

January 2009

Issue 135

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Family Reunion

JANUARY 2009

The annual Mages Christmas Party was cancelled due to heavy snow, and an expected blizzard. It was sad to think we would not be together this year, and enjoy Mom's wonderful stuffing. We wish all of you the very best in the coming new year. Mom and Dad we wish you a wonderful, warm, happy winter in Mesa. We will miss you.

Thanks to Debbie and family we have lots of pictures of the Mages Cousins having their Christmas party at David's house, and Stretch and Debbies house. I bet they had a blast.

God's Blessings to All !! Love ya, Linda

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January 09 Birthdays

Alphonse Mages	Jan 06
Taylor Mages	Jan 09
Jessica Schmitz	Jan 09
Zack Mages	Jan 10
Kyle Strate	Jan 11
David Fischer	Jan 11
Tom Mages	Jan 14
Riley Strate	Jan 18
Ryan Wolf	Jan 18
Laura Wolf	Jan 19
Amanda Bemmels	Jan 20
Noah Mages	Jan 23
Arlene Mages	Jan 25
Grace Mages	Jan 31

New Phone Number

Dad and Mom
480-248-7396
Mesa, Arizona

Note, Big change in where you send your articles. Can only use mimi@myclearwave.net

www.magesonline.com

Newspaper

Deadline

News is due by the 20th
mimi@myclearwave.net

Coming Events

January 10, 2009- Card party by David Fischer's home
April, 2009- Strand baby due
June 13, 09- Wedding of Brianna and Riley
July 25,26,09-Mages camping and picnic at Lake Koronis near Paynesville, Mn. Hosts are Duane and Jermayne Mages and Family.
September 19 & 20,09-Sister's Weekend at Emerald Hideaway.
November 2009- Sister's shopping Mankato overnight at Barbs
December 05,2009-Wedding of Jennifer and Adam

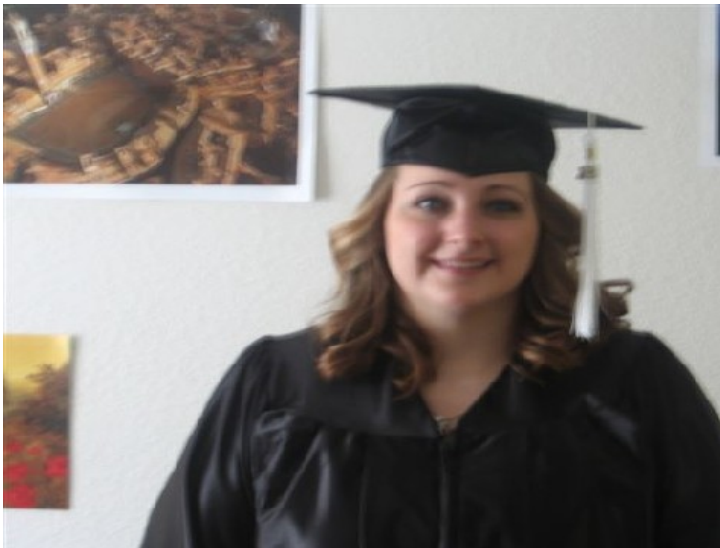
Student of the Month

MiKayla Mages daughter of Mike and Amy was chosen the Lion's Club Student of the Month from St. Mary's school in Sleepy Eye, Minn. MiKayla and her parents were honored at a dinner at the Orchid Inn with the Lion's Club members. Congratulations MiKayla. What an honor!!



Alissa graduates from the University of Minnesota

On Sunday, December 7, 2008, Alissa Barbara Fischer graduated from the U of MN with a Political Science degree. Her parents, Larry & Deb, along with her brother Jacob and sister Julia were able to attend her commencement ceremony before the Dean and her professors. Alissa made this great accomplishment in 3 1/2 years. Her future goals are to find a temporary job before she goes on to Law School in September of 2009. The family was also honored to be at her Gospel Choir concerts the same evening. There were over 250 members singing. It was so powerful to hear so many beautiful and talented voices singing together. Congratulations Alissa, we are proud of you! As we spent the night at Alissa's apartment that night with her other roommates, we were happy to enjoy three events with one trip to the twin cities. On Monday, December 8, Jacob Fischer was in a Robot Show at the University of Minnesota. He showed off his engineering talent with a mechanical, complicated self-designed robot along with over 200 other students. He did a very fine job according to his eight judges, as five of his judges chose him as 'a show favorite'. He was glad to earn an "A" in this - Intro to Mechanical Engineering Class. Jake was asked to show it off at the Works Museum in the cities for a children's show the end of February along with eight other chosen robots. Way to Go Jake!



