

A CITIZEN ADVOCATE

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Henning School general fund increases in 2020

School board cautioned about potential shifts in state funding

By Chad Koenen
Publisher

While COVID-19 created uncertainties like never before, the Henning School District was able to grow its

general and reserve funds a bit last year.

During its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday night, the Henning School Board heard its annual audit report from Luke Evanson of Eide-Bailly.

According to the audit,

**HENNING SCHOOL
AUDIT REPORT**
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Photo by Chad Koenen

Megan Rinicker was the first Henning High School volleyball player to be named first team all-state in volleyball. She recently wrapped up her senior year of volleyball and helped the Hornets finish the season with a perfect 11-0 record.

Rinicker named first team all-state

By Chad Koenen
Publisher

One year after she was part of the first-ever Henning High School girls team to make it to a state tournament, Megan Rinicker added another first to the volleyball program's history

books—an all-state player. "This is a huge accomplishment," said Henning High School volleyball coach Megan Rinicker. "I'm pretty

**RINICKER NAMED
ALL-STATE**
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Photo by Chad Koenen

A cross and sign marks the location of the new Joyful Spirit Church on Highway 29 in-between Deer Creek and Wadena.

Building on a new foundation

Joyful Spirit Church finishes foundation, hopes to finish new church next year

By Chad Koenen
Publisher

Rising from an otherwise vacant lot in-between Deer Creek and Wadena, the new Joyful Spirit Church is beginning to take shape.

The possibilities are endless and the plans are still being finalized about what the new church could look like for another generation.

Perhaps it's a bit symbolic that just the foundation of the new Joyful Spirit Church in-between Deer Creek and Wadena was completed this year. The foundation, after all, is one of the parts that holds up their faith, as well as the new Methodist church.

This fall the new basement and concrete were laid

under a portion of the new church. Construction was put on hold, for now, as the church members attempt to continue to raise enough money to build a new church for the parish.

"We have to be sure we have enough funds to cover it before we can really get started," said Joyful Spirit church member Kathy Techam. "We were blessed to be able to do what we have

**NEW JOYFUL
SPIRIT CHURCH**
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Christmas Eve fire destroys barn, kills 1,000 goats in rural Henning



Contributed photo
A barn at Stephen and Brittany Springer's Cornerstone Farm was destroyed by a fire on Christmas Eve. The barn included 1,000 goats that the family milked at their farm, as well as several tractors.

Family hopes to rebuild, thankful for support of fire fighters, local community

By Chad Koenen
Publisher

Stephen and Brittany Springer will never forget Christmas Eve 2020—for all of the wrong reasons. A fire destroyed a barn with over 1,000 goats, 2-3 tractors and hay nearby in the early morning hours of Christmas Eve.

The family operates Cornerstone Farm, which includes a goat milking operation, pasture raised chickens and pork, grass fed

beef and organically grown produce, just a stones throw away from their home.

At approximately 3 a.m. on Christmas Eve, Brittany Springer heard a loud noise and headed downstairs to investigate. Nothing seemed out of the ordinary, but on her way back to bed the power went out in the house. That's when she noticed a massive glow of the barn fire outside.

"When I got back to our bedroom then I could see

our window was glowing. I looked outside and it was the barn," she said.

She called 911, but by the time the crews could get to the rural farm, it was already too late. The Henning Fire Department responded just a few minutes after receiving the call and were on the scene for several

**CHRISTMAS EVE
FIRE IN HENNING**
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