

Pilot program helps parents, students work with school

■ The program helps parents navigate the school system.

The Windom school board learned of a new program, Monday, designed to help parents and students succeed in school.

Windom Middle School Principal Melissa Radeke told the board the pilot program, "Our Best Legacy," involves local Monday night sessions that run until Nov. 21. Radeke said when some students drop out of school,

it can be related to families not being connected, or knowing how to support the school."

The program's goal is to strengthen interaction and partnership between parents, children and schools.

"The program is also designed to increase parents' knowledge and skills to help navigate the school system," Radeke said. "It helps their children succeed in school and to increase the number of students graduating from

high school."

Jayesun Sherman is the instructor and the session meets on Mondays at the middle school from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. There are five families signed up so far. Those interested in signing up for the class can contact Radeke at 831-6910.

There is free child care and a light supper provided during the session.

Public meeting review

Among other topics at

Monday's school board meeting was the recent building tours and presentations related to school buildings.

School board member Jim Garrison reported that attendance at the district's three recent public meetings was "fair." And board member Rick Frederickson added that those who attended the meetings seemed interested and asked good questions.

"The big thing is that we are really committed as a committee and as a board to

try to keep the community involved with our decisions for our facilities," Frederickson said. "It is important for us, as a board, to keep the community involved."

Superintendent Wayne Wormstadt said there are plans to record the school facilities presentation so that it can be aired on the school's website and cable TV access channel. A school staff presentation is set for Wednesday.

■ THE EDGE

Airport commission to consider private hangars at airport

The Windom city council recently approved a request to have the airport commission look into the potential of having private hangars built on the city airport site.

Council members agreed that it is difficult for the city to find the dollars to build hangars and there are private parties willing to build the structures. Other airports in the region have allowed these private structures, provided they meet city and airport requirements.

There would be a lease agreement related to the property on which the hangars would sit.

Kids festival, parade

It appears there will be plenty for youngsters to do in the days leading up to Halloween.

However, there has been a bit of confusion as to where these events will occur and who will sponsor them. According to Alexandra Leland, executive director of the Windom Area Chamber of Commerce, the Schwalbach Hardware kids fall festival will be held Oct. 29 at the store. It runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Then on Oct. 31, Rainbows Inc. will hold a parade at 2:30 p.m. in the Sogge Good Samaritan Society parking lot. Following the parade, there will be trick-or-treating at Rainbows Inc. from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Gun, knife show

The 13th annual Windom Convention and Visitor's Bureau Gun and Knife Show is around the corner.

The event is slated for Oct. 29-30, starting at 9 a.m. each day. Lunch will be available during the show.

The Gun and Knife Show traditionally draws dozens of exhibitors from throughout the region. It is an opportunity to buy, sell and trade guns. Children under age 18 attending the event must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information for potential guests and exhibitors, call the Windom Area Chamber of Commerce at 831-2752.

Fire Department grant

The Windom Fire Department is seeking a federal grant that would allow the department to purchase pagers and wild-life turnout gear.

The department applied for the grant last year and was denied, so it is making another application. If the grant is approved, the city of Windom would pay 5 percent of the purchase amount.

Apartment potential

The Windom Economic Development Authority discussed potential for a new apartment complex in Windom, according to Economic Development Director Drew Hage.

Hage said a private group of investors were in Windom recently and toured five potential sites for the 44-unit apartment complex. During last week's EDA meeting, Hage said he had been in contact with the developers for some time.

The Windom city council and EDA have listed housing as a key priority.

■ DISTRICT COURT

Speeding: Jonathan G. Van Hulzen, Apple Valley, \$125; Jennifer L. Andersen, Apple Valley, \$125; Cynthia C. Barrows, Irving, Texas, \$125; Sandra L. Bartosh, Windom, \$125; Janna L. Brinkman, Windom, \$230; David S. Lee, Circle Pines, \$135; Christopher T. Sommers, Council Bluffs, Iowa, \$135; Fowsiyo Y. Mohamed, Minneapolis, \$125.

