

- ◆ Northern Economics: pg. 2
- ◆ The Arts Thrive in Fosston: pg. 3
- ◆ From the Principal's Desk: pg.4
- ◆ First Care in Top 10%: pg. 5
- ◆ Internet Directory: pg. 7
- ◆ Fosston History 101: pg. 9
- ◆ Grapes on the Comeback Trail: pg. 10



Fosston...A Place To Enjoy Nature!

By Dean Vikan



The northern lights dance in the sky near Fosston
Photo by Bill Stenberg

Jim Richardson, a renowned photographer featured in *National Geographic*, said that over 80% of the world's population will never see the Milky Way. Why? Because of light pollution. If Jim is correct, then we in northern Minnesota are among the lucky 20% blessed with a stunning view of the Milky Way on any clear moonless night – another measure of the quality of life in Fosston, Minnesota. Following are some nature activities that make

Fosston's quality of life a major draw for bringing people back home.

Hunting

Northwest Minnesota offers a variety of hunting opportunities from big game (deer, elk and bear) to upland game birds and waterfowl.

Deer hunting in the area around Fosston is probably
(Continued on page 8)

Fosston's Industrial Park has been an important economic engine for the City. The City fathers probably didn't know just what an important role it would play in keeping the community viable. Michelle Landsverk, Fosston Economic Development Director, points out, "Fosston has become a real 'hub' community, providing essential products and services, not only to Fosston, but also to many of the surrounding small towns." Being located right along major U.S. Highway 2, almost equally distant from the larger towns of Crookston, Bemidji, Thief River Falls and Detroit Lakes has given Fosston a strategic, geographic advantage. Michelle emphasizes that "more and more, Fosston's economy is thriving—the industries are diverse, balanced and growing."

Before the Industrial Park had the "Industrial Park" label, there was one business the old timers remember as the 'Land 'O Lakes milk dehydrating plant' on U.S. Highway 2. It dates back to the '50s and remained a milk drying plant for many years. During this time, the local dairy business also included the Fosston Creamery, a separate building closer to the center of town and long since out of the dairy business (in fact, it was demolished just a few years ago).

In more recent times, the Land 'O Lakes building was occupied by Northern Food and Dairy—a food processing company dealing primarily in honey and

molasses products. SunOpta bought out Northern Food & Dairy several years ago and currently occupies the building.

It was during the 1980s that 14 acres were purchased by the City immediately to the north of the 'Land 'O Lakes' building. This area was designated as the Fosston Industrial Park with the necessary infrastructure to accommodate new industries. The Polk County Solid Waste Resource Recovery Plant (Incinerator), Stenberg Welding & Fabricating, and Don's Machine Shop filled the initial 14 acres of the new Industrial Park.

In 1987, the City bought another 26 acres to the north of the initial purchase and again installed the necessary infrastructure as an expansion of the Industrial Park. Minnesota Dehydrated Vegetables, Inc. and Specialty Products & Technologies, Inc now occupy essentially all of this new industrial park acreage.

Finally, in 2005, the City bought a 53-acre tract of land for future industrial expansion located



With their own in-house laboratory testing, MDV's products are microbiologically tested and graded. State of the art equipment assures the highest quality product.

between the existing Industrial Park and the Fosston Airport along U.S. Highway 2.

While the City has made significant financial investments

(Continued on page 6)

About this publication:

This newsletter is a publication of the **Fosston STAR Committee**, on behalf of the City of Fosston. The **STAR Committee** is dedicated to the promotion and advancement of the City of Fosston, providing assistance to the City and various community organizations to enhance their vitality.

STAR Committee members: Andrea Anderson, Dustin Carlson, Eileen Hegg, Leah Hemmingsen, Dan Kindall, Michelle Landsverk, Greg Mireault, Jim Sears and Laurel Skala. Please direct any comments to Michelle Landsverk, 218-435-2834 or michelle@michellelandsverk.com.

Special Thanks to all who contributed to this issue: Eileen Hegg, Rick Mollin, Bill Stenberg, John Strom, Dean Vikan and Kim Wilson.

The Arts Thrive in Fosston

By Kim Wilson

Nearly 30 years ago, a group of forward thinking citizens led a movement to purchase the former Bethel Assembly Church at the corner of Foss Avenue and Fourth Street to establish a permanent home for the Fosston Public Library. The library had been in existence for many decades and had been re-located throughout the community several times up to that point.

