

Cass County REPORTER

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OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, MAY 12

Anyone wishing to take a stroll down memory lane should plan to attend the Open House at Central Cass Friday, May 12 from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

The Open House is being held as a farewell to the south gym that will be demolished this summer as part of the school's expansion project. In its place a new performing arts center and gymnasium will be constructed.

Central Cass year books will be out on display for individuals to peruse while enjoying complimentary coffee and cookies.

GROUND BREAKING

to be held Monday, May 15

A ground breaking ceremony at Central Cass School will be held Monday, May 15.

The 2:30 p.m. ceremony, will symbolize the beginning of construction on the new early childhood wing. The ceremony will take place at the elementary playground located on the west side of the school.

CITY-WIDE Garage Sale

registration deadline May 24

The deadline to be included in the Casselton City-Wide Garage Sales promotion is fast approaching.

Residents who are planning to have a garage sale in conjunction with the city-wide sales and wish to be included in the special advertising promotion for the event, must fill out a registration form no later than May 24.

The registration form appears in this week's issue of the Cass County Reporter and will run again in the May 17 issue.

Registration forms are also available to be picked up at the Cass County Reporter. The cost to be included is \$10.

Generations Connecting begins information column

A new column, written by volunteers from Generations Connecting is making its debut in this week's issue of the Cass County Reporter.

Alexia Kieffer, a volunteer with Generations Connecting, said the column is being written as a way to increase awareness about Generations Connecting by defining its purpose and through sharing information on the organization's activities.

The organization has named the column, Ripple, in acknowledgement of the fact that individuals' actions create a ripple effect.

To first edition of Ripple appears on page three.

Male arrested after search conducted in Casselton

The Cass County Sheriff's Office, with the assistance of the Cass County Drug Task Force, executed a search warrant Monday morning, May 1, in the 700 block of 4th St. S. in Casselton.

As a result, 33 year-old Adam Eberhardt was arrested on multiple drug related charges.

The search warrant lead to the seizure of approximately 1/2 pound of marijuana, multiple pieces of drug paraphernalia, marijuana edibles and approximately \$4,000 cash.

Eberhardt was transported to the Cass County Jail and held on the following charges: 1) Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver; B Felony. 2) Possession of a Controlled substance with intent to deliver; marijuana derivatives, B Felony. 3) Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, A Misdemeanor 4) Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, B Misdemeanor, 5) Child Endangerment, C Felony. The investigation remains ongoing.

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Bill Gross, President and Founder of Farm Rescue and Jeremy Baumgarten, visit during the Farm Rescue Operation that took place at the Bob Baumgarten farm last week. Courtesy Photo

Farm Rescue assists Davenport family

By Angela Kolden
Spring planting can be a stressful time of year for farmers who are on standby, waiting for Mother Nature to give them the green light, so they can get into the fields.

"We don't get to pick a time to get in the field," explained Jeremy Baumgarten, who farms near Davenport with his father Bob.

This spring, the weather has been inconsistent, leaving wide open the question as to when farmers will be able to finish planting.

That question became much further complicated for the Baumgarten family on April 23, when Bob suffered a massive heart attack.

With his father still in intensive care, receiving care that will hopefully make him strong enough to undergo heart surgery, Jeremy was unsure how he was going to get the crops in.

That is when a friend referred him to Farm Rescue. After Jeremy filled out the application, the organization committed to helping him get in 1,000 acres of soybeans.

A Farm Rescue team, with volunteers as far away as Texas, arrived at the Baumgarten farm Wednesday morning, May 3.

According to Farm Rescue Operation's Director Carol Wielenga, the team started seeding Wednesday morning and finished Friday. Volunteers on the team included Mike MeLaas, of Minot; a father/son duo from Texas, Bill and Clay Robertson and Levi Wielenga of Sioux Falls, S.D.

In addition, Farm Rescue Founder and President Bill Gross visited the Baumgarten farm.

Farm Rescue has helped 410 families since its inception in 2006. The organization's mission is to help farmers and ranchers who have experienced a major illness, injury, or natural disaster by providing the necessary equipment and manpower to plant, hay or harvest their crop.

"It means a lot; takes some of the pressure off," Jeremy said of the services offered by Farm Rescue.

Seeing his father lay ill in the hospital for the past several days has been

very difficult for the entire Baumgarten family. Although Jeremy said he is confident they will get through it. It has been a challenging couple of weeks.

"This (Farm Rescue) has been a blessing. It will save us four or five days."

Also appreciative of the help are Jeremy's mother, Cheryl, and sister, Jessica.

Although Cheryl and Bob have resided in Fargo for the past several years they have continued to maintain operation of the family farm, originally operated by Bob's parents, the late Evelyn and Allen Baumgarten.

Bob is a Central Cass alumni and the rest of the Baumgartens consider themselves native to the area. Jeremy and his wife Sarah and their three children live in Kindred. Jessica and her husband, Adam, and their two children live in Fargo.

Although Farm Rescue has been a "Godsend" Jeremy said he is grateful to his many friends and family members who have also helped during this

challenging time.

He is especially thankful to Jake Kotrba and Rod Sailer, who help out on the farm, Troy Goltz and his team, Ben Sand and his team at Rush River Seed, Les Staples and his team at Dakota Plains Agronomy and to his own employer, Pioneer Hybrid.

Realizing it is difficult to ask for help when in need, Wielenga encourages those who need help to fill out an application.

