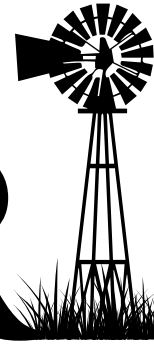


THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

SERVING
LOGAN & McPHERSON COUNTIES
FOR OVER 100 YEARS



LOGAN COUNTY, STAPLETON, NEBRASKA 69163 (USPS 518780) THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018 NO.16



Peter Rabbit
See Page 5 For Details

McPherson Co. News



Graphic Files
Over The Hills
Hall Ladies Tea
Local Blood Drive
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Election Update
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Notices

- McPherson County Commissioners' Proceedings
- First Half Of RE & PP Taxes Due

Who Is Dan Stapleton?
By: Larry Hardesty
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Weather



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
10	52	24	0
11	68	25	0
12	83	38	0
13	62	38	0
14	38	20	.67
15	27	11	.15
16	33	12	0

Snowfall measured 6" on April 14 and 0.15" on April 15. The windchill was 9 degrees on April 13.

Fog and thunder was observed on April 13, and winds were recorded at 48 MPH also on April 13.

Obituaries

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- Sonja Daigger
- Roger Lee Fox

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Primary election to decide two races

Registered Republican voters will be deciding two important races in the May 15 Primary Election in Logan County.

The fate of the Logan County treasurer and Logan County Commissioner in District #1 is up to Republicans who will be voting absentee or at the polls.

An application for early voting was published in the April 12 issue of *The Enterprise* and Logan County Clerk, Debbie Myers reminds voters the voter registration site in Logan County is at her office located in the courthouse.

If you have recently moved to Logan County, moved within Logan County since you registered to vote, changed your name since you registered to vote, or are 18 years of age or will be 18 on or before Tuesday, November 6, you need to register in her office. The clerk's office is open Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

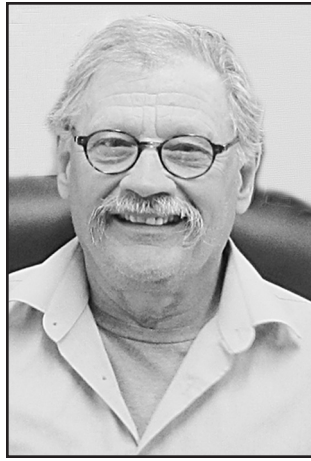
The final day for in-person voter registration is May 4, 2018. The clerk's office will be open until 6:00 p.m. that day for your convenience.

The postmark deadline for mailed in registrations is April 30, 2018. The last day to mail an early voting ballot with a mail-in registration application form to a person not registered to vote is April 30. Mail-in registration forms must be postmarked on or before April 30.

The winner of the treasurer and commissioner races at the primary will advance to the general election this fall and will be running unopposed.

This week *The Enterprise* features the four candidates who are running for these two positions and whose names will appear on the Republican ticket ballot.

Logan County Commissioner District #1 Race



Lee Wonch Incumbent

Lee Wonch is seeking reelection to his second term. Wonch moved to Stapleton when he was in seventh grade and he has been a county resident ever since. His wife, Diane, is a lifelong Logan County resident, and both graduated from Stapleton High School. All five of their children are SHS graduates.

"I ran for commissioner last time because I felt with my experience of over 35 years of road maintenance and building roads I could help in that area. After being elected, I found the roads to be in need of repair. They needed to be built up and work needed to be done. This is an ongoing process in the county," Wonch said. "The culverts are plugged and need to be cleaned out."

Wonch said the courthouse was also in need of maintenance and upgrades.

"The courthouse is in good shape now and we have made several improvements, including repairing the courtroom, lighting, heating and air, and landscaping."

Wonch said he is currently representing Logan County on five boards.

He retired after 30 years with the Nebraska Department of Roads and

serves on the Gandy Community Church board.

"I am open to anyone who would like to speak with me about any issue regarding Logan County and they may call me at 308-636-6550," he said.

Wonch stated he would like to continue serving as commissioner and moving the county forward with all necessary services.



Jerry Johnson

Jerry Johnson is a lifetime resident of District #1 in Logan County and he has served three terms as commissioner. He is retired from ranching.

"I had several people ask me if I would run again," Johnson said. "After consideration, I decided to run so people would have a choice."

Johnson comes with experience, not only since he is a past three-term commissioner, but he has served on several boards and committees.

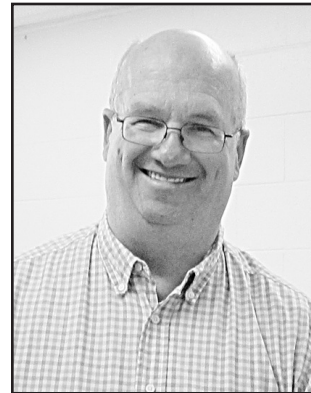
"I've learned a lot over the years serving on these boards and taking an active role in local government," Johnson said.

