



# Renville

## COUNTY MESSENGER

CONNECTING YOU WITH YOUR COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Volume 12

Spring 2013

Issue 1



### *Randy Kramer* **New Member of County Board**

*A recent interview with Randy Kramer, newly elected District 1 Renville County Commissioner.*

Randy Kramer's vision for Renville County is to see it be a productive County. He would like county government to enhance and foster business and not impede business by getting in the way with more rules and regulations. He would like to see the county's population stabilize and make the county attractive to new businesses. Kramer would like to see local communities' main streets become vibrant. Kramer noted, "For example in my district, a dentist has launched a new practice. People will be in town for dental appointments and then will have coffee, visit the hardware store and this will result in support for the whole town. We need to foster and help expansion of current businesses. We shouldn't be so restrictive that we hamper businesses in Renville County."

Randy's goals are to grow jobs and see main streets prosper. He doesn't want to see government jobs grow. "There is a place for government," he said, "but when government grows, it directly affects taxpayers." Kramer's areas of interest are roads and drainage. Commissioner Kramer cited that we need to improve our roads for agricultural transportation and make them safer for citizens to travel from place to place. He feels road improvements should be made when the bonding rates are lower so that county roads can be improved. He is concerned that citizens will move outside of the county if the roads are not maintained and improved. Kramer noted "There are many individuals who work outside of the county, but they

live in Renville County. The metropolitan ring is moving further west which means people work in the metro area, but live in our County. People like the lifestyle here due to a lower cost of living and it is a safer place to live and raise a family. In addition to roads, we need to maintain and improve our county drainage system. We have more miles of drainage ditches than we have miles of county roads. Improving our drainage system has a direct effect on our local farm economy. The county needs to work on redetermination of ditch benefits which will result in adding the 1 rod buffer strip. The addition of buffer strips will be a positive step for ditches which will result in less ditch cleaning and will also benefit wild life."

Commissioner Kramer feels some of the future challenges facing Renville County will be budgeting and the county water plan. "As commissioners, we will need to consider how we budget services for our aging population. Government regulations are mandated from the State and Federal government agencies regarding which services we provide and how we provide them. These governmental mandates will be a huge challenge for our county and will affect our budgets" cited Kramer. "We are currently reviewing the county's Water Plan. There are items in the plan that we must adhere to with no choice for local governance. As a Commissioner, I want what is in the best interest for all of our citizens, but the regulations continue to be forced upon us from higher levels of government."

Randy filed for County Commissioner when Ralph Novotny decided not to run again for the District One seat. "I didn't have any agendas, it was just the right time in my life to throw my hat in the ring," said Kramer. "It is quite a learning process, I am new and it is my job to ask questions. As a new member of the board I may look at things differently. I want to encourage continued collaborations with other

CONTINUE'S ON NEXT PAGE

counties and cities to provide services for our citizens.

We can provide better services in partnership as we are currently accomplishing with the Sheriff's Department, Public Health, Human Services and Public Works. When we partner we can do so much more."

Kramer is a third generation farmer in Osceola Township. The present array of crops he grows include corn, soybeans, sugar beets, peas and sweet corn. He and his wife Linda have been married for 24 years and have two college age daughters. Over the years he has served on many boards and committees including 2 terms with the Renville County Corn Growers holding the offices of Vice President and Secretary; Southern MN Beet Sugar Cooperative Board Member; Renville County Ag Society member serving as County Fair Board Member for 12 years and

as President for 2 years; National Feed Grains Committee member for the American Farm Bureau for 4 years and as Chair for 1 year; Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for 7 ½ years and as Chair for 4 years; and on BOLD Agriculture Advisory Committee for 4 years including the years when his daughter was a member of FFA. Randy's current county committee assignments include the Pioneerland Library Board, Heartland Community Action Agency, Human Services, Lake Allie ESSD, Housing and Economic Development Authority, Central MN Jobs and Training and Joint Powers Water Board.

## CHANGES TO COUNTY BURNING PERMITS

At the first regular 2013 County Board meeting on January 8, Renville County Commissioners adopted an ordinance to deal with open burning throughout the county. The ordinance adopted is the "Ordinance Authorizing The Conduct Of Open Burning Within Renville County". As a result of the adoption of the ordinance, rural citizens have permission to conduct open burning **without having to purchase a burning permit**, provided the burning conforms to the provisions of the county ordinance and Minnesota State law. Cities in the county may further restrict burning within their boundaries.

Open burning means a fire burning in a manner, whether concentrated or dispersed, which is not contained within a fully enclosed firebox, structure or vehicle and the products of combustion are emitted directly to the atmosphere without passing through a stack, duct or chimney. Mobile cooking devices such as charcoal grills, wood smokers, hibachis, and propane or natural gas devices are not considered open burning. As part of the ordinance, the Renville County Sheriff is the Designated Fire Official. The designated fire official is authorized to adopt and impose burning restrictions to aid in the prevention of wildfire. The sheriff will consult with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Forestry to develop any restrictions or other criteria.

