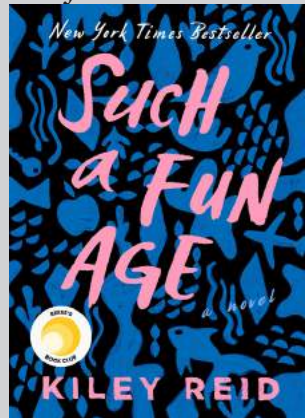
Published by order of the
RUTLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD
Roxane Wedel, Clerk

FROM THE STACKS: What's New and Notable at the Martin County Library February 2020

By Jenny Trushenski, Library Director

Such a Fun Age by

Kiley Reid



Alix Chamberlain is a woman who gets what she wants and has made a living showing other women how to do the same. She is shocked when her babysitter, Emira Tucker, is confronted while watching the Chamberlains' toddler one night, walking the aisles of their local high-end supermarket. The

store's security guard, seeing a young black woman out late with a white child, accuses Emira of kidnapping two-year-old Briar. A small crowd gathers, a bystander films everything, and Emira is furious and humiliated. Alix resolves to make things right. But Emira herself is aimless, broke, and wary of Alix's desire to help. At twenty-five, she is about to lose her health insurance and has no idea what to do with her life. When the video of Emira unearths someone from Alix's past, both women find themselves on a crash course that

will upend everything they think they know about themselves, and each other.

One of Us Is Next by Karen McManus

In the sequel to One of Us Is Lying, a ton of copycat gossip apps have appeared since Simon died. But in the year since the Bayview Four were cleared in his shocking death, no one's been able to fill the gossip void like he could. Until now. This time it's not an app though—it's a game. Truth or Dare. If you choose not to play, it's a truth...and the game

soon turns dangerous. Simon's gone, but someone's determined



to keep his legacy alive, with a whole new set of rules.

top ten

Dog-Owning Countries

1. Argentina
2. Mexico
3. Brazil
4. USA
5. Poland
6. Australia (tie)
8. Czech Republic
9. Spain
10. Canada

Source: GfK

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Financial management strategies for 2020

Guest Columnist

Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank



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

Projected profit margins for crop production in 2020 are likely to be at or below “breakeven levels” for many producers. Costs for some crop inputs, such as fertilizer and fuel, have increased slightly in the past couple of years, while crop revenues for many producers have declined or stayed steady. It appears that low commodity prices and lower gross revenue levels in corn and soybean production will likely continue for the 2020 crop year. The profit margins in the livestock sector improved somewhat in late in 2019, but were quite variable, which is a trend that is also likely to continue in 2020. Credit availability for agriculture should remain good for farm businesses that are on a solid financial base; however, credit could get much tighter for farm businesses that are in a “higher-risk” financial position.

Following are some financial strategies for farm businesses to consider during these highly volatile and potential stressful financial times in the farming business:

• Keep the “Current Position” (cash available) segment of the farm business strong.

► Pay attention to the level of “Working Capital” and the “Current Ratio” on your Farm Financial Statement. If there is a big decline, it could signal some financial concerns for the farm business.

► It is usually a better option to use excess cash revenues from the farm operation to pay down short-term farm operating debt, rather than to

make extra payment on term loans.

► If there are any excess crop revenues from 2019 grain sales beyond repayment of the 2019 Farm Operating Loan, it is probably best to prepay some 2020 crop expenses.

► Remember to account for CCC grain loans, financing with crop input suppliers, short-term loans from family members, etc. when analyzing the Working Capital for the farm operation.

• Look at ways to reduce production costs and other expenses.

► Try to be a “optimum-cost” producer thoroughly analyze seed, fertilizer, chemical, etc. crop expense decisions for 2020 crop production, and look for ways to manage those input costs.

► Be cautious when making reductions in

crop production costs, so not to significantly impact yield potential optimizing crop yields is still important to the “bottom-line”.

► Carefully analyze more expensive cash rental rates on rented land, and if the rates are not profitable, try to negotiate lower rental rates, or possibly give up some high rent land.

► Negotiate “flexible lease” contracts with agreeable landlords that sets a manageable base rental rate, with the opportunity for a higher final rental rate, if final crop prices and/or yields increase.

► Review all other direct and overhead expenses in the farm operation, and look for any ways to make reductions.

• Review other ways to

manage financial risk.

► “Fine-tune” the farm’s grain marketing plan, based on the “cost of production”, which is updated regularly, and have set price targets and deadline dates as part of the marketing plan.

