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Welcoming New Renville County Human Services Director, Kaitlyn Fredrickson

Renville County is excited to introduce Kaitlyn Fredrickson, our new Human Services Director. With a passion for strengthening families and a vision for building a supportive community, Kaitlyn brings a wealth of experience in social services and team leadership. Her commitment to creating positive change and enhancing resources will be a great asset to our communities!

Balancing Professional Success with Family

When asked what her professional biggest achievement to date was, Kaitlyn shared, *"I have two. One, of course, being the Director of Human Services and advancing my education towards completing my Masters; and two, helping build strong teams that focus on a strength-based approach to support families in our communities."* Her most important personal achievement is the family she has built with her husband. *"Family is number one to me and having our three (soon to be four) amazing boys*

to share it with is the absolute best!" Kaitlyn stated.

Connecting Communities: Offering Support and Solutions for Every Challenge

Related to what kinds of problems Renville County Human Services can assist the public with, Kaitlyn shared that the agency welcomes anyone facing challenges in the community. Whether its social service needs like family support services, waiver services, and mental health support, or child support and financial assistance for food, housing, and child care, Human Services strives to provide direct assistance or connect people with appropriate resources when needed.



Kaitlyn Fredrickson

(Article Continued on Page Two...)

Fredrickson

(Continued From Page One)

Building for the Future: A Vision for Empowering Families and Strengthening Services

When asked what is on her wish list for the next five years, Kaitlyn shared, *"I have ambitious goals!"* She hopes to collaborate with local agencies, using grant funds, to establish a domestic violence shelter that would provide crucial support for parents and children affected by domestic violence; ensuring they have transportation for work and school while seeking long-term housing.

Additionally, she aims to launch a mentor program for youth, fostering resilience through peer support, and confidence in themselves to mitigate mental health and substance abuse concerns. Kaitlyn also plans to build a strong work environment that fosters positive relationships amongst staff and their consumers, along with achieving full staffing in all Human Services positions.

Perseverance Pays Off

The best career lesson Kaitlyn has learned so far is don't give up! She shared, *"If a goal seems out of reach, push harder, learn more, and strive to get there. This can lead to remarkable achievements."*

Beyond the Office: Family, Adventure, and a Love of Books

Kaitlyn shared that she is a proud 'boy mom' who loves attending her kids' activities, including wrestling, football, and baseball! A few of her other favorite things include camping with friends and family, fishing, and hunting. *"I also enjoy being part of a book club and find solace in audiobooks whenever I can steal a quiet moment."* Kaitlyn concluded.

With her dedication to community service and vision for the future, Kaitlyn demonstrates leadership that truly makes a difference. Renville County looks forward to witnessing the continued positive impact she will bring to our communities in the years ahead.

Interested in Making a Difference in Your Community? Apply to Serve on a Renville County Advisory Committee

The Renville County Board of Commissioners appoints citizens, and local officials, to serve on a variety of advisory boards and committees. Renville County's advisory committees, boards, and commissions advise the County Board of Commissioners on issues that affect residents.



Board of Adjustment and Appeals:

Exclusive authority to hear, and decide, appeals and review any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by the Zoning Administrator regarding administration of Land Use Ordinance.

Extension Committee: Determines needs of the County and recommends program implementation to fulfill the goals of the people of the County and of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

HRA/EDA Board: Provides programs and opportunities to expand and enhance economic development opportunities in Renville County and coordinates and administers two federal housing programs (Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) and Public Housing).

Lake Allie ESSD Advisory Council: Study and make recommendations to County Board on amendments to Lake Allie Environmental Subordinate Service District Wastewater Collection System Ordinance.

Parks and Trails Committee: Study, report, and make recommendations to County Board on amendments to Park Ordinance and Parks and Trails Plan.

Personnel Board of Appeals: Hear appeals of applicants, employees, or appointing authority in certain circumstances and make findings of fact and report to the County Board.

Planning Commission: Study, report, and make recommendations to County Board on amendments to Land Use Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan.

Purpose

Advisory boards and committees bring the community perspective, provide advice, and/or make recommendations to the County Board on various issues and topics. Boards and committees do not establish county or department policy, determine budget or resource allocations, or direct the operations of a department.

Prospective Candidates and Vacancies

Residents and representatives are encouraged to apply and participate. All prospective candidates are required to submit an application, which can be found on the County website at www.renvillecountymn.gov – About Us – County Committee Application.

