

Inside this Issue:

Ask the City Administrator

Page 4

Tom vs. the Jeep

Page 8



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PhotoPress

Only good news

Wednesday
January 23, 2019

Volume 55 | Number 37

SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES



Women Forward
SWEET FINANCIAL

Are you a hardworking single mom? Do you know you need a financial plan but just haven't found the time to put one in place?
Do thoughts of your financial future keep you up at night?
Please join us as we will be sharing **6 Essential Tips** to help you create your financial plan.

Your Bigger Future: Financial Freedom for Single Mom's

Date: Tuesday, February 19th

Time: 5:30pm

Place: Red Rock Center, 222 E. Blue Earth Ave., Fairmont

Appetizers & Wine will be served



RSVP Here: womenforwardsvp.com/rsvp-financial-freedom (complimentary and open to the public event)

Questions? Email marsha@sweetfinancial.com or call 507-235-5587 ~ Please RSVP by Friday, February 15th

1300 South Prairie Avenue, Fairmont, MN 507.235.5587

www.sweetfinancial.com

401 2nd Street, Jackson, MN 56143 507.847.8990

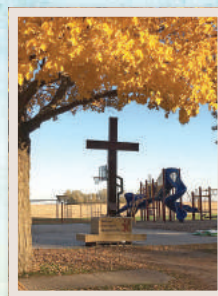
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You Are Invited To Our
OPEN
House

SATURDAY, February 2nd

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

St. James Lutheran Church & School
108 South James Street, Northrop, MN
Light Refreshments will be served.



SCHOOL

St. James Lutheran School Offers:
PreSchool/Kindergarten - 8th Grade
Church Office 507-436-5289
sjl_office@frontiernet.net



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CHURCH

Please feel welcome to join
us for our regular
Saturday Night Church
Service at 5:30 p.m.

Profinium names new board member

Profinium, Inc., has announced the election of Neil Hanson to its board of directors.

Hanson is an entrepreneur with deep roots in the agricultural community. Hanson and his brothers have taken leadership roles with the family farm along with several other business ventures in agriculture. Having spent over 11 years in banking specifically working with the ag market, Neil is excited to be a part of the banking industry again.

"Being a lifelong learner, I really enjoyed connecting with my clients and hearing their stories as they were building their businesses," said Hanson. "I look forward to bringing my credit and banking

expertise to the Profinium Board of Directors."

"I have admired Neil and his family's business efforts for quite some time," said Fred W. Krahmer, Chairman of the Profinium Board of Directors. "Neil's personal drive to succeed, his prior experience in ag banking, as well as his entrepreneurial spirit in agriculture business ventures, all make Neil an exceptional voice for Profinium's future."

The current Board of Directors of Profinium, Inc. is Fred W. Krahmer (Chairman), Fred C. Krahmer (Vice Chairman), Michelle Krahmer, Marques Doppler, Matt Ketelsen, Steve Sorensen and Chris Rothoff.

Century Farm application deadline is March 4

Minnesota families who have owned their farms for 100 years or more are invited to apply for the 2019 Century Farm Program. Produced by the Minnesota State Fair in conjunction with the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the Century Farm Program was created to promote agriculture and honor historic family farms in the state. More than 10,500 Minnesota farms have been honored since the program began in 1976.

Family farms are recognized as a Century Farm when three requirements are met. The farm must be: 1) at least 100 years old according to authentic land records; 2) in continuous family ownership for at least 100 years (continuous residence on the farm is not required); and 3) at least 50 acres and currently be involved in agricultural production.

A commemorative cer-

tificate signed by State Fair Board of Managers President Paul Merkins, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation President Kevin Paap and Governor Tim Walz will be awarded to qualifying families, along with an outdoor sign signifying Century Farm status.

Applications are available online at mnstatefair.org/about-the-fair/awards-and-recognition/; at fbmn.org; by calling the State Fair at 651-288-4400; or at statewide county extension and county Farm Bureau offices. The submission deadline is Monday, March 4th. Recipients will be announced in May. Previously recognized families should not reapply.

Information on the Century Farm Program will be available at the Minnesota Farm Bureau exhibit during the 2019 Minnesota State Fair. A Century Farm database is also available at fbmn.org.

First Congregational Church, 319 Downtown Plaza in Fairmont, will have a **Free Community Meal** on Wednesday, January 30th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. They will have a potato bar with all the fixings. The Sunday School children will be serving the meal. Hosted by the Christian Education Board. Join them for food and fellowship!

Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont hosts an **open door meal** Wednesday evenings from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m. each week. Wednesday, January 23rd they will serve tacos with all the fixings. On January 30th will be sloppy joes. All meals include beverage, fruit, dessert cookie/bar, peanut butter/jelly sandwich. Suggested donation is \$3.

CREST to host "A Matter of Balance" class

Enhancing the quality of life, "CREST" of Martin County will be presenting the class "A Matter of Balance" on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. beginning January 29th and concluding on March 19th at Evangelical Covenant Church, 901 Woodland Avenue in Fairmont.

This eight session class is designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. It includes an exercise program, identifying our fears and finding options for overcoming them. We also check our homes for safety/falling issues.

This curriculum is good for planning ahead to still do the things we like to do.

Anyone having concerns about falling or wanting to improve their balance, flexibility, and strength is encouraged to attend.

Registration is required in order to provide the needed materials and a \$10 donation is suggested to help cover the costs. Registration deadline is January 25th.

If you have questions or would like to register for this class, please call the CREST office at 235-3833.

Ruby's Pantry food distribution Saturday

Ruby's Pantry will have a food distribution in East Chain, Minnesota on Saturday, January 26th from 10 to 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.

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, January 23rd they will serve creamed chicken 'n biscuits along with salad. Next Wednesday, January 30th it will be creamed fish fillets, mashed potatoes and coleslaw. All dinners include peanut butter and jelly sandwich, beverage and donated desserts. A \$2 donation is suggested.

"Drive-In" mini movie at the Fairmont library

Join the Martin County library in Fairmont on Saturday, January 26th at 10:30 a.m. for a Drive-in Mini Movie!

Come and design your own mini car and then park it for the mini movie

that follows.

This event is free and is open to the public. No registration is required.

Call the Fairmont library with any questions at 238-4207.

TRAVELING? NOW YOU CAN TAKE US WITH YOU!

THE WHOLE STORY ONLINE AND FOR FREE.

FAIRMONTPHOTOPRESS.COM



Guadalupe Carrizales Salazar and Ma. Herminia Palomo Alfaro

Chelsey Danelle Franke and Andy Laroy Larsen

Aktion Club Theatre, a part of Kiwanis International, will meet Thursday, January 24th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the basement of Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont. 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.



RUSS 95TH - Herb Russ of Fairmont will celebrate his 95th birthday on Monday, January 28th. Cards will reach him at 610 Summit Drive, Room 304, Fairmont, MN 56031.

Senior LinkAge Line help available in Blue Earth

Do you need help understanding your Medicare benefits? Are you concerned about the possibility that you may need to move from your home? Do you need help completing a form or application? Are you having problems paying for your medication?

The Senior LinkAge Line can help! The Senior LinkAge Line is the Minnesota Board on Aging's free statewide information and assistance service for the state of Minnesota. If you have questions about Medicare, need help finding services to stay in your home or you can't afford your medication, you can call the Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433 and talked to a trained specialist.

The Senior LinkAge Line also offers in-person assistance with trained volunteers the 3rd

Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Blue Earth Senior Center, 118 W. 7th Street. No appointment is needed and if you prefer, you can call to schedule an appointment with a volunteer for a different day and time. Senior LinkAge Line volunteers receive extensive training and provide objective, comprehensive and confidential assistance.

The Senior LinkAge Line is the federally-designated State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) for Minnesota and is the place to call for Medicare and health insurance issues. Call 1-800-333-2433 for assistance Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or visit www.MinnesotaHelp.info to chat with a specialist during business hours.

St. James Lutheran pancake supper Saturday

As we celebrate all the blessings God has provided through our Lutheran schools, the St. James Lutheran School Board of Christian Education will be hosting an "All-You-Can-Eat" Pancake Supper.

This supper, marking the beginning of National

Lutheran Schools Week, will be Saturday, January 26th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at St. James Lutheran Church in Northrop.

They will also be offering gluten free pancakes at the supper. Free will donations will be accepted to go towards tuition assistance.

eat play shop
LOCAL

"Finally Get Help with Numbness and Pain in Your Feet!"



Advanced Treatment is Now Available to You if You are Suffering from the Debilitating Effects of Neuropathy!

Be one of the first 6 callers to 507-639-2002 and receive a FREE Consultation

During your FREE consultation you will find out if this new technology can help you get relief like many others have.

Do you suffer from any of the following...

- Numbness of your feet and legs?
- Painful burning, tingling feet?
- Night-time discomfort?
- Pin-like sensations with each step?

Have you ever been told...

- You have Neuropathy or Plantar Fasciitis?
- You must live with the pain, because nothing can be done? If you answered YES to any of these questions, you're in LUCK!

Don't Suffer Any Longer!

Call 507-639-2002 Now!

Dr. Craig Hartman, DC, MS, C.Ac.
Trimont, MN



Shopko announces financial restructuring

Shopko (The Company), a leading operator of general merchandise stores throughout the Central, Western and Pacific Northwest regions of the U.S., announced January 16th that it, along with its subsidiaries, has filed voluntary petitions for a court-supervised financial restructuring under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

The Company is seeking to facilitate the restructuring as a result of excess debt and ongoing competitive pressures. During the restructuring process, Shopko will continue to operate and serve its customers, vendors, partners and employees.

Fairmont's store was on the list of closures and the date it was listed to close is April 15th, 2019 - however after getting input from various sources last week, Shopko Corporate decided to keep Fairmont's store open. Other Minnesota stores scheduled to close are: Rochester, Mahanomen, Warroad and Paynesville. In Iowa, area stores set to close include Estherville, which is set to close April 8th.

"This decision is a difficult, but necessary one," said Russ Steinhorst, Chief Executive Officer. "In a challenging retail environment, we have had to make some very tough choices, but we are confident that by operating a smaller and more focused store footprint, we will be able to build a stronger Shopko that will better serve our customers, vendors, employees and other stakeholders through this process."

In order to position the Company for future success, Shopko has announced that it will be closing an additional 38 stores, relocating over 20 Optical centers to free-standing locations, and conducting an auction process for its pharmacy business. Throughout this process, all Shopko Optical centers and pharmacies remain open and continue to deliver the high-quality products and services to which its customers are accustomed. All other stores remain open as the Company continues to optimize its store footprint.

St. John Vianney School 2nd Quarter Honor Roll

St. John Vianney School 2018-2019 Honor Roll - 2nd Quarter was announced:

GRADE 5:
High Honors: Sawyer Ettesvold, Ella Krahmer, Bel Lutterman, Isaac Stone
"A" Honor Roll: Brylee Miller
"B" Honor Roll: Thomas Hamlet, Rebekah Land-

steiner, Connor Sanvig, Seth Siebring
GRADE 6:
High Honors: Dominick Lund-May
"A" Honor Roll: Saadhvi Prakash
"B" Honor Roll: Eric Dertman, Hayden Ettesvold, Hannah Fischer, Hailee Greeley, Iker Juarez, Tyler Kurt, Meia Schuett.

