

# Mille Lacs Messenger



**Tales from Ted**  
Continuing the series on the  
greatest generation with  
90-plus years of life  
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Wednesday, September 12, 2018

\$1.00



PHOTO BY EVAN ORBECK

## Mille Lacs Motel meltdown

A fire broke out at the vacant Mille Lacs Motel located south of Garrison around 10:20 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 5, destroying a significant portion of the structure.

## Fire consumes vacant Garrison motel

by Evan Orbeck

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Heading south out of Garrison along Hwy. 169, the neglected Mille Lacs Motel and Pike Point Resort are both among the first landmarks one will pass along the west side of the highway. However, the Mille Lacs Motel has been replaced with a charred, skeletal frame after a fire broke out the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 5.

Garrison Fire Chief Bruce Bruen reported that the fire department received a call about a structure fire at 10:20 a.m. and arrived at the scene to find the fire already heavily involved. Bruen put in a request for manpower and water from the Onamia and Deerwood fire departments, both arriving and assisting at the scene. Assistance at the

Motel fire to 3

## Coming soon: body cams for county cops

### Mille Lacs County Board

by Vivian LaMoore

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As one of the last major projects during his tenure as sheriff of Mille Lacs County, Brent Lindgren announced county deputies will soon be sporting some of the latest technology in body cameras. There is an app for that.

Lindgren, who will be retiring as sheriff at the end of this year, announced to the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners at the regular board work session that choosing what

kind of body camera deputies should wear has been a lengthy process – over three years. The cameras were budgeted to be purchased in 2018 at the dollar amount of \$40,000 for the start up fees.

“I am pleased we will be under budget,” Lindgren said. “It should be around \$36,000.”

Going forward, the cameras will add nearly \$630 per month to the sheriff’s office Verizon cell phone bill.

Body cams to 3

## Changing the stigma of substance abuse disorder

### Realizing recovery works and changes lives daily

by Vivian LaMoore

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People were admitted to chemical dependency treatment programs in Minnesota more than 57,000 times in 2017, according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services. September is National Recovery Month. Governor Dayton also proclaimed September to be recovery month in Minnesota as well, highlighting the fact that people can and do recover from substance use disorders and mental illness.

According to DHS, most people who enter chemical dependency treat-

ment usually complete it and show considerable improvement, and abstinence from substance use and other benefits of treatment tend to continue over the long term. Yet each year more than 9 out of 10 adults with a substance use disorder do not receive treatment.

Bridging that gap is a priority for Cindi Naumann and Cheryl Minx, co-owners and the founders of Freedom Center. The team opened their first treatment facility in Princeton in 2014. “We quickly heard feedback that Princeton was too far for those with transportation issues,” Naumann said. To meet that need, they opened a facility in Milaca and also

operate a facility in Cambridge.

“That covered the south end of Mille Lacs County pretty well,” Minx said. “We were approached by a pastor to open another facility in the north end. The time was right to open a new Freedom Center in Onamia.”

Currently located in the basement of the Holy Cross Center, the Freedom Center in Onamia has been open and operational since August. Freedom Center offers outpatient treatment for men and women ages 13 and up. They also offer anger management and domestic violence counseling for offenders as well as gambling

Recovery to 3



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Bishop to visit St. Therese Little Flower Mission

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