

Buzzing On First Day Back

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school principal. “A fantastic day. We have a great group of kids who we have a lot of energy and enthusiasm,” said Superintendent Johnson. “We have some very mature and fun juniors and seniors that will make this a great year.

“It was a great first day, as is every day, to be a Tiger!” Emily Sternberg came on board a year ago to take over the duties as Pre-Kindergarten and elementary principal. She is entering her second year in that position.

“Students came to Rothsay School this morning with so much excitement and energy! The start of a new year at Rothsay is like coming home,” commented Principal Sternberg.

“Students welcomed one another and their teachers with smiles, high-fives, fist bumps, and hugs. This year will be a great year while we ‘rise by lifting others,’” continued Sternberg.

Two new teachers joined the staff at Rothsay this year, Kyle Wagers, high school English and Ashton Fuhs, three-year old Preschool.

Second chance breakfast is offered again this year. High school students can grab a breakfast between second and third hours.

Enrollment only down one student at the Rothsay School, from 279 last May to 278 as the new year starts. The student enrollment was up 20 students when school opened for the 2018-2019 year last September.

The numbers aren’t in officially



Students in the upper grades congregated by lockers. There was a lot of talking and laughing among the students before the bell sounded for class to begin in the first day of school.

for preschoolers enrolled at present but it is expected to be around 50 compared to 53 last year. Three year olds will have two half days a week and four year olds will have two full days a weeks this year. Classes begin September 9 and 10.

The breakdown per grade for the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year is as follows:

Kindergarten - 29; first grade - 18; second grade - 25; third grade - 21; fourth grade - 21; fifth grade - 24; sixth grade - 26; seventh grade - 28; eighth grade - 27; freshmen - 22; sophomores - 17; juniors - 10; and seniors - 10.

The break down is 164 in elementary classes and 114 in the high school.

The before and after school

program for school aged kids and wrap-around-care for preschoolers has been well received.

Preschoolers can go to Tiger Cub Club when they are not at preschool so parents don’t have to worry about transportation. Some will utilize the care for half days or full days depending on their schedules.

Rothsay Tiny Tigers, an infant

and toddler day care is beginning the fourth year. The program continues to grow and is a welcome addition to the district.

With Rothsay School back in full swing, please drive carefully. The big yellow busses carry the most precious cargo and drivers should stop and give careful attention to entering and exiting the bus.



Pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade Principal Emily Sternberg greeted kids by name with a fist bump as she was live on Facebook.



Rothsay students chatted over breakfast on the first day of school. Groups of kids caught up on what happened over the summer.



The first day of school can be kind of scary for some kids. There were some tears but soon but soon everything becomes familiar.

Samuelson Sez



Orion Samuelson



I MARVEL . . .

The word for this week, on Samuelson Sez, is ‘MARVEL’. I continue to marvel at what American agriculture has done and is doing. During the past couple of weeks I have had the opportunity to fly the Cessna 210, dubbed Air Orion, over a lot of farm country, so let me share with you what I ‘marvel’ at as I look at it from 3,500 or 4,500 feet in the air.

I marvel at the work done by land surveyors a couple of centuries ago, laying out these perfect squares of farm land that now make such beautiful patterns from the air. These are sections that are surrounded by roadways, but they are not as square as they used to be since some of them have been changed to accommodate waterways and roads. Yet, it is still impressive that what those land surveyors did two centuries ago still works.

I also marvel at how much fuel it must take to produce food, fiber and energy on those fields below me. When you take a look at the equipment that has to go over each field several times, tilling, planting, spraying, cultivating, and then harvesting, I can’t begin to imagine the volume and the cost of fuel it takes to run the equipment.

I marvel at what farmers have to learn and do to operate the modern equipment and use the ever-changing technology. They have to be scientists, accountants, managers, veterinarians, soil scientists and a myriad of other professions to do what they do to ensure that you and I have food on our table, a roof over our heads, clothes on our back and now, energy in the tank.

Indeed, American agriculture is a marvel. It provides jobs and salaries for thousands of workers who produce the equipment and technology, and thousands more who transport our agricultural products to buyers around the world.

