

MORTON AREA NEWSLETTER

January, 2016

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer

Dreaming of Warmer Weather & Gun Shows



Join us at the annual Gun Show in the Valley!

River Valley Arms & Ammo is proud to carry on the tradition of breaking those winter blues with the annual Morton Gun Show!

\$3 Admission

Saturday, January 23rd 9a - 5p
Sunday, January 24th 9a - 3p

So, you have an idea for a new business, but you aren't sure where to begin..

You have ideas or suggestions of how to make Morton a better place to live?

There are things being done you don't understand or would like changed in Morton?

Contact City Hall!

The CHAMBER wants YOUR help. This is YOUR town—let us help you make Morton grow and be a better place to live and work.

We can help you with your business ideas!

Didn't know we had a Chamber? We DO—and we would love to have you join us~ Contact city hall for details on when the Chamber meets and how YOU can join us!

Morton Chamber Meeting Schedule:

Feb. 9: Renv.Co. Museum
Mar. 8: Green Lighthouse
April 12: The Red Sled
May 10: Mama's Massage
June 14: River Valley Arms & Ammo
July 12: Altimate Medical
August 9: The Hairstop
September 13: Step Saver
October 11: Morton BP
November ? : Harvestland
(date to be determined due to election)
December 13: Morton Pub

Need a Job?

Low income,
unemployed, age
55 and over?

- ▶ Receive paid community service assignments at local public and nonprofit organizations
- ▶ Access needed services and assistance
- ▶ Update skills and obtain training
- ▶ Obtain job search assistance

Contact us

1-855-270-9660

www.experienceworks.org

Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution

The 3rd Tuesday of the month
at the National Guard Armory in Red-
wood Falls

Registration begins at 4:00

Distribution runs from 4:30-6:00

a \$20 cash donation gets you a share
bring 2 laundry baskets for your food

contact rubysredwoodfalls@gmail.com
for information especially those who
want to volunteer.

Want to start a business? Or expand a business?

Morton welcomes you!

For assistance with financing, business plans,
available lots, building and zoning criteria

Call Shirley at 507-697-6912

We will work with you to build and develop your business in
Morton!

Attention Veterans!

Lee Stock of

Renville County Veterans' Services will be
at Morton City Hall

Tuesday, February 9

to assist you with any of your veteran
service needs.

Would your house like a little TLC?



Do you need a new furnace,
or maybe some
insulation or windows?

Those are just some
of the eligible
improvements
under the Renville County
Homeownership Program.
If you are a homeowner in
Renville County
you may qualify for a
0% interest matching loan of
up to \$5,000.

Down payment assistance is
also available to first time
homebuyers.

For more information call
Renville County
HRA/EDA

at 320-523-3656 or
888-665-3745.

Maximum incomes

1 person	\$41,450
2 people	\$47,350
3 people	\$53,300
4 people	\$59,200
5 people	\$63,950
6 people	\$68,650
7 people	\$73,400
8 people	\$78,150



Newsletter/Local Access

Information

If you have items you wish to have in the newsletter or posted on the access channel, please drop them off at city hall and we will be happy to include them!

Church Service Schedule

Zion Lutheran

9:00 a.m. Sundays

Bible Study & Sunday school following services

St. John's Catholic

Mass at 8:00 a.m. Sundays

Council Meetings

Next Regular City Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 10

starting at 6:30 p.m.

The official newspaper for the City of Morton is the Renville County Register. All notices and publications as required by law are printed in that paper and as an additional means of providing public information, such notices will be printed in this newsletter when possible. All other publications and postings are done as a courtesy and means of informing residents of activities.

CHURCH SERVICES ARE AIRED ON
MEDIACOM CUSTOMERS'
CHANNEL 8

CHECK THE CHANNEL FOR DAYS AND
TIMES

Morton Chamber Meeting and
Chamber Connection

for December are cancelled.
Happy Holidays Everyone!

BONE BUILDERS

Our group is continuing to meet on Wednesday & Friday at 9:30 am at the Senior Center. Everyone has a great time, sharing news, joking & laughing. Be sure to listen to KLGR for cancellations and changes

CENTRAL COMMUNITY TRANSIT

The Central Community Transit serves all of Renville County

Monday . Friday and all your Transportation needs.

For more information call:

Central Community Transit at:
320-523-3589 or 1-800-450-7964



CIVIL DEFENSE SIREN TESTING

Civil Defense sirens are tested each month on the first Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

If you are doing home projects and improvements, please check with city hall to be sure you are complying with local requirements.

Winter is still here, so don't forget to call us with all your heating needs to stay nice and warm, but Spring is coming and with that time of year comes graduations, weddings, etc.. Thinking about some remodeling work you would like done just give us a call and let's get this started now and than all the work will be done for you when the grass and flowers start growing again. Give us a call for all your big or small plumbing, heating and cooling needs!

Women, Infant & Children

Nutrition Program (WIC)

WIC is in Morton on the 3rd Wednesday every 4 months

from 9:30am-11am at City Hall.

Next visit will be

April 20, 2016

Call 1-800-942-4030
for Information & Details

WIC provides nutrition tips and advice, support for breastfeeding, healthy foods such as milk, cheese, juice, cereals and infant formula, caring and supportive staff.

You may qualify if you are pregnant, nursing or have a child under age 5.

Centennial Mini-Storage

10 x 15 and 10 x 20 Units

Clean and Dry, Your Lock & Key!

Call Wes for Availability

507-627-6282



507-697-6405

YEAR –AROUND RECYCLE HANDHELD
ELECTRONICS,
EXTENSION CORDS AND STRING LIGHTS
DROP OFF AT CITY HALL

UPCOMING CURBSIDE RECYCLING DATES:

Jan. 26, Feb. 9 & 23

(Calendar enclosed)



MORTON AREA Community Foundation

An Affiliate of Southwest Initiative Foundation

Give where you live.

Our mission is to support community and business growth by building a permanent resource through the generosity of past, present and future residents.

Join us!

