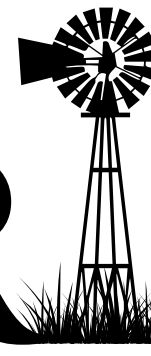


# THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020

NO. 41

## Informational meetings on school bond issue

MARCIA HORA

Stapleton Public Schools will hold two informational meetings and include school tours to show patrons of the district what will be done to improve the school building.

Voters will be asked if they want to approve up to a \$2.9 million bond that would renovate parts of the existing building to create a safe and secure entrance to the building, improved community commons and concessions area, and provide private student health and services areas.

A new music room and locker rooms and additional activity entrance and lobby would be added to the east side of the present building.

The projected levy and tax request will result in no net tax impact to the capital improvement portion of the budget.

The board has currently been taxing around 9 cents in the special building fund to address facility needs. The annual bond payment would require around 6 cents to be

taxed each year. The board will adjust the special building fund down each year to offset what is required for the bond payment.

The current facility lends itself to some renovation, but through careful study as to the best solution to address urgent facility needs, position the District for the future, and be fiscally responsible to the taxpayer, this combined renovation and new construction solution was selected and unanimously voted on by the board of education members.

The project addresses facilities needs involving security, code updates, health and privacy issues, and educational impact. There are other needs and improvements the Board intends to look at and plan for using the current depreciation fund and special building funds. These funds are adequate to address needs well into the future and within current budget parameters.

The public is invited to the school on Sunday, October 18 or Tuesday, October 20. Tours will begin at

6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

A group of community members have also been working to organize accurate and specific information to inform district patrons. This group will be scheduling meetings with small groups throughout the community during the month of October.

A flyer with information and the final plan was mailed to patrons on October 1.

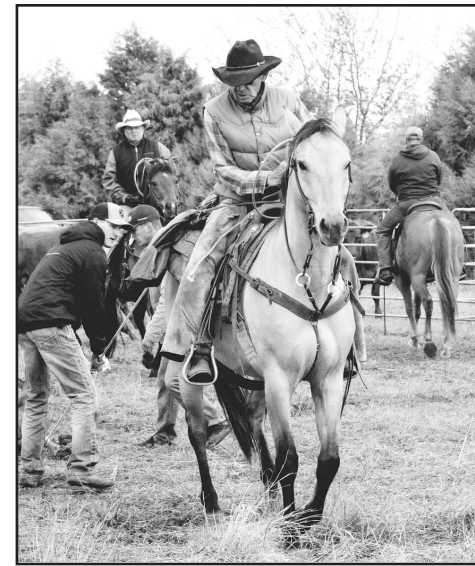
Informational booths will be set up at school events and more information may be accessed on the Stapleton School Improvement Committee's website and Facebook page.

These may be found at: <http://sites.google.com/view/stapleton-schoolimprovement-comm/home>

<http://www.facebook.com/Stapleton-School-Improvement-Committee-106528474563611>

Next week the final building plan showing the new entrance, remodeled space, ADA compliant restrooms, and a new music room and locker rooms, will be featured.

## Cowboy Hall of Fame Induction Date Set



Chubby Dailey, left, and Clarence Lanka, both of Stapleton, will be among those inducted November 21 into the 2020 Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Plans are underway to hold the 2020 Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame at which time the following members will be inducted:

Andrew (Andy) Andersen, Sheridan County  
Sally Lowe Becker, Grant/Dawes County  
Sybil Ickes-Malmberg-Berndt, Sheridan County  
Bernis (Chubby) Dailey, Logan County  
Clarence Lanka, Logan County  
Aubrey Lord, Cherry County  
Don Powles, Sheridan County

David Sheets, Grant-Garfield County  
William E. (Bill) Thurston, Grant County.

The 15th Annual Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony will be held November 21, 2020 at the 4-H Building at the Cherry County Fairgrounds in Valentine.

Social Hour will begin at 4:00 p.m., the benefit auction will take place at 5:00 p.m., banquet at 6:00 p.m. and induction ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. All times are Central Stan-

dard Time.

Tickets are on sale now. Tickets are pre-sold and the public is welcome. For tickets, contact Rod Palmer at 402-587-2212 or at P.O. Box 127, Ainsworth, NE 69210, or by emailing Tiffany Barthel at [tiffbarthel@gmail.com](mailto:tiffbarthel@gmail.com).

Anyone wishing to donate items for the benefit auction can contact Rod Palmer at 402-587-2212, Bret Younkin at 402-760-0833, Tiffany Barthel at [tiffbarthel@gmail.com](mailto:tiffbarthel@gmail.com) or any board member.

Fiscal Year	Special Building Fund Levy	Special Building Fund Tax Request	Bond Fund Levy	Bond Fund Tax Request	Total Capital Improvement Levy	Total Tax Request For Capital Improvement
2019-20	0.09327	\$328,225	0	0	0.09327	\$328,225
2020-21	0.09387	\$328,225	0	0	0.09387	\$328,225
2021-22*	0.03227	\$110,560	0.06160	\$217,665	0.09387	\$328,225

The bond issue will have NO NET TAX IMPACT on taxpayers. The board has currently been taxing around 9 cents in the special building fund to address facility needs. The annual bond payment would require around 6 cents to be taxed each year. The board will adjust the special building fund down each year to offset what is required for the bond payment. This results in NO NET TAX INCREASE for this project.