► Don’t get caught up in the “market hype or chatter” pay attention to how changes in the corn and soybean market prices affect your own farm business.

► Look for “profit margin” opportunities in crop and livestock production, and take advantage to “lock-in” both cash expenses and market prices when those margins exist.

► Take time to analyze the best farm program options and crop insurance strategies for your farm operation cutting crop insurance coverage may not be the best risk management strategy.

► Excessive spending for family living and non-farm expenditures can be a “hidden expense” in the farm business. Include

the non-farm income and expenses, and other family living expenditures, in farm cash flow planning.

• Pay attention to the repayment ability on Term Debt Loans.

► In addition to declining Working Capital, a low “Term Debt Coverage Ratio” is a common sign of financial stress in a farm business. This ratio is the cash available for debt repayment divided by the total principal and interest due on all intermediate and long-term loans.

► Make wise decisions on the use of available cash for farm machinery and capital improvement investments, and make sure that the investments are needed for the farm operation.

► Term loans that are set up to finance machinery purchases and capital improvements may require payments for several years, which need to be factored into cash flow budgets.

► Look for opportunities to sell any farm assets

that are no longer needed in the farm business, and use funds for added working capital or to repay some term debt.

• Carefully analyze farm land purchase decisions.

► There is likely to be a lot of farm land for sale in the coming year, so don’t get caught up in the hype of: “Buy now, because they don’t make any more farm land”. Make sure that any land purchases are financially sound for the long-term future of the farm business.

► Shop around before settling on a high dollar purchase of farm land, as there may be opportunities to find comparable farm land, as far as land quality and production capability, for less money.

► Compare the cost of owning the farm land to the likely annual land rental rates to secure in-

Continued on page 17

To the Voters of TENHASSEN TOWNSHIP

The Annual Meeting and Election of Town Officers will be held on
Tuesday, March 10, 2020

at Tenhasse Town Hall.

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

ONE SUPERVISOR - 3 years
ONE CLERK - 2 years
ONE TRESURER - 1 year

The Board of Canvass will meet immediately following the closing of the polls.

In case of inclement weather the meeting and election may be postponed to Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Published by order of the
**TENHASSEN
TOWNSHIP BOARD**
Larry Simpson, Clerk

Notice of Annual Meeting & Election of Officers

MANYASKA TOWNSHIP

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

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Fox Lake Town Hall
3 Main Street, Fox Lake Village, Welcome, MN

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

(1) SUPERVISOR - 3 yr. term

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

The Board of Canvass will be held at approximately 8:05 p.m. In case of inclement weather the meeting and election may be postponed to Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Published by order of the
**MANYASKA
TOWNSHIP BOARD**
Diane Glidden, Clerk

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2020 DOORS OPEN AT 4PM - WHAT A KNIGHT MARTIN LUTHER DINNER AND FUND-RAISING AUCTION

NEW PRIVATE LISTING! 12.99 ACRE CATTLE FEED LOT located at 1258 170th Avenue, Fairmont, MN 56031 in Section 2 of Rolling Green Twp, Martin Co., MN. This site includes a 52' x 142' steel Behlen Quonset with cement stem walls and concrete floor, 74' x 248' pole barn, 3 cattle pens approx. 100' x 185', 1 cattle pen approx. 60' x 185' with cement bunks. CALL DUSTYN HARTUNG 507-236-7629 FOR PRICE, TERMS & INFO!

NEW PRIVATE LISTING! 94.06 Acres +/- located in Section 26 of Rolling Green Township, Martin Co., MN. For Sale by Private Treaty! Please Contact Dustyn Hartung 507-236-7629 for Price, Terms, Etc.

PRIVATE LISTING- 592.08 Acres +/- in Galena & Cedar Twps, Martin Co., & Long Lake Twp, Watonwan Co., MN for sale by private treaty. Contact Kevin Kahler 507-920-8060 or Dustyn Hartung 507-236-7629 for price, terms, etc.



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



For upcoming auction flyers:
auctioneeralley.com

• Dustyn Hartung 236-7629
• Leah Hartung 236-8786
• Chris Kahler, 230-6006
• Dar Hall, 327-0535

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

Notice Of Annual Meeting & Election Of Officers FAIRMONT TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Fairmont Township, Martin County, Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday March 10, 2020. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed until Tuesday March 17, 2020.

The election poll hours will be open from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, at which time the voters will elect:

ONE (1) SUPERVISOR...3 yrs

The Board of Canvass will meet, immediately following the election to certify the official election results.

The Annual meeting will commence at 8:01 pm to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law and will be held at: Fairmont Elementary School Cafeteria, 714 Victoria Street, Fairmont, MN. Enter through the North doors.

