



REMEMBERING A SOLDIER

The following was originally published in the *Sheridan County News* on December 19, 2008.

Editor's Note: Westby High School graduate (class of 1965), Eddy Schmidt died serving his country performing military duty on New Years Day 1969.

The following tribute to Eddie was written by a soldier who served with him for four months.

On January 1, 1969, Edmund Joseph Schmidt was killed in Viet Nam. We were told he died when a convoy in which he was riding guard came under enemy fire and while trying to maneuver, his truck rolled over.

I truly believe that I am alive today because of what he

taught me when I arrived in Viet Nam in early September 1968. I, along with other replacements in the 135th HEM, was assigned to his hooch. He served as our mentor, psychologist, work-a-day boss and, in the common use of the word, our savior.

He never showed favoritism other than to publicly compliment us when we did an especially good job. When we came under mortar and rocket attack, he told us where



to go and what to do when we got there, taking head count by sounding off. He had a great sense of humor. His favorite jokes involved the two-inch cockroaches that lived in the sand bags that surrounded our area. He was smart, truthful and, most important to our long term well being, upbeat. He never allowed us to believe anything other than we would make it home in one piece.

Today, I have a good life. I retired as a vice-president of

Information Technology with the Nasdaq Stock Market.

(Continued on Page 10)

[Return to Westby on the Web](#)

[Next Page](#)



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WEDNESDAY - Halibut, Shrimp or Walleye w/ baked potato, toast, choice of salad

THURSDAY - 2 pc Chicken or Pork Chop Dinner w/ baked potato, toast & salad

FRIDAY - Chicken Fried Steak w/ fries, toast & salad

SATURDAY - Hamburger Steak w/ baked potato, toast & choice of salad

A Day in the Life

By: Sandy Elm

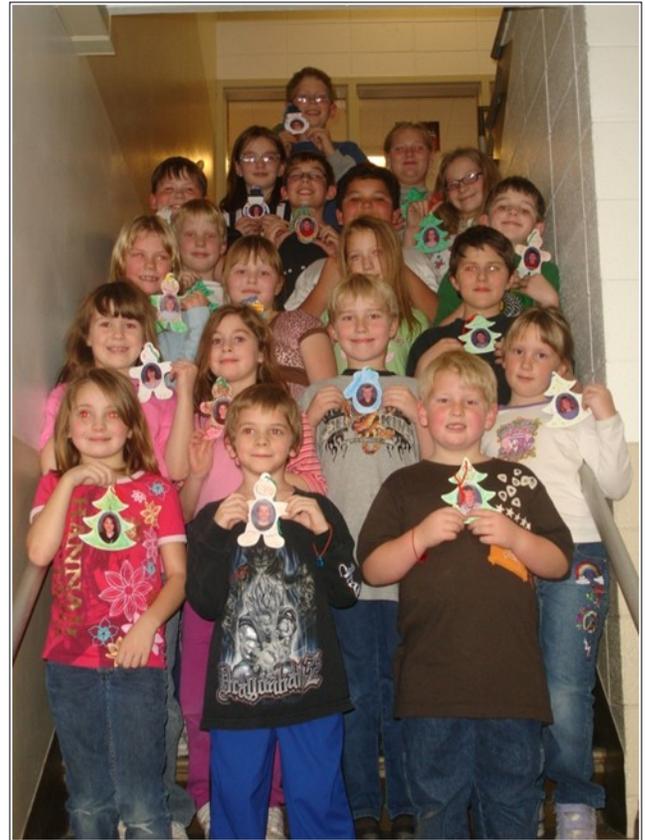
Troy, Peggy, and Natalie Olson from St. Paul, MN, Travis, Riley, Cody, Joshua, and Jacob Olson from Wright, Wyoming came to Gene and Joan Olson's on Thanksgiving weekend to visit family and friends. They came Wednesday evening and left on Sunday. Kevin, Austin, and Hunter Olson along with everyone else all spent Thanksgiving day at the Kelly and Shari Olson home.

Home for the Thanksgiving holiday were Wendi, Ryan, Kanyon, and Braiden Taylor of Hardin, Mt. They stayed at Beatie and Rick Petersen's from Wednesday through Monday. Also joining everyone at the Petersen home were Rob, Jodi, Jarett, and Jaxson Pederson, where everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner.

The Wee Bee Quilters held their Christmas party at the Prairie Kitchen on Tuesday, December 9th. They held a cookie exchange instead of Christmas gifts. The next meeting will be held on January 6th at the Community Center.

