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ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 1, 2022**

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# Late hatch likely bettered 2021 upland hunting

By NICK SIMONSON

This autumn, upland hunters found good success where habitat remained intact because it congregated birds in those locations. In places throughout the state which received little rain and stands of grass grew shorter and sparser than normal, upland birds such as pheasants and sharp-tailed grouse were harder to come by. Add in the fact that emergency haying for livestock was authorized in the extreme drought conditions, many areas where much of the cover was mowed on a parcel hunters found their quarry in the limited remaining cover, according to RJ Gross, Upland Game Biologist with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department (NDG&F).

"Talking to people, a couple spots that really stuck out — and it came from our surveys too — that the northwest and southwest corners were very good, especially that northwest. It seemed like everyone I talked to up there did very well and there were plenty of pheasants," Gross details, adding grouse hunters found birds, "in the southern badlands people were doing well, and another spot, in northern Burleigh County, it wasn't like it has been in years past, but I think they still had enough production and you did have some young birds in the bag, and that was a bonus."

Numbers were likely off a bit in the upland bird roadside brood counts conducted last summer by the NDG&F, approaching lows not seen since the summer of 1997 following a devastating winter which produced sustained, brutally cold temperatures and snow totals of more than eight feet across much of the state. Gross recognized that many sportsmen were seeing more pheasants this fall than the annual tally let on, in part due to dry conditions which did not force birds to the edges of gravel roads to be counted during the surveys. With the lack of dew during the August survey, there was little need for adult and juvenile roosters to come into the open and dry off, as a result, hunters saw more birds when in the field in relation to the totals surveyors came up with on the routes.

"I think [the pheasant season] turned out better than expected. I'm glad to be wrong when there are more pheasants than what our survey showed for people instead of the other way. It seems I can be wrong that way," Gross concludes with a laugh on the survey versus season results.

In addition to the roadside survey, other vital monitoring processes help the agency estimate bird populations, hunter success, and survival through the winter. Up next is the



Simonson Photo

Hunters found better-than-expected bird numbers across all upland game species, but especially pheasants. The northwest and southwest corners of the state produced the best hunting as timely rains limited the drought's impact on just-hatched birds, while many areas of North Dakota exhibited signs of a late hatch, especially with Hungarian partridge.

winter sex survey, where NDG&F agents travel the countryside, counting the number of rooster and hen pheasants which are more easily identified against a background of white. In addition to those activities, the NDG&F is sending out small game surveys to between 4,000 and 5,000 hunters licensed in the fall of 2021. Those individuals complete the surveys with days hunted for upland birds, waterfowl and other small game species during the autumn, with an estimate of the number of birds they harvested. That in turn helps the NDG&F estimate the total number of pheasants taken, along with other small game and waterfowl in the state.

Additionally, Gross and other NDG&F biologists have completed a review of a majority of the submitted wings from sharp-tailed grouse and Hungarian partridge, and are starting on those pheasant wings hunters turned in to the department during the season. Through these submissions, Gross stated he is able to take a wing identified to be from a juvenile upland bird, and through examination of its characteristics, determine down to the week that particular bird hatched. This season's

sampling of grouse and partridge wings are pointing to a very late occurrence, with some hatching as late as August. It's likely too that many pheasants held off on nesting until mid-summer, with some early rooster wings telling a similar tale.

"We're starting to do a few of the hunter harvested wings that are coming in for everything, and there was definitely a later hatch when we had a little bit more rain and better cover later in the season, it seemed birds really responded to that," Gross explains, adding that partridge "were a very late hatch, we had some of those in mid-to-late-August for a lot of the ones that we have been aging, which is unusually late. We had a little bit more rain, the cover kind of turned green a little bit again as we got late into the nesting season and those partridge really responded."

Results of the hunter success survey and an estimated total pheasant, grouse and partridge harvest from the fall of 2021 will be released this spring, ahead of the NDG&F crowing count survey which starts in May to coincide with the peak of crowing activity in the middle of that month.

## Sen. Patten announces district reorganization meeting

By CLAUDETTE OLIVIER

Sen. Dale Patten spoke before the Dunn County Commission at its Wednesday, Jan. 5 meeting, and he announced the Republican District 26 reorganization meeting that is set for Jan. 17 at the Roughrider Center in Watford City.

"The new District 39 is the southwest corner and where District 26 [is], we have no organization right now to deal with," Patten said.