Appointments, and reappointments, are approved by the County Board. Committee members are eligible for per diems (currently \$55 or \$65 per meeting) and mileage reimbursement based on the current IRS rate.

Questions? Contact the Renville County Administration Office at 320-523-3710.

Bidding Farewell to Cindy Grosklags and Reflecting on 30+ Years of Service in Renville County Human Services



Cindy Grosklags

After more than three decades of service to Renville County, Cindy Grosklags has stepped into retirement. Her journey with Renville County Human Services started as a Social Services Supervisor and concluded in the role of Human Services Director. Her leadership and dedication have left a permanent mark on the County's Human Services landscape.

Career Highlights: Advocating for the Underserved

Reflecting on her career, one of the highlights was identifying Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding as a key resource for improving housing for individuals with developmental disabilities. Working with a nonprofit provider, she assisted in securing grants to build two new homes in Bird Island and Olivia, plus two duplexes in Olivia; providing much-needed housing for those with disabilities. Cindy also worked with the former Administrator of Renville Health Services, prompting application for HUD funding that led to construction of an income-based senior apartment building in Renville. These efforts not only improved the quality of life for many but also demonstrated the power of teamwork and perseverance.

After PrimeWest Health's County-Based Purchasing Program was established, Cindy worked closely with Cindy Firme, Renville County's Public Health Nurse Supervisor, on the Public Health / Human Services PrimeWest Supervisory Committee to establish a Care Coordination Program for people over the age of 65, helping to address the unique needs of older residents.

Overcoming Challenges: Adapting to Change

One of the greatest challenges during Cindy's career was navigating the constantly evolving service program requirements. As regulations became more prescriptive, it often limited the flexibility to provide individualized care, particularly in rural Minnesota where resources can be scarce. However, these challenges spurred growth and led to her advocacy for change. Cindy's advice to those

facing similar hurdles is to become an active advocate for the people they serve, collaborate with regional and state organizations, and be unafraid to pursue necessary changes.

Valued Colleagues and Leaders

Throughout her career, Cindy most appreciated working with trustworthy, team-oriented colleagues who were supportive, respectful, and open to different perspectives. These relationships were key to overcoming challenges and achieving success. As for leaders, those with vision and a willingness to take on new challenges were the most inspiring to Cindy.

Changes in Work Culture: Progress and Challenges

During her time in Human Services, one of the most significant changes was the deinstitutionalization of people with developmental disabilities, mental health disorders, physical disabilities, and the elderly. This shift led to the development of community resources aimed at meeting individual needs. While much progress has been made, Cindy also noted that deinstitutionalization sometimes occurred without sufficient community resources to support those in need, making ongoing advocacy crucial.

Looking Forward to Retirement

Though no concrete plans are in place, Cindy looks forward to a new chapter filled with potential travel and relaxation. As she steps away from her long-standing role, she leaves with a deep appreciation for the relationships formed and the work accomplished.

A Farewell Message

In her parting words, Cindy expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work alongside so many dedicated individuals. *"I would like to thank all Renville County employees for the work they do to make Renville County a better place for our citizens, especially our Human Services employees,"* she shared. She also extended thanks to the County Board of Commissioners for their support and advocacy over the years. *"I am honored to have worked alongside so many others working to serve our community."* Cindy concluded.

Join us in wishing Cindy the best as she embarks on her new retirement journey!



JOIN OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS

Show support for veterans by lighting your home or business **green** from November 4 - 11. By shining a green light, we aim to let Veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported!

#OperationGreenLight for Veterans | www.naco.org



YOU Can Make a Difference: Become a Restorative Justice Volunteer Today!



Restorative Justice is a fundamental change in approach when working to repair damages caused from crimes or wrongdoings within a community. This is not only a restorative philosophy but a way of life that emphasizes the need to restore

the relationships harmed in these situations.

What is a Circle? The Circle process is an intentional way of gathering and organizing effective group communication, building relationships, establishing accountability, problem solving, and healthy decision making. As a group, members work with the family or individual to determine what they can do to repair the harm they have caused by the circumstances that brought them to Circle. While in Circle, participants and volunteers discuss what is going well, any current concerns or worries, and potential next steps to restore the situation that brings them there.

This is a great way to get involved with people in your community or the one down the road. **The need for connection, support, and mentoring continues to grow as evidenced by the times we are in.** With that comes the reality that the number of youth and families in need of extra

"It is so worth your time volunteering with Restorative Justice! We work as a team creating a safe circle of adults that they (the participants) can be responsible to and receive support from. One caring adult can make a big difference in a child's life, which is really what it's all about."