**Rural county citizens will no longer need to purchase a burning permit, but will need to call the county's dispatch office at 320-523-1161 each day before starting an open fire and each subsequent day if the fire carries over from day to day.** This requirement has not changed, the caller will need to provide

the Name and Phone Number of the person conducting the open burn, the Section and Township where the open burn is occurring, and what material is being burned. This information needs to be given to the dispatch office so that a fire department is not dispatched should the fire be reported to officials.

### THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS WILL APPLY FOR OPEN BURNING:

- Citizens will be allowed to only burn wood and vegetative material. Wood is defined in the ordinance as that of trees and shrubs and untreated lumber, it DOES NOT include wood that is oil soaked or treated with paint, glue, or preservatives. Vegetative materials are defined as dry leaves, dry grass clippings, twigs, branches, tree limbs, untreated or unpainted wood that contains no glues or resins, and other similar materials. Paper and cardboard are not vegetative materials.
- Open fires may not burn within 50 feet of the residence of another person without the written permission of the occupant.
- Prevailing winds must be away from neighboring occupied buildings, public roads, airports and landing strips.
- Burning is prohibited below the ordinary high water mark of public waters, except for agricultural operations or for the purposes of managing forests, prairies, or wildlife habitat.
- Fires must be kept under control. Owners and occupants starting or tending fires are liable for all damages and costs caused by violations of the ordinance or state law.
- Fires shall not be started anytime the Designated Fire Official determines there is a

danger of fire spreading, endangering property or otherwise creating a hazard or nuisance.

- A fire may not be allowed to smolder with no flame present.
- The owner or occupant of the property shall notify county's dispatch office at 320-523-1161 each day before starting an open fire and each subsequent day if the fire carries over from day to day.

Recreational campfires are allowed under the ordinance when used for cooking, warming or for ceremonial purposes as long as the fires are no more than 3 feet in diameter, 3 feet high and has 5 feet from the base of the fire cleared of all combustible material. Clean, dry wood should be used producing little detectible smoke, odor or soot beyond the property line; conducted with an adult tending the fire at all times; extinguished before quitting the occasion; and respecting weather conditions, neighbors, burning bans, and air quality.

Recreational campfire-fire pits are allowed when the area has no more than a 3 foot diameter circle completely surrounded by non-combustible and non-smoke or odor producing material. The materials used in the fire pit should be natural rock, cement, brick, tile blocks or ferrous metal. **Burning barrels are not a recreational fire site.** Recreational fire sites shall not be located closer than 25 feet to any structure or combustible material.

**If you have questions regarding the new Open Burning Ordinance please contact the County's Dispatch Office at 320-523-1161.**



## At Work Program for County Employees & Citizens

Renville County employees have a Wellness Team working with a vision to create an environment where the healthy choice is the easy choice for employees and their families. County employees asked the Wellness Team if a Weight Watchers At Work program could be formed. After research and outreach to Weight Watchers and employees, the Weight Watchers At Work program became a reality in April of 2012.

The Renville County Weight Watchers At Work program offers a unique feature by allowing non-employees to participate in their program. The Weight Watchers group leader is Karen Muetzel from Redwood Falls. Karen has been at her goal weight for the past 5 years and started working for Weight Watchers the day she reached her goal weight. Karen stated in a recent conversation, "I love working with this Weight Watchers At Work group as they have great energy and are a very positive group of people. They have been losing weight and 5 members have reached their goal weight and reached life time member status." To reach life time member status, an individual must reach their goal weight and maintain it for 6 weeks. The Renville County group currently has close to 30 members and has lost a combined total of 750 pounds in the past 10 months. Karen noted, "It's never too late to join Weight Watchers and there is never a better time to join than right now. This meeting runs continually throughout the year so you can join at anytime. There are no specific start dates." *The group meets on Thursdays at the Renville County Office Building located in Olivia, in room 121A in the lower level. Weigh-ins start at 4:30 pm with the meeting from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm.* County employees are happy to have the convenience of holding the

Weight Watchers At Work program at their worksite. According to an employee participant, "the program is easy to follow with many great tools and activities. There are a wide array of online tools that assist with recipes, tracking points, monitoring activities, and engaging the participant in challenges with rewards."



Weight Watchers has recently launched a new program, weightwatchers 360°. The new program is based on new, breakthrough research. Through the research it was discovered that food consumption can be physiologically driven by simply seeing, thinking about, or smelling foods that are often high in sugar and/or fat. This is called "hedonic hunger" and has been the impetus for the new 360° program. The new program focuses less on psychology, and more on a 360° approach. It is designed to give people what they need to make their work, home, and travel environments work for them – the tips and tools for each location are very practical and imaginative. According to Weight Watchers, with this new knowledge the 360° plan slogan is, "When a weight-loss plan is built for human nature, you can expect amazing." The new program makes it easier for participants to stick to the Plan – no matter what temptations

life throws at them- *Everyone is welcome to join the Renville County Weight Watchers At Work program – you don't have to be a county employee.* There is no registration fee to join the Renville County Weight Watchers At Work group. The monthly fee to join is locked in at \$39.95 per participant per month.

