

# HOUSE

From Page 1

Duane Arens told the Press & Dakotan that he and his wife have wanted for years to use their land — owned by the Arens family since 1947 — to benefit Hartington. The couple's health problems accelerated their action on the project.

The Arens family attended Tuesday's ceremony, and the couple expressed joy at seeing the project come to fruition.

"We're glad it's done," Duane said. "We're excited to see the day."

Kathol told the Press & Dakotan that the project has moved forward despite the deep recession and financial melt-down of the past three years.

"We live in an ag community where the current economy hasn't fallen off. The interest rates have stayed relatively low, and inflation has remained in check," he said. "There is pent-up demand for housing in Hartington. A lot of young people want to move back to the community and find suitable housing. We have 8 to 10 people who are anxious to build in the first couple of years (of this project)."

Kathol likened Tuesday's historic moment to the scene of Hartington's early settlers breaking ground for the town's first houses in 1883.

"One hundred twenty-eight years ago, Hartington was started in one day when 54 residents put out claims for homes," he said. "Now, I don't expect to sell lots for 54 homes today. We only have 19 for sale. But those early residents would be proud to see Hartington today, to see their

legacy continue for many more days to come."

Mayor Brad Peitz commended the investment in the town.

"Hartington has a history of being a progressive community. This new housing is another example," he said. "Hartington will continue moving forward."

Chris Miller, president of the Hartington Economic Development Corporation, pointed to the strong partnership created by the project.

"It's a great feeling at this point. There have been many years of work," he said. "We have received support from the (housing) board, community and citizens. This has made a dream a reality."

Carey Ponce of the Chamber of Commerce echoed the partnership theme. "It's been a collaborative effort," she said.

Brian Gaskill, a housing specialist with Nebraska Economic Development, noted inclement winter weather postponed his early visits.

"But once I arrived, there was a great sense of pride in the community," he said. "By their working with the Northeast Nebraska Development District, the initial plans have come to fruition. I think and hope we get a great project for the first phase."

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development awarded a \$400,000 grant for Phase 1, or about half the amount of the \$833,000 in funding. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) bonds, purchased by the four Hartington banks, will provide \$300,000. The remaining funds include use of the LB840 city sales tax revenue and other sources.

A banker in another town noted it's rare for every bank in

a community to buy the entire amount of bonds, Kathol said.

Yankton engineer Dan Eisenbraun, president of Eisenbraun and Associates, told the audience he was anxious to move forward with the Westfield Acres project.

"We just had a meeting this morning with the contractor, and we are all anxious to get started. Keith DeJong and Mark Johnson from our office have been working with this project," he said.

"It's been a long beginning, four years ago. We are turning a beautiful piece of land into a subdivision. The Hartington City Council did (the needed action), with vision and foresight."

Eisenbraun drew upon his own personal experiences in realizing the size and scope of the Hartington project.

"I serve on Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG), and I fully appreciate the importance of investing in infrastructure and getting things in place for the community," he said. "You are turning this into a wonderful place for a number of houses."

Tuesday's ceremony was attended by Wayne, Neb., city administrator Lowell Johnson. Wayne officials have launched their own Western Ridge housing development — 18 of the 37 lots are filled with homes that are completed or under construction — and have offered advice to Hartington officials.

"Wayne is looking at smaller structures for working families," Johnson told the Press & Dakotan. "(Western Ridge) gives you a place to build a moderately-priced home, and that's our goal."

The key to success is never accepting the status quo, Johnson said.

"Hartington and Wayne both

have ambitious people who are never satisfied," he said.

The Westfield Acres groundbreaking brought particular satisfaction for Hartington native Jamie Arens, a housing specialist with Northeast Nebraska Economic Development in Norfolk.

"For a community this small,

to get something of this stature, is huge. But they have a good track record (in Hartington) as a progressive community," he said. "They received \$950,000 in grants last year. I don't know if many other communities can match that, per capita. But (agencies) look at your record, and past success affects future

success."

Kathol spoke with pride of Hartington's past and the promise for the future.

"We are mindful that we have a lot to be thankful for. We have a strong, safe community here in Hartington," he said. "Hartington has become a great place to call home."



