



**A season in review: Breckenridge Cowgirls, A6**



CAMERON SUTPHIN

City officials want this blight removed at 407 3rd Street South in Wahpeton. Despite tenants with legal issues, the city is moving forward on the clean up.

## Jailed tenant and warrant not stopping property clean up

BY CAMERON SUTPHIN  
Reporter

The City of Wahpeton is still trying to get blight property cleaned up, but one resident is jailed on meth charges and the other has an active warrant out for missing a court date.

Despite these issues, the city is going to move forward to clean up the properties.

“(City Attorney) Britany Hatting had contacted (the property owner’s) attorney, and we were going to get together and try to get a timeline for those trailers to be removed out there.” Building Official Todd Johnson said during a recent public works and safety meeting.

In March, Richland County Sheriff Deputies charged Terrence Lee Cusey, 73, with possession with intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance, namely meth

and other charges. “Terrence Cusey, 407 3rd Street South; he is currently incarcerated in the jail. He’s going to be constructing a new shed and tearing down the one he was ordered to tear down,” Johnson said. “He’s working with division zero for funding on that. He also spoke with the judge in February, and that was their agreement as well.”

Cusey is facing multiple charges in South Dakota and the committee was doubtful if he would be back to the property.

The other issues are at 207 3rd St. South and 313 3rd St. South.

“Sean Flavin (313 3rd St. South) did not appear for his court date, and there is a warrant out for his arrest. (A woman) placed a dumpster on-site at 207 3rd St. South. Very minimal cleanup was done for (the property owner’s) order to

clean the lot up. The next court date she has to appear is April 17,” Johnson said.

In other action:

- The Leach Public Library is in need of interior plaster repairs.

Library Director Melissa Bakken spoke at the Public Works and Public Safety Committee on Tuesday, March 25 about the repairs.

“We’ve had leaks in the past up on the parapet ... The leaks have been fixed, but now we need some repair for interior plaster,” Bakken said.

“This year’s bid was \$48,550, and that’s due to the fact that the sub-contractor can do both the repairs and the paint work. The repairs are basically the east wall, the north wall and the west wall; but the entire band of the upper area of the library would have to be painted due to the fact that it’s faded,” Bakker said.

“The library fund balance is about one and one-half times their annual expense budget, so they definitely have cash on hand specifically for this,” Finance Director Darcie Huwe said.

The library plans to start the repairs later this year in late summer or early fall.

The committee approved moving forward with the repairs and it will now go to the city council for final approval.

- The committee approved the purchase of a new ULV sprayer for vector control for \$14,807.65. The old ULV sprayer will be moved into a backup role.

- The 2025 seal coat project bid was awarded to Aztec Corporation for \$131,520.14.

- The design of the wells and booster station with IEI approved for \$354,141. The project will start this fall.

## Comstock Construction hosts Red River Area Sportsmen’s Club Junior Wildlife Club

BY CAMERON SUTPHIN  
Reporter

The Red River Area Sportsmen’s Club Junior Wildlife Club members made their own wren houses on Thursday, March 20 at Comstock Construction.

Melissa and Stuart Schumacher got the wren birdhouse project ready for the youth. Stuart Schumacher gave the demonstration to the kids before they started putting their wren houses together.

“The way we set it up is we have everything pre-cut and ready to go,” Me-

lissa Schumacher said. Comstock Construction has been hosting the birdhouse making event for over 10 years.

“That’s usually one of our most popular events during the year, it’s one of the bigger turnouts,” Melissa Schumacher said.

These activities are free of charge for members because of the support by the Red River Area Sportsmen’s Club.

Youth between the ages of eight and 16, can go to www.rrasc.net, look under the Jr. Wildlife tab, fill out the information and become a member.



SUBMITTED

Red River Area Sportsmen’s Club Junior Wildlife Club member Koby Nelson holds her wren house at Comstock Construction.

## Wilkin County Courthouse will no longer offer drivers license renewals

Commissioners make difficult decision to discontinue services

BY CAMERON SUTPHIN  
Reporter

Residents in Breckenridge will have to drive to Fergus Falls or Moorhead to renew their driver’s licenses because the Wilkin County Courthouse will no longer offer

that service.

Rick Busko, vice chair of the Wilkin County Board of Commissioners, told the Daily News the county looked for other alternatives.

“Due to forthcoming unfunded mandates from the State of Minnesota and budget considerations, Wilkin County has made the difficult decision to discontinue driver’s license services, for which a date has not yet been determined,” Busko said in a statement.

He continued, “This decision was not made

lightly, and the commissioners looked at all options in both the governmental and private sectors, and it was deemed to not be feasible.”

The commissioners understand this will be an inconvenience for their residents but feel it is the right move to keep local taxes low.

“Wilkin County Commissioners are trying to be proactive in keeping our tax levy as low as possible. Residents will still be able to access driver’s license services through the Minnesota Depart-

ment of Motor Vehicles or other nearby counties,” Busko said.

Busko added, “We understand the inconvenience this may cause for our residents. However, we must prioritize our resources to ensure the continued delivery of essential services to our community. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding as we work to manage our resources effectively.”

Driver’s license services will be discontin-



FILE PHOTO

The Wilkin County Courthouse will no longer offer driver’s license renewals due to forthcoming unfunded mandates from the State of Minnesota and budget considerations.

ued effective Monday, April 21.

On the Wilkin County website, the pre-apply online link to make appointments is already down.

For more information on alternative locations for driver’s license services, residents can visit the Minnesota Department of Motor Vehicles website.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.

### NATIONWIDE

The new National Medal of Honor Museum opened March 31 in Arlington, Texas. The Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration in the U.S. for valor on the battlefield.

### SUBSCRIBER OF THE DAY

Published for the Red River Valley and **Bob and Claudia Comstock** of Wahpeton, N.D.