- Restorative Justice Volunteer

support is certainly not declining. Your time and willingness to listen to someone's life story and share the lessons learned from your own can make a difference that neither one of you would have ever imagined possible.

Do you have two hours every other week to spare to participate in conversations and mentoring of folks that are awaiting your support? If this sparks something within you, please don't be afraid to reach out and ask more questions or visit the Restorative Justice Department page at www.renvillecountymn.gov.

If you are interested in volunteering to support families in your community, please contact Andrew Peltz, Restorative Justice Coordinator, at andrew.peltz@renvillecountymn.gov or 320-522-1573 for more information.

REAL ID is REALLY Happening: Get Ready Now



While the federal government gave us some breathing room, the new deadline for REAL ID will be here before you know it. Our Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS)

division is encouraging you to get ready now and beat the rush.

You've got until May 7, 2025, to get a REAL ID-compliant license. When the deadline hits, Minnesotans, and the rest of U.S. travelers, won't be able to use their standard driver's license to fly within the U.S. or visit some federal buildings. Instead, they will need to have a REAL ID-compliant license or a federal passport.

"Minnesotans need to know: REAL ID is going to happen. Get yours now and avoid the possibility of waiting in long lines before the May deadline," said DVS Director Pong Xiong. *"You only need to apply for it once, and then renewing after that is easy."*

The most important part of getting a REAL ID is having the right documents to prove your identity and residency.

You need one document proving your identity, date of birth, and legal U.S. presence, and two documents proving your Minnesota residence.

The documents must be original. DVS cannot accept:

- Photocopies
- Scanned images
- Faxed images
- Digital images on a cell phone or other electronic device
- Laminated documents

The name on those documents must match the name on the application. If you've changed your name for any reason, you'll need to bring proof of each name change from your birth to present day.

Examples of acceptable proof include certified copies of:

- Marriage certificate
- Divorce decree or dissolution of marriage
- Adoption decree
- Court-ordered name change

Shave off time at your office visit by pre-applying online at drive.mn.gov. The mobile-friendly web application includes the options to upload documents, so DVS can verify you have the right documents. It also lets you receive your REAL ID driver's license or ID card in 7-10 business days.



ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH...

- A PORTION OF A HOUSEHOLD'S UTILITY BILLS
- DISCONNECTION NOTICES
- HEATING SYSTEM REPAIR FOR HOMEOWNERS
- ADDITIONAL CRISIS FUND



Scan QR code to complete an application.

ASISTENCIA ENERGÉTICA

PROPORCIONA ASISTENCIA FINANCIERA CON...

- UNA PARTE DE LAS FACTURAS DE SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS DE UN HOGAR
- AVISOS DE DESCONEXIÓN
- REPARACIÓN DEL SISTEMA DE CALEFACCIÓN PARA PROPIETARIOS DE VIVIENDAS
- FONDO DE CRISIS ADICIONAL



Escanee el código QR para completar una solicitud.



EOE/AA/ADA

For information, contact United Community Action Partnership in Renville County at:

Para obtener información, póngase en contacto con United Community Action Partnership en el Condado de Renville:

1635 W Lincoln Ave, Olivia, MN 56277 | 320-523-1842 | email: assistancerequest@unitedcapmn.org



DROP OFF LOCATIONS:

BIRD ISLAND
Our Saviors Lutheran Church
St. Mary's Catholic Church

BUFFALO LAKE
CenBank Buffalo Lake

DANUBE
MinnWest Bank

FAIRFAX
Frandsen Bank & Trust

FRANKLIN
Franklin State Bank

HECTOR
Olivia Hospital & Clinic

OLIVIA
Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church
FM Bank
Grace Community Church
HomeTown Bank
Olivia Hospital & Clinic
St. Aloysius Catholic Church

RENVILLE
First Security Bank
Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
Olivia Hospital & Clinic



RENVILLE COUNTY COAT COLLECTION FOR KIDS!

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW OR GENTLY USED
WINTER OUTERWEAR

SIZES NEEDED FOR AGES 0 - 18

DONATE
OCTOBER 1ST - 31ST
cash donations also accepted



1635 W LINCOLN AVE, SUITE 3 | OLIVIA, MN
(320) 523-1842 Option 3

EOE/AA/ADA



RENVILLE COUNTY COMMUNITIES

Do you need a winter coat or warm winter gear?

¿Necesita un abrigo de invierno o ropa abrigada de invierno?

UCAP MAY BE ABLE TO HELP!