Published by order of the
**FAIRMONT
TOWNSHIP BOARD**
Heather Trembley, Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICES

February 12, 2020

Published by the Fairmont Photo Press



Continued from page 16

creased crop acreage.

► Be sure to include the required annual real

estate loan principal and interest payments, along with real estate taxes, into annual cash flow planning for the farm business

- **Communicate with**

family members, farm partners, and ag lenders.

► When financial matters and farm profitability become more challenging in a farm operation, it is very important to discuss these challenges and possible solutions with family members and

other partners in the farm operation.

► Meet with your ag lender early to discuss your farm operating credit needs for 2020, and to consider possible solutions to address any financial challenges that may exist.

► Utilize farm business

management advisors, crop insurance agents, marketing advisors, crop consultants, and other professionals to assist with farm management decisions.

► Discuss planned machinery and equipment purchases, and potential land purchases, and the projected cash flow impacts on the farm business, prior to finalizing those decisions.

► Discuss grain and livestock marketing plans, and the impact

that marketing decisions could have on cash flow plans.

► Discuss any financial concerns early, either farm-related or non-farm concerns, while there is still time to make the needed financial adjustments.

► View your Ag Lender and other professionals as consultants to assist with key financial and management decisions in your farm operation, rather than as adversaries.

FAIRMONT PUBLIC NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 10th day of February 2020, after a public hearing, the City Council of the City of Fairmont approved Ordinance 2020-01, an ordinance amending Ordinance 2019-01 of the City of Fairmont relating to the softened water service rates.

A complete copy of the ordinance may be viewed on the City of Fairmont's website or at the City Clerk's Office.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT

/s/ Patricia J. Monsen
Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk

*Published in the Fairmont Photo Press
February 12, 2020*

FAIRMONT PUBLIC NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 10th day of February 2020, after a public hearing, the City Council of the City of Fairmont approved Ordinance 2020-02, an ordinance amending Ordinance 2013-03 of the City of Fairmont relating to the public utility wastewater rates.

A complete copy of the ordinance may be viewed on the City of Fairmont's website or at the City Clerk's Office.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT

/s/ Patricia J. Monsen
Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk

*Published in the Fairmont Photo Press
February 12, 2020*



Planning your garden style

- Consider a **container garden** to grow your fruits, vegetables, or herbs. Only a small, sunny area is needed for your pots.
- You can choose a **raised garden bed**. This works for smaller properties, or if you prefer multiple small beds instead of one large plot.
- You can plan an **in-ground garden**. Make sure the area receives good sun, then plan its dimensions, what you will plant in it, and how much you will plant. Prepare the soil and the water source to be used. Schedule the planting and maintenance. – B. Weaver

Source: morningchores.com

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MARTIN COUNTY LEGAL PUBLICATIONS

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020 AT 9:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Steve Flohrs. Commissioners present were Richard Koons, Steve Flohrs, Elliot Belgard, and Kathy Smith. Commissioner Mahoney was absent. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, Jessica Korte, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Terry Viesselman, County Attorney, Jason Sorensen, Sentinel Newspaper, Rod Halvorsen, City of Lakes Media, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

On Motions duly made and adopted the following actions were taken:

