

**5K run/walk results, from page 14**

Tom hasn't played with the team since 2019; he usually played short stop. He'll be 64 this month. Brooks thinks that his dad Tom may retire as manager after the 100th anniversary of Minnesota Amateur Baseball, which will be in 2023. But others speculate that retirement may be further out, after Henry and Louis join the team.

There's a lot of background work that comes with being the team manager. It's much more than choosing each game's lineup, and finding new players for the next season. He is responsible for coordinating maintenance of the ballfield, future planning and fundraising for the field facilities, liaison with the city (which owns the field), organizing equipment, coordinating ticket-takers, getting volunteers for the concession stand, and even making weekly trips to buy the food for the concession stand. He's ultimately responsible for everything for the team. And none of his three sons are interested in taking on that job.

The ballfield had serious flooding issues in the late '80s – enough to force all games to be played elsewhere for several seasons. It was Tom in the early '90s who helped get the ballfield back into playing shape. In 2006, he helped construct the new dugouts and a new backstop. In 2007 they added a new concession stand, pitching mound, and home plate.

"There are a lot of benefits," though, he says; "It's tough to explain." He enjoys being in the dugout with the boys, whether it's his kids or grandkids, or the rest of the team. And he's seen where the Express have come from since

1975 to today. Tom became manager of the Express in 1987, and he saw the team through some pretty lean years. In the early '90s, for instance, they didn't have a single league win for several years. When son Scott joined the team in '94, they started to pick up some wins, and went to the regional tournament; Scott was a high school sophomore that year.

"I'm glad I hung around for awhile," Tom says.

Tom was inducted into the

Minnesota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame in 2009 as player/manager of the Express. There is a permanent exhibit for the MAB Hall of Fame on the second floor of the St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center; it is open to the public. Since its inception in 1963, the Hall of Fame inducts several new members from around the state. Tom is in a small club of Hall of Fame inductees from within the Central Valley League; they include Norb Kalthoff of

Cold Spring in 1993, Leo Wirth of Kimball in 1996, Howie Pennertz of Kimball in 1999, Tom Marquardt of Kimball in 2009, and Bob "Birdie" Geislinger of Eden Valley in 2015.

Tom is sort of the king pin of the Marquardt-Express dynasty, surrounded by talented ball players from four generations.

No matter when he chooses to retire, there's no question that he and Cindy will continue to attend nearly every game each sea-

son. They'd come and watch the Express each game even if their kids and grandkids weren't playing. They both love the game that much.

The efforts to update the Veterans Memorial Field in Kimball continue. If you'd like to donate toward new grandstands and press box, or other areas, donations are always welcome.

Long live baseball, and may there always be Marquardts in Kimball baseball.



2022 Kimball Express amateur baseball (town ball) team includes (in back) Brian Marquardt, Jaxon Marquardt, Matt Friesen, Scott Marquardt, Adam Beyer, Michael Hoffmann, Zach Dingmann, Ben Johnson, Andy Dingmann, and Cade Marquardt; (in front) batboy Paxton Dingmann, Matt Dingmann, Shuggs Hanan, Noah Young, Brooks Marquardt, Craig Meyer, Jake Traurig, Tommy Friesen, Austin Ruehle, Cody Leither, and manager Tom Marquardt; not pictured is Zak Wallner.

## Kimball Area Community Education

Contact CE Director, **Celest Stang**, with questions at 320-398-7700 X 1112 or [celest.stang@kimball.k12.mn.us](mailto:celest.stang@kimball.k12.mn.us)



Kimball Area Community Education is committed to offering youth and adult enrichment and recreation programs, classes and activities this fall that meet the needs of our community members. Programs and classes returning this fall include:

- DRIVER'S EDUCATION (Age 14.5+)
- ADULT DEFENSIVE DRIVING (Age 55+)
- STILLWATER BUS TRIP (Oct. 1)
- PICKLEBALL LEAGUE RETURNS (Oct. 5)
- RAZZLE DAZZLE YOUTH FOOTBALL (Gr. K-6)
- VEX IQ ROBOTICS (Gr. 5-6)
- VEX GO ROBOTICS (Gr. 3-4)
- YOUTH VOLLEYBALL (Gr. 3-5)
- PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS

**ADULT BASIC EDUCATION**

A high school diploma could be yours...start today! Receive assistance with diploma completion, resume writing, job application assistance, general education diploma (GED) and much more. Email Brenda Mass with questions at: [brenda.mass@kimball.k12.mn.us](mailto:brenda.mass@kimball.k12.mn.us).

Our Kimball Cubs Club School Age Child Care program is a quality school age child care enrichment program offered to meet the needs of parents and guardians in the Kimball Area School District. Cubs Club provides professional child care for children ages 3 (completely toilet trained) through 5th grade before school, after school, as well as selected non-school days following the District calendar. Please contact Holly Barthel if you have any questions: [holly.barthel@kimball.k12.mn.us](mailto:holly.barthel@kimball.k12.mn.us) or 320-557-5893 (work cell) or 320-398-7700 ext. 2555 (work office).



### 2022 FALL REGISTRATION

- Registration Fee: \$40 per child  
 Enrollment Deadline: August 19, 2022  
 Reg Fee (after 8/19/22): \$50 per child
- Care for school age children ages 3-5th grade in the 2022-23 school year qualify for enrollment.
  - Register early...enrollment is based on a first come, first serve basis!
  - Afternoon snack provided for each child enrolled.
  - Fun weekly themes and daily activities planned.

- November 14, 2022**
- January 6, 2023**
- February 13, 2023**
- April 3, 2023**



**Children ages 3.5-5 years**

Kimball Area's Play & Learn Preschool program is **4-Star Parent Aware** rated and utilizes the Creative Curriculum. The program is designed to motivate young children (ages 3-5) to explore and create, while fostering a life-long love of learning and developing the skills they need for Kindergarten. Kimball also has an Enrichment Program, which is an extended day of preschool, available for children ages 3-5 (who are enrolled in Play & Learn Preschool) during their non-preschool hours.

### ECFE CLASSES

**Play With Me** (6 weeks-5 years) and **The Incredible Years** classes (Birth-2 years) will begin the week of Oct. 3 and Oct. 6. Families can register for one or all sessions with the Kimball CE Office at 320-398-7700 X 1112.

**Mark Your Calendars**  
**Big Truck Event - Sept. 24**

9:00-11:00 am / Kimball Elementary School  
**Holiday Make & Take - Dec. 15**  
 6:00-7:00 pm / Kimball Elementary School

**CE online registration begins August 26 at: [www.kimball.k12.mn.us/page/community-ed-info](http://www.kimball.k12.mn.us/page/community-ed-info)**