Children Coat Sizes are Available
*Limited adult coat sizing may be available.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN:**

Call: (320) 523-1842 Option 3
Email: JEAND@UNITEDCAPMN.ORG

SIZES & SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED
Seasonal Coats Available Year-Round

EOE/AA/ADA

Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Board: Community Health Assessment

Top 10 Health Priorities

Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Board is excited to present our completed Community Health Assessment! Along with our completed Community Health Assessment (CHA), we've also selected a list of our top 10 health priorities for communities.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Kandiyohi-Renville
Community Health Board

The CHA is a customary practice and core function of public health. This data compilation and trend analysis has been done over the past few years by a Kandiyohi-Renville performance management team, called KaRe to Achieve. After data analysis through the CHA and community input from our Community Call to Action meetings, which were held in June of this year, a final selection of our top 10 issues was determined by the Kandiyohi-Renville CHB. These 10 priority community health concerns are submitted to the Minnesota Department of Health every five years.

OUR TOP 10 COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES ARE:



Access to Care

Access to care is difficult for general, mental, and dental health.



Adolescent Health

Sexual activity, bullying, and substance use among students.



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

ACEs are negative experiences that shape lifelong health.



Aging Population

The state of our population and unique challenges that lie ahead due to general aging trends.



Childcare Access

Access to childcare from in-home providers to licensed centers.



Chronic Disease

Diseases such as high blood pressure, asthma and diabetes, which are chronic diseases that can last a lifetime.



Food Security

The ability for people to find healthy and nutrient-dense foods.



Housing Stability

Stability and affordability of renting and owning.



Mental Well-Being

Effects of mental health difficulties are related to the majority of health issues.



Substance Use

Consumption and purchasing of illicit and legal recreational substances by our general and student population.

Next steps: We will present the selected Top 10 Priorities to the Kandiyohi-Renville Community Leadership Team, who will help to further prioritize two to four health focuses. We will then continue to work with community partners to implement a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which helps guide programs, services, priorities, and partnerships in the next five years.

Want to start a family child care business, but doing care in your own home is a barrier?

Have you ever considered starting a family child care business, but doing care in your own home is a barrier? Renville County is exploring the idea of hosting a new family child care location in the City of Renville, using the Special Family Child Care (POD) Model. If you are someone looking to make a difference in children's lives, and are interested in operating your own business, this could be the opportunity you've been waiting for.

Learn more by adding your name to the list of interested potential child care providers online at <https://forms.gle/ECs3wpY4uN18juwr7> or call Stefanie Ryan in the County Administration Office at 320-523-3592.

LIVE AT HOME



WORK AT YOUR CHILD CARE "HOME"

Take Root in Soil Health

- Submitted by Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District



On the evening of August 28th, without a cloud in the sky, a small portion of Renville County soils were hit with an inch and a half of rain. The root cause of this torrential storm? The Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) at their answer plot in Wang Township! (See event photos to the right.)

These plots aren't your average seed, chemical, or nutrient test-based plots. Rather, the plot focuses on the soil health characteristics and economics of regenerative agriculture (think no-till and strip-till) and conventional agriculture.

With the help of partners*, the SWCD simulated the rainstorm on a soil tray of long-term no-till, first-year no-till, and conventional tillage. Once the rain had passed, SWCD staff showed attendees of all ages the difference in soil texture, water infiltration, and runoff between all three management styles found at the plots.

You might be asking, "What tray of soil was the clear winner for my wallet and the environment?" As shown in the images to the right, the three buckets had varying amounts and colors of water. Both no-till treatments infiltrated most of the water into the buckets below and left a chocolate-cake like soil at the bottom of the tray. The conventional till treatment had a bone-dry bucket and powdery soil at the bottom of the soil tray, indicating that little to no water infiltrated the conventional soil.

No matter if it's a wet 2024 or dry 2023 growing season, soil health practices can help improve a soil's water infiltration and reduce soil erosion and the nutrients that go with it.



**Partners include Hawk Creek Watershed Project, Chippewa SWCD, Kandiyohi SWCD, Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment, National Wildlife Federation, and General Mills*

Soil Health = Net Profit

Are you interested in soil health practices, but you aren't quite sure where to start or how to turn a profit? Have you implemented soil health practices on your land, but want to take it to the next level?

Please join the Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District at the Renville Community Center on Friday, December 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

At this meeting, you will listen to how growers, new and seasoned, have learned how to grow their bottom line with soil health practices. Meet equipment vendors, seed dealers, financial institutions, farmer-led support groups, government entities, and local growers like you!



