



December Newsletter

549 Family Foundation
200 5th St. SE
Perham, MN 56573

Merry Christmas!!

Congratulations! \$1800.00 was granted by the 549 Family Foundation to assist in the cost of the Laurentian trip in northern Minnesota for Perham eighth graders. Besides learning basic winter survival skills, this 4 day outdoor experience provides opportunities for the kids to realize in successful teamwork, sometimes you must lead, but it is equally important to know how to follow. They develop tolerance, confidence and respect for their peers and themselves. This is Perham's 5th eighth grade class to attend Laurentian.

Also, congratulations to the PHS Mass Media class for receiving \$400.00 from 549 Family to assist them to visit Minneapolis' East View High School (an award winning broadcast journalism program) to observe electronic journalism classes and watch media productions. They'll also go to commercial radio and television stations to tour and meet with professional journalists. The trip will encourage improvements in WPHS aired to viewers within a 150 mile radius of Perham. WPHS productions are a direct reflection of our schools in the Perham-Dent District.

To apply for a grant to benefit ISD 549, go to www.549family.com for the application. It is recommended, but not required that grant applications for the '05-'06 school year be submitted by September 30, 2005. Drop your completed app at any district school office, attention of coordinator, Jo Strege, PWMS.

Effective 12-31-05, Cyndy Huber will be completing her term as a member of the 549 Family Advisory Committee. Cyndy has served as treasurer and has kept records for the organization for several years which is a huge job. We will miss her smile and dedication a great deal, and we sincerely thank her for everything she has done.

Advisory Committee members are selected annually in December and begin service on January 1st. AC board members may serve no more than two consecutive three-year terms. The AC board meets quarterly and conducts some business electronically between meetings. Meetings generally take 1 hour or less.

It is the responsibility of the board to keep the foundation in compliance with West Central Initiative policy, determine fiscal management, and field grant requests. Board members should champion the efforts of 549 Family to make opportunities available for the students of the Perham-Dent school district and help keep our graduates competitive in their college years and successful in their vocational, artistic and professional careers.

The December meeting of the 549 Family AC board will be held December 13th in the PHS Lower Conference Room at 12:25pm. If you are interested in being considered for the board position, we invite you to join us at this meeting.

It's **BLEACHER** season!

Girls' Basketball, Boys' Basketball, Wrestling, Gymnastics, Boys' Swimming...so guess you'll be sitting on those plank bleachers what...90 to 100 hours this year...PER SPORT???

Wouldn't it be smarter to get a comfortable cushion with a BACKREST so those lower back muscles aren't SCREAMING at you by the final buzzer?

Nylon covered, lightweight, and oh, so comfortable...they'll last many seasons into the future! See 549 Family at home events while supplies last, and they're

Meet 549 Family Board Member, David Arvig

David serves as Chief Operating Officer for Arvig Enterprises, Inc., East Otter Tail Telephone Company, Twin Valley-Ulen Telephone Company, Callaway Telephone Company, Tekstar Cablevisions, Inc, Tekstar Communication, Inc., and Midwest Information Systems, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

David has been involved in the telephone industry for 19 years and has served on the Education, Internet, Legislative and RUS Committees for OPASTCO and is currently serving on their Board. He is presently serving on the Technology & Engineering Committee for Minnesota Telcom Alliance (MTA) and on the Board of Directors for Minnesota Association for Rural Telecommunications (MART). David is also currently serving on the Budget Committee and on the Board of Directors for Western Telecommunication Association (WTA) and on the Board of Governor's for Independent Emergency Services, Ilc.



David has been and remains active in his community. He served as Mayor for two terms in Twin Valley, MN. He currently serves on the Perham Area Community Center (PACC) Board, 549 Board Foundation, the Economic Development Authority Board, Treasurer of Lake Region Community Partners, and serves as a Board Member for the Perham Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Holley reside in Perham with their 2 children, Elena in 8th grade and Evan in 5th.

Is Uncle Sam going to take a big chunk out of you on April 15th?

Lower that bill with a tax-deductible donation to the 549 Family Foundation. If you have to pay it anyway, why not keep it local!

There are several options that can save you tax dollars with donations to non-profits. Talk to your accountant and support the ISD #549 schools with a gift to 549 Family.

**Strong schools,
strong communities**

Honey Bee Gala

April 1st, 2006; Mulligan's Pub & Eatery

Dear 549 Family members,

You are cordially invited to take part in the planning of the 2nd Annual Honey Bee Gala.

The planning committee meets for one hour on 3 dates. We had 22 people plan last year's event so the load was light for all and a lot more fun, too!

**Meeting #1 Brainstorm
Jan. 9th**

**Meeting #2 Nitty-Gritty
Feb. 16th**

www.549family.com

218-347-0549

Board Members:

David Arvig

Cyndy Huber

Tom Spencer

Jo Strege (Coordinator)

Dean Bahls

Brian Mort

Bob Wilkowski

Superintendent to Advise:

Tamara Uselman