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve the agenda for the January 21, 2020, regular Board of Commissioners meeting with the following: Delete 8.1 Consider Consent to Initial Refugee Resettlement. Those voting in favor: Commissioners Koons, Belgard, and Flohrs. Those voting against: Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Mahoney was absent. Motion carries.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020, regular Board of Commissioners meeting; and approve the minutes of the January 14, 2020, special Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve correction to the Malliet Property parcel number and appraised value as transcribed in the minutes from the December 3, 2019, regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to receive and file the Department of Corrections Sentencing to Service Work Service Report for Fourth Quarter 2019. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve the Prosecution Contract as proposed with the City of Dunnell for one year commencing January 1, 2020, in the amount of \$150/hour for attorney time spent in furnishing services per the Contract, as well as reimburse the County Attorney's Office for out of pocket expenses. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to approve and authorize recruitment of an additional attorney for the Martin County Attorney's Office. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve and authorize Board Chair to sign resolution to acquire nonconservation tax forfeited property to be used for public purpose as a site location for the proposed Martin County Justice Center. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Koons, Smith, Belgard, and Flohrs. NAYS: None. Commissioner Mahoney was absent.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve and authorize Board Chair to sign agreements with MRCI for janitorial services for the Martin County Courthouse/Security Building/Law Enforcement Center and the Human Resource Center, effective February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021; and reflects a per hour wage rate increase from \$9.65 per hour to \$10.00 per hour. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve and authorize Board Chair to sign resolution for an Aggregate Resource Mapping Study through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to help find gravel deposits around Martin County. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Belgard, Smith, Koons, and Flohrs. NAYS: None. Commissioner Mahoney was absent.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to approve new Park Caretaker/Highway Maintenance Specialist job description for the Martin County Highway Department to be rated and classified by David Drown and Associates. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve and authorize recruitment and posting of the new Park Caretaker/Highway Maintenance Specialist position. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve the re-appointment of Bruce Goraczowski and Hugh Fraser to the Martin County Parks/Trail Committee for an additional two years expiring December 31, 2022. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve and authorize the hire of Madison Geerdes as part time Administrative Secretary II for the Martin County Sheriff's Office, effective January 27, 2020. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve and authorize the hire/promotion of Tanya Rathman as Jail Administrator for the Martin County Sheriff's Office, effective January 21, 2020. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to receive and file the Martin County Recorder's Office Compliance Fund and 2019 Vital Records report. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve and authorize the Board Chair and other required County staff to sign the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Grant Agreement for the Feedlot Program in the amount of \$141,816.00, effective January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to approve and authorize the out of state travel request for Mike Sheplee, County Assessor, to attend the Eagleview FutureView 2020 GIS Conference to be held March 9-12, 2020, in Phoenix, Arizona. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, to table consideration of Martin County Revolving Loan Forgiveness until the next regular Board of Commissioners meeting to be held on February 4, 2020. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to approve and appoint Commissioner Koons and Commissioner Mahoney to the 2020 Martin County Canvassing Board for the General Election and regular August Primary; and to approve and appoint Commissioner Belgard and Commissioner Flohrs to the 2020 Martin County Canvassing Board for the Presidential Primary in March. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to receive and file the CY2018 State Audit Report. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to approve Warrants, Auditor Warrants, and EFT Transactions to be paid on January 21, 2020, and includes the Martin County Highway Department and Drainage bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

With no further business to wit, Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

THE COMPLETE MINUTES OF THESE PROCEEDINGS ARE ON FILE IN THE COUNTY COORDINATOR'S OFFICE, 201 LAKE AVENUE, ROOM 100, FAIRMONT, MN AND MAY ALSO BE VIEWED ON THE MARTIN COUNTY WEBSITE AT: www.co.martin.mn.us

SCOTT HIGGINS
MARTIN COUNTY COORDINATOR

Published in the Fairmont Photo Press - February 12, 2020

MARTIN COUNTY LEGAL PUBLICATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Martin County Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment will be conducting a public hearing on February 25, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. The hearing will be held in the Martin County Commissioners Room, located on the first floor of the Courthouse, 201 Lake Avenue – Fairmont, MN. The following items will be on the agenda:

Variance Request from Jayden Garlick within Section 18 of Pleasant Prairie Township. Mr. Garlick is proposing to build a grain bin encroaching closer than the minimum required setback from the Ordinary High Water Level on South Creek and closer than the required setback to the rearyard setback in an "SL-1" Shoreland Special Protection District. The Martin County Zoning Ordinance requires a minimum setback of 200 feet from a lake/protected water and 75 feet from the rearyard setback in an "SL-1" Shoreland Special Protection District.

Variance Request from Eldon Potthoff within Section 18 of Lake Fremont Township. Mr. Potthoff is proposing to build two grain bins encroaching closer than the required setback from the centerline of the public right-of-way in an "A" Agricultural District. The Martin County Zoning Ordinance requires a 200 foot setback from the centerline of any public right-of-way for a new building site effective February 17, 2004 and one hundred and thirty (130) feet from the centerline of any public right-of-way for existing building sites constructed before February 17, 2004. Existing building sites cannot further encroach closer than the nearest present building from the centerline of the road provided greater than 130 feet from the centerline in an "A" Agricultural District.

Variance Request from Cody & Angie Toothaker within Section 5 of East Chain Township. The Toothakers would like to construct a dwelling closer than the required setback from a feedlot facility in an "A" Agricultural District. The Martin County Feedlot Ordinance requires a minimum of 1,320 feet from a feedlot facility to a dwelling other than the operator's in an "A" Agricultural District.

Any persons interested in this public hearing are urged to attend the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment meeting.

Pamela A. Flitter
Martin County Zoning Administrator

*Published in the Fairmont
Photo Press February 12, 2020*

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

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

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

at Lake Belt Township
Grader Shed / Town Hall.

