

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

Campus News Archive

Campus News, Newsletters, and Events

4-18-2010

Final community meal of academic year on April 26

University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news

Recommended Citation

University Relations, "Final community meal of academic year on April 26" (2010). *Campus News Archive*. 1456.

https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news/1456

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus News, Newsletters, and Events at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Campus News Archive by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

Final community meal of academic year on April 26

Summary: The event is open to all members of the Stevens County community to enjoy a free-of-charge hot meal together.

(April 18, 2010)-The final Morris Community Meal of the academic year is scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2010, from 5:30 until 7 p.m. at the Stevens Community Center located at 603 Oregon Avenue in Morris. A collaborative program of the University of Minnesota, Morris Office of Community Engagement and community partners, the event is open to all members of the Stevens County community to enjoy a free-of-charge hot meal together.

Since its inception in January 2009, the Community Meal program has established a reputation for delicious menus and a warm, welcoming atmosphere. The project is a valued event in the community, providing free meals to hundreds of Stevens County residents and opening community space to build bridges and strengthen relationships.

Sam Esguerra, Community Engagement student representative, sums up the goal of Community Meal. "Community Meal is an excellent example of the value of community-based collective action and the incredible power that each of us has to improve and enrich our communities and the lives of those around us," he says. "The project demonstrates our ability to...empower ourselves to meet the needs of our neighbors."

The Community Meal program is supported by a broad coalition of local businesses and organizations. This spring, they include: Pomme de Terre Food Co-op, Willie's Supervalu, Stevens FORWARD!, Bremer Bank, Bello Cucina, Hoffman Realty, Mobiz Computers, John's Total Entertainment, Stevens County Food Shelf, Morris Senior Community Center, and the Office of Community Engagement.

Carol McCannon, community member and project co-organizer, notes the importance of community involvement: "Community Meal has been organized on the principle of increasing access to healthy food. Therefore, the success of the project depends upon all people knowing that they may come to eat without anything being expected of them. However, we do want to encourage people to become more involved in Community Meal if they wish."

Organizers are looking for businesses and community organizations interested in serving as meal sponsors next year, as well as volunteer cooks. Interested community members may come to the Morris Senior Community Center between 1 and 5 p.m. on the day of the meal to help prepare the meal. To get involved as a sponsor or volunteer, contact the Office of Community Engagement at 320-589-6276 or e-mail [manolis](mailto:manolis@morris.umn.edu) at morris.umn.edu.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.