Gentle Yoga at the Fairmont library

Join the Martin County library in Fairmont for Gentle Yoga on Monday, January 28th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The class will be taught by Tam Plumhoff, Certified

Yoga Instructor.

Please bring a yoga mat, block and strap, if available.

There is no cost to attend and no registration is required.

Gary Reutzel is 2019 "Friend of St. John Vianney"

For Gary Reutzel, being selected as the 2019 "Friend of St. John Vianney" is a humbling and to him an unexpected honor. For the students and staff at St. John Vianney School in Fairmont, it is a well-deserved honor.

Gary has been a volunteer at St. John Vianney for six years and has helped with serving lunch to the kids and then taking them outside to the playground during that time.

"I absolutely love working with the kids!" stated Reutzel, "They make my day whenever I see them."

Reutzel, who attended St. John Vianney (SJV) himself and currently has two granddaughters who attend the school, stated that when he retired, he wanted to be a part of life at St. John Vianney, so he just went to the school officials and said "What can I do?". Since then, he has been enjoying working with the kids each day.

In October of 2017, Gary started turning yellow and went to the V.A. and was then sent to Avera Hospital in Sioux Falls. On November 12th, 2017 he was diagnosed with Stage 1 Pancreatic cancer.

He was among a small percentage of people that was eligible for "Whipple Procedure", which is the removal of a portion of the pancreas, along with much of the small intestine and surrounding lymph nodes, along with the gall bladder and bile duct. Doctors then re-attach the remaining organs to allow for normal digestion. Following surgery, Reutzel underwent a series of chemotherapy

treatments followed by radiation treatments and then more recently, more chemotherapy treatments. "Those treatments really sapped my body and I was very tired because of it."

It has been a challenging year for Gary, his wife Ann and his daughter, Krissy. When Gary was in Avera after his diagnosis, he and his wife received a call that Krissy was taken to Rochester, where she was diagnosed with Leukemia. "My wife has really been the rock for our family in all of this," stated Gary. "She really has done so much for me and Krissy."

Gary's time at St. John Vianney has been somewhat limited since tak-

ing the treatments, but he relishes the time he is able to be there to see the kids. "They would come up to me and say "I have been praying for you!". He would also get many hugs from the kids.

St. John Vianney has been a real blessing for Gary and he says that the values and morals that are taught to the students are something that will be with them as they go out in life. "I think SJV is a great school that teaches our children values and respect. The teachers and staff are so wonderful and should be commended for teaching our young children."

Reutzel will be honored as a "Friend of St. John Vianney" at their 15th annual Dinner/Dance this Saturday, January 26th at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Fairmont. If you would like to purchase tickets for the event, contact the SJV School office at 235-5304.



The Granada Huntley East Chain Sophomore and Junior classes will be hosting a **Taco, Nacho and Hotdog Fundraiser** on Friday, January 25th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. during the home basketball game that night. The fundraiser will go toward the 2019-2020 class trip.

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



Red Rock Center recognizes contributions

The board and staff of the Red Rock Center for the Arts (Martin County Preservation Association) extends their sincere appreciation to all who support us through participation, in kind and monetary donations. We acknowledge the following people for their generosity and service September-December:

James and Loretta Hagen
Enos and Charlotte Breitbarth
Vicki Swanson
Tom and Linda Feely
Alice Peters
Jim and Carol Dick
Tom and Laura Kramer
Anonymous

Memorials/Honorariums:

- Roger and Joyce Moeller in memory of LeRoy Poulson
- Robert and Patricia Witty in memory of LeRoy Poulson
- Sandy Langford in memory of LeRoy Poulson
- Virginia Riedesel in memory of LeRoy Poulson
- Ed and Correy Schermerhorn in memory of LeRoy Poulson
- Sonja Fortune in memory of Walter and Carolyn Abel
- Sandy Langford in memory of Marilyn Christ
- Anonymous in honor of Sonja Fortune's birthday

Monetary Contributions:

Ken and Marilyn Rusch
Sandy Meschke
Norm and Sandy Langford
Fairmont Awards Robert and Elaine Stewart
Roger and Julie Henderickson
John and Donna Holstine
Beta Sigma PHI
Margaret Weaver
Lorin and Joy Pollock
Pat Witty
Ed and Correy Schermerhorn

Se ofrece un curso de Inglés como Segundo Idioma para adultos que hablan español Las clases se ofrecerán en la escuela Martin Luther High School, Northrop. Las sesiones serán de diez semanas y se llevarán a cabo los jueves por la noche a partir del 7 de febrero de 2019 de 7:00 a 9:00 p.m. La instructora es la Sra. Veronica Balderas. El costo es de \$ 100 por persona. Para registrarse complete el formulario en línea en www.martinlutherhs.com/esl-courses.html o llamando al 507-436-5249.

An **English as Second Language Education Course** for Spanish speaking adults is being offered at Martin Luther High School, Northrop. The ten week sessions will be held on Thursday evenings beginning February 7th, 2019 from 7 to 9 p.m. Instructor is Mrs. Veronica Balderas. Cost is \$100 per person. To register complete online form at www.martinlutherhs.com/esl-courses.html or by calling 507-436-5249.

Don't forget to make your 2018 IRA contribution.



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Fairmont Area Chamber Ambassadors recently commemorated the opening of The Shepherd's In Soup Kitchen at the Pioneer Parsonage, 304 E. Blue Earth Avenue in Fairmont. (Submitted photo)

Ask the Fairmont City Administrator

Guest Columnist

Mike Humpal, City of Fairmont Administrator



Ask the Finance Director

How are roads/streets funded? (Why do we skip every other year?) What is bonding?

Issuing bonds is a term for borrowing money and the City incurs fees that it has to pay for each bond that it issues. In order to save money, the City has moved from issuing bonds every year to doing a large bond issue every other year.

Currently the City is funding our Street Improvement Program by

issuing Special Assessment Bonds and levying a tax to pay the debt service. When issuing bonds for street improvements, the City is required to comply with MN Stat 429 that makes it difficult to finance projects according to schedule and it is a lengthy and sometime controversial process.

The special assessment process takes several months, it requires several public hearings, there are multiple newspaper pub-

lications and it requires a large amount of staff time to administer. MN Stat 429 also requires the City to assess 20% of the amount of the bond issue to property owners which can be a challenge when there are certain properties that are exempt from assessments and we legally cannot assess more than the value of the improvements are to the individual properties.

168 teachers candidates for MN Teacher of Year

The 2019 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be chosen from a field of 168 candidates. These candidates have accepted their nominations and completed the required materials to become eligible for the honor. The number of candidates this year is the third-most in the 55-year history of the award.

The local candidates for 2019 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, listed by their school districts, are:

- Missy Aukes, Fairmont Area Schools
- Laurie Jensen, Martin County West Schools

This year's program will name the 55th Minnesota Teacher of the Year, celebrating the tradition of excellence in teaching in Minnesota. Candidates include pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade and Adult Basic Education teachers, from public or private schools.

The 2019 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be announced Sunday, May 5th, at the Saint Paul RiverCentre. Over the coming weeks, a 25-member panel of community leaders will name a group of semifinalists and finalists.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF

JANUARY 26, 1969

First National Bank added a new director at the annual meeting and two employees were promoted, according to reports of the board. Stockholders noted an excellent past year. E.O. Oleson, district manager of Stokely-Van Camp in Fairmont, was elected to the Board of Directors, Bernard Halfpopp was elevated from assistant cashier to assistant vice president and manager of the Timepay Department and James Welchlin was promoted to assistant cashier.

The Fairmont Police Department was seeking an additional patrolman, and examinations were being set up for applicants. The patrolmen were receiving a salary of \$520 per month.

Ask A Trooper: Crash cleanup roles

by Sgt. Troy Christianson, MN State Patrol

Question: Who is responsible for making sure the roadway is cleaned up and free from spilled liquids, glass and other car parts from a crash?

Answer: I have noticed that responding agencies and tow companies usually work as a team to treat the injured, direct traffic, investigate the crash and clear the scene as soon as possible for everyone's safety. This is especially important on roadways with higher speed limits.

Below is a general list of responsibilities at a crash scene, although each scene differs as to the crash severity and what is needed.

Law enforcement general responsibilities:

- Securing the incident scene
- Assist disabled vehicles
- Provide medical aid until help arrives
- Serve as incident commander along with Fire/Rescue
- Direct traffic
- Conduct crash investigation
- Supervise scene clearance

Fire/Rescue/EMS general responsibilities:

- Protect the incident scene
- Provide medical care
- Provide initial HAZMAT response and containment
- Suppress fire

- Rescue crash victims from vehicles
- Arrange transportation for the injured
- Provide advance emergency medical care
- Determine destination and transportation for the injured
- Coordinate evacuation with fire, police and ambulance/airlift
- Remove medical waste from scene
- Assist in incident clearance

Towing companies general responsibilities:

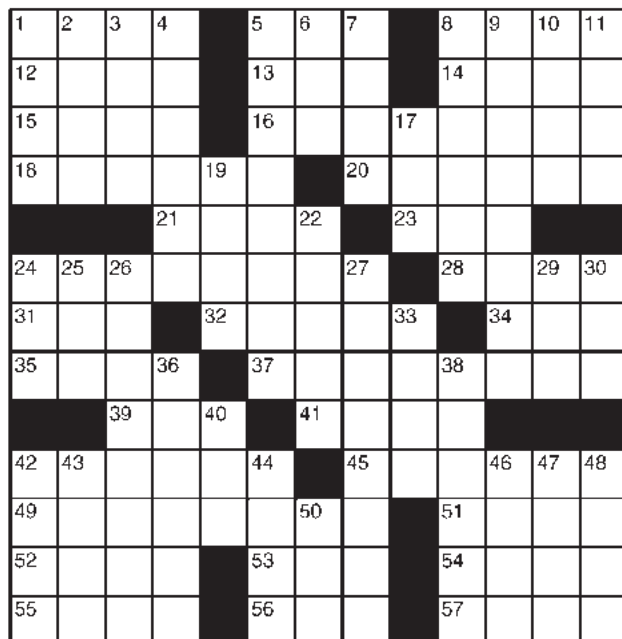
- Removing vehicles from scene
- Protecting victims' property and vehicles
- Provide transportation for uninjured vehicle occupants
- Remove debris from roadway (scene)

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)

King Crossword

ACROSS			41	Soon to come	11	Church section
1	Nickelodeon's explorer	42	Coral rings	17	Sprite	
5	Phonograph stat	45	Money, slangily	19	Pack of cards	
8	— podrida	49	Secondary job	22	"The results —"	
12	Acknowledge	51	Anger	24	Stitch	
13	"Born in the —"	52	Infamous ldi	25	Anger	
14	Tide type	53	Enjoyment	26	Jonquil's cousin	
15	Korea-based sitcom	54	At a snail's pace	27	Dregs	
16	Laterally	55	Hide	29	Shady tree	
18	Tartan patterns	56	Explosive stick	30	More, to Manuel	
20	Go by	57	Spud's buds	33	Toy block name	
21	"Star Wars" princess	DOWN				
23	Saute	1	Moist	36	Skill	
24	Motorcycle attachments	2	Elliptical	38	Richard III's cry	
28	Consider	3	Parks of civil rights fame	40	The whole enchilada	
31	Historic period	4	For some time	42	Pronto, on a memo	
32	Prepare to pray	5	Muscovites et al.	43	Fourth dimension	
34	Chicken-king link	6	Omega pre-ceder	44	Winnow	
35	Weaver's filling thread	7	Put together	46	Easter emblem	
37	Revolvers, e.g.	8	Ahead	47	Lotion additive	
39	Air safety org.	9	2012, but not 2013	48	Chops	
		10	Potato chip brand	50	Convent denizen	



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eat play shop LOCAL

Chili Challenge at MLHS January 29th

3rd annual Chili Challenge, a fundraiser for the Martin Luther High School Class of 2021 (sophomores) will take place January 29th.