SHARING MONTANA'S TREASURES

For the 4th consecutive year, the Westby Elementary students have made ornaments for the Sheridan County tree at Montana's state capitol building in Helena. This project was started by Gov. Brian Schweitzer in 2005. This year's theme is "Sharing Montana's Treasures." The students in grades 1-5 made ornaments with their pictures on them. They explained why they are proud to live or go to school in Montana on the back of each ornament. The middle school students decorated spiral ornaments for the tree, and the 2nd and 3rd graders made a purple and gold paper chain. Photos of the trees will be available on the state's website: www.mt.gov.



Shown in the photo from top to bottom: Kevin Rust, Jager Westgard, Salina Carter, Allan Ekness, Brandon Garces, Bailey Solberg, Zoey Powers, Bruce Carter, Jenna Rust, Aaron Lagerquist, Madison Pulvermacher, Rosalee Hendrickson, Micheal Proud, Katie Nielsen, Arabella Andersen, Christian Melby, Alicia Lagerquist, Evelyn Mendes, Zachary McCall, Jack Solberg.

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Danny Moore
Westby Manager

ANDERSON



Orris Melvin Anderson passed away quietly at his Williston residence on Friday, December 5, 2008. Funeral services will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 2 pm (Mountain Time) on Saturday, December 27. Pastor Barbara Westhoff will be officiating. Private interment of cremated remains will be held at a later date. Limited military honors will be conducted at the service at the church; the members of Westby American Legion Post # 229 and its Auxiliary are recognized as Honorary Bearers.

Orris was born on May 17, 1918 on the family farm north of Westby. Orris was the youngest of five children born to Reinhardt and Trina (Thomte) Anderson. Orris was baptized into the Lutheran faith at Immanuel Congregation on June 27, 1918. He was also confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Our Savior's Lutheran Church north of Westby. He attended Pleasant Valley Elementary Country School and graduated with the Westby High School Class of 1936.

He began his work career in 1937, working on a steel crew, constructing the Fort Peck Dam. He also worked on area farms in the Westby area. It was during this time that he began farming with his brother, Adolph, on the family farm. In March, 1942 Orris entered the United States Army. He served his country in Louisiana, California, Hawaii, Okinawa and Ie Shima. Two lifelong memories from that service were going to Iwo Jima and seeing Ernie Pyle's grave, and being present for the signing of the Peace Treaty that ended the war with Japan. He returned to the family home in March of 1946, having served in the US Army for four years.

In 1947, Orris became the acting postmaster in the Westby Post Office. That position became permanent when he received a Presidential appointment from Harry S. Truman in 1948. He served in this capacity until his retirement in 1985.

In 1951, Orris was united in marriage to Audrey R. Lininger. Their two sons were born in 1953 and 1955. Orris and Audrey made their home in Westby until 1986, when they moved to Helena, Montana. They spent the next 21 years in Helena, returning to Williston, ND in 2007. After retirement, Orris enjoyed visiting with family and friends, traveling in the United States and abroad, golfing, playing cards and doing projects around the house.

Orris is survived by his wife of 57 years, Audrey, of Williston; two sons, Wayne and his wife, Jennifer, and their five children, Sarah, Mary Catherine, Erin, Mark and Rachel, of Williston, North Dakota; and Jay and his wife Carol, of Helena, Montana and their four children, Ashley (Jason) Browne, of Wauertown, New York; Kirsten of Vichy, France; and Erik and Carlyn of Helena. Orris is also survived by several nieces and nephews, and by his sister-in-law, Donaleen (Loren) Lagerquist of Scottsdale, Arizona, and her family; and brother-in-law, Darrel (Lois) Lininger, of Roseville, California and his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Christian and Adolph, and his two sisters, Mabel and Thresa.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood.





As I mentioned last time, our family is planning and prepping (which sometimes can be as fun as the actual trip) for our Christmas trip to Red Lodge. Since our family has grown and spread out, this is simply the best possible way to be together for the holidays. Chel and Heather don't have to travel the last leg of the long journey home to northeast Montana from California with Colton and I don't have all the stress and pressure (that I, alone, put on myself) getting ready for weeks on end. Heather's Mom, Barbara, is also joining us and we are so excited to have her. It will be interesting, however, her being from Tucson and what with this weather we've been experiencing. She is a trooper, though, and I understand, looking very forward to her trip. With any luck at all, it will warm up to at least above zero or I fear it may be her first and last Christmas in Montana! The best part is we all get to be with Colton for Christmas.

