

Stapleton postmaster retires

Stapleton Postmaster Mary Pedersen has retired after 28 1/2 years with the United States Postal Service. She will be honored with a retirement open house Monday, January 16, from 4:00 to 6:0 p.m. at the Stapleton Community Center. Everyone is invited to attend, wish her well in her retirement, and thank her for her years of dedicated service to Stapleton Post Office patrons.

"I'll miss all my customers, employees and friends, and thank you for the last 15 years of serving you as your postmaster," Pedersen said. "We'll be getting out the camper and fishing poles soon and will see you at the lake."

Postmaster Pedersen said she is also looking forward to being able to spend more time with family, especially her grandchildren. She has also saved up several retirement projects to be completed.

"A new Stapleton postmaster will be appointed in the near future," Pedersen added.

Cherry County commissioners deny wind farm permit

MARCIA HORA

Cherry County Board of Commissioners met in special session Monday, December 19, to discuss and act on the conditional use permit application submitted by BSH Kilgore, LLC.

Over 50 people were in attendance and due to the large crowd, the meeting was moved to the Cherry County Courtroom.

Cherry County Commissioners, Mark Adamson and Tanya Storer were present and Jim Van Winkle was absent.

Commissioner Adamson stated the Cherry County Commissioners have historically given due deference to the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Board. The Planning and Zoning Board forwarded Conditional Use Permit application #01-16 with a recommendation to disapprove. The CUP appli-

cation submitted to the Commissioners includes numerous material changes that have not been reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Board, which is critical, specifically in light of the fact that the burden of inspection for this permit is limited to only 2 of the 3 elected commissioners.

In addition, it has been determined that the requirements set forth in the Cherry County Zoning regulations have not been fully satisfied. Requirement #7 asks for "Documentation of land ownership or legal control of the property."

This CUP application lists the legal descriptions of the project property was owned by Taylor G. and Kerri Adamson, Broken Box Company, Mark and Janelle Johnson, Krasjeski & Johnson, Inc., the Board of Educational Lands & Funds of the

State of Nebraska, Rocking J Taylor Company, and Rothleutner Family Limited Partnership and states that Bluestem Sandhills has the following easements on the project area: Construction Easement, Access Easement, Preoperating Phase & Meteorological Equipment Easement, Operating Phase Easement, Wind Turbines Easement, Transmission Easement, Substations Easement, Easement for other Wind Energy Facilities, Wind Nonobstruction Easement, Noise and Flicker Easement and Overhang Easement.

Upon request of a copy of said easements, Cherry County was provided with a memorandum of agreement for the above stated easements, by and between Cherry County Wind, LLC and landowners, with the exception of

(Continued on page 2)

Special Christmas Gift



MARCIA HORA PHOTO

Derb Frey of Stapleton received a very special Christmas gift this year. Joe Shown of Stapleton made him a metal sign with a B29 plane and Derb's dates of service in the United States Air Force. AIC Darwin Frey served his country from 1951-1954.

Distribution Center Nearing Completion



TERRI LICKING PHOTO

The crane is in position to lift the bins into their permanent positions.

Completion is nearing on the new Masterhand Milling distribution center located east of Theadford on Highway 2.

Masterhand Milling is operated by Elite Endeavors, LLC, a family-owned pellet mill, producing 100% dried distillers grain cubes, pellets and creep feed for use on the ranch.

Owner, Dusty Turner, grew up on a ranch in the Oklahoma panhandle, running a cake and grass cattle operation. After college, Turner began his career in the cattle feedyard business. In early 2006, the ethanol industry began to see substantial growth. Turner, along with many others in the beef industry, soon realized the distiller's grain co-products out of the ethanol plants could serve as a beneficial feed product.

In an effort to reduce freight costs of shipping product from distant plants, Turner approached the city of Liberal, Kansas about building an ethanol plant that would benefit both feedyards and local farmers. A team was assembled and Turner co-founded Conestoga Energy Partners, LLC, building a 55-million-gallon ethanol plant in Garden City, KS. A

short time later, a 110-million-gallon plant was added at Liberal, KS.

Today, dried distillers grains have revolutionized the way cattle are fed in the feedyard, and have become the leading natural protein supplement in the feed bunk.

The goal at MasterHand Milling is to bring a high protein, high energy feed ingredients to the ranch in a form that is consistent and carries a standard that ranchers can depend on.

The concentrated supplements offer a minimum 31% protein and 9% fat (dry matter basis), approximately double the energy percentage found in regular corn. The cubes are also high in phosphorus, making them a perfect match for the calcium-rich grass in the Nebraska Sandhills.

"Having this distribution center will help us make deliveries to our customers, saving on delivery costs and time," Angie Florea, owner of The Feed Bunk in Stapleton said.

The Feed Bunk is one of several area distributors for Masterhand Milling. Other distributors include Vinton Feeds, Mullen, and Sandhills Premium Feed & Supplement, Theadford.

Postive change...begins by taking action



COURTESY PHOTO

Andrew Hopper plays his guitar at the first annual "Birthday Party for Jesus," event.

Community members organized and hosted a "Birthday Party for Jesus," Saturday, December 17, in the fellowship hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Stapleton.

Cold weather may have hindered some from attending, but it did not keep those who showed up from enjoying birthday cake, singing, games and give-aways.

Andrew, Daniel and Brenden Hopper provided music. Aiden Trimble read the Christmas story from Chapter 2 in

Luke and Isaac Wonch assisted with the story of the candy cane.

Canned goods were collected for the Creative Printers food drive and stacked to form a Christmas tree.

After the party, extra treat bags were delivered to shut-ins and elderly.

Musical chair participants received book marks and everyone took home a T-shirt and balloons.

Organizers said they will hold the party again next year to celebrate Christ's

birth - the true meaning of Christmas.

Lighting Winners

The Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce has announced winners in the 2016 Christmas lighting contest.

Jason and Renee Trospers were the Village of Stapleton winners. Rich and Polly Burnside, who live southeast of Stapleton, were rural winners.

The Trospers and Burnside will each receive \$25.00 in Chamber bucks.

Railroad Story



By: Larry Hardesty
Continues On Page 3

Notices

- West Central Area On Aging Notice To Bidders
- Logan County Commissioners Notice
- School District R-1 Public Notice

Obituaries

- James Snyder
- Meagan Schroeder

Index

Legal Notices	2
Social Side	3
Obituaries	3
Opinion Page	4
Classifieds	5
McPherson Co. News	6
MCS News	7
Stapleton School News	8
Notable Quotes	9
Logan County Sheriff Report	10

Weather

DATE	HI	LOW	MT	T
3	30	7		
4	18	3		.06
5	11	-3		.14
6	9	-17		0
7	18	-16		0
8	20	-5		0
9	38	8		.44

Observations: Wind, 22 MPH on January 3. Wind Chill was -3 on January 3, -4 on January 4 and -30 on January 6. Snow was .9" on January 4 and 3.0" on January 5.

Senior Lunch Menus

Aunt Bea's Menu6

C.J.'s Menu10

Calling All Babies Of 2016



See Info
On
Page 10

McPherson Co. News



History Of McPherson
Co. News Continued
Page 6