Serving from 5:00-7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 29, during Jaguar boys basketball game vs. Madelia.

Cost \$5.00 to sample each chili and then a bowl of the chili of your choice

So far there are five entries (contact Rebecca Oerman if still interested

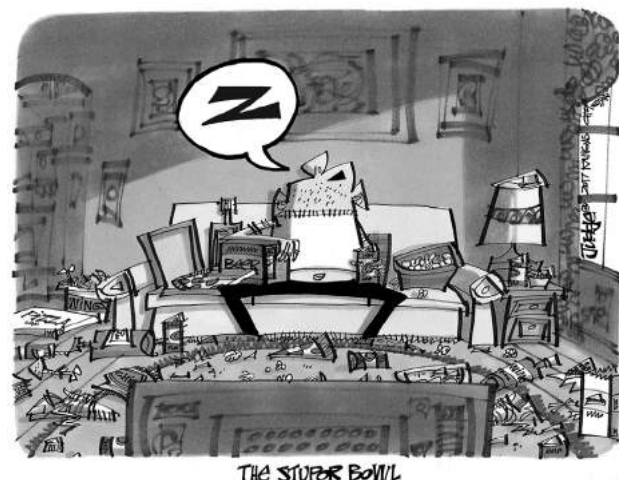
in entering 507-436-5249) Entries this year include "Inferno from Willow Creek," "Dave's 'Bear'-y Hot Chili," "Hawaiian Chicken Chili," and a couple others.

Prizes:

1st place: \$30 Hy-Vee gift card and a traveling trophy

2nd place: \$20 Hy-Vee gift card

Money raised goes toward the class's senior trip to Washington DC.



BOYS & GIRLS U11-U17 TRAVELING SPRING/SUMMER 2019 SOCCER



2019 SPRING SOCCER REGISTRATION

Sunday, Jan. 27 • 4:30

Fairmont Elementary School Door #21 - 3-6 Grade Lunch Room



Fees:

Jan. 27th - Feb. 15th, \$100
After Feb. 15th, \$150

Registration will be done online again this year.

After our annual meeting concludes, the link will be available to register your child.

Contact the board with any questions - fairmontmnsoccer@gmail.com.

ANY 2019 HS graduates are not eligible to play traveling soccer.

www.fairmontsoccer.org

\$100 refundable volunteer deposit will be collected and due by 4/1/19!

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Info: frontdesk@fairmontphotopress.com

Subscription: \$37/1 year; \$24/6 months

Jeff's Jottings!



What is it?

What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Too Cold!

The weather was too cold last weekend to be out and about, so it was a good time to do some baking! I was burned out with baking after Christmas but now I have been in the mood again. Besides, if I am baking the oven is on and that makes my kitchen cozy warm! Pa Lloyd doesn't often request a particular item for me to bake, but once in awhile he asks me to make date/nut bread. He told me that when he was in the Marines his mom would send him loaves of date bread. By the time it arrived to him there would be mold growing on it, so he would just cut it off and eat it anyway. It always tasted good to him! Well those days are over and when I bake his date bread it doesn't last long enough for mold to grow! I always buy the dates already chopped. Today I am sharing my mom's recipe for date/nut bread with you!

Date Loaf:

1 cup sugar
1 Tablespoon butter
1 egg
1 cup chopped dates, pour 1 cup of boiling water over the dates, add 1 tsp. soda to this mixture, let cool 10 minutes or so.
1 1/2 cups flour, 1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup chopped walnuts or pecans

Cream sugar and butter. Mix in one egg, then add date mixture. Mix together, then add vanilla, flour and salt. Lastly add nuts. Mix well. Pour into a greased regular sized bread pan. Bake one hour at 350 degrees, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. I usually check after 50 minutes. Let cool eight minutes in pan, then turn out and cool on wire rack.

Have a great week!

martincountylibrary.org

CHECK IT OUT!

@ the Martin County Library

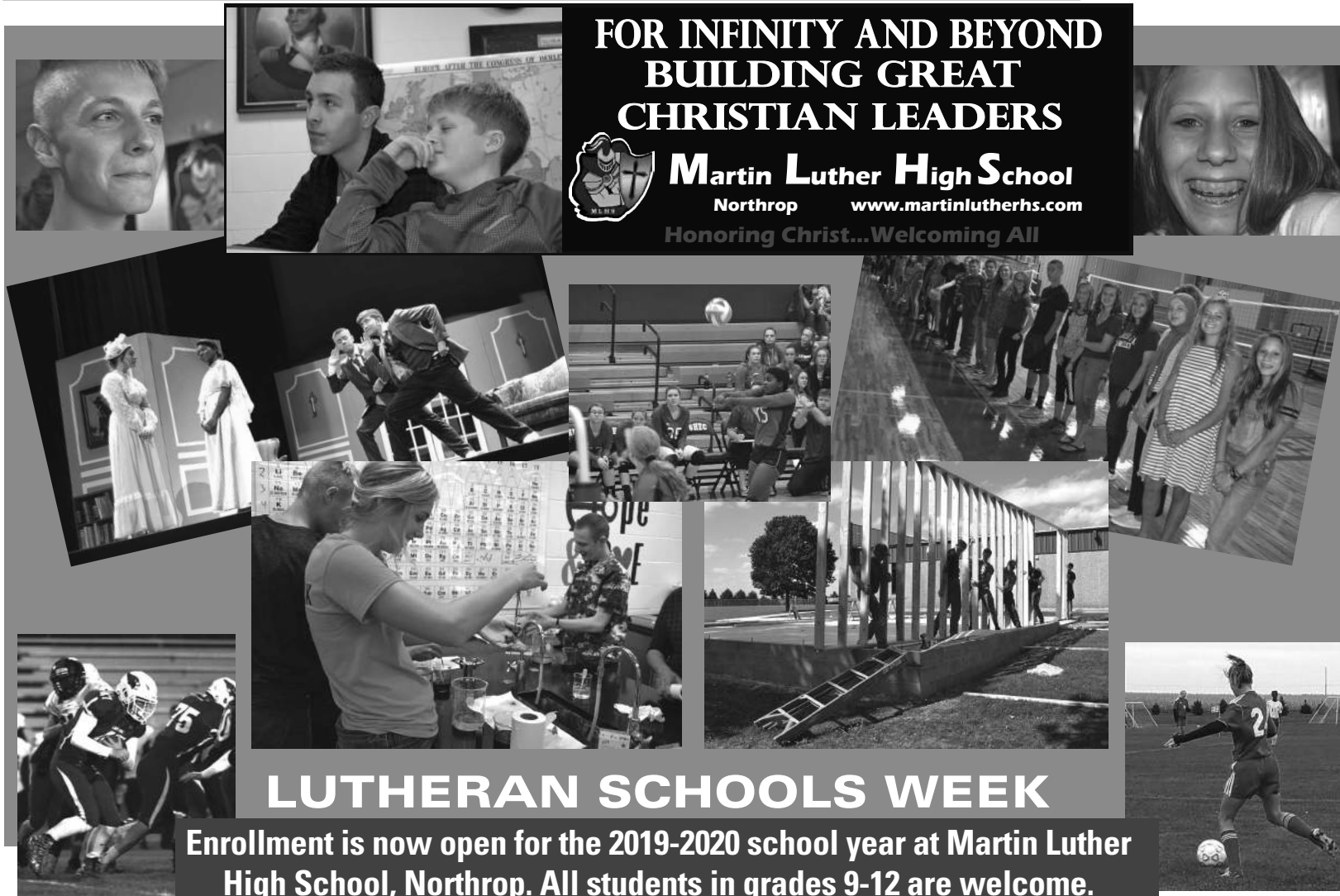
Are you wondering what your neighbors are reading in 2019? Here's a list of the top books that people are currently waiting for on a hold list!

Interested in reading any of these titles? Give us a call or stop at the library and we will get you added to the list!

The top current titles are: Becoming by Michelle Obama; Girl, Wash Your Face by Rachel Hollis; Liar, Liar by James Patterson; Turning Point by Danielle Steel; A Delicate Touch by Stuart Woods; The Boy by Tami Hoag; Past Tense by Lee Child; and The Best of Us by Robyn Carr.

This top list has a mix of memoir, self-help and fiction titles from best-selling authors.

There's lots of variety on this list and in the library too!



FOR INFINITY AND BEYOND BUILDING GREAT CHRISTIAN LEADERS

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LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

Enrollment is now open for the 2019-2020 school year at Martin Luther High School, Northrop. All students in grades 9-12 are welcome.

25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF

JANUARY 26, 1994

The Harmony Junction Barbershop Chorus was busy preparing for their annual show, with the theme "For God and Country". Guest quartet was to be Downstate Express of Mankato, a former Land O' Lakes District champion.

Minnesota Twins players Kent Hrbek and Pat Mahomes along with Twins public address announcer Bob Casey, made a stop at First Farmers & Merchants Bank. The players were making the rounds on the annual Twins winter tour, signing autographs for hundreds of fans in the bank lobby. One autograph Hrbek declined to sign was on the dotted line of a bank note presented to him by bank Vice President Darrell Ogilvie.

St. John Vianney Catholic Church pastor Father Joseph Fogal was planning to attend a 100 day sabbatical at a religious retreat near Santa Fe, New Mexico. The retreat, located in the mountains, is a haven for visiting priests who are invited to study for a period every ten years. Father Joe, who was ordained 19 years prior, said he was unable to avail himself of the opportunity until the present time.

NAPA Auto Parts of Fairmont announced that they had moved to a new location, across from Hawkins Chevrolet and Reco Motors at 1225 East Blue Earth Avenue. The new location provided more space and inventory, a larger sales area and more parking.

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Sat. Feb. 9

7:00 pm
Tickets \$15

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Good food, good friends, good times!

