

Sebeka
Menahga

Review Messenger

Wadena County's Only Locally Owned Newspaper



OPINIONS

Get Connected

To the Editor:

I am thrilled and excited to be involved in the U of M project, "Connecting Rural Communities." The goal of the project is to enable people to live in a rural area like Sebeka or Menahga and work, via computer, just about anywhere in the country, or to do business from here with the rest of the country, or world, for that matter.

I became involved when, as a member of the Community Ed advisory committee I was asked to be their representative on this project. As their representative, I asked to be involved with the group concerned with education. There are several classes set up concerned with internet safety, desktop publishing, Microsoft Word, etc. Please watch for information in the paper, on the radio or from your friends and neighbors.

Now here's what has me so excited: We've put together a program called "Seniors Helping Seniors" (and I must add here, anyone needing help.) When it comes to my computer, I must admit it sometimes scares me to death, and I've had the best help from my grandkids. How this will work is – two Sebeka High School seniors will be given the training necessary to offer suggestions to get us through a frustrating problem we encounter; for instance, save file or delete a file. Do we left click? Double click? Right click? High kick? They might even, in some cases, suggest it's necessary we seek a repair service.

We plan to get this up and running by the end of January. So (gently) blow the dust off that computer you were given by your son or niece or grandson because they thought you needed it. Press the "on" button, click on "start," and yell for help! It's coming. Watch for information in the usual places, or just ask.

I would be remiss if I didn't say how glad I am that I was asked to serve on the Community Ed committee, and that I had the good sense to say yes. It is tremendously rewarding, and a ton of fun. I have taken classes I did not have the courage to take before, and found out, "Hey, I can do that!"

In spite of all the problems Sebeka seems to be plagued with, it is still a great place to live, and with the opportunities we have to access the working world from home, it can only get better.

Respectfully,
Edith Siegel
Sebeka