



Emily Anne Staples Tuttle papers.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1999

RED WING, MINNESOTA 50¢

New medical facility stresses flexibility

Construction time line

Fairview Red Wing Health Services Board plans to open its new medical facility overlooking the Mississippi River and downtown in the fall of 2001. The expected time line is:

- March 1999: The board approves a 162,000-square-foot facility.
- April-October 1999: Develop building design.
- October 1999-February 2000: Finalize construction documents.
- October-December 1999: Site work begins. The city will begin constructing access roads this summer. Fairview must wait until then to begin clearing the site.
- April 2000-October 2001: Construction.

Hospital/clinic's design has several expansion options

By Anne Jacobson
NEWS EDITOR

The new Fairview Red Wing medical center will have a 50-bed capacity and the versatility to expand to meet patient demands, according to Scott Wordelman, chief executive officer.

He announced that plans are in the works for a blueprint that will accommodate growth yet capitalize on the efficiencies of combining the hospital and clinic.

The general size has been determined — 162,000 square feet. That is slightly smaller than the combined space of the

current hospital (137,000 square feet) plus the Highway 61 clinic (30,000). The facility is expected to cost about \$37.5 million and have three or four floors, but that won't be determined until October when Wordelman expects the Fairview Red Wing Board to approve the master plan.

Number of beds

The number of beds has been a subject of intensive study with some members of the community questioning whether the facility will be too small. Wordelman is confident that the number will be adequate.

The facility will operate with 30 beds if all are maintained as private rooms. But it will be able to stretch to 50 beds in time of need.

The average daily census at the current hospital is 19, and



Fairview Red Wing Hospital will remain a health facility once the new joint hospital/clinic medical facility is built. The old hospital will be used for other purposes, including chemical dependency counseling. — staff photo by Bill Pond

Fairview Red Wing will keep old hospital

By Anne Jacobson
NEWS EDITOR

The current hospital will remain an integral part of health care in Red Wing, and the downtown clinic will grow under a plan approved by the Fairview Red Wing Health Services Board.

The system also has signed five new physicians this year and hopes to add a sixth soon, Chief Executive Officer Scott Wordelman said.

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while that number isn't expected to grow significantly in the next five years, officials want to accommodate people's request for privacy whenever possible. People will be assigned to double rooms only

during peak times such as influenza season in January and February.

"Deciding on the number of beds is part science and part art," Wordelman explained.

Ability to expand

One of the biggest unknowns in health care today is what will happen with inpatient care, he noted. The

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Shooters may have had help

Other suspects sought in school killings

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — With the bodies of the victims finally removed from Columbine High School, investigators tried to find out today whether the two outcasts who massacred their school mates had help before the rampage.

Investigators, while again searching the school today for hidden explosives, turned their attention to the community, interviewing acquaintances, classmates and relatives of the gunmen to find out why they did it — and who else might have helped.

"There were a large number of (explosive) devices and it wasn't done in a couple of hours," said District Attorney Dave Thomas. "It is possible other people were involved in constructing those devices."

Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, armed with sawed-off shotguns, a semiautomatic rifle, pistol and homemade bombs stuffed with nails and shotgun shells, killed 12 students and one teacher Tuesday. Then they killed themselves.

They left behind such a pile of ammunition and explosives that authorities wondered whether they had help. "That's a lot for two boys to carry," said Sheriff John Stone.

"It was at least a conspiracy between two people. How much broader than that I do not know," Thomas said.

The removal of the victims' bodies more than a day after the shootings allowed investigators to begin cataloging evidence and turn their attention to other issues.

Transition member revels in Jesse's style

By Ann Barsness
STAFF WRITER

Advising Gov. Jesse Ventura may be refreshing, exhausting or surprising — but never, ever boring.

Emily Tuttle, part of the governor's eight-member transition team, offers a background in health care policy. A former state senator, Hennepin County commissioner and lieutenant governor candidate, the Wayzata woman is now president of Minnesota World Trade Week.

She relayed some of her experiences working with Ventura at Women's Network Wednesday at the St. James Hotel.

The team now meets about once every three weeks to discuss a wide range of topics. The position is unpaid. Team members learn a few days before the next meeting what topic they will be discussing.