The Fosston Community Library and Arts Association (FCLAA), a 501(C) 3 organization, was formed and purchased the art deco style building. That move provided a performing arts center in the former church sanctuary, while the library and a gallery wall were located in the basement of the building.

As the activities of the organization and the use of the public library and building grew, the need for more library space and handicapped accessibility to the theater space became a priority, and in 1999-2000 a building committee was formed.

With contributions from private donors and businesses, the State of Minnesota and the City of Fosston, the much needed renovation and addition to the existing building was completed in the spring of 2003.

New space includes a ground floor public library, the Sorenson Gallery (named for former Fosston High School art teachers, Ric and Bernadette Sorenson) and Meeting Room, a large gathering space and public restrooms. Renovations to the theater space included relocation of the sound & lights booth, the addition of the "Upstairs Gallery" and a handicapped accessible lift to the performing arts space.

The basement area, formerly the public library, has been converted to five music lesson

rooms and three large secured storage areas.

In the past five years, the Fosston Public Library, a member of the Lake Agassiz Regional Library

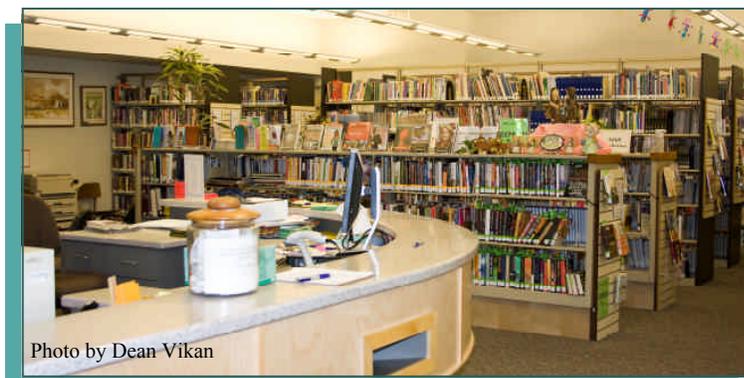


Photo by Dean Vikan

System, has seen its circulation (the number of items "checked out" to patrons) more than double to over 69,500 books and other library materials in 2007. At times, nearly 100 young and adult students are enrolled in private music lessons ranging from voice, to piano, guitar, violin and instrumental music.

The Sorenson Gallery has been home to dozens of art shows featuring local, regional, and nationally recognized artists. Additionally, the theater is home to the annual community theater summer production (this year's production of Charlotte's Web runs during the All School Reunion) and several musical events throughout the year.

The Fosston School District also uses the theater space for its Third Grade Musical, One-Act-Play and Student-Directed-Play performances during the school year.

The organization is governed by a 12-member volunteer board with a deep commitment to the organization, the arts, and the community.



Photo by Dean Vikan

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From the Principal's Desk...

By John Strom

I would like to welcome all the Fosston grads back to the high school during the all-school reunion this summer. When you come into the school, you will quickly realize that our high school is a mix of old and new – this mix can be related to many aspects of our school life in Fosston today.

The Building

The high school is housed in a building that was built in several stages. The old building houses the old library and the old gym. At this point only the gym and storage areas are in use, although discussions have occurred that focus on rehabilitating the upper level for classroom use. The old gym is used for sports practices, games for younger students, concerts (both band and choir), prom as well as a variety of classroom uses both physical and academic – all in all probably not too different from its use prior to the new gym being built in 1996.

The academic wing has stayed pretty much the same since the 1950's when the current format of hallways surrounding an open 'quad' was built. The building has proven to be very durable, though

we are currently looking at updating our Science Labs to more closely match the needs of the 21st century – we are hoping to move forward on this project in the next year.

Finally the new gym area includes the Superintendent's office, gym, change rooms, a weight room and gym storage. This area is in constant use days, evenings and weekends ... so much so that we often have trouble scheduling summer maintenance in this area of the building.

Academics

I am proud of our students. I believe that the education that we provide them is second to none and I would hold our students up for comparison to any group. This is in no small measure because of the teachers, the curriculum and probably most important the parents.

