

LAKE AREA REVIEW

Zylstra reflects on rookie season with Vikes

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Delivered by mail to more than 6,200 homes in the communities of New London, Spicer, Belgrade, Pennock, Sunburg, and Willmar Vol. 132, No. 05

Around the Lakes

Senior Center Activites

NEW LONDON – Good fellowship at the New London Senior Center. 101 2nd Ave SE. See page 13 for Senior activities schedule.

CIA meeting

NEW LONDON – New London Communities in Action (CIA) meeting is Thursday, Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m. at the New London Senior Center. Join us with ideas on how to make improvements to our community. Open to the public.

Tuesday's Table

SPICER – This week we will be serving loaded cream of potato soup at Our Lady of the Lakes Church from 6-6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 5. A Better Business presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. Email outreach@youarethelink.org or call 320-354-5555 for more information.

Angler meeting

SPICER - The West Central Chapter Minnesota Darkhouse and Angling Assoc. meeting is on Monday, Feb. 4, at O'Neils, at 7 p.m. Dr. Roger Strand will talk about wood ducks. Gregg Weller, MDAA State VP will also be speaking. Annual raffle will be held. All interested in winter fishing are welcome.

ECFE Chili Supper

NEW LONDON – Support NL-S early childhood programs on Feb. 7, 4:30- 7 p.m. at Prairie Meadows Learning Center. Try a variety of chilis by local restaurants. Free will donation. (\$5 suggested/person).

League of Women Voters

WILLMAR – On Monday, Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. the League of Women Voters will meet to discuss 2020 Census preparations, why it's important and how the data is used. Vinje Lutheran Church, 1101 SW Willmar Ave. Social gathering starts at 5:30 p.m. Meeting is open to the public.

Winter Fun Day

SPICER – On Sunday, Feb. 10, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. celebrate winter at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center. Outdoor activities for the family. Indoors, enjoy chili, music and fire. Visit: <http://www.prairiewoodselc.org> for more information.

Inserts Teals Market

Inserts may cover all or some of the total Review circulation as requested by the business placing the insert.



LuLu Beans barista Hanneh Tebben makes an elegant dip into Green Lake while fellow barista Kim Makela attempts to spare her icy fate. Despite the 8-degree weather, 210 locals and visitors lined up to jump into Green Lake's frozen waters last weekend in the 15th Annual Polar Plunge, sponsored by the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office and Willmar Police Department. In total, the event raised \$44,551 for Special Olympics MN.

Photo by Macklin Caruso



Submitted photo

A potential reclassification to the landfill in Hawick would allow for a broader range of accepted waste. The above image shows the new cell construction taking place at the site.

Potential landfill reclassification sparks concern over risk to watershed

By Brett Blocker
Editor

The potential reclassification of the landfill in Roseville Township from a class 2 to a class 3 facility has become a point of contention among residents and civic groups of the surrounding community as well as the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District, with many expressing concerns about the possibility

of environmental contamination.

The landfill was first permitted by the County in 2007, and was granted class 2 and class 3 approval by the County in 2011. However, while the landfill received class 3 approval from County, it has not yet received class 3 ap-

Landfill

Continued on page 8

Spicer group home under investigation for sexual assault, neglect

By Brett Blocker
Editor

Fourth Avenue Homes, Inc., a Spicer home for vulnerable adults, is under investigation by the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office and the Minnesota Department of Human Services (MNDHS) following a report of a sexual assault alleged to have occurred at the home early Monday morning, as well as concerns of neglect.

According to the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office, officers received a report of a disorderly male outside the residence along Lakeview Drive in Spicer at approximately 12:43 a.m. Upon arrival, deputies were advised the man was upset and reporting that a female acquaintance, who is not a resident at the home, had been sexually assaulted at the location earlier in the evening by staff members.

At press time, no one has been charged or arrested in

connection to the incident. However, the staff alleged to be involved in the incident have been suspended.

"No one has been charged yet," Kandiyohi County Detective Sergeant Kent Bauman said Tuesday morning. "It's still an open investigation. Our team is following up on [the report] with interviews."

Regarding the MN Department of Human Services' investigation into potential neglect, Bauman said there was "some concern, so [MNDHS] decided to look into it," but did not comment on the specific allegations.

Following Monday's incident, Divine Homes Inc. – Fourth Avenue Homes Inc.'s parent company – released the following statement:

"Fourth Avenue Homes took immediate action in response to the incident that is

Investigation

Continued on page 12

Four candidates in the running for NL-S superintendency

By Brett Blocker
Editor

The search for Paul Carlson's successor as District 345 superintendent reached (a new phase) Thursday as the New London-Spicer school board whittled down its pool of 22 applicants to just four finalists.

To determine the final four candidates, said Carlson, the school board was given the opportunity to view the applicants' application materials and then rank the candidates accordingly.

The four candidates are scheduled to have been inter-



Bill Adams



Kurt Stumpf



Melissa Radeke



Emily McDonald

viewed Thursday, Jan. 31 by a panel of four separate groups: the community group, administration group, staff group and school board group.

Following interviews the chairs of each group will meet to discuss their selected candidate. They will then potentially bring their recommendation

to the Feb. 11 school board meeting. However, Carlson said, the Feb. 11 date is tentative.

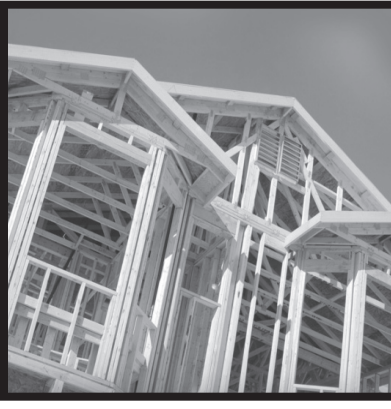
The new superintendent

is expected to be determined sometime in mid-February. Once the new superintendent is formally selected, they are set to begin July 1, 2019.

The four candidates for District 345 superintendent are listed below, with career background information provided courtesy of the New London-Spicer School Board and with each candidate answering a series of questions for the Lakes Area Review:

Superintendency

Continued on page 2



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