

NEWS AND INFORMATION

McLeod County Newsletter



In This Issue

QLess: The Virtual Waiting Line
- pg 1 & 2

Health and Human Services
Updates - pg 3 & 4

McLeod County Parks and
Recreation Updates - pg 4

McLeod County Public
Works 2021 Highway
Construction Updates. - pg 5

Minnesota Autism Center
(MAC) Now Open in
Hutchinson. - pg 6

MCLEOD COUNTY

McLeod County Government Center

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QLess: The Virtual Waiting Line

McLeod County has recently implemented a new virtual waiting line called QLess. QLess is active to either Join the Virtual Line or Schedule a Future FlexAppointment in the Government Center for the services of the License Center, Assessor, Auditor-Treasurer, Recorder, and Veteran Services.

These services can be accessed through the McLeod County website, go to www.co.mcleod.mn.us and look for the big green button labeled "Click Here to Schedule an Appointment or Join the Virtual Line." Here, you can type in your information and sign up for either a Walk-In appointment or a FlexAppointment.

Walk-In appointments will put you into an existing line, where each customer is then served on a first-come, first-serve basis. QLess will send you live updates on what your place is in line, along with an estimated wait time.

FlexAppointments are scheduled appointments and will be prioritized over walk-in services to ensure you are served on time.

cont'd p.2

QLess FAQ's

Continued from Page 1...

Along with the new QLess system comes many questions on how to use it accurately. Here are some Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

What does it mean to “Join the Virtual Line”?

Joining the virtual line mirrors (or is the same as) getting in a physical line behind other customers on the same day of service. This action is not the same as making a FlexAppointment. At the time of service, customers with FlexAppointments do take precedence over the Virtual Line customers. As a Virtual Line customer waits in line, the forecasted time of their service could increase if customers with FlexAppointments arrive for their service or if the transactions of other Virtual Line customers take longer than anticipated.

How do I join the Virtual Line?

1. Visit www.co.mcleod.mn.us and click on the QLess button located on the main page.
2. Text 'mcleod county' to 320-207-4911.

What does it mean to “Schedule a FlexAppointment”?

Scheduling a FlexAppointment is making an appointment for a future date and time. At the time of service, customers with FlexAppointments do take precedence over the Virtual Line customers.

How do I schedule a FlexAppointment?

1. Visit www.co.mcleod.mn.us and click on the QLess button located on the main page

Service reminders for License Center:

- All driver's license transactions are FlexAppointment only.
- All other transactions may be FlexAppointments or joined by Virtual Line.

We thank you for your patience with our new system as we work with it and through the learning curve. If you have any questions in scheduling an appointment, please call the Government Center Receptionist at **320-864-1426**.

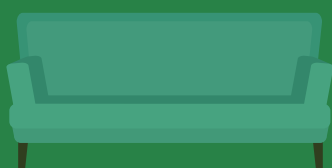
1

JOIN A LINE



2

MOVE FREELY



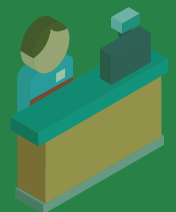
3

GET UPDATES



4

BE SERVED



Health and Human Services

NEW LOCATION IN GLENCOE



United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) has been around for 56 years helping families throughout Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, and Renville counties in southwest Minnesota.

2020 brought hardships and unprecedented times to so many people. Families who had never had to ask for help found themselves reaching out to UCAP for relief. Homelessness increased, Food Insecurities heightened, Financial strain occurred as bills mounted, and many basic needs went unmet. Those impacted by these difficulties are not just people in need, they are our friends, families, and neighbors that make up our communities. 2020 however, also allowed UCAP the increased knowledge to see our Community and family's needs in new ways and adapt creative methods of meeting with families safely to identify their needs and continue to successfully deliver services. It provided us the opportunity to see where we could improve access to services and increase program opportunities for families we work with. UCAP cannot do this work alone so we partner with many organizations, businesses, community members, and volunteers.

One of those great partnerships is with McLeod County Health and Human Services. UCAP will be expanding our services to Glencoe by opening an office in the McLeod County Government Center (MCGC). This is in addition to maintaining our current 218 S Main St, Hutchinson Location. Beginning June 21st, 2021 we will have Outreach Staff available at the MCGC located at 520 Chandler Ave N on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday each week from 8:30-4:30.

United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) works to 'help people and change lives by:

- Getting children ready for kindergarten through our Head Start program;
- Subsidizing of heat and electric bills for eligible families through our Energy Assistance Program;
- Working with homeless and at-risk-of homelessness families to ensure safe, affordable, warm housing;
- Helping people get to work and keep their jobs through our Helping People Get There donated vehicle program; and
- Teaching basic life skills such as budgeting, cooking, etc.

We look forward to increasing our community impact, growing provider relationships, and increasing convenience to those who need UCAP services to meet their family's needs through the expansion of our new Glencoe Location

McLeod County Parks and Recreation Updates

Summer is cutting loose with a string of hot days, and McLeod County Parks and Recreation has been working hard to keep up. The campgrounds at Lake Marion and Piepenburg Parks are experiencing full capacity on the weekends, with campers enjoying all the parks have to offer.