Professionally the staff is outstanding with a good mix of veteran and younger teachers. One of the biggest bonuses is the stability of the staff as the majority of the staff has been



with us for many years.

The curriculum is in constant review. The State of Minnesota has been stressing the inclusion of "College in the Classroom" and our

students are now able to graduate from 12th grade with a full year of college completed. We offer on site college classes in English, Math, Spanish and Biology. In addition on-line

courses include Psychology, Social Problems and Math. If students wish, upper classmen can be "dual" enrolled – with a local college and Fosston High School. In this case the student can attend classes at the college either full or part time and get credit from both institutions at the same time.

This is just a small sampling of how education in Fosston is evolving. We strive for a healthy mix of the traditional as well as the new and innovative. Naturally we will continue in our efforts to give the best education possible to all Fosston students.

"I am proud of our students. I believe that the education that we provide them is second to none and I would hold our students up for comparison to any group."

John Strom,
Fosston High School Principal



Photo by Dean Vikan

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First Care Ranked in Top 10% in Minnesota

By Eileen Hegg

First Care Medical Services in Fosston is changing and evolving with each new day. By continually accessing new technologies and services that will enhance medical care, customer satisfaction is climbing. In today's medical world the click of a mouse can provide diagnostic test results that save valuable minutes and allow timely treatment.

Teleradiology at First Care makes it possible to connect with radiologists at other medical sites who can diagnose in a matter of minutes when necessary. Those speedy test results save valuable minutes and allow timely treatment for diseases such as heart disease, stroke and trauma. Digital mammography is the latest addition at First Care. Digital mammography makes it possible to enhance images and find irregularities in tissue and detect cancer cells much more readily. Telemedicine has the capability of linking First Care to specialists for consultations via the Internet. Modern technology continues to level the playing field

in medical capabilities at First Care.

First Care Medical Services exists to provide and coordinate quality health services to improve the health of people in northwest Minnesota. Patricia Wangler, CEO, reports that the organizational goal is to be in the top 10% on publicly reported quality indicators. "We are happy to report that First Care ranks among the top 10% of Minnesota hospitals of all sizes in the publicly reported indicators of surgery, heart attack and pneumonia," said Wangler. "In addition, First Care's nursing home received a five-star rating from Minnesota's State inspection team and our home health rankings were in the top 10% in the State of Minnesota."

Customers rated First Care's staff in the 86th percentile in the Satisfaction Survey of patients, residents, families and clients. Dan Carlson of rural Fosston recently had a stomach aneurysm that was diagnosed at Innovis Clinic in Fosston with the help of diagnostic equipment at First Care and surgically repaired at Innovis Health in Fargo. "The people in Fosston were on top of it from the time I walked in the door," said Dan Carlson. "They were impressed in Fargo with the preparations that had been made in Fosston to have me ready for surgery and also the speed in which they did it. Just about everything was done in Fosston while they waited for the Life Flight."



Customers rated First Care's staff in the 86th percentile in a satisfaction survey of patients, residents, families and clients.

Comparison information

(Continued on page 6)

"First Care ranks among the top 10% of Minnesota hospitals of all sizes in the publicly reported indicators of surgery, heart attack and pneumonia."

*Patricia Wangler, CEO,
First Care Medical Services*

on quality of care is available on the following websites:

www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

www.health.state.mn.us/nhreportcard

www.homehealthcompare.hhs.gov

Staff is the greatest asset and resource of any organization. First Care Medical Services invests deeply into recruiting and retaining excellent staff, and First Care has reached an 87% retention rate in a staff of over 200. According to Wangler, successes reached at First Care have been accomplished through the dedicated support of the highly skilled staff who are committed to providing the best care and service for hospital and clinic patients, nursing home residents, home health and hospice clients and assisted living tenants.

First Care has experienced a steady growth in the areas of hospital admissions, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, newborns, clinic visits, radiology CT Scans, emergency room visits, ambulance runs, physical, occupational and speech therapy procedures, nursing home days and home health and hospice admissions. Positive satisfaction and quality scores have influenced that growth.

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First Care Ranked in Top 10%, *continued*

(Continued from page 5)

In September 2007, First Care announced the completion of the \$500,000 Capital Campaign to pay for the surgery center. Prior to construction of the surgery center in 2002, 400 procedures were performed annually. Since completion, First Care has added orthopedics, urology and ENT, and the number of procedures has doubled annually. Surgical procedures continue to grow in 2008, and a second anesthetist was recently hired to handle the expanded needs in surgery.

