staying Minnesota West CONNECTED

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

WINTER2018 IN THIS ISSUE













The Minnestoa West Foundation is a private nonprofit, 501 (c) 3 tax exempt organization.

The Minnesota West
Foundation believes in
affordable and accessible
educational opportunities
for students. Because of this
belief and commitment to
education, the Minnesota
West Foundation provides
funding for scholarships and
development opportunities
for students attending
Minnesota West Community
and Technical College.



BUILDING OUR FUTURE

"This historical milestone ... will provide a new dimension to our Worthington campus"

President Terry Gaalswyk

The Bluejay Villas

Groundbreaking took place on Thursday, November 16th for a 108-bed, three story residence hall on the Minnesota West

Worthington Campus. The \$6.2M facility is being developed by Bluffstone, LLC, with funding coming from a state grant, City of Worthington loans, and private financiers.

The living quarters will include four bedroom/four bathroom suites and two bedroom/two bathroom suites. Each suite will be fully furnished with full size beds, desks and chairs in each bedroom, sofas, chairs and barstools for breakfast bars for shared areas. Kitchens will have full size Energy-Star appliances

According to Worthingon mayor Mike Kuhle, "It was a goal that I have had since becoming Mayor to get on campus housing at Minnesota West. This housing project not only benefits the college but the community as well with badly needed housing."

The Villas are slated to open for the start of classes in the fall of 2018.

Powerline Facility

Minnesota West celebrated the opening of a new indoor Powerline Technology Facility with a ribbon cutting ceremony on August 30, 2017. Members of the community, Minnesota State Representatives, and Minnesota West constituents had the opportunity to explore and experience the hands-on training that will take place in the new 7,244 square foot, \$2.55 million state of the art indoor training facility.



Following the ribbon cutting attendees were invited to try their hand at climbing one of the poles under guidance and direction from the instructors and students.

Powerline student Collin Nestande offered thanks to lawmakers and college officials on behalf of his classmates. "This a wonderful addition and will continue to help students for years to come."



From the **PRESIDENT**

As you noticed, the cover of our newsletter reads, "BUILDING OUR FUTURE." We are extremely excited at Minnesota West about the recent investments being made to update our college facilities. This is an ongoing process, and we continue to explore ways to maintain a world class institution for the 21st century. Thank you to all of our local, regional, and statewide partners who help make this happen.

"BUILDING OUR FUTURE" does not only refer to our physical assets, of course. Our mission has always been and always will be about preparing our students for success. We are proud of the fact that our enrollment continues to grow - up 6% in 2017 - even in the face of declining higher education enrollment nationwide. Across southwest Minnesota, private and public sectors continue to recognize two-year education as a high-demand, high-reward opportunity for recent high school graduates

and working adults. And we at Minnesota West continue to work diligently to provide world class training options aligned with regional workforce opportunities.

It also great to see many of our alumni posting photos on our college Facebook page. We love to hear where you have landed after your time at Minnesota West. If you enjoy taking selfies (I will admit that I am still not too good at this myself!), jump on over to the Minnesota West Facebook site and post a picture.

As always, we hope you enjoy the newsletter. And we wish you well in 2018!

Sincerely, your president

Terry Gaalswyk, Ph.D





Recognition

MEDICAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM RANKS IN TOP 5

The Minnesota West Medical Assistant program was named the #4 Medical Assistant program in the nation as ranked by edsmart.org in 2017. Edsmart

BEST COLLEGES

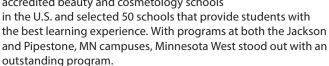
TOP CAMPUS

SMETOLOGY

objectively assesses online medical assisting programs according to affordability, academic quality and student satisfaction.

COSMETOLOGY RANKED #13

Minnesota West has been ranked #13 on a list of the Top 50 Beauty and Cosmetology Schools by TheBestColleges.org.
TheBestColleges.org strives to connect prospective students with the best degree programs available. They reviewed all accredited beauty and cosmetology schools



BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON ORGANIZATION

Minnesota West Community & Technical College was recognized as a Yellow Ribbon Company in October of 2017, by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs. The "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" initiative recognizes institutions who work diligently across their organization to support service members and military families as they transition back into the workforce.



CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

Minnesota West Agriculture and Environmental Science Instructor Rolf Mahlberg was selected as the 2017 Nobles County Conservationist of the Year. The award, given out by the Nobles County Soil and Water Conservation District, recognizes Mahlberg's soil conservation practices on his family farm. Mahlberg, who has been caretaker of his family's farm since 1986, was chosen for the honor because of his approach to continually exploring and implementing practices to improve soil health.

NETWORK SECURITY PROGRAM RANKED #2

Minnesota West's Network Security program has been ranked 2nd in the U.S. by affordablecolleges.com "In a review of schools across the nation, Minnesota West's program stood out in both quality and affordability," according to AffordableColleges.com. Loan default rates, graduation rates, affordability, academic pedigree and the availability of distance learning are some of the key factors reviewed during the ranking process.

ASPEN PRIZE 2019

Minnesota West was named one of 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance in America's community colleges.

Awarded every two years since 2011, the Aspen



Prize recognizes institutions with outstanding achievements in four areas: learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students. Minnesota West was selected from a pool of nearly 1,000 public two-year colleges nationwide to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize. Top ten finalists will be named in May

2018, and winners will be announced in the spring of 2019.

PROGRAM UPDATES

SAVE THE DATE!JACKSON CAMPUS REUNION SET FOR APRIL 13th

The Minnesota West Foundation will be hosting an alumni reunion for graduates of its three Jackson Campus legacy programs – Powerline, Construction Electrician, and Automotive Technology - **on Friday, April 13th.** Come and join us as we celebrate over 50 years of technical education as well as the recent completion of the new Powerline training facility! There will be campus tours, an evening meal, and recognition of past alums and special guests. Watch for more information in the coming weeks!



CARPENTRY PROGRAM TACKLES A FIXER UPPER

A collaboration between Pipestone Area Schools, the Pipestone Economic Development Authority (EDA), and Minnesota West Community and Technical College has resulted in the restoration of not just a dilapidated house, but a college carpentry program as well. In its first year back in action since 2014, the Minnesota West Carpentry program is teaching seven high school students and two Minnesota West students how to renovate an abandoned house into a livable home. From removing siding to installing windows and prepping for concrete work, students are getting a combination of hands-on experience and classroom learning from Minnesota West instructor, Solomon Derby. To accomplish this program renovation, the local EDA purchased the house for \$3,000 and supplied the materials; the local high school students are able to take classes through Minnesota West and receive college credit; and Minnesota West provides instruction as well as classroom learning space.

AAS IN INDIVIDUALIZED STUDIES

Minnesota West recently added an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Individualized Studies to its program offerings. This degree program is designed for working adults and/or students who have well-defined career goals, which may not line up exactly with the current college program offerings. The program is intended to provide students with the opportunity to develop specific competencies and earn an Associate of Applied Science degree in an area not available through existing degree programs at the college.

LUVERNE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

2017 marked 10 years of operations for the Minnesota West Luverne Educational Center for Health Careers. Over 370 students have completed degrees through the Luverne Center, which was created as a joint effort between Minnesota West, Sanford Health Systems and the City of Luverne. Today, the center specializes in radiologic technology, surgical technology, medical assistant, medical laboratory technician, phlebotomy, and liberal arts. Until 2005 the center served as the hospital for the City of Luverne, at which time Sanford Health Systems opened a new facility in Luverne.



ANNUAL Report



Dear Alumni and Friends of Minnesota West,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the Minnesota West Foundation, I am pleased to present this annual report for 2016-17. This report recognizes the many supporters of the students and programs at Minnesota West, and it provides a snapshot of our Foundation's fiscal health.

2016-17 represented a focus on re-building for the Foundation. This involved transforming our college scholarship process from separate paper applications for each campus, each with unique deadlines, to one, standardized, online application with one deadline across the entire college. The year also represented an effort to update our alumni records and embark upon 21st century software to help us in the effort. Of course, it also represented a renewed effort to update our alumni and supporters with consistent newsletters throughout the year.

The upshot is that our Foundation is on stronger footing structurally. We brought on four new board members to start FY17, and we are poised to more effectively support our students with scholarships and communicate with our supporters across the region and across the country. The downside is that our financials show a slight loss for the year, as we worked to strengthen our infrastructure.

2017-18 is already looking to be a strong year for us. We embarked upon a scholarship and employee giving campaign in the fall, and we continue to reach out to alumni and supporters alike. All of this translates into better support of the college and the communities we serve.

