

# Stevermer keeps going and going

## 2023 Brown County Outstanding Senior Citizen

By Fritz Busch  
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**SLEEPY EYE** — Like the Energizer Bunny, Pat Stevermer of Sleepy Eye just keeps going and going.

The Sleepy Eye Community Education Director since 1979, Stevermer was honored at the Brown County Fair Senior Day Program on the New Ulm Civic Center stage Aug. 10.

In 2002, Stevermer received the 2002 Minnesota Community Education Association Community Educator Award for school districts with less than 20,000 students.

Leadership, lots of it as a volunteer, is what she does.

“I’ve been blessed with good health, a creative mind, supportive family, friends and co-workers,” she said. “I’ve been able to share my gifts to serve others.”

A native of Rose Creek, (southeast of Austin), she graduated from Adams Mn High School. In her junior year of

high school, she was president of the junior class, a 4-H club and Luther League.

Stevermer attended Austin Junior College and earned a bachelors degree in home economics at the University of Minnesota. She taught junior and senior high students for more than eight years in Wells and Sleepy Eye.

Stevermer has taught many adult classes and continues as an ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education) parent educator.

She spent nine years on the regional board of aging and on the Brown County Area United Way board; six years on the Pro Kinship for Kids board; was a Girl Scout leader from 1978 to 1985, Sleepy Eye Wide Awakes 4-H club adult leader from 1978 to 1994.

At Sleepy Eye Public School, Stevermer served on many committees including health and wellness, facilities, ECFE Advisory and Community Ed boards and was a basketball scorekeeper while her son Nate

was playing.

She serves on a number of area committees. The list includes 25 years on the Sleepy Eye Community Theater board working with costumes and ticket sales.

A founding member of the Sleepy Eye Education Foundation in 2001, she continues to serve as secretary.

Currently serving as the Mississippi Valley Regional Qui Vive Ballroom Dance Club president, serving seven states, Stevermer held many other positions with the group including Minnesota state president from 2014-16.

At Trinity Lutheran Church, she has served as Sunday school superintendent, youth parent volunteer and on the stewardship board for 50 years.

The past few years, she has been putting fabrics together for quilts for graduating high school students at church. Stevermer served as local officer, conference president and synodical secretary of Women in the ELCA.



Photo by Fritz Busch

Sleepy Eye Community Education Director Pat Stevermer is the 2023 Brown County Outstanding Senior Citizen.

She has also been involved with the Sleepy Eye Red Hats, bridge groups, a 4-H judge and open class fair projects in area counties.

Pat and her late husband Earle were 2009 Sleepy Eye Chamber of Commerce Volunteers of the Year.

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