The medical community in Fosston offers a professional career in a relaxed small town atmosphere just a few minutes drive from lakes in all directions, while modern technology connects professionals to the

most talented specialists in the world. For more information about First Care Medical Services, call 218-435-1133 or log on to

www.firstcare.org. First Care Medical Services is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Since completion of the new surgical center, First Care has added orthopedics, urology and ENT, and the number of procedures has doubled annually.

Northern Economics, *continued*

(Continued from page 2)

in land and infrastructure for its Industrial Park, the costs are partially recovered through special assessments when the lots are sold. In addition, state and federal economic development grants covered much of the initial expense.

The first and most important element of economic activity is the \$5.3 million combined annual payroll. Using the rule of thumb that local payrolls cycle seven times through the community equates to an

impressive \$37.1 million in annual business activity. Since almost all products of the industries in the park ship to outside customers, it means that about 96% of the \$5.3 million combined payroll is outside money coming into the community.

Probably the second most important economic factor is the amount of utilities sold to these industries by the City of Fosston. A good example is when natural gas became an option for the City. The deciding factor on

whether the City could pay for the introduction of natural gas was if MDV came on board with a minimum usage rate guaranteed for a certain number of years. Even if all potential residential and retail business users signed up, it would not have been enough to service the City's debt without MDV.

With a combined workforce of about 185, the industrial park is one of Fosston's largest employers. It is a significant asset to the City and its residents.

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Fosston Internet Directory

Want to know what's going on in Fosston? Visit the Community Calendar at www.fosston.com

