

# THE LEADER-NEWS

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**NORDAK NORTH PUBLICATIONS**



# Funds for Growth

Washburn Life directs event dollars to grants

**BY PHAIDRA YUNKER**  
 REPORTER

Many residents may not realize it, but Washburn Life offers a year-round grant and loan program aimed at helping local businesses grow — and funds raised at this year's Taste of Washburn will go directly toward that effort.

Rhonda Johnson, community outreach coordinator for Washburn Life, said the board voted to direct this year's event proceeds to the organization's grant fund. Taste of Washburn featured 24 businesses serving food and drew strong community support.

"We raised \$1,199 and had approximately 275 people attend," said Donna Sommer, president of Washburn Life.

Sommer said any business in the Washburn area is eligible to apply for a grant, as long as the request is for a qualified need and the applicant can provide matching funds. The maximum grant amount this year is \$5,000, and Washburn Life typically awards two or three grants annually, depending on need and available funding.

Applications are available on the City of Washburn website or directly from Johnson. Applicants must include cost estimates for their project. Once submitted, the board re-

views each request and may table an application if more information is needed. Work on a project should not begin until the grant is approved.

Sommer said the board considers requests from new or expanding businesses, as well as storefront improvement projects and day-care-related needs. The grant cycle is ongoing, allowing businesses to apply at any time.

In addition to grants, Washburn Life offers a loan program for area businesses, usually in partnership with a local lender. The program provides loans up to \$10,000 with a five-year repayment period and a low interest rate.

The organization also participates in the Bank of North Dakota's PACE Loan Buydown program. Three local businesses currently receive buydowns through the program, and a fourth was recently approved. BND provides 70 percent of the interest buydown, while Washburn covers the remaining 30 percent. Businesses interested in the program must work with a local lender, who then contacts Washburn Life.

Johnson said the organization hopes more residents and business owners become aware of the support available.

"Many people don't know these programs exist," she said. "We want the community to take advantage of them."

## WASHBURN OLDTIMER'S CORNER

Compiled by Shelly Wallace from the files of the Wilton News and the Washburn Leader

### 100 Years Ago May 14, 1926

Gottfried Reiser, 71, who for nearly a quarter of a century has been a resident of this community, died at his home in Washburn after being ill for the past several months. In the death of Mr. Reiser, the community loses another of its resourceful and sturdy citizens, who has prospered and succeeded and who has been a respected and valuable citizen.

W.K. Williams is remodeling his store to make room for his drug department.

Walter Fahlgren, sprinter of the local high school, entered the track meet at Bismarck last Saturday in three events and won one first and two third places.

### 90 Years Ago May 15, 1936

Thirty students, the largest class in the history of the Washburn School, will receive their diplomas May 29. They are as follows: Marian Burgum, Marion Brome, Lois Chesworth, Virginia Ekstrom, Marjorie Handy, Lois Jefferis, May Johnson, Ruby Keck, Esther Keck, Leona Koth, Jean Larson, Amanda Laib, Barbara Ness, Eleanora Reiser, Violet Schulz, Elinore Slagg, Adele Tjenstrom, Margaret Wicklander, Stanley Fahlgren, Charles Fisher, Orville Holtan, Leo Mittleider, Robert Poe, Hugo Pressnall, Elmer Reiser, Orlen Sheldon, Kenyon Stevens, Norman Weber, William Wiese and Clarice Reiser.

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel

Goehring are the proud parents of a nine-and-a-half-pound baby boy born Wednesday, May 13, at their home in Washburn.

### 80 Years Ago May 9, 1946

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Reimers Friday, May 3, at the Saylor Hospital in Underwood. The baby has been named Laurel Kay.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Anderson are the parents of a son, born at a Bismarck hospital, Wednesday, May 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Schulz have a daughter born on Thursday, May 2, at a Bis-

marck hospital. Mrs. Schulz is the former Jeanne Bittner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Bittner of Sodus, Mich. Paternal grandparents of the new baby are Mr. and Mrs. John Schulz, local.

### 70 Years Ago May 10, 1956

Mrs. John Barlow of Washburn was sitting on the davenport in her home Monday evening when she felt it move. She looked out and saw that a car had rolled into her home in west Washburn. It had been parked by the highway in front of the Barlow home and rolled down the bank and into the house.

## Cardinal Corner

### May 14

3rd Grade Field Trip  
 Senior BBQ  
 SOM, NHS, Activities Awards in AM  
 Kindergarten Screening 8:30 AM

### May 15

Kindergarten Screening  
 2nd grade field trip to Minot  
 JV Baseball: Beulah Tournament  
 Track: Region Track Meet @ Hazen

### May 15

Kindergarten Screening  
 JV Baseball: Beulah Tournament

### May 16

Kindergarten Screening  
 May 18

### May 19

Senior Graduation Rehearsal  
 Baseball: Region Tournament @ Hazen

### May 20

Baseball: Region Tournament @ Hazen

### May 21

Baseball: Region Tournament @ Hazen  
 Last Day of School  
 Track: State Track Meet @ Bismarck

### May 22

Teacher Work Day  
 May 24

### May 25

High School Graduation at 2:00  
 HS Band/Choir Chicago Trip  
 Washburn Memorial Day Program  
 10:00 AM

### May 26

HS Band/Choir Chicago Trip  
 May 27

### May 28

HS MTSSA Meeting 1:00 PM  
 HS Band/Choir Chicago Trip  
 May 28

### May 28

HS Band/Choir Chicago Trip

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