Jerry and his wife, Donna, live east of Gandy. Their two daughters both graduated from Stapleton High School.

"I would like to see more spending restraint in the county," Johnson said. "The courthouse remodeling could have been done over time and money saved."

Johnson said if he is elected he will do his best to hold down taxes and improve the roads to the best of his ability.

Logan County Treasurer



Richard Gewecke Incumbent

Richard Gewecke was born and raised in Stapleton and is a 1976 SHS graduate. After graduating from Kearney State College, he worked nine and a half years at the Nebraska Department of Revenue.

He began working in the treasurer's office on March 1, 2011, was appointed deputy county treasurer on October 17, 2012, and appointed treasurer on February 1, 2015.

He won the primary and general election for Logan County Treasurer in 2014.

Gewecke says he has improved the office by putting Logan County on Nebraska Taxes Online so a taxpayer can look up their tax statements online. He entered into an agreement with the IRS to allow the treasurer's office to be able to accept Form 2290 Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Forms so farmers no longer need to go to the North Platte IRS office to file this form when registering their trucks.

"I have updated several programs and procedures that are done in the office to new available technology," Gewecke said.

He was awarded the Completion of NACO Institute of Excellence in December 13, 2013 from the Nebraska Association of County Officials and University of Nebraska Lincoln Extension, and a Nebraska Certified County Treasurer certificate on December 10, 2015 from the Nebraska Association of County Treasurers.

"I have very much enjoyed the last seven years that I have been in the Logan County Treasurer's office. It has been my goal that everyone who comes to the office is treated the way I would like to be

treated if I were on the opposite side of the counter," Gewecke said. "Hopefully the times we didn't achieve this goal were few and far between. With the help of the voters, I look forward to serving the residents of Logan County another four years."



Lisa Kinderknecht

"Logan COUNTY" is home to me. I am ready and willing to serve you, the taxpayers, as your Logan County Treasurer," Kinderknecht said. "I am invested in our community as a member of St. John's Church, volunteering at the Logan County Fair & Rodeo, a member of the Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce, and as a shareholder of our local cooperative grocery store."

Kinderknecht and her husband, Toby, live at Gandy. Their son and daughter-in-law, Cole and Lacy Kinderknecht and Conner also live at Gandy. Lacy is the community liaison and fourth grade teacher at Stapleton Public Schools. Cole is a newly hired agent at Arnold Insurance Agency.

The Kinderknecht's daughter and son-in-law Kelsey and Clifford Smith and Audrie, Ryder and Cort, live in Penrose, Colorado.

"I have prior experience working at the treasurer's office under the guidance of Maureen Hayden. I left the office because of health insurance reasons. Financially we could not make ends meet. I am very budget oriented and have been in the financial field for over 30 years," Kinderknecht said.

Kinderknecht went on to say she has ideas she would like to implement if she is elected treasurer.

"With the commissioners approval I would like to stay open later a couple times a month. This would give taxpayers who work outside of town the

(Continued on page 11)

4-H'ers qualify for Districts



COURTESY PHOTO

Logan County 4-H participants, front, Rate Peterson; back row, l-r: Caleb Burnside, Kelsey Amos, Hannah Burnside, Cayson Johnston, and Kelsey Amos.

The Lincoln-Logan-McPherson Counties 4-H public speaking and music contest was held Sunday, April 8, at the Gandy Community Bible Church.

The contest encourages youth to develop communication skills through public speaking and performing arts.

Logan County contest results were:

Speech Division

Overall Contestant: Hannah Burnside, senior division, purple; Caleb Burnside, intermediate division,

purple; Cayson Johnston, intermediate division, blue; and Kelsey Amos, junior division, blue. All of the speech contestants qualified for districts.

Performing Arts

Overall Contestant: Megan Amos, senior division; and Rate Peterson, Clover Kid ribbon. Megan and Rate both played the piano.

Overall contestants received \$20.00 awards.

School District #4 in state

A list of top school districts in Nebraska for 2018 by Background Checks.org has been released and has ranked Stapleton Public Schools in the number 4 spot. Nebraska, the vast, agriculturally-rich Great Plains state dividing the eastern and western parts of the country, is a quiet heavyweight in public education: the Cornhusker State ranks fifth nationwide in high school graduation rate, according to the latest survey by *U.S. News & World Report*.

The report states Stapleton Public Schools at #4, is a modestly-sized district with a hardworking, high achieving student body. *U.S. News and World Report* recently bestowed Stapleton High School with a bronze medal due to students' high proficiency in math and English.

Coming in at #1 was Bennington Public Schools, serving the small town of Bennington, NE. Comprising three elementaries, a middle school, and a high school, the district exceeded statewide standards in nearly every measure.

Elkhorn Public Schools was ranked #2 in the state, and placing third was Norris School District #160, whose four schools serve the communities of Lancaster County, NE.