He continued, "After the redistricting, District 39 now is District 26. Dunn County kind of got a little bit of the short end of the stick when it comes to the number of districts that you guys have to deal with now. I think McLean County ended up in the same boat, in the same situation, but I think somewhere in the range of about two-thirds of Dunn County now is in the district."

Patten said the old District 26 was west of Wahpeton and was absorbed by the adjacent districts, and there is a brand new district that is southwest of Williston.

"Somebody told me there's 23 districts west of Highway 83 and 24 [districts] east of Highway 83, so North Dakota's representation is looking better than it has in a long time as far as the state legislature goes," Patten added.

Patten said that the first order of business at the legislative reorganization meeting will be to pass a new set of bylaws for the district, and a draft of the bylaws is currently in the

works. The bylaws would allow for nine members on the executive committee of the legislative Dist. 26 Republican Party. There will be three legislators, two representatives and one senator, four officeholders, chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer, and two at-large positions. There will also be a nominating committee to make a nomination as well as an opportunity for a nomination from the floor. Patten said the intention is to have an endorsing convention in early March.

"The important thing when we get to these reorganizational meetings and the endorsing conventions is they are decided by the people that show up, so it's important if you have interests and concerns and so forth, make sure you come [to these events] and make sure Dunn County interests are going to be reflected and so forth," Patten said.

Patten also updated the commission on the legislative happenings in the state.

"Legislatively, the special session got done in five days, so it was grueling. A couple of things [to come out of session] that I thought were pretty relevant ... there were issues related to mask mandates [and] vaccine mandates that of course took a lot of time, but we also took up any income tax liabilities that relate to social security," he said.

Patten said that through the session, there will be an estimated \$211 million in income tax for North Dakota taxpayers and the relief will affect about half the population of the state.

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PHOTO CREDIT OF DANIEL ARENS

After a week of bitter cold, the kids enjoyed getting back outside for recess with the warmer weather this week. Kids had fun on the playground, including attempts at making snow angels.

# School board clarifies quarantine procedure

By DANIEL ARENS

There have been questions about how the Hazen School District handles cases where a student tests positive or is a close contact for COVID-19. Superintendent Ken Miller hoped to clarify the process during a school board meeting Monday.

Miller said the only thing that's actually changed in the policy is the length of the isolation period if a student tests positive. Previously, the student had to stay home the entire 10 days of the isolation period.

Under new guidelines, Miller said the policy now is that a student who tests positive must stay home for 5 days. At that point, the student can return to school for the remaining 5 days of the period, under two conditions: first, that the student takes a COVID test that comes back negative on Day 6 and, second, that the student is required to wear a mask for the remaining 5 days. After the full 10 days are over, wearing a mask again becomes optional.

This new guidelines applies to any students, regardless of vaccination status. In addition, it is noted that if the student has a fever, they should stay home until the fever goes away.

Other rules governing the quarantine procedure if a student is exposed to someone with COVID remains the same. For students who have received the booster shot, completed their primary series of vaccinations within the last 6 months (Pfizer or Moderna vaccines) or the last 2 months

(J&J vaccine): these students can be exempted from having to do quarantine at home provided they remain asymptomatic during the exposure period.

For students who are unvaccinated or completed their primary series of vaccinations over 6 months ago (Pfizer or Moderna) or over 2 months ago (J&J): these students can also be allowed to continue attending school, but must take daily COVID tests at the high school during the quarantine period, and must test negative each day and remain symptom free.

For any student exposed to COVID who displays symptoms, quarantine will be required, regardless of vaccination status.

In order to determine a return date to school for a student quarantined due to being a household contact, the family must determine whether the individual who tested positive for COVID can be fully isolated from other family members. If so, the quarantine period starts the first day the student was separated from the family member who tested positive.

If not, then the student will be removed from school for the full isolation period of the family member who tested positive, plus an additional 7 days after the person's isolation period ends.

Miller and High School Principal Monty Mayer spoke highly of the school's participation in the program that allows them to provide rapid COVID tests, saying it had allowed them to keep more students in the classroom.

"It's a great program," Miller said. "Our parents are very cooperative."