In Sympathy



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Hildegard Mary Schmitz

November 9, 1915 † November 24, 2008

MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Sleepy Eye, Minnesota

Wednesday, November 26, 2008

10:30 a.m.

CELEBRANT

Monsignor Eugene Lozinski

CASKET BEARERS

Allen Wendinger Chad Schmitz Steven Bastian

Jeremy Mages Lynn Forst Timothy Mages

INTERMENT

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

Sleepy Eye, Minnesota

The family of Hildegard Schmitz gratefully acknowledges all acts of kindness and sympathy expressed during their bereavement. No individual acknowledgements will be sent.

The whole Mages family would like to extend their sympathy to Arlene Mages and her family upon the death of her loving Mother. May she rest in peace. We are thinking of all of you during this sad time.

Que Sera Sera (Mages Family Cookbook)

I want to encourage all of you to send your favorite recipes, and pictures to be entered in the Mages Family Cookbook. It would be nice to be working on it as I go instead of all next fall. Paragraphs of your Mages family memories are encouraged from all family members which does include the in-laws. I will be giving monthly updates as to the progress of the cookbook. It would be ideal to have at least one recipe from each family member, so all of you will be represented. Thank You, Linda

Hildegard M. Schmitz

Hildegard is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Alice and Robert Forst of New Ulm, Shirley and Leon Wendinger of Gibbon, Myra and Jerome Bastian of Fairfax, Arlene and Daniel Mages of Sleepy Eye; a son and daughter-in-law, Alfred and Janice Schmitz of Sleepy Eye; 22 grandchildren; 49 great grandchildren; a sisters-in-law, Freida Sellner of Sleepy Eye; and by a brother-in-law, John Wear of Nicollet. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Edward Schmitz on December 24, 2007, a sister Louise; and by brothers, Alfred, Roman and Ervin.

Hildegard Mary Sellner was born November 9, 1915 in Stark Township, Brown County to Joseph M. and Elizabeth (Dietz) Sellner. She was united in marriage to Edward Alfred Schmitz on October 5, 1936 at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sleepy Eye. After marriage they farmed in Stark Township, Brown County. They retired in 1979 and moved to Sleepy Eye. Hildegard was very involved at church where she maintained the sacristy for more than 20 years, visited the shut ins and baked. She enjoyed playing cards, crocheting and old time music.

*Minnesota Valley Funeral Homes
New Ulm - Gibbon - Nicollet*

1168

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The Next Place

I will travel empty-handed.

There is not a single thing
I have collected in my life
That I would ever want to bring

except....

the love of those who loved me,
and the warmth of those who cared.

The happiness and memories
and the magic that we shared

Unfortunately due to Mother Nature's snowstorm/blizzard, the December 20, 2008 Mages Christmas party was cancelled.

It was to be held at the St. Mary's Church in Sleepy Eye with Grandpa & Grandma Mages and all our loved ones. We hope everyone was snuggling close in their warm homes and enjoying each other's own families waiting out the blizzard. We at the Fischer Farm, were blessed to have a few stranded cousins that were in the area the night before already. David just happen to have a cousin get-together, the beautiful winter wonderland night before, at his place SW of Sleepy Eye. Those in attendance were: David Nelson; Zack, Bonita, Jennifer Mages along with her fiance' Adam Butler; Steven Mages & friend- Barbie Jo; Melanie & friend- Steve; Brianna Mages with her fiance' Riley Jensen, Joe Mages, Amanda Schmitz, Stacie Mages, David, Alissa & Jake Fischer, and Jory even came late in the evening. Uncle Larry & Aunt Debbie stopped in to greet everyone and watch them play "Duck, Duck, Grey Duck" around the living room floor. I bet Brianna will be happy to teach this game to her "student- teaching" kindergarten students in Springfield this next semester:) We left before the guitar music fun started, but I figured they all sang their hearts out when few had a voice the next morning. You might notice in the photo of David that I was after him to get a hair cut before Christmas, as I have been highly suggesting it since harvest was over. Do you think he needs a hair cut?