No Minnesota driver's license: Barton R. Hike, Camarillo, Calif., \$185.

DWI: Marcos Mendez-Orosco, Windom, \$610, local confinement 90 days,

stay 90 days for one year, complete chemical use assessment and follow recommendations of evaluation, remain law-abiding; Michael S. Goldie, Windom, \$110, local confinement 90 days, stay 90 days for one year, supervised probation for one year, complete chemical use assessment and follow recommendations of evaluation, remain law-abiding, community work service may be performed in lieu of \$400 fine.

Driving after suspension: Dean A. Thomas, Windom, \$285.

■ THE RECORD

Police report

Oct. 3

• 5:57 p.m. Windom police officers were dispatched to the intersection of Ninth Street and Collins Avenue regarding an intoxicated woman walking in the area. Upon investigation, a 24-year-old Windom female was arrested for violation of her condition of release and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Oct. 4

• 3:49 p.m. Jessica Linder of Windom reported the theft of a \$68 package that had been mailed to her.

Oct. 5

• 3:32 p.m. Nancy Wepplo of 452 16th St. reported the theft of a \$100 lawn decoration from her yard.

• 5:09 p.m. Officers received a report of a possible assault on a Windom school bus. The case remains under investigation.

Oct. 6

• 3:53 p.m. Officers received a report of a possible domestic assault in Windom that occurred the previous night. Upon investigation, a 55-year-old Windom man was arrested for felony domestic assault.

Oct. 7

• 12:30 p.m. A two-vehicle accident occurred in the Bank of the West parking lot. The mishap involved a 2011 Chevrolet driven by Leola Gohr of Mt. Lake and a 2008 Ford driven by June Kellner of Windom. The Chevrolet received minor damage and the Ford was not damaged.

Oct. 8

• 9:41 a.m. A two-vehicle accident occurred on Fourth Avenue. The mis-

hap involved a 2007 Ford driven by Dawn Eigenberg of Windom and a 2006 Cadillac driven by Mary Raverly of Windom. Damage amounts are not known.

Oct. 9

• 11 a.m. Officers received a report of a youth riding an ATV on city streets. Officers warned the driver.

• 4:11 p.m. Dennis Blomker of 1333 7th Ave. reported the theft of a dog kennel and lawn tiller. The items, which are valued at \$675, were sitting next to Blomker's garage at the time of the theft.

• 10:09 p.m. Officers were called to the 100 block of Sixth Avenue regarding loud noises. Charges are pending against an 18-year-old Windom male for underage drinking.

• 1:24 a.m. Officers made a traffic stop on Highway 60 at 16th Street for driving at a high rate of speed. Upon investigation, charges are pending against a 30-year-old Worthington male for second degree DWI and driving after revocation.

■ SHERIFF'S LOG

Oct. 2-8

Type of Call	No.
911	17
911 misdial/hang-up....	6
Ambulance assist.....	9
Ambulance transfer.....	4
Driving complaint.....	2
Civil process.....	11
Assault	1
Suspicious vehicle.....	2
Prisoner transport.....	3
Traffic stop.....	7
Theft	1
All Phone Calls.....	662

Sex offender, Troy Dykes, gets address

■ Troy Leroy Dykes was formerly listed as homeless.

Convicted predatory sex offender Troy Leroy Dykes has an official address now, according to the Windom Police Department.

Police cannot release the specific address, but a press release issued by the department late last week says Dykes, a level 3 offender, lives in the vicinity of Ninth Street South and Fourth Avenue, which is near the Square. Formerly, he was listed as homeless.

Dykes, 50, is listed as 5 feet, 7 inches, 178 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes. He has a ruddy com-



Troy L. Dykes

plexion and medium build.

The police department fact sheet offered this additional information about Dykes: "Offender has a history of sexual contact with adolescent female victims (age 12-13). Contact included penetration. Offender was known to victims."

Dykes was released from either prison or a secure treatment facility on Nov. 17, 2011. Police issued a report in June of 2015 stating that he had moved to Windom.