*If you have questions, you may contact the group's leader:  
Karen Muetzel by phone at 507-627-6979 or  
email her at karen.muetzel@weightwatchers.com*

# SPECIAL

## Summer Seasonal RV Camping

Rates at Lake Allie Park from May 1 thru August 31, 2013  
Cost \$1,560 Includes water, electricity & use of the dump station

**Sites currently available !**

To make your reservation call the Division of Environment and Community Development at **320-523-3768**





Renville County  
**Public Health**  
 Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## County Public Health Services Update

On January 1, 2013, Renville County Public Health Services joined together with Kandiyohi County Public Health in a cross-jurisdictional arrangement.

The process leading up to this new arrangement began in November 2010, when the Redwood-Renville Board of Health invited Kandiyohi County to create a study group to study the question: *Would the constituents of our counties be better served now and into the future through a merger into one community health board?* The study group held six meetings throughout 2011 to discuss statutory requirements of community health boards, issues that were prompting the consideration of change, goals and visions of involved counties, and various models throughout Minnesota. Subject matter experts from the Minnesota Department of Health and other Public Health departments joined the meetings to provide guidance and information. As a result of the study group's work, the Redwood-Renville Board of Health decided to dissolve and look for different partnership arrangements.

Renville and Kandiyohi Counties decided to continue on together with a public health planning initiative commencing in January of 2012. This planning group included members from

both County Boards, local citizens, Public Health Directors, and County Administrators. Through a very thoughtful process, the planning group came to the conclusion that there were opportunities, efficiencies and benefits to be gained in merging the two counties into one Community Health Board. Both the Renville and Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners approved the merger to be effective January 1, 2013.

"Through this merger, we aim to maintain the quality and availability of services while also improving efficiency," stated Jill Bruns, Public Health Director. "We are positioning ourselves for a better future."

Recently, the Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Board was awarded a grant from Robert Wood Johnson and the Minnesota Department of Health to be part of a national two-year learning collaborative. Renville and Kandiyohi County Public Health staff will be working on combining environmental services (including food, pool, and lodging licenses) to explore ways to share resources with the goal of providing more efficient and effective public health services. In the future, other areas of cooperation and merging will be studied by the newly formed Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Board.

### COUNTY PHONE NUMBERS

Administrator	320-523-3710	Heartland Express	800-450-7964	Sheriff	320-523-1161
Assessor	320-523-3645	Heartland Community	320-523-1842	Veterans Service	320-523-3763
Attorney	320-523-2661	Action Agency Inc.	or 877-523-1842	Water Planning & HHW	320-523-3706
Auditor/Treasurer	320-523-2071	Hospital	320-523-1261		
Court Services/Probation	320-523-3663	HRA/EDA	320-523-3656	<i>County Commissioners:</i>	
Court Administration	320-523-3680	Human Services	320-523-2202	Randy Kramer, District #1	320-365-3094
Environment & Community		Landfill/Solid Waste	320-523-1505	Bob Fox, District #2	507-557-8265
Development	320-523-3768	License	320-523-3612	Paul Setzepfandt, District #3	320-365-3270
Extension	320-523-3713	Public Health Nursing	320-523-2570	John Stahl, District #4	320-523-1283
Hawk Creek	320-523-3666	Public Works	320-523-3759	LaMont Jacobson, District #5	320-765-2578
Heartland Express	320-523-3589	Recorder/Abstractor	320-523-3669		

**Renville  
 County**

500 E. DePue Ave.  
 Olivia, MN 56277

Phone: 320-523-3710

Email: [admin@co.renville.mn.us](mailto:admin@co.renville.mn.us)

Web site: [www.co.renville.mn.us](http://www.co.renville.mn.us)

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 EDM RETAIL



## Hospital Building Project Update

Renville County Hospital & Clinics was founded in 1951 to meet the healthcare needs of Renville County residents. The Hospital building has served the community extremely well over the years, providing quality medical care to thousands of patients. The facility has undergone significant renovations since it first opened its doors. Due to current industry demands the building can no longer be easily altered to provide the necessary space and infrastructure for new technology, quality nursing stations and expansion for new services. Faced with the decision of spending money to maintain an aging building or investing in a modern facility designed to service future health care demands, the Hospital Board retained industry professionals to conduct a thorough analysis of available options. This analysis also included a review of the available financing options for a major renovation of the existing Hospital verses building a replacement facility. A review of the Hospital’s financial performance and ability to service the required debt for moving forward with a major construction project was also addressed. Due to the many limitations of the current campus the conclusion was that a new, state-of-the-art facility would position the Hospital to address future healthcare delivery challenges. Moreover a new facility would provide patients and their families the support and care they need in a comfortable healing environment.

