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# The Daily Journal

www.fergusfallsjournal.com

**Friday**  
 September 27, 2013  
 Vol. 140, No. 228  
 Fergus Falls, Minn.

## What's Happening?

### Park Leaf Days focuses on fall

**By Rian Bosse**  
 Daily Journal

The area's best view of fall colors kicks off this week-end with Maplewood State Park's Leaf Days.

The two-weekend celebration opens the park to visitors ready to see red, orange and yellow across the tree lines.

Starting Saturday, the park will feature a number of activities to celebrate the fall season.

The Friends of Maplewood will give wagon rides for easy viewing over the parks acreage.

Visitors can also view the color from their vehicles or on hikes over the park's 25 miles of hiking trails.

Members of North Country Trail will also lead hikes starting at 10:30 on each day.

Other events will include instructions on how to use a GPS, drawing landscapers, nature photography, carving demonstrations and pioneer crafts.

Saturday will also feature a 50th birthday reunion for the park starting at 2 p.m. at the Josh Hanson Memorial Picnic Shelter.

There will be cake and the opportunity to listen to stories about living in Maplewood Township before it became a state park.

Leaf Days run this Saturday and Sunday, and will be back the next weekend on Oct. 5 to 6.

### Friday

- State Hospital cemetery tour given by the Otter Tail County Historical Society in Fergus Falls, 5:30 p.m.

### Saturday

- Maplewood Park Leaf Days, all day
- Grace Lutheran Church of Erhard Fall Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Soups on Fall Bazaar at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

See **Events** — Page 3

## Maurices is coming to town

### Demolition of former Lakes Country Buffet building completed

**By Heather Rule**  
 Daily Journal

The women's clothing store Maurices is the latest business to give it a go at 601 Frontier Drive in Fergus Falls. The building, which most recently served as Lakes Country Buffet, was torn down this week, and construction for the new store will likely start within the next month or so, according to Monica Hendrickson, marketing manager for Maurices.

"We're hoping to open sometime in March," Hen-

drickson said. "We're in such early stages. We just signed the lease, so we don't have a lot of details at this point."

Maurices targets women ages 19-24 with its apparel. It's a Minnesota corporation based out of Duluth, and it is always excited to open stores in its home state, Hendrickson said. The company promotes fashion at a great value and great customer service, she said.

The Fergus Falls store is one of about 50 new openings across the country this

year for the retailer. It's part of a new strategy for the company as it looks at all markets across the country.

"Fergus Falls really fits well with our current plans," Hendrickson said. "I just think we're excited to get out there and open up."

Maurices will be a nice addition to the retail scene in town, according to Harold Stanislawski, executive director of the Fergus Falls Economic Improvement Commission.

"There is a pent-up demand for clothing in Fergus Falls, so we think this is just the perfect mix for helping fill the void," Stanislawski said.



Photo provided

Demolition of the building at the corner of Frontier Drive and Western Avenue was started and completed this week in preparation of construction of a Maurices clothing store.

## On the run at home



Kirsten Danielson/For the Journal

The Fergus Fall cross country teams hosted the John Hermes Invitational Thursday afternoon at the Pebble Lake Golf Course. Otters' Connor Danielson won the boys meet with a time of 16:46. See Page 10 for the story.

### AREA ROUNDUP

## Workers dig into downtown

Daily Journal

Construction on Perham's downtown area parking lot has started, according to the Perham Focus.

The area was closed to the public on Tuesday and crews have already begun tearing up pavement. They will continue with reconstruction over the next few weeks.

The infrastructure improvement project is intended to fix drainage issues and to fill in cracks and potholes that were prevalent in the area. Stop signs, concrete gutters and traffic islands will also be added.

The \$209,000 project is focused on the public parking lot and thoroughfare that runs parallel to the railroad tracks

See **Area** — Page 3

## Camp Emily geared to help children cope with grief

For The Journal

The seventh annual Camp Emily will be offered by Lakeland Hospice from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Lakeland Hospice offices, located at the Eisenhower complex, 805 East Channing Ave., in Fergus Falls.

Camp Emily is a one-day event for kids ages 7-18 and their families who have lost a loved one.

The newly bereaved as well as those who have been on the path of grief for some time are welcome.

Parents or guardians are asked to attend and participate in the day. All groups will be divided by age and facilitated by trained bereavement specialists. Activities throughout the day include: getting to know other participants, identifying changes in their lives, identifying, expressing and coping with grief feelings, and taking care of themselves. The day ends with a memorial celebration and a balloon release.

Camp Emily is offered free of charge thanks to the generosity of many community donors. Children and adults who have attended before are welcome to attend again.

Call to register by Monday, Oct. 7. For more information and to register, call 218-998-1400 or toll free 855-532-9300.

## Musical medicine

### Fick played to RTC patients for 35 years

**By Heather Rule**  
 Daily Journal

It was more than 80 years ago when an employee at the Fergus Falls Regional Treatment Center noticed that some of the patients were restless. So he decided to put musical instruments in their hands.

What followed was a group called the "Happy Ramblers," which played weekly at the RTC for 35 years.

The man who started it all was Elmer Fick, who started working at the RTC in 1927, first as a nurse and then in the occupational therapy department. His daughter, Arleen Nycklemoe, 83, recalled how her dad played the saxophone and banjo by ear. He



Heather Rule/Daily Journal

Arleen Nycklemoe holds an old photograph of her father, Elmer Fick, and his band the "Happy Ramblers," which played for 35 years at the Fergus Falls Regional Treatment Center.

had no formal musical training.

"No education," Nycklemoe said. "He just had an ear for music."

Fick played barn dances to

earn a little money and used it to build up a good amount of sheet music that was then used by the

See **Ramblers** — Page 3

MAILING LABEL

**TOMORROW:**

**HIGH:**      **LOW:**

**SUNRISE TOMORROW:** 7:19 a.m.  
**SUNSET TOMORROW:** 7:10 p.m.

**YESTERDAY:**  
**HIGH:** 81 **LOW:** 61  
**PRECIPITATION:** .0

**INDEX**

Comics .....	5
Forecasts .....	2
Lottery .....	2
Markets .....	3
Sports .....	9-10
Want ads .....	6-9

**OBITUARIES**

In today's Journal, Page 2

- Clarence Lieser, 94, Fergus Falls

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