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<b>MOVIE SCHEDULE</b> <b>FEB 28- MAR 6</b>	SON OF GOD (PG13)	Fri 4:15, 7:25	Sat/Sun 12:45, 4:15, 7:25	Mon-Thurs 4:15, 7:25
	LEGO MOVIE 3D (PG)	Fri 4:35, 9:00	Sat/Sun 4:35, 9:00	Mon-Thurs 4:35
	LEGO MOVIE 2D (PG)	Fri 6:45	Sat/Sun 12:15, 2:25, 6:45	Mon-Thurs 6:45
	ROBOCOP (PG13)	Fri 4:15, 7:00, 9:30	Sat/Sun 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30	Mon-Thurs 4:15, 7:00
	PHILOMENA (PG13)	Fri 4:40, 7:10, 9:20	Sat/Sun 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20	Mon-Thurs 4:40, 7:10
	MONUMENTS MEN (PG13)	Fri 4:25, 7:00, 9:35	Sat/Sun 12:45, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35	Mon-Thurs 4:25, 7:00

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# Panel moves toward compromise

## Looks at \$9.50 minimum wage increase by 2016

(MCT Direct)

Although Minnesota Senate negotiators matched their efforts to raise the state's minimum wage to \$9.50 an hour for large employers, House conference committee members Monday rejected the overture over the details.

The talks, though, presented the first big movement between DFLers in

the two houses toward a compromise on the size of the raise.

The Senate offer had a few catches: The rate would begin in 2016 instead of 2015, and senators were unwilling to talk about any of the other issues in the bill until House members voted on the wage proposal.

That was too much uncertainty for the House delegation, which called for two recesses to consider the proposal and tried to amend it, without success.

"Usually, every concession has a price," said Rep.

Ryan Winkler, DFL-Golden Valley, who is leading the three-member House team.

Without knowing whether the Senate is planning to support an annual inflation adjustment, it's hard for the House to evaluate whether delaying a year is a big deal or not, Winkler said. "I actually think it does make a difference."

He offered an amendment that would accept the delay till 2016 but lock in the inflation adjustment starting in 2017.

That was rejected by the three senators.

Hayden's amendment to push the \$9.50 rate off till 2016 was then shot down by the House members.

Sen. Chris Eaton, DFL-Brooklyn Center, appeared miffed at the House resistance after what she said was a difficult slog in the Senate to get to \$9.50 from \$7.75, which was the rate the Senate passed last session.

"If we can't agree on your own language, I don't know what else we can do to-

night," Eaton told Winkler.

Eaton said after the meeting that the next step is up to Winkler. "I thought it was a pretty generous offer," she said.

Winkler said he wasn't sure whether he and his fellow House members would try to craft a global offer to present to senators.

"The Senate wanted to take one discrete piece of the bill and try to move on that rather than look at the whole. We'll try to look at what our options are," he said.

## LOCAL MARKETS

### LOCAL GRAIN

Tuesday, March 4

Corn .....	4.04
Soybeans .....	13.19
Wht. Mill .....	6.57

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HRS .....	5.88
HRW .....	6.40
Sun (Oil) .....	19.38
Soybeans .....	13.38

## Williams: Hospital is its own place

From Page 1

done back in 1982.

It was Naomi Schliesman, Springboard's artist development coordinator, who told Williams, "your stuff reflects the state hospital," he said.

"It just never dawned on me," Williams said. "I never thought about it."

Now that he knows, he's made more artwork related to the RTC.

One of his pieces, titled City in a Bowl, "represents that the hospital is kind of its own place," Williams said. "It was pretty much self-sufficient," with its own crops and meat.

Williams didn't only create his own art; he worked with some RTC clients as well. Probably the most

memorable client for Williams was a man named Wally, whom he worked with in the 1980s. One day, Williams drew a serpent fish on a large piece of paper (10-12 feet long) in the hallway by Wally's room. Wally wanted to color it, so he did, spending all night working on it. From there, Wally churned out hundreds of drawings, some of which he gave to Williams.

"Not only was he a client, he was a good friend of mine," Williams said.

When people find out Williams worked at the RTC, they usually make some comment about "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

"In some sense, it was like that, way back when,"

Williams said. However, by the early 1990s, a lot more regulations came into play and the old medications, equipment and restraints had disappeared. The clients were well taken care of, according to Williams. Many of them were there to get better, and some really enjoyed it because it was safe, he said.