Granada Fire Dept.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sun, Jan 27 • 9 am - 1 pm

Granada High School Cafeteria

Serving: pancakes, sausage, biscuits & gravy (coffee, juice, and milk)

FREE WILL DONATION
5 and under FREE

Please come and support our local fire dept.

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

SOUP LUNCH Fundraiser

Friday, February 1, 2019

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

Benefitting:
Alzheimer's Research

Thrivent Supported

HOT MEALS ON WHEELS

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

SENIOR DINING WEEKLY MENU

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

JAN 24 - 30

THURS: Roast turkey, dressing, gravy, winter mix veggies.

FRI: Shrimp poppers, hash brown bake, mixed veggies, ice cream.

MON: Bean soup, cornbread with honey butter, applesauce, twinkie dessert.

TUE: Pot roast, gravy, carrots, rice pudding.

WED: Chicken ala king, biscuit, beet pickle, lettuce salad, brownie.

TRUMAN AREA

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

JAN 24 - 30

THUR: Crispito, chili, spanish rice, corn, veggies, fruit.

FRI: hot dog, tator tots, baked beans, peaches, fruit.

MON: Pepperoni pizza, green beans, veggies, pineapple chunks.

TUE: Hamburger, sweet potato fries, spinach salad, applesauce.

WED: Chicken hotdish, breadstick, peas, veggies, fruit.

Fairmont Eagles

1228 Lake Ave • 238-2555

Thursday, January 24 • 5-7pm: Roast & Turkey Commercial
Cancelled

Friday, January 25 • 5-7pm: Burger Night
Burgers \$5

Saturday, January 26 • 2pm-?: Eagles Members Christmas Party • Pot Luck

Sunday, January 27 • 4-8pm: Steve Lang & Bob Petrowiak Show

Monday, January 28: Kitchen opens 5pm • Bingo 7pm

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

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN FAIRMONT

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

JAN 24 - 30

THUR: Patty melt, green beans, broccoli, grapes.

FRI: Chicken tenders, baked beans, cauliflower, orange.

MON: Mini turkey corn dogs, baked beans, cauliflower, apple.

TUE: Pepperoni pizza pasta bake, dinner roll, corn, cucumbers, orange.

WED: Chili cheese dog, tator tots, green beans, celery sticks, grapes.

Dell Lutheran's 37th Annual Scandinavian Smörgåsbord

Sunday, February 3
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

\$18 Donation - Adults
\$6 Donation - Under 10 Years Old
All proceeds support Mission Projects

MENU

Lutefisk-Potatoes-Klubb-Corn
Norwegian Meatballs-Romgröt
Lefsa-Kringla-Norwegian Rice
Homemade Buns-Rosettes

BAKE SALE: by Dell Women
Proceeds support Dell Women's budget

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DELL LUTHERAN CHURCH
47500 97th St, Frost, MN
From I-90 Frost Exit, go 1 1/4 mile south
and 1/2 mile east
dellfreechurch.org • We're on Facebook
Where our desire is to know Christ and make Him known.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Menus subject to change.

JAN 24 - 30

THUR: Turkey roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, bread, pineapple.

FRI: Vegetable beef soup, turkey sandwich, crackers, mixed fruit.

MON: Chicken noodle hot dish, green beans, bread, apple.

TUE: Soft shell taco, fixings, strawberries.

WED: Ham, scalloped potatoes, peas, bread, peaches.

FAIRMONT AREA

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

Breakfast menu can be found online.
JAN 24 - 30

THUR: K-6: Turkey, gravy, dinner roll, peach parfait, mashed potatoes, pepper strips, strawberries, fruit cocktail. **JR/HS:** Patty melt, fries, green beans, coleslaw, broccoli, grapes, pears.

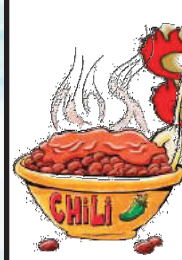
FRI: K-6: Cheese pizza, turkey BLT wrap, carrots, caesar salad, orange, applesauce. **JR/HS:** Chicken tenders, baked beans, dinner roll, cauliflower, pepper strips, orange, applesauce.

MON: K-6: Popcorn chicken egg and cheddar chef salad, dinner roll, baked beans, tomatoes, orange, applesauce. **JR/HS:** Teriyaki glazed chicken, rice, dinner roll, peas, cauliflower, apple, fruit cocktail.

TUE: K-6: BBQ shredded pork sandwich, ham & cheese sandwich, corn, carrots, apple, pears. **JR/HS:** Pepperoni pizza pasta bake, dinner roll, corn, pea salad, cucumbers, orange, applesauce.

WED: K-6: Mini turkey corn dogs, chicken caesar salad wrap, tator tots, celery sticks, banana, peaches. **JR/HS:** Chili cheese dog, tator tots, green beans, broccoli salad, celery sticks, grapes, peaches.

COME, TASTE & VOTE



January 29, 5-7 p.m.

at home BB game

\$5 per person

Several entries to sample

Sponsored by
Class of 2021



Martin
Luther High School
Northrop

Coming to the Fairmont Opera House...

A TheatreWorksUSA Production of

Charlotte's Web

Sunday, Feb 3rd at 2:00pm

This delightful production is based on E.B. White's loving story of the friendship between a pig named Wilbur and a little gray spider named Charlotte in a tale of bravery, selfless love, and the true meaning of friendship.

FAIRMONT Opera House 507-238-4900 or fairmontoperahouse.org



Fairmont Area Chamber Ambassadors recently cut a ribbon with Chamber member Hawkins Chevrolet as they celebrate 30 years of service to the Fairmont area. (Submitted photo)



Fairmont Area Chamber Ambassadors recently welcomed new businesses Griffin Bail Bonds and FAST Travel Agency to their downtown location at 101 W. Blue Earth Avenue in Fairmont. (Submitted photo)

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



oto LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cool opportunities all around



On behalf of MERGE (Area youth organization leaders), we would like to thank the Fairmont Hockey Association for opening their doors for us on the afternoon of December 29th. From 3:00-6:30 p.m., the rink was buzzing with excitement as families gathered for a time of open skating, and later teens and adults gathered for a broomball tournament.

It is estimated that well over 100 people participated during the open skate. Kids from as young as two or three up to parents and grandparents enjoyed the time together and had fun testing out their skating skills. Then, after open skate wrapped up, six teams of teens and adults suited up for broomball. A

great time was had by all, and it was a blast to get to watch everyone enjoying themselves while they played.

The Fairmont Hockey Association donated the ice time to us, even keeping concessions open while we were there. The only cost to those who attended was their skate rental and any treats they chose to buy. We are so thankful to have people that provide our community with these low cost or free opportunities to have fun together - especially for our youth.

Jen Kahler
Steph Johnson
Katy Gonzalez
Nicki Kueker
MERGE



"Name one of your Christmas traditions."

Members enjoyed a potluck lunch, received awards, played games and participated in an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest. After the banquet, we went caroling at Ingleside and Goldfinch Memory Care units.

Roll call was taken by answering the question,

Respectfully submitted,
Misty Geerdes

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

My beloved has gone to his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed his flock in the gardens, and to gather lilies. I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine. He feeds his flock among the lilies.

SONG OF SOLOMON 6: 2,3

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SJV School Endowment Fund memorials

The St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$1,225 in memorials during the month of December, 2018. These were given in memory of:

PAMELA BRANDENHOFF ASKELAND: By Fr. Peter Brandenhoff

JIM CHRISTIAN: By Marcia Leverson

DOUG FORSTROM: By Bruce and Ann Gemmill, Marcia Leverson, Vernon and Elaine Rosenberg

HELEN GOULD: By Jim and Carol Bulfer, Darlene Eisenmenger, Marcia Leverson

RAY HILMAN: By Scott and Lisa Kuhl

VERONICA HOLLAND: By Leon and Rose Marie Lammers

GERI KOWSKI: By Tony Kowski

DOROTHY KRICK: By Mark and Irene Reiter

BEN LUTTERMAN: By Linda Maday

SUE NELSON: By Hugh and Joie Fraser, Red and Meda Holland, Susan Homan, David and Beth Kloeckner, Leon and Rose Marie Lammers, Marcia Leverson, Patti McGowan

BRUCE PECK: Fr. Peter Brandenhoff

DONALD 'BUD' PLUMHOFF: By Marcia Leverson

FLORENCE PYTLESKI: By Marty Krause

KATHY TOW: By Pat Borowski, Clara Bulfer, Jim and Carol Bulfer, Carol Carlson, Darlene Eisenmenger, Archie and Marsha Farnham, Bruce and Ann Gemmill, Gary and Grace Haeckel, Julie Hill, Ron and Karen Sandhurst, Leon and Rose Marie Lammers, Alice Sandt, Jerome Sandt

AGNES WILLIAMSON: By Herb and Mary Wittmus

LUCY WINZENBURG: By Harland and Mavis Anderson, Pat Borowski, Carol Carlson, Darlene Eisenmenger, Linda Gruber, Leon and Rose Marie Lammers, Kathy Langer, Bob and Mary Millette, Eleanor Mueller, David and Katherine Ness, Bart Stadtherr, Frank and Kate Winzenburg

MARY ZELLMER: By Kent and Deborah Rasche

The St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund also gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$4,624

in general contributions given during December, 2018, by the following:

General Contributions: By Carroll Collins, Margie Dahlstrom, Barbara Denney, Dr. Jim and Carol Dick, Stan and Betty Felber, Phyllis Garrison, Jim and LuAnn Hahn, Catherine Kasper, Leon and Rose Marie Lammers, Kathy Langer, Dennis and Mitzi Lockwood, Ron Lutz, Kathy McGowan, Virginia Maday, Loretta Mathiowetz, Bob and Mary Millette, Carol Pierce, Chris and Amy Pierce, Clayton and Mary Ann Pytleski, Ron and Karen Sandhurst, Eugene and Janet Voyles, Jack Zimmer.

* * *

St. John Vianney School and St. John Vianney School Endowment Fund also acknowledge the receipt of contributions and memorials in the amount of \$5,490 given through the A+ Campaign for Excellence during the month of December, 2018, as follows:

Contributions: By Darrell and Evelyn Betts, Jim and Carol Bulfer, Stan and Betty Felber, Curt and Mary Folkerts, Gary and Grace Haeckel, Jerry Jorgenson, David and Beth Kloeckner, Ron and Pat Kurt, Joe and Mary Beth Kurtzman, Patrick and Kay McNerney, Paul and Maureen Maus, Denny and Barbara Militello, Pat and Jean Murphy and Family, Greg and Cathy Nelson, Jim Simser, Bart Stadtherr, Jim Welchlin.