Thank you for your continued support of Minnesota West!

Sincerely,

Kevin Paulsen Board Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



KEVIN PAULSENPipestone (President)



RICK DALRYMPLEWorthington,
(Vice Chair & Secretary)



NICOLE PAULSENPipestone (Treasurer)



LINDE DEGRISELLES

Granite Falls



CLIFF VRIEZE
Jackson



SALLY VOGTCanby



HARRY DAVIS At-Large





MICHAEL VAN KEULEN

Executive Director

Summary Statement of Financial Acitivities for the year ending June 30, 2017

INCOME

Cash Contributions \$88,395.74
Non Cash Contributions \$182,150.27
Investment Income \$115,003.22
Other Income \$128,083.48
Total Income \$513,632.71



The complete 2017 financials for the Minnesota West Foundation can be found at www.mnwest.edu/foundation

EXPENSES

General Operating \$118,322.60
Student Scholarships \$100,295.99
Investment Fees/Losses \$47,121.11
Program and College Support \$133,472.97
Non-Cash College Support \$185,636.99
Other Expenses \$33,712.29
Total Expenses \$618,561.95

Net Assets - 7/1/2016 \$1,270,444.00 Net Assets - 6/30/2017 \$1,166,984.00



2016-2017 Donors to the Minnesota West Foundation

We thank the following donors for their generous support of the Minnesota West Foundation!

Great care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you see any discrepancies, please contact the Minnesota West Foundation. This list includes both cash and in-kind donations

FRIENDS (\$1 - \$99)

Alan Ebbers Amber Luinenburg **Audrey Varpness** Blake Meshke Brian & Flizabeth Winsel **Brian Johnson** Brian Koopman **Bruce Amundson** Canby Classic Cinema Carol & Larry Gregg Carolyn Weber Cecilia Burchill Charles & Karen Magyar Charles Moore Cheryl Avenal-Navara Craig & Karen Pfeifer Dale & Joanne Carlson **David Walker**

Dale & Joanne Carlson
Darwin & Sharon Johansen
David Walker
Dawn Gordon
Deborah Bierbaum
Dennis & Dee Hale
Donald Craig
Donald Nothem
Doug & Marilyn Miller
Doug Mathiowetz
Dr. Paul Johnson
Frank & Marilyn McDowell
Greg Raymo
Jerry & Beve Vajgrt
Jodi Christensen
Jodi Landgaard
John VanDyke
Karen Miller
Karsten Piper

John VanDyke Karen Miller Karsten Piper Keith & Linda Towne Kevin Oeltjenbruns Kile Behrends Kip Thorson Kristin Jaycox Larry Griffin Leslie & Irma Voss Lois Holmes Lori & Scott Benson Luke Warkentin Marian Havenga Marianne Behrens Marie & Jason Johnson Mark & Stacy Larsen Mark Anderson Mark Holden Marlene Seeklander Michael & Tami Wesselink Michael DeVries Michael Woll

Pamela Davids Paulette Wiesen Randall & Charlene Heeringa Randy Holinka Rebecca Weber Rhonda Junkins Richard & Dianne Dalrymple Rita Christianson **Robert & Carol Nangle** Roy & Donna Reimer Scott Anderson Susan & John Ahlers **Todd & Susan Tholkes Todd Boettcher** Wayne & Dea Klumper William & Susan McCuen

SUPPORTERS (\$100-\$499)

Avis Freitag Bart & Peggy Cavanaugh **Bedford Industries BJ** Anderson **Brad Christensen Burdette & Linda DeGriselles** Cheri Fjermestad **Daniel Roos** David & Ann Mills **Donaldson Foundation Douglas Quast Ernest Parker** Farmers Coop Association First State Bank Gary & Marie Hoffmann George & Bonnie Habeck Jason Turner Jeannine Uehling Jeff Theisen

Jeannine Uehling
Jeff Theisen
Jeff Williamson
John & Heather Holles
John & Pat Remme
John Iverson
Katherine Janssen
Kevin Goeken
Laine Rieger
Le Lucht
Leslie Bauman
Lori Alderson
Lori Voss
Lou Ann Williamson

Lynn Hughes Lynn Vanderplaats Mara Beth Van Orman Martin Marietta Materials MC Hydraulics, LLC Micha Armitage