Scan the QR code above and sign up for text and/or email alerts from the Renville SWCD about meetings, field days, and programs!

www.renvilleswcd.com

Phone: 320-523-1559

2025 Renville County Budget
Proposed at \$47,443,483

2025 Preliminary Levy: \$18,462,575
(5.01% increase from 2024)

HRA/EDA Preliminary Levy: \$320,364
(9.0% increase from 2024).
The Housing and Redevelopment Authority and Economic Development Authority has a separate levy.

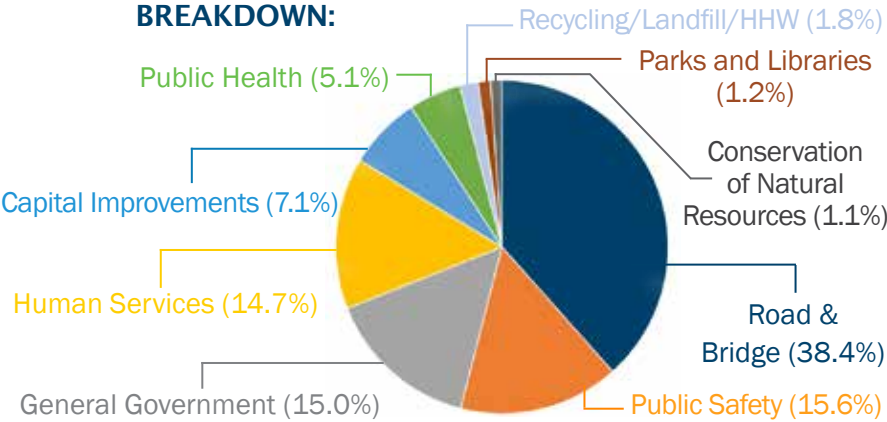
2024 Revenue Sources

Renville County's funding comes from a variety of federal, state, and local revenues and service fees.



- Agricultural Property Taxes (28.8%)
- Non-Agricultural Property Taxes (5.9%)
- State Aid (37.8%)
- Federal Grants (11.8%)
- Fees (5.6%)
- Miscellaneous (10.1%)

THE \$47.4 MILLION
BREAKDOWN:



Renville County Board of Commissioners
BUDGET MEETING



Thursday, December 12, at 6:00 p.m.



In-Person: Renville County Government Services Center
105 - 5th Street South, Suite 313, Olivia, Minnesota



Virtual: www.renvillecountymn.gov
(Find meeting link under Agenda/Minutes on the homepage.)

Renville County Property Tax Portal

Renville County recently launched a new property tax portal that provides a range of information related to real estate taxes and property details. This portal can be found on Renville County's website at www.renvillecountymn.gov on the department pages of the Assessor and Auditor-Treasurer. The portal is FREE for the public to use!

In order to search the portal, you will need to know one of the following items related to the information you wish to find:	Some common types of information you can find in the portal include:
• Name	• Property Tax, Parcel, and Value Information
• Parcel ID	• Special Assessments
• E911 Address	• Past Sales Information
• Section-Township-Range	• Appraisal Summary

You can also pay for property taxes directly from the portal. If you have questions on the new portal or your property taxes, contact the Renville County Assessor's Office at 320-523-3645 or assessors@renvillecountymn.gov.

County Assessor's Office
320-523-3645
www.renvillecountymn.gov

Tax Web

Parcel #: 01-07914-00 As Of: Sep 17, 2024

Dashboard Parcel Info Tax Info Value Info Assessments Tax Summary Sales Appraisal Summary Pay Taxes Online

Parcel Information

Taxpayer

Asmt: 2023 Pay: 2024

Parcel # 40791
RENVILLE COUNTY
105 5TH ST S
OLIVIA MN 56277

Property Address

Legal

Street Addr: SEC 28 & 29 32 & 33 CR 71

Re/Mh: REAL ESTATE

MP: 01-07914-00

Sect/Town/Range: 28/113/33

Township/City: 1 - BANDON TOWNSHIP

School District: 2754 - CEDAR MOUNTAIN PUBLIC SCH

Tax Information

Overview

Payable Year

2024

2023

2022

Property Class 1

570 OTHER PROPERTIES

570 OTHER PROPERTIES

570 OTHER PROPERTIES

Est Market Value

0

0

0

Taxable Value

0

0

0

Spec Asmt

0.00

0.00

0.00

Total

0.00

0.00

0.00

Value Information

General

Asmt: 2024 Pay: 2025

PCL #

01-07914-00

Taxpayer

RENVILLE COUNTY

Class

570 OTHER PROPERTIES

MP#

01-07914-00

Homestead

0 NON HOMESTEAD

Market/Taxable

Miscellaneous

Land

0 0

Deeded Acres

0.00

Build

0 0

Till Acres

0.00

Exclusion

-0

Total MKT

0 0

CPI

0.00

GA Land

0 0

Build Site

0 0

House/Gar

0 0

Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF): Kathy Wehking Completes Six Years of Board Service with SWIF

