

One Bright Star receives donation

MANKATO — The St. Clair Fire Department Relief Association has donated \$5,000 to One Bright Star, a Mankato-based organization dedicated to assisting families that have experienced the death of a child.

The money, from the association's charitable gambling funds, is given in memory of all St. Clair families that have lost a child.

The donation will be applied toward construction and maintenance of One Bright Star's memorial site being built in Mankato's Erlandson Park.

One Bright Star is a nonprofit organization offering financial and counseling support for aggrieved families.

Program funding has tripled

Annual funding has more than tripled in Minnesota for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, compared to the previous Farm Bill's allocation.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Each Soil and Water Conservation District has received an allocation of EQIP funds and has developed an application scoring sheet. Information is available at local NRCS offices or at www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/mncons.html