1-800-594-9480

www.swifoundation.org/donate



SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE
FOUNDATION

GARBAGE DAY IS

EACH TUESDAY MORNING

PLEASE HAVE CONTAINERS AT THE CURB NO LATER
THAN
7:00 A.M.

AND ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE ROOM FOR THE ARM
OF THE TRUCK TO ATTACH TO YOUR CONTAINER..
ALL GARBAGE MUST IN THE CONTAINER AND THE
CONTAINER MUST BE ACCESSIBLE.

Franklin Wellness Center wishing every one Happy New Year.

Insurance update: If you have received a new Insurance card I will need to update your card for your Fitness Rewards. Jackpot Employee Great News to share. Your new insurance EPNI. (BlueCross Blue Shield). YOU NOW ONLY HAVE TO WORK OUT 8 TIMES AND GET \$20.00 BACK FOR YOUR FITNESS REWARDS... For more information on all insurance plans with Fitness Rewards give me a call.



FRANKLIN WELLNESS CENTER

READY TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR PERSONAL FITNESS
PLANS.

Connie Lund
507-430-2191

CARL ROBINSON MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, January 18

2:30-8:00 p.m.

Cedar Mountain Elementary Gym in Franklin

Call Kelly Robinson @ 507-430-2446

Or Amy Kopel @ 507-276-9222

THE Perfect Gift

(birthday, Valentine's Day, "just because")

the Gift of Healthy Eating!

For those who have everything they need

Let your friends and family know you want a Gift Certificate for Senior Dining.

A single meal or up to multiple meals of 10! They don't expire and can be used for congregate or meals on wheels at any LSS location.

**Purchase at your local dining site or order
online, 24 hours a day,**

from our website: www.lssmn.org/nutrition.

Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority – (RRRSWA) Guidelines

On January 1, 2016, Redwood and Renville Counties become Single Stream Recycling counties. Residents no longer have to sort recyclable materials such as glass bottles, plastic, paper, newspapers, cardboard and aluminum into separate bins, bags or bundles. All recyclables can now be mixed together in one convenient 95 gallon container.

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING GUIDELINES PERMITTED RECYCLABLE ITEMS:

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE EMPTY, CLEAN
AND RINSED (CONTAINERS)**



**Plastic containers - #1 thru #5 (excluding caps)
No larger than 5 Gallons. **Must be removed from bags - No Styrofoam - No loose bags – No toys, pools, siding, PVC pipe, etc.****



Glass - Clear, green and brown bottles and jars (food and beverage containers only.) **No light bulbs, mirrors, ceramics or dishes. Must be empty and clean - Do Not remove labels.**



**Steel and Aluminum - Food and beverage cans aluminum foil and pie pans, aerosol cans.
**No food remaining - empty and clean.
No need to remove labels on food cans.****



**Paper - Newspaper, junk mail, magazines, paperbacks, catalogs, phone books, envelopes (including windowed) paper egg cartons.
Do Not bundle or tie - place in cart loose.**



**Cardboard - (folded flat), paper bags, boxboard (e.g. cereal, cracker, pasta and shoe boxes.)
**No frozen food or refrigerated food boxes.
No packing foam – No waxed cardboard.****



ADDITIONAL NON-RECYCLABLE ITEMS: APPLIANCES, ELECTRONICS, SYRINGES, NEEDLES, YARD WASTE, MEDICAL WASTE, GARBAGE, BUILDING MATERIALS, KLEENEX, HAZARDOUS WASTE, ETC.

For more information log on to:

www.renvillecountymn.com or www.co.redwood.mn.us

And follow the Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority (RRRSWA) Link

2016 MORTON CURBSIDE RECYCLING SCHEDULE

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29				

March

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April

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May

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October

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						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November

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		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Please have your container (the one with the yellow cover) at the same location as your garbage pick up is by 6:30 a.m. on the day of pickup. Your container will be emptied at some time during the day scheduled for pick up. If you have not received your recycling container, please contact city hall

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

MEETS AT

MORTON CITY HALL

EACH MONDAY EVENING, BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.

4H Fruit Sale NOW underway!

Order forms available at Morton City Hall

*Deadline for ordering is
approaching soon!*



Renville County HRA/EDA New Programs in 2016!

The Renville County Economic Development Authority (EDA) board approved two new competitive grant programs that will be launched January 1, 2016. In an effort to promote economic development and to encourage community relations, \$35,000 is available to leverage projects in Renville County. The Business Innovation Grant is designed for more traditional and tangible projects, while the Community Impact Funds is for softer requests, such as adding amenities and community planning projects. The EDA board and staff is looking forward to working with the variety of business, townships and organizations in conjunction of these two grant programs which now allows the entire County to participate.

The **Business Innovation Grant** is available to Townships, Cities and local Economic Development Organizations (EDO's) to sponsor a local business project. Eligible uses include but are not limited to: equipment purchases, capital improvements, expansion, development or promotion of new product lines, commercial blight, and professional development. The project must have the potential to create or retain a job or increase the local revenue to the business and have a minimum 1:1 contribution match from the business or local sponsor. Grant applications are due quarterly (January 10, April 10, July 10 and October 10). This is a competitive application process where each project will be scored based on need, potential economic impact, leveraging of other funds, realism of project plan, budget, and ability to use the funds in a timely fashion.

The **Community Impact Fund** is available to Townships and Cities to sponsor a project that will keep Renville County vibrant by enhancing community aesthetics and building capacity and amenities within your community. Eligible uses include: blight removal, city park projects, community amenity projects, community development/capacity, community enhancement projects, community related sign purchases, comprehensive plans and trail development. The project must have the ability to enhance the community and have a minimum 1:1 match. Applications are due by April 10 and October 10 (if funds are still available). This is a competitive application process where each project will be scored based on need, potential economic impact, leveraging of other funds, realism of project plan and budget, and ability to use the funds in a timely fashion.

Anyone having suggestions of how the City of Morton can utilize any of these programs is encouraged to contact City Hall to discuss further!