**While a project of this nature generates enthusiasm in the community, it may also raise many questions. We will try to answer those concerns here.**

### **Q:** Why is a new Hospital needed?

**A:** The current facility does not meet the demands of today's health care. The original Hospital was designed and built to accommodate patients whose care required lengthy stays of several days or more. Today, with improved procedures and technology, the majority of patient care delivery is provided on an outpatient basis. Outpatient procedures and visiting specialists require not only space to provide their services, but space for modern equipment and technology. Back in 1951 when the Hospital was built, few people could imagine that one day there would be CT Scans, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, digital mammography and many other diagnostic tools available to them. At present our patient rooms and outreach area are much too small to accommodate all of the technology required to be a state-of-the-art Hospital. Previous renovations have brought us as far as we can go. The design and layout of the facility is pieced together and outdated. This does not allow for maximum efficiency, comfort, or convenience for patients and staff. Other issues with the current Hospital are those that cannot be seen, such as electrical, mechanical and heating and cooling systems are in need of constant expensive repair.

Today’s health care calls for a healing environment with conditions that offer privacy, safety and space for family visits and overnight accommodations. The new facility will be designed with the needs of the patient first and foremost. New inpatient rooms will be private rooms with relaxing showers, natural colors and lighting to optimize healing. A modern facility will compliment and improve

our efforts to recruit and retain additional physicians, mid-level providers and professional staff; our top priority. The design of the facility would also accommodate future plans for service growth, including additional surgery space, outpatient services, clinic operations, and therapy services.

### **Q:** Why don't you add on and remodel the existing building?

**A:** The mechanical issues are so significant it would take millions of dollars to bring the current building to code. Our thorough analysis of available options, showed that there is only a 15 percent cost difference between building new and adding on to our existing facility. Phasing of a remodeling project would be challenging with the layout of our current building and the mechanical issues. Remodeling would take five years to complete and result in significant disruption to daily Hospital operations not to mention loss of revenue. The new facility would be expected to be complete late 2015.

### **Q:** What will the new Hospital cost?

**A:** The total estimated construction cost for the project is \$17 million; the total project cost is \$24 million. This includes design fees, construction costs, land purchase, new equipment, furnishings, and financing costs.



Hospital Building Project Update

Q: How will the new Hospital be paid for?

A: Like any business, the cost will primarily be paid through revenues received from the business. In our case, this includes: outreach services, Clinic visits, Hospital stays, surgeries, lab procedures, x-rays, therapies, etc. The Hospital is a "Critical Access" designation for reimbursement purposes from Medicare. As a Critical Access Hospital (CAH) – a rural Hospital with 25 beds or less – our emergency services are deemed critical to the area we serve. The current Critical Access Reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid patient services allows the Hospital to recapture a significant portion of the expense required to construct a new facility. The balance of funding will come out of Hospital reserves, debt financing, and donations.

Q: Will the cost of health care go up?

A: The Hospital has competitive rates for Hospital services when compared to other Hospitals. Building a new facility should have no direct impact on these rates. However, it must be pointed out that health care costs are influenced by national trends that are out of the control of individual facilities.

Q: Why can't the new Hospital be built on the same site as the current one?

A: To fit on our existing campus, it would require the purchase and removal of neighboring houses and the closing of a street. At that point, any future expansion would require the purchase of more houses in our neighborhood. We believe being land locked to that degree would not be beneficial for the future of healthcare in our community.

Q: Where will the new Hospital be built?

A: The Hospital Board and senior management team is actively collaborating with the City of Olivia to determine suitable building sites. The preferred site would possess adequate room for a new 62,000 square foot state-of-the-art medical center with the potential for future growth opportunities in conjunction with other local area health care providers. The location would also allow for a heliport that will provide faster, more efficient transfer of patients to other facilities. The preferred site would also offer easy access from all communities served by the Hospital.

Q: Does this need to go to a public vote?

A: No, there is no requirement that building projects for Hospitals go to a public vote. The only time Hospitals need a public vote is if they issue general obligation bonds. That will not be required as part of this project.

Q: What will happen to the current facility?

A: The current building is one of the most recognizable structures in Olivia. It has a connection to many residents and should be utilized as a community asset if possible. The Hospital will remain fully open to serve the communities during construction of our new facility, which is scheduled to be completed in late 2015. During that time, a joint committee of Hospital and local area community leaders will be formed to investigate possible future uses by promoting the future utilization of the current campus in the most cost effective fashion for the local community.

Q: Will there be any new services added in the new Hospital?

A: We continuously strive to meet the service needs of our communities. For example, just this past year we have added nephrology and pain management to our list of specialty providers. However, we are currently very limited on space. A new building would allow us much more opportunity for growth.

Q: How can I help as an individual?

A: Spread the good news to your family, friends and neighbors that yes we are considering building a new Hospital and that you can help by providing answers to the above questions. Over the coming months, we will host public meetings throughout the Hospital service area to provide an opportunity to share our plans and give you an opportunity to ask questions that may not have been addressed here. The schedule for these meetings will be posted in area newspapers.