In other business, the Hazen School Board:

- unanimously approved all monthly financial reports,
- unanimously approved an agreement with Mercer County to hold the school board election in conjunction with the county's general election in 2022,
- heard updates from Middle School Principal Kay Mayer and High School Principal Monty Mayer, including the impact of policy changes regarding snacks in the classroom and dress code, which Monty said have been favorable for students and teachers,
- discussed getting a committee together to start planning the 2022-2023 school calendar, with Board Member Jennifer Wallender agreeing to serve as the board's representative on that committee,
- discussed the middle and high school doing paperless report cards this year, with no report cards being mailed, and with parents able to use PowerSchool online to check grades, or else stopping at the school office to get a report card printed out if necessary, and
- unanimously approved changing the date of the next Hazen School Board Meeting to Feb. 15 at 5:30 p.m., rather than holding it on Valentine's Day.

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# Stanton News

BY JESSE KRIEGER

The Stanton School Reunion Committee met last Tuesday and chose July 1-2, 2022, as the date for the next get together. So, this summer may be your last chance for an opportunity to attend an all-class reunion event as the committee is unsure about the future. Jane Clayton, the spokesperson for the committee, said invites will be sent out some time in early February. So far, the agenda contains street dances for both nights with a sit-down dinner Saturday night. Anyone who is interested in helping can contact Jane. It should be a fun event as the 'Stanton Sioux' return to visit their hometown.

Geez, I hate to be a whiner, but I'm going to anyway. As I write this, I'm still without my bobcat, almost two weeks now. In that time out north, the snow has piled up, blew away and piled up again in a different spot. Or added a little more in places like the driveway and around the corral, which are really begging to be cleaned out. And it's just a heck of a lot easier to walk where you want to go when the snow has been cleared. I can't just jump and float over the top of snow drifts like Roxy—I break through and it takes a little effort to get across the yard to the barn. But my chore list is short so it's not long before I'm back in the house watching TV, talking on the phone, using the computer, turning up the heat with a click of a button, probably eating again.... Not a big deal.

But it used to be a big deal for people 60 years ago as I think about the work my parents would have done on a day like this. Dad would have hooked up a team of horses to the hay sled and traveled through the pasture down to the 'bottom' where he had stacked hay that summer. Then, he would have loaded some onto the sled and fed the herd of Hereford cows that were snuggled in amongst the trees along the high bank. When he got back up to the house, he would feed the rest of the animals in the barns and corrals. By that time, Mom, who back then was either pregnant or had a little baby, had been down to the barn to milk a few cows. Her jobs involved so much carrying—buckets of water, buckets with milking or separator equipment, buckets of coal and ash into and out of the house. Carry, carry, carry. And there was no nicely cleared path made by the bobcat to walk on. It was usually just a one-person trail along the corral that might not be there in the morning, and you'd have to start all over again. And it probably looked just the same as you went from farm to farm around the neighborhood. I think I'm done whining now.

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## Making long drives fulfilling

I spend a lot of time on the road—not as much as some, that's for sure, but enough to make it a not-insubstantial part of my work week. On their own, the drives aren't what I would call "long." Usually, the farthest I go is Killdeer, and a two-hour round-trip is nothing when you're from the Dakotas. But, after a few weeks working here, I was sick of my music playlists.

The radio wasn't really an option; I don't like fiddling with anything while I'm driving. In addition, they pose the same problems as my music playlists—repetition—even if my playlists are shorter. And, I'm a reporter, but I don't want to listen to National Public Radio for hours a day—not when the rest of my life revolves around news.

So, I turned to podcasts. They've become astonishingly popular in the last decade, and there's a podcast for everything. You want a Dungeons and Dragons podcast? Well, it depends if you want to listen to a family, a group of voice actors or someone else during a campaign. You want a true



## THE AVIARY

WREN MURPHY

crime podcast? You can't go two seconds on a podcast platform without finding one. You want military history? Well, you'll have to be more specific—do you want to cover topics like generals, tactics and weaponry, or are you more interested in the World Wars, the Hundred Years' War or the Crusades? You can find all of that and more.

I didn't have much time to listen to podcasts in university, but my time on the road gives me ample time to sample. When I was younger, I loved "Welcome to Nightvale," a supernatural horror-comedy podcast, but it feels wrong to listen to them without my mom. When I was in secondary school, we would entertain ourselves while doing chores by listening to an episode or two. So, that one

was out.

Still, I was itching to go down the horror route. "The Magnus Archives" and "Old Gods of Appalachia" are my favorite English-language pods. Both make me shiver when I'm driving at night.