Affordable Dirt Work
37924 US Highway 71, Redwood Falls, MN 56283



*All your dirt work needs...
Trucking, Excavating, Bulldozer Work,
Road Grading, Landscaping, Building Demo, Concrete Re-
moval, Grove Removal and MORE!*



Mike Rasmussen
507-829-6774
Located in Downtown Morton



"The Oldest Story in North America"

220 West Second Street – P.O. Box 127 – Morton, MN 56270-0127 **Phone: (507) 697-6912 Fax: (507) 697-6118**
E-Mail: mortoncityhall@mchsi.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer

TDD/TTY: 651-602-7830

The following are the NOTES from the most recent council meeting (January 13th).

These NOTES have not been approved by the council as of this publication. Any changes will be noted in the next newsletter.

January 13, 2016:

Regular meeting called to order in open session at 6:30 p.m. with all members present. Others present: Mike Rasmussen.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- 9B) Building permit application – Sarah Madsen for a home addition to be used as a salon
- 13A(b) Ordinance Enforcement Update
- 13B(c) SCBA exam proposal for fire department members
- 13B(d) Relief Association Donation

Tom Jacobson was welcomed back after having been out with medical issues. Tom thanked the community and the people of Morton for their support, cards, best wishes and prayers during his recent hospitalization. He is back at home and trying to follow doctor's orders to build his strength and stamina.

CITIZEN ISSUES:

A. John Seehausen: John is not able to be present at this time.

Issues with the water way: John has requested that another meeting be scheduled with the county to discuss where responsibility lies with the water that is dumped into the waterway that ends up coming through the center of town and begin to address improvements that should be made to reduce possible damage to property that occurs in Morton. A meeting will be set up when it fits everyone's schedule.

John is interested in acquiring property on Main Street to build some small units that would be for sale for commercial use. The buildings would be small and economical and would give people interested in starting a business, a means to do so in Morton. His plan would be to build one, get it sold and the build another and continue as needed. He had explained the need for the community having a theme that could be carried out in the downtown area. The theme would then create business development that would complement each other in the downtown area. John will be invited to a meeting to discuss his ideas and plans in the near future. Motion by Hogy and second by Jacobson to table for more information. Motion carried.

B. Development-Mike Rasmussen: Mike Rasmussen present to discuss the proposal he presented to the EDA board at their December meeting for purchase of the former B. Original building. Mike explained his plan for development and would like to proceed, with completion of renovation by spring of this year.

The recommendation from the EDA is to advertise the property for sale, with proposals due by June 30th. The council agreed that the property should be advertised for sale but that advertising for six months is too long. Motion by Jacobson to acknowledge the recommendation from the EDA and revise the time period of advertising; with proposals due by February 5, 2016 and review of all offers at the regular February council meeting. Second by Balsley. Motion carried.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT: Bob Fox not present – No update

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Motion by Hogy and second by Balsley to approve the secretary's report as presented,

with no changes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Council received the Fund Balance Sheet, Monthly Statement and Year End Statements for their review. Additional information will be provided upon request. Motion by Hogy and second by Walker to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:

EDA Update: The EDA board met since our December meeting and the notes from the meeting were included in the council agenda packet for their review. The EDA recommendation is to advertise the former B. Original property for sale with criteria as follows: 1) Purchaser must present a plan for an active and viable business (2) Proposed business must create jobs (3) Proposal must include a plan for building renovation to increase the tax base (4) A schedule must be included outlining when renovation will be completed and when the proposed business will be open and operating (5) Business must comply with zoning ordinances (6) A business plan must be submitted along with financial information and financing plan (7) Property to be advertised until June 30, 2016 (8) Title to the property will not be transferred until significant progress has been made (8) Sale price to be at least enough to cover the costs that have been incurred on this property.

As agreed upon earlier in the meeting, the recommendation was approved with exception to the advertising term with council setting the deadline for proposals at February 5, 2016.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT:

Senior Citizen Annual Contribution: Motion by Walker and second by Hogy to make a \$500 social service contribution to the senior citizens for 2016. Motion carried.

Permit Application – Sarah Madsen: A permit application from Sarah Madsen for a home addition with proposed use as a salon at 371 North Park Drive was presented. In accordance with the Zoning Ordinance, a public hearing is required to consider conditional use for operation of a salon. Motion by Walker and second by Hogy to schedule a public hearing for the next regular meeting or as timing allows for adequate notice and publication for consideration of a home addition with a proposed use being a salon. Motion carried.

SUPPORT TO KIDS:

No council update at this time. The Explore Program planning is underway for summer 2016. Further information to be provided as it becomes available.

COMMUNITY PRIDE:

Elimination of Blighted Property: The property described as 140 N. Valley Drive was acquired by the city as a tax forfeiture. The structure on the property is a hazard and needs to be removed. Cost estimates were received from Schmidt Construction (\$10,200) and Affordable Dirt Works (\$8,500). Motion by Hogy to accept the low cost estimate provided by Affordable Dirt Works and authorize proceeding with demolition once all demolition requirements are met and copies of licenses and insurances are on file. Motion carried.

PROVIDING MUNICIPAL SERVICES:

WATER/SEWER:

New Rates: The council approved rate changes at budget time. These rate changes will be effective as of the January billing. Water Rate: Base Rate \$18 plus \$4.89/1000 gallons. Sewer: Base rate \$45.66 plus \$2.70/gallon of water used. Garbage rate will increase from \$5.50 per month to \$6.25 per month per the contract that is in place.

MN Dept. of Health Report: The Sanitary Survey Report was included in the agenda packet for council review. A copy was also provided to Jason.

SANITATION:

Rates: The rates, as discussed go into effect with the January billing. The rate adjustments were built into the contract that we have. The contract goes through December 31, 2017. As discussed on a number of occasions, everyone can expect some changes when contract discussions begin in 2017.

Recycling: The first pick up with the new containers was on January 12. Residents who did not receive containers, need to contact city hall. Businesses should contact city hall if they wish to have a container. Containers need to be placed at the same location that garbage is picked up by 6:30 a.m. on the day of pick up. Pick up will occur at some time during the scheduled day. The mobile site (across from the school) will remain at that location for use as needed, however residents are encouraged to use the curbside option.