Business Meeting will commence at 4:00 p.m.

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

(1) SUPERVISOR- 3 year term

(1) CLERK - 2 year term

(1) TREASURER - 1 year term

The Board of Canvass will meet immediately following the closing of the polls. In case of inclement weather the meeting and election may be postponed to Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

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

FAIRMONT PUBLIC NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 10th day of February 2020, after a public hearing, the City Council of the City of Fairmont approved Ordinance 2020-03, an ordinance amending the City of Fairmont's Zoning Map from I-2 Heavy Industrial District to B-3 General Business District for 924 Lake Avenue in the City of Fairmont, Martin County, Minnesota.

A complete copy of the ordinance may be viewed on the City of Fairmont's website or at the City Clerk's Office.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT

/s/ Patricia J. Monsen
Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk

*Published in the Fairmont Photo Press
February 12, 2020*

PhotoPress Classifieds

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
Dubuque Boat & RV Show: Fri., Feb. 21 4-8pm; Sat., Feb. 22 10am-8pm; Sun., Feb. 23 11am-4pm. Grand River Center, Dubuque, IA. Over 20 different RV & Boat makes and models from sport boats, pontoons, travel trailers to motor homes plus a variety of exhibit booths. **www.dubuqueboatan-drivshow.com** (MCN)

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Management/ Program Coordinator Position in Fairmont

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City of Lakes

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Park Maintenance Worker

The City of Fairmont will be accepting applications for the position of Park Maintenance Worker. This is a fulltime, non-exempt position. The successful candidate's employment is in compliance with the stipulations set forth in the agreement between the local AFSCME union and the City of Fairmont.

Qualifications for this position require a minimum of a high school diploma and valid Minnesota driver's license. Experience with grounds maintenance, small equipment, snow removal, or carpentry and a valid MN commercial driver's license is preferred. The starting hourly rate for this position is \$22.10/hour with an excellent benefit package.

A complete job application and description is available online at **www.fairmont.org**. All applicants MUST complete a City of Fairmont job application.

Please submit cover letter, resume and application to City of Fairmont, 100 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031 or to **djones@fairmont.org**. Completed applications will be accepted until 4:00 pm on February 28, 2020.



City of Lakes

EOE

Fairmont Squirt B Hockey

Last weekend the Fairmont Squirt B team participated in the Luverne Blazing Blades Tournament.

2/7- Fairmont vs Redwood Valley- Loss 7-2. Hunter Thate and Preston Cepress scored the two Goals.

2/8- Fairmont vs Sioux Falls- Loss- 10-0.

• Fairmont vs. Windom.

Win 12-5. Scores by Noah Meixell x2, Preston Cepress x 6, Axel Chapman x3, and Hunter Olson x 1. Assists by Noah Meixell x3, Preston Cepress x2, Axel Chapman x2.

2/9- Fairmont vs Luverne. Loss 10-4. Scores by Axel Chapman x1, Preston Cepress x 3. Assists by Preston Cepress and Noah Meixell.



DANCE OFF - The Cardinal dance team performed at halftime of the boys varsity basketball game vs Blue Earth Area. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*

Red Bulls Win Conference Championships

The Class AA #3-ranked Martin County Red Bulls won the Valley Conference Tournament last Tuesday. The Red Bulls dominated the tourney with wins over Madelia/Truman/Martin Luther 72-0, St. Clair/Loyola 69-0 and Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial/Nicollet 59-6. The Red Bulls also claimed the Big South Conference Title with a 45-19 win over Class AA #8-ranked Marshall last Thursday. The Red Bulls (15-2) compete at the section tournament 6:00 p.m. Thursday at Sherburn with the finals Saturday

noon at Marshall.

The Red Bulls have nine state ranked wrestlers: 106 - Jesse Potts 6th, 113 - Kain Sanders 6th, 120 - Lucas Jagodzinske 3rd, 132 - Blake Jagodzinske 7th, 138 - Connor Simmonds 2nd 152, - Payton Anderson 2nd, 160 - Miles Fitzgerald 5th 170, - Nathan Simmonds 7th, 195 - Jacob Rahn 6th.

Class AA State Rankings: Simley, Kasson-Mantorville, Martin County Red Bulls, Foley, Perham, Marshall, Becker, Dassel-Cokato/Litchfield, Scott West, Princeton.