I also listen to some Spanish-language horror podcasts. One shares translated versions of Edgar Allan Poe's short stories, and the other mixes supernatural folk tales with modern urban legends. They're not as scary because I can't understand each bone-chilling word, but they're spooky and refresh my Spanish skills. All-in-all, it's a win.

True crime is likely the most popular podcast genre, and I've dipped my toes into it a few times. I completely understand the appeal, but I don't enjoy them myself. Horror stories are just fiction. True crime is usually nonfiction, obviously—although some less scrupulous podcasts stray from that—and it's different knowing that you're hearing about real people with real loved ones who suffered for real.

That's why, when I'm not in a horror mood, I drift toward other genres. I love film, television and literature, so I listen to a lot of episodes on film analysis, television history and the like. I also enjoy science—especially psychology, sociology and ecology. But, I sometimes want the "harder" sciences. "Sawbones: A Marital Tour of Misguided Medicine" has a married couple—one is a doctor, the other a popular podcaster with several shows—discuss odd, archaic or unknown medical history as well as current health problems. It's cute, funny and informative—what else could you want?

If I just stuck with these podcasts, I'd probably be set for life. Some have hundreds of episodes, and sometimes episodes are three hours long; it'd be near impossible to get through them. But, I'll continue sampling podcasts on my drives—I've found too many good ones to stop now.

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# New NDSU agent aims to 'encourage' and 'inspire'

**Sarah Bedgar**  
shares her mission  
of empowering ag  
with researched  
information

BY RALPH MANCINI

Since her days of growing up on a dairy farm in rural Maryland, Sarah Bedgar yearned to pursue a career that would allow her to contribute in the process of improving livestock and the agriculture industry as a whole. Her recent hiring to pilot the NDSU Extension Office in McLean County, she says, is nothing short of a dream come to life.

"I absolutely love it. I think I was born to do this," observed the current Underwood resident and livestock owner. In fact, she spoke about her intentions of being a horse jockey in the second grade and later a veterinarian before aspiring to emerge as someone who adopts a more holistic approach to farming and animal care.

"I wanted to look at the whole farm and the whole community. And I wasn't so focused on diagnostics. Veterinarians are so amazing at diagnostics and treating specific things... I really like the more unbiased approach where I can introduce people to information and options, but then I'm not necessarily closing a sale at the end of the day."

The mother of three plans to use her dairy farming roots and education in animal science and natural resources to improve the quality of life of county farmers

and ranchers.

One piece of that puzzle, the University of Maryland and NDSU graduate said, is extending her services to area growers who may still be coping with the effects of the statewide drought that began to wreak havoc in 2020 and continued its onslaught on crops and farm animals throughout the following year.

"I think the drought has really brought to the surface a lot of deeper issues where people have been forced to look at their farms and ranches as a whole and really make some tough decisions. [Those] decisions are tough whether they're caused by a drought or a death in the family or a disease in livestock that you're dealing with or crop failure."

She added: "There are just different kinds of variables in agriculture, but like everything else weather is cyclical — and this too shall pass. We just have to right some of those who have sold cattle. They'll look at buying cattle back. People are looking at shifting their business structures or shifting what they're growing, even making significant changes like leaving the business. Some will see this as an opportunity to enter [the industry] because as hard as it is, we still have agriculture worldwide."

One advantage that North Dakotans have, noted Bedgar, is an abundance of wide-open spaces that won't be gobbled up for residential development (i.e. urban encroachment) much like what's taking place in her hometown Baltimore County.

Further, the agriculture and natural resources specialist,

recognizes all the complexities of modern-day farming and ranching — even if it isn't readily apparent to laymen on the outside looking in.

Today's professionals, she pointed out, are "really brilliant" minds who wear a multitude of hats as it pertains to knowing the agronomy side of the business or feeding livestock, which entails identifying cost-effective sources that are constantly fluctuating. What's more, many ranchers will often hire a nutritionist to target the right supplements to feed their domesticated animals, as well as working closely with veterinarians and extension agents responsible for furnishing agriculturalists with pertinent research.

"That's the beauty of a land-grant university in our state is you get research that is done that is so relevant to you geographically. And that's why those research stations are around the state, so that you can use that information to make management decisions," maintained Bedgar from her 611 Main Avenue office.

