

MOUSE RIVER JOURNAL

Serving McHenry County for Over 100 Years

Vol. 128 Issue No. 29 Official Newspaper for McHenry County, Towner, ND 58788 July 20, 2011 Single Copy 75¢



An original horse-drawn school bus used in Anamoose.



Oldest Alumni float. (Submitted photos)

ATTENTION

Free Shaklee Care home clean up kits will be available to county residents Wednesday 20 July from 5pm- 9pm at Zion Lutheran fellowship Hall during the McHenry County Health Fair.

Scam Alert

From McHenry County Sherriff: Please be cautious of fradulant sweepstakes offers from Readers Digest which includes a check from Prudential. If you recieve this in the mail, please contact the McHenry County Sherriff's office at 701-537-5633.

Volunteers with good phone skills are needed ASAP with the Minot Area flood hotline.

Volunteers Take Calls In One of Three Areas:
 · General Flood Information
 · Signing Up Volunteers
 · Taking Requests From Home Owners Who Need Volunteer Assistance
 Adopt a Shift (7:30 am—1:00 pm or 12:30 pm—6:00 pm)
 Choose Any Day(s) Monday—Sunday
 30 minute orientation
 Call Miriam 721-8817 or Rachel 852-3799 to sign up for a shift...or two!

Anamoose Alumni celebrates 100 years

By Bonnie Helm,
For the Journal

Despite various cancellations by vendors and alumni who were dealing with Minot's flood issues, the Anamoose All-School Reunion was a wonderful success. It is estimated that over 700 alumni and their families attended the three-day event. Anamoose School is celebrating the 100th anniversary of graduates: more than 1550.

The planners met their goal of recognizing alumni throughout all of the three days' events. Even the pastor officiating at the Sunday morning interdenominational church service, Father Brian Bachmeier, now living in Esmond, is an alumnus from the Class of 1985. A Mass Choir comprised of alumni from across the country performed during the church service. During the Tribute to Veterans and Soldiers, individual alumni volun-

teered to speak on an impromptu basis to a gathering of several hundred alumni and their families. Following the Tribute to Veterans and Soldiers, the "Gentle Winds Orchestra" from Minot presented a USO patriotic performance, in which George Helm from the AHS class of 1965 plays tenor sax. All emcees were also alumni: LeRoy Becker '70 and Henry (Hank) Helm '70 emceed the Friday Night Opening Festivities; Bob Bartz '59 emceed the Tribute to the Teachers; Merry Helm '70 emceed the Tribute to the Veterans and Soldiers; and Keith Schilling '66 emceed the Talent Show which featured the fantastic musical, speech, and comedic abilities of alumni...from the Class of 1947 to the future Class of 2017. In addition, Ruby Franklin '61 rewrote and directed a skit, the actors of which represented alumni from every era of classes



The Class of 1949 made their appearance in the parade with this float.

since the 1940's.

Many of the individual classes sponsored class floats that rode in

the Saturday morning parade. Agreed upon by all viewers attending, the parade was "one of the best

100 Years

(Continued on Page 8)

Dr. Sedo submits resignation, what does this mean for Johnson Clinic

By Billi Jo Eriksmoen
Of the Journal

There wasn't a whole lot on the agenda for the Towner City Commission's meeting last Monday night, but one of the issues discussed made a huge impact on the people present.

Jim Potvin, Clinic Administrator from the Heart of America Medical Center in Rugby, met with the Commission to announce that Dr. Sedo had tendered his resignation on July 7, and will be leaving HAMC and Johnson Clinic.

Potvin said that while Dr. Sedo had been working in Towner and Rugby, his home was in Minot and had been damaged by the flood.

"Even though it was located in a loop of the Mouse River and had water on three sides of it," stated Potvin, "the Sedo home was not considered to be in the flood plain and they were not allowed to purchase flood insurance. When the river crested, the water not only reached the main floors of the house, it reached the attic."

Dr. Sedo and four members of his family have been living in a two bedroom condo since being evacuated from their home in June. There is no way to know when, and if, his family will be able to get back into their home. Since the house will more than likely be a total loss, Dr. Sedo feels like it's time to return to work on a full time basis.

"We offered him full-time in Rugby, but housing in Rugby is an issue," Potvin said. "Crosby offered him full-time work and there's immediate housing available for him and his family."

Potvin said that they were sad to see Dr. Sedo go, but definitely understand the circumstances. "We want to thank Dr. Sedo for his years of service. He has been associated



Dr. Sedo will have his final day at Johnson Clinic in Towner on August 18th.

with the Rugby and Towner communities for a long time, and he will be missed. We wish him and his family the very best during this difficult time," says Jim Potvin.

So what does Dr. Sedo's resignation mean for the future of Johnson's Clinic? The Heart of America Medical Center currently owns the Johnson Clinic building, but Potvin pointed out that the building is in disrepair.

"The building has black mold in it, walls need to be fixed and many other issues," said Potvin. "It could be close to six figures just to fix up the building."

Besides issues with the building,

the number of patients currently being served at Heart of America Johnson Clinic in Towner is also a concern. The clinic in Towner is currently open two days a week. The other primary provider at the clinic is Physician Assistant Carol Berg, and she will be moving her practice to Heart of America Johnson Clinic in Rugby. Patients who received their care in Towner can still receive healthcare services at Heart of America Johnson Clinic in Rugby.

Also seeing patients at Johnson Clinic was Dustin Hager. Potvin said that both Berg and Hager were only averaging a few patients a

week, and Dr. Sedo was only seeing about 8.5 per day on the two days a week he was in his Towner office. Of that number, about 25% of them came from Rugby to see him.

According to a press release issued by HAMC, this situation has led to a decision to close Heart of America Johnson Clinic in Towner, effective Friday, August 19. Dr Sedo's last day at the Towner Clinic will be August 18.

Potvin also mentioned that for the past few months, even before Dr. Sedo's resignation, the Heart of America Medical Center had been in talks with Sandhills Community Health Center. He said that the Sandhills clinic only averages about five patients a day and he'd been talking with Darryl Birch of Coal Country Health Center in Hazen about ways the two entities could help each other to combine services under one roof and best provide medical care to Towner and McHenry County. Heart of America Medical Center currently has a working relationship with Sandhills Community Clinic in Towner, and referrals for services to Heart of America Medical Center are available through them.

Potvin suggested to the City Commission that a forum be held for the public to discuss matters of the building and of the future of health care in the area. The forum has been set for Thursday, July 28 at the Towner Public School library at 7:00 pm, where area residents can receive further details concerning this announcement. Jeff Lingerfelt (CEO), Jim Potvin (Clinic Administrator), and HAMC Board representation will be available that evening to answer questions.



2011 SasKota Bowl held in Rolla

Travis Smette, former TGU Titan, carries the ball during one of his run during last week's SasKota Bowl held in Rolla. For more on the game, please see Page 10. (Photo by John Rosinski)