

WASHBURN COMMUNITY

City awaits costs for lift station fix

BY MICHAEL JOHNSON
Editor

When it rains it pours and it appears that Washburn may be in for another expense thanks to spring weather related issues. Besides streets and sewage issues the increase in pumping out at the City lift station has put the system on its last leg.

City maintenance superintendent Chad Dahme reported to the city commission during the last regular commission meeting about the lift station and that one motor had failed, two electric panels and rails were in disrepair and the other motor was in poor shape. The lift station was built in 1980.

Since the meeting, Dahme said that they have installed a temporary pump to keep up with the pumping. That is working for now but they have requested information from the city engineer to find out what the cost would be to update the system. Preliminary estimates were in the \$60,000 range to replace both pumps.

North Dakota Sewage has looked at the system and recommended replacing the pumps and panels. Dahme said if the cost is approved to go ahead with new, it would be another six weeks before the parts came in after approval. Dahme hoped to have an estimate back by the end of this week.

Free diabetes class open to all

BY MICHAEL JOHNSON
Editor

According to the Centers for Disease Control, 7 percent of adults in McLean County have diabetes. That percentage continues to rise as the number of inactive people continues to increase all over country. The rise in diabetes is seen more than ever in younger people.

Because the chances of having diabetes are increasing, it is all the more important to know the facts of the disease to help yourself and those around you.

A diabetes class is taking place at the Washburn Memorial Building May 2 and May 16. The class will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the class needs to call the toll free

number 1-877-532-4545.

The class is a collaboration between the American Diabetes Association and Merck & Co. to provide free information for those in rural areas that don't have information readily available for them. Family nurse practitioner Jane Christianson said a dietician will be putting on the class and it will last about two hours. Typically those interested bring their spouse so that both are able to take part in the class together. But anyone is invited.

Christianson said similar classes were held last year with good response to the information. Several people even continued working with the dietician after the class to receive continued support.



The crew of Farm Rescue volunteers in the area include (from right) Jay Schepp, Gene Spichke, Charlie Bartsch, Bill Krumwiede, Al Carvell and Pete Von Bank. On the far left is Kim Saueressig the service manager at RDO Equipment Co. in Washburn and a trainer for the Farm Rescue volunteers.

MICHAEL JOHNSON

Farm Rescue volunteers learn some new skills

BY MICHAEL JOHNSON
Editor

A crew of experienced farmers assembled at the RDO Equipment Co. combine shop in Washburn last Thursday to go over a refresher course in using a John Deere tractor and air seeder. The 12-wheeled green monster was a bit different than what some of the guys have used before but they were ready to learn for the sake of a good cause.

The group of six men was preparing for the upcoming season of planting as the local crew for the Farm Rescue program. Local service manager Kim Saueressig brought them up to speed on how to use the latest in computer operated systems on the John Deere equipment.

They don't make them like they used to. The men stood and spoke about old tractors that they used to operate. Much of the group were retired farmers eager to help those farmers in need when they could and just as excited to use a piece of equipment that they didn't own.

RDO allows the Farm Rescue volunteers the use of the tractor and seeder so that they can help those who are not able to get their crop in on their own. It's a donation that makes a huge difference in someones life the men said.

Pete Von Bank, one of the volunteers from Washburn, said its a job that they enjoy doing. There are 15 farms that are signed up for help in North Dakota so far. The program has helped over 100 farms with either planting or harvesting of crops since it started in 2005.

Win with Farm Rescue

Farm Rescue launched its second annual "Rolling with Farm Rescue" contest, which runs now through August 27, 2011. The contest is an important fundraiser for the nonprofit organization which plants and harvests crops for farm families that have suffered a major illness, injury or natural disaster.

With an expanded prize list, participants have an opportunity to win everything from a John Deere riding lawn mower tractor to Minnesota Vikings football tickets. One lucky contest participant will win a 2011 Harley Davidson motorcycle. No sponsorship or donated funds were used to acquire prizes.

To be eligible for prizes, participants must obtain a free contest card at any contest sponsor in North Dakota or the cities of Anchorage, Alaska, Louisville, Ky., or Aberdeen, S.D. A contest card can also be downloaded at

farmrescue.org. (Click on the Rolling with Farm Rescue logo to print card and view contest sponsors.) Participants must then get their card stamped by three contest sponsors, before returning the card to Farm Rescue for entry into the prize drawings.

Sponsors in Washburn include RDO Equipment Co., Captain's Cabin and Enerbase.

The contest is free and open to the public. No purchase is required. One entry per person (must be 18 years of age or older). Go to the Farm Rescue Web site to view a complete set of rules or call 701-252-2017.

CARDS OF THANKS

On behalf of TAG "Teen Alternative Group," the students and committee would like to extend a thank you to the local businesses for their support in providing a safe after prom experience for the students.

These local businesses made it possible for the students to win door prizes throughout the evening as well as attending bowling and breakfast after the prom.

Once again we thank our local businesses for making this possible.

~TAG Committee

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Sergeant Bradley Klug
MLRS Fire Direction Specialist
Alpha Battery
2nd Battalion
4th Field Artillery Regiment
Fort Sill, Oklahoma

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free memory screenings
St. Alexius Medical Center will be conducting free memory screenings from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, April 30, at the Washburn Family Clinic. See ad in this week's issue for complete details.

Salad luncheon set
The Turtle Lake Community Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is having a fundraising salad luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sunday, May 1, at the high school gym. A variety of salads plus sandwiches will be served (all you can eat).

Open house at Sodas and Things
Sodas and Things, Underwood, will be holding an open house from 2 to 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 3. Stop in and check out the new merchandise and sample new dips, cheeseball and soup mixes!

Nutritionist available
The WIC Nutritionist will be available at the public health office in Washburn on Monday, May 2. Call 462-3330 to schedule an appointment.