The audience seemed to share Tuttle's enthusiasm about Minnesota's first Reform Party governor.

"He is so right and he is such a quick study," Tuttle said after the meeting. "But it's an untrained, unpolitical science type view of the world. He sees a lot of the world through his own prism."

For example, Tuttle said Ventura's mother was a nurse. His family relied on a family across the street to provide child care. So the governor's views of health care and child care are colored by those experiences.

"He has a view of how he thinks things ought to go," Tuttle said.

She credited Ventura for traveling across the state in an effort to expand that view. She also

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The covered body of a pretend accident victim sits in the open as Red Wing rescuers tend to another victim after peeling away the roof of a car during a mock car crash in front of the Red Wing High School student body. The exercise is a reminder for high school students not to use alcohol on prom night, which is Saturday. — staff photo by Bill Pond

Mock crash carries real message

By Chad Hjellming
STAFF WRITER

With more than a half-dozen emergency vehicles on site and actors reacting as if they were injured in a car accident, the mock car crash staged Wednesday at Red Wing High School was obviously designed to be a visual event.

Organizers hoped students planning to attend Saturday's prom festivities would see the tragic effects of drinking and driving and make a decision to stay sober before and after the annual party. The mock car crash was sponsored by Students Against Destructive Decisions.

"This is probably the most important thing SADD has ever done," program coordinator Ann Lindberg said. "Even if it impacts just one person, it is worth it."

Although some students cheered as one of the teen-age drivers staggered from the vehicle as aluminum cans fell to the pavement, there were several moments when snickering came to an abrupt halt.

Students sat in silence during one of the most dramatic moments as an actress portraying the mother of a young girl who died in the accident sobbed in the arms of emergency personnel.

April Bezdichek, one of the students chosen to be a passenger in a vehicle, expected the mock crash to send a direct message to her classmates. "Not to ever drink and drive," Bezdichek said. "This is going to have really big effects. I think I will probably start crying. It is like I am really going through it."

Firsthand experience

It took more than 30 minutes for emergency personnel to free all of the victims from the vehicles and take them from the scene by ambulance. One teen-age victim was airlifted by a Lifelink helicopter which landed less than 50 yards from where the student body gathered.

Even with the stunning realism of the role-playing exercise, it was a speaker's personal story that seemed to carry the biggest impact.

Tom Brockway's teen-age son died less

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Wilhelm may lead regional planning agency

By Judy Wiff
CORRESPONDENT

ELLSWORTH — Pierce County Board Chairman Dick Wilhelm, Ellsworth, is poised to become chairman of the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission.

He is the nominating committee's designee; elections are in June.

The chairman conducts meetings of the board of directors and executive committee. He also works regularly with Director Greg Flogstad and sign forms for loan applications. Wilhelm would succeed Virgil Butteris of Crawford

County. Sally Oswalt of La Crosse County is vice chairwoman.

"All the officers have always been from that area," said Wilhelm, noting that if elected he will be the first chairman from the northern part of the nine-county region.

"We're at the other end so we get kind of neglected," said Wilhelm, who hopes that will change.

The commission was formed in 1964. Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, La Crosse, Vernon and Crawford counties joined to provide areawide planning and to comply with planning requirements mandated by the state and feder-

al governments. Monroe and Jackson counties joined in 1973.

In 1969 a private consultant completed a regional planning document and a full-time staff was hired. County members pay a total of \$84,387 a year to support the commission. Pierce County's contribution this year is \$11,335.

Recently commission staff assisted Pierce County by preparing a block grant application to help Berquist Co. fund a \$5 million expansion in Prescott. Staff also helped the village of Ellsworth rewrite its zoning ordinance.



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ROOM B5
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November 19, 1998

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From: Steven Bosacker *SB*

Re: Contact Information

Pages 1

Thank you again for coming aboard the Ventura-Schunk transition effort as a key advisor. The public reaction to the announcement of the advisory group has been extremely positive.

I wanted to provide you with the pertinent contact information for reaching me or the Governor-Elect.

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As I suggested to you on Tuesday, please don't hesitate to call me with your thoughts regarding any of our activities. We will be in touch with you regularly.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



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