- Submitted by the Southwest Initiative Foundation

Kathy Wehking of Hector is retiring from the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) Board of Directors following six years of service. Wehking started her term in 2018, drawing from her experience as an educator, community leader, and farmer. She served on the Foundation's Investment Committee, Development Committee, and Evaluation and Measurement Task Force.

"Kathy's knowledge of the ag sector, which is core to southwest Minnesota, has been of tremendous value as we think about our investments and our programs. She has an unwavering passion for rural, and she has championed the smallest of our small towns," said SWIF President Scott Marquardt. *"We're thankful for Kathy's constant presence, curiosity, and willingness to take risks and learn alongside us."*

The SWIF Board of Directors is a governing board that ensures the organization fulfills its mission of connecting people, investing in ideas, and building communities in southwest Minnesota. This volunteer board sets strategy, manages resources, and promotes the foundation's work.

Together with fellow board members, Wehking led the organization through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. During her service, SWIF accelerated its investments to support access to quality, affordable child care; launched Welcoming Week and the Growing Local: Emerging Leaders Program; and leveraged connections and expertise to ensure relief and recovery funding flowed into the region's businesses and communities.

"My greatest joy as a board member has been the foundation's role in helping people take care of their communities and witnessing the incredible work they're doing," Wehking said. *"I also enjoyed getting acquainted with many different places in our region. Sometimes it feels like we're undiscovered; it's been amazing to see all the things that can and are being done in southwest Minnesota."*

In honor of her service, Wehking directed a \$600 grant from SWIF to support Little Stangs Learning Center in Buffalo Lake. As part of the Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart School District, the center provides early care and education for kids from birth to preschool.

"Receiving the grant is going to help Little Stangs Learning Center supply the much-needed curriculum, art, and learning materials to teachers for the kiddos in their care so they can keep providing high quality early childhood education," said Little Stangs Director Desiree Becker. *"We are so thankful for our ongoing relationship with SWIF and that Kathy chose us as her nominee."*

Early care and education is a cause close to Wehking's heart as a retired educator. She also values the economic benefit child care provides in terms of supporting parents in the local workforce.

"When people are considering moving to our community for a job, they want to know what kind of child care options we have. By investing in Little Stangs, we're not only supporting families but also fostering a thriving town and business environment," Wehking said. *"The community's involvement in this project has been inspiring, and the staff do a great job caring for, and teaching, our young kids."*

In addition to Wehking, Willmar community members Abdirizak Mahboub and Patricia Dols are retiring from the foundation board. Current board members are chair Christie Hantge, Hutchinson; vice chair Dan Greve, Worthington; secretary Terry Gaalswyk, Worthington; treasurer Tom Brakke, Deephaven; Erica Volkir, Pipestone; and Theresa Zaske, Balaton.



Photo (L to R): Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) staff Missy Maiers with her son, Jayden; Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart Schools Superintendent Joel Baumgarten; Little Stangs Learning Center Director Desiree Becker; outgoing SWIF board member Kathy Wehking; and SWIF staff Scott Marquardt and Nancy Kaping.



About Southwest Initiative Foundation:

SWIF is a nonprofit community foundation connecting people, investing in ideas, and building communities to create a southwest Minnesota where all people thrive. Since its founding in 1986, SWIF has distributed more than \$115 million through its grantmaking and business finance programs. Learn more at [swifoundation.org](https://www.swifoundation.org).

2025 Solid Waste Special Assessment Dollars: How Are They Used?

- Submitted by the Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority



The Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority (RRRSWA) uses solid waste special assessment dollars to

provide services to manage and promote sustainable waste practices. (Your solid waste special assessment is located on your tax statement, listed as "Environmental Assessment.")

Here's how these dollars are used:

Operating a Multi-County Recycling Program:

Employ both County and contracted laborers to collect, load, and transport over 5,200 tons of recyclable materials annually, achieving a curbside recycling collection rate of more than 50% in Redwood and Renville Counties.

