

It's tassel time for Hope-Page, Finley-Sharon seniors

Seniors don caps and gowns, celebrate the end of their high school careers

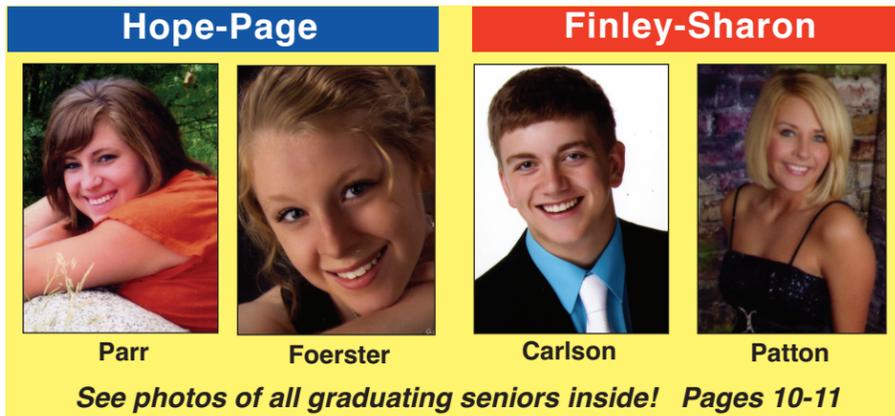
The end is near for area seniors. The end of high school, that is.

Commencement ceremonies for the school districts of Finley-Sharon and Hope-Page will take place this Sunday as the 2009-10 school year officially ends.

Finley-Sharon's graduation takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 23, at the Virgil Babinski gymnasium. There are 16 seniors who are set to receive their diplomas.

Class President Lynn Carlson will give the welcome address and the valedictorian address. The salutatorian is Alicia Patton.

Hope-Page will hold commencement



exercises at 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 23, in the Page school gymnasium. There are 22 class members.

The welcome will be given by honor

student Jennifer Erbstoesser. Speakers will be salutatorian Brianna Parr and valedictorian Megan Foerster.

Honor student Angela Johnson will give

the farewell.

Set to graduate for Finley-Sharon are: Daniel Aberle, Lynn Carlson, Destiny Eull, John Ferry, Andrew Gullicks, Thomas Keller, Bethany Leadbetter, Casie Murray, Mandi Neset, Megan Norgaard, Kellie Noyes, Alicia Patton, Stephanie Pladson, Trisha Rux, Alycia Sloan and Devon Wolff.

Set to graduate for Hope-Page are: Madelyn Baasch, BreAnn Benedict, JadeLyn Bring, Preston Burchill, Jennifer Erbstoesser, Katrina Erickson, Megan Foerster, Katherine Friesz, Robert Greer, Cheila Ihry, Dylan Jacobsen, Angela Johnson, Shelby Krueger, Wyatt Mack, Jayme Messenger, Maggie Moen, Nicholas Nelson, Zachary Parkman, Brianna Parr, Jordan Satrom and Alyssa Schumacher.



And ... heave!

Finley-Sharon Elementary students Gracy Leland, Beth Mehus, Rose Anderson and Molly Beckman are all smiles as they they beat the boys in their class at tug-of-war Wednesday afternoon during the annual Play Day.

Farm Rescue comes to aid of local farmers

Luverne, Finley families get help with planting during tough times

Faced with hundreds of acres of field to be seeded -- a task that seemed impossible not long ago -- two local farmers had a big weight lifted from their shoulders last week as Farm Rescue came to their aid.

Farm Rescue is a nonprofit organization that plants and harvests crops free of charge for family farmers who have suffered a major illness, injury or natural disaster. Recently the organization came to the aid of Bruce Emery, Luverne, and Bruce and Anona Lundstrom, Finley.

Founder Bill Gross says the cases in Luverne and Finley are the 110th and 111th, respectively, for Farm Rescue. He and other volunteers worked long hours

on both farms, using sponsor RDO Equipment's rigs to pump out weeks of farming -- under normal circumstances -- in just a day.

At the Lundstrom farm southwest of Finley, the work began shortly after dinner time and continued throughout the night. Into the wee hours of the morning, the farm rescue team kept at it until 320 acres of wheat had been planted.

Bruce Lundstrom is battling leukemia and only recently returned home after spending most of the last year in the hospital.

Anona says Bruce is in remission following a bone marrow transplant several months ago, though he must frequently have samples taken from his pelvic bone

to be analyzed. He is back on the farm, but not yet up to full strength.

"He got home in April and had to jump right into spring's work," Anona

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Applications for DCP and ACRE due June 1

North Dakota farmers only have until June 1 to enroll in two USDA Farm Service Agency programs. Complete applications, including landowners' signatures, for the Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment or Average Crop Revenue Election Programs must be provided to the local FSA county office before the close of business on June 1. Late filings will not be accepted.