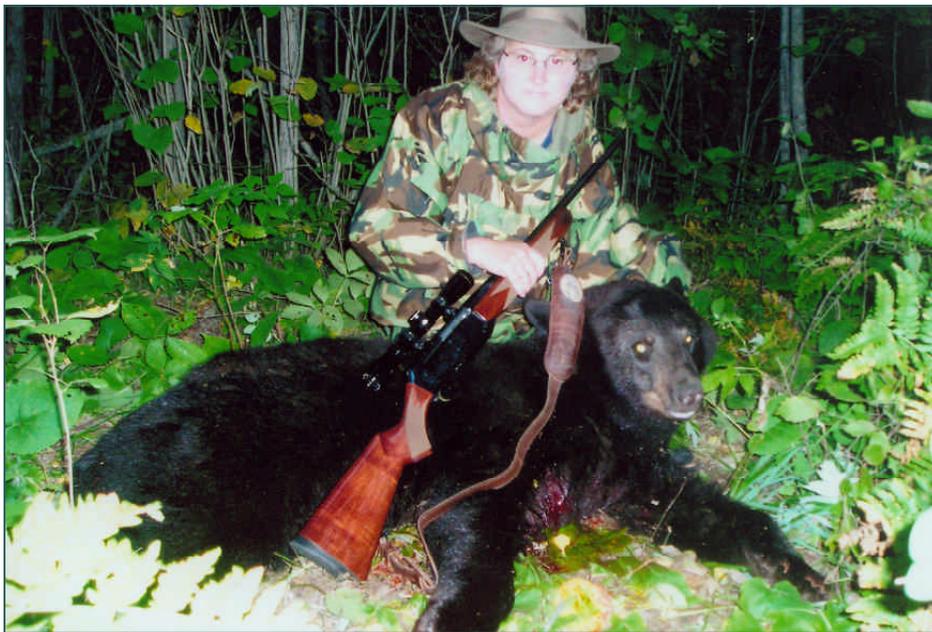


- **American Federal Bank:**
www.americanfederalbank.com
- **Brouse, Woodke & Meyer**
www.pinetoprairiela.com
- **Carlin-Hoialmen Funeral Home**
www.carlinhoialmen.com
- **City of Fosston:**
www.fosston.com
- **Cornerstone Residence:**
www.cornerstoneresidence.com
- **Earthloop of Fosston:**
www.earthloopoffosston.com
- **First Care Medical Services:**
www.firstcare.org
- **First National Bank:**
www.fnbfosston.com
- **Fosston Chiropractic:**
www.fosstonchiro.com
- **Fosston Cooperative Elevator Association:**
www.fosstonelevator.com
- **Fosston Public Schools:**
www.fosston.k12.mn.us/
- **Garden Valley**
www.gvtel.com
- **Haugstul Auto:**
www.haugstulauto.com
- **Hillview Homes:**
www.hillviewhomes.net
- **K's Variety:**
www.kvariety.com (coming soon)
- **Landsverk and Associates, Inc:**
www.michellelandsverk.com
- **LePier's:**
www.lepiers.net
- **Midway Care Center**
www.midwaycarecenter.com
- **Minkota Technologies, Inc:**
www.minkota.com
- **Minnesota Dehydrated Vegetables:**
www.mdvcorp.com
- **Mollin Law Office**
www.mollinlaw.com
- **Overmoe and Nelson, LLP:**
www.overmoeandnelson.com
- **Rosemary's Garden**
www.rosemarygarden.com
- **Skala Stump Grinding:**
www.stumpgrinding.com
- **Sollie Realty:**
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www.specialtyprod.com
- **Stenberg Welding & Fabricating:**
www.swfinc.com
- **Steve's Auto Parts:**
www.stevescarquest.com
- **SummerField Place:**
www.gmmco.org
- **Ultima Bank:**
www.ultimabank.com
- **United Country Realty:**
www.unitedcountry.com/fosstonmn



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A Place To Enjoy Nature, *continued*



(Continued from page 1)

as good as anywhere in the U.S. Special hunts and multi-tag licenses are available. In fact, if you are a landowner, you can take up to 8 deer per person during the season. Normal resident tags will get you up to 5

deer per person per season.

Duck hunting is slowly coming back but geese are plentiful to the point of requiring special hunts where landowners are asked to shoot 20 geese (not for consumption) to thin the population. Each year, the geese seem to get more plentiful.

Turkeys are being introduced and look like they are holding their own so far. Grouse, ruffed and sharp-tail, are always a favorite and numbers have been quite good in recent years.

Fishing

Pan fishing is great in most area lakes which are small enough for 14 – 16 foot boats to be comfortable and safe. Walleyes, the fish of choice for eating most anywhere, is good to excellent. Larger lakes, like Lake of the Woods on the Canadian border (100 miles), Leech lake to the

south east and Lake Winnie to the east in the Chippewa National Forest are traditional walleye “opener” places to go.

Tilberg Park on Cross Lake, 8 miles north, and Spring Lake Park in Lengby are great places to take the family for an afternoon of fishing and picnicking. These parks are kept in excellent condition and can accommodate overnight excursions.

Turtle Lake north of Fosston is the only lake that has restrictions on boating or water sports in the fall because it is designated a “waterfowl resting” lake.

Otherwise, all lakes are open for all activities throughout the year.

Ice fishing is very popular and some trophy northerns have been taken out of area lakes in recent years. Each year in February, the Fosston Area Sportsman’s Club holds an ice fishing derby at Cross Lake providing numerous prizes for



Photo by Dean Vikan



Photo by Bill Stenberg

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every half hour's catch and a good time for young and old alike.

Rydell Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service maintains the Rydell Refuge, a nature park, in the Maple Lake area south of Mentor. The Refuge has over 5 miles of paved trails suitable for wheel chair access, roller-blading, or hiking and a wonderful place to observe wild life and native plants. They also hold special deer hunts - one for kids and another for handicap adults.

Snowmobiling

The Lengby-Fosston Knightriders Snowmobile Club maintains (grooms) many miles of trails in the Fosston-Lengby area which connect with other

club's trails in surrounding areas providing for several hundred miles of great snowmobiling. While some years in the recent past have been short of snowfall, this past season was the best in ten years according to club members. Maps of all trails in the region are available from club officers. On the last weekend in January each year, the Club sponsors two days of snowmobile racing on Sand Hill Lake 5 miles south of Fosston. There are categories that provide racing opportunities for



the whole family – young and old alike.

Fosston Flying Club

What better way to enjoy nature than from the cockpit of an airplane! Fosston's Flying Club has a 1972 Cessna 172L capable of Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) conditions. The membership fee

(Continued on page 12)

Fosston History 101

By Dean Vikan

Fosston has reached a milestone in its history—2008 marks her 125th Anniversary. While there have been many changes over the years, unlike many rural communities that have experienced job losses and school closings, Fosston has enjoyed economic stability for its first 125 years.