If you have more questions that are not answered here please contact us at (320) 523-8399 or e-mail us at buildproject@rchospital.com



# 2013 Renville County Community Events

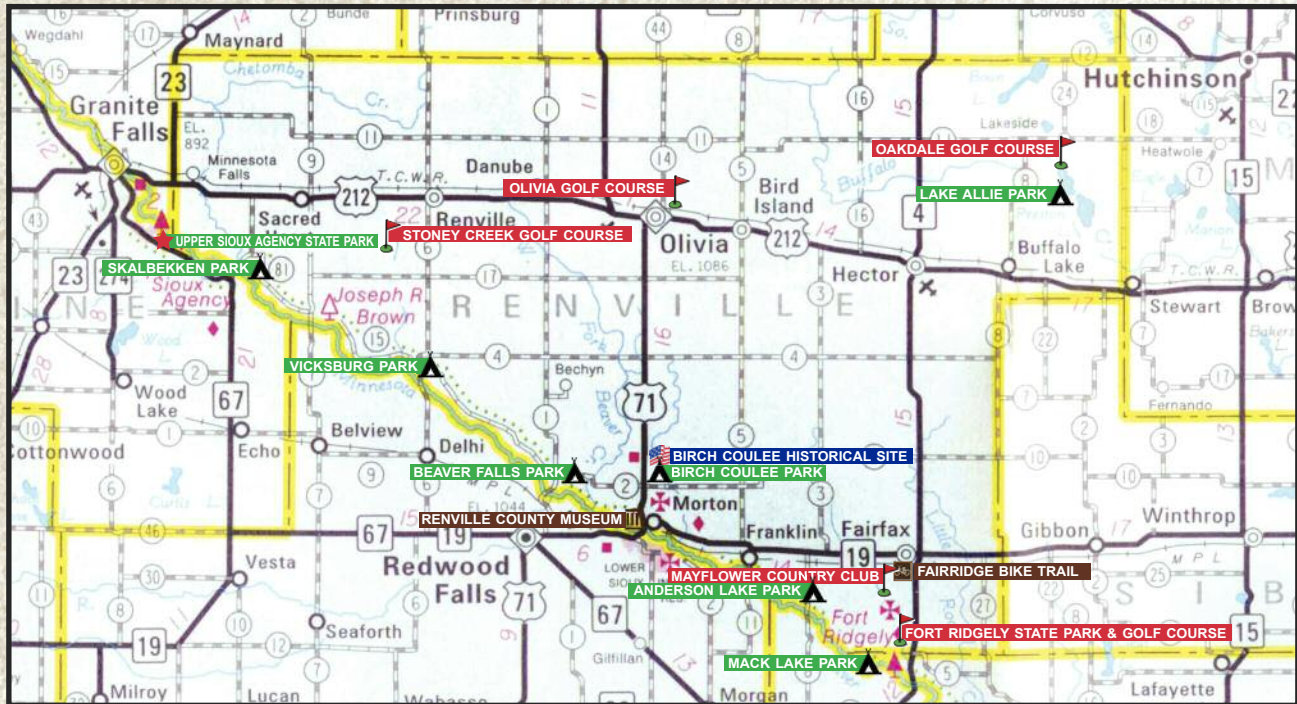


- April 19th **Spring Garden Party Pageant, Morton**
- April 20th **Spring Garden Party, Morton**
- May 4th **MN River Valley Scenic Byway Garage Sale**
- June 7th-9th **Lower Sioux Pow-Wow, Morton**
- June 7th-9th **Sugar Beet Days, Renville**
- June 12th **Chamber Golf Classic Tournament, Olivia Golf Club**
- June 12th - 16th **Island Days, Bird Island**
- June 21st - 23rd **Fairfax Jaycee Lawn Mower Days, Fairfax**
- July 4th **Independence Day Celebration, Morton**
- July 5th - 7th **Polka Fest Days, Bird Island**
- July 8th - 14th **Hector's 135th Anniversary Kick Off, Hector**
- July 8th - 14th **Corn Chaff Days, Hector**
- July 10th - 14th **Danube Fun Days, Danube**
- July 15th **4-H Golf Tournament, Oakdale Golf Club**
- July 19th - 21st **Buffalo Lake Days, Buffalo Lake**
- July 19th - 21st **Summerfest, Sacred Heart**
- July 24th - 28th **Corn Capital Days, Olivia**
- July 26th - 28th **Catfish Derby Days, Franklin**
- August 10th **KMS Memorial Ride, Franklin**
- August 11th **Czech Hertiage Festival, Bechyn**
- August 14th - 17th **Renville County Fair, Bird Island**
- August 31st - September 1st **Unity Days, Morton**
- September 14th **Scarecrow Festival, Morton**
- September 15th **Hector Fly-In, Hector Municipal Airport**
- November 9th **Holiday Happenings, Hector**
- November 22nd - 24th **Beneath the Village Wreath, Morton**
- December 5th **Mistletoe Madness, Morton**
- December 5th **Unforgettable Christmas, Hector**
- December 5th - 7th **Holiday Happenings, Olivia**
- December 6th **Old Fashioned Christmas, Bird Island**

**For more information regarding these events  
visit [www.renville.com](http://www.renville.com)  
or call the Renville County HRA/EDA office at (320) 523-3656**



# ENJOY OUR GREAT TRAILS WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!



Experience the natural beauty of Renville County by visiting our more than 1,300 acres of parkland featuring primitive stands of trees, wildflowers, native prairies, and wildlife. See unique bedrock outcroppings that were formed 3.6 billion years ago along the banks of the Minnesota River. Extend your visit by camping in one of our rustic or RV sites. Group camping and park shelter reservations are available. Call Environment and Community Development at 320-523-3768 for more information. Check out the local county museum in Morton to learn about the county's rich history. Take a bike ride on the FairRidge Trail between Fairfax and Fort Ridgely. Golf on one or all five of the local golf courses.

