

Jim Arvidson
5M9 District Governor

CRUISING! TO SERVE

District 5M9



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Check out www.lionsof5m9.org and www.lionsmd5m.org

Underwood Lions receive Star Award

The Underwood Lions were given the STAR Award for Excellence in Assistive Technology at the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 13, 2010. The club chartered a bus for all those who could attend the ceremony. Underwood Lions was the only service organization receiving this award this year.

The group was met at the Capitol by State Senator Dan Skogen and State Representative Bud Nornes, both of whom congratulated them and had pictures taken. Club members were given a tour of the Capitol and attended a reception after the presentation ceremony for those who received STAR awards this year.

The Underwood Lions were nominated for the award by someone on the staff at the Underwood school because the club purchased a computer and special equipment for a boy with a rare eye condition. This equipment allows him to attend regular classes at school with his peers and see the teacher's instructions at the same time as the rest of the class. He has been using this equipment for two years now and will be able to take it with him throughout his school career.

The text of the presentation follows.

The Underwood Lions Club in Underwood, Minnesota does great things for a community of only 319 residents. In small communities it is not unusual for friends and neighbors to get to know each other—to provide a helping hand—to be 'neighborly'. The International Lions Club motto of "We Serve" fits right in here in this community.

The National Lions Club programs include sight conservation, hearing and speech conservation, diabetes awareness, youth outreach, international relations, environmental issues, and other programs. The Lions Clubs International was founded in the United States in 1917 by Melvin Jones, a Chicago business-



Underwood Lions at the State Capitol with State Representative Bud Nornes and State Senator Dan Skogen.

man. Jones said many things, but his personal code was, "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else."

The Underwood Lions did just that. Upon learning of the needs of a junior high school student who was losing his eyesight the Lions sought to learn more about this student and ask if there was any way they could help. The student needed a computer designed to help him do his homework and access the internet from home—the Underwood Lions found the means to purchase and give (not loan) the computer to the student.

The student has since moved from the community and the computer went with him. And that's OK with the Underwood Lions Club. You see, they were not giving this student a computer. They were giving this young man—this fellow human being—a CHANCE. A chance to succeed. A chance to know that people care. To raise a family. To pass on the

giving spirit. They gave much, much more than a computer.

How could a club in a town of 319 give so much? They "Serve". They 'did something for someone else'. They were successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition and working together to improve their communities. They cared!!

The Underwood Lions give generously to the needs of the community, but in this case, they met the needs of one individual through providing assistive technology.

Accepting the award on behalf of the club is club president Gordon Hanson.

Of all the Lions Clubs in Minnesota, it was the Underwood Lions who received recognition from the State with this award. But in a sense, it was all the Lions of Minnesota, for each club routinely does similar things. They all serve!



Classic Lion Tails

Jim Arvidson, Lions District 5M-9 Governor



The Time is Truly NOW !!

WHAT TIME IS IT??

NOW is the Time to continue our Great LIONS SERVICE. Now is the Time to Make a Difference for your Community and all of Humanity. We have so many good programs and resources available to you. Use them Now. If you have a New idea or project. Don't wait. Try it Now .

NOW is the Time to let the Public know about Who we are and What we do. We are the Largest Service Organization in the World. Say it. We are the Number One Organization in the World for What we do. Say it. Be Proud to be a LION.

NOW is the Time to ask someone to be a LION. We have had a Fantastic Year for New Members and we NOW have the Momentum ! Continue to give others the Opportunity to Give something back to their Community. People want to help, they want to Serve. Give them the opportunity. My Goal is to reach over 200 New Members by June. We can do it!! ALL YOU HAVE TO IS ASK.

NOW is the Time to continue your Support for your Club and your Members. Keep ALL the Good Members your Club has. Give support to your new officers. Help them to help your club become stronger and more active. Be Positive, and your Club will be Positive with you!

NOW is the Time to think about and support the Eleven Main Projects that we have in our District. They are ALL very important. We have also added Special Olympics as a partner .

But, **NOW** is especially the Time to support Project New Hope as we work to take this Nationwide throughout the U.S. and Canada by 2015. NOW is the TIME to help sell a chance for the NEW 2011 MUSTANG GT Convertible that will take us to the

Next Level for PNH. NOW is the Time to Sell, Sell, Sell!!

