



Thunder Hawks sports round-up

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Montevideo American-News

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ECFE Vehicle Fair sees over 200 attendees



Montevideo Police Chief Schule talks to children visiting the ECFE vehicle fair last week. JESSICA STÖLEN-JACOBSON



Kids explore the Prairie Five bus. JESSICA STÖLEN-JACOBSON

Jessica Stölen-Jacobson
Montevideo American News
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The Montevideo ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education) Vehicle Fair

was held last week in the Sanford Parking lot. The event is held annually as an opportunity for families to register for upcoming ECFE classes, check out a variety of ve-

hicles on hand, pick up some free items and popcorn, and enter to win door prizes. The ECFE department reports that there were 225 people registered for door prizes,

meaning there were even more than that on hand for the event. Vehicles included tractors, a hearse, an ambulance, race cars, motorcycles, police cars, the Prairie Five bus, and a

Additional photos

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school bus.

UPS driver rescues endangered motorist

Jessica Stölen-Jacobson

Dustin Kramer, a UPS driver in Granite Falls, was working his regular delivery shift on the 19th when he happened upon something that caught his attention. While Kramer was headed to his first stop of the day delivering a next day air package, he approached a four-way intersection and noticed a semi-truck on the side of the road. He then noticed that a car near the pulled-over semi had gone off the roadway and was sinking in Tyson Lake near Wood Lake.

Kramer would normally have turned left to continue his route, but he made a heroic decision that morning and pulled up behind the semi to help. "If something's going on, I guess I just I would rather help than be a passerby,"

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School board hears reports on facilities updates

Jessica Stölen-Jacobson
Montevideo American News
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At the Montevideo School Board meeting Thursday morning, Adam Spray gave a presentation on summer projects and facilities. "He kind of walked through all of the different things that were done over the course of the summer. To see the number of things that were done was kind of fun to see. Anywhere

from the parking lot at the high school, to the removal of the broken-up blacktop over at Sanford and replacing it with green space, replacing the retaining wall at the High School, to little things like replacing backstops at basketball courts," says Montevideo Superintendent Wade McKittrick. The board also walked through a demonstration on how to use new software called Board Book which will be utilized beginning next month on the school's website. "People will be able to go onto the district website and click on Board Book for the school board agenda. There will be links built into that with supporting documents as opposed to having to go through a bunch of PDF files," McKittrick says.

The School Board also reviewed enrollment numbers for the '21-'22 school year. "Enrollment is up this year over last year which I don't think will be surprising to any-

one due to that with the distance learning things there were a lot of people who chose to do online learning with different providers," said McKittrick. This year is up 73 students in Early Childhood through 12th grade for a total of 1,410 students enrolled. In K-12 alone, the district is up 53 students this year over last year's 1,337. The school board was informed of advancements in the COVID testing plans that the state has put together for schools involving voluntary COVID testing on site. "We were able to order a COVID test kit for every student in the district," says McKittrick. "We haven't received them yet, but they're coming. It's going to allow us to send a kit home with every kid in the district so that if Mom and Dad are seeing symptoms at home they are able to use the kits." The kits

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Local journalists awarded including Prairie Notebook column author

Jessica Stölen-Jacobson
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Recently, two local outdoor media journalists were awarded for their writing during a ceremony hosted by the

Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers



Watson

(AGLOW) at their conference in Michigan. The Awards-In-Craft were presented to both Bret Amundson of Milan, who is the host of Pioneer PBS's The Prairie Sportsman as well as to Tom Watson author of the Montevideo-American News regular column Prairie Notebook.

A press release from AGLOW notes that Amundson won several awards including, in the Broadcast/Electronic Media Division, under

the TV, Video, Webcast, or Vlog category, the 1st Place award in the Open category, and 2nd places in the Hunting and Fishing categories. Additionally, Amundson was awarded a 'hat trick' in the Radio/Podcast division, taking 1st Place in the Hunting, Fishing, and Open categories. Amundson also placed 3rd in the "Best of Photography" Fishing category. With all of those wins, he was also presented with the Print or Electric Media "Best of Show" award.

Tom Watson was awarded the third-place prize for the "Best of Magazine" division's Fishing category as well as the 2nd place in the "Best of Photography" Outdoor Scenic category.

Watson began writing Prairie Notebook in 2015. "I went to Leslie at the Appleton Newspaper and said, hey, I've got this idea to do kind of an outdoorsy, natural news column if you're interested in it," Watson says. The newspaper editor was, and so the column began run-

ning in the Appleton newspaper first. After a couple of years, Watson decided to expand the column and approached the Montevideo-American News to run the column as well with expanded information to include

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Douglas D. Kluver

Office: 320-269-2286

Douglas D. Kluver
408 North First Street
P.O. Box 486
Montevideo, MN 56265
Hours: Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Weekends and evenings by appointment
Fax: 320-269-6040

www.kluverlaw.com

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