The other component that the local extension agent is zeroing in on is educating youngsters on the multitude of career options in the agricultural arena. As the 4-H leader — and lifelong member/affiliate — Bedgar welcomes both sons and daughters of farm families to sign up for year-round



Fifth-generation farmer Sarah Bedgar replaced Calla Edwards as McLean County's NDSU Extension Agent in early November. (Ralph Mancini)

programs, as well as kids from different backgrounds.

"Those are great opportunities for those who are interested in livestock and also communication skills. You don't have to be a kid off the farm to be on a livestock judging team. You just have to be interested in learning about that. I've always, in everything I've done, wanted to encourage and inspire other young people to pursue careers in agriculture," observed the former educator who previously taught at the University of Minnesota and as a substitute

in Underwood and Washburn.

When asked if she experienced any culture shock in relocating from the Maryland-Pennsylvania border to the Upper Midwest years ago, Bedgar affirmed that despite the climate and vegetation differences between the two regions, she's always felt at home in North Dakota.

"You can survive a lot of cold weather with more layers, but finding good people in the ag community — it's a really special thing that North Dakota has."



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# County commissioners meet for last meeting of 2021

**WALWORTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
 The Walworth County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session on December 20th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse. Members present were: Scott Schilling, Duane Mohr, Kevin Holgard and Justin Jungwirth with Jim Houck via telephone. Also present were States Attorney, Jaime Hare and Auditor, Eva Cagnones.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.  
 Vice Chairperson Schilling called the County Commission meeting to order.  
**AGENDA:**  
 Holgard asked to add Discussion on District 5 Commissioner appointment, he has a few questions. Schilling said that to add it to New Business. Cagnones passed a message from Houck, to wait until the first meeting in January 2022 to discuss the appointment of District 5 Commissioner because he would like States Attorney Hare to be present. At this moment, Houck called in and, on the phone, and said that he had already spoken to States Attorney Hare and was confirmed that Jungwirth's District 5 residency was not an issue. Holgard told Schilling that the decision was his because he is the Chairperson. Schilling reminded Holgard that he is only "Acting Chairperson today". Schilling decided to leave the discussion to the first meeting in January 2022.

Mohr moved and Houck seconded to approve the agenda Voting: Aye, 4; Nay, 1. The Motion was adopted.  
**PUBLIC FORUM:** No one.  
**CLAIMS APPROVED:**  
 Holgard moved and Jungwirth seconded to approve the claims as presented Voting: Aye, 5; Nay, 0. The motion was adopted.  
**COMMISSIONERS:** SDACC - SDACC/NACC 2022 Fees, \$174,000; Venture Comm - Fax Service, \$400.  
**AUDITOR:** SDACC - Auditor/Membership dues, \$301.12; Venture Comm

- Telephone Service, \$67.22;  
**TREASURERS:** SDACC - Treasurers Membership dues, \$301.12;  
**STATES ATTORNEY:** Quill - Ink Toner, \$248.96;  
**COURT APPT ATTNY:** DPLS - A LaPlante, \$3,188.00;  
**COURTHOUSE:** MDU - Gas/Electric Services, \$1,407.25; Louis Schmidt - Mileage and Supplies Reimbursement, \$107.71; Serval - Towel/Mats - rental, \$57.03;  
**ROD:** SDACC - ROD Membership dues, \$301.12; Venture Comm - Telephone Service, \$64.18;  
**SHERIFF:** Agtegra - Holding trailer heating fuel, \$677.29; AT&T Mobile - Cellphone Service, \$10.41; MDU - Gas/Electric, \$668.85; Slater Oil - Bulk Gas, \$1,357.30; Yanlton Co Sheriff's Office - papers Served, \$50.00.  
**JAIL:** City of Winner - 113 Days @ \$70 daily, \$7,910.00; Edmunds County - 21 Days @ \$75 daily, \$1,575.00; Faulkton Drug - Inmate RX, 19.85; Hughes County - 339 days @ \$80 daily, \$3,120.00; Meade County - 4 days @ \$80 daily, \$320.00; Senior Nutrition Center - 18 Hot meals, \$135.00.  
**CORONER:** Sanford - Autopsy 10/12/21, \$2,256.00.  
**RD & BR:** Central Diesel - Supplies, \$113.45; Schilling Excavation - Digging/Backhoe, \$1,076.51.  
**FIRE PROTECTION:** Akaska Fire Dept - 2 fires, \$100.00; Grants to other Entities, \$2,400.00; Glenham Fire Dept - 10 fires, \$500.00; Grants to other Entities, \$2,400.00; Hoven Fire Dept - Grants to other Entities, \$2,400.00; Mobridge Fire Dept - 10 fires, \$950.00; Grants to other Entities, \$2,400.00; Selby Fire Dept - 15 Fires, \$750.00; Grants to other Entities, \$2,400.00.  
**EMERGENCY & DISASTER:** AT&T Mobile - Cell phone service, \$87.64; Beadles Chevrolet-Buick-GMC - Replacement Battery and supplies,