Finley Days schedule announced

Past Due band to play street dance

The Finley Days 2010 schedule has been officially released by the Finley Days committee, with the annual community celebration to take place June 10-13.

Annual staples -- the Finley Motors lunch, Citizens State Bank dinner on Thursday, parade and street dance on Saturday and the all faith service and community service awards and luncheon in the Centennial Park on Sunday -- are scheduled once again.

The golf tournament, sponsored by the Press Box, will take place at the Hope Golf Course this year. The Finley 5K Fun Run/Walk will take place for a second straight year.

Thursday

Finley Motors appreciation lunch, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Citizens State Bank/Citizens State Insurance/Investment Centers of America appreciation picnic, 5-7 p.m.; Karaoke for kids (under 21) in front of Rumors, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Friday

Press Box golf tournament, 10 a.m. at the Hope Golf Course, Mini Golf Tournament, 7 p.m. at the Centennial Park; Fire band at Rumors.

Saturday

Finley 5K Fun Run/Walk, 8 a.m. (registration 7:15 a.m.) F-S school; Race at the Base (motorsports races) 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at track west of Finley; Parade, 11 a.m.; DAWGS dodgeball tournament, 2 p.m. at school gym; Citywide rummage sale, 1-5 p.m.; Guitar Hero contest, 5:30 p.m. at the Press Box; Street dance, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. music by Past Due, Red Pepper food cart.

Sunday

All Faith service, 10:30 a.m., Centennial Park; Community Service Award, 11:30 a.m.; Lunch, 12 p.m.; Water Carnival, 1 p.m. at the pool.

* For more information, visit www.finleynd.com

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said. "He can help some, but he gets tired and has to quit."

With the help of son Brad, Bruce says his crop probably would have gotten in the ground at some point, but it would have taken quite awhile.

"I'm getting around pretty good," Bruce said. "I can operate the tractor but I can't handle the seeder. I don't have my strength up yet."

Gross says Farm Rescue's vision is to give families the necessary equipment and manpower to plant or harvest their crop so they have an opportunity to continue viable operations.

Considering the circumstances of the families Farm Rescue assists and the size of the task the volunteers complete, it's no surprise that in many cases relations with the clients go beyond a hello and a handshake.

Clarifications

A sub-headline for last week's story on the Finley Sewer System read that the sewer rate would jump from \$4 to \$21.55, but the figure of \$21.55 is actually the amount of the increase. This makes the new sewer rate \$25.55, as stated in the body of the story.

NDSU Extension offers crop and pest report

Each season brings new challenges and pest problems in crop production. To help, the North Dakota State University Extension Service is offering a "Crop and Pest Report" newsletter.

"It will keep producers and others informed and prepared on how to effectively manage any problem," says Janet Knodel, NDSU Extension Service entomologist.

"The newsletter is a weekly series of updates on crop, soil, insect, disease, horticultural and weed conditions. Each issue contains valuable information about insect and disease problems, pest alerts, integrated pest management strategies, pesticide updates, agronomy and fertility issues, horticulture problems, reports from the NDSU Plant Diagnostic Laboratory, important Extension meetings and a weather outlook."

Local reports also are included on agronomic and pest issues, plus crop development from agronomists at the Research Extension Centers across the state.

Subscribers will have the option of receiving the newsletter by mail or electronically in a color PDF format. To subscribe for the free e-mail or mailed version of the report, visit the crop and pest report website at <http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/agiinfo/entomology/ndsucpr/>. The report can be delivered by mail for a year's subscription rate of \$20. People who received the

report in the past must resubscribe because of data management changes.

The first report will be available in mid-May.

"The families (we help) often seem like our extended family," Gross said. "Often, the volunteers will stay in touch with them long after."

Based out of Jamestown, Farm Rescue has been in operation since 2006. Gross says none of the work the organization has done would be possible without its sponsors, pointing out the contributions of major sponsors like RDO and Bremer Bank as well as local businesses that want to support the cause; like locally-owned Ihry Insurance.

While Bruce Lundstrom and his family are still dealing with the effects of his illness, they no longer have to worry about how this spring's wheat crop will find its way into the field.

"It meant a lot for us that they would come and do that," Bruce said. "Once they get committed to helping you, they don't forget about you."

Farm Rescue is now taking applications for assistance with harvest. For more information, visit farm-rescue.org



Above, Farm Rescue equipment sponsored by RDO works in Bruce Lundstrom's field. Far right, Bruce Emery, Luverne; Right, Bruce Lundstrom, Finley.



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