

Geographical center is site for Prairie Talks series

Prairie Talks, a lecture series started by North Dakota native Kristi Rendahl, will host its first event on June 3, 2012 in Rugby, the geographical center of North America. The series was started to connect common sense people in north central North Dakota with common sense people from around the world. Rendahl was born and reared in Benson County and attended school in Pierce County.

The first speaker will be Minnesota farm native Alan Bjerga, an American journalist and author. His book, *Endless Appetites: How the Commodities Casino Creates Hunger and Unrest*, was published by Bloomberg Press in October 2011.

Bjerga was the 2010 president of the National Press Club. He covers

agricultural policy for Bloomberg News and in 2010-2011 was also the president of the North American Agricultural Journalists.

Bjerga's Talk will take place at the Rugby Eagles Club on Sun., June 3 at 2 p.m.

The second speaker will be Fargo native Roxana Saberi, an author, journalist and former Miss North Dakota. Saberi moved to Iran in 2003 to work as the Iran correspondent for the US-based Feature Story News. She filed reports for organizations such as NPR, BBC, ABC Radio and Fox News and was working on a book about Iranian society when she was arrested on Jan. 31, 2009. Saberi was later sentenced to eight years in prison on a trumped-up charge of espionage. In May 2009, an Iranian court suspended the sentence, and she was released.

Saberi's book, *Between Two Worlds: My Life and Captivity in Iran*, was published by HarperCollins in March 2010. Saberi's Talk will take place at the Rugby Eagles Club on Sun., October 7 at 2 p.m.

Talks are intended to engage, challenge and inspire conversation. They are free of charge, but donations are welcomed to help defray expenses. A limited supply of the speakers' books will be available for purchase and autographs. Additional information may be found at www.prairietalks.org.



Kristi Rendahl



Roxana Saberi



Alan Bjerga

Super Crossword

Answers

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Harlow Happenings

By Sheri Tuhscherer - 466-2632

Clarice Matthews and Sheri Tuhscherer visited Opal Groff Monday morning.

Dorothy Buckmeier was a Wednesday visitor of Barbara Piatz. Arly Halvorson and Carolyn McGarvey visited Opal Groff Wednesday morning.

A Harlow Centennial planning meeting was held at the Harlow VFW Hall Wednesday evening. Attending were Diane Ripplinger, Teran Hermanson, Gaylen and Noreen Halstenggaard, Loren Knutson, Jean Olson, Keith and Carleen Warner and Opal Groff. The next meeting is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 16 at the Harlow VFW Hall.

George and Inger Thompson attended the funeral for Ardell Olson at Leeds Lutheran Church Thursday.

The Harlow Cemetery Association met at the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Thursday evening. Loren Knutson brought his tractor and loader which was used to make some repairs to the church building. Others attending were Jon Hermanson, Teran Hermanson, Roland and Clarice Matthews and Gaylen and Noreen Halstenggaard.

Beatrice Miller of Dazey spent the weekend with her mother, Barbara Piatz of Devils Lake.

Several Harlow folks attended the Bernard Meyer funeral at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Leeds Saturday, including Jean Olson, Alice Knutson, Opal Groff, Sheri Tuhscherer, Kenny Lunde and Jerry Lunde.

Jim and Dorothy Buckmeier of rural Churchs Ferry and Barbara Piatz of Devils Lake met Joan Nord and David Piatz of Minneapolis, Minn. at Mr. & Mrs. J's Restaurant in Devils Lake Friday evening for supper and visiting.

Jim and Dorothy Buckmeier joined Joel and Susan Piatz at Graham's Island Park for a campfire Friday evening.

Beatrice Miller, Dorothy Buckmeier and Barbara Piatz attended the funeral for Bernard Meyer at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Leeds Saturday.

Beatrice Miller and Barbara Piatz visited Ted and Marj Gommen and Joe and Sue Piatz at Graham's Island Saturday afternoon.

Rick Larson was a Friday dinner guest of George and Inger Thompson.

Inger Thompson attended the visitation for Bernard Meyer at the Leeds Funeral Chapel Friday.