STREETS:

There have been a few residents expressing concern about condition of the alleys and sod being torn up following plowing. It was suggested that when we have small snow falls, that the alleys not be plowed and allow the snow to be packed down. Jason will need to work in the alleys in the spring to repair any damages.

PARK & RECREATION:

The materials for replacement of the roof on the park bathrooms has been ordered and will be delivered at the end of the month. Jason will complete the project as schedule and weather allow.

Jeff received inquiries as to why the park bathrooms need to be locked. The issues of vandalism and damages were explained and discussed.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

POLICE:

Activity Report: The activity report was presented to council for their review and is available for review at city hall. It was pointed out that it seems as though the officers are present in town more than what is reflected in the report. Issues that come up are handled professionally, thoroughly and promptly.

Ordinance Enforcement: A complaint was received about possible ordinance violations involving health and safety as well as zoning violations. The complaint was forwarded to the sheriff’s office. The officer’s findings was that there were some health and safety issues but not to the extreme as the complaint indicated. There were also zoning violations. The findings were reviewed with the Mayor and it was determined that the ordinances would be enforced and citations would be issued if needed. After recent activity and local decisions regarding enforcement, there was some hesitation to proceed. Council agreed that they would support the decision to enforce the ordinances as necessary.

FIRE:

Commissioner Report: Tom checked with the fire chief and their last meeting was routine with no items for council action

Annual Relief Association Meeting: The meeting was held on January 4th and was attended by Sandra Walker and Shirley Dove. The meeting was routine, with review of investments, fund balances and election of officers.

SCBA Exams: A cost estimate of \$28 per person was presented from Med Compass for completion of the fit testing that is required. Motion by Jacobson and second by Hogy to approve the expenditure and authorize proceeding with the fit testing as required. Motion carried.

2015 Calls/Meetings: Council received a summary of the calls/meetings that the fire department members were paid at the end of 2015.

Relief Association Donation: A check for \$8,500 was received from Charitable Gambling for the Building/Truck Fund was received. Thank you to the Relief Association for the donation.

MANAGEMENT:

Annual Organization: Discussion on the meeting date. Wednesday night works for the majority of the council. Motion by Jacobson and second by Balsley to keep the Annual Organization items the same for 2016. Motion carried.

Acting Mayor

Tom Jacobson

Order of Business

Agendas prepared during the week prior to meeting

Agenda to be followed, addressing citizen issues and presenters at the beginning of the meetings; Commissioner Report for all departments at each meeting

Depositories

MNWest Bank, Bremer, Hometown and Franklin

Official Newspaper

Renville County Register

Meeting Schedule

Regular meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month and 4th Wednesday if needed
All agendas posted on front window at city hall, on the bulletin board in the office and on the city’s facebook page

Agenda packets are emailed to elected officials with a hard copy available at city hall

Newsletter/Video

Newsletter is prepared and distributed the week following the regular meeting

Video is aired live on the meeting night with a repeat at noon the following day

Commissioners

Business & Residential Development, Combined Police & Fire Combined

Business & Residential Development

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Back Up</u>
Walker	Jacobson

Support to Kids

Hogy	Balsley
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Community Pride

Balsley	Hogy
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Municipal Services

Mammen	Walker
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Public Safety (Police & Fire)

Jacobson	Mammen
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Management (Mayor & Acting Mayor)

Mammen	Jacobson
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Annual Board of Equalization Meeting: The scheduled date for this meeting is Wednesday, April 13 from 7-7:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to address any questions or concerns regarding property valuation with the County Assessor and the City Council.

Pay Bills: Motion by Jacobson and second by Walker to pay bills as presented. Motion carried.

Adjourn: The year is off to a good start with a full council present! There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

NOTICE OF HEARING AND ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Morton Economic Development Authority (EDA) will meet in joint session with the Morton City Council at 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter on February 10, 2016, at the City Council Chambers, 220 West Second Street, Morton, Minnesota, for a public hearing to consider bids for the purchase and sale of the EDA owned building at 210 Main Street North, Morton, commonly referred to as the "B-Original Building" with a County parcel identification number of 34-00970-00, and legally described as: Lot 15 & 16, Block 9, Original Plat in the City of Morton. The EDA and City Council will meet following the hearing to decide if the sale is advisable and whether to accept any bids.

Bids will be accepted until February 5, 2016, at 3:00 p.m., and will be reviewed on February 10, 2016, at the public hearing. Bids must include: purchase price; plans and details for development of property; and schedule for completion of development plan (must be no more than one year). This property will not be sold for speculation and development must occur within one year.

The Morton Economic Development Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. This property is being sold pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 469.105, and will be subject to a deed restriction requiring that the buyer devote the property to its intended use, prohibiting the buyer from transfer of title to the property within one year of purchase without the consent of the authority, and other provisions that the authority considers necessary and proper to protect the public interest.

For additional information contact city hall. Phone: 507-697-6912 or e-mail mortoncityhall@mchsi.com.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Morton City Council will hold a public hearing on WEDNESDAY, February 10, 2016 beginning at 6:30 p.m. to consider a request to consider conditional use for the property described as:

Parcel 34-01625-00

Orth's Addition, Lot 16 & N20' of Lot 15, Block 23

371 North Park Drive

This property is zoned R-2.

The property owner is proposing building an addition onto existing residence for operation of a salon.

MN Permit to Carry Courses

Protect Yourself. Protect Your Family.

Permit to Carry Courses are offered at River Valley Arms & Ammo at least once a month. This month, we have six MN Permit to Carry courses and there are 2 spaces left in the January 30th class!

It seems folks are paying attention to our political environment and getting their Permit to Carry to exercise their right to protect themselves because of the uncertainty of future laws.

If you or someone you know is interested in a course, contact us for more information!