*Enjoy all that Renville County has to Offer!*

## RENVILLE COUNTY PARKS

- Skalbekken
- Vicksburg
- Beaver Falls
- Birch Coulee
- Anderson Lake
- Mack Lake
- Lake Allie

## STATE PARKS & HISTORICAL SITE

- Birch Coulee Historical Site
- Fort Ridgely State Park
- Upper Sioux Agency State Park

## MUSEUM

Renville County Museum  
Call: (507) 697-6147  
[www.renvillecountyhistory.com](http://www.renvillecountyhistory.com)

## BIKE TRAIL

FairRidge Bike Trail  
Call: 800-535-3160  
[www.cityoffairfax-mn.gov](http://www.cityoffairfax-mn.gov)

## GOLF COURSES

- Fort Ridgely Golf Course  
Fairfax, MN (507) 426-7840
- Mayflower Country Club  
Fairfax, MN (507) 426-9964
- Oakdale Country Club  
Buffalo Lake, MN (320) 587-0525
- Olivia Golf Course  
Olivia, MN (320) 523-2313
- Stoney Creek Golf Course  
Renville, MN (320) 329-8400

## ADDITIONAL REC. OPPORTUNITIES:

- Tatanka Bluff Website  
[www.tatankabluffs.com](http://www.tatankabluffs.com)
- Minnesota River Valley Website  
[www.mnrivervalley.com](http://www.mnrivervalley.com)







# HOUSING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

500 E Depue • Olivia, MN 56277 • (320) 523-3656 • www.renville.com

Spring 2013

Issue 1

Volume 12

## Homeownership Program Grows



Repayments from borrowers are being used to double the 2013 funding for the Renville County Homeownership Program. Since the program began in 2003, the normal annual funding has been \$30,000. Due to the receipt of over \$30,000 in loan payments in 2012, the Renville County HRA/EDA

Board has set a budget of \$65,000 for the program for this year.

Since the program began, 96 households have received loans. They included 82 households making home improvements and 14 first-time homebuyers who received help with downpayments. To date over \$269,000 in loans have been made, with repayments totaling over \$160,000.

Current owner-occupants and first-time homebuyers may receive up to \$5,000 as a matching loan to help with any permanent home improvement or with downpayment assistance. Maximum income to qualify ranges from \$41,450 for one person to \$78,150 for a family of 8.

The program pays half the cost of the home improvement or down payment. Home improvement loans are repaid at 0% interest over 5 years. Repayment of down payment loans is delayed until the first mortgage is paid off or the house is sold. The house must be insured and real estate taxes paid. Contract for deed purchases and mobile homes do not qualify. For more information call 320-523-3656 or 888-665-3745.

## Long Time Board Member Retires

Mark Glesener has represented District 3 on the HRA/EDA Board since January 1996 and retired from the Board in December 2012. Mark is shown above receiving an appreciation handshake and Thank You from Joel Harmoning, Chair of the HRA/EDA. During the past 16 years, Mark has provided leadership to the organization, serving as Chair for a number of those years. Mark assisted with the merger of the HRA with the Economic Development Commission during 2000 that resulted in the ability of the HRA to provide, through its levy power and with the approval of the County, revenues that could be used for Economic Development. In addition to Mark's active role as a leader on the Board, he was also instrumental in obtaining Blandin Funds for Technology Projects in the county, assisted with the establishment of both the Homeownership Program and the Business Revolving Loan Fund and provided leadership throughout the Strategic Planning Process during 2011 that resulted in a clear and redefined focus and mission for the organization.....



*HRA/EDA Board Chair Joel Harmoning thanks longtime HRA/EDA Board Chair and District 3 Board Member Mark Glesener for his years of service to the HRA/EDA and Renville County. Deb Lingl of Bird Island is the newest board member of the HRA/EDA filling the District 3 Position.*

*to provide a powerful platform of economic resources that Renville County residents, communities and businesses can build on to reach their full potential!*

Thank you Mark!



