



BACK IN THE DAY

Underwood

COMPILED BY SHELLY WALLACE
from the Files of the Central McLean News Journal

20 years ago, May 2006

Could the Reponow Slough become a kids' fishing pond encircled by a walking path? If Underwood resident Jason Gregoryk's vision becomes a reality, the city's young people may soon have their own fishing hole.

Steven Pansegrouw, the farm worker from South Africa that was burned when he fell into a bonfire during an altercation at a party near Underwood May 14, continues to improve in a St. Paul hospital. Skin grafts look good.

A copy of the Home Rule Charter is being hand delivered to every residence in the city to explain the issue, which will appear on the June 13 ballot.

The Mid State Porcelain Guild announced winners of their 2006 raffle. They were Kimberly Coutts of Underwood, Mike Stebbins of Coleharbor, and Mary Ann Clairn of Peidmont, S.D.

Updating the school's handbook continues to top the school board's agenda. Three candidates are running for school board: Dan Leidholm is running for the at-large seat currently held by Doyle Johannes; Tania Eichhorst is running for the rural seat currently held by school board president, John Fransen; and Terry Dammann is seeking the position currently held by Dan Leidholm. Leidholm is moving to Wolf Creek and can no longer be the city representative.

Rhett Nostdahl won the mile and two-mile races at the regional meet at the Bismarck Community Bowl.

Comet golfers came in with a score of 182 at the Garrison triangular May 16. Low score went to Blake Walker with a 43, Collin Malzer shot a 45, Jeremy Brande and Ross Hartley both shot 47. Girls were led by Ciara Edwards with a 58; with Cassidy Blotske coming in with a 59, and Bethany Holm, 61.

Does the city want to become the developer of the Westridge Golf Course Addition? The issue continues to be debated by the city commission and was once again discussed at length at Monday's meeting. Commission president, Rick Olson, said he met with a few representatives of the golf course, and they expressed their concerns regarding future development surrounding the golf course.

Mic Johnson, representing the Underwood Housing Authority, was at the city meeting to inquire about the Rust property, which the city had agreed to purchase. Johnson said the authority would like about 300 to 400 feet of the property for construction of a four plex for senior housing.

30 years ago, May 1996

Claudia Tauer-Stromberg, Underwood's mayor, has declined to seek a second term. No one petitioned to be

on the ballot for that office.

Two commission spots are open. Dave Binkley has indicated he is not interested in another term. Denny Portra holds the second spot, having been elected in a special election to replace Delene Brockel. Earl Cottingham is on the ballot for a commission post.

Junior middle distance runner Shayla Strasser brought home fifth place in the 800 meter run, and the girls two-mile relay team also brought home fifth place, giving the comets a total of eight points in the two-day state track meet. Members of the relay team were Bonnie Nostdahl, Jessica Cottingham, Angie Strasser and Shayla Strasser.

Cheri Ash and Stephanie Berg will be representing Underwood at the 50th session of Girls State on the UND campus in Grand Forks.

40 years ago, May 1986

The state Class B Sand Green Golf title will remain in the Underwood trophy case another year. The Underwood-Riverdale golf team completely overwhelmed the 17-team field in New Salem capturing their second straight state title. Charles Kranz was the medalist in state competition and was named the Most Valuable Player for the U-R team.

The Underwood relay team of Joel Karlson, Joel Koenig, Kelly Auck and Pat Martin won the state 1600 meter relay event, turning in a time of 3:29:86. The mark was the fastest time of the year for the young squad.

Grimsley's Garage moved to a new location in Underwood. The garage opened May 26 along the county road into Underwood from its downtown location. The garage will stay in the exhaust business but will now offer self-serve and full-service gasoline.

Selected to attend Boys State were Charles Kranz, Joel Koenig, Jeffery Snyder and Duane Pfliger.

Jerry Bloomquist was pleasantly surprised to find a 22 pound 5 ounce fish on his 17-pound line when he was fishing at Wolf Creek.

A Memorial Day Parade and Program were held with A.K. Johnson as speaker. Gary Hermanson was master of ceremonies and Rev. Tom Peterson gave the invocation.

50 years ago, May 1976

Only one person has filed an intention of candidacy for the Underwood School District. Harley Hassler has announced he will seek to replace Russel Hepper on the school board.

The Underwood City Dads received their appointments for the year. Leo Strecker is police commissioner, Duaine Schuh is water commissioner, Bob Rasmusson is street commissioner, and Lester Zietz is sanitation com-

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Turtle Lake-Mercer School Board approves summer contracts, reviews facilities needs

Board also approves election ballot and reviews transportation, insurance changes

BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

The Turtle Lake-Mercer School Board approved multiple summer contracts and reviewed facility and technology needs during its regular meeting April 20.

According to the meeting minutes published in the Central McLean News-Journal on May 21, the board unanimously approved contracts for extended school year services with Lana Clyde and Title I summer school instruction with Jason Vasbinder, both at \$35 per hour. A driver's education contract for Abby Schumann also was approved.

In staffing actions, the board approved contracts for Ellie Jacobs in family and consumer science and Kiley Kvamme in agricultural education, which included a signing bonus. Members also approved an agreement for Toni Cottingham to serve as work-based learning coordinator.

The board gave approval to a bid from Marco for a network upgrade through the federal E-rate program and approved a quote for cafeteria flooring.

Members also voted to post for bids for summer mowing.

Superintendent Sheila Schlafmann reported the district expects to receive about \$10,911 through the Small Rural Schools Achievement grant. She also noted Chromebooks in the district are reaching the end of their lifespan, with replacement quotes expected for the 2026-27 school year.

Schlafmann and Principal Kurt Zeibarth will present on the district's four-day school week at a summer con-

ference in Bismarck and are working on a required application due July 1.

The board reviewed a quote for HVAC units in nine classrooms and discussed additional electrical work needed, along with possible split-unit systems for the gym.

At a recent transportation committee meeting, members reviewed bus routes and discussed potential staffing changes. Schlafmann said no current teachers or paraprofessionals have expressed interest in driving routes next year.

Negotiations discussions included health insurance, with the committee recommending continuation of a high-deductible health plan. Staff were to meet May 1 to review the proposed changes.

The district reported total enrollment of 165 students, including 76 in grades K-6 and 89 in grades 7-12.

Zeibarth reported updates on the state's transition from PowerSchool to Infinite Campus, noting a vendor change to Aurora Educational Technology.

He also highlighted adjustments to the senior trip after weather conditions closed Bridger Bowl early, with students participating in alternate activities in Bozeman. Additional updates included ongoing staff evaluations, plans to update championship banners, and recognition of students participating in regional and state music events.

The board approved the ballot for the annual school board election, scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, at Turtle Lake City Hall. Election workers were also approved.

Central McLean News-Journal

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Published every Thursday by Nordak North Publishing., P.O. Box 309, 59 North Main, Garrison, ND 58540-0309. Periodical postage paid at Garrison, ND. For more information or for a subscription, write Central McLean News-Journal, P.O. Box 573, Underwood, ND 58576.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Central McLean News-Journal, P.O. Box 573, Underwood, ND 58576.

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