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**Daily Journal**

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**Sunday**

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Fergus Falls, Minn.

**Decades-old pawn shop will either be sold or close by Dec. 31**

By **Chris Reinos**  
Daily Journal

This is not "Hardcore Pawn." There are no bouncers. The owner does not yell at the customers. Rarely do items come into the shop that surprise or intrigue the owner.

This is Golden Lakes Pawn, not nearly as flashy or dramatic as some of the pawn shops popularized on television over the past few years.

"All the stuff in here is just as common and

everyday as you can get," Williams said.

Ken Williams is just fine with that.

Williams, 65, has owned Golden Lakes Pawn for 25 years, during which he estimates he has eaten lunch with his wife about five times. He bought the shop when it was only open once a week and has since turned it into a six-days-a-week downtown fixture.

He has been willing to sell the business for the



Chris Reinos/Daily Journal

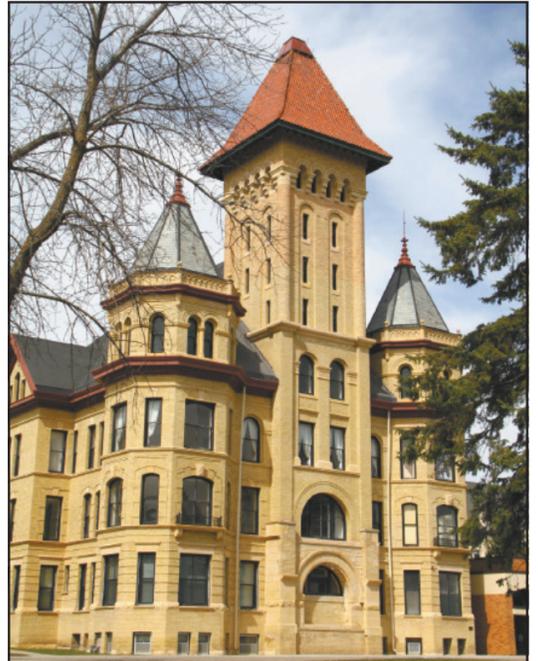
Gun sales have always been the biggest part of business at Golden Lakes Pawn, according to shop owner Ken Williams. Williams would like to sell the shop by the end of the year but will simply close if nobody wants to buy it.

past six weeks or so, and if he does not find a buyer by Dec. 31, he will simply close up shop.

No deal is close to

being completed. Williams has heard of some people's interest around

See **Pawn** — Page 3



**Imagine Fergus Falls turnout high**



A line of people await their turn to tour the RTC Saturday in spite of the persistent drizzle.



Debbie Irmen/Daily Journal

More than 100 people turned out in the first hour of the Imagine Fergus Falls fundraising event to purchase T-shirts, buttons and prints offered for sale. Also planned as part of the event, Jim Iverson and his band, was to play the songs performed by the "Happy Ramblers," which entertained residents at the RTC for more than 30 years, along with the M State choir. A kid-friendly street dance was also part of the festivities.

**Private talks**

**Opinions mixed regarding series of closed meetings for RTC development**

By **Heather Rule**  
Daily Journal

It's hard to know just what exactly goes on during closed city meetings, unless you are sitting in the room.

But at least one Fergus Falls City Council member would like to see more city business handled in open meetings, rather than closed sessions.

"The whole purpose of the council is to be in the public," said council member Anthony Hicks.

The city council has met out of the public eye nine times in the past six months. Five times were

regarding pending litigation for a development agreement with parcels A and B at the Regional Treatment Center and once during a special meeting for RTC redevelopment. Other closed meetings included labor negotiations, the city administrator review and pending litigation with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Based on the information reported to him, at least one of those meetings probably should not have been closed, according to an attorney who specializes in media law.

Hicks would like to see more council discussions available to the public.

"If people can see you at work in council chambers, then they can make their

See **Closed** — Page 3



Hicks

**A royal week: Kennedy School students prepare for homecoming events**

By **Chris Reinos**  
Daily Journal

Homecoming week at Kennedy Secondary School is a busy time, especially for those students who made royalty. They set up decorations, rehearse for coronation, travel around the city and take part in the parade, among many other activities.

But for senior Peder Lundberg, the best part of the week comes at the very end.

"My favorite part is after everything is done, just sitting there until the band stuff starts," Lundberg said.

"It's pretty fun to just hang out."

A week-long demonstration of school spirit, homecoming week formally kicks off at 7 p.m. Monday with the coronation. Six students from each grade level, including Lundberg and fellow senior Ashley Strube, were selected by their classmates as royalty.

"It was an honor to be picked out of so many people in the grade," Strube said.

Homecoming at KSS is truly a week led by students. The school council

See **Royalty** — Page 3



Chris Reinos/Daily Journal

David Schneck, Carolina Wagnild, Ashley Strube and Peder Lundberg are four of the six seniors selected as royalty by their fellow students at Kennedy Secondary School.

**City and school leaders prepare for joint meeting**

By **Chris Reinos**  
Daily Journal

The Fergus Falls City Council and School Board will host an informal meeting Monday evening to update each other on the happenings for both groups.

One of the agenda items for Monday's meeting is an update on the library renewal project.

A task force came together last year to determine how people are using the library and

if changes need to be made.

Library Director Erin Smith will not be making any recommendations at the meeting. Instead, she will be presenting the council and school board with an updated timeline. A recommendation is expected to be offered to the board in a few months.

The other three items on the agenda are discussion about the city budget, the school's athletic facilities and technology

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**HIGH: 73 LOW: 53**

**SUNRISE TOMORROW: 7:22 am**  
**SUNSET TOMORROW: 7:06 pm**

**FRIDAY:**

**HIGH: 75 LOW: 52**  
**PRECIPITATION: .24**

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- Jessie Langemo, 99, New York Mills
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