Cover crops can make a difference

■ Cover crops could reduce requirement for fertilizer.

"Improved water infiltration. The wet spots in the field disappeared and it helps compaction on the end rows."

This is the response Jerry and Nancy Ackermann gave when asked what the greatest benefit they've seen using cover crops. The Ackermanns farm just outside of Lakefield. They have been active with on-farm research and test plots.

In their 38 years of farming, the Ackermanns have used a crop rotation of corn, soybeans and alfalfa.

Others see benefits of cover crops as well.

"The greatest benefit I see from the use of cover crops is that the porosity of the soil increases," said Dave Christoffer, a resident of Jackson County.

Christoffer has farmed for 43 years. He now uses strip-till and cover crops on his corn and beans acres.

"Better water infiltration benefits are the faster return to soil conditions that are favorable to the crops being grown and (the fact that) moisture is stored in the soil for use later by the crops rather than running off the land or evaporating," Christoffer said.

"A more oxygenated soil allows for the microbial population in the soil to multiply and increase its ac-



COVER CROPS SUCH as this are gaining popularity in the region.

tivity which mineralizes nutrients that are tied up and not shown by a soil test. This can result in a lower requirement for fertilizer. A better earthworm population also helps to mineralize the tied up nutrients. Earthworms also improve water infiltration and create channels for roots to follow so that they can reach moisture during periods of low rainfall."

Both Christoffer and the Ackermanns have experimented with various mixes of cover crop seed over the years. These mixes include cereal rye, radishes, clover, purple top turnip, rape seed and oats. After many years of experimenting, they have decided to seed cover crops on all their fields.

Absentee ballots available at Courthouse

■ Absentee voters have the option of voting by mail or in person.

Election Day is still a few weeks away, but votes for this year's election have already started pouring in.

Absentee ballots are available at both the County Auditor's office in the Cottonwood County Courthouse and online at the Secretary of State website (www.sos.state.mn.us).

"They can fill out an application (for a ballot) in person, if they'd like," said Jan Johnson, Cottonwood County auditor/treasurer.

There are a few options available for the absentee voters, including voting by mail, or voting in person.

To vote by mail, the voters apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to them. One does not need to be registered to apply.

Meanwhile, to vote early

in person, the resident needs to be prepared to show identification. If the person is not registered, that person can do so in person if they show proof of residence.

One does not need a reason or "excuse" for voting absentee.

The absentee ballot must be received at the county auditor's office by 3 p.m. on election day in order for it to count.

Candidate forum set for Oct. 25

The Windom Area Chamber of Commerce Community Relations Committee will hold a candidate forum on Oct. 25.

The event is slated to run from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Windom city council

chambers. The moderator for this event will be Rick Frederickson of Windom.

Plans are to invite all candidates seeking election in races for Cottonwood County and the city of Windom.

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NOTICE

Second Half NON-AG taxes must be paid or postmarked on or before:
Monday, October 17, 2016
(ABSOLUTE DEADLINE)

Note penalty on reverse side of tax statement for late payment. Please include white payment stub when paying your taxes.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thank you,
Jan Johnson
Cottonwood County Auditor/Treasurer

Sealed quotes are requested by Windom Area Schools on the following surplus shop equipment until October 24, 2016:

(1) Bridgeport Milling Machine	(1) ENCO Metal Lathe—13" x 40" Gear R
(1) Yang Metal Lathe—22" x 33" with 12" jaw	(1) Sioux Valve Grinder
(1) Sheet Metal Brake/Bender	(1) Balder Grinder
(2) ESAB Tigwelders Heliarc 252	

Minimum quote beginning at 40% of estimated value.
For estimated value list and information contact Community Ed at—
507-831-6915
Equipment is sold as is.

Equipment can be viewed at the Windom Area School Storage Building
October 19, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to noon only. No exceptions.

Submit quotes to—
Surplus Metal Shop Equipment
Windom Area Schools, PO Box 177
Windom, MN 56101

The district reserves the right to reject any or all quotes.