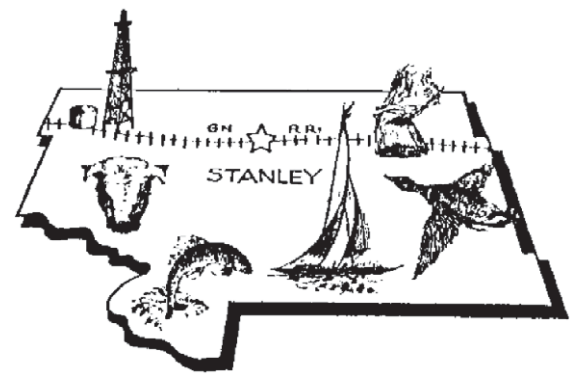


Mountrail County



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Groundwork Begins For New Daycare



After another year of work of planning for Carol Maurer, owner of Ragamuffin Daycare in Stanley, dirt work began for their new daycare located by Dollar General. For many years she has studied the need and planned to provide for more childcare in the area. They had an official groundbreaking a year ago, but they faced some challenges regarding the road access and other issues that pushed construction back.

This past week, the work began for the new 9,600 square foot daycare that will be capable of providing childcare for 120 kids. That will include the children they already serve, but allow for considerable ex-

ansion. The new childcare center will be able to provide state licensed care with capacity up to 120 children. There will be two infant rooms, able to accommodate 20 infants; two rooms for children 18 months to 2 years old, able to accommodate 30 children. There will be a room for 3 year olds able to provide care for 20 children. Two rooms will be utilized for four and five year olds in the Best in Class Pre K program, providing care for 22 preschool aged children. To help meet community needs for before and after school care, as well as summer care, there will be a dedicated room for 20 school-aged children ages 6 to 12.

The building is being made possible with the partnerships with the Mountrail County JDA, Souris Basin, the Bank of North Dakota and Town & Country Credit Union. Maurer also points to the partnerships with Bright and Early, Best in Class, Childcare Aware of North Dakota, and local childcare specialists. It also would not be possible without the support of her staff, families she serves, and her family and friends.

Construction is slated to be complete by May of 2027. While Maurer says that she has dozens on her waiting list right now, she encourages families to reach out to secure spots when this new childcare center opens roughly a year from now.

Voters Head To The Polls Next Tuesday

Voters across Mountrail County and the state will head to the polls on Tuesday, June 9 for the Primary Election, city and school elections. While the Primary Election will narrow down the field of candidates in some races, city and school elections will be the final results. Additionally, there is one statewide measure and some city measures that will be determined in the June 9 election.

People can go to vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo to request an application for an absentee ballot and find voting information specific to their address, including polling locations and times and whether their county offers early voting. They can also view a sample of their Primary Election ballot.

As voters head to the polls, they will again have the option to vote at any of the polling locations when it comes to national, state, or county elections. Mountrail County used voting centers for the last two election cycles. Poll workers at each location will have all of the ballots for each of the various designated precincts, however school board elections will be held at the proper location for each school.

Voting centers will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Centers are located in the Stanley High School Commons Area, New Town City offices, Parshall American Legion Building, Palermo Corporation Building, Ross Community Building, Plaza Mountrail County R&B Complex, White Earth City Hall and Mountrail County South Complex. Ballots and voting center information are located elsewhere in this week's paper.

As long as a voter is a Mountrail County resident and has the proper identification, they will be allowed to vote at any center. A North Dakota driver license, nondriver ID card, Tribal government issued ID document and long term care identification certificate are the primary methods of identification that are used when voting.

North Dakota has a voter ID law that requires people to have a valid form of identification to vote. This can be a North Dakota driver's license, North Dakota non-driver ID, Tribal ID or letter, or long term care certificate. To streamline the voting process, people are encouraged to make sure their ID information is updated before election day if they have moved or renewed if they have an expired ID. Address changes to North Dakota driver's licenses and non-driver IDs can be made online through the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) website or by calling 701-328-4353.

Voters in Mountrail County will see races for the following statewide positions. In the Primary Election,



voters can only vote one party in the Republican and Democratic races.

Filing for Representative in Congress are Republicans Alex Balazs and Julie Fedorchak, and Democrat Trygve Hammer. Only one of the two Republican candidates will advance to the November general election.

Michael Howe (R) and Ryan Braunberger (D) are seeking the Secretary of State position.

Running for Attorney General are Drew Wrigley (R) and Tim Lamb (D).

Doug Goehring (R) and Vern Thompson (D) are running for Agriculture Commissioner.

Republicans Deven Styczynski and Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, and Democrat John Pederson are running for Public Service Commissioner, 6 year-term. Again, only the top vote-getter of the Republican Party candidates will advance to the November general election.

Running for the unexpired two year term on the Public Service Commission are Chris Olson (R), Jill Kringstad (R), and Scott Kelsh (D). Only the top-vote getter between Olson and Kringstad will advance to November.

Running for Tax Commissioner are Brian Kroshus (R) and Mark Nelson (D).

