

Wadena Rendezvous 2009



Whistler's wares

Jim Whistler of Staples, a member of the Crow Wing Muzzle Loaders, displayed a variety of weapons, leather goods and other items on a table near his camp at the Old Wadena Rendezvous. Some were for

display and some for sale, with several of the leather items things that Jim made. (Staples World photo by Tom Crawford)



Rendezvous speaker

Dick Oehlenschlager, left, a Wadena County native now with the Minnesota Science Museum, displayed a table full of specimens of animals he has found in Wadena County. He was present at the Old Wadena Rendezvous Saturday and Sunday, explaining (among other things) about bats that can be found in the Wadena area in summer that spend their winters in Central America. John Crandall, in cavalry uniform, was one of those attending. (Staples World photo by Tom Crawford)



Candy cannon caper

Sebastian Kempf held up a piece of candy saying, "It blew the wrapper off" after being blown out of a candy cannon at the Old Wadena Rendezvous. Children were treated to two or three blasts a day from a cannon, fired by "Doc" Watson from Gilman, one of the pre-1840s Rendezvous re-enactors. He is the son of John and Gillette Kempf of Wadena. (Staples World photo by Tom Crawford)



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Fire eating

Sore throat, anyone? The Clockwork Clown's act includes an impressive fire eating session. He can even swallow two flaming torches at once. (Staples World photo by Tom Crawford)



Welcome ... Ben Hess, MD

Wadena Medical Center is pleased to welcome Ben A. Hess, MD., as its newest family practice physician. Dr. Hess will join the WMC staff of ten family practice physicians and a general surgeon on Sept. 1, 2009.

Born and raised in Verndale, MN, Dr. Hess completed his undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He attended the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis School of Medicine and completed his Family Medicine Residency in Sioux Falls, SD earlier this summer.

As a family practice physician, Dr. Hess is trained in all the major areas of family medicine and is qualified to care for the medical needs of the entire family, ranging from newborns to geriatrics. He will provide prenatal and obstetrics care at WMC and delivery services at Tri-County Hospital.

Dr. Hess and his wife, Shyla, who is also a Verndale native, have two children, Aubrey, 4, and Nicole, 2. They will make their home in rural Verndale.

Dr. Hess is looking forward to getting to know people in the community and providing quality medical care to them. "Having grown up in Verndale, I'm particularly excited about returning to the area," said Hess.



Ole stories

Ole Oleson entertained folks at the Old Wadena Rendezvous Saturday and Sunday with his stories of Norwegian immigrant experiences. He described conditions in Norway and other Scandinavian countries which caused people to immigrate to the U.S., as well as conditions and hardships the people faced when they arrived in their new country.

To make an appointment to see Dr. Hess after Sept. 1, call:
 Wadena Medical Center at (218) 631-1100 or toll-free at 1-800-880-DOCS (3627)
 Clinic hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.