

BRIEFS

GMG to be honored at conference

On Tuesday, about 600 business leaders from across the country will be attending the [RockStars@Work](#) Conference in Minneapolis — the nation's first generation- themed business conference — focused on how to relate to the next generation of workers and address the approaching talent gap in the workforce.

The conference will feature an awards ceremony at which Greater Mankato Growth, as well as Best Buy, Cargill and I Love Rewards will be honored.

GMG will receive a Next Generation Community Impact Award for creating workforce development initiatives.

A panel of 10 judges representing nonprofits, small businesses, and corporations from throughout the U.S.

reviewed the applications and selected the honorees.

Jean Taylor elected to committee

Jean Taylor, president and CEO of Taylor Corp., has been elected to the executive committee of the Minnesota Business Partnership.

The group re- elected Ecolab CEO Douglas Baker Jr. as chair, which is composed of CEOs and senior state executives from more than 100 of Minnesota's largest employers.

Baker said the group will continue its focus on education, health care and fiscal policy.

The partnership has a 25 member executive committee.

Free Press editor named to board

MANKATO — Free Press Managing Editor Joe Spear has been appointed to the board of the Premack Public Affairs Journalism Awards operated by the Minnesota Journalism Center at the University of Minnesota.

The Premack board is responsible for overseeing the annual Frank Premack Public Affairs Journalism Awards competition that recognizes the best public affairs journalism in Minnesota and individuals supporting the cause of public affairs journalism in the state.

The Premack award is considered one of the most prestigious given in the state. Spear has been a reporter and editor at The Free Press for 19 years and has been the managing editor since 2005.

The Free Press has won a Premack award four times since the inception.

Friends of Minneopa to hold meeting

MANKATO — A public meeting of the Friends of Minneopa State Park will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Hilltop United Methodist Church, 108 S. Manitou Drive.

Ruth Thornton of the Department of Natural Resources will talk about native prairies. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, call Tim Pulis at 388-7622.