Upcoming Permit to Carry Courses:

January 16th - FULL

January 17th - FULL

January 17th - FULL

January 23rd - FULL

January 24th - FULL

January 30th - 2 spots left

February 20th - 6 spots left

To Register, contact Heather by text or phone at 701-388-8659 or by email at heather@rivervalleyarms.com



The Beaver Falls and Morton exhibits will be taken down at the end of January. Please stop by the Museum soon to see them before they are put away.

Museum Hours: Monday - Friday 10 AM - 4 PM!

The 2016 rotating exhibits will be **Eddsville** and *whatever Renville County town receives the most votes by January 22nd!* To place your **VOTE** either email director@renvillecountyhistory.com, call the Museum 507.697.6147 or return this article with the town you **VOTE** for circled or highlighted!

Good luck to the lucky town! Bird Island * Buffalo Lake * Fairfax * Franklin * Hector * Danube * Olivia * Renville * Sacred Heart

Thank You!

Thank you to the residents of Morton & the surrounding area for donations made at the December fund raiser that was held. Your generosity was greatly appreciated!

Tim Nesburg

Thank You!

I would like to thank the community and the people of Morton for their support, cards, best wishes and prayers during my recent hospitalization. I am back at home and trying to follow doctor's orders to build my strength and stamina.

Tom Jacobson

**TRAVEL SERIES
2016
AT THE
REDWOOD FALLS
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Monday, January 25 at 12 Noon
Bruce Tiffany- Cuba

Monday, February 8 at 12 Noon
Cathy Roller- Switzerland & Italy

Monday, February 22 at 12 Noon
Robin Stegner- Portugal

Monday, March 7 at 12 Noon
Joe & Carol Kriegel- Croatia

Monday, March 21 at 12 Noon
Eric Lovett- Nepal

RENVILLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

We are sure many of you are excited that we finally have enough snow this year for snowmobiling. Remember: Not only do you have to follow the City Ordinance for snowmobiles, you also have to follow the Minnesota Snowmobile Safety Laws, Rules, and Regulations.

In order to operate a snowmobile, residents born after December 31, 1976, must have a snowmobile safety certificate. This certificate must be in their possession or indicated on their Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota ID card while operating a snowmobile.

The Renville County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will be hosting a Youth Snowmobile Safety Training on February 6, 2016 beginning at 9:00 am. There is no cost for the class. To learn more about the Snowmobile Safety Training, please contact Deputy Karla Koplín at (320) 523-3776 or see the flyer on the Renville County Sheriff's Office website or Facebook page. If this date does not work, you can also go on the DNR website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/index.html> and find other dates, times, and locations for courses.

For anyone 16 years of age or older, they must complete one of the following online courses:

snowmobile-ed.com (fee for the course is \$29.50) or

snowmobilecourse.com (fee for the course is \$29.95)

For anyone 11-15 years of age, they must also complete one of the online courses and attend a one day class room review and riding performance course.

While riding snowmobile within the City, you must take the most direct route out of town. This does not allow you to ride the snowmobile to another house before leaving town. If you are going to go riding with another person, meet them outside of town

Per ordinance, no person under 14 years of age operating a snowmobile may make a direct crossing of any street, highway, or public right-of-way.

The following are per State Statute:

-Anyone who is 12 and 13 years of age, may drive snowmobiles on public lands if accompanied by an adult or in possession of a valid snowmobile safety certificate. They are not allowed to drive a snowmobile across state or county roads, or on streets or highways in a municipality.

-Anyone who is 14 to 18 years of age may drive a snowmobile across state or county roads if in possession of a snowmobile safety certificate or a driver's license or id card with valid snowmobile indicator. They may also drive on public lands and public waters. They may also drive snowmobiles on streets or highways in municipalities only if the City Ordinance allows.

While operating a snowmobile, you must follow the speed limit for snowmobiles. No one is allowed to operate a snowmobile in excess of 50 mph on any public land or waters. You must also follow the posted road speed limit or 50 mph, whichever is lower, while operating in the ditch.

If an enforcement officer signals at you, you must stop. Fleeing an enforcement officer is a felony and the snowmobile used may be forfeited.

For more information on Minnesota Snowmobile Safety Laws, Rules, and Regulations, you can contact the DNR for a handbook or go on their website.

Reminder: All pet owners must renew their pet licenses. All cats and dogs must be licensed every year.

In order to license your pet(s), you must show current proof of vaccinations to the City Clerk. The vaccinations consist of rabies and distemper shots. If the vaccinations expire after you receive your license, you must show proof of the new vaccinations to the City Clerk. If you fail to do this, the pet license will not be valid. Pet licenses are \$5.00 per pet. If your pet is spayed/neutered, the license is \$2.00 per pet. All dogs and cats over the age of six months must be licensed.



Here we are again....the holidays are over and you're finding yourself staring down that "New Year's Resolution" hole that you always find yourself in. Your intentions always start out for the best but, if you're like me, you slowly lose ambition and motivation and revert back to old habits. This year, make a resolution that is easy to keep. Empower yourself and your health with the help of Young Living Essential Oils and oil infused products.

Do you take health and nutrition supplements? If so, how do you choose which brand to use? The reality is, supplements are not all created equal. In fact....quality, safety, and efficacy vary significantly from brand to brand. Since what your body gets out of supplements depends a lot on what goes into them, it's always a good idea to do some research before choosing a brand. Here's why so many people are making the switch to Young Living.

Is your body getting the nutrition it needs to keep you stronger, longer? Smart decisions today help protect you for a lifetime. Hectic schedules and increasing personal demands make eating a well-balanced diet seem impossible, but good health depends on it! Young Living can help you incorporate better eating habits into your busy schedule, and support a healthy lifestyle through targeted wellness supporting supplements of all kinds. All of our supplements are of the highest quality and include balanced, naturally-derived ingredients you can feel good about!