Memorials as follows, in Memory of:

CAROL and LUELLA BACON: By Dan and Pat Bacon

VICTOR and LEONA BAUHS: By Ken and Marilyn Rusch

JIM DAHLSTROM: By Margie Dahlstrom

BILL and CECILIA FAHEY: By Dan and Pat Bacon

LIZ GARRY: By John and Kate Boyle

GORDON and MARY MILLETTE: By Bob and Mary Millette

CLARENCE and EMMA RUSCH: By Ken and Marilyn Rusch

CLARENCE and GUDRUN SEIBERT: By Gary Seibert

WALT and IRENE SCHREIBER: By Bob and Mary Millette

Area College Student News



The University of Wisconsin-River Falls fall semester Dean's List honoring 1,603 students has been released by Registrar Kelly Browning.

To be named to the Dean's List, a full-time undergraduate must earn a grade point average of at

least 3.5 on a scale of 4.0, or midway between an "A" and "B" average. Area students are listed below by hometown, name, and major. Local students included:

Fairmont:

• Sarah Tschumperlin, Elementary Education

* * *

Morningside College Provost Dr. William C. Deeds recently announced the students who were named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2018-19 academic year.

The Dean's List recognizes students who achieve a 3.67 grade point

* * *

Zachary Wolter, a resident of Granada, was among more than 600 students from Rochester Community and Technical College who made the Dean's List for Fall Semester ending this past December.

* * *

Approximately 9,752 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the fall semester 2018 Dean's List.

Students named to the Dean's List must have earned a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Students from the local area included:

Fairmont:

- Larissa Becker, 4, Animal Science
- Benjamin Lee Huinker, 2, Software Engineering
- Cole Tyler Huinker, 4,

Computer Engineering
- Lucas J. Jedlicka, 4, Computer Engineering
- Nathan John Kallenbach, 2, Mathematics
- Carter C. Klanderud, 2, Civil Engineering
- Parker Todd Monsen, 4, Kinesiology and Health
- Ellie Lyn Tonder, 4, English

Swea City, IA:

- Aric Todd Runge, 4, Biology
- Wyatt Russel Runksmeier, 4, Industrial Technology
- Abby Grace Stauffer, 4, English
Truman:
- Brytni J. Drevlow, 2, Interior Design



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board Director Deb Craven (left) presented a \$775 check to the Truman Public Preschool. Jennie Bowers accepted the check. Craven presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The funds will buy two literacy benches and fill them with literacy games and story starters. (Submitted photo)

PhotoPress
Only good news

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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The snow and blowing snow conditions last Friday prompted me to close the Photo Press early for the safety of our employees (and besides that, no customers were coming in anyway!). I ended up spending the night at my parents' place in Fairmont because I didn't feel like fighting the elements driving 20 miles home. Many years ago when I was much younger, I would have tried it (and I did a few times while working at KSUM/KFMC radio in the early to mid 90's. I apparently thought I was invincible and could make it home no matter what. There was more than one time I can remember taking the back roads home and the visibility was so poor that I either opened the driver's door and looked down to see where the edge of the road was, or I would

look at where the power poles were and would guess as to where the road edges would be. I was dumb back then - now I would like to think I am smarter than doing that!

A new "What is it?"
"Ask and you shall receive." That is exactly what happened to me last week when I told you that I had run out of "What is it?" items. A couple days after stating that, John Feld of Swea City stopped in with an item that I had never seen before. It measures 14 inches long and is 1 1/4 wide and is in the shape of a pipe (metal). There is a slight bend to the item as you can tell in the photo. Both ends of the item turn and there are 3 pieces that



can be inserted in one end of the pipe. There is also a rod that goes through the hole in one end of the pipe. The only markings are on the cap on one end which says "5DCARC Gun --". So, what is this item? If you think you know, email me at Jeff@fairmontphotopress.com or call me at 507-238-9456. If you have an item you think would be a good piece for this column, stop in or send me some photos along with a description.

Fairmont Shopko given a reprieve

On January 15th, many local residents got the news that the Fairmont Shopko was

among those that were listed to close in April. By the next evening, news was received that Shopko Corporate had been receiving input from a number of sources after the announcement arguing the closing of the store, which prompted them to change their mind and give Fairmont's store another chance. This decision was not only to give the Fairmont store another chance, but it was also a "wake-up" call for area residents about the state of affairs for many local businesses. Every time a store closes, the appeal of that community tends to diminish somewhat from a potential new business prospect. Sorry to say, some of the blame is on consumers themselves, due to the amount of shopping that is done online nowadays, which takes money away

from local retailers. So what I am trying to say is that we, the shopper, have been given another chance to support a local business. It's time to step up and show our support.

Chicken, tacos and hockey

Here are a few things to let you know about before I go this week: •The Wednesday Evening Supper at Fairmont United Methodist Church will take place from 5 to 6 p.m. and will feature creamed chicken 'n biscuits. All meals also come with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, dessert and beverages. A \$2 donation is suggested. •Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont continues its Open Door Meal Wednesday, January 16th from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. They are serving tacos and all the fixings. All meals include beverage, fruit, dessert bar/cookie and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. A \$3 donation is suggested for this meal. •Saturday, January 26th is the Fairmont Lakes Foundation Ice Fishing

Tournament in Fairmont. Check-in is from 8 to 10 a.m. at Sommer Outdoors. • Sunday, January 27th from 1-3 p.m. is the Children's Winter Carnival at Martin Luther High School in Northrop. Many games will take place indoors for the entire family! • Also Sunday, January 27th is a FREE hot meal at St. John Vianney Catholic Church with meal served at 6:00 p.m. • Tuesday, January 29th is the Chili Challenge at Martin Luther High School, Northrop from 5 to 7 p.m. during the boys Jags basketball game vs. Madelia at the MLHS gym. Sample all chili varieties in the competition and vote for your favorite! Funds raised will go to sponsor the Martin Luther High School Class of 2021. Have a great week!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - Eat, Play, Shop Local - support our local stores!

Jeff

"Just the other day"

Guest Columnist

Tom Palen, broadcaster, pilot, writer



"Tom vs. The Jeep"

I will openly admit, I am not the most technically savvy person in the world. As a matter of fact, I might even describe myself as somewhat technically challenged. Even with this flaw, I can be quite well organized without the aid of devices. Thursday was a good example.

I needed to go to Superior, Wisconsin, to have my trucks transmission serviced, then on to Duluth to run other errands. With pen and a scrap of paper, (the back side of some solicitation that came in the mail) I made a list of everything I needed to do in town. Arranging my tasks according to my route, would avoid any backtracking, making the most efficient use of my time. The list was compiled and I was on my way.

The first stop was the Hammond Street liquor store, just barely in Wisconsin on the south end of the High Bridge that spans the twin ports harbor. I wanted a case of New Glarus, Moon Man; a delicious brew only available in Wisconsin. The next stop was Dan's Feed Bin, to get a fifty-pound sack of sunflower seed for the birds. Dan's is such a cool place; it's an old-fashioned feed house. You go inside, place your order and pay at the counter, then take a small piece of paper out to the dock where hired hands will gather and load your order into your vehi-

cle. Old fashioned service for sure!

A half mile away I dropped the truck off at Superior Dodge. They told me the work would take about an hour and a half. I planned to walk down a couple blocks farther to the antique and thrift shops and use this time to find a table or stand upon which I would set the new television I was going to buy - item four on the list. With the temperatures in the single digits and affair amount of wind, the walk was chilly.

About ninety minutes had passed and I didn't see anything that suited me so I walked back to the deal-

ership. They told me my truck wasn't ready yet and to have a seat in the customer waiting area. About thirty minutes later the service manager came to see me. He had an uneasy look on his face. "We ran into a little snafu on your truck," he said. I smiled and repeated, "A snafu? That is not the news I wanted to hear, but I guess it's better coming you than to hear that from a surgeon." We shared a good laugh, then he explained, "One of the bolts on your transmission pan broke off. The mechanics is trying to drill it out now, but it's going to be a bit longer than we anticipated." There were

all kinds of things I could have said, but I knew getting upset wasn't going to correct the problem any faster. I smiled and replied, "Good. It will give me time to catch up on my emails."

I opened my iPad. The messages were hard to read. That's when it occurred to me, I forgot to put my contacts in today! No problem, I increased the text size, and was able to read them just fine. When I finished my email, I started looking at Face-

book to kill time. I wondered how much longer they would be with my truck? I had several more errands to run.

About an hour later, the service manager was heading my way again. I glanced at the clock; four p.m., the mechanics are ready to go home, and I could tell by his expression, it wasn't good news. He sat in the chair next to me; that's never a good sign. "Here it comes." I thought to myself, "Be cool. Stay calm." He sighed

and said, "He's having trouble getting the broken bolt out. Your truck isn't going to be done today." Oh boy! Here we go!

I took a deep breath, then firmly told him...

To read the rest of this story, please visit our website at Fairmontphotopress.com or stop in to receive a printed copy upon request.

2019

planning calendars

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MEMBER FDIC

Early Risers Kiwanis Students of the month

Fairmont's Early Risers Kiwanis group has announced the December "Students of the Month" from Fairmont Area Jr. and Sr. High School. The students were recently presented with an award certificate from the organization in recognition of their hard work. (Submitted photos)



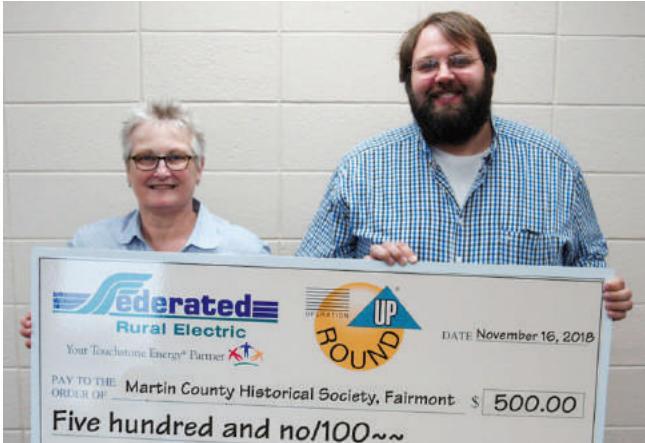
Abigail Cihoski - 8th grade; Noah Vetter - 8th grade; Breanna Groskreutz - 7th grade; Cole Wiemers - 7th grade



Thomas Klanderud - 10th grade; Becca Lunn - 10th grade; Grace Slinde - 9th grade; Brenden Eckman - 9th grade



Dan Betts - 11th grade; Madison Boyd - 12th grade



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board Director Deb Craven presented a \$500 check to the Martin County Historical Society, Fairmont. Curator Jim Marushin accepted the check. The check was presented on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will buy flat storage boxes to prevent the deterioration of materials. (Submitted photo)



Federated Rural Electric Trust Board President Lori Beseke (left) presented a \$1,300 check to Project 1590 Kids Want To Have Fun. Betsy Tino, Laura Olson and Ed Willett accepted the check. Beseke presented the check on behalf of Federated members participating in Operation Round Up. The money will go toward new mini golf balls, putters, cups, scorecards and benches. (Submitted photo)