NOW is also the Time to Enjoy Life. We only have one chance to be on this World. Enjoy Who you are, What you do, and Why you do it. Enjoy being a LION. We will all be better for it!!

District Governor Jim Arvidson

**OLE: Money will Buy a Fine Dog,
But only Kindness will Make Him Wag his Tail!!**

All smiles for the start



The start of a 230 trek, Moorhead, Minnesota and District Governors from the area wish Mark the best. 5M8 District Governor Jim Diehl and wife Carol from St. Cloud, Linda Arvidson, Perham Lion Mark Schmit, 5M11 District Governor Jeannine Windels from Crookston and 5M9 District Governor Jim Arvidson from Parkers Prairie.

CRUZIN' TO SERVE 5M9 Newsletter



This is a publication of, by and for the Lions, Lioness, & Leos of District 5M-9.

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Please submit stories, photos with captions, ads and other material to the editor before the 15th of the month.

Subscriptions are \$8 for one year.

“On the road again”

May

- 10 Deerwood Lions visit
- 12 PNH Motley
- 13 Hackensack Lions visit
- 15 Fish Opener
- 18 Aitkin and Aitkin Riverboat Lions visit
- 19 Underwood Lioness visit - The Peak
- 20 Riverside Lions Open House
- 24 Henning Lions visit
- 25 Bay Lake Lions visit
- 26 Pillager Lions visit and 25th Anniversary
- 26 Zone 1, Pillager

June

- 14 Merrifield Lions visit
- 18-19 “Smokin Iron” Ottertail
- 21 Zone 8 - Dalton
- 25 Parkers Prairie Lions visit
- 28 McGregor Lions visit
- 28 International Convention
Sydney, Australia

July

- 22 Vietnam Moving Wall - Crosby Park
- 25 Bluffton Ladies Luncheon

August

- 1 District 5M9 Cabinet Meeting - Wadena
- 8 “Classic” vehicle show Parkers Prairie
- 26 Tee It Up!! Grand View, Nisswa
- 26 You could be the Mustang Winner!

September

- 23-25 USA/Canada Forum, Milwaukee

October

- 10 5M9 Mini Forum
- 30 Thanksgiving For Vision

January 2011

- 14-16 5M9 Mid-Winter Conv -
Breezy Point Resort

April 2011

- 7-10 MD5M Regional Leadership Institute,
Mahnomen

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Heartbeat of 5M9

Linda Albrecht-Norby
Vice District Governor 5M9



District 5M9 can be very proud of the clubs that are chartered here. Yes, we have lost some over the years to various reasons. Along with the clubs disappearing, so did many of the members who belonged to those clubs. Not so very long ago District 5M9 was at a minus 357 members and today we are at a plus 31 as of the end of March. You have all worked hard to increase your memberships and I applaud each and every one of you for the commitment you continue to bring to the District. There are many possible members out there and you just may be passing them by each day as you travel down Main street in your community. There is also the new family in town looking for a connection to meet and greet new people or those who would like to join in a Service project. We need to ask ourselves the following questions about our clubs and community:

Is our club active in serving the community?

Do the projects we do reflect the needs of the community?

Is the public aware of Lions' service?

Are the projects and events promoted well?

Are community members (potential Members) aware of upcoming projects and encouraged to participate?

Do we as a club want to promote both men and women?

These are some basic questions that can be asked of your club members? The need for spring cleaning is here and with the new officers coming in July, this is a great time to do an assessment of your club and the need for sprucing up your projects.

Many clubs don't go beyond their city limits or understand what the Lions Organization is all about. When was the last time you did an orientation program for both the new and older members. It's never too late to learn! This would also be a great time to do a Member Motivation Survey. Start by visiting the clubs in your zone and see what they are doing for projects. Maybe you and another club could take on ditch cleanup for a new project this year and ask a possible new member to get involved. Take pictures and get it in the local paper to let everyone see and read about your local clubs activity. If you don't tell people about what your doing, they won't have a clue what the local Lions club does! Get creative and come up with a contest for the local kids and get those faces seen too.

Most of all, take advantage of the cabinet members and ask them to come to a club meeting and do a program. You can learn what is being done with the money you donate each year, or are you looking for something new to donate to.