BLOCKING PUCK - Eli Anderson deflects the puck over Card goalie Tyson Geerdes. Anderson recorded his 49th, 50th and 51st career points Saturday in the Cards 5-2 win vs La Crescent-Hokah. Card defenseman Carter Olson scored his first varsity goal with an empty netter at the buzzer. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



LAMP LIGHTER - Cardinals Carson Kuhl scored the lone goal in the Cards 4-1 loss to Waseca. The Cards (5-19) await the section seedings for who and where they will start the playoffs. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



HOCKEY MOM - Carson Kuhl and mother Lisa celebrate their winning the Senior Night Family Shootout held after the Cards win over La Crescent. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



GAME WINNER - Cards Zach Jorgensen's steal and lay-up with 8 seconds left gave the Cardinals a 60-62 victory over Blue Earth Area. The Bucs desperation shot at the buzzer fell short. The Cards (12-8) travel to St. Peter (13-8) Friday. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



PLAYOFF UPSET - The Section 3A #7-seeded Cardinals girls hockey team and senior Joni Becker upset #2-seeded Marshall 2-0 last Thursday. Becker and Alexis Newville had the Card goals. The Cards lost to #3-seeded Mankato West 5-0 Saturday. The Cards finished their season with an 8-16-2 record. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*

A rarity anymore

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer



I have a close personal friend who loves to fish. His three sons have inherited his love. They are fishermen with the ability to seek out and catch fish in their own way. Most fishermen fish the lakes of Minnesota, which they sometimes do, but it seems to me that these fishermen prefer the river. The river in which they fish runs through the community of their youth. They all learned to fish the river. The father, three sons and uncle considered the river a special place. The river was more than a place to fish. It was a place of extreme im-

portance. It was a place of solitude and serenity. Each could place themselves back in time, back into the rich history of the area, a time when the Sioux Indians wandered the land, fished this same river and camped on its banks. Such places are A RARITY ANYMORE. All of the three brothers have grown, but the memories remain.

One of the brothers wanted to share such a place with his son. The grandfather, son and grandson returned to the old fishing location with its strips of open water and sandbars.

They wanted to teach the grandson about the challenge of catching a large fish, which they knew the river held. They wanted to watch the grandson's joy of "catching a big one".

The grandfather, a long-time friend of mine, wanted to show me this "this place on the river". A 94-year-old man owns it. The grandfather and the owner of the land had become friends over the years. He wanted me to "feel the friendship" by visiting the elderly retired farmer. He knew that I would be interested in getting to know such a person. They are A RAR-

ITY ANYMORE.

He was in his shop when we arrived. We could hear the uneven sound of an antique stationary gasoline engine coming from the shop. I remembered such engines from my youth. Even though they were small by today's standards, the small gasoline engines powered the fanning mill, pump jack on the well, buzz saw for cutting wood, feed grinders, and provided the power for various other duties. They were the power of the farm before electricity arrived on the farms of Southern Minnesota. The 94-year old farmers smiled when he realized that I recognized the quality of the restored engine. It was then that the real tour began. He was anxious to show me

his Model "A" Ford car, over twenty other stationary engines, wagons, sleds and cutters which he made. He took great pride in telling us about the many parades that he had driven in. The tour included his showing us his beloved shop, which was heated with wood, to see the tools that had provided him with such "hands of skill". They had made it all possible. The tools sat idle as we talked. It was like they were listening.

Our visit ended with our sitting on his outside porch visiting. This is A RARITY ANYMORE. How many of us take the time to visit? The fast-paced world has taken this from us. How many young people know what it means to visit? The visit took me back to the time

when neighbors would come over to our farm in the evening "just to visit". It was during these quiet times that people bonded in friendship. You knew them as "true neighbors - not just the people who live near you".

I left the farm with a feeling of "time well spent". I had recaptured a few moments of time, as my father knew it. Knowing another person in such a way produced a fulfillment, which I still feel. It is A RARITY ANYMORE!

This essay was written about Robert Smith, a true man of the land, and the owner of the river land, which has provided three generations of Peterson happiness that is a rarity anymore.

2020 crop insurance decisions

Guest Columnist

Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank

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



During the next few weeks, many farm operators will be finalizing their crop insurance decisions for the 2020 crop year. March 16th is the deadline to purchase crop insurance for the 2020 crop year. Profit margins for crop production this year remain very tight, which makes the 2020 crop insurance decisions even more critical. Producers have several crop insurance policy options to choose from, including yield protection (YP) policies and revenue protection (RP and RPE) policies, supplemental crop option (SCO), and other insurance policy options. There are also decisions with using "enterprise units" versus "optional units," as well as decisions on the use of "trend adjusted" APH yields.

