ISSUE 05 SPRING 2021

# NEWS AND INFORMATION



McLeod County Newsletter

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#### McLEOD COUNTY

McLeod County Government Center
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# McLeod County Public Health Turns 100

McLeod County Public Health reached its 100th birthday in 2020 in the midst of a pandemic, which is fitting. Public Health was created in 1920 to help fight tuberculosis; over the years, public health nurses have continued to ensure the health of its residents and work on reducing the spread of tuberculosis, polio, and smallpox. One of the essential roles of local public health is to lead the response to public health threats.

McLeod County Public Health has worked closely with local healthcare partners and the County's Emergency Management Director to ensure vaccination clinics are being provided to residents.

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### Auditor-Treasurer and Assessor's Message: 2021 Property Tax Statement and 2022 Property Valuation Notice

Property owners in McLeod County are receiving their 2021 McLeod County Property Tax Statement in the mail. Please know, it is past the deadline to contest any amounts on this property tax statement. Included in the envelope is your 2022 McLeod County Valuation Notice, printed on white paper with a green border. The valuation notice does contain time-sensitive dates and information. Please review your statement and notices in full.

The valuation notice includes: Valuation of your Property, Classification of your Property, Homestead Status, Dates to Appeal your Value/Classification

It is important to review the valuation notice *immediately* and please call the Assessor's office at 320-864-1254 with questions regarding the information. If you wish to appeal the Valuation Notice, you must contact the Assessor's office to schedule an appointment to view your property as soon as possible to not miss any deadlines in the process.

Connie Kurtzweg, Auditor-Treasurer, and, Sue Schulz, County Assessor

# Property Taxes and Valuation Notices

McLeod County property owners are receiving the 2021 Property Tax Statement and 2022 Valuation Notice. Sample documents:





PROPERTY



### **Veteran Services**

Crow River Habitat for Humanity received a significant donation to put toward a home to be built in McLeod County for a Veteran family. Applicants must either be currently living or working in McLeod County.

The City and site for the 2021 Veteran Build has not yet been determined and will be selected once the Veteran Family is chosen.

Additionally, individuals, families, or groups of Volunteers are being sought to assist in building the home and can reach out to Crow River Habitat for the opportunity to give back to those who have served our country.

Please contact (320) 587-8868 if you have any questions.

### **Soil and Water Conservation District**

As spring approaches, SWCD prepares its three newest projects for implementation over the upcoming seasons:

- They were awarded a competitive Clean Water Fund grant for \$31,800 to complete conservation practices on County Ditch 63, taking some financial burden off landowners on the system.
- They have also received a Lessard Sam's Outdoor Heritage Fund grant to complete a series of wetland restorations on the Prairie Heritage Wildlife Management area--a collaborative project with the MN DNR utilizing \$24,880 to improve wildlife habitat and water storage.
- Their largest project for 2021 will be implementing up to \$1.2 million appropriated to the McLeod County Drainage Systems by FEMA to repair systems that were negatively affected by the 2018 snow/flooding event.



SWCD also looks forward to continuing its internal partnerships with Public Works and the Parks Department to complete another native grass conversion at Piepenburg Regional Park.



### **County Parks**

Time to Think Spring! 2021 Campground and Shelter reservations opened in March for County Parks. The reservations are available online through MaxGalaxy, which can be accessed at:

https://tinyurl.com/MCPRreservations.

Keep an eye out for more information on Public Works' new reservation system coming Fall 2021!







### **Coming Soon: QLess**

One of the new features brought to you from our new facility is the mobile check-in and scheduling system: QLess.

QLess allows visitors and customers to check in from their mobile device or computer, monitor wait times, and schedule future appointments. On-site check-in options will also be available at the front reception desk.

Stay tuned for more information on this program and its debut date.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE**Welcome to the Government Center

While we haven't been able to have a grand opening like we would have traditionally planned, we are excited to be moved in and operating from the new McLeod County Government Center. This facility is now the new home to several McLeod County departments, including:

- County Administration
- Finance
- Employee Relations
- Auditor-Treasurer
- Assessor
- · Health and Human Services
- Information Technology
- Recorder
- Soil and Water Conservation District
- · Veteran Services.

Also located within this facility, is the new Martin McLeod Boardroom and several meeting and training spaces.

For the services listed above, and for County Board functions, come visit us at 520 Chandler Avenue North in Glencoe. See you soon!





### **Health and Human Services**

Continued from Page 1...

As of Tuesday, March 23rd, McLeod County Public Health has administered 2,893 first doses and 1,047 seconded doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. They continue to do COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the newly opened McLeod County Government Center 2-3 times per week, averaging 250-300 vaccines each week based on what the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) allocates them each week.

These clinics could not be done without the help of trained volunteers. McLeod County uses the Minnesota Responds system-a partnership that integrates and engages local, regional, and statewide volunteer programs to strengthen public health and health care while improving preparedness and response capabilities. The County has utilized nurses, doctors, and EMS workers who live in McLeod County to help implement clinics for essential workers and residents ages 65+.