Send your newsletters to other clubs in your zone and let them know what you have been up to this month. If you don't have one, start one! Another way to get out there and brag, is in fact a Brag Book of your club. Share the Lions Pride!!!!!!

When you return from the College of Leadership this month, let your club members know what you found and how this learning experience can help the club. If you aren't a new officer, come and listen to PDG Wayne Swanson and learn a little about the law and the do's and don'ts for Lions Club.

The Lions Organization and its members are wonderful. Expand your club and believe in a positive future for both your community and your club. This will help bring new people to the community and business.

Walking the Pathway of Service

DGE Linda Albrecht-Norby

Spring Classics



HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP TO...
Robert Wadlow,
THE WORLD'S TALLEST MAN?

HE WAS HERE!
August 11, 1939

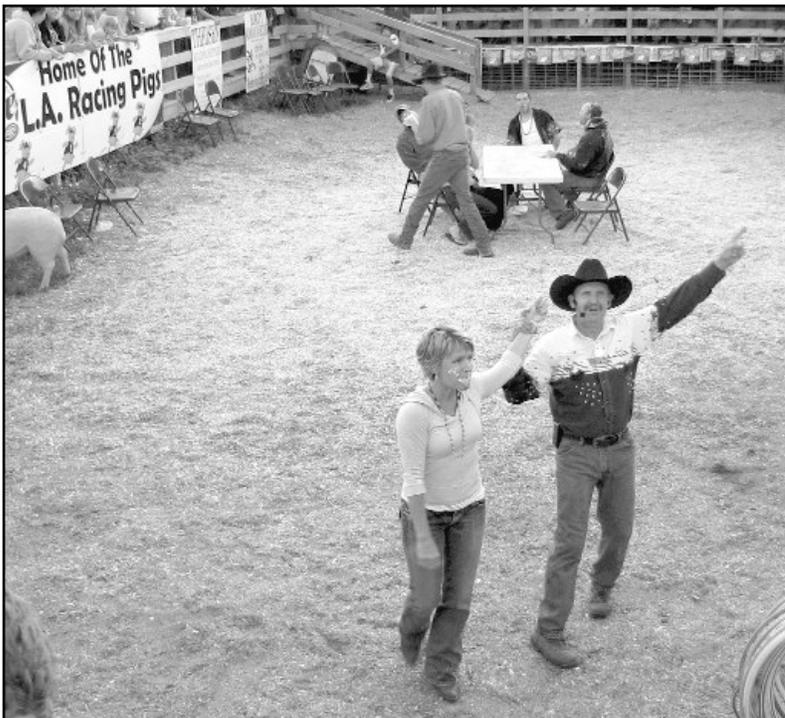
Height
8 feet 8¹/₄ inches

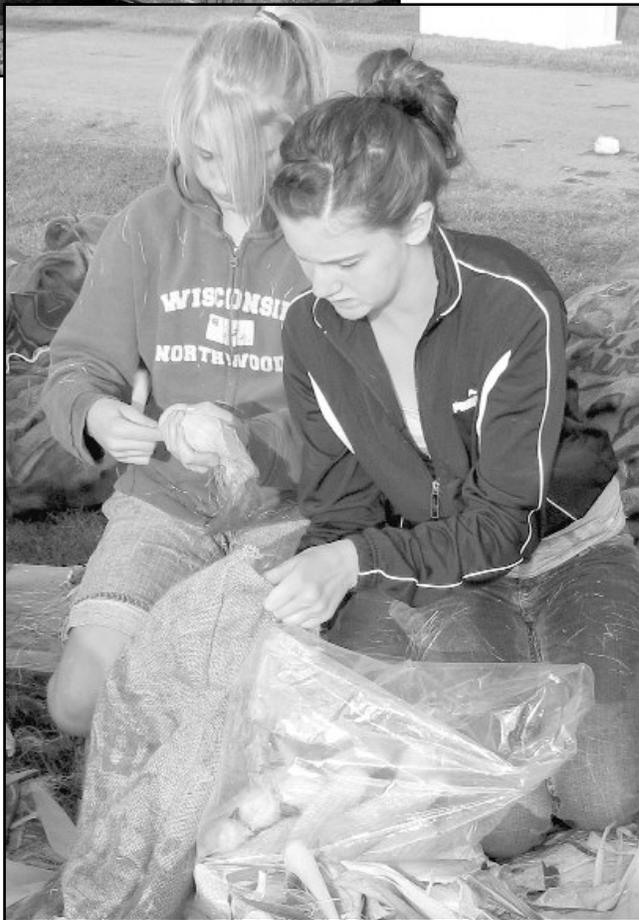
Weight
491 pounds

Shoe Size
37

Born
Feb. 22, 1918

Died
July 15, 1940



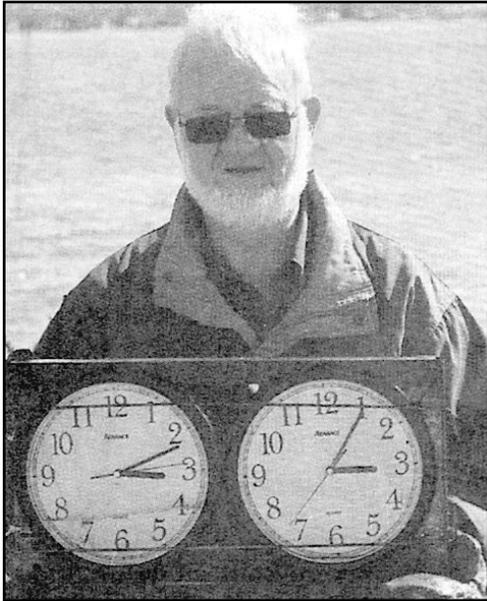


Lions' truck sinks in March

by Allan Olson, Cass Lake Times

For the first time on record, the Cass Lake Lions truck has broken through the ice before April. The truck officially fell through on March 29th at 3:08 p.m.

The first place winners, Ann Cloud



Lion Ardean Braggalla held the two clocks that were in the Cass Lake Lions truck. One clock read 3:06pm and the other 3:11pm. Official time was call to be 3:08pm on March 29.

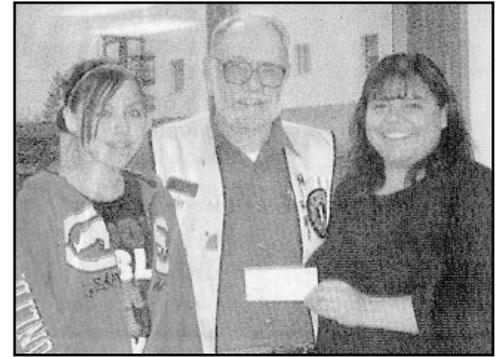
and Tasha LaRose, will each get \$130. Cloud also picks up another \$74 for third place and Don Dorn collects fourth place for \$37. The total amount raised in the 50/50 raffle was \$742.