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<p>18T313</p> <p>2016 Ford F-150 XLT Crew 2.7L V6, one owner \$32,900 or \$463⁴⁴ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T300</p> <p>2016 Ford F-150 Platinum Crew 3.5L V6, moonroof \$39,000 or \$564²⁵ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T304</p> <p>2016 Ford F-150 Lariat Crew 5.0L V8, one owner \$38,000 or \$547⁷² /72 mo.*</p>
<p>18T322</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 Lariat Crew 5.0L, local trade \$34,500 or \$489⁸⁸ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T159</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 Lariat Crew 5.0L, local trade \$35,500 or \$506⁴¹ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T296</p> <p>2015 Ford F-350 Lariat Crew 6.7L powerstroke \$48,000 or \$712⁹⁸ /72 mo.*</p>
<p>18T229</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 XLT Supercab 2.7L V6, Sport \$26,500 or \$357⁶⁸ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T240</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 XLT Crew 2.7L V6, one owner \$29,700 or \$410⁵⁶ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T235</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 Platinum Crew 3.5L V6, one owner \$39,900 or \$579¹² /72 mo.*</p>
<p>18T230</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 XLT Crew 2.7L, Sport package \$29,700 or \$410⁵⁶ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T243</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 Lariat Crew 5.0L V8, one owner \$32,500 or \$456⁸³ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T309</p> <p>2015 Ford F-150 XLT Supercab 5.0L, local trade \$24,500 or \$324⁶³ /72 mo.*</p>
<p>18T274</p> <p>2015 Ram 1500 Big Horn Quad Cab \$25,900 or \$347⁷⁶ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T221</p> <p>2013 Ford F-150 Lariat Crew 3.5L V6, one owner, 26,000 miles \$29,900 or \$413⁸⁷ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T314</p> <p>2013 Ford F-150 Lariat Crew 5.0L, one owner \$26,000 or \$349⁴² /72 mo.*</p>
<p>18T271</p> <p>2012 Chevrolet 1500 LT Crew 5.3L, local trade \$19,300 or \$338⁵⁵ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T306</p> <p>2009 Ford F-350 Lariat Crew 6.4L, powerstroke, diesel \$27,900 or \$380⁸¹ /72 mo.*</p>	<p>18T202</p> <p>2006 GMC 1500 SLT Crew Very clean exterior \$11,500</p>

* \$6,000 cash down or trade equity. OAC 5.9% APR
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Source: WalletHub

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OBITUARY notices

Betty A. Smietana, 87



Mass of Christian burial for Betty Smietana, 87, of Fairmont, was held

Wednesday, January 16th, 2019, at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Fairmont. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery. Betty passed away Sunday, January 13th, 2019, at Goldfinch Memory Care in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Betty Ann Smietana was born February 27th, 1931 to William and Helen (Mada) Petrowiak in Silver Lake Township, Martin County. She received her education from District 92 in Silver Lake Township.

On June 28th, 1958, Betty was united in marriage to Felix Smietana at Holy Family Catholic Church

in East Chain. They made their home in Brooklyn Center, MN where they lived until moving back to Fairmont in 1991 to be closer to family. Betty worked at Fairmont Phone Co., Sears Catalog and Western Union in Minneapolis for over thirty years.

Betty was a member of St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Fairmont. She volunteered at the Fairmont Community Hospital, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Daffodil Days and with many elections. Betty will be remembered as someone who was devoted to her family and church. She enjoyed baking, sewing, gardening, playing cards and always

keeping her home spotless.

She is survived by her sister, Janet Fickbohm of Fairmont; sister-in-law, Dorothy "Dot" Petrowiak of Fairmont; caregiver nieces, Dona (Jeff) Paris of Fairmont and Mary Beth (Bryan) Sweet of Fairmont; and other nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Felix Smietana; brothers, LeRoy Petrowiak and Harry Petrowiak; brothers and sisters-in-law, Margaret Petrowiak, John Fickbohm, Frances Smietana, Adolph and Doris Smietana.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

DEATH notices



January 12 - Gene W. Pendergast, 78, Fairmont Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
January 13 - Betty A. Smietana, 87, Fairmont Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
January 14 - Irene D. Stade, 90, Dunnell Kramer Family Funeral Home
January 16 - Robert "Bob" Weber, 66, Fairmont Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
January 16 - Arlyne M. Peters, 94, Sherburn Kramer Family Funeral Home
January 16 - Therese Hlavka, 59, Jackson Kramer Family Funeral Home
January 17 - Nancy L. Terry, 66, Zaharia Family Funeral and Cremation Service
January 18 - Charles F. Postolka, 90, St. James Kramer Family Funeral Home
January 19 - Harold S. Vandermoon, 82, Northrop Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service
January 19 - Audrey Berry, 87, Fairmont Lakeview Funeral and Cremation Service

In Memoriam

One Year Ago This Week

January 15 - Howard L. Spiegler, 62, Welcome
January 18 - George V. Tyrell, Jr., 81, Truman
January 18 - Daniel A. Carlson, 67, Truman
January 19 - John W. Carlson, 77, Trimont

Robert "Bob" Weber, 66



A celebration of life service for Robert "Bob" Weber, 66, of Fairmont, was held Monday, January 21st, 2019, at Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont. A private family burial will be held at a later date. Bob passed away Wednesday morning, January 16th, 2019, at Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Robert Weber was born March 31st, 1952, in Fair-

mont, the son of Everett and Leona (Servias) Nutt. He began his education attending Lincoln School in Fairmont and later attended Fairmont Jr. and Sr. High School where he earned his diploma.

Following his graduation, Robert made his home in the Fairmont area and worked as a machinist at Artsway in Armstrong, IA, and Nortech Aerospace Systems where he retired from in 2016.

Bob loved the outdoors and jumped at the chance

to spend time fishing. He was also very interested in Indian artifacts and enjoyed hunting for them in addition to studying them and their history. Bob was an avid Minnesota Twins and Vikings fan and spent countless hours out in his garage cheering them on. After returning to Fairmont in 2001, Robert became a member of Grace Lutheran Church and was later baptized into the Lutheran faith in 2002. Bob was also a long-time member of the Trimont

Conservation Club.

Left to cherish his memory are two daughters and grandchildren; sister, Rosemary (Erwin) Atzenhoefer of Trimont; brother, Lawrence (Sharon) Grunert of Menasha, WI; as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family

and friends.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Everett and Leona Nutt; grandparents, Earl and Hazel Nutt and Omer and Anna Servais; brother, Roger Nutt; and many aunts and uncles.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Harold S. Vandermoon, 82



Services for Harold S. Vandermoon, 82, of Northrop, will be 1:00 p.m. Saturday, January 26th, 2019, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Full military honors by the Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post #36 and the Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1222 will be held outside of the

church immediately following the service. A private family burial will take place at a later date at the Prairie Hill Cemetery in Fulda, MN. Visitation will be one hour prior to the time of service beginning at 12:00 p.m. (noon) Saturday, January 26th, 2019, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Harold passed away Saturday evening, January 19th, 2019, at his home in Northrop. The Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Harold S. Vandermoon was born on June 4th, 1936, in Jeffers, MN, the son of Leo and Alice (Ruby) Vandermoon. He attended school in Bingham Lake and Windom earning his diploma from Windom High School. Following his graduation, Harold served 4 years in the United States Army during the Korean Con-

flict.

On June 30th, 1957, Harold was united in marriage to Leone Zanter in Windom, MN. Together the couple would make their home in Windom, Pipestone, Chatfield, Fairmont and Northrop and were blessed with four children, Harry, Jonel, Dean and Darla.

Harold later attended Winona Community College where he focused his studies on welding, diesel mechanics, and machining.

Harold wore many different hats throughout his working career. He worked as a machinist, welder, diesel mechanic and security guard in addition to also driving bus and truck.

In his spare time, Harold enjoyed spending time with his friends, bowling, playing cards and billiards. He loved the outdoors and cherished time

spent hunting and fishing. Family was extremely important to Harold and he treasured the many memories made with his children and grandchildren. Harold was a likeable guy with a wonderful sense of humor.

Harold was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Chatfield, MN, where he served as President of the congregation. He also took time to give

back to his many comrades that served with him in the military by driving for the VA for nine years.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Leone Vandermoon of Northrop; children, Harry Vandermoon of Winnebago, MN, Jonel (Richard) Leiding of Monticello, MN, Dean Vandermoon of Rogers, AR, and Darla Vandermoon of Fairmont; four grandchildren; five great

grandchildren; as well as many other extended family and friends.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents, Leo and Alice Vandermoon; a grandson, Eric Fisch; brother-in-law, Roman Zanter; and two sisters-in-law, Donna Ackerman and Joell Metcalf.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Deuteronomy in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. From John 20, by what other name was the apostle Thomas known? *Caleb, Naaman, Omri, Didymus*
 3. Which book (KJV) begins, "And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness"? *Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Joel*
 4. What did Jesus and Peter pay for with a coin found in a fish's mouth? *Tax, Bread, Lodging, Sandals*
- ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Didymus; 3) Numbers; 4) Tax
- Comments? More Trivia? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

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Nancy L. Terry, 66



Nancy Leah Terry of Truman passed away January 17th, 2019 at the age of 66 after a long health battle.

Visitation will be Friday, January 25th, 2019 from 5-7 p.m. at Zaharia Family Funeral Home, where a memorial service will be held Saturday, January 26th, 2019 at 10 a.m. with Chaplain Kathy Blair officiating. Additional visitation one hour prior. Inurnment will be at a later

date in Westford Cemetery, rural Truman. Zaharia Family Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

Nancy Lea Schreiber was born July 8th, 1952 in Blue Earth to Howard and Minnie (Wilson) Schreiber. She graduated from Winnebago High School in 1970. Nancy worked at Cenex in Truman and as a para at the Truman Schools. She also worked as a caregiver in many capacities, most recently as a caregiver with Community Options and Resources at Sherburn facilities. Nancy found great joy in cookouts and BBQs with her friends and family, cooking for an army was her specialty. She also loved to crochet.

Nancy will be remembered for her Should've - Would've - Could've attitude. Living her life by the motto of "you can't take it

with you."

Nancy married David Terry October 9th, 1971. They loved to spend time together and enjoyed each others company, everyday. When asked what Nancy didn't like, "being lied to," was the answer. Honesty- what an admirable quality to pass along as her legacy to her family, especially her grandchildren.

Nancy is survived by her husband, David of Truman; son, Joe (Angie) Terry of Truman; brother, Lenard (Sondra) Schreiber of Pekin, IL; sister, Lois Zuehlke of Garden City; grandchildren, Devin, Dylan, Kayla, Dalton, Grace, Noah, Olivia, Skylar and Destiny; two great-grandchildren, Zayda and Jordan; sister-in-law, Phyllis Schneider; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, and foreign exchange student Jana Bretschneider.

In addition to her parents, Nancy is preceded in death by her son, Kevin Terry; grandchild, Shane Terry; brother, Robert reiber; sister, Diane (Ron) Gimmer and brother, in-law, Marni Zuehlke. from I with help insurance policy your chil-

Audrey Berry, 87



A Celebration of Life for Audrey Berry, 87, of Fairmont will be held Sunday, January 27th at the Red Rock Center in Fairmont from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by a private family service. Audrey passed peacefully January 19th at her home in Fairmont. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Fairmont are assisting the family with arrangements.