So much good goes into our supplements so you get so much good out of them. Nutrition products are simply not all created equal. Young Living is dedicated to developing the highest quality, most rigorously tested and scientifically supported products and supplements on the market today. Did you know the color of your supplement's jar matters? The material of the cap matters? The source of the vitamins and minerals matters? The synergy of the ingredients matters? An extraordinary level of research goes into the formulation of EVERY product at Young Living. That's why so many people are making the switch to Young Living.

Young Living has developed an extensive line of supplements to ensure you get wellness support precisely where you need it. We have something for every aspect of your health: weight management, digestive health support, healthy joint function, physical performance, healthy sleep and energy, maintaining healthy looking skin, cognitive fitness support, emotional wellness, and overall health & vitality.

Everyone is different. Whether you want to support certain fitness goals, a healthy lifestyle, or maintain cognitive and emotional wellness... I can recommend products that are right for you. Contact me at 507-829-8647 or email at oildrops4health@outlook.com. Join families all over the world supporting healthy, active lives with Young Living. Our supplements are safe, natural and essential oil enhanced. Experience the difference for yourself! I would love to see you at the Morton City Hall on January 21st at 7pm for an introduction to essential oils. Happy New Year to you all! I wish you a year of health, wellness, and abundance!

Blessings,

Meghann Kodet

Young Living Senior Star Distributor





Annie Tepfer, RAPAD Coalition Coordinator
Renville Alliance for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drugs
105 South 5th St. Suite 119H
Olivia, MN 56277
anniet@renvillecountymn.com

Preventing tobacco use among youth is critical to ending the tobacco epidemic in the United States.

Tobacco use is started and established primarily during adolescence.

Nearly 9 out of 10 cigarette smokers first tried smoking by age 18, and 99% first tried smoking by age 26.2,3 Each day in the United States, more than 3,800 youth aged 18 years or younger smoke their first cigarette, and an additional 2,100 youth and young adults become daily cigarette smokers.

Flavorings in tobacco products can make them more appealing to youth.4In 2014, 73% of high school students and 56% of middle school students who used tobacco products in the past 30 days reported using a flavored tobacco product during that time. Youth use of tobacco in any form is unsafe.

If smoking continues at the current rate among youth in this country, 5.6 million of today's Americans younger than 18 will die early from a smoking-related illness. That's about 1 of every 13 Americans aged 17 years or younger alive today.

Cigarette smoking has declined among U.S. youth in recent years, but the use of some other tobacco products has increased 5 %.

Current use of electronic cigarettes increased among middle and high school students from 2011 to 2014.Nearly 4 of every 100 middle school students (3.9%) reported in 2014 that they used electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days—an increase from 0.6% in 2011.

More than 13 of every 100 high school students (13.4%) reported in 2014 that they used electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days—an increase from 1.5% in 2011.

Fees:

\$95 for 3 days

\$70 for 2 days

\$40 for 1 day

2016 Winter Scrapbooking Retreat February 5, 6 & 7, 2016

Meals Included:

Fri - Evening

Sat - Noon

Sun - 11 am Brunch

***Location: Redwood Falls Armory
530 N Hwy 101, RWF 56283***

***Times: Friday, Saturday 8 am - Midnight
Sunday 8 am - 6 pm***

Margaret Keller

Your Scrapbooking Consultant

67871 Co. Rd. 18 Morton, MN 56270

For more info: Call 507-697-6320 or E-mail: cmcmkeller@msn.com

www.creativememories.com/user/margaretkeller

Minnesota Valley History Learning Center

Summer Explorer Program

2015 in Review

We had 116 students in grades 1-6 join us for our 2015 Summer Explorer Program. We employed 14 staff members who ranged from area high school students to school teachers. We were able to bring in some great professional programs from the U of M Raptor Center, Regional River History Center, the Minnesota DNR, Dakota Wicohan and the U of M Extension Program. Traveling to county parks, 2 county museums, the Lower Sioux Agency Interpretive Center, 3 farm sites and the Southwest Research and Outreach Center made for some exciting, hands-on learning experiences!

2016 Happenings

We are growing! In the summer of 2016, we will be serving three different communities with our Summer Explorer Programs taking place in:

Redwood Falls (May 16 – June 2)
Morton (June 13 – 30)
Winthrop (July 11 – 28)

We are hoping to have at least 300 students participate during 2016. We will be hiring counselors from each community for each program.

Financial Support

Registration fees paid by participants is greatly reduced because of generous contributions received from individuals and businesses in our area. We are currently seeking contributions for the 2016 Explorer Programs. If you wish to contribute, please send your donation to the MVHLC at PO Box 127, Morton, MN 56270.

Thank you for supporting our area youth and their education! ~ Ann Vote, Program Director

**Questions? Email: mvhlc.explorerprogram@gmail.com
Phone: (507) 697-6119**

2015 Explorer Memories



Minnesota River Week

Students enjoyed tons of outdoor recreational activities: fishing, kayaking, boating, geocaching, archery, and hiking --- all while learning about being safe in the outdoors, the uniqueness of our area and the importance of preserving the valley.



Dakota Culture/Pioneer Life

From Dakota language games and participating in a Round Dance to churning butter and playing 1860s baseball, our explorers got to experience culture from the past and present.



Agriculture

Explorers had up close encounters with farm animals and even bottle-fed calves. They also experimented with and learned about food products made from local crops.



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| Beef | Bacon |
| Black Olives | Mushrooms |
| Onions | Bell Peppers |
| Banana Peppers | Jalapeño Peppers |

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Double Order



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JUST CHATTN'

Hope Santa Claus was good to you. He stopped at my house and left a bag of chocolate covered peanuts on my door. Thanks, Mike!

So, I won't be getting a social security raise because gas prices are so low...Please explain that to me! I don't even drive my car!

So have you got that now!!! The green one is for garbage and the yellow one is for recyclables. Or is it the other way around? If you're not sure just google it!

I loved this one (a reader wrote in the Tribune): *You must remember that this is Minnesota, a land of Lake Wobegon where all the women are strong, the men are good looking and all the children are above average.*

Or how about this one: (Blue and Gold 1951): I, Lyle Witte, do hereby bequeath my irresistible charm which I switch on around teachers, mainly my ability to tell jokes in class, and my overflowing knowledge of women to James Wellnitz. I also leave my secret parking place to Lloyd Schultz, if he can find it.