The rescue mission began last Thursday at 10 p.m. with the aid of a boat, cable and a city loader truck. Two individuals, the same as most years, Tom Prosser and Leonard Tompkins, volunteered to man the oars (motor wouldn't start after a winter off) and get the cable attached to the truck and slowly bring the cable back to shore where along with a chain and the use of a loader was pulled back to shore until next winter when the Lions club start their scholarship drive again.

The tickets sold help sponsor scholarships donated by the club for local students to aid with their college careers.

The earliest date prior to this was April 11. The Lions records for the truck sinking are:

May 6, 1960	April 27, 1965 3:58 a.m.
April 30, 1961	April 11, 2006 3 a.m.
May 3, 1962	April 21, 2007 4:07 a.m.
April 16, 1963	April 22, 2008 10:48 a.m.
April 21, 1964 11:10 a.m.	April 16, 2009 12:30 p.m.



The first and third place winner of the Lions truck sinking contest was Ann Cloud (right). She received a check for \$204 for her correct guesses. The truck fell through the ice on March 29 at 3:08 p.m. Ann's guesses were 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. She is pictured with the project head Tom Prosser and her daughter Adriena Cloud.

FERGUS FALLS- NOON LIONS CHARTER NIGHT CELEBRATION

You're invited to attend a dinner and program to be held at:
EAGLES CLUB

105 S PECK, FERGUS FALLS, MN
SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Social hour: 6:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Program: 8:00 p.m.
PROGRAM:

**PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR
B.J. "Ben" WARD**

The cost of the dinner is \$15.00 per person.

