

Falls City is home to a new state-of-the-art baseball complex, thanks in part to Brian Poppe, ballpark committee chairman for the project.

Brian is the son of LaVern Poppe of Grant.

The "Fiedler Family Ball Complex" named for benefactor Francis Fiedler, includes four diamonds where generations to come will hone their hitting, pitching and fielding skills.

The nearly \$2 million project was completed entirely by donations as well as in-kind donations by city utility and park department employees.

A dedication and ribbon-cutting was held on April 28, which included speakers Lt. Gov. Lavon Heidemann, State Sen. Dan Watermeier, Falls City Mayor Tim Hersh and Poppe.

One of the fields, Hartman Field, was named for Poppe's father-in-law Ed Hartman and his wife Sandra, who generously donated to the project.

Special thanks were given to Poppe and the ballpark committee treasurer Kevin Malone by emcee Rod Vandeberg. "I, for one, will think about you guys every time I drive by this complex," he said.

Poppe's daughter, Meredith, tossed out a ceremonious first pitch on Hartman Field following the ceremony.