Yield Protection (YP) insurance policy options provide for "yield only" insurance protection, based on historic actual production history (APH) yields on a given farm unit. YP prices are based on average Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) prices for December corn futures and November soybean futures during the month of February, similar to revenue insurance products. Producers can purchase YP insurance coverage

levels from 50% to 85%, and losses are paid if actual corn or soybean yields on a farm unit fall below the yield guarantees.

Revenue protection (RP) and revenue protection with harvest price exclusion (RPE) insurance policy options provide a guaranteed minimum dollars of gross revenue per acre (yield x price). This minimum guarantee is based on yield history (APH) and the average CBOT prices for December corn futures and November soybean futures during the month of February. The RP and RPE insurance policies function essentially in the same manner, except that the guarantees on RPE policies are fixed at the base price level and are not affected by harvest prices that exceed the base price. The revenue guarantee for RP policies is increased for final insurance calculations, if average CBOT prices during the month of October are higher than the February CBOT prices.

Producers purchase RP and RPE insurance coverage levels from 50% to 85%, and losses are paid if the final crop revenue falls below the revenue guarantee. The final crop revenue is the actual yield on a farm unit times the CBOT December corn futures

price and November soybean futures price during the month of October. As of February 10th, the 2020 estimated crop insurance base prices in the Upper Midwest for YP, RP, and RPE policies were estimated at \$3.92 per bushel for corn and \$9.19 per bushel for soybeans. The current 2020 base price estimates compare to 2019 base prices of \$4.00 per bushel for corn and \$9.54 per bushel for soybeans. The 2019 crop insurance base prices will be finalized on March 1st.

Most corn and soybean producers have utilized RP policies in recent years; however, in many years the RPE policies can offer similar protection at a lower premium cost. If the "harvest price" (average CBOT price in Oct.) for December corn futures or November soybean futures is lower than the "base price" (average CBOT price in Feb.), the RP and RPE payment calculations function similarly, and RPE policies will likely result at higher net indemnity payment at similar insurance coverage levels. However, it is important to recognize the added risk of utilizing a RPE policy when the final "harvest price" exceeds the "base price" in years when farm units have a

yield loss that exceeds the insurance coverage level, such as occurred with the 2012 drought in many areas. This scenario could result in significantly less insurance indemnity payments with RPE policies, as compared to RP policies, and could add significantly more risk to a farming operation.

A historical analysis for the past thirteen years (2007-2018) shows that the final crop insurance harvest price for corn has been lower than the Spring base price in ten of the thirteen years, including the past seven years (2013-2019). The only years that saw an increase in the harvest price were 2010, 2011 and 2012. The range has been from an increase in the harvest price of +\$1.82 per bushel in 2012 to a decline of (\$1.27) per bushel in 2008 and (\$1.26) per bushel in 2013. For soybeans, the harvest price has increased in five years (2007, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2016), decreased in seven years (2008, 2011, and 2014-2019) and stayed the same in 2013. The range has been from an increase of +\$2.84 per bushel in 2012 to a decline of (\$3.00) per bushel in 2008.

Many producers in the Upper Midwest have been able to significantly enhance their insurance protection in recent years by utilizing the trend-adjusted yield (TA-APH) endorsement, with only slightly higher premium costs. The APH yield exclusion (YE) option allows specific years with low

production to be dropped from crop insurance APH yield guarantee calculations. Several counties in Central and Northern Minnesota are eligible for YE for corn and soybeans in some of the past several years. For information on which counties, crops, and years are eligible for YE, go the RMA web site.

Given the tight profit margins for crop production in 2020, some producers may have a tendency to reduce their crop insurance coverage, in order to save a few dollars per acre in premium costs. However, a producer must first ask the question: "How much financial risk can I handle if there are greatly reduced crop yields due to potential weather problems in 2020, and/or lower than expected crop prices?" Many producers in portions of the Upper Midwest that had greatly reduced corn and soybean yields in 2018 and 2019 found out the importance of having solid crop insurance coverage as a risk management tool.

RP crop insurance policies serve as an excellent risk management tool for these situations, because these policies not only provide yield protection regardless of price changes from Spring to harvest, but also provide protection for declines in crop prices during the growing season. At current Spring price levels, many producers will be able to guarantee near \$550.00 to \$700.00 per acre for corn, and near \$375.00 to \$475.00

per acre for soybeans at the 85% coverage level in 2020, especially if the trend-adjusted APH yields are utilized. Many private crop insurance companies also offer "buy-up" options that could enhance crop insurance coverage even further. 2020 may not be a good year to reduce crop insurance coverage as part of an overall risk management plan for a farm operation.