Where And When It All Started

The Thirteen Townships in East Polk County (from which the oldest business in Fosston, The Thirteen Towns newspaper, got its name), was closed to

settlement until 1883 because of border disputes with the regional Indian tribes. While the east end of Polk County was closed, settlement continued in the west and began spilling into North Dakota as all the land on the Minnesota side of the Red River of the North filled with settlers. On July 4, 1883, starting from Crookston at the crack of a rifle, the land rush to The Thirteen Towns began. Fosston and East Polk County was settled from the West!

By 1888, the railroad had reached Fosston from the west.

As a rail head until 1898, Fosston blossomed as the jumping off point for loggers to the east, and the major source of supplies for the new homesteads in the area.

Population peaked at about 1704 in 1960, dropped to about 1525 in the 1990 census and rose to 1575 in the 2000 count. While businesses along Highway 2 have changed, there is still a thriving business segment to attract travelers. Fosston and Bagley are the only two towns between Bemidji and Crookston

(Continued on page 11)

Grapes on the Comeback Trail

By Rick Mollin

Grapes aren't new to Minnesota. Wild grapes are found everywhere along our rivers and lakes extending into the Dakotas and parts of Canada. In fact, table grape production developed in this area as early as 1880, growing mostly Concord and Delaware grapes. Early estimates indicate that Minnesota's pioneer grape crop reached its peak in 1900, with production of about 600,000 pounds of grapes. Unfortunately, this early industry soon declined due to the development of transcontinental rail transportation, the resulting economic competition from California vineyards and the severity of local winter temperatures.

Grapes will not grow successfully in this area without special care. European grapes, those widely grown in California, usually are killed at -15 degrees Fahrenheit. Concord grapes, the standard of hardiness in the east, commonly die off at -20 degrees Fahrenheit. Special cultural practices developed to grow cold hardy varieties (released through the University of Minnesota grape breeding program and grape growing pioneer, Elmer Swenson), to the point that they are able to stand

MINNESOTA GRAPE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

boasts a membership of over 800 covering parts of North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin and, of course, Minnesota.

The vineyard of Rick and Cheryl Mollin, taken in 2007



Photo by Rick Mollin

extreme cold hardiness without special winter protection. They combined the cold hardiness with good wine and eating quality and are a dependable choice as new plantings are established.

Widespread interest in growing grapes is emerging not only in Minnesota, but in many cold climates where grape culture has not been traditional. Wineries and vineyards are developing at a rapid pace and demand for locally grown grapes is steadily increasing.

The Minnesota Grape Growers Association (MGGA), boasts a membership of over 800, covering parts of North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin and, of course, Minnesota.

The MGGA is currently conducting a survey to determine the economic impact of grape growing and wine consumption in the region.

The association currently lists 18 Minnesota wineries and 11 commercial vineyards in its membership. The latest survey indicates an additional five or six wineries that are contemplated or in actual construction.

Locally, grape development has touched five entrepreneurs within the region: Pat and Cathy Paquin of Mentor, Warren and Lisa Tvedt of Plummer, Leroy and Carol Stump of Plummer, Dale and Peter Olmstead of Fosston and Rick and Cheryl Mollin of Gonvick. The Stumps also include a winery along with their grape production.

The state of Minnesota is at roughly the same latitude as France. However, France enjoys the presence of the ocean which moderates its climate substantially. Wines of the best quality are usually produced in the hot years of the coolest vitacultural regions, whereas in

(Continued on page 11)

Fosston History 101, *continued*

(Continued from page 9)

(about 90 miles) that still have business sections fronting on U.S. Highway 2.

Fosston has been, and still is, an agricultural community. The major change that has occurred in the agricultural profile over the years is the aggregation of smaller farms into large farms, thereby reducing the farm population. That reduction in population has had some impact on school enrollment and the downtown businesses. You might remember the time when Saturday night was the time to go to town – the stores would stay open late as it was the best time for farmers to get their shopping done. Those farmers are no longer on the scene and Saturday evening in Fosston is a

bit quieter these days.