As far as the future of the RTC, Williams definitely does not want to see the structure torn down. He hopes for a good outcome for the building's redevelopment.

"Fergus needs a draw," Williams said. "It (RTC) definitely needs to be used, and it also definitely needs a lot of work. But it can be done."

## Route: BL may be able to attract businesses

From Page 1

for residents than oil or propane and will help the city's economy grow stronger.

By bringing natural gas to town, Michaud said Battle Lake may be able to attract bigger businesses.

Battle Lake has a good location, right off of two highways, but lack of natural gas has scared off some companies in the past, according to Michaud.

The gas route will stretch nine miles, from the city out to residents along West Battle Lake on Highway 16.

The majority of the returned contracts were from city residents, but there were a good number of respondents in other spots of the proposed route.

Although much of their work is done, Haukebo and Michaud both said it will be important to the group to continually remind people of the project.

It will be just as important, they said, for people to remind the council members about it.

"It small towns, you kind of have to keep the hammer down," Michaud said. "If they lolligag around this spring, it's not going to be ready by next winter."

## Progress: RTC would become a destination

From Page 1

With many part-time and full-time jobs that will be created at the RTC with the new restaurants, the idea is to have some of the younger generation not only live there but work there as well, according to Willey.

For the eateries, all the original restaurants are still planned, including a coffee/bagel shop, family-style pizza restaurant with game rooms, a sports bar and a barbecue restaurant. They're also starting the process of adding a brew pub to the mix.

Council member Randy Synsteliien asked if Historic Kirkbride had done demographic studies to support the eateries. They did, and they show that somewhat of a destination would need

to be created at the RTC, Willey said, and he hopes to create a regional destination.

"We are creating new eateries," he said. "but our research is telling us it could work."

To help create that regional destination, Historic Kirkbride will hire a full-time general manager whose primary duties would involve marketing "on an ongoing basis," Willey said.

Historic Kirkbride has spent by far the most time over the past few months on due diligence for the project, specifically looking at funding and attracting tenants.

Though Willey said they are moving forward with the project, he added that "progress is probably slow-

er than what we all had hoped for."

Council member Stan Synsteliien asked about a back-up plan, should some of the funding not come through. Developers are looking at some alternatives and have some ideas, but there is no firm plan B yet.

They hope to come back soon after this latest visit to Fergus Falls, Willey said.

"We're happy to be here," he said. "We love the town. We love the building. We love the people."

At the end of the regular meeting, the council adjourned to a closed meeting to consider an offer/couffer of the sale of the RTC to Historic Properties Inc. pursuant to Minnesota Stat Sec. 13D.05 Subd 3(C). The council did not reconvene in an open session.

## Funding: Council wants to have long-term plan

From Page 1

provide funding for the month of March. Covered in this request is the following: approximately \$3,000 for utilities, \$13,000 for maintenance payroll, \$1,500 for miscellaneous maintenance bills, \$5,500 for clubhouse payroll, \$5,000 for fire suppression repairs, \$500 for stainless steel backing for the kitchen, \$250 for tile repairs in the kitchen and \$5,000 for an initial beverage order that will likely last until the end of April.

The city has \$58,235 in

funds available that have been allocated to the golf course that it can use for the request. This includes capital outlay funds from the 2014 budget of \$39,250 plus the 2013 capital outlay carry forward of \$18,985.

The council passed resolutions to approve the budget request and a 3 percent increase in rates at the golf course. Council members Jay Cichosz, Jim Fish and Anthony Hicks were absent from Monday's meeting.

The course will implement the usual 3 percent increase on most annual rates.

The golf course lost about \$106,000 in 2013 with its restaurant included. Weather was not kind last year, either; the course lost about six weeks of its golf season last year because of it. That translated to an income loss of about \$35,000 to \$40,000, according to golf board vice president Aaron Sletten. The hope is for the course to be up and running by April 15 this year, he said.

For 2014, it's budgeting about a \$112,000 cut in expenses, resulting in a net income of \$5,539.49.

"I understand the golf course is an asset," said council member Ben Schierer. "I really feel strongly that this year we need to tackle the long-term financial picture ... and really just have a plan going forward."

The plan is to have this long-term discussion regarding the golf course at an April council meeting, according to Finance Director Bill Sonmor. That way, it will be after the course's March 29 fundraiser, so they can see how that event goes, he said.

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