\$190.25;  
**SOLID WASTE:** Agtegra - Ruby Bulk Fuel, \$2,081.30; Butler Machinery - Replacement part, \$318.32; Dakota Glass - New Battery, \$152.01; Houck Ranches - Gravel Delivered, \$325.51; LE George - Grease OMV, \$34.29; Mobridge Hardware - Supplies, \$14.38; Mobridge Pit Stop - E-10/Trans, \$129.05; North Central Steel - Garage Door Installation, \$1,560.19; Running Supply - Shop supplies, \$27.36; Slater Oil - Fuel Filter, \$13.00; Heating Propane, \$651.00; Stantec Consulting Services - Permit renewal, \$900.00; Annual Waste Survey, \$3,100.00;  
**MINUTES:**  
 Mohr moved and Jungwirth seconded to approve the minutes from December

21, 2021 minutes. Voting: Aye 5; Nay 0. Motion was adopted.  
**HIGHWAY:**  
 Highway Superintendent Byre requested to move the \$10,000 budget from account 429-18 which is HBR Services and Fees budget line and close that account. Houck moved and Mohr seconded to move the HBR budget amount of \$10,000 and eliminate account 429-18. Rollcall Vote: Holgard: Aye; Mohr: Aye; Jungwirth: Aye; Houck: Aye and Schilling: Aye. Motion was adopted.  
 Byre asked to recognize Wayne Sandmeier's resignation effective January 13, 2022. Mohr asked if Byre had received and applications for the Highway department. Byre said he had not.

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
 Sheriff Hol mentioned that there was a total of 25 prisoners on December 29th 2021. The largest amount in the year.  
**NEW BUSINESS:** None  
**ADJOURNMENT:**  
 Holgard moved and Jungwirth seconded that the Board of County Commissioners adjourn until the hour of 9:00 a.m. January 6, 2022. Voting Aye: 5; Nay: 0. Motion was adopted.  
**SCOTT SCHILLING, VICE CHAIRPERSON**  
**ATTEST:**  
**EVA CAGNONES, AUDITOR**  
 Published once at the total approximate cost of \$57.64.

-011222

## Notice filed for juvenile review hearing

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)  
 SS  
 COUNTY OF WALWORTH  
 IN CIRCUIT COURT  
 JUVENILE DIVISION  
 FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
 641UJVL-000019  
**NOTICE OF REVIEW HEARING**  
 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, EX REL. SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES,  
 IN THE MATTER OF T.A.  
 ALLEGED ABUSED OR NEGLECTED CHILD, and concerning  
 TACIAE ARCHAMBAULT, and TAYLOR LAFRAMBOISE, Respondent(s).  
 The Court has set the following time and place for a review hearing regarding the above named child; therefore, You are hereby notified that the above-

entitled matter and the same shall come on for a Review Hearing before the Honorable Gregg C. Magera, on Tuesday, the 25th day of January, 2022, at 1:15 P.M., in the Courtroom, of the Walworth County Courthouse, in the City of Selby, South Dakota.  
 NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN TO THE PARENT(S); that termination of parental rights is a possibility; that you have the right to be represented by an attorney at all stages of the proceedings; if you are indigent and unable to hire an attorney, one may be appointed by the Court at

public expense to represent you and if you fail to appear at the time and place specified above, you may be subject to punishment for contempt of Court.  
 Dated this 21st day of December, 2021.  
 James I. Hare  
 Walworth County State's Attorney  
 P.O. Box 424  
 Selby, South Dakota 57472-0424  
 Phone: (605)649-1122  
 Email: jhare@walworthco.org  
 Published once at the total approximate cost of \$21.63.