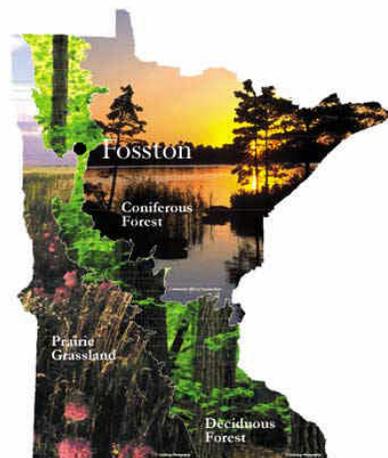
The First Care Medical Services facility added a surgical center and significant modifications to the building layout over the past 5-10 years. Innovis Health, (formerly Dakota Clinic), operates in a cooperative fashion with the hospital and is a major draw for the community.

The industrial park continues to thrive and there is an addition of 53 acres of land recently added to the west for expansion.

Although tourism is not a major part of the community's economy at present, it could definitely play a role in the future. Fosston has the distinction of being located in the center of three major biomes:

Coniferous Forest in the northeast; Deciduous Woods running from southeast to northwest; and Prairie Grasslands in the west.

Because of the diversity of the land and the vegetation, there is a corresponding diversity of wildlife for residents and visitors to enjoy.



Grapes on the Comeback Trail, *continued*

Proper site selection, appropriate land tillage, fencing, trellis construction and an aggressive weed, pest and disease program followed by three or four years of growth typically produces approximately fifteen pounds of grapes per vine, on average.

warm regions the cool years produce the highest quality wines. Winters are cooler and summers are warmer in our continental climate. Local growers need 1,800-2,100

degree days in order to ripen their crop. As a result, the University of Minnesota's enology program has been of inestimable value in creating hybrid grapes suitable for the cold climates.

The investment to bring grapes to maturity and commercial production is substantial. The proper site selection, appropriate land tillage, fencing, trellis construction and an aggressive weed, pest and disease program followed by three or four years of growth typically produces approximately fifteen pounds of grapes per vine, on average. In the

immediate region the local growers have planted approximately nine to ten thousand vines in various stages of development. If all vines matured and produced their average yield, the local growers would generate enough grapes to produce forty-five to fifty thousand bottles of wine.

Locally, the red grape varieties are represented by University of Minnesota releases Marquette and Frontenac, while the white variety is dominated by La Crescent, Frontenac- Gris and Prairie Star.

Grapes, indeed, are on the come back trail.

Fosston...A Place To Enjoy Nature, *continued*

(Continued from page 9)

is \$100 per month which includes 3 hours of flight time. Additional flight time is \$25/hour plus fuel. There is an initial fee to join of \$500 which is payable on a \$50/month basis.

There is instruction available for those interested in a private license. There is a 40 flight hour requirement of which 20 hours will be with the instructor. In addition one must pass a written examination and Class 3 flight physical before the final check ride.

The Fosston airport has a 3500 foot surfaced runway, instrument approaches for IFR flight and automated weather reporting. The pilot's lounge has a computer for online flight planning and filing.

For those who might bring their own plane to Fosston, there is very limited hangar space available for rent and what is available runs about \$70/month. All hangars are privately owned. Fuel is available on a self service credit card basis on site and certified maintenance service is available at Crookston, MN.

Nature Photography

Birds, animals and plants in the confluence of the three biomes offer an almost unlimited number and types of objects to photograph.

Trumpeter swans, pelicans and eagles make great trophy photos and are relatively easy to get, especially in the spring and fall migratory seasons. If you keep alert, you might even see the mysterious 2-headed, 3 – legged trumpeter swan that was

photographed in April of 2008 on Sand Hill Lake.

Deer, because they are so plentiful, are also easy to photograph. The late June – early August timeframe, when fawns are running around, is particularly fun for the young photographers.

The Lady's Slipper, Minnesota's State Flower, can easily be found within a 7 miles radius of Fosston – generally in full bloom between the 5th and 20th of June. While they can't be picked or otherwise disturbed, they can be photographed.

Because of our location where three biomes come together, you will find a great variety of plant and animal life. All this variety makes for very entertaining photographic safaris.



Photo by Dean Vikan

An Indigo Bunting stops for lunch at a Fosston birdfeeder.



Photo by Bill Stenberg

The "Common Loon" is regularly seen and its haunting calls are often heard around the Fosston area.