A new tradition, started with our Christmas' in Red Lodge, is assigned cooking nights. Each family takes a turn cooking the evening meal. It is great fun as each one picks a theme, then cooks and preps while everyone else heckles, plays games and waits for the feast to come. I thought it might be fun to share our menus as they read so far.



Monday

Pasta Night
Val (and Danny)

Appetizer:
BRIE en CROUTE

Main Course:
Clam sauce / red meat sauce
Spinach & ricotta filled
tortellini / long spaghetti
Roasted pear salad
w/greens
Crusty bread / dipping oil

Dessert:
Tiramisu Asparconi

Tuesday

Pizza Night
Pam and Ashley

Appetizers:

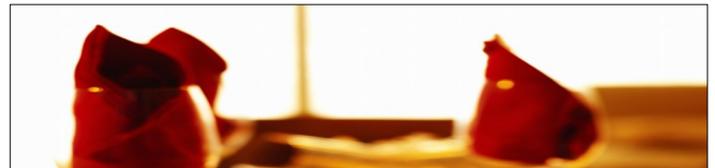
Breadsticks w/pizza sauce dip and vegetable pizza.

Main Course Pizzas:

Buffalo Chicken
Pepperoni (for the kids, of course)
Tomato/basil squares
BLT
Biscuits and gravy (sounds interesting)
Brazilian Taco

Dessert:

Fruit topped triple chocolate pizza and Pretzel fruit pizza.



Christmas Eve

Traditional
Mom
(with a little help from Pam & Ashley)

Cheese and fruit tray/ crackers
Klub (pork filled potato dumplings) w/ milk gravy
Fresh fruit salad-cranberries
Lefsa/buns
Christmas cookies



Christmas

Thai Food

Chel, Heather, & Barbara

Cambodian Summer Rolls

Asian Cucumber Salad

Thai Chicken Curry

Chicken and Shrimp Pad Thai

Chicken and Beef Satay

Dessert:

To be announced

Looks like I will have lots of new recipes to share when I get back.

I'm including my Grandmother's recipe for Krub, a Swedish potato dumpling and our traditional Christmas Eve meal, this issue. My Grandma was the lead Krub maker for years and now Mom has taken over the reins. Ashley and Pam are in training for the next generation so I think I lucked out. Interestingly, Martha Stewart had a version of it in *Martha Stewart Living* this past year.

The Norwegian version of Krub uses raw potatoes, small pieces of ham and pours butter over the top (you can see why us Scandinavians are a stout bunch) rather than gravy.

KRUBKAKA

2 pounds of boneless pork cubed

4 cups mashed potatoes (mash as you normally would with butter, cream and milk), cooled

2 beaten eggs

2 Tsp salt

Pinch sugar

1 cup milk

Flour for firm dough (takes quite a bit of flour)

Heat shortening or oil in large frying pan and add pork. Brown well, using lots of pepper and salt to taste. Meanwhile, start a large pan of salted water to boil. Remove pork with slotted spoon and drain.

Reserve drippings in pan. Combine potatoes, eggs, salt, sugar, and milk. Work flour in a little at a time until firm and no longer sticky. Working on a

floured surface, pinch off a portion of dough (about 1/3 cup) flatten out to about 4 inches put 5-6 pieces of pork in center and pull dough up and around to cover (keep flour handy as you will need to keep adding and flour for your hands). Pat until sealed.

Set on rack and continue process until all dumplings are made. If you have extra fried meat add it back

into pan with drippings. Add dumplings a few at a time to pot of boiling water. Once they rise to the top, cook an additional 10-15 minutes or until done.

Continue until all dumplings are cooked. Meanwhile, add flour to drippings in pan (if you don't think you will have enough drippings for gravy, add more shortening to pan) and stir to make roux.

Slowly add milk, stirring and cooking until thick.

Add salt and pepper. Serve over dumplings. Note:

Meat can be browned and potatoes mashed the day before. As you can see, this is not an easy, quick

meal, but it's worth every minute of it.