A reputable crop insurance agent is the best source of information to find out more details of the various coverage plans, to learn more about the TA-APH yield endorsement, to get premium quotes, and to help finalize 2020 crop insurance decisions. It is also a good idea for farm operators to discuss their crop insurance options with their ag lender before finalizing their decisions. To receive a free copy of an information sheet titled: "2020 Crop Insurance Decisions," written by Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst, please forward an e-mail to: kent.thiesse@minnstarbank.com. Following are some web sites with very good crop insurance information:

- University of Illinois FarmDoc: <http://www.farmdoc.illinois.edu/cropins/index.as>
- USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA): <http://www.rma.usda.gov/>

New Providers in MCHC Emergency Department

The Madelia Community Hospital & Clinic (MCHC) has hired two Nurse Practitioners to work in the Emergency Department, alongside the Emergency Department Medical Director, Dr.

Medical-Surgical (Med/Surg), Emergency Medicine and as the Inpatient Director, Hospital Director and Emergency Department/Critical Care Unit Director. Her bachelor's and master's degrees are



Karla Boettcher



Elizabeth Holmquist

Michael B. Nelson.

Karla Boettcher is a Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She has three years of experience as a Family Nurse Practitioner in Emergency Medicine and Urgent Care. Prior to becoming a Nurse Practitioner, Karla worked for 13 years as a Registered Nurse (RN) in

in Nursing Leadership/Management from Metropolitan State University in St. Paul. Her post-master certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner is from Kaplan University.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Holmquist is Board Certified and has a doctorate of Nursing Practice from the

College of Saint Scholastica in St. Cloud. She had been working as a Nurse Practitioner in the St. Cloud area most recently. She also has a bachelor's degree in Nursing from North Dakota State University and an LPN degree from Southeast Technical College in Winona. As an RN and LPN, Betsy has several years of experience working in Emergency Departments, Med/Surg, Infusion Center, and an Oncology Clinic in the Twin Cities area.

"Karla and Betsy are a wonderful addition to our Emergency Department," said Dr. Nelson. "Their education and experience has prepared them for their roles here. They are confident and eager to take care of our patients."

Since 2011, MCHC has been relying primarily on locum tenens to staff the Emergency Department. Locum tenens providers contract with recruitment agencies to perform medical services for a health care organization. The physician works as an independent contractor paid through the staffing agency, which is paid

by the healthcare facility. While the quality of care by locum tenens is good, the cost for the facility is high.

"We hope to reduce the

need for locum tenens to just a few holidays or weekends a year," said Jeff Mengenhausen, MCHC CEO. "By having a consistent ER team of caregiv-

ers, we can provide our patients with quality care and the best patient experience close to home."

SMMPA plans to be 80% carbon-free in 2030

Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) today announced its plan to reshape its generation portfolio through the retirement of the Sherco 3 coal-fired power plant and replace it primarily with wind and solar generation.

The plan would result in a 90% reduction in CO2 emissions from 2005 levels and 80% carbon-free energy on an annual basis in 2030. "We have a unique opportunity to reimagine SMMPA and are excited to take the Agency in this new direction," said Dave Geschwind, Executive Director and CEO. "We will be taking our commitment to sustainability to a new level while maintaining our legacy of reliability and affordability."

SMMPA currently owns

41% of the 900-megawatt Sherco 3 coal-fired generating unit located in Becker, Minnesota. Sherco 3's majority owner, Xcel Energy, announced plans in 2019 to retire the plant in 2030. SMMPA expects all its outstanding debt on Sherco 3 will be paid off in 2027.

Natural gas and other non-coal fossil-fueled generation will continue to play an important role in maintaining reliability for SMMPA's members. The Agency expects these facilities to provide a relatively small percentage of its energy needs on an annual basis, but to continue to facilitate the increase in intermittent renewable resources, like wind and solar, while maintaining reliability and affordability.

"SMMPA's member communities support

this strategic initiative to reduce carbon emissions," said Joe Hoffman, SMMPA Board President and Preston Public Utilities general manager. "We are excited about capturing this opportunity to address important environmental objectives while maintaining an affordable energy supply." Geschwind cautions that there are still important decisions to be made. "While we are optimistic that technological breakthroughs are on the horizon, the cost of achieving the last 10-20% reduction in carbon emissions in the power sector is currently projected to be prohibitively high with today's technology. We believe society will need to evaluate whether further reductions beyond 80% in this sector are the most economical and practical path to deep carbon reductions economy-wide."