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Finding A Place That Really Feels Like Home

By LaVonne Redding

Moving from the "big city" and finding out that small town life feels like home. This is exactly how Mac and Brittany Schultz describe their transition from living in Moorhead and moving to Barnesville.

The young family, consisting of two daughters, have now been residents of the Barnesville community for about 18 months. Just enough time to realize that this was the best choice. They live in the Del Acres addition.

Brittany grew up in Fargo, not being very familiar with a small town environment. As Mac grew up in Moorhead, he spent a great deal of time growing up with extended family in the Hawley and Ulen-Hitterdal areas.

At first the commute was a big concern, but after becoming accustomed to the drive that has turned out not to be a huge obstacle.

Even though the couple grew up close to each other, they did not meet until both had moved out to Jamestown, ND. Mac is currently a Clay County Deputy, but his first law enforcement position took him to Jamestown. Brittany was in nursing school at the time, also in Jamestown.

Mac's law enforcement career is what gave him his first connection to Barnesville. Barnesville Police Chief Joel Voxland was his first sergeant after he transferred from Jamestown to the Moorhead Police Department.

Brittany also had a few connections to Barnesville through her nursing career, also. She is a registered nurse at the Fargo VA hospital, working in the mental health department. Some of her coworkers call Barnesville home, which made it more appealing.

The Schultz family consists of Mac, Brittany, Nora (three years old) and Libbie (nine months old). Another family member is their seven year old white lab Leo. The younger Schultz's definitely keep the adults on their toes.



The Schultz family pictured above are, Mac, Brittany, and their two daughters, Nora, three years old and Libbie, nine months.

The family has spent one full summer in Barnesville and are excited to see what the upcoming warm weather season has to offer. They hoped to spend some time at Potato Days, as they had other family obligations that kept them from attending last year. The fair was a big hit, of course, along with the parks, especially the splash pad at McGrath Park.

Also something they hope to use

more is their backyard. They spent a lot of time updating the beautiful fire pit and assembling a wooden playset for the girls. Hats off to them for all the effort they have put into making a space for their family to use for many years.

With the girls being older this summer, they hoped to spend a lot more time utilizing the outdoor area and getting to know their amazing neighbors even more.



Discovering Relocating Is Not Only For Convenience



Nate and Mikaela Niemi-Hart are newlyweds who recently went on their honeymoon to the Gulf Coast.

By LaVonne Redding

It can always be a challenge when trying to decide on where to live. Jobs, neighborhood, cost, proximity to family and friends all play a major roll in such an important decision.

For one couple, choosing Barnesville was that final choice. Newly married last year, Nate and Mikaela Hart worked in completely different counties. When looking to purchase a home, they found the right one in Barnesville in the Stoneridge Addition. A special member of their family is their cat named Mr. Kitty.

After living in Fergus Falls with Nate driving to Fargo for work, Nate and Mikaela wanted to find some place that not only was in the middle, but a community that would be a good "fit." Each growing up in a small town, they like the feel and idea of starting a family in small town Minnesota.

Mikaela works as a medical laboratory technician in Fergus Falls, while Nate is an electrician and currently works as a metering technician in Fargo. So now both

commute, but it is definitely less time for Nate to be on the road.

Both of them enjoy spending time outdoors, fishing, hunting and hiking. They are glad that they live close enough to be able to spend time with family at the lake or camping over the summer. Mikaela has a horse at her parents' home which means she makes the trip often to be able to see one of her favorite animals.

Time with family is important to the pair. They grew up in big wrestling families, so watching and attending wrestling and other sports with them is an activity they thoroughly enjoy.

In March, the couple was able to finally take their honeymoon and had a fabulous time. They spent a week in Texas exploring the Gulf Coast, amazed by the wildlife they were able to see along with enjoying the all the sunshine and sand. One interesting experience was being able to witness a rescue team on the beach to help a sea turtle trapped in some fishing line.

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