*Klobuchar pictured with Sue Hilgert Mayor of Olivia. Picture by Shelby Lindrud, Courtesy of the Renville County Register*

*Senator Klobuchar visited with Renville County locals at Master's Coffee Shop and Bakery in Olivia on January 14th.*



# NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

## FRANKLIN ~

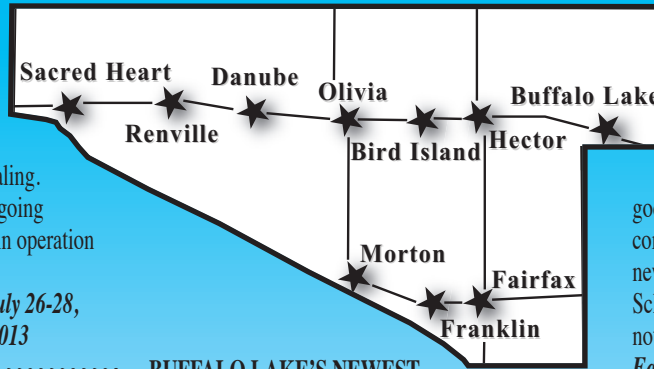
Envirotech Services has expanded its business to Franklin and is shipping in chlorine via the railroad which is placed in bulk liquid storage tanks and then distributed to customers for dust sealing. The city's water treatment plant is undergoing renovations and the new well should be in operation very soon.

Save the Dates... *Catfish Derby Days July 26-28, 2013 KMS Memorial Ride August 10, 2013*

## MORTON ~

Morton is hosting their Spring Garden Party and Pageant April 19th and 20th. The pageant held on the 19th is open to anyone ages 0-15. Contestants ages 6-15 will be judged on appearance, poise, personality and talent. For more information contact Shirley at 507-697-6912. The Spring Garden Party continues on Saturday with a Craft Show and Spring Expo, tables are available for \$10, call Shirley for details at 507-697-6912.

*The DAFY (Drug & Alcohol Free Youth) group will be selling Birthday/Anniversary Calendars. Calendars go from April 2013-April 2014 and will be available at Morton City Hall.*



## BUFFALO LAKE'S NEWEST BUSINESS ~

In June of 2011, Andy and Cassie Dingmann purchased Tinsmith Heating and Cooling from Jim Edwards, who started the business North of Hector in 1987. The Dingmans have relocated Tinsmith Heating and Cooling to the former hardware building at 116 North Main St. in Buffalo Lake. Tinsmith serves the area with quality installation followed by quality service. For all your furnace and air conditioning needs, as well as sheet metal fabrication, give Andy a call at 320-833-0136.

*Save the Dates... Buffalo Lake Lions Fish Fry - Friday, April 5 Buffalo Lake Days - July 19, 20, 21.*

## FAIRFAX ~

The 2nd annual Fairfax Library Fundraiser will be held on April 7th at Squirrels Bar and Grill. Come enjoy a fun night out while supporting a great cause. Ted Domeier has been named Fairfax Volunteer of the Year. A huge thank you goes out to Mr. Domeier for his years of service to the community! DM Hoffbeck & Associates, PLLC, is a new name in town, formerly known as Schaefer and Schaefer, CPAS who will be providing the same top notch service as before. *Mark your calendars for the Fairfax Spring Garage Sales on May 3rd and 4th Sponsored by the Fairfax Civic and Commerce.*

## STAFF MEMBERS

Christina Hettig, Executive Director  
Linda Larsen, Housing Coordinator  
Susie Lang, Development Assistant  
Ron Louisiana, Maintenance

## HRA/EDA BOARD

Chair, Joel Harmoning, District 2  
Vice-Chair, Blair Anderson, At-Large  
Secretary- Treasurer, Mark Thiesse, District 4  
Barbara Hoyhtya, District 1  
Deb Lingl, District 3  
Chad Kingstrom, District 5  
Wendy Schwint, At-Large  
Ex Officio, Randy Kramer



### Buffalo Lake Area Farm & Flea Market

Saturdays 8:00am - 12:00pm  
June 15 through the fall  
Buffalo Lake City Park Hwy 212  
For more info: Doug 320-389-1006

### Fairfax Farmer's Market

Tuesdays 4-6pm Mid July - September  
1st Street S.E. off Hwy 19 Fairfax  
For more info: Sara 507-426-7222

### Hector Farmer's Market

Wednesdays 3-6pm  
July through the fall  
Highway 212 & Co RD 4  
(South Central Grain & Energy C- Store)  
For more info: LaVonne 320-848-2195

### Morton Farmers' Market

Fridays 9am-3pm; or sold out  
Late June through the fall  
City Hall Parking lot (downtown Morton on highway 19)  
For more info: Rick 320-522-1023  
or Shirley 507-697-6912

### Olivia Farmer's Market

Thursdays 2-6pm;  
July 11th through October  
City Parking Lot, 9th Street & Fairview  
(two blocks south of the stoplight, South of F & M Bank)  
For more info: Kathy 320-523-2162

\*\*\*\*An assortment of items available includes a variety of Minnesota Grown garden fresh produce from the rich black soil of Renville County. A large assortment of fresh breads, baked goods, canned & pickled items, homemade mittens, crafts, jams, jellies, flowers and lots of vegetables.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The Business Revolving Loan Fund is a unique and flexible source of supplemental financing for businesses that have a positive economic impact on Renville County.