If you are involved in any part of our food production system, take a moment to think about this MARVEL and the contributions you make to our lives every day. Thank You!

My thoughts on Samuelson Sez.

ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Rothsay Public Schools 2019-2020

The following is a list of annual school notifications that are available on the District Website, Student/Parent Handbooks or upon request from the District, High School or Elementary School Offices. These notifications include the following:

Equal Opportunity Employment: to provide equal employment opportunities for all applicants for school district employment and for school district employees.

Notice of Disability/Non-Discrimination: to provide a fair employment setting and opportunities for all qualified persons and in doing so comply with state and federal law.

Section 504 Statement of Non-Discrimination: will provide a free and appropriate public education to each student with a disability.

General Pesticide Notice to Parents and Guardians: to inform parents and guardians if they apply certain pesticides on school property.

Asbestos Notice and Information: each primary and secondary school in the nation is required to complete a stringent inspection of asbestos and to develop a plan of management for all asbestos containing building materials.

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Parent Notification: to monitor and improve indoor air quality at Rothsay Public Schools.

Omnibus Data Practices Act: to have RHS release to military recruiting officers the names, addresses and home telephone number of students in grades 11 and 12 within 60 days after the date of the request unless parents and students refuse this release.

Minnesota Care Provision: to offer free or reduced cost health insurance for children and families who qualify through Minnesota Health Care Programs.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): notify parents and eligible students of their rights:

- to inspect and review education records
- request amendment of education records
- list specific criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest
- the right of parents to file a complaint with the Family Compliance Office in the Department.

Student/Adult Grievance: available upon request.

Parents Right To Know: to notify parents of all children in all Title I schools in the beginning of each school year, that parents have the right to request and receive timely information on the professional qualifications of the students classroom teachers.

Directory Information: by law, student names, and other directory information are public information. Directory information includes name, address, gender, telephone listing, grade level, school, date participation in officially recognized activities and sports, pictures or video images for school district approved publications, newspaper or website.

Family Medical Leave: to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for specified family circumstances relative to pregnancy, care of child after birth, adoption, serious health condition or certain qualifying military exigencies.

Safe and Supportive Schools: Policy #514 Prohibiting Bullying is available on the District Web Page and contained in Student Handbooks, and a summary of the anti-bullying policy is posted in each school district office.

Minnesota Student Survey: Notice of Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) 2016 and Protection of Pupil Rights (PPRA): The MSS will be administered to students in grades 5, 8, 9, and 11 in the spring of 2020. The questions contained in the student survey are related to personal health, school safety, drug use, and violence in schools. Additional parental information will be made available as actual test administration dates are made available.

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**Been There!...
...Done That!
Now I'm
Looking
Back...**

Hunting Colorado

By: Gene Prim

Some Catching Up To Do...

It was the end of February when these columns abruptly stopped earlier this year. For some that was cause for great rejoicing. For a few, they missed the great wisdom expressed in this column. The abrupt termination of the column was caused by a series of unbelievable events that have had a major impact on my life. The whole mess is really more than was expected but it all began on the 2018 edition of the Colorado elk hunt.

The series of miscues began on the very first night of the hunt in mid-November. It was the beginning of a three-generation hunt that included myself, my son Richard and grandson Zach. It was to be a memorable family hunt and I had been looking forward to it for a long time. Both of my extended family have turned into city slickers over the years and have seriously neglected their hunting duties. That would be cured on this trip as I would provide them guidance and counseling that would lead them once again to the promised land.

Unfortunately that was not to be the case. On our first night in camp I took a nasty spill as I entered our cabin. I landed on my left side, outside on the ground after about a four-foot fall. That set in motion a crazy series of events that included missed diagnosis on x-rays in at least three hospitals, a very painful period between the initial injury and eventual back surgery, declining health due to gradual loss of motion in my left leg, a botched surgery in Fargo, a successful surgery at the UofM Hospital in the Twin Cities, and a grueling rehab process that has gotten full use of my left leg but it still remains weak. I can walk but with the aid of a walker which is a pain in the

When last we got together, I was winding up a very successful October 2017 hunt for elk at the Elk Springs Ranch. I had to make different arrangements for this hunt because life got in my way. I annually hunt the property right around Thanksgiving time. There are usually a lot of elk on the ranch by that time and 16 of my 18 years out there I have taken home a bull. Once I waited too long trying to find a big bull and on the last day, actually the day after the last day, I could not even find a cow to shoot at. The last blank trip I was simply in no condition to hunt.