Michael & Donna Van Keulen

Mid-States Wool Growers Association Mike Erp Minnesota Valley Technical Leaders

Nelsen P Smith North Star Mutual Insurance

Parker Hannifin Foundation
Paul Swenson
Paul & Joff Orthaus

Paula & Jeff Orthaus PEO Chapter EJ Peter Girard Randall Vinge Randy Meyer Raymond Louwagie Rita Miller Robert Yund

Rita Miller Robert Yund Rod Erickson Rolf & Joan Mahlberg Ronald Schwint Runnings Sandi Mead Scott Aldridge

Shirley Fish
Steven & Susan London
Steven Wagner
Suzanne Iverson
Terry Peterson
Thomas Nelson
Valerie Klumper
Vector Engineering
Worthington Federal Savings Bank
YMCA of Worthington

Zane Smith

Brian Beck

BENEFACTORS (\$500-\$999)

Canby Farmers Grain Co.
Cliff & Karen Vrieze
Daily Globe
Dawn Regnier
Dennis Hampel
Federated Rural Electric Trust
Joel Kunze
Kansas Sheep Association
Lucht Law Offices
Pam Jensen
Pipestone Vet Services
Rotary Club of Canby
Stearns Electric Association Trust
Teresa Noves

PATRONS (\$1,000-\$9,999)

ADM

Avera McKennan Bashlin Industries Benco Electric Chandler Industries Cody Cannon Crow Wing Power Daktronics

David & Mary Miklethun

David Thun Deb Ladner

DeMuth Insurance Agency

Dr. Bart Johnson Dr. Mark Morgan Dr. Pat Patel Duke Energy

East River Electric Power Coop

Eaton Corporation
Gaylin Zeigler
Granite Falls Bank
Harley Bergren
Jerome Miller
Jody Olson
Kahler Automation
Katherine Gallagher
Lake Country Power

Minnesota Rural Electric Association

Minnesota Rural Electric As: Otter Tail Power Company Premier 1 Supplies LLC Sanford Health Sarah Crippen Terry Gaalswyk Tim Hansen Memorial Ride

CHAMPIONS (\$10,000 - \$99,999)

AGCO Hartfiel Automation John W. Mooty Foundation Trust Lyon County Implement

PLATINUM CHAMPIONS (\$100,000+)

Polaris Industries



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Dan Roos

When Dan Roos finally turns in his keys later this year, he will be leaving an institution that has shaped both his personal and professional life over the past 45 years. From the time he began as a student in 1971 at Worthington Junior College, through his teaching career as an English instructor that began in 1983, until his eventual retirement in 2018, Dan Roos has been synonymous with Minnesota West Community and Technical College in Worthington, MN.



FROM HERE TO THERE AND BACK AGAIN

According to Roos, he pretty much always knew he would attend Worthington Junior College. When he was a very young boy growing up in Worthington, his dad proclaimed that it would



him not to take advantage of the local and very affordable junior college, so that is what he did. He did not, teach English. In fact, because he enjoyed biology, he began college as a pre-med

major. He quickly realized that a career in medicine was not for him, and after briefly toying with the idea of being a park ranger, he discovered a love for literature and writing thanks to some terrific instructors. Upon graduation, he pursued a bachelor's degree from Moorhead State College and eventually a Master of Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin Madison.

Finishing his master's degree in 1978 didn't bode well for teaching careers, since the U.S. was in the midst of an economic recession. But as fate would have it, the local newspaper, the Worthington Daily Globe, offered him a job, and he spent 10 years refining his writing and business skills as a reporter, circulation manager, and

news editor. In 1983, 12 years after he enrolled as a student at Worthington Junior College, his alma mater offered him a job teaching journalism, and he was back in the classroom, where he has remained for the past 35 years.

A CAREER FILLED WITH SUCCESSES

There are the many institutional accomplishments. In 2013, Roos was chosen as the Minnesota West Community be "stupid" of however, aspire to

and Technical College nominee for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Excellence in Teaching Award. Being selected from 104 faculty to represent his institution for statewide consideration was a highlight of Roos' career. He also pointed to his involvement in the college-wide accreditation process through the Higher Learning Commission. For 20 years, Dan served as the coordinator of the college's accreditation report, and in 2012 the college was granted a rare, continued accreditation for 10 years. These are but two highlights among a career of highlights, which also include department and division

chairperson, interim campus and liberal arts dean, curriculum chairperson, faculty president, and numerous honorable memberships in teaching organizations.