The hard-planning Sleepy Eye committee was on the phone often before it was finally decided to cancel the party. We wanted everyone to stay safe and warm. We also want you to know the stranded bunch said they celebrated enough to have covered a memorable year still at best. We still were able to have a Christmas dinner with turkey, potatoes & gravy, sauerkraut & dumpling and Jermayne's awesome bread (Steve brought along, sent by his wonderful mother.) We did however, miss Grandma's dressing to make it perfect. We all toasted with Fischer homemade wine or milk to the family for a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. The committee's plan was to have both Steven & Larry Mages sing the "Our Father" with our before meal prayer. We missed Larry for that part, but Steven did wonderful still. Next time Larry. Stacie won the candy jar guessing game. After dinner the cousins went outside in the stormy weather and used a car-hood sled dragging two behind the snowmobile. Fischers had lots of snow pants, boot, hats & mittens on hand for them to keep warm. Some made snow angels and some watched a movie under cozy blankets. It was 3:00pm and Jen's fiance-Adam Butler (luckily he has cop connections for weather driving updates) made a phone and quickly announced of "if we want to get home we have to go now". The state highway was possibly going to be closed at 4:00pm. They all quickly packed up and many tight hugs later they were on their way caravanning home to Northern country. It was probably the fastest gathering held but was with as much tradition as possible. We missed you all and my presents are on there way with extra connections from Santa. We truly love you ALL. With stillness of the Birth Child to arrive very soon, may your Christmas be blessed, peaceful, healthy and safe. Today is born, our Savior, Jesus Christ the King, Alleluia!!! Hugs to all, Larry & Deb



Mages Christmas Cont.



More Pictures of Cousins Fun



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM FLORIDA!

(Xmas pic)

Catheleen, Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus, Betty & TAZ, Sunny & Ray

On Dec 18th, my friends and I went to a Christmas party and had our picture taken with Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus. Everyone was singing carols, enjoying punch, eggnog and cookies, and some great company. Merry Christmas Everyone!!!!

As you can see, I made it down here OK. The weather has been very nice and as I hear about the chilly temps up north I continue to send hot flashes, Opps!, I mean very warm thought for you in my prayers! It sounds like Sandy, Teresa and Mondo are doing well with their jobs, homes and their lives in Baltimore, MD and Freeport,, NY. They went to CA in November and were at the Price is Right Show with Drew Carey. They did not get on stage, but Sandy was able to talk to Drew during a commercial break and give him her Forensic Unit Challenge coin. They said that they were on the TV a lot while they scanned the audience. The show will air on January 19th on CBS. I'll be there with my friends. Yehaa!

A.J. celebrated his 12 birthday this year. Wow! He's growing fast . A.J. enjoys playing ball, his daschund, "Butters", hunting, fishing, schooooooool, his bonus-brothers and his new sister, Amber, teasing Grandma Betty and the rest of his family and friends. I gave him one of my guitars for his birthday/Xmas and we have a challenge to play something together with AJ on guitar & me on the harmonica. We'll have to see how we sound sometime. I pray the Lord keeps everyone safe and healthy during the holiday season and 2009. Love ya Enough! Betts & TAZ



Gil's Passing(Dad's First Cousin)

This is a letter I recieved from Clete and JoAnne Mages from Denver a few days ago. Clete's Brother, Gil Mages, 69, passed away of cancer. They live in Stephen's Point Wisc. I talked to his daughter Sherry several weeks ago and she said her dad was close to death. Gil was a math professor at a nearby college. They have 3 daughters that live in Wisc as well. Larry

Gil's Peaceful Passing, Dec 11

Dad passed away this morning just past 6AM. His angel on earth, his wife, knew God was very near. A short time before he died, around 5AM, Mom looked at me and said,"I don't know why, but I am unwrapping Baby Jesus". So she put on my coat and out she went to the nativity scene and brushed the snow off Baby Jesus and unwrapped him. She usually only does that on Christmas. I turned on the Christmas music and we sat with him. He left us so peacefully that if we were not right there we may have missed it. We are happy that the pain is over now. As we waited for Hospice to arrive, we opened the curtains that hang over the picture window and as the sun was coming up over the snow covered field, the light shining on Dad made him look like an angel. He was glowing. Beautiful. Peaceful.

I will send dates and times of the arrangements after we meet with the Funeral Home.

We felt all your prayers and thank you very much. Love to all!

P.S. Dad told Darcie a few weeks ago, "no tears, only laughter". We will get there soon.

Sherry