Audrey Berry was born in 1931 in Fairmont, MN. She graduated from Fairmont High School in 1949. She then moved to Chicago, IL to attend school to work for the airlines, which she did at the ticket counter. During this period, she met and married James Berry. They had four children, James Jr., Greg, Linda and Lori. They first moved to the suburbs and eventually back to Wheeler. They made their home there until her husband passed in 1972.

Galen and Lee, where her parents ran the local grocery store.

Many stories were told of her parents helping customers and trading with people through the war years. A small-town life treasured with memories of being with aunts, uncles, and first cousins. Many of these memories were made on the Ranney farm with its dairy herd, blackberry picking, and family reunions.

She graduated from Menomonie High School in 1949. She then moved to Chicago, IL to attend school to work for the airlines, which she did at the ticket counter.

During this period, she met and married James Berry. They had four children, James Jr., Greg, Linda and Lori. They first moved to the suburbs and eventually back to Wheeler. They made their home there until her husband passed in 1972.

Audrey then attended Stout in Menomonie where she graduated with a teaching degree in 1961. She then moved to Fairmont where she worked for the local bank. She was a member of the Fairmont Lutheran Church and the Fairmont Senior Center. She was preceded in death by her husband, James, and her son, James Jr. She is survived by her daughters, Linda and Lori, and her grandchildren, Greg and Lori. She was a member of the Fairmont Lutheran Church and the Fairmont Senior Center. She was preceded in death by her husband, James, and her son, James Jr. She is survived by her daughters, Linda and Lori, and her grandchildren, Greg and Lori.

Linda and Lori, to teach at Fairmont High School. Upon leaving teaching she worked at 3-M until she retired.

Once she retired, she lived life on her own terms - having her nails done, playing cards, dancing and traveling. She was a winter Texan living in Harlingen, TX at Fun-N Sun R.V. park for over 20 years. That is where her heart wanted to be this winter, with her wonderful extended family of seniors. For too short of a time she had a special friend Claud she met down south. We miss him and what fun he brought her life and ours.

Mom never remarried so she was at the mercy of traveling and being with her children. We are left to laugh and cherish all the times she followed us on adventures, grandchildren's events and achievements. She was never one to back down.

Audrey was giving extended love and true friendships through her children's spouses. She was a member of the Fairmont Lutheran Church and the Fairmont Senior Center. She was preceded in death by her husband, James, and her son, James Jr. She is survived by her daughters, Linda and Lori, and her grandchildren, Greg and Lori.

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

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

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WARRANTY DEEDS

Diane Larson, Michael Larson to Halmark LLC, Kevin Kahler Trustee, Ryan Kahler, Kevin Kahler Trust, W $\frac{1}{2}$ PT 17.77 AC SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 33-103-33

Ryan Swanson, Tracy Swanson to Jade Hacker, Michael Hacker, EXC N75' Block 3, Lot 8, Southside Addition Sherburn

Dustin Lee Swenson, Kazia Swenson to Justin J. Worden, Lot 1, Block 8, Lake George Addition

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS

Evelyn E. Helvig to Evelyn E. Helvig Revocable Trust, Evelyn E. Helvig Trustee, EXC PT SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 29-104-31 and E $\frac{1}{2}$ of W $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and EXC PT 1.93 AC NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 20-104-31

Alfred L. Boucher, Laurie A. Boucher, Laurie A. Fuchs to Laurie A. Fuchs, Lot 19, Block 1, State Street Addition

CONTRACT FOR DEEDS

Leland Johnson to Allan Martin, Jodi Martin, E60' Lot 1, Block 1 and E60' of S $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 2, Block 1, Wards Addition Dawn Schultz, Jeffrey Schultz to Loxley Coffee LLC, PT Lots 3 and 4, Block 9, Wards Central Addition

Linda E. Bakke, Olin G. Bakke to Jesse W. Houfer, Susan Lamack, PT SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 1-102-32

D DEED

Mary Jane Rosenthal Estate, David Schumski Per Rep to Carter John Shumski, Emily Christine Schumski, PT 4.57 AC SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 12-101-30

The Garden Bug

Winter gardening tasks

- Clean pots, tools and greenhouses in preparation for spring. This will set you up for a great growing season.
- Start planning your garden for the coming year. Now is the time to order seeds and plants.
- Check any winter protection you've set up previously. Survey any coverings, stakes, supports and ties that might have become damaged.
- Put out food for hungry birds. Always leave some areas of your garden uncut for them to shelter until the spring. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.thompson-morgan.com

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1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the number of the U.S. highway that runs along the West Coast?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the fastest bird in the world?
3. LITERATURE: What is the name of the wood carver in "The Adventures of Pinocchio"?
4. MOVIES: Which 1980s movie featured the tagline, "One man's struggle to take it easy"?
5. ASTRONOMY: How long is a year on the planet Mercury?
6. BUSINESS: Which automaker sold a line of cars called the Fairlane?
7. ANATOMY: How many times does the average human heart beat each day?
8. TELEVISION: Which 1960s television drama featured the catchphrase, "Book 'em, Danno!"?
9. ARCHITECTURE: Who designed the famous home called "Fallingwater"?
10. COMICS: What is the name of the dog in the "Dennis the Menace" comic strip?

Answers

1. U.S. Route 101
2. The peregrine falcon, which can exceed 200 mph in a dive.
3. Geppetto
4. "Ferris Bueller's Day Off"
5. 88 days
6. Ford Motor Co.
7. More than 100,000 times
8. "Hawaii 5-0"
9. Frank Lloyd Wright
10. Ruff

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Lake Belt Cemetery Association Annual Meeting has been CHANGED to Thursday, FEBRUARY 7, 2019 7:00 p.m. at Legends II (Banquet Hall) Ceylon, MN.

Everyone Welcome!

Now accepting bids for 2019 mowing/ spraying. Send bid to: LBCA, % Joyce Schultz, 402 E Main St, Ceylon, MN 56121.

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LOCAL

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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	3			2		5		
		2			6			7
4			9			7		
		8		1				6
	9	5			8		2	
	1			3				8
7			5				9	
		4			9	6		

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Americanisms



"Adding highway lanes to deal with traffic congestion is like loosening your belt to cure obesity."
— Lewis Mumford

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AG-LAND AUCTION

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9:00 AM

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by Sgt. Troy Christianson, MN State Patrol

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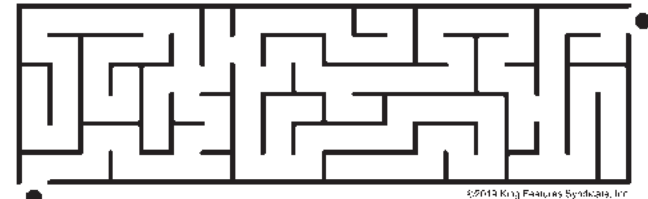


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Kids' Maze



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UPCOMING AUCTIONS

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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

D	O	R	A	R	P	M	O	L	L	A
A	V	O	W	U	S	A	N	E	A	P
M	A	S	H	S	I	D	E	W	A	Y
P	L	A	I	D	S	E	L	A	P	S
S	I	D	E	C	A	R	S	D	E	E
E	R	A	K	N	E	E	L	A	L	A
W	E	F	T	S	I	D	E	A	R	M
F	A	A	N	I	G	H				
A	T	O	L	L	S	M	O	O	L	A
S	I	D	E	L	I	N	E			
A	M	I	N	F	U	N	S	L	O	W
P	E	L	T	T	N	T	E	Y	E	S

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

1	5	6	8	9	7	2	3	4
8	3	7	4	2	1	5	6	9
9	4	2	3	5	6	8	1	7
4	2	1	9	6	3	7	8	5
3	7	8	2	1	5	9	4	6
6	9	5	7	4	8	3	2	1
5	1	9	6	3	2	4	7	8
7	6	3	5	8	4	1	9	2
2	8	4	1	7	9	6	5	3

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Working capital a key to farm finances

Guest Columnist

Kent Thiesse, Farm Management Analyst; VP, MinnStar Bank



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

We often hear phrases such as “protect your working capital”, or “watch your liquidity”, or “cash is king”, when referring to short-term financial analysis of a farm business. All of these terms generally refer to the “working capital” of a farm business. A significant decline in working capital in a farm operation can lead to a rapid deterioration of the overall financial outlook for the entire farm business and its owners.

The simple definition of “working capital” is “total current assets” minus “total current liabilities”. While that definition sounds quite simple, getting true and accurate working capital data can be much more complex in many situations. The “current assets” usually include available cash from bank accounts, accounts receivable, grain and livestock inventories, prepaid crop and livestock expenses, hedging account balances, and any other short-term assets. Accounts receivable could include crop insurance or government farm program payments, deferred payments

on grain or livestock that has already been sold and delivered, and money owed to a farm for custom or contract work.

The “current liabilities” include all accounts payable, unpaid taxes due, any crop input loans with Coops or seed companies, farm operating loan principal balance, and accrued interest on all loans. The current liabilities also include the amount of loan principal payments due in the next 12 months (not the entire principal balance) on all term loans and real estate loans. In the case of grain that has been placed under CCC Loan with the Farm Service Agency (FSA), either the entire value of the grain should be listed as an asset and the loan amount as a liability, or just the estimated net value of the grain should be listed as an asset.

The financial ratio that is often used to express the level of working capital is the “current ratio”, which is simply the “current assets” divided by the “current liabilities”. A current ratio of 1.7 or higher in a farm operation is usually considered

quite solid, while a current ratio below 1.2 is typically a warning sign of potential financial challenges or cash flow difficulties in the farm operation. If the farm current ratio drops below 1.0, it likely means that there could be difficulty in paying all accounts payable at year-end, as well as repaying the entire principal balance on the farm operating loan for the previous year. In more serious situations, there could also be difficulty in paying all required loan payments on term loans and real estate loans. Ag lenders usually pay close attention to these trends.

Another ratio that many farm financial advisors and ag lenders follow very closely is the level of “working capital to gross revenue” in a farm operation, which more accurately reflects the liquidity needs based on the size of a farm operation. That ratio divides the calculated working capital for the farm operation by the annual gross revenue of the farm business. For example, a farm operation with a calculated working capital of \$200,000, and an annual

gross revenue of \$400,000, would have a ratio of 50 percent, which would be quite strong. However, if a farm operation had a gross revenue \$2 million with \$200,000 working capital, the ratio would be only 10 percent, which could be a financial concern if not addressed.

A “working capital to gross revenue ratio” of 30 percent or higher for crop farms, and 20 percent or higher for livestock farms, is usually considered to be fairly strong. If the ratio drops below 10 percent, it is usually an indicator of some financial stress in the farm business, which may require some financial restructuring. If this situation occurs, it is best for farm operators to consult with their ag lender to explore some workable solutions.