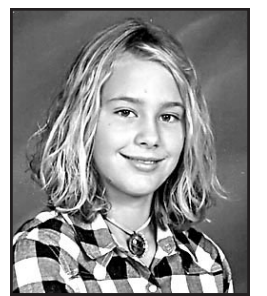
**Austin Wieseler**

**Parents:** Brad & Diane Wieseler  
**Grade:** 11th  
**School:** Wynot  
**Why nominated?** Austin is a hard worker and always does his best.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Science & Computers  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Sports and hanging out with my friends.



**Heidi Klug**

**Parents:** Kevin & Michelle Klug  
**Grade:** 11th  
**School:** Wynot  
**Why nominated?** Heidi is a fun student to work with. She always has a smile on her face.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Science & English  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Going to school activities, spending time with friends, sports, and FFA.



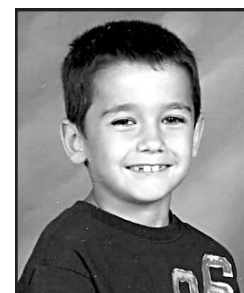
**Julia Eskens**

**Parents:** Jim & Cathy Eskens  
**Grade:** 5th  
**School:** Wynot  
**Why nominated?** Julia is a respectful student and always does her best.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Science, P.E., Band & Art  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Taking a field trip to Ponca State Park to ride horses, make mud balls and bird feeders.



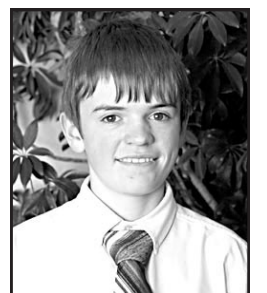
**Evvie Krie**

**Parents:** Kris & Wendy Krie  
**Grade:** 4th  
**School:** Wynot  
**Why nominated?** Evvie is a very hard worker and makes sure that her work is complete and handed in. She comes to school with a smile on her face and is always willing to help out.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Art & Grammar  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Making clay frogs and a cowboy in art.



**Owen Sudbeck**

**Parents:** Daryl & Jennifer Sudbeck  
**Grade:** 2nd  
**School:** Wynot  
**Why nominated?** Owen is a student who comes to school energetic and well-prepared each day. He is helpful, uses his manners, and is a real leader in and out of the classroom.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Art & Math  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Field trip to Poppy's Pumpkin Patch in Norfolk.



**Ryan Rawlings**

**Parents:** Howard & Jeanette Rawlings  
**Grade:** 7th  
**School:** Wynot  
**Why nominated?** Ryan is helpful, honest, caring and reliable.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Science  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Earning a banana split after I read 100 books.

## Q&A

From Page 1

**economic development allies have not fully explored? Do you have ideas on how the city could improve its economic development approach?**

Without knowing what YAPG and the city are working on it would be hard to say, but obviously there are many opportunities! Yankton needs many things and I don't believe targeting one company at a time is the way to go. We need to be in contact with many companies and see if we can get interest from other sectors not currently in Yankton. I believe a big part of improving our economic development approach is to promote Yankton, throughout the entire Midwest. Getting people to look at us and see what we have to offer. I also believe the N.F.A.A. and the Meridian Bridge project need our full attention right now also for maximum impact.

**3. Do you have any ideas for cost cuts or savings in the city budget? Are there areas where the city needs to re-prioritize**

**and spend more money?**

Without being involved in the budget planning process I cannot comment on where money is spent. After attending 95 percent of all commission meetings the last two years though I believe the city is very watchful of tax revenues and when they can afford a "wish list" project and when money needs to be handled tightly. I do believe the city needs to be more aggressive recruiting new business because that is what ultimately gets a bigger budget, more homes sold, more kids in our school system, and more development all around.

**4. Renovation of the Meridian Bridge into a recreational trail is set to conclude this year. The city has done a lot of planning for the downtown area to prepare for this eventuality. Once the renovation is complete, what steps do you think the city needs to take to capitalize on this unique project?**

This is a project I have been involved in for the last two years as Chairman of the Yankton Parks Advisory Board, which oversees the bridges. This is a very exciting time for not only Riverside Park, but all citizens of

Yankton.

As far as city involvement goes, I would like this to be a clean slate and look at new and innovative things we can do down there. There are many ideas floating around and opportunities and I hope the city does nothing but encourage as much brainstorming as possible. I know Keep Yankton Beautiful has a master plan in place for the park portion and that looks outstanding. I hope we keep that spirit floating through all development down there.

