

New Council Members Gear Up For The New Year

By: Karen Carpenter

Many changes and switching of positions happened for the Rothsav City Council. 2019 brought a new mayor to lead the council. Joe Tillman was sworn in as mayor. He stepped down from his council seat to run for mayor. He was mid-term of the four-year term.

Winning the two four-year terms on the city council were Darrell "Tolly" Tollefson and Leslie Nelson. Tollefson served one four-year term and ran for a second. Nelson was new to Rothsav city politics.

The third candidate on the ballot was Daryl Schleeter. He did not win a seat by election but was later appointed to serve the rest of Tillman's term.

Another newbie is Tulsa-Leigh Kugler who filed for and won the two-year term on the council.

Kugler will fill the two year term left vacant by Eric Larson. He had to step down from his seat on the council because he was hired by the city. Those employed by the city can not hold an elected city office.

Larson had served as acting mayor from the first of the year



Individual photos and biographies Rothsay City Council members began their terms on January 1, 2019. Three of the five are new to the council and the mayor is new to his can be found on Page 8 of this edition position as well. Pictured, left to right are Darrell (Tolly) Tollefson, Tulsa-Leigh Kugler, Mayor Joe Tillman, Daryl Schleeter and Leslie Nelson. of the Rothsay Regional Report.

Three Men Honored For Saving Local Farmer's Life



Wednesday, August 29, 2018 started as an ordinary day for three plumbers employed by Laney's Mechanical Inc. out of Detroit Lakes, MN. They were working on a new shop at the David Simmer farm, southwest of Rothsav,

Simmer had gone down to the bottom of a trench dug for the water line. Simmer was checking something at the bottom when the nine foot deep trench collapsed on him. It was a pretty frightening experience for the local farmer. Luckily, Simmers dad, Butch Simmer, was nearby as were the three plumbers.

Justin Esser, Roger Behm and Pete Ennen rushed to the rescue with shovels. They were able to dig Simmer out before the Rothsay Fire Department personnel arrived. Simmer credits the three with their quick action and calm demeanor in the face of emergency for saving his life.

By: Karen Carpenter for one week followed by a five day stay in a rehab facility.

until early summer when he joined

the City of Rothsay staff. Chris

Buckingham resigned the post of

mayor because of work demands as

seat on the council to serve as acting

mayor after Larson was required to

resign. The decision was made to

operate one council member short

council when her term expired at

the end of 2018. She had served on

council since May 7, 2013. Before

that she served as Rothsay's city

position and Tollefson is the only

council member with previous

in prior to their regular meeting on

experience on the Rothsay board.

Tillman is new to the mayor

The new city council was sworn

Since there are so many new

faces, it seemed a good time to

include a picture and short bio on the

mayor and council members.

Lori Jorgenson retired from the

until the mid-term elections.

clerk for 18 years.

Monday, January 7.

Tillman then stepped up from his

of December 31, 2017.

The accident couldn't have happened at a more inconvenient time. Simmer's beet field was ready to be harvested while he was recuperating. His friends and neighbors came to the rescue and brought in the beet harvest in just a couple of days.

On Saturday, January 12, 2019, left to right, Roger Behm, Pete Ennen, Justin Esser and David Simmer met once again at the Powerhouse in Rothsay. This time it was to honor the three rescuers at a gathering of friends and neighbors. Mayor Joe Tillman and Assistant Fire Chief Jordan Barry awarded plaques to Behm, Ennen and Esser for their heroic act. Simmer and his family were there to add their thanks for what the three men

Simmer suffered from a broken hip and shoulder blade as well as some ribs. He was life-flighted to Sanford Hospital in Fargo, ND where he remained had done.

Simmer has completely recovered from his ordeal and is grateful for the help of the plumbers from Laney's as well as his friends and family.

Dave Simmer and his wife, Laura have three children Kellan, Kaylee and Nathan.

Carol Poppel Retires As Head Of Farm Service Agency

King And Queen Chosen To **Reign Over Snoball Week**



Snoball Week was held at Rothsay Public School January 14 - 18. The week was filled with various activities during and after school. The candidates for the senior girls were Rachel Brendon. Cora Honer, and Rylee Rieken. The senior boys were Jacob Christ. Nick Kusnierek, and Cole Weets. Junior class royalty were Hannah Fisher and Isaac Fredrickson. Sophomore royalty were Lily Wheelwright and Tresten Peterson. Freshman royalty were Abby Honer and Gage Johanson. Scarlett Sullivan and Anthony Montanari were the 1st grade attendants. Cora Honer was crowned Snoball Queen and Cole Weets was crowned Snowball King. Congratulations to both of them.



Carol Poppel has been Executive Director of Wilkin County Farm Service Agency (FSA) since April, 2003. On December 31 she will retire from that position. Poppel has worked in the FSA office in Breckenridge since 1977. She began as a program assistant. Poppel's extensive experience will be greatly missed.

By: Karen Carpenter

Carol Poppel, Wilkin County Executive Director (CED) of Farm Service Agency (FSA) retires. She has held that position for over 15 years. On December 31, 2018 Poppel will retire as CED.

A total of 41 years of experience and commitment come to a close with Poppel's retirement.

After visiting with Poppel and posing questions, it seems fitting to let the readers discover Poppel's journey in her own words.

QUESTION: Tell me a little bit about your role as county executive director of FSA?

POPPEL: The County Executive Director oversees county office **CONTINUED ON PAGE 3**