

The Hastings Senior Times™

A Weekly Publication for Seniors.

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P.O. Box 1361, Hastings, NE 68902

Marten Called to Serve in the Czech Republic

Stephen Marten, a 2002 graduate of Hastings High School, is serving in the northern part of the Czech Republic, near the border of Poland and Germany. He is serving the Lord as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Stephen's oldest brother, Joseph served as a missionary in Switzerland from 1998-2000. Older brother Benjamin is currently doing missionary service in Riverside, California and older sister Lucy is serving a Spanish-speaking mission in Long Beach, California.

Having three of their five children away from home serving missions is a blessing, says their mother, Sue Marten, of Hastings. "They are doing this to make a difference in the world," she said, "to serve God, and to bring others unto Christ. They're not out seeking adventure, they're helping people."

New and different experiences are, however, a part of serving a mission. While being driven to his apartment from the airport upon his arrival in Prague, Stephen's car was involved in a minor traffic accident. "The other driver just backed up and drove away," said Stephen's father Mark Marten, a local

engineer. "It was no big deal, just what they do there."

Serving in a poor area near Long Beach, Lucy has come to appreciate the comforts of her middle class upbringing. "When she first got there, she was teaching a family that was one of five families all living in a garage," said Sue. "When she saw how very little these families had, she realized how fortunate our family has been." Another experience where Lucy felt the influence of the Lord in her life was when there was a car fire adjacent to her apartment window. With her missionary companion Lucy knelt and offered a short prayer, then evacuated the building, alerting her neighbor along the way. A fireman later told Lucy that such fires almost always break the windows and catch the house on fire. When told that they were missionaries, the fireman remarked that the Lord must have been watching out for them.

Other benefits of service come after the mission. Joseph, who didn't study German in school served with several native German-speaking companions on his mission in Switzerland. "He just recently tested out of 16 credits in German," said Sue of the sophomore at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. "And, he's been on the Dean's List every semester," added Mark, noting Joseph had not always been a top student.

"They have thought about serving missions since they were little kids," said Mark. "They had to work hard to earn the money so they could go, and all of our children attended



Caleb, Joseph, Benjamin, Stephen & Lucy Marten dressed for church wearing their church's trademark "missionary uniform" of white shirt, tie, and black nametag. Photo circa 1993.

seminary." Seminary is instruction focusing on scripture study for high school students, held every morning before school for 45 minutes. "It shows real dedication to the Lord."

Youngest son, Caleb, a senior at Hastings High School is planning to enter missionary service in the summer of 2004. Lucy is scheduled to come home this summer, Benjamin in 2004, and Stephen in 2005.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has more than 11 million members worldwide, with more than 50,000 young men and women serving full time as missionaries. There are four missionaries currently serving in Hastings. Church services are held locally on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. at 1725 N. Crane Avenue. Visitors are welcome.

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Community Calendar

*See Calendar Key below for abbreviations
(Readers may wish to verify event time & location.)

If you wish to have something placed on our Community Calendar, please mail it to: Calendar Coordinator, The Hastings Senior Times, PO Box 1361, Hastings, NE 68902-1361 at least three weeks prior to event. Or, send e-mail to: calendar@hastingstimes.com (no attachments please.)

- Daily - Shuffleboard 12:45 p.m. - **GFC**
 Thru May 9 - Hastings Art Club Art Show, **HM**
 Thru June 9 - Film - "Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West," **HM**
 Thru Sep 8 - Film - "Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees," **HM**
 Thru June 2 - "Sun Spotting," Planetarium, **HM**
 Apr 21 - Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) Meeting. - 7 pm **ML** - 462-2762
 Apr 22 - "Reputable Health Sites on the World Wide Web" 4:30 p.m. - **ML** - 462-5113 (55-plus Program)
 Apr 23 - Parkinson's Support Group 2:00 p.m. - **ML** - 462-9970
 Apr 24, 26, 29, May 1 - Learning from Your Health Fair Results (see article before for locations & info)
 Apr 25 - Music Hour, 10 a.m., Perkins Auditorium, **HC**
 Apr 25 - League of Women Voters Meeting, 11:45 a.m., YWCA, 604 N. St. Joe, 462-8821
 Apr 26 - Star Gazing, 9 p.m., Sachtleben Observatory of **HC** 4725 S. Wabash Ave. Call for schedule changes. 462-7378
 Apr 27 - Hastings Symphony Orchestra, 3 p.m., City Auditorium, 400 Hastings Ave. - Tickets \$10 at the door. 461-7362
 Apr 27 - Dust Bowl Descent - slide presentation at Adams County Historical Society Mtg - 1:30 pm - **HM** 463-5838 (free)

- Apr 27 - Sigma Alpha Iota (women's music fraternity) Concert, 8 p.m., Perkins Auditorium, **HC**
 Apr 28 - Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia (men's music fraternity) Concert, 8 p.m., Perkins Auditorium, **HC**
 Apr 29 - Sinfonia Concert, 8 p.m., Perkins Auditorium, **HC**
 May 1-4 - Dinner Theatre "Twelfth Night" by Wm Shakespeare. Dinner at 6:30pm, Th-Sa & 12:30 p.m. Sun. **HC** (Reservations req. day before by 4 pm - Res. for Sun. req. by Fri. 4 pm - Box Office - 461-7380, hours M-F 12-5 pm)
 May 2 - Hastings Symphony Orchestra, 7:30 p.m., Chautauqua Pavilion/Prospect Park, 7:30 pm, Free - featuring "Peter and the Wolf." 461-7362
 May 3 - South Central Nebraska Children's Chorale performance, 7:30 p.m., French Chapel, **HC** 461-7448
 May 4 - Hastings Band Festival, 5 p.m., Chautauqua Pavilion, 5th & Laird. 461-7448
 May 5 - Cancer Support Grp Mtg, 7 pm YWCA, 604 N St. Joe.

Calendar Key

GFC = Golden Friendship Center 463-4439
HM = Hastings Museum 461-4629
HC = Hastings College 461-7448
ML = Mary Lanning Med Services Building

The Hastings Senior Times™ welcomes your letters. While we are not able to print letters to the editor at this time, we do read and reply privately to all letters. Address letters to: Editor, The Hastings Senior Times, PO Box 1361, Hastings, NE 68902 or via e-mail: editor@hastingstimes.com.

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Dust Bowl Presentation at Museum

Bill Ganzel will present a slide presentation entitled "Dust Bowl Descent" at the Annual Meeting of the Adams County Historical Society, Sunday, April 27 at 1:30 pm at the Hastings Museum Lecture Hall.

Ganzel located and interviewed individuals who survived the depression by using Farm Security Administration photographs. This slide program follows his journey in locating these people and recounts their stories. It juxtaposes recent photographs with 60-year-old images.

Following the formal presentation, audience members will be asked to recount their own or family experiences during the depression and the dust bowl.

This program is sponsored by the Nebraska Humanities Council and is free and open to the public.

Learning From Your Health Fair Results

The Hastings Health Ministry Network is sponsoring an educational program titled "Looking At and Learning From your Health Fair Results". Presenters from the Mary Lanning lab will explain how each test can be an indicator for specific health problems. Focus will also be on blood pressure and BMI, as well as the importance of personal responsibility in prevention. Four times and locations will be available to the community:

- Thur. April 24, 7-8 pm, Grace United Methodist Church
 Tue. April 29, Noon - 1 pm, First St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 Sat. April 26, 10-11 am, Good Samaritan Village
 Thur. May 1, 4:30-5:30 pm, MLMH, Medical Svcs Building
 There is no cost to attend. Call 460-5757 for more information.

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