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The Braaap-Blazing Brady Bunch Of Barnesville



Arlan, Joe, Chase and Liv pause for a photo at a go-kart race some years ago. Arlan's love of racing rubbed off on Liv, and before long Chase was following right behind them.

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basketball, rides dirt bikes, and helps in the shop and around the house.

Bailey raced snocross for two years before shifting her focus to gymnastics and dance. Though she no longer competes, she remains a constant presence at races, clapping loud, cheering on her siblings, and making sure they know she is watching every lap. Lindsey says the family encourages each child to pursue what excites them most, whether that means lining up at the starting gate or cheering loudly from the stands.

Fear, Faith, And Safety

As with any motorsport, safety is always top of mind.

"Accidents happen no matter what," Lindsey said. "We make sure they have proper safety gear and pray."

Both Arlan and Liv have experienced crashes in snocross, walking away sore but uninjured thanks to protective equipment. Ironically, Lindsey noted, both have also broken wrists during everyday play with friends.



Arlan and Liv prepare to ride during a snocross event. The siblings have grown together in the sport, pushing each other to improve with every race.

The experiences serve as a reminder that risk exists everywhere, and being prepared matters more than being afraid.

Racing As Family

On race days, Lindsey is the steady presence, helping with gear,

making sure the kids are fed, and keeping everything moving. Joe serves as crew chief, focused on performance and preparation.

Beyond logistics, Lindsey says what truly sets racing apart is the community that surrounds it.

"Not only our family of six, but the entire race community becomes family," she said.

That sense of belonging, built through shared highs and lows, is what makes the long nights, early mornings, and packed trailers worth it.

When asked what advice she would give to other parents considering racing, Lindsey laughed. "Don't," she joked. "It's addicting."

There's a famous line in racing culture that says, "If you ain't first, you're last." But for the Kenyon-Schmitz kids, racing has never been just about crossing the finish line first. It's about showing up, getting back up after a crash, cheering for each other, and finding joy in the ride. Win or lose, they leave the track together, helmets off, smiles on, already talking about the next race, and that's what keeps them coming back.

For the Kenyon-Schmitz family, that adrenaline rush and thrill chasing have built something lasting: confidence, connection, and a family story still being written, one race at a time.



The Kenyon-Schmitz family gathers in the shop where many race nights begin and end. In front are Liv, Lindsey and Bailey, with Arlan, Joe and Chase in back — a crew that works, cheers and grows together on and off the track.

Local Residential Housing Is Proving To Be A Mixed Bag



Existing homes built in the 1970s through the 1990s are hot tickets on the Barnesville housing market right now. They cost significantly less than new construction. The yards have already been landscaped and have existing trees. Interest rates are falling. The special assessments have been paid. They exist in quiet, residential neighborhoods all over town. The inventory, however is low. Homes priced right sell fast.

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That was combined with some land acquired from the nearby Sandstone Apartments and the vacation of a couple of streets and alleys that had been platted but had never been developed.

With the three single family housing starts, combined with the 35-unit apartment complex, there will be 38 new housing units that began construction in 2025 that will be completed this summer. If there is even a little bit of new construction this building season, it will be a banner year.

While new housing starts are one gauge of the local residential market, it is not the only one. In fact, it is not even the major one. The major market in Barnesville right now is in the existing housing market.

Cindy Sillerud owns and operates Priority Real Estate in Barnesville. She is one of the major local marketers for existing homes in Barnesville. Cindy reports that she and the other realtors in the area sold over 50 existing homes in the 56514 region last year. With new housing pricing itself out of the American dream, the focus for young families has shifted to existing housing in Barnesville.

"The existing housing market was very active in and around Barnesville in 2025," reported Sillerud. "There were 46 residential housing sales within the City of Barnesville last year. There were another six sales of residential property with Barnesville addresses during the year. That brings the total real estate sales for the Barnesville area to 52 properties in 2025. It was a very busy year and



Barnesville realtor Cindy Sillerud reports a huge interest in existing housing in and around the Barnesville area.

it still shows. The present inventory of existing homes for sale is very low as we go into spring", she concluded.

While those 52 housing transactions are an impressive number, they do not tell the entire story. The Barnesville area is only one part of the local School District 146. Also included in the local district are addresses from Moorhead, Hawley, Sabin, Baker, Downer, Pelican Rapids, Rothsay and Wolverton that are not included in the 52 reported Barnesville sales totals.

If you look at each housing unit selling for an average of only \$200,000, that's \$10 million dollars spent last year on existing Barnesville homes in and around the area.

A deeper look at the housing that is selling tells a tale as well. Earlier in this article we referenced homes being built in the 1960s and 1970s for \$50,000 to \$70,000. Assuming the homes have been well-maintained and updated, those homes are selling on today's market from \$200,000 to \$300,000 depending upon condition and location.

The final price is determined by condition, square footage, basement and location. Cindy also reports that the demand is high and the inventory is very low for an existing home in Barnesville. At the present time there are less than 10 homes listed for sale on the local market. That is likely to change as the weather warms up. Nobody wants to move when it's cold or muddy outside.

What may happen when the apartment complex is completed, is senior citizens living in homes in Barnesville may decide to downsize and exchange the daily chores of home ownership for an apartment in their hometown that is now available.

All things being considered, the last couple of years have been significant in the housing market in and around Barnesville.



With the spring weather warming, activity on the new 35-unit apartment complex in Barnesville is picking up speed. The building is being wrapped with Tyvek. Roofers are nailing down buffalo board to the rafters. Windows are being installed. It's a busy scene but still a long ways from being done. Look for a fall opening of the apartments.