Operating Facilities and Services:

- **Multi-County Transfer Facilities:** Manage Municipal Solid Waste, Demolition, and Recycling Transfer Facilities, along with a separately located Demolition Landfill Facility. These facilities cater to both commercial and residential haulers, transporting nearly 16,000 tons of County-produced garbage and demolition materials annually to area landfills, in addition to management of 3,600 tons of on-site demolition waste each year.
- **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facilities:** These facilities, located at the Renville County Demolition Landfill (Olivia) and the Redwood County HHW (Redwood Falls), allow residents to safely dispose of all types of household hazardous waste materials such as used oil, unusable flammable fuels, fluorescent/LED bulbs, paints, stains, home/agriculture chemicals, batteries, and more. These facilities also feature a "product exchange room" where residents can find, and reuse, good household items for free.

Additional Facility Services/Programs Include:

- Daily residential and commercial deposit locations for recycling, demolition debris, and garbage.
- Free document destruction for residents (small fee for businesses).
- Free scrap metal disposal at the RRRSWA and Renville County Landfill.
- Mattress recycling (collection and transportation services).
- Recycling of holiday lights and electrical cords at yearly/seasonal drop sites.
- County sponsored bi-yearly tire recycling event for Renville County residents, and disposal throughout the year for Renville and Redwood County residents at the Renville County Demolition Landfill.
- Sale of backyard compost bins (while supplies last).
- Pop bottle recycling bins at gas stations countywide.
- Provide recycling trailers/bins for town celebrations, sporting events, and at County parks.
- Educational programs on recycling and solid waste management through various media channels for citizens, haulers, and contractors.
- Assist co-ops and citizens with empty pesticide container disposal information and options.

Support for City/Resident/Business Needs:

- Centralized contact for solid waste inquiries, disposal information, and hauler details.
- Manage and service twenty-six (26) rural/urban residential recycling sites across Redwood and Renville Counties.
- Inspections and coordination for residential and commercial demolition disposals.
- Assist with MPCA Permit by Rule Applications by providing paperwork/guidance/site inspections.
- Tax forfeited parcel review and inspections.
- Host collection events for electronic waste and appliances from April through October in Redwood and Renville Counties.

Questions? Call the Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority at 320-523-8002.

A Recycling Message from Your Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority

In an effort to reduce litter in and around our rural recycling sites, Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority has installed bars and locking pins that are designed to hold the lids closed, especially in times of high wind. If you use a rural recycling bin, please replace the bars and pins to help keep our rural County recycling sites litter-free.

Please help us by raising the bar!



Photo Left: Cathy Einerson, Summer Landfill Worker, and Bob Haney, RRRSWA Mechanic/Fabricator, worked hard this summer to fabricate and install the lock bars and pins on all of the rural recycling dumpsters throughout Renville and Redwood Counties.

2025 Renville County Curbside Recycling

- Bird Island - Renville - Sacred Heart

Danube - Olivia

Holiday - No Service
(Remainder of the week
will be a day later)
- Buffalo Lake - Fairfax - Hector

Franklin - Morton (RF Zone 1)



RRSWA:
(320) 523-8002
(507) 637-1800

PLEASE KEEP AND POST



SCAN ME
 with your smartphone
 camera or QR Code app
 for more information
 on what can or cannot
 be recycled

**Remember to have
 your carts to the curb
 no later than 6:30am**

Do NOT Recycle:

Plastic Bags/Film Plastic:

Purchase and utilize reusable grocery bags, ask for paper, or have your groceries loaded loosely into your cart. If you have recycling items in a plastic bag, empty recyclable items into recycling container and place plastic bag in the garbage. Do **NOT** place bags or other film plastic into your recycling container.

Shredded Paper: Please utilize our shredding service, which is **FREE** for personal papers and a nominal fee for businesses. If you shred your own paper, please bag it and bring it to the office located at the Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority in Redwood Falls.



Good Neighbors You've Come To Trust

4089 Abbott Drive | P.O. Box 796
 Willmar, MN 56201
 Phone: 1-800-246-7630
www.wcsanitation.com

January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025
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September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025
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SW MN SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

WHAT WE DO

Helping you work on your business, not just in your business.

- Business and strategic plan development
- Access to capital and loan packaging assistance
- Financial analysis and assessment
- Accounting systems and financial literacy
- Feasibility analysis and start-up assistance

Confidential, no-cost consulting from business experts and affordable training in:

- Technology and Innovation
- Human Resources
- Operations
- Business Model Development
- Loan Packaging
- Expansion
- Financial Analysis
- Exporting
- Franchising
- Strategic Planning
- Marketing Plan
- Leadership Development
- Government Contracting



HOW WE HELP Improve ...