There are three candidates seeking the unexpired two-year term of the Superintendent of Public Instruction: Charles Tuttle, Levi Bachmeier and Tracy Layne Foss. The top two in the primary election will advance to November.

Seeking election for the Justice of the Supreme Court, ten-year term, are Ariston E Johnson and Jerod Tuft.

Seeking election for an unexpired eight-year term as Justice of the Supreme Court is Douglas A Bahr.

Three candidates are seeking election to the Mountrail County Commissioner District 2 position:

Beau Vachal, Gary Friesen and Gary Schell. The top two vote-getters will advance to the November election.

In the Commissioner District 3 race, there are also three candidates: Jake Estvold, Troy Walters and Trudy Ruland. Only the top two will advance to November.

One more race will be contested, this time for County Sheriff as Corey Bristol and Joel Shaffett are both on the ballot.

John DeGroot is running unopposed for the County Commissioner District 4. Other unopposed races are Stephanie A Pappa for County Auditor, Amber J Fiesel for County State's Attorney, Melissa Vachal for County Recorder, Jessica Niemitalo for County Treasurer, and the Mountrail County Promoter for County Official Newspaper.

New Town will elect a mayor, with Jay Standish running. They will elect two council members, Frank Sillitti and Jesse Baker on the ballot. Taylor Olson is running for the position of Municipal Judge. They will elect three park board members with Kenneth Hough and Marty Danks on the ballot. The third position will be determined by write-in votes.

The City of Palermo will elect two council members with Kenny Meckle, Kevin Marmon and Robert Hamers on the ballot.

Parshall will be electing a mayor with Kyle Christianson on the ballot. Two council members will be elected with Barry Martens, Jeff McDougald, Robert Morenski and Roberta Whitman on the ballot. They will also elect two park board members with Chris Kolk and Jacobi Taft on the ballot.

Plaza is slated to elect two council members with just Darrell Salter on the ballot, meaning the second position will be determined by write-in. They also need to fill one park board position with no names on the ballot. That seat will also be determined by

(Continued on Page 4)

South Wing Comes Down



With construction now complete on the new nursing home at MCMC, work has moved to the hospital renovations. That started with the removal of the old nursing home north wing to create a new entrance and parking area on Wednesday, Apr. 22. This past week, the removal began on the south wing. This area will be home to the hospital renovations and expansion of Rosen Place.

Changes to parking and entrances remain in place as the parking lot by the clinic is now closed. Those visiting the nursing home will now enter through what is labeled Neighborhood B. There is a clearly marked entrance and ramp to the north of the clinic parking lot. Those entering the clinic and hospital will still use the clinic door, but with the parking lot closed, there is now a ramped entrance on the west side of the building along the street. This entrance is

also clearly marked. Construction for the hospital renovations will include a gift shop and a new waiting room. Construction down the current south wing of the nursing home will include adding an out-patient infusion suite, pharmacy suite and an MRI suite.

Purchasing will be moving from the basement to the upper level. The downstairs area will be renovated to accommodate a new specialty clinic that will allow the facility to bring in more specialists. It will also include a minor procedure room.

Construction will also include adding seven new apartments to Rosen Place. The assisted living facility always has an extensive waiting list, showing the need for the new apartments. These will all be single apartments based on the footprint space available.

The construction order has changed with the specialist clinic and move of purchasing being the last phase. Everything is still set to be complete by February of 2028.

The entire project cost is estimated at \$47 million, with \$29 million of that for the new nursing home. The Mountrail County Commissioners committed \$25 million over two years for the nursing home portion of the project. Other donors and fundraising efforts have left the entire project with \$3.6 million left to raise for the hospital phases and \$3.6 million left to raise for the expansion of Rosen Place. The Foundation continues to accept donations from the public including the ability to donate on their website: www.mountrail-countyhealthfoundation.org/how-you-can-help.

(Picture courtesy of Pastor Erin Tormanen)

Lifeguards Train Before Pool Opens



Preparedness doesn't happen by accident. It comes from training, teamwork, and people who are willing to put in the work before an emergency ever happens.

Last week five members of the Stanley Ambulance Service worked alongside the lifeguards at the Stanley Outdoor Swimming Pool for a hands-on emergency response training. Lifeguards reviewed rescue techniques, CPR and AED skills, patient care basics, and what to expect when EMS arrives on scene.

The day wrapped up with a realistic drowning simulation that tested communication, response times, and coordination from start to finish. Every person involved played an important role in strengthening the response system that protects our community.

When seconds matter, preparation matters even more, and this training for the lifeguards at the Stanley pool helps assure they are ready to respond when called upon.



Another Man's Treasure



The streets in Stanley were busy last week with the return of the annual city-wide rummage sales running from Friday, May 29 through Sunday, May 31. Windy conditions on Friday afternoon made for some challenges for those hosting as they may have had to move more of their sale items inside. The annual event continues to prove that one man's junk may just be another man's treasure. The city-wide rummage sales are hosted by the Stanley Commercial Club.