Please R.S.V.P. by June 8th with the number attending to:
Wallace Manderud (218) 739-2882

All gifts will be acknowledged and presented during program.

If you would like to send a gift, but are unable to attend,
please send your gift to

Linda Knutson, Treasurer
124 Two Rivers Rd, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Emily, Outing, 50 Lakes Lions

4 Person – 18 Hole Golf Scramble

Sunday, May 23

1:30 at Emily Greens

Entry Fee \$50

Includes cart, Grilled Pork dinner

Call Roger Richters
at 218-792-5211

or

Emily Greens Pro
Shop 218-763-2169

Entry Deadline May 16



Nisswa's Reichenbach started Ski & Board-A-Thon

by Lion Bob Reichenbach

Ski Gull is a local winter facility that was developed back in 1962 with the idea of giving our area youth some fresh air, fun and exercise in the winter. It's a 501C(3) non profit facility just like the Lions that depends on volunteers and donations to develop and support it's programs.

Each year it gives approximately 1,000 area 6th graders a day of free ski lessons as well as hosting a variety of other programs for our area residents including lessons and equipment for those with special needs and equipment and passes to people in the community who are financially strapped.

Seven years ago I started what we call the Ski & Board-A-Thon to help specifically with the area of special needs and underprivileged kids and families. It's a fund raising event with the proceeds going to equipment and training for those special needs kids & adults and Fresh Air



Individuals volunteer giving ski lessons to all the area 6th graders in the Brainerd Lakes area. No one is turned away.



6th graders are listening to instructions on the basics of skiing.

and Fun Scholarships, which provide equipment, and passes for families in the community who need financial help.

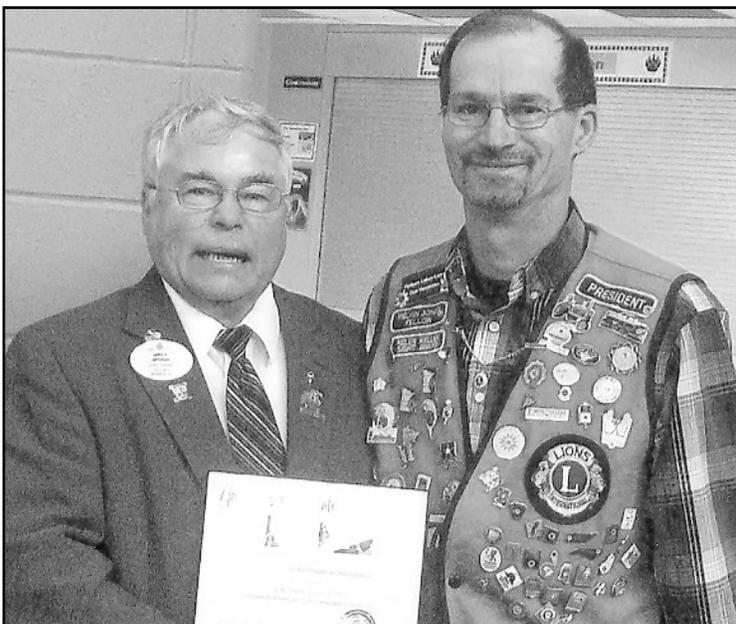
The first year there were just a couple of us and we raised about \$2,000. Last year, we had 28 participants make 1705 runs and raised \$9,600.

To give you a little indication as to some of what the event accomplishes. We were able to provide 40 families of limited means with passes and/or equipment this year.

On Jan 15th of this year three of the students in the 6th grade learn to ski program were wheel chair bound. Not too many years ago they would have only been able to watch and wish, this year all three were able to go up and down the hill with the rest of their class with the aid of our ski bucket and trained assistants.

Please check out Ski Gull on the web at www.skigull.com

Hendrickx receives Governors award



At the Lions College of Leadership recently held in Wadena, Lion Don Hendrickx of the Lakes Lions/Perham, was honored when he received the Governors Excellence Service Award from 5M9 District Governor Jim Arvidson. Lion Don was commended on his dedication to Kamp Kace, a camp near Vergas, Minnesota which is opened to kids with cancer for one week in August. He is the Camp West Director for 5M9, and he along with other Lions in the area, are erecting a building that will be handicapped accessible for those kids in wheelchairs. Besides a sleeping area, there will also be handicapped accessible bathrooms and showers. This building will make a huge impact on providing a more enjoyable week for those kids. The camp is funded by the Lions and other personal donations and if you are interested in more information on this camp or want to make a monetary donation, please contact Lion Don at 346-5899. A dedication of the building is being planned for this summer, during the camp.