\* Projected levy and tax request information with bond issue. Results in NO NET TAX IMPACT to capital improvement portion of the budget.

The board used community input to look at needs that could be addressed reasonably to improve the school with no tax increase. The board has come up with a plan that will position the District for the future and be fiscally responsible to taxpayers.

## Gustason selected as finalist in 2020-21 Believers & Achievers

U.S. Bank and the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) are proud to announce the 2020-2021 Believers and Achievers. Believers & Achievers is a statewide program designed by U.S. Bank and the NSAA to give recognition to Nebraska's future leaders. Stapleton High School had four nominees this year. They were Trinity Hansen, Hope Gustason, Hannah Burnside, and Camrin Coco.



she will be among 48 Nebraska high school seniors honored as Believers & Achievers. From these 48 finalists, eight will re-

ceive \$500 scholarships from U.S. Bank to the college or university of their choice at a scholarship banquet to be held on April 25, 2021.

Students will be recognized via an NSAA social media campaign throughout the 2020-2021 activities year and on a poster sent to all NSAA member schools and U.S. Bank branches throughout the state.

All of the students nominated for the Believers & Achievers awards program represent the very best of Nebraska's high schools.

## Legal battle against wind continues

District Judge Mark Kozisek has granted a motion to dismiss one of three lawsuits filed against the Cherry County Board of Commissioners, BSH Kilgore, LLC, Cherry County Wind, LLC and Bluestem Sandhills, LLC. The ruling was handed down September 10.

Case CI 20-44 was deemed improper as state statute only allows for a court appeal for the original granting or denying of a conditional use permit. The plaintiff, Preserve the Sandhills, appealed to the court on a decision by the board of commissioners to grant an extension on the conditional use permit.

Judge Kozisek said the extension was not reviewable by the court.

The decision, can however, be taken on to the Nebraska Supreme Court. Case Number CI 19-74 appealed the original granting of the conditional use permit to build wind towers is still in Cherry County District Court.

Kozisek also ordered in August the removal of

Preserve the Sandhills LLC as a plaintiff in the 2019 suit where the Cherry County Commissioners voted 5-0 to grant BSH Kilgore a permit. The judge allowed the suit to proceed with 12 additional Cherry County residents as co-plaintiffs with original party Charlene Reiser-McCormick of rural Valentine. The new group added to the case in June were William Schmit, Danielle Robinson, Shawn and Kayte Robinson and Jim and Anita Robinson, all of rural Nenzel; Deborah Galloway of rural Kilgore; and Kort Hamilton, John Hamilton, Wayne Eatinger and Marion and Merrial Rhoades, all of rural Thedford.

Preserve the Sandhills itself lacks standing to appeal the County Board's

vote, but the 13 individual members have shown standing as Cherry County landowners.

Cherry County Wind and Bluestem Sandhills LLC have been dismissed as defendants in the 2019 suit and the defendants are Cherry County, the County Board, and BSH Kilgore.

An even older suit seeks to prevent DeNaeyer and Storer from voting on County Board matters involving BSH Kilgore due to involvement by their family.

Bluestem Sandhills was to have started on-site construction in the late fall of 2016 or early 2017. The life of the project was anticipated to be a minimum of 20 years. With the requested extension, the date to begin would be late fall of 2024.

## Reservations being taken for murder mystery

Reservations are being taken for the Chamber's fund-raiser, "Murder At The Deadwood Saloon." The event is being put on by community members, Saturday, October 24 at the Stapleton Community Center. Please RSVP by October 17 to Cindy Frey at 308-636-2636.

### -- News Briefs --

#### Free Farm & Ranch Clinic

Farmers and ranchers are invited to attend a free clinic Wednesday, October 14 and 21. For the time being the clinics are being conducted as conference calls or as Zoom meetings. It is possible to attend a clinic from any location in the state. In-person clinics are expected to resume in the future. To sign up for a clinic or for more information, call Michelle at the Nebraska Rural Response Hotline at 1-800-464-0258.

#### West Central Immunization Clinics in October

West Central District Health Department has announced pediatric through adult immunizations as follows:  
Tryon - October 15, 10:00 a.m. - noon, McPherson County Courthouse.  
Stapleton - October 20, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Logan County Courthouse.  
Thedford - October 20 - 10:00 a.m. - noon, Thomas County Courthouse.  
Call 308-221-6831 for more information.

### Weather

DATE	HI	LOW	MT
27	85	51	.01
28	65	40	0
29	63	34	0
30	81	37	0
1	66	36	0
2	59	29	0

Total September Moisture: 0.71"  
Total Average September Moisture: 2.25"  
Total 2020 Moisture: 19.59"  
Total Annual Average Moisture: 22.97

Blast From The Past  
Features 1958-1959  
McPherson  
County Teachers

### McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- Between The Lines
- "Back in the Days" Poem

### Notices

- Stapleton Rural Fire Dt. Notice of Meeting
- Logan County Library Meeting Notice
- Matthew L. Schaeffer Estate Notice
- McPherson County School Dt. #90 Notice of Meeting
- McPherson County Commissioners Public Notice
- Notice of School Bond Election
- Nebraska Early Voting Ballot Application Logan & McPherson Counties

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