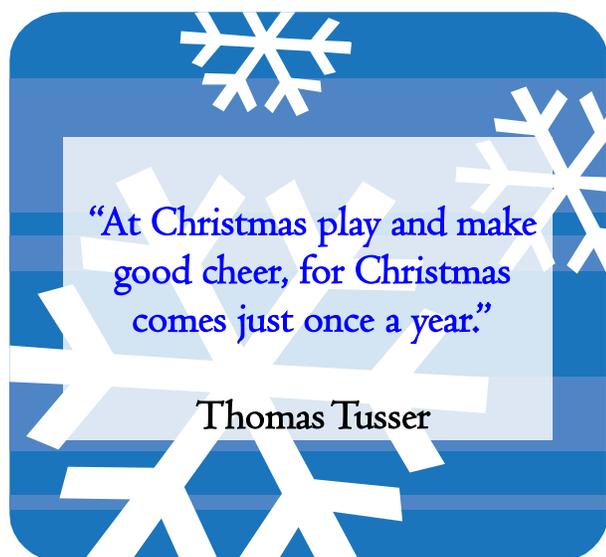
We always make plenty because Krub are great the next day, too. For breakfast Christmas morning we have fried Krub. Cut the dumplings into 1 inch pieces. Melt butter in frying pan over med hi heat.

Add krub and cook until heated through and browned, reduce heat, pour milk over and stir until gravy is formed. Add salt and pepper and serve immediately with fresh fruit and sweet rolls.

My wish for you is a season of hopes, dreams, and wishes followed by a New Year filled with memories which bring a smile, happiness that brings peace and contentment in good health.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

LIFE IF GOOD!



[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE.....

.....as one of my favorite Christmas songs goes, but we can't say we weren't warned. Like our up to the minute 24 hour news channels, we were bombarded with warnings, alerts, and pager updates for days prior to the arrival of an Arctic Clipper last week. Let me tell you, we've seen worse. I understand we were one of the more fortunate ones, though, because we received very little snow. We did, however, get the 30 below on the thermometer and 52 below wind chill temperatures so we didn't go completely unscathed and after five days we just went above zero for about a minute today. Like I said, we've seen worse, but it seemed unusual enough to fill air time on the national news. It is funny to hear and read others reactions to our weather which we know is just part of our way of life here in "the North Country".

I was invited to join the Fortuna Air Force Station group site on the internet some time ago and have watched with interest the many comments and memories this weather has conjured up for these once young service men and women who I'm quite sure wondered, at times, if they hadn't been shipped to Siberia rather than north-west North Dakota. Apparently our current winter has nothing on the winter of 1961-62. Here are a few quotes recently posted on the Fortuna Air Force Station site in regards to that memorable winter:

"In the winter of 61-62 it got down to -52, colder than I saw it in Alaska -30. Louis Able who worked in the power plant left for his home in Westby at 2400, at 0200 his wife called and informed us he hadn't made it home. I got the GSA 1 ton and called Sgt Melcher in Westby, Melcher headed east found him just before we got to his car (Mercury Marauder convertible) Able only had his field jacket with him. He never could follow orders. We had our parka and snow pants and a comforter we were to take with us when we went off base. We were supposed to take food and gas too. It was probably the same in later years."

Don Luther
EPPT 61-62

*"Hey Don,
Yeah, I was there in 61-62, remember that weather very well. Wasn't near as cold in Fairbanks Alaska the next winter. Me, Joe Taibbe, and Stan Daw left base early in the evening, my car was protected to -50 and froze up within a mile after leaving the base."*

We walked part way back to base then one of the NCO's (don't recall who) picked us up and delivered us to the NCO club where we finished the evening. It never fails to amaze me how the reporters on the Weather Channel makes it sound like this is unusual for ND, or 110 degrees is unusual for Phoenix. "

Rich Charter 60-62 ops

"That -52 was matched while I was there 64-66. Don't remember which winter, but it was -44 in Westby when I stopped at the cafe for my morning coffee and was -52 at the radar site. Beautiful day, bright sunshine with ice crystals sparkling in the air"

Rick Asscherick

(Continued on page 8)

Al's Meats

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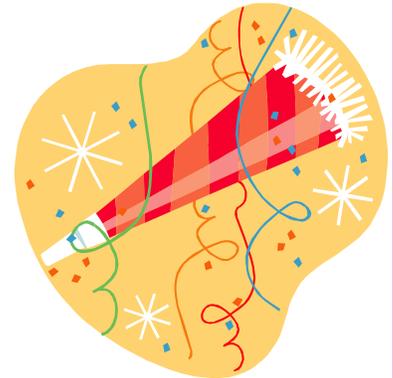


