

# I went skydiving.... at 89

MARCIA HORA

What do you do when you have sky diving on your bucket list and been married for 70 years? For 89-year-old Bill Jividen of Stapleton it was easy. You go skydiving.

Bill's son, Donald Jividen said his dad had talked about jumping out of a plane several times. At his parent's 70th anniversary party he asked his dad if he was really serious. Bill said yes.

Donald, who has made three jumps, said 'then let's do it.'

Arrangements were made with 'Out of the Blue Skydiving' to join a sky diving group at a small airport at Limon, Colorado.

The Jividens were in the sixth group of the day and Bill was paired with "Dink," a USPA-rated tandem instructor who was with him through the entire process. After about 10 minutes of ground instruction, Bill was ready to make his first skydive.

He and Dink were strapped together with special parachute gear designed for two.

The plane ascended more than 12,000 feet in about eight minutes and Bill said that's when he was told to exit the plane and Bill bailed out.

"It's just a remarkable feeling in freefall," Bill said. "It blew my mind. There was absolutely no sound and I can't describe the experience of floating. It's the biggest thrill and if you like an adrenaline rush it's for you. But I would have to say it's not for everyone."



COURTESY PHOTO

Bill Jividen with his skydiving partner 'Dink' preparing for the big event.

At about 5,000 feet the parachute is deployed and then you can sit back and relax and enjoy the scenery.

"Dink told me to hold my feet up and it was a gentle landing," Bill added.

Donald said he was a little concerned because his dad has a bad knee and after all he is 89, but he said it couldn't have gone any better.

Bill's philosophy in life is if you 'retire you rust out.' He sure doesn't have to worry about rust as he approaches his 90th birthday in October. He

stays busy every day and has been the grain cart driver at Wells Enterprises for the last 26 years. He has also mowed McCain Cemetery since 2011 Bill worked for Stoddard Well Drilling and was a licensed well driller for 14 years before retirement and worked for Barnum Well Repair for eight years. He plays music with his son, Kenny the last Sunday of the month at the Cornerstone Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Stapleton.

Bill said a big blessing is he and his wife Vera



COURTESY PHOTO

We made it! Donald and Bill Jividen pose after skydiving with the 'Out of the Blue Skydiving' group at Limon, Colorado.

(Daly) have never experienced any major health problems their entire lives.

Bill and Vera were married on April 19, 1953, in North Platte. They have

four children, Kenny, Chuck, Kondra, and Donald.

"Vera doesn't ever want to jump, but she didn't tell me I couldn't," Bill

said with a big grin. "All I can say it was a thrill of a lifetime"

And would Bill do it again? Sure if he gets another chance.

## Friends & Family Organize Benefit

MARCIA HORA

Friends and family of Becky Kramer of Stapleton, rallied to assist with medical expenses and other items not covered by insurance, with a benefit held June 25 at the Eagle's Club in North Platte.

Becky has been diagnosed with terminal stage 4 metastatic lung cancer which started in her lungs, went to her liver and bones, and continues moving. She remains at home and is being cared for by her family.

Becky has undergone radiation and immunotherapy, a lighter version of chemotherapy.

There was a great turnout for the benefit that included a meal and the chance to bid on donated items from people in Tryon, Stapleton, North Platte and Kearney.

Becky and her family thank the community for their attendance and support at the benefit and to those who donated the great items to make it a success.



COURTESY PHOTO

Becky Kramer, seated at left, is pictured with her mother and siblings. Back row, l-r: Charlene Freeman, Donna Wright and Jack Arensdorf. Front row, l-r: Becky Kramer and Anna Melvin.

## Active residential & agricultural market in Logan County

MARCIA HORA

Logan County Assessor Debbie Myers mailed out notice of valuation changes for the 2023 tax year of real estate, improvements and improvements on leased lands in Logan County.

There was an active market for residential property in 2022. No changes to values were made with the exception of adding changes or additions that were made to the property.

Market studies are done on all Logan County residential properties, including mobile homes and acreages for a period of three years starting October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2022.

There were a total of 19 sales in the residential sales filed for 2022. The current level of residen-

tial property value approved by the Department of Revenue and Tax Equalization and Review Commission is 93%.

There was no change in value in commercial property unless new improvements or depreciation were changed. There was only one commercial sale in the three year sales period from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2022. The current level of commercial property value as approved by the Department of Revenue and Tax Equalization and Review Commission is 100%.

Logan County agricultural land for the 2023 tax year saw a total of 26 qualified sales of unimproved agricultural land in the three-year study period from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2022.

Out of the 26 sales, 15 were grassland, one dryland and 10 irrigated. Grassland, dryland and irrigated all increased an average of 4% across the board. The current level of agricultural property value approved by the Department of Revenue and Tax Equalization and Review Commission is 72%.

Taxpayers are reminded the amount of taxes required is determined by the budgeted needs requested by each Government Subdivision.

Taxing subdivisions within Logan County include Logan County, Stapleton Public Schools, Arnold Public Schools, Sandhills Public Schools, Stapleton, Dunning and Arnold Fire Districts, Educational Service Units #16 and #10, Mid-Plains Community College and Upper Loup NRD.

### Stapleton Senior Meal Program Needs Your Help

Anyone wishing to make a donation to assist in helping keep the senior meal program running you may do so by bringing it to the senior meal board member working that day at the Hen House Café.

Donations may also be mailed to Debbie Myers, Senior Meal Board Treasurer, 196 County Road 90, Stapleton, NE 69163.

### Vet's Club Street Dances

The Vet's Club in Stapleton has scheduled two street dances in August.

Steel Bars & Guitars will be playing Friday, August 4, from 8:00 p.m. until midnight after the Logan County Fair events. A familiar band member is Ashley Doyle.

B.J. Jamison will be playing Saturday, August 19 from 8:00 p.m. until midnight.

### Weather

| DATE | HI | LO | MT   |
|------|----|----|------|
| 10   | 71 | 51 | 0.22 |
| 11   | 89 | 51 | 0.27 |
| 12   | 86 | 61 | 0.01 |
| 13   | 86 | 61 | .29  |
| 14   | 84 | 60 | .10  |

Observations: Thunder was recorded on July 10, 13 and 14.



Every Thursday  
Afternoon in Stapleton  
3:30 p.m.

### McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- Prairie Hills Senior Menu
- Water Quality

### Public Notices

- Notice Of Trustee's Sale
- Village Of Gandy Board Proceedings
- Logan County Commissioners & BOE Proceedings
- McPherson County Commissioners & BOE Proceedings
- Notice To McPherson Co. Landowners - Mowing
- Logan County Salary For Officers & Employees

Know What's Going On In Your Community  
Read the Notices.

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