Jerry and Barb Lunde, Joel Lunde, Kenny Lunde, Carter Lunde and Aggie Filler visited Ruth Lunde in Minot Sunday.

Carol Thompson and Arnikka and Evan Follman kept appointments in Minot Saturday.

Cindy Axness Hunckler of Minneapolis, Minn. called on George and Inger Thompson Saturday.

George and Inger Thompson and Delores Sudbrink of Glenwood, Minn. attended the visitation for Harold Fragodt at the Leeds Funeral Chapel Saturday afternoon.

Alice Knutson and Jean Olson visited Opal Groff Saturday afternoon.

Tony and Carol Thompson and Arnikka attended the funeral for Harold Fragodt at St. Petri Lutheran Church Sunday afternoon.

Jim and Dorothy Buckmeier, Beatrice Miller and Barbara Piatz were Sunday morning coffee guests, after church, of Annette Johnson of Cando. Sunday afternoon Beatrice and Barbara called at the Jim and Dorothy Buckmeier farm, rural Churchs Ferry.

Callers at the home of George and Inger Thompson Sunday were Duane Buchta, Irving and Janice Thompson and Derek of Devils Lake and Susan Thompson and Gavin.

Jean Olson attended the string orchestra concert at Central Middle School in Devils Lake Friday evening. Jean's granddaughter, Olivia Allery played cello in the orchestra.

Roger and Karen Hill of Esmond visited Opal Groff Saturday evening after attending the visitation for Harold Fragodt at the Leeds Funeral Chapel.

Garth and Jeanie Goodrich are current visitors of Craig and Carol Blomster.

Christine Walters and Casey Blomster visited Craig and Carol Blomster Sunday.

Jason Ellingson of Lincoln spent the weekend with Pam Ellingson. Shane Ostlie was an overnight guest.

Scholarship available through ND Dept. of Public Instruction

An application for the ND Academic Scholarship and the ND Career and Technical Education Scholarship is available online at www.dpi.state.nd.us/scholarship through June 7. No applications will be accepted after that date.

The academic scholarship requires a student earn a 24 or higher composite score on the ACT.

The career and technical education scholarship requires a student earn a 24 or higher on the ACT or earn three 5s on the WorkKeys Assessments.

Students must also meet specified curricular and grade require-

Rock Remembers

By Rock Leier

In the late 1930s the Rochus Leier Sr. family lived and farmed four and one half miles south of Esmond. Rochus Sr. (Dad) had a 1932 Chevrolet with a "battery from hell." That means when that car wanted to start it would start; otherwise it wouldn't.

One day Dad wanted to go to Esmond for parts or something like that. The car wouldn't start. The oldest child was only about eight or nine years old at that time so Dad had my mother lead one of his very large work horses by the halter with the intent of pulling and starting the car. Mother wasn't the most athletic person so as she was leading that very large horse, it stepped on one of her feet and crushed it.

After some choice words directed at that battery from hell, Dad finally got the car started. He immedi-

ately rushed Mother off to Esmond to have Dr. O'Hare give her a cast which consisted of many layers of heavy cloth wrapped tightly around the foot. He then gave her a crutch to walk on for the next four months.

So here was our heroic mother with five little kids under 10 years old, a house to keep with all the chores that went with that occupation, a demanding husband to placate, a garden to tend and cows to milk, all done on a crutch.

Whenever I delve into my own personal pity party, I think about those times and am reminded that, economically, Dad and Mother were experiencing the tail end of the Great Depression in our country and coincidental with that was one of the worst droughts (the Dirty Thirties) in the history of the USA. And we think we have it rough.



Pictured are, left to right, Natasha Norton, Hannah McInnes, Rachel Kraft, Laurie Bachmeier and Laura Halle.

LRSC students attend state leadership conference

Members of the Lake Region State College (LRSC) Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) chapter in Devils Lake attended the ND PBL State Leadership Conference in Jamestown April 20-21. Six PBL chapters from North Dakota and western Minnesota participated in this conference, where 75 students had the opportunity to test their business skills against other students.