Merry Christmas And Happy New Year



Holiday Hours for the Prairie Kitchen

Wednesday, Dec. 24	Closed
Thursday, Dec. 25	Closed
Friday, Dec. 26	Closed
Saturday, Dec. 27	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
Sunday, Dec. 28	8:00 am - 1:30 pm
Monday, Dec. 29	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tuesday, Dec. 30	6:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 31	6:00 am - 3:00 pm
Thursday, Jan. 1	Closed



HAPPY NEW YEAR

*Need a Last Minute Gift
Stop Into the Prairie Kitchen
And check out what we have available*

Upcoming Events

December

24th—Jan 4th No School! Christmas Break

3rd Varsity BB vs. Brockton at Westby
 GV - 6:00
 BV - 7:30



Lutheran Parish December

- 24th Parish Christmas Candlelight Service at Immanuel—5:30 pm
- 25th Parish Christmas Day Service at St. John's—10:00 am
- 28th WORSHIP
 Imm—10:00 am *No Sunday School*
 SJ—11:30 am *No Sunday School*

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE.....(continued)

"I arrived at the Williston, North Dakota train station in December of 1962 after taking "The Empire Builder" train from Minneapolis. The train had to stop several times to chip ice from the wheels and couplings. Being young and rather naive, I was wearing my A.F. blues with heavy overcoat and gloves when I stepped out of the station for a few minutes to take in my new surroundings. I took off one of my gloves for a minute and make the stupid mistake of putting my hand on a wrought iron railing. The flesh on my hand instantly adhered to the metal railing! Thanks to a good hearted railroad employee who heard my shouts for help, we were able to free my hand from the railing using warm water. I found out the temperature was -35 degrees that morning. What a welcome to North Dakota! In my two years there, I went from hating the area to loving it. What wonderful people North Dakotans are!"

Bob Caggiano
 Hamburg, New Jersey

As I said we've seen worse, as these stories can attest to, but another lesson we've learned here in the North Country is we can sing "Baby, it's cold outside" for a long time, yet, and anything can happen.

FOOD BANK

As in other parts of the world, the needs of the Sheridan County Food Bank has been more than usual. For this reason a donation site has been set up at Immanuel Lutheran Church and at Al's Meats.

Of particular need are one meal boxes(mac and cheese, hamburger helper, etc), canned meat (tuna, spam, chicken, etc) soups, spaghetti, and cereals (hot or cold).

The donated items will be delivered the middle of December.

Westby Manor, Inc. has one-bedroom apartments for rent in Westby. Very nice, utilities paid, and free laundry. Eligible tenants will not pay more than 30% of their adjusted income. The Westby Manor, Inc. will be temporarily renting apartments to all persons without regard to income restrictions.

Call Brenda at 385-2577.

**Equal Housing
Opportunity**

❖❖❖School Board Meeting Minutes❖❖❖

Regular Meeting
December 8, 2008
7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Westby School District #3 was held on December 8, 2008. Brenda Ryals, Vance Meyer, Donna Sorenson, Marty Westgard, Jim Sundsted, Mr. Koterba, Mr. Somppi and Arlene Hove were in attendance. Chairman Ryals called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Visitor at this meeting was Suzi Ekness.

The tentative agenda was reviewed, followed by a motion to approve by Sorenson, Meyer seconded, AIF.

The Clerk read the minutes of the November 10, 2008 regular meeting and being there were no corrections or additions, the minutes were approved and placed on file.

The October financial and investment interest reports were reviewed.

Public Comment: None

Committee Reports: Buildings and Grounds: The new heater in the downstairs classroom has been wired. The heaters in the cafeteria, kitchen and boy's locker room are very old and also need replacing. Three new heaters have been ordered.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

A. The following policy revisions were given a first reading:

- 2161P – Special Education
- 2410 High School Graduation Requirement
- 3310 – Student Discipline

B. The following new policy was given a first reading:

- 2333 – Participation in Commencement Exercises

C. Regarding the telecommunications bid (E-Rate), Westgard moved, Sundsted seconded that Mr. Koterba use his discretion to accept/reject any and all bids. All in favor.

D. The assistant boys' basketball coach was the next topic for discussion. Sorenson moved to offer Joe Eberly a contract for this position for 2008/09, Meyer seconded, AIF.

Announcements/Discussion

A. Mr. Koterba gave a brief 2009 Legislative update.

B. Mr. Koterba will attend the Montana Oil and Gas Tax meeting in Miles City on December 3, 2008.

Meyer moved to approve payment of December payroll warrants #10291-10308 totaling \$89,488.52, and December claims warrants #14859-14890 totaling \$18,105.95. Sundsted seconded the motion for payment approval, AIF.

