



Forum file photo / Special to The Forum

The search for the paperboy pictured in this 1953 promotional photo was successful. He is 81-year-old Don Burton, a retired pastor now living in Wisconsin.

## REENACTING THE PAST

### ONE-TIME FORUM PAPERBOY RECREATES 1953 PHOTO

By Tracy Briggs

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FARGO

He looks like he could have ridden off the set of "Leave it to Beaver" — a cute, blond-haired, dimple-faced boy fresh off

his paper route. The boy is front and center in a photo that hangs in the lobby of The Forum building downtown, and has even been used as vintage artwork for at least one local business.

The Forum published the photo, dated May 1953, in a recent story about the end of Forum delivery. When the story was shared on social media, chatter began:

"Whatever happened to this kid?"

"Who is he?"

"Was he an actor or a real paperboy?"

We set out to find him. And as luck would have it, we didn't have to look that hard. He still has connections — albeit distant — to

Forum Communications. His name is Don Burton, and his cousin's daughter is married to WDAY employee Stacey Anderson.

The connection was made and he agreed to sit down with Forum reporter Tracy Briggs to talk about that "Fargo famous" photo and the surprising things he's been up to for the last 69 years.

Burton, who now lives in Wisconsin, says he had just finished the eighth grade when he was asked to come to the second floor of The Forum building with the bike he used to deliver papers on his paper route. He had no idea why. When he got there, a photographer set up a screen behind him, rearranged his carrier bag and snapped a photo.

"And it was done, and they said, 'OK, you're done now,' and I put my bike back in the elevator, went down the stairs, there was nothing more to it," Burton said.

It turns out the photo was originally used for a promotional booklet about the company. The 81-year-old Burton says he has



The mail room handles 52,000 papers daily for delivery to your home, office or newsstand.

Forum file photo

The Forum mailroom around 1953, when Don Burton worked as a "window boy" helping distribute papers to fellow paperboys.

fond memories of his time at The Forum, even getting the chance to be a "window boy" who was in charge

of getting papers to his fellow

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## How the Saharan dust storm affects our weather

By Emma Vatnsdal  
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FARGO — Weather and other natural phenomena always have a knack for making or breaking someone's day. Whether it's a thunderstorm on an outdoor picnic or air conditions making it hard to breathe freely, what happens in the atmosphere can have a huge impact on our day-to-day lives.

However, in recent weeks, something has

looked a bit different for folks living in the southeastern United States. A massive cloud of dust from the African Sahara jumped on the trade wind express and made the 5,000-mile journey across the Atlantic Ocean to the Caribbean Sea, Florida and the Gulf of Mexico.

"That one is kind of like the late spring through the summer and fall," said WDAY Meteorologist Jared Piepen-

burg. "It's kind of a yearly thing that'll happen, and what I guess made it stand out this year was just how thick it was this time it came around."

These dust particles can make it difficult to breathe, which may be why the sunrises and sunsets in affected areas are so breathtaking.

While we might not experience dust from the third-largest desert in

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## The shows must go on

Virtual fairs replace traditional Clay County 4-H shows

By Emma Vatnsdal  
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BARNESVILLE, Minn. — As the coronavirus has forced events all over to alter schedules or cancel completely, Minnesota 4-H'ers are now learning to adapt to a situation outside the norm.

For families in Minnesota and all over the


country, 4-H is a community of over 6 million kids and teens who work to make a difference in their own communities. Through hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and civic engagement, 4-H'ers, with guidance from adult volunteers and mentors, are given opportunities to grow into leaders from an early age.

In Minnesota, like

with other states, students work throughout the year to complete projects, all culminating in the summertime exhibition at each county's fair. These projects are judged, and students are awarded ribbons, with the best of the best earning a trip to the State Fair to show off their projects to hundreds of thousands of people every day.

But just like with most activities this year, when the pandemic threatened


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