- competitiveness
- business skills
- sales and pro tips
- Minnesota's economy

HOW DO I EMPOWER MY BUSINESS?

- Sign up for services
- Meet with a consultant
- Attend training
- Plan and set goals
- Start on your path to success



www.sbdccassistance.com
sbdc@smsu.edu 507-537-7386



County Directory:	Phone:
Administration	320-523-3710
Assessor	320-523-3645
Attorney	320-523-2661
Auditor/Treasurer	320-523-2071
Court Administrator	320-523-3680
Court Services/Probation	320-400-0711
Economic Development Authority	320-523-3656
Emergency Management	320-523-3838
Environmental Services	320-523-3768
Extension (4-H)	320-523-3713
Driver and Vehicle Services	320-523-3612
HRA (Housing Programs)	507-637-4004
Human Services	320-523-2202 or 800-363-2533
Landfill/Solid Waste	320-523-1144
Parks	320-523-3747
Public Health Services	320-523-2570
Public Works	320-523-3759
Recorder	320-523-3669
RRRSWA / Solid Waste / Household Hazardous Waste	320-523-8002 or 507-637-1800
Restorative Justice	320-523-3871
Sheriff	320-523-1161
Veterans Services	320-523-3763



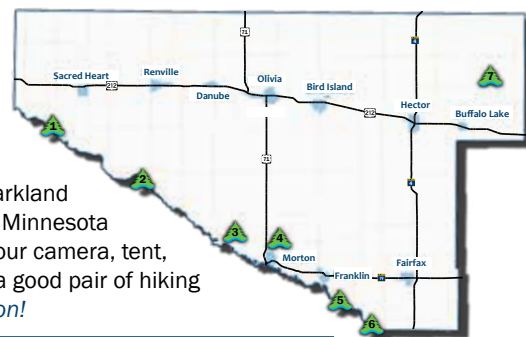
RENVILLE COUNTY

Learn more: www.renvillecountymn.gov

MORE THAN EXPECTED!

Whether you choose to visit for a day or stay for a lifetime, you will discover **"More Than Expected"** in Renville County!

Visit 1,300 acres of County parkland located along the banks of the Minnesota River. You may want to bring your camera, tent, canoe, binoculars, horse, and a good pair of hiking shoes. *We hope to see you soon!*



320-523-3747

ParksDept@renvillecountymn.gov



Renville COUNTY
Service - Stewardship - Shared Responsibility
HRA/EDA

320-523-3656

EDA@renvillecountymn.gov



Renville County Parks

Renville County Housing & Economic Development

PARK LEGEND:

- 1 - Skalbekken
- 2 - Vicksburg
- 3 - Beaver Falls
- 4 - Birch Coulee
- 5 - Anderson Lake
- 6 - Mack Lake
- 7 - Lake Allie

Low-Interest Loan Programs for Well and Septic Improvements

Renville County administers low-interest loan programs to assist property owners with upgrading or replacing a failing septic system and/or for repairing or replacing a damaged or contaminated well.

Loan terms are seven years for septs and 10 years for wells with an interest rate of 3%. This loan amount is added to property taxes as a special assessment with payment due twice a year along with property taxes.



A full listing of guidelines is available at renvillecountymn.gov or by contacting Environmental Services at 320-523-3768 or ES@renvillecountymn.gov.

we're hiring

Renville COUNTY
Service - Stewardship - Shared Responsibility

Service – Stewardship – Shared Responsibility
If our values are your values, **COME WORK WITH US!**

Renville County is hiring for a variety of positions! Current job openings can be found by selecting "Job" under the "How do I?" tab at renvillecountymn.gov

Questions? Contact Andee Unruh, Employee Relations Specialist
320-523-3710 | employment@renvillecountymn.gov

Courthouse
500 East DePue Avenue
Olivia, MN 56277

Government Services Center
105 - 5th Street South
Olivia, MN 56277

Landfill
32877 Co Rd 4
Olivia, MN 56277

RRRSWA
907 West Bridge Street
Redwood Falls, MN 56283



Renville COUNTY
Service - Stewardship - Shared Responsibility

105 - 5th Street South
Olivia, MN 56277

Phone: 320-523-3710

Email: lisa.herges@renvillecountymn.gov

Web: www.renvillecountymn.gov

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