Research has found that the companionship of pets may be important in fostering positive mental health and well-being in people. Would you like a dog?

Morton Reminder (about 50 years ago): Joe Colwell having earned the required amount of points as paper boy for the St. Paul Pioneer Press leaves Friday on the Hiawatha for Chicago....The Indians made their second victory of the season by defeating the Morgan Raiders. Mike Tate led the scoring with 41 points and Terry Dallenbach was next with 13 points.... Henry Flink's (remember him) official thermometer gave a 25 degrees below 0 reading Wednesday morning....Tact is making guests feel at home when you wish they were!....Happy Birthday to Marilyn Tisdell (January 21 and to Gene Tisdell (January 31).....Firemen were called to the rural home of Herbert Froehlich in Beaver Falls Township but the flames were out of control and their home burned to the ground.....The Class of 1958 held a five year reunion: Carol Brixen received a rolling pin for being married the longest, and a bottle of aspirin for having the most children; Glenn Garman received an apron for being the newest married; Sylvia Robbins received a rattle for having the newest baby; and Margaret Mary Simmons received a road map for having traveled the longest distance to attend....Open house bridal shower in honor of Jan McGowan, bride of Bob McGowan Thursday at the Morton Hotel. Jan owns and operates Jan's Hairdressing in Morton.Nursery School teacher: "Everyone in this room is free. Everyone in the United States is free." Little boy: "I'm not free, I'm four."

From the Senior Center: We celebrated Lyle's birthday ((Jan. 1), Norma's birthday(Jan.26). She will be 96! She got a permanent (her very first) and she's beautiful! ...We have a new back door. We were all curious whether Jim would notice. He never did notice that old shed is gone. Thank You to the Golden Living Center for the Christmas goodies and Thank You to the Senior Citizens for my Christmas gift.

This morning I sat on a bench in the park next to a homeless man. I asked him how he ended up this way. He said: "Up until last week, I had it all! A cook prepared my meals, my room was clean, my clothes were washed and pressed had a roof over my head, excellent health care; TV, the internet, I went to the gym. I asked "So what happened?" Drugs, Alcohol? Divorce? "Oh no, nothing like that at all." I got out of prison,

I see Amos Krause, son of Troy and Kelly Krause, was named Eighth Grade Cardinal of the Week If I was Editor of the Redwood Gazette I would have that plastered all over the front page of the Gazette! Congratulations Amos!

And may the FORCE be with you!

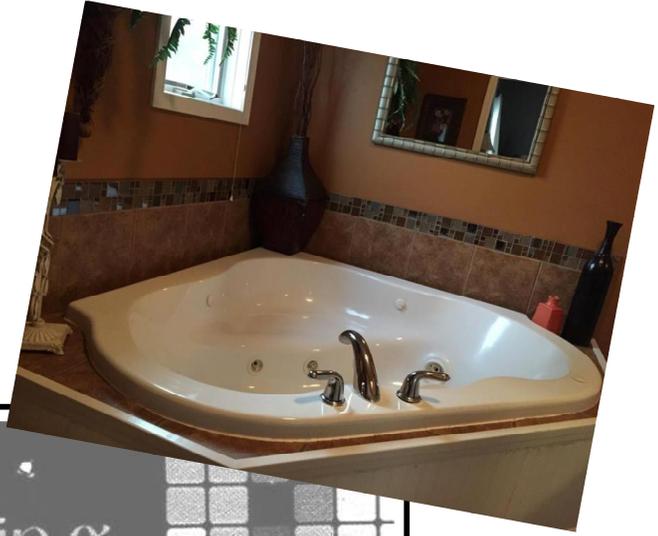
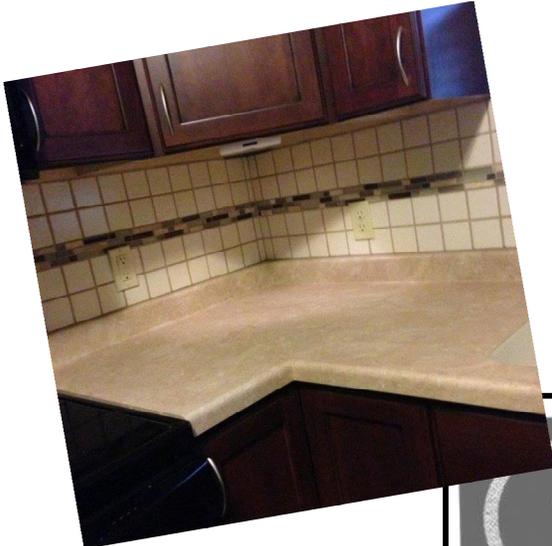


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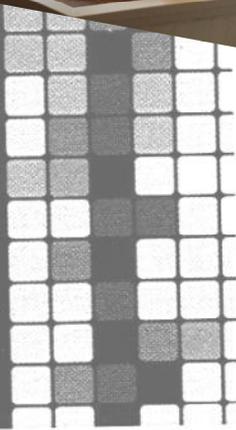
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G & R Tiling and Bathroom Remodelling

Ryan Becklund 507.430.0148
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facebook.com/gnrtiling



Morton Chamber
In the
Spotlight



Green LightHouse
Photography and frame

507-430-9742
Bonnie Green
Bryan Green

321 Valley Drive Morton MN
greenlighthousephoto.com



In 2015, Bryan and Bonnie Green were searching for a home for their photography equipment and their framing business. Through an internet search they discovered that the old Methodist Church had been abandoned in Morton. The Greens enjoy revitalizing historic buildings and giving them new life. Green LightHouse is located in that building at 321 Valley Drive (on the corner of Valley & Third Street).

Bryan Green, born and raised in Morgan, MN, began his professional photography career there in 1986. He moved away from the farm to grow his business. Bonnie began framing in 1991 and the couple returned to Morgan to save and run the family farm in 2009. Green LightHouse has been a Morton Chamber Member since 2014.