Left pictured is DG Jim Arvidson and Lion Don Hendrickx.

Scooter marathon a success

Mark Schmidt battled blisters, bum-knee, sunburn

By Louis Hoglund, East Otter Tail Focus

A Perham man's foot powered scooter trek from Moorhead to the Twin Cities was completed in six days--raising more than \$9,200 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The "Scootin' to the Next Level" marathon covered more than 230 miles from the start in Moorhead, April 22, to the arrival at Target Field, April 27.

"We were pretty much on schedule; we figured five or six days," said Mark Schmidt, founder of the local "Dreams for Kids/Make-A-Wish Foundation" group.

The pot of gold at the end of the rainbow was Schmidt's entrance to the annual "Wish Ball." The Make-A-Wish Foundation gala was hosted at the new Twins stadium, where Schmidt arrived on his scooter--wearing a tuxedo. He enjoyed dinner, a tour of Target field and met several Minnesota Vikings.

The rigors of pushing a scooter nearly across an entire state was not without a little agony. After only his first day, blisters plagued his feet. Thanks to a knee surgery years ago, Schmidt's bum knee troubled him all the way--and he's be limping for three days. Sunburn and windburn were other issues. In the process--Schmidt lost 20 pounds.

"If I ever did this again," forty-year-old Schmidt paused, with a hint of reluctance in his laugh, "I'd probably try to get into better physical shape."

The scoot was mostly uneventful, with the possible exception of a deputy near Motley who said "Schmidt's scooter-pushing on the highway was a safety hazard.

But Minnesota State Troopers were helpful all the way. As it turns out, said Schmidt, the Minnesota State Patrol was one of the earliest supporters of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



Mark Schmidt surrounded by Perham school children, makes his way through Perham.

In Wadena, the chief of police gave Schmidt an escort through town. The fact that he was a fellow Lions member may have helped, said Schmidt.

In Royalton, a former Perham police officer, Adam Gunderson, escorted Schmidt through town.

Minneapolis cops were helpful too, noted Schmidt. They directed Schmidt to some bike paths, which made for easier travel for Schmidt as he rolled his way through the Metro area.

"Downhill, I got about 15 miles an hour," said Schmidt. but his average speed was about seven mph.

The marathon scooter run fro the Make-A-Wish Foundation covered 64 miles on April 22, after a celebratory send-off in Moorhead. Schmidt was surrounded by Moorhead dignitaries, regional Lions governors, and television cameras prior to take-off.

A good friend, originally for Perham, Kevin

Berns, brought his entire construction crew to the Moorhead launch location--just to cheer on Schmidt.

"Outstanding" is how Schmidt described the Moorhead launch event; and his trip through Perham and New York Mills on day two.

"It was very emotional to see people come out and support it...to see your friends and family get behind you," said Schmidt. "It's not every day that business owners waving at you from their storefronts, cheering you on."

Perham area native Schmidt raised at least \$7200 by the time he came to a rolling stop in his hometown Thursday night.

As one of the founders of the local "Dreams for Kids" group, which raises funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Schmidt has been a driving force in organizing the annual charity motorcycle ride, which is planned for July 24 this year.

The Perham Lions, of which Schmidt is a member, is one of the lead sponsoring organizations. Contributions from Lions Clubs have come in from throughout the state.

Publicity and media coverage was widespread for Schmidt's unusual trek, including numerous TV, radio and newspaper reporters. The first day was the toughest for Schmidt.

"The night before I started, I really didn't sleep," said Schmidt, who unfortunately also had a cold and cough when he started out. "After the first day, I was really emotionally and physically drained."

But the support shown in Perham and New York Mills was a motivational force.

"It was really overwhelming to see the kids cheering me on in Perham and New York Mills," said Schmidt. "And I had so many friends supporting me all the way."

DG Jim Arvidson

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Parkers Prairie, MN 56361-9611



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STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
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PERMIT NO. 45**



We Serve