-011222

## Juvenile review hearing set

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)  
 SS  
 COUNTY OF WALWORTH  
 IN CIRCUIT COURT  
 JUVENILE DIVISION  
 FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
 641UJVL-000019  
**NOTICE OF REVIEW HEARING AS IT PERTAINS TO JULIE IRON ROPE**  
 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, EX REL. SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES,  
 IN THE MATTER OF A.K.  
 ALLEGED ABUSED OR NEGLECTED CHILD, and concerning RYLAN K. DUCHENEAUX, and JULIE IRON ROPE, Respondent(s).  
 The Court has set the following time and place for a review hearing regarding the above named child; therefore, You are hereby notified that the above-entitled matter and the same shall come on for a Review Hearing as it Pertains to Julie Iron Rope before the Honorable

Gregg C. Magera, Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, on Tuesday, the 25th day of January, 2022, at 1:15 P.M., in the Courtroom, of the Walworth County Courthouse, in the City of Selby, South Dakota.  
 NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN TO THE PARENT(S); that termination of parental rights is a possibility; that you have the right to be represented by an attorney at all stages of the proceedings; if you are indigent and unable to hire an attorney, one may be appointed by the Court at public expense to represent you and if you fail to appear at the time and place specified above, you may be subject to punishment for contempt of Court.  
 Dated this 20th day of December, 2021.  
 James I. Hare  
 Walworth County State's Attorney  
 P.O. Box 424  
 Selby, South Dakota 57472-0424  
 Phone: (605)649-1122  
 Email: jhare@walworthco.org  
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-011222

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### NEW LISTING: Chief Nursing Officer

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# OBIT



## Ronald Schatz

Ronald Gene Schatz, age 71, of Mercer, ND, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and brother-in-law, met the Lord on January 11, 2022.

A funeral service will be held 10:30 AM Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at the Mercer Community Center with Pastor Randy Emgarten officiating. Burial will follow in the Mercer Hillside Cemetery.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Monday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Mercer followed by a 7:00 PM prayer service.

Ron was born on April 20, 1950 to Ben and Ella Nora (Gilbertson) Schatz in Bismarck, ND. He was raised on the family farm northwest of Regan. He attended Pleasant View school for eight years and graduated from Regan High School in 1968.

He attended Bismarck State College for two years taking up auto body. He worked in auto body for one year and determined he did not like it. He came to Mercer, ND and started working for Rust Manufacturing. In 1972, he married Betty Ann Jans of Mercer. In 1985, he bought the welding shop, Mercer Machine, and worked there until he passed away. Ron's love for machining started when he was a young boy. When he was 8 years old and his dad would go out to the field, he would burn up welding rods. He knew he wanted to do this type of work. His brother Jeff worked beside him through the years and they worked on any type of machinery serving people throughout the state. His farming background had a lot to do with the success of the business. Along with his love to weld he also loved to farm. He loved his John Deere tractors, turned up the radio, and did what needed to get done. He retired from farming in the late 90's.

Ron loved the Green Bay Packers, country music, dancing, and taking out his antique John Deere tractors and giving rides. Ron loved snowmobiling and would even take the sleds out when the grass was green. He enjoyed his Ranger rides with Betty, snowmobiling trips, and most of all LOVED being

with his family and watching his children and grandchildren in all their activities.

Ron served as the Mayor of Mercer for 8 years, City Council for 4 years, Turtle Lake-Mercer School Board for 8 years, and member of the Mercer Fire Department for 49 years. He helped with the Brush Lake Rodeo and Mercer Memorial Park.

Ron was loved by all and always had a smile. He would do anything for anyone and was always willing to lend a helping hand. His last words when departing were always "taker cool."

He leaves his wife of 49 years, Betty Ann of Mercer; daughter Tina (Brian) Goven of Mercer; son Bobby (Kelli) Schatz of Park River; grandchildren Victoria, Brooke, and Jenna Goven of Mercer, Benjamin and Keegan Schatz of Park River; Siblings Doug (Donna) Schatz, Marilyn (Curt) Schon-Hedstrom, Randy (Deanna) Schatz, Jeffrey (Tammy) Schatz, and Renae Sturkey.

He was preceded in death by Ben & Ella Nora Schatz (parents), Layla Schatz (granddaughter), Lyle Schon (brother-in-law), Kim Rath (brother-in-law), & Bill Sturkey (brother-in-law).

Go to [goetzfuneralhomes.com](http://goetzfuneralhomes.com) to sign the guestbook and offer condolences to Ron's family.