"Do not feel like there is someone out there who needs help more. We are here to help. That's why Farm Rescue is here."

The Farm Rescue Operation's Director encourages people in need to contact their office. Farm Rescue helps farm and ranch families in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska and Iowa.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2017 planting, haying and harvest seasons Visit www.farm-rescue.org or call 701-252-2017.

Long time cook, friend retires from Buffalo Elementary

By Beth Kensok
After cooking meals in Buffalo for 40 years, Buffalo resident and community member, Bev Jager has retired.

After graduating high school in Buffalo in 1949, Jager then went to Valley City College.

She taught for two years in Enderlin and for one year south of Buffalo.

In order to receive a \$300 grant, she was required to teach in a country school for three years. Jager mentioned she had some extra spending money after receiving this grant.

Jager saw an opening for a cook in 1977, applied and was hired getting paid \$5 an hour.

"That's what came up, so that's what I did," Jager said.

Jager also served as a janitor and also worked outside by mowing and summer cleaning.

Elementary Principal, Jay Kocka, has appreciated Jager's presence in the Buffalo community the past 12 years he has known her.

"She's definitely a staple in our school and in our community as well. From events like Night to Unite or Burger Bingo Night. She's always got her hand into something. At events, at concerts, she's all over the place. All the time. It's pretty amazing how she gets all that done in a day, and then she would come back to school at 5:30 in the morning," Kocka said.

A friend of Jager's, Margaret Vollmuth, taught for 22 years at Buffalo Elementary while Jager was a cook there.

"Bev is an amazing woman of Buffalo and Tower City. She is a wonderful cook, cared for children and always made sure holidays were celebrated. She is also a good mentor as she cooked for all of my children," Vollmuth explained.

Before retiring, Jager and one other cook made lunch for 75 students

and 15-20 teachers. Jager could recall serving to as many as 125 students a day excluding the teachers.

Jager hasn't only cooked lunch for Buffalo, but also breakfast, a salad bar, fruits and vegetables in the afternoon and various community events.

Jager has helped cook for spaghetti meals to help raise money for scholarships, Veteran's Day meals which were started in 2006. At the Veteran's Day event, students sing, make posters and decorate cards.

Jager has received a great amount of help from her husband and two sons over the years.

Sadly, in October of 2011, Jager's husband passed away.

"I think the biggest thing that happened (at school) was the day my husband died. They came and got Scott (son) and I. The superintendent was standing there frying hamburgers and I thought, 'You know a person should have a plan B.' There were all types of corn dogs and hot dogs in the freezer they could have used instead. They could have skipped the planned menu. Oh no, they were frying hamburgers and I thought 'Oh good grief,'" Bev explained.

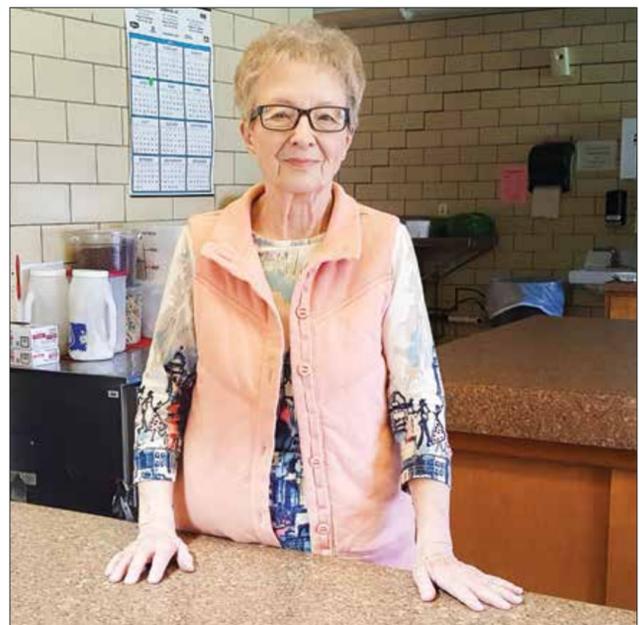
"I think lunch took a little extra time that day," Kocka added.

"Teachers have always been wonderful," Jager said.

This past November, Jager fell when she was setting her clock for Daylight Savings Time. When she was coming down from setting the clock back, she knocked her head on the deep freeze. She had a concussion, a bleed, a few broken facial bones, a tooth missing and a great big ridge in her mouth.

Jager wasn't able to drive or work for about two months after.

Jager explained how nice and willing some members of the Buffalo area were to help her recuperate.



Bev Jager, who has been a cook at the elementary school in Buffalo since 1977, is retiring at the end of this school year. Photo by Beth Kensok

"It's kind of like a family. Everybody knows everybody. I've had a lot of students, and then I had their children. I do quite well now. But then I get tired too, but then I'm old," said Jager.

"Still running circles around all of us, Bev," Kocka added.

Since her retirement on March 7, Jager has been subbing in Buffalo and Tower City and plans to go to the lake with her sister, grow a garden and flowers. She is also planning on going to Nashville in October.

"My, the years went by so fast. It's just amazing how many years I've been here. It's about time I hung it up. Someone said to me, 'well, what are you going to do now?' and I said, 'well do I have to do anything?'" Jager said. "I think I was younger acting with all the children than if I was to go with the senior citizens. It kept me going and interested, but now I'm taking it easy."

There will be a retirement party for Jager on May 19 at the Eagles Club in Valley City.