As the County gears up to celebrate National Public Health Week from April 05-11, 2021, Local Public Health staff wish to thank all of its community members for their patience as they administer the COVID-19 vaccine and continue to work through the priority groups set forth by MDH.

McLeod County Health and Human Services looks forward to continuing working together, building bridges to better health, and protecting the health of the people and the communities

where we live, learn, work and play.



"We are incredibly grateful for your understanding through this challenging time. The smiles we see at the vaccination clinics make our day!"

Berit Spors, McLeod County Health and Human Services Director



#### **McLEOD COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

McLeod County Government Center 520 Chandler Avenue North Glencoe, Minnesota 55336 p. 320.864.1328 f. 320.864.1809 www.co.mcleod.mn.us



# GET TO KNOW...

McLeod County's newly elected County Commissioners



### **DISTRICT 1 NATHAN SCHMALZ**

#### Question: What is something that has surprised you about being a Commissioner?

A: I knew we would have committee assignments, but didn't know there were as many committees as there are. I am excited and happy to be serving on our McLeod County committees and even our McLeod, Meeker, and Sibley joint committees. There are some larger committees like AMC, RMC, Central MN Jobs and Training, Pioneerland Library System, Supporting Hands Nurse-Family Partnership, etc. which cover larger demographic and geographic areas.

Question: What aspect of your new position are you most looking forward to learning more about?

A: I am excited to learn more about McLeod County Health and Human Services and everything it has to offer our McLeod County residents.

#### Question: What led you to run for this elected role?

A: I've always been interested in county government. In 2012 I was encouraged to run by retiring Commissioner Ray Bayerl. I ran, but was not successful. I was then invited to serve on the Winsted Township Board as Supervisor that following year. I enjoyed my six years of service on that Board, which gave me valuable experience in taking this next step, serving as McLeod County Commissioner.

#### Question: What is something McLeod County residents should know about you?

A: I was born into Dairy Farming and did that until 2004. I still run our farm acres along with my son, Phil. My outside interests include singing in my church choir. I'm a past member of the Winsted Area Community Choir. In 2011, I performed on stage in the musical 'Forever Plaid' for the Hutchinson Theatre Company (HTC) and in 2013, I once again performed for HTC in the musical 'The, 'Music Man'.

### **DARYL LUTHENS DISTRICT 4**



#### Question: What is something that has surprised you about being a Commissioner?

A: I am amazed at how big our county government is--over 300 employees. I had no idea there were so many subcommittees and the amount of meetings, etc.

#### Question: What aspect of your new position are you most looking forward to learning more about?

A: I look forward to understanding how grant programs work and their distribution; how have these programs changed over the past 10-15 years?

#### Question: What led you to run for this elected role?

A: This position is something I've always wanted to do, but while running a larger dairy farm, it was impossible. Now that I am retired, I have the time. The County has been good to me and my family over the years and I am honored to have the privilege to give back.

#### Question: What is something McLeod County residents should know about you?

A: I have never been one to sit still at a desk. I would much rather be getting my hands dirty.

### McLEOD COUNTY

### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

#### **Nathan Schmalz**

nathan.schmalz@co.mcleod.mn.us



**DISTRICT ONE** 

19906 Cable Ave Lester Prairie, MN 55354 320.282.9647



**Paul Wright** 

**Daryl Luthens** 

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DISTRICT THREE

15215 County Road 7 Hutchinson, MN 55350 320.587.7332



#### Joe Nagel

ioseph.nagel@co.mcleod.mn.us



**DISTRICT FIVE** 

20849 196th Road Hutchinson, MN 55350 320.587.8693

#### **Doug Krueger**

doug.krueger@co.mcleod.mn.us



DISTRICT TWO

9525 County Road 2 Glencoe, MN 55336 612.756.2855



**DISTRICT FOUR** 

18964 Nickel Ave Hutchinson, MN 55350 612.281.4840



**Sheila Murphy** 

sheila.murphy@co.mcleod.mn.us

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** 520 Chandler Ave N Glencoe, MN 55336 320.864.1320

### UPCOMING MEETING DATES

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | APRIL 06, 2021 | 9:00AM McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | APRIL 20, 2021 | 9:00AM McLeod County Government Center

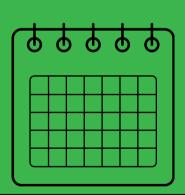
COUNTY BOARD MEETING | MAY 04, 2021 | 9:00 AM McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | MAY 18, 2021 | 9:00 AM McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | JUNE 01, 2021 | 9:00 AM McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | JUNE 15, 2021 | 4:30 PM McLeod County Government Center

BOARD OF APPEALS AND EQUALIZATION | JUNE 15, 2021 | 6:00 PM McLeod County Government Center



MCLEOD COUNTY **GOVERNMENT CENTER** 

520 CHANDLER AVENUE N GLENCOE, MINNESOTA 55350