**INTEREST RATES AS LOW AS 2 %!**

**Building & Plant Renovations**

**Energy Efficiency Upgrades**

**Permanently Retaining Existing Jobs**

**Creating New Permanent Jobs**

**Working Capital Loans**

**Start-up**

For more info contact, **Chris Hettig**,  
Renville County HRA/EDA.

**Phone: (320) 523-3656 or E-Mail:  
chris@mail.renville.com**

Funds made available by the Renville County Housing & Economic Development Authority, The American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, & a grant from the USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grants (RBEG) Program.

# RENVILLE COUNTY COUNTYWIDE CLEAN-UP



*Renville County Highway Shop, Sacred Heart*  
Monday, June 3, 2013 • Time: 12:00 noon - 5:30 pm

*Renville County Highway Shop, Buffalo Lake\**  
Tuesday, June 4, 2013 • Time: 12:00 noon - 5:30 pm

(\*Enter from Borden Avenue **ONLY**. No entrance from Highway 212. Watch for signs.)

*Renville County Highway Shop, Fairfax*  
Wednesday, June 5, 2013 • Time: 12:00 noon - 5:30 pm

*Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility*

32877 County Road 4, Olivia  
Monday thru Wednesday, June 3, 4, 5  
Time: 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

(NOTICE: The 2014 Clean-up will be held at the Landfill & HHW Facility **ONLY**. Collections **WILL NOT** be held at other sites.)

## ~ ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED AND FEES ~ (FEES ARE PER ITEM)

	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Business/ Non-Resident</u>
<b>TIRES:</b> Including tires with rims		
Car	\$1	\$5
Truck	\$4	\$10
Tractor front	\$4	\$10
Tractor rear	\$10	\$25
<b>APPLIANCES:</b>	\$4	\$6
Including refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, water heaters, washers, dryers, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, freezers, microwaves, etc.		
<b>ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS:</b>	\$3	\$6
Including televisions, printers, monitors, hard drives (CPUs), fax machines, VCRs, stereos, etc. <b>Fees are per item.</b>		
<b>FLUORESCENT BULBS:</b>	Free	50¢ per bulb*
Please box large quantities.		
<b>BALLASTS:</b>	Free	\$4
<b>RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES:</b>	Free	Free
Including Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion), and Small Sealed Lead (Pb).		
<b>CELL PHONES:</b>	Free	Free

\*Free bulb disposal for Renville County businesses. Please box large quantities.

## • **WILL NOT** • BE ACCEPTED AT COLLECTION SITES

- Automotive and alkaline batteries. Alkaline batteries can be disposed of in the garbage.
- General household garbage such as bicycles, lawn chairs, grills, coffee pots, fixtures, furniture, etc.
- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) including paint, stains, pesticides, thermometers, cleaners, oil, oil filters, etc. These items can be brought to the Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility.
- Recycling items including glass, newspapers, cans, etc. These items can be brought to the Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility or to a community drop site.
- Incandescent (regular) light bulbs. Incandescent bulbs can be disposed of in the garbage.
- Clothes in washers or dryers. Food in refrigerators or freezers.



# 2013 Renville County Recycling Schedule

- ▼ Olivia
- ♥ Renville / Sacred Heart
- Bird Island / Danube
- ◆ Morton / Franklin / Fairfax / Buffalo Lake
- ★ Holiday - NO SERVICE
- Hector

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						
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		

MARCH						
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						

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY						
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	

JUNE						
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						

JULY						
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			

AUGUST						
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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	31

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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		

NOVEMBER						
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

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				



Good Neighbor's You've Come To Trust  
1-800-246-7630 • www.wcsanitation.com

## SEPARATE YOUR RECYCLE INTO TWO CATEGORIES:

Place items in recycling bin or paper bags.  
Please **NO PLASTIC BAGS** of any type.

### NEWSPAPER, MISC. PAPER & FLATTENED CARDBOARD:

**Recyclable Paper:** Newspapers, misc. paper, magazines, catalogs, direct mail advertisements, envelopes of all types, books, file folders, notebooks, paper of all colors, fax sheets, onion skin paper, clean paper bags, cereal, cake, chips, cracker boxes, pop boxes, flattened corrugated cardboard, phone books.

**Non Recyclable Paper:** String, twine, cotton ball, paper towels, napkins, cups, coffee filters, tea bags, waxed paper, candy & gum wrappers, cellophane, foil, plastic wrap, carbon paper, wallpaper, bathroom waste paper, photos, slide transparencies.

### METALS/GLASS/PLASTICS:

**Recyclable Metal/Glass/Plastics:** Metal food cans, aluminum beverage cans, glass bottles and jars (All Colors), All plastic containers, including lids. Please rinse all listed items.

**Non Recyclable Metal/Glass/Plastics:** Aerosol cans, paint cans, light bulbs, pens, window panes, mirrors, pottery, ceramics, disposable razors, needles, toys, dishes, glasses, medicine containers, plastic cups, silverware, trays, plastic wrap, foam cups, foam packaging, cardboard milk containers.