Green LightHouse is a mom & pop studio with modern capabilities and options that today's photography can provide. They work one-on-one with their clients to create a personalized experience that results in exceptional photographs and a lasting relationship.

Hours: By Appointment or By Chance



Do you want your business in the Spotlight? Purchase your Morton Chamber Membership today!
Annual Membership Fee: \$30 for Individuals and \$50 for Businesses

Lutheran Social Service

FEBRUARY 2016

Senior Nutrition Program

Monday, February 1	Tuesday, February 2	Wednesday, February 3	Thursday, February 4	Friday, February 5
5 oz. Baked Chicken 1 med. Baked Potato/Sr. Crm 1/2 c. Squash Bread/Margarine 1/2 c. Pudding 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 oz. Sausage Egg Bake 1/2 c. Oven Baked Potatoes 1/2 c. Tropical Fruit Coffeecake/Margarine 1/2 c. Sherbet 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	8 oz. Chili 1/2 c. Pears 1/2 c. Lettuce/Dressing Cornbread/Margarine x2" Gelatin with Fruit/Wh. Toppi 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	4 oz. BBQ Meatballs 1/2 c. Mashed Potatoes 1/2 c. Beets Bread/Margarine 2"x2" Lemon Sponge Cake 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	\$2.00 Day 8 oz. Ham Boiled Dinner with Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots 1/2 c. Fruit Salad Breadstick/Margarine 2"x2" Bar 8 oz. Low Fat Milk
Monday, February 8	Tuesday, February 9	ASH WEDNESDAY	Thursday, February 11	Friday, February 12
3 oz. Hamburger 1/2 c. Baked Beans 1/2 c. Tart Cole Slaw Bun/Margarine 1/2 c. Ice Cream 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 oz. Pork Loin 1/2 c. Whole Parslied Potatoes 1/2 c. Glazed Carrots Dinner Roll/Margarine 2"x2" Cake 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 Oz. Egg and Cheese Bake 1/2 c. Oven Baked Potatoes 1/2 c. Tropical Fruit Coffeecake/Margarine Dessert 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 oz. Roast Beef 1/2c. Mashed Potatoes/Gravy 1/2 c. Stewed Tomatoes Bread/Margarine 1/2 c. Pudding 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	6 oz. Tuna Noodle Casserole 1/2 c. Peas 1/2 c. Cole Slaw Bread/Margarine Dessert 8 oz. Low Fat Milk
Monday, February 15	Tuesday, February 16	Wednesday, February 17	Thursday, February 18	Friday, February 19
6 oz. Hamburger Tomato Cass. 1/2 c. Green Beans 1/2 c. Fruit Cup Bread/Margarine Cookie 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 oz. Cranberry Glazed Chicken Baked Potato/Sr. Cream 1/2 c. Broccoli Bread/Margarine 2"x2" Cake 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	8 oz. Vegetable Beef Soup 3 oz. Meat Salad Sandwich 1/2 c. Pineapple Crackers/Margarine 1/2 c. Fruit Cocktail 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 oz. Sloppy Joe 1/2 c. Potato Salad 1/2 c. Country Blend Veget. Bun/Margarine Fresh Orange 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	\$2.00 Day 4 oz. Lemon Pepper Fish 1/2 c. Rice Pilaf/1/2c. Cole Slaw 1/2 c. Mixed Vegetables Dinner Roll/Margarine 2"x2" Fruit Cobbler 8 oz. Low Fat Milk
Monday, February 22	Tuesday, February 23	Wednesday, February 24	Thursday, February 25	Friday, February 26
4 oz. BBQ Pork Chop 1/2 c. Scalloped Potatoes 1/2 c. Corn Bread/Margarine 1/2 c. Applesauce 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	6oz. Creamed Chicken/Biscuit 1/2 c. Green Beans 1/2 c. Lettuce/Dressing Margarine 1/2 c. Pudding 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	3 oz. Italian Shredded Beef 1/2 c. Oven Brown Potatoes 1/2 c. Cauliflower Broccoli Salad Bun/Margarine Cookie 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	\$2.00 Day 3 oz. Roast Turkey 1/2c. Mashed Potatoes/Gravy 1/2 c. Carrots Cranberry Sc. Garnish/Brd/Marg 2"x2" Pumpkin Dessert 8 oz. Low Fat Milk	8 oz. Creamy Tomato Soup 2 oz. Cheese Sandwich 1/2 c. Three Bean Salad Crackers/Margarine Dessert 8 oz. Low Fat Milk
Monday, February 29				
8 oz. Creamy Vegetable Soup 2 1/2 oz. Turkey Sandwich 1/2 c. Fruit Cup Crackers/Margarine Cookie 8 oz. Low Fat Milk				
GIFT CERTIFICATES for meals available at your site or purchase on line at our website: www.lssmn.org/nutrition				

This service is funded in part by a contract from the Area Agency on Aging with funding from the Federal Older Americans Act through the Minnesota Board on Aging. Additional funds are provided by the State of Minnesota, United Ways, local communities, and other adult contributions. Approved by: Terri Weyer, RD, LD. Posted menu is regular diet. Diabetic, sodium, and fat restricted diets available upon request. MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Norwegian Macaroons

By Vicki Madsen (3rd Place Beneath the Wreath Cookie Baking)

1 cup white sugar
1 egg, beaten
1 cup melted butter (cooled)
1 3/4 cup quick cooking oatmeal
1 1/4 cup flour
1 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup coconut (chopped a bit)
1 c. finely chopped walnuts or pecans
1/2 pound white almond bark (for frosting)

Melt butter in a large glass mixing bowl. Stir in sugar, then egg, then flour and soda. Stir in remaining ingredients except the almond bark.

Roll dough in small balls (3/4-1 inch). Make a small thumb print on top of each. Bake at 350 degrees for 11 minutes.

When cooled, frost with melted almond bark. Almond bark can be melted in the microwave.

Makes about 90 cookies.

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