While at the conference, LRSC students received the following awards:

Business Ethics -- Rachel Kraft of Devils Lake and Natasha Norton of Carrington, 1st; Business Presentation -- Norton and Hannah McInnes of Jamestown, 3rd; Human Resource Management -- Laura Halle of Devils Lake, 2nd; Job Interview -- Halle, 3rd; Sales Presentation -- Halle, 1st; and Word Processing -- McInnes, 2nd and Laurie Bachmeier of Devils Lake, 3rd.

The chapter also received the Membership Achievement Award for PBL membership support and growth. Susan Otto of Devils Lake and Halle were named to the Local Chapter Who's Who for outstanding leadership achievement.

Two students also campaigned and were elected to the 2012-2013 state officer team. Kraft was elected vice president of public relations and McInnes was elected vice president of communications.

Co-advisors for the LRSC chapter are LoAnn Nelson of Devils Lake and Diane Karlsbraaten of Sheyenne.

Weather report

MINNEWAUKAN
Official US Department of Commerce weather report for the 24 hour period prior to 8 a.m. each day at the Minnewaukan City Water Plant.

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Apr. 29	56	32	
Apr. 30	69	40	
May 1	76	35	.04
May 2	72	41	
May 3	68	40	.02
May 4	52	43	
May 5	66	48	.50

Mwkn school menu, events

May 9: Biscuits and gravy; macaroni hamburger hotdish, vegetable, cottage cheese.

May 10: Cereal; corn dogs, potato, baked beans, vegetables.

May 11: Egg patty and sausage patty; burritos, green beans, cheese sauce.

May 14: Cereal; chicken patty, smiley fries, vegetables.

May 15: Breakfast pizza; taco lasagna or pizza hotdish, vegetables.

May 16: Egg patty; hot ham and cheese, potatoes, vegetables with ranch dip.

All breakfasts served with toast, juice, milk and peanut butter. All lunches served with bread, milk, peanut butter and fruit.

May 9: Elementary Parents' Night 6 p.m.

May 10: High school boys track meet in Rugby 3:30 p.m.

May 11: 9th grade baseball tournament at Fargo North; high school girls track meet at Grand Forks-Red River 3 p.m.; junior high track meet at Park River 4 p.m.; junior varsity baseball vs. Central in Devils Lake 5 p.m.

May 12: 9th grade baseball tournament at Fargo North.

May 14: High school track meet in Devils Lake 3:45 p.m.; 9th grade baseball in Valley City 4 p.m.; school board meeting 5 p.m.

May 15: Elementary concert 2 p.m.

May 16: High school spring concert 2 p.m.

ND per capita income jumps

North Dakota's per capita personal income has increased over 78 percent since 2000, according to statistics recently released by the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). According to the BEA report, the per capita personal income in North Dakota in 2011 was \$45,747; an increase of \$20,155 since 2000 when the per capita personal in-

come was \$25,592. Nationally, per capital personal income increased by 37.4 percent over the same period.

"We are very pleased and proud that North Dakota, in the last 10 years, has gone from 38th in the nation to 9th in the nation in personal incomes," Gov. Jack Dalrymple says. "That's the proof our policies for economic growth are working."

The BEA report illustrates that citizens from all regions of North Dakota are enjoying significant gains in personal income. The complete Bureau of Economic Analysis report is available at www.bea.gov/regionalspsi/.

Weather report

BAKER

Reports from the NDSU North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network station at Baker, ND for the 24-hour period each day.

Date	High	Low	Prec.
Apr. 30	68	35	
May 1	73	45	
May 2	69	41	
May 3	65	39	
May 4	52	45	.07
May 5	68	44	
May 6	61	46	.44

Seeking homes

Pacific Intercultural Exchange is seeking host families to provide homes for foreign students for a school year. For more information call 1-866-546-1402.

Richard Peterson

The School of Hard Knocks Class of 2012 will graduate Friday the 13th at Midnight!

This 2x2 graduation ad is \$24. Email your graduate's picture in jpg format to: ads@farmerspress.com or call Lisa at 473-5436.

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