Meeting in his office to reminisce about his career at Minnesota West, Dan was not shy when asked what he will miss the most after he leaves – the relationships he has built at the college. It is not difficult to see why. His mild mannered, warm personality and steady temperament have endeared him to colleagues and students alike. In fact, among his proudest accomplishments are the unsolicited thank-you notes he

has received over the years from former students. Several of his students have published their writing, and many of them, some living as far away as New York City, have sent him manuscripts for his review. So, it is no surprise that in his current role as interim dean, he still finds time to teach English courses and will continue to do so through the summer of 2018 until he finally calls it quits.

Of course, there are a couple things he won't miss – paperwork and discipline issues. When asked if he laments the changes in the education landscape over the past 30 years with its move to online education, he admits that he misses the face-to-face classroom experience. "We used to offer evening classes taken by members of the community." With online learning and more streamlined budgets, the shift to more flexible online learning has eliminated many of these options. But he also readily admits that the online environment has its advantages. "With online discussions, students now have to participate. With face-to-face classes, it was possible that a student could go the entire quarter without speaking in class. Now, they don't have that option."

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

As with any life transition, the "what's next?" question inevitably surfaces. First, he and his wife will continue to care for his parents, both of whom are still living and just recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. He also plans to travel. In true English teacher form, he says, "We will have to make it to Key West and see Hemmingway's stomping grounds." (For more than 10 years, writer Ernest Hemmingway lived and wrote in Key West, FL, where his home and museum are now open to visitors). Finally, he would like to eventually retire on a lake in central Minnesota, where he

can fully embrace his role as grandparent of 6 grandchildren. "We have tried to be hands-on grandparents," and he would like to make the lake home a favorite destination for his extended family.

Continued on the next page





In an article written for the *Daily Globe* during the 75th anniversary celebration of the Worthington Campus in 2011, Roos wrote: "Minnesota West has played a major role in most of my

life." That is no truer than with his own family. He met his wife Laurita in 1971 when they both were students at Worthington Junior College; three of his five siblings attended Worthington Junior College; and two of his children attended Minnesota West in Liberal Arts and Cosmetology. In today's culture, such ties to an institution are increasingly rare. And that is why Dan's presence will be sorely missed. He has helped to shape an organization that has come to shape him. In the *Globe* article, he goes on to say, "When I was a child [the college] was my inspiration; when I was a student, it gave me direction; when I moved away, it was my foundation;for the last 24 years it has been my daily challenge, my livelihood, and my neighborhood." Spoken like a true English teacher.

PHILANTHROPY Corner

Charitable Giving in the Age of the 2017 Tax Bill

Unless you live under a rock, you are no doubt aware that U.S. taxpayers are living under new tax laws as of January 2018. While there are LOTS of implications for how you manage your money, and we will dive deeper into this in future newsletters, here are a couple of tips for continuing to reap the tax advantages of charitable giving.

- If you are drawing retirement income, consider a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). Transferring money from your required minimum retirement distribution (RMD) directly to a charitable organization – up to \$100,000 annually - satisfies your RMD and prevents your money from showing up in your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).
- Work with a financial advisor to set up a donor-advised fund, which allows you to contribute a large chunk of money to the fund, while taking the tax deduction in the year the contribution is made. Then, you can gift the proceeds from the fund over time to your charities of choice.

Please Note: The information provided here is general and educational in nature. It is not intended to be, nor should it be construed as legal or tax advice. We recommend consulting with your tax advisor or attorney before making significant financial decisions.

Alumni Updates

We would love to hear what you have been up to since you graduated! Go to www.mnwest.edu/profile-update and let us know!

Be sure to check us out on facebook at www.facebook.com/minnesotawest and post a selfie!

1960s

Duane Roslansky (1969) – Duane is retired and living in Oshkosh, WI, with his wife, Sandra.

Jon Krussow (1968, Machine Tool Technology) – John retired as V.P. and Division Manager at Coral Chemical Company after 32 years in industry. He and his wife Arnis live in Loudon, TN.

1970s

Marty Rickers (1975, Business Administration) – Marty is a Strategic Partnerships/Public Relations Manager for Bedford Industries in Worthington, MN.