The 2017 hunt had to be moved to earlier in the year and Outfitter Russ Behrman managed to squeeze me into one of the October hunts. The very first morning out about 50 head of elk came off Wapiti Peak and headed for the gate on Shooter's Knob where we were set up waiting for them. With his spotting scope on the herd, Behrman was able to pick out a couple of big bulls running with the herd.

“There are two 6x6 bulls in that bunch. Both are good with one just a little better than the other. Don't worry about which one is which. Take whichever one you can. Try not to screw this up”, Russ said.

To get rid of me early, he commonly wants me to shoot the first bull we see. That includes spikes, raghorns, cows and even, occasionally, a good bull. He seemed serious this time as we got set up to await their arrival.

There are a half dozen ways the herd could go between us and freedom. They usually pick a route that takes them fairly close to the gate where we were waiting for them. If they decided to mosey off to the southeast they would wind up either on the Adams Ranch next door or they would head for the sanctuary on our ranch. Either of those choices meant we would not get a shot. If they came our way, they had about three choices. They could follow a well established trail to our right, they could come right up the little hill we were sitting on and go through the gate, or they could swing left and down through some shallow cuts in the terrain next to a man-made waterhole.

Going left was the tough one. There were a lot of things that could go wrong and a lot of elk would be bunched up in a tight ball. They, of course, picked the route to our left. Where the majority of the herd went was about 200 yards out. I fully expected the bulls we were after would be in the middle of the herd.

As the herd went by us Russ hit the elk with a cow call. The call had no effect on most of the herd which continued on their way. But a very good bull separated from the herd, turned sorta semi broadside and stopped. I felt I could snake a bullet between his rump and his front shoulder and took the shot. He took off running but stopped again with the cow call. The second shot there was no doubt about. There was the solid, familiar “thwaaack” of a bullet striking home.

The bull veered off to the right and behind a small rise. We could see antlers above the little hill walking slowly back and forth and then nothing. Was he down? Then Guide Auggie and his hunter Don fired two shots well off to our left. We communicated by radio to find out what they were shooting at. They said there was a bull slowly walking around in circles down by the pond and they had shot and killed it.

Was there a second bull down there? We drove over to where they were to try to get a handle on what exactly was going on. There was a bull down on the prairie. We could see that as soon as we came off our hill and joined Auggie. Even with just one antler sticking up out of the tall grass, the bull looked big.

We double checked the open ground between us and the bull to be sure there were not two bulls down. Russ backtracked the bull, which had developed some severe leakage, back to where I had shot. He followed the blood trail directly back to the bull. It was the one I had initially hit. Don, the hunter with Auggie, was very gracious, “That's Gene's bull. All I did was finish it off.”

That is exactly what I would have and have said, numerous times when I have been in a position to finish off a wounded animal. In my opinion, the game belongs to whoever shot it first. There are opposing views on that in some camps where it is claimed that the hunter who finishes the animal off is the rightful owner.

This bull was worth arguing about but it was never even a bone of contention. Don had put one bullet in the neck as the critter was about to topple over anyway. There was one bullet hole on the left side of the chest with my Trophy Bonded Bullet snuggled up against the hide on the farside, perhaps just a tiny bit too far back but fatal. Why the bull maintained his footing as long as he did is anyone's guess. Lungshot, he was a dead elk walking. There was also a bullet hole squarely in the left hind quarter which neither of us claimed but the leakage was about where my first shot would have landed if I missed by a little.



The steps into the cabins at the Elk Springs Lodge do not look particularly intimidating. But for an aging Norwegian they proved daunting as I took a flying lesson off the top of one of the steps. I'm not built for flying, particularly landings.