Based on the Farm Business Management (FBM) records for over 1,400 Southern and West Central Minnesota farms, the average “working capital to gross revenue” ratio in 2017 was slightly above 25 percent, with crop farms averaging over 33 percent, with various types of livestock farms averaging between 12-17 percent. The data also showed that farm operations that were in the bottom 20 percent of net income in 2017 had an average ratio of near 7 percent,

while farm operations in the top 20 percent of net farm income had an average ratio of over 35 percent. There was very little difference in the average ratio among different sizes of farms ranging, from 500 acres to over 2,000 acres.

As we end 2018 and enter 2019, the level of working capital will likely be a concern for an increasing number of farm operations. This is due large variations in 2018 crop yields and year-end grain inventories, lower values for grain inventories, as well as increasing levels of accounts payable and farm operating loans at the end of 2018. Farm operators in portions of the Upper Midwest that incurred reduced crop yields last year, due to excessive rainfall are especially feeling some added financial stress from the decline in working capital, as compared to a year earlier.

Once a farm operator has identified the need for improvement in working capital in the operation, they should consult with their ag lender and farm business management advisors to develop a workable plan. Some possible ways to improve the working capital in a farm operation include:

- Use any extra cash income generated by the farm business to pay accounts payable or to reduce the

farm operating line of credit, rather than making extra principal payments on term loans.

- Avoid spending excess cash from the farm operation to purchase capital assets or land, or to add unnecessary term loans with annual principal payments.

- Consider refinancing term loans and real estate loans to longer term financing to reduce annual principal payment requirements. Long term interest rates are currently still quite favorable.

- If the farm operating loan is close the maximum principal level, or if the farm operation had carry-over farm operating debt from the previous year, it may also be advisable to refinance some of the farm operating debt with longer term financing.

- Consider selling any unused or extra farm assets, or a land parcel, to generate some extra cash to be applied as payments on the farm operating loan. Remember to account for the tax liability when considering the sale of land or other assets.

Most working capital shortfalls can be worked out if they are identified early, while there are still some manageable solutions available.

Going to the grain elevator

Guest Columnist

Darwin Anthony, Business Owner, Artist, Writer



GOING TO THE GRAIN ELEVATOR with my father was something very special. It was a place of importance, for much of our family income came from the sale of grain. It was also a place where farmers met. I remember walking behind my father as he climbed the stairs of the small office that was attached to the tall wooden building. The grain elevator was the tallest building in the community.

The large grain elevator had a driveway approach with a gradual slant. The grain was hauled in small wagons pulled by tractors. However, horses pulled the wagons to town in earlier days. Small wagons pulled by tractors, where the operator sat out in the open, are my first memories of grain being deliv-

ered. Everyone waited in line until their time came. The wagons were then driven up the slope and onto the scale “in the alley”. The alley of the grain elevator was always a place of wind! The grain dust would fly and attach itself to everything.

GOING TO THE GRAIN ELEVATOR meant that the wagon and grain would be weighed by a scale that was within the floor of the alley. An employee would open the rear endgate of the wagon to let the first grain in the wagon fall through a grated opening in the floor. Most elevators had some manner of lifting the front of the wagon, which allowed the grain to then slide out. Once empty, the wagon was re-weighed. The farmer had to wait until the el-

evator employee tested a sample of the grain for moisture and weight per bushel. The results were then handed to the farmer on a small white slip that showed “it all”.

One of the things I remember the most about the grain elevator was the dark opening in the ceiling of the alley. The opening led to the darkness up above. A small wooden

platform rested on the floor directly under the opening, which was at the side of the alley. An employee could step onto the platform and pull on the rope. Pulling on the rope made the platform rise. It would rise to the very top of the building where the employee could “change the direction” of the flowing grain to another bin. I always wanted to ride the platform to the top.

The grain elevator was more than a place of just selling grain. It was a meeting place for those who wanted the news of the community. It was a place

where a feed grinder that ground grain into livestock feed and a place where they might buy coal, lumber, salt, mash and livestock minerals. It was a place of dusty smells, with signs that advertised feeds, auctions, politics and community events. It was always a place of slippery floors that resulted from

ever-present grain dust.

If I close my eyes and think about going to the elevator, I can visualize the large Golden Sun feed sign that dominated the wall of the office. These all were part of my memories of GOING TO THE GRAIN ELEVATOR.

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A FEW OF OUR CATS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

EMMY LOU is a an adult, front declawed torbie who's a bit shy at first, but once she becomes comfortable with you, she will warm up. Emmy Lou would prefer to be an only cat home.

RACHEL and **PHOEBE** are cutie pie little girls, about 12 weeks old. Fun, playful and lovable, they are mostly white. One white with calico markings, and one white with grey. Come meet them!

A FEW OF OUR DOGS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

FIN is a reserved, but happy go lucky boy. He doesn't argue with other dogs. A pit bull/sharpee mix, he is playful and loving.

DAX is a boxer/Boston terrier mix, about a year old or so. Arambunctious fella, Dax has a lot of puppy left in him. Playful and fun!

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LIVE CARDINAL WEBSTREAMING VIDEO



LOOSE BALL - The Cards #42 Bryn Miller and Taylor Crissinger await the official's call on a held ball situation. Waseca's Gus Boyer looks on. The Bluejays downed the Cards 52-22 last Thursday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



J-SHOT - Dustin Schultz shoots over Belle Plaine's Brandon Taylor and #43 Josh Gregory. The Tigers edged the Cardinals 56-54 Monday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



ONE TIMER - Cards Tegan Roskop skates in and shoots towards Waseca's goalie Erin Volkmer. The Bluejays defeated the Cardinals 5-3 last Tuesday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



A couple of young spectators are bundled up to stay warm during last weekend's Pond Hockey Championships that took place by Marina Lodge in Fairmont. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*

eat play shop

LOCAL



Fairmont 8th grade girls traveling team was the Consolation Champs at Woodbury Tournament held January 19th and 20th. Quarterfinal: Fairmont 8th grade 12, IGH Spartans 15; Consolation Semi: Fairmont 8th grade 40, Cottage Grove 15; Consolation Championship: Fairmont 8th grade 28, Woodbury 10. Team members include: Anna Busche, Kate Busche, Mackenzie Carlson, Abby Cihoski, Anna Ehlert, Jazlyn Geerdes, Allison Jannsen, Olivia Ortega, Misty Geerdes, Jayden Smith, coaches Rick Ehlert, Dave Christianson. *(Submitted photo)*

Pond Hockey action

Over 40 teams and hockey fans braved the frigid temps to play and watch the Annual Southern Minnesota Pond

Hockey Championships held last Saturday and Sunday on Fairmont's Lake Sisseton. MN-Adult Open Champions

"Finnegans Flyers." Adult 35+/Bantam Division Champions "Puck Hogs." Youth Blue Tier Champions "Lumber Jill's." Youth

White Tier Champions "Puck Heads." Youth Red Tier Champs "2N10." (Submitted and fairmontsports.com photos)



The Guy From Just Around the Corner

By Al Batt

My neighbor Crandall stops by.

"How are you doing?" I ask.

"Everything is nearly copacetic. I'm trying to get a government grant to learn how to get government grants. Yesterday came out sideways. It was because I'd finally figured out that everything isn't about me. I was shattered. I had to run right out and find a little pie for my whipped cream. My neighbor Still Bill, you have to drive stakes by him to see if he's moving, bought a new truck. He kept showing me photos of it on his cellphone. Each time, he said, 'Ain't she beautiful.' After the tenth time, he'd made me so mad I could spit tacks. I told Still Bill that if he thought his pickup was lovely, he should see my cousin Calvin."

"Does he have a snazzy truck?" I say.

"Nope. He's an optometrist."

Naturally



I walked, enjoying what nature had filled my yard with.

I paid attention to the things in my yard. Mary Oliver, a favorite poet of mine had just died. She had written, "Instructions for living a life. Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it." She also wrote this, "To pay attention, this is our endless and proper work."

There is always something out there in the wild kingdom. I spied with my little eye -- snow and a deer far off in the distance. It was looking at me or something near me. High numbers of deer reflect a productive landscape. I saw a study that found a white-tailed deer will eat over 600 plant species and 3.5 percent of its weight daily. I know people who exceed 3.5 percent at a single lutefisk feed.

I moseyed past a nice cherry tree that had given up the ghost. The yard chipmunks will miss it as the fruits were a favorite of theirs.

A bald eagle flew overhead as I pruned a tree. The DNR estimated there

were 9800 pairs of bald eagles in Minnesota in 2017. A 2018 survey found nearly 1700 bald eagle nests in Iowa.

I busied myself providing room service at my bird feeders. Feeding such beautiful creatures warmed me on a cold day. My winter coat helped.

I remember years ago when I'd see evening grosbeaks some winters. I don't see them in my yard anymore. These handsome "grocerybeaks" displayed prodigious appetites at the feeder.

Q-and-A

"How many snowy owls does The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota care for each year?" The Raptor Center treats around 1000 sick and injured raptors each year. I know they had about 40 snowy owls as patients during one exceptional year, but I'd guess the average is five snowies or less.

"I watched a bald eagle fly over ducks on a lake. Some ducks flew and some didn't. How does a duck decide what to do?" Its choice of predator evasion tactics might be decided

by what kind of a duck it is. A dabbling duck (puddle duck) is a type of duck that feeds primarily along the surface of the water or by tipping headfirst into the water to graze on aquatic plants, vegetation, insects and larvae. These ducks are infrequent divers and are more likely to fly to escape danger. Diving ducks propel themselves underwater with large feet attached to short legs situated far back on the body. When threatened by an aerial predator, they tend to dive to safety.

"How do I know if it's a hill or a mountain?" According to the U.S. Geological Survey, there is no official difference between hills and mountains. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names once stated that the difference between a hill and a mountain in the U.S. was that a mountain rises at least 1,000 feet above its surrounding area, but this was abandoned in the 1970s.

"Can a large insect fly farther than a smaller insect?" I don't know. I'd reckon larger insects are the winners, but I'm guessing. I do know the fragile looking monarch butterfly can travel 2,500

miles during its migration. You'd think that would win a gold medal, but it doesn't. The Pantala flaveescens dragonfly, about 1.5 inches long, flies across continents and oceans from India to Africa, about 4,400 miles. According to Smithsonian, dragonflies are known to travel at a speed of 35 miles an hour. Hawk moths, clocked at a speed of 33.7 miles an hour, come in as the second fastest. I've read that there is a horsefly that is faster, but not according to Smithsonian.

Thanks for stopping by
"Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance." -- Theodore Roosevelt

"Life would be tragic if it weren't funny." — Stephen Hawking

DO GOOD.
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A chickadee weathers a storm. Photo by Al Batt

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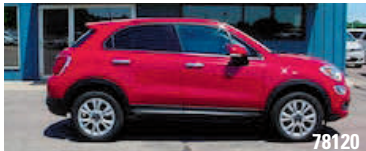


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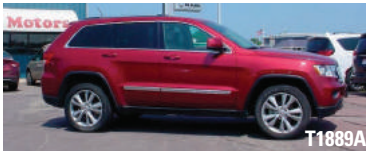


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