Emily Gruenhagen (1973, Fashion Merchandising and Management) – Emily and her husband Glenn are living in Glencoe, MN, where they operate an insurance agency. Glenn is in his 4th term in the MN House of Representatives. Emily (maiden name "Gould") would love to reconnect with old classmates or instructors. Her email is emily@centurylink.net. Or look her up on facebook!

Chuck Nystrom (1970) – Chuck is owner and operator of Ocheda Apple Orchard in Worthington, MN.

1980s

Mary Kissner (1983, Dental Assisting) – Mary has worked in the dental field for 34 years and for more than 30 years at the New Ulm, MN Dental Clinic. She was recently honored as a 2017 ADAA Fellows Award recipient.

Bryan Hagen (1986, Business Administration) is a Pharmacist for Sterling Drug in Worthington, MN.

Scott Jensen (1982, Ag Production) – Scott is living in Dell Rapids, with this wife, Lisa, and three children. He is self-employed.

1990s

John Wilson (1995, Construction Electrician) – John is a selfemployed Electrician in Round Lake, MN.

Vicki Newton (1996, Veterinary Office Management) – Vicki lives in Mandan, North Dakota with her husband, Blair.

2000s

Jennifer King (2001, Liberal Arts) – Jennifer is Director of Strategic Sourcing with Kellogg Company in Battle Creek, MI.

Tanya Bruns (2001, Nursing) – Tanya is a Health Coach and Labor and Delivery nurse at Sanford Worthington Medical Center. Holly Ellison (2009, Liberal Arts) - Holly works as a Registered Dietitian at Hy-Vee in Mankato, MN.

Holly Sieve (2000, Liberal Arts) – Holly is a Marketing Specialist at Sanford Health.

Kaylee and Josh Koob (2009, Liberal Arts) - Kaylee is an Occupational Therapist, and Josh is self-employed as an Insurance Agent.

Jon Holt (2000, Liberal Arts) - John is the Senior Technical Director for Tru Shrimp, headquartered in Balaton, MN.

Jocelyn VanDyke (2008) - Joceyln is a kindergarten teacher at Hanson Elementary in Alexandria, SD.

Josh Miller (2008, Liberal Arts) – Josh is Vice President at United Prairie Insurance in Worthington, MN.

Mark Van Dyke (2007, Ag Production) - Mark is an Agronomy Sales Manager with CHS in Mitchell, SD.

Alumni Updates (continued)

Anna Mahlberg (2000, Liberal Arts) - Anna is co-owner of Rickers Studio in Worthington, MN. She and her husband Jon live near Worthington, MN, with their three children.

Ben Morrison (2002, Liberal Arts) - Ben is a Wellness Center Program Manager with Health Fitness Corporation.

Nicholas Raymo (2005, Liberal Arts) - Nicholas is the owner and a Board Certified Hearing Specialist at Southwest Hearing Technologies, Inc.

2010s

Tae Nordby and Haley Gravenhof (2004, 2014, Liberal Arts) – Tae and Haley are both employed with Main Street Kids in Worthington, MN.

Adrian Hosli (2014, Law Enforcement) – Adrian works as a police officer for the City of Tea, SD.

Madison Rasche (2014, Liberal Arts) – Madison is a Registered Nurse with the Mayo Health System in Fairmont, MN.

Alyssa Benson (2014, Liberal Arts) – Alyssa is a 5th generation funeral home director at Benson Funeral Home in Worthington, MN

Matt VanGrootheest (2011, Agriculture) – Matt is an agronomist for Express Ag in Luverne, MN.

Andrew Dirks (2013, Law Enforcement) – Andrew was recently selected as game warden for Nobles and Rock Counties in Minnesota.

Joel Walerius (2010, Law Enforcement) – Joe is a deputy for the Lyon County, MN, Sheriff's Department.

Nicole Kremer (2011, Massage Therapy) – Nicole is the owner and Licensed Massage Therapist of Rogers Massage & Wellness in Rogers, MN.

Yoli Salas (2016, Law Enforcement) – Yoli is a police officer with the Heron Lake, MN Police Department.

Olivia Petersen (2017, Cosmetology) – Olivia is a stylist at Salon Seven in Worthington, MN.

1011 First Street West • Canby, MN 56220



NA Pon-Profit Org US POSTAGE Paid Permit Slayton, MN Permit No. 22