The November extracurricular financial report was reviewed followed by a motion by Sorenson to approve, motion seconded by Westgard, AIF.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Arlene Hove, District Clerk
Brenda Ryals, Chairman

**THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL
AND SUBJECT TO BOARD
APPROVAL.**



REMEMBERING A SOLDIER (continued)

My wife, daughter, 5 dogs and I live on 15 acres in beautiful, rural Frederick County, Maryland. Part of the reason I have these precious things is because Eddy would not let us use drugs, drink ourselves blind or waste our money on the local village vices. If, as you read those last words, you think, "How old fashioned", you're right. Eddy was old fashioned. He was determined in the oversight of his team. He took the task of soldiering very seriously.

The Viet Nam war is not held in high regard. Few patronize its veterans with titles such as "Band of Brothers" or "The Greatest Generation". Most genre books and movies include a psychotic character to reinforce the media's storyline that many who fought were undisciplined, drug addled killers. So be it.

I know that when the current generation of guilt-ridden, ideological storytellers is replaced by objective historians, a just and honorable history will be written. Eddy's sacrifice deserves to be part of that history.

When Eddy was called, he served as heroically as any other soldier in any other war. Through his leadership, he caused us to do our job to the best of our ability. He served knowing that there would be no glory, no parades and no monetary tribute. Thus, I asked permission from Mrs. Schmidt to write these words to pay homage to Eddy. I wanted to remind you that you created such as he. He was, to us, his comrades, what all the people of Antelope, Montana, must be like.

Even though Eddy has been dead these forty years, his short life bore fruit. The morals he taught us carried us through our tour of duty. No one else under his command died. He remains alive in all of us that followed his way.

God bless Edmund Joseph Schmidt. God bless those of you that raised him.

Ed Morgan
10724 Pheasant Dr.
Clarksburg, MD 20871

THANK YOU

Thanks so much to the Westby Luther League for delivering the Christmas goodies to us here at the Manor.

Christine Schmidt

THANK YOU

A great big thanks to Archie Petersen for *the huge favor*. You did a wonderful job, in fact, there might be room for you in the company.

Keep believing,
S.C.



"Santa" appeared at the Elementary Christmas Program.

In Memory of those we lost in 2008:

- JOSHUA THOMAS LOWE
- MABEL IRENE SORENSON
- MELVIN HELMER RODNE
- BARBARA INGMAN
- JAMES L. CHRISTENSEN
- CECELIA NORDHAGEN
- MARION E. BEREZAY
- GWENDOLYN MORRIS
- ERNEST BERGESON
- JACK W. MCGOWAN
- ESTHER HANSON
- THOMAS TOMMERUP
- ELLA G. QUAM
- DOLLY KROWEN
- DAVE PIERCE
- LOUISE NORDHAGEN
- MIKE MCINTEER
- ORRIS ANDERSON

**Just Married
2008:**

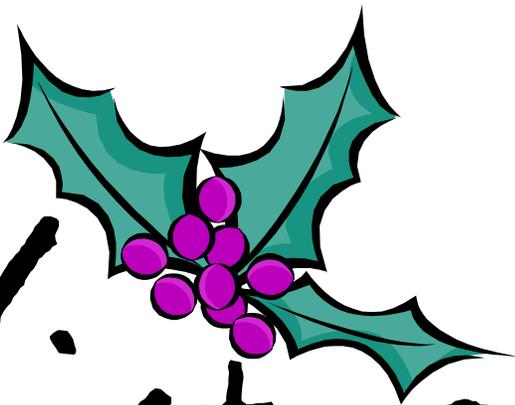
- April 5th
Lisa Heppner & Marc Beck
- August 23rd
Adrienne Carlson & Chet Hagen

2008's New Arrivals:

- Tage Daniel Carrier*
- Chloe Isabelle Unruh*
- Kevin Alexander Miller*
- Lexi Rose Lebrand*
- Hannah Jade Sorenson*
- Gavin Michael Jensen*
- Christopher Dane Anderson*
- Milo James Cheetham*
- Keeley Marie Nelson*
- Carson Edward Mangel*
- Ryley John Christy*
- Abby Marie Anderson*

[Previous Page](#)

[Return to Westby on the Web](#)



Merry. Christmas

from

The Westby Border News



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Westby, MT 59275

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