**5. Any closing thoughts?**

The diverse group of organizations I have been involved in, and my 28 years of management experience have prepared me for this challenge. I have learned through business that effort and innovation don't cost a thing and I would love the opportunity to apply that and help grow this city. I have been following the commission for two years now developing a sense of all aspects this group oversees and I believe I can add a fresh voice to this group. I would like nothing more than to have ALL registered voters vote on April 12 and have a say in how Yankton will be ran the next three years. Thank you.

**Heimes Brothers Poured Walls**  
Wynot, NE • Eric and Adam Heimes

A licensed contractor pouring solid concrete foundations, structural concrete walls, footings and flatwork applications in:

- Agricultural • Residential • Commercial

We're your one-call foundation contractor:

- Form and pour walls for the strongest and most weather tight systems available.
- Ideal for high moisture corn, sorghum or flat storage of dry grain.

Over the years we have worked for many of the agricultural and dairy farmers in our area.

We've built foundations for silos, commodity sheds and manure pits, as well as poured basements, retaining walls and flatwork.

402-640-6356 • 402-841-3735



**Macey Fuerst**

**Parents:** Dennis & Jodi Fuerst  
**Grade:** 11th  
**School:** Tripp-Delmont  
**Why nominated?** Macey was nominated because she was on the 2nd Quarter Gold Honor Roll and has a 3.77 GPA.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Chemistry  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** When our boy's basketball team went to State B's last year.



**LaNae Fuerst**

**Parents:** Dennis & Jodi Fuerst  
**Grade:** 10th  
**School:** Tripp-Delmont  
**Why nominated?** LaNae was nominated because she was on the Gold Honor Roll for 2nd Quarter and she has a 3.977 overall GPA.  
**Favorite Subjects:** History  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Competing in street marching events.



**Elizabeth Bitterman**

**Parents:** Dorold & Sara Bitterman  
**Grade:** 10th  
**School:** Tripp-Delmont  
**Why nominated?** Liz was nominated because she was on the Gold Honor Roll for the 2nd Quarter, and she has a 3.9 overall GPA.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Geometry & Spanish  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Going to the spelling bee in 8th grade.

Announcing... **Yankton Citywide Rummage**

**MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> - 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**Ask About Our On-line Rummage Map!**

**Stop By The Press & Dakotan To Place Your Ad OR Place It On-line At www.yankton.net! \$27.00 prepaid**

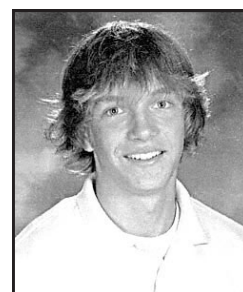
(20¢ per word over 30 words)

Includes:

- Your ad (30 words, 1 address per ad) placed in the special Citywide Rummage Sale section published along with the P&D Locator Map on Wednesday, Aug. 11 & Friday, Aug. 13th
- Your ad will also appear on-line at www.yankton.net
- Garage Sale Kit: 2 Yard Signs with Stake, Stickers & Balloons

**DEADLINE: Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**

sponsored by the: **Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan**



**Jeremy Shirey**

**Parents:** Chris & Kelly Shirey  
**Grade:** 12th  
**School:** Tripp-Delmont  
**Why nominated?** Jeremy was nominated because he was on the Gold Honor Roll for the 2nd Quarter.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Anatomy, Chemistry & French  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** Playing in the SD State "B" Boys Basketball Tournament.



**Cara Finck**

**Parents:** Shelly & David Finck  
**Grade:** 9th  
**School:** Tripp-Delmont  
**Why nominated?** Cara was nominated because she was on the Gold Honor Roll for the 2nd Quarter, and she has a 3.717 overall GPA.  
**Favorite Subjects:** Band, Math & Chorus  
**Favorite School Memory(s):** My 7th & 8th grade classes with Mrs. Gall. If a kid was making fun of another kid, she would always have a funny comeback that would make them stop picking on each other.

**Weber's Grocery**

307 S. Main, Tripp, SD  
(605) 935-6921

**Dakota Plains Ag Center, LLC**

540 Railway St.  
Scotland, SD  
605-583-2231

Congratulations on a Great Job!

**Tripp Farmer's Lumber**

100 S. Main, Tripp, SD  
(605) 935-6925

**First State Bank**

Member FDIC

Tripp, SD - 935-6561  
Delmont, SD - 779-2551