With the warm temperatures, plenty of people have been taking advantage of the rejuvenated beaches to beat the heat.

All six McLeod County Parks are seeing a steady stream of visitors with opportunities for fishing, hiking, camping, picnic, family reunions, even a wedding coming up this summer. It's great to see people out and about after a year full of Covid-19 concerns.

The McLeod County Fairgrounds has also seen a lot of activity. Aside from the usual weekday traffic, the weekends are seeing multiple functions on the weekends. Weddings, birthday parties, a baby shower, dog competitions, and graduations are just a few of the many events in recent weeks. And the schedule doesn't seem to be letting up anytime soon. Plus, we look forward to the return of the McLeod County Fair in August!



Photo Credit: Jon Carrigan, Parks and Recreation Manager

PIEPENBURG

LAKE MARION

Enjoy the summer weather by visiting a McLeod County Park!

McLeod County Public Works 2021 Highway Construction Updates.

Winter has ended which means it is road construction season again! McLeod County Public Works has already commenced a robust summer of work. The complete 2021 construction map can be found at the McLeod County website, under Departments > Public Works > Highway > Road Construction.

Asphalt paving has completed north of Silver Lake on CRs 16 and 5, seal coating work will take place on 20 miles of roads countywide and concrete paving will happen on CRs 2, 3, and 15 around Glencoe. In addition to that McLeod County's 2-year Morningside Reconstruction and Roundabout project in Glencoe will be finishing up this year. McLeod County Public Works will also be touching up pavement markings on almost all roads in the county. Each road gets re-striped every two years. See the picture below of the paving taken on CSAH 16 north of Swan Lake.

Please pay attention to signs, give workers space, and drive safely as we continue to deliver our stout road construction program.

John Brunkhorst, Public Works Director, Jon Carrigan, Parks & Recreation Manager, and, Dan Swanson, Assistant County Engineer/Deputy PW Director



Health and Human Services Continued...



Center Hours:

Monday - Friday:
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday:
Closed

Minnesota Autism Center (MAC) Now Open in Hutchinson

We're excited to share the McLeod County now has access to therapeutic services for children and adolescents between the ages of 18 months to 21 years who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD). See the provided flyer to learn more facts about MAC.

The Minnesota Autism Center opened its Hutchinson Center located at 1125 Hwy 7 West, Hutchinson, on April 26.

The Hutchinson Center provides Individual ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) therapy, Group Skills ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Family Skills, and Psychotherapy via telehealth.

The Minnesota Autism Center (MAC) can also provide center-based or in-home services.

**For more information please call
952.767.4200
or
check out mnautism.org**

WHO WE ARE: Minnesota Autism Center (MAC) provides therapeutic services to children and adolescents between the ages of 18 months to 21 years who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Our services are center-based and in-home, utilizing several therapeutic modalities, including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy.

MAC SERVICES AND PROGRAMS:

- Center-Based and In-Home Services
- Skills Development Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Psychotherapy or Individual and Family Therapy
- Screenings, Assessment & Diagnosis Services
- Telehealth



When Should Services Begin:

Treatment for ASD should begin as soon as possible after diagnosis. Treatment for ASD is important because proper care can reduce individuals' difficulties while helping them learn new skills and make the most of their strengths.

Children identified with ASD are still not receiving comprehensive development evaluations as early as they could be. MAC provides diagnosis and assessments at its Assessment Center located at 5860 Baker Road, Minnetonka, MN 55345, and, throughout the state. To schedule an appointment call: 952-767-4200.

Although ASD is a lifelong disorder, treatments and services can improve a person's symptoms and ability to function. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all children be screened for autism. All caregivers should talk to their child's doctor about ASD screening or evaluation.

Minnesota Autism Center (MAC) FAST FACTS

- MAC was founded in 1996.
- Number of Clients Served: At any given time, MAC serves approximately 300 children and adolescents.
- MAC Centers: MAC has locations throughout the state of Minnesota.
- The Center for Disease Control (CDC) determined that 1 in 59 children is diagnosed with autism and in Minnesota it was estimated even higher with 1 in 42.
- Boys are 4.6 times more likely to be identified with autism than girls.
- Most children will still be diagnosed after age 4, even though ASD can be diagnosed as early as 18 months of age.
- Autism affects all ethnic and socioeconomic groups.
- Minnesota had intelligence quotient (IQ) data available for 79.9% of children identified with ASD. Of those children, 28.1% had intellectual disability.

MAC Mission and Vision:

Mission: We improve the lives of people in our care affected by autism.

Vision: Everyone dealing with autism reaches their full potential.

McLEOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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55336
320.864.1320

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | JULY 6, 2021 | 9:00AM

McLeod County Government Center

COUNTY BOARD MEETING | JULY 20, 2021 | 9:00AM

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COUNTY BOARD MEETING | AUGUST 3, 2021 | 9:00 AM

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COUNTY BOARD MEETING | AUGUST 17, 2021 | 9:00 AM

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COUNTY BOARD MEETING | SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 | 9:00 AM

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COUNTY BOARD MEETING | SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 | 9:00 AM

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COUNTY BOARD MEETING | OCTOBER 5, 2021 | 9:00 AM

McLeod County Government Center



MCLEOD COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

520 CHANDLER AVENUE N
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