## Leland Tedford, Jr.

Leland "Lee" Arthur Tedford, Jr. was born to Leland Sr. and Marlene Tedford in Pontiac, Michigan on January 2, 1961. He was the third of four children and the only son of Leland and Marlene. He graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1979 and joined the Air Force that August. After the Air Force, Lee and his dad moved to Wyoming to begin working in the oil field in early 1980. Lee then began his life-long career as a truck driver.

While in Wyoming, Lee married and had one son,

Christopher Tedford born in 1981. Lee spent his years in Wyoming, Michigan, and North Dakota. He relocated to North Dakota in 2010 to be close to his son, daughter-in-law (Nadine), and grandchildren (Tall and Romy). Lee loved the outdoors and could be found hunting, fishing, going for drives, and wood-working. He enjoyed helping his son on his ranch and being with his grandchildren.

Lee passed away in Bismarck, North Dakota on December 18, 2021. He is preceded in death by his parents Leland Sr. and Marlene Tedford and his sister Helena Standish. He is survived by his son Christopher (Nadine) Tedford of McClusky, North Dakota, his grandchildren Tell and Romy Tedford, his sister Darla (Matt) Long, his sister Shelly (Scott) Budrow, and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A service will be held for Lee on Saturday, January 22, at 2 p.m. at the Assembly of God Church in McClusky, ND.

## Consolidated minimum wage table

Applicable to nonsupervisory NONFARM private sector employment under state and federal laws

### Consolidated State Minimum Wage Update Table

(Effective Date: 01/01/2022)

Greater than	Equals federal	No. MW
Federal MW	MW of \$7.25	Required
AK \$10.34	CNMI	AL
AR \$11.00	GA	LA
AZ \$12.80	IA	MS
CA \$14.00	ID	SC
CO \$12.56	IN	TN
CT \$13.00	KS	
DC \$15.20	KY	
DE \$10.50	NC	
FL \$10.00	ND	
HI \$10.10	NH	
IL \$12.00	OK	
MA \$14.25	PA	
MD \$12.50	TX	
ME \$12.75	UT	
MI \$9.87	WI	
MN \$10.33	WY	
MO \$11.15	PR	
MT \$9.20		
NE \$9.00		
NJ \$13.00		
NM \$11.50		
NY \$9.75/8.75		
NY \$13.20		
OH \$9.30		
OR \$12.75		
RI \$12.25		
SD \$9.50		
VA \$11.00		
VT \$12.55		
WA \$14.49		
WV \$8.75		
VI \$10.50		
GU \$8.75		

30 States + DC, GU, & VI  
15 States + PR, CNMI 5  
States

Like the federal wage and hour law, State law often exempts particular occupations

or industries from the minimum labor standard generally applied to covered employment. Some states also set subminimum rates for minors and/or students or exempt them from coverage, or have a training wage for new hires. Additionally, some local governments set minimum wage rates higher than their respective state minimum wage. Such differential provisions are not identified in this table. Users are encouraged to consult the laws of particular States in determining whether the State's minimum wage applies to a particular employment. This information often may be found at the websites maintained by State labor departments. Links to these websites are available at [www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/state/contacts](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/state/contacts).

### Additional Minimum Wage Information

The state minimum wage rate requirements, or lack thereof, are generally controlled by legislative activities within the individual states.

Federal minimum wage law supersedes state minimum wage laws where the federal minimum wage is greater than the state minimum wage. In those states where the state minimum

wage is greater than the federal minimum wage, the state minimum wage prevails.

CNMI has a minimum wage set lower than the federal minimum wage. There are 29 states plus the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands with minimum wage rates set higher than the federal minimum wage. There are 16 states plus Puerto Rico that has a minimum wage requirement that is the same as the federal minimum wage requirement. The remaining 5 states do not have an established minimum wage requirement.

The District of Columbia has the highest minimum wage at \$15.20/hour. Note: There are 18 states (AK, AZ, CA, CO, DC, FL, ME, MN, MO, MT, NV, NJ, NY, OH, OR, SD, and WA) that currently have scheduled annual adjustments for their minimum wages based on varying formulas. Most of these increases occur around January 1st. Individuals should consult the relevant state labor offices for information on the particular formula used to adjust the state minimum wage.

This document was last revised on January 1, 2022.

The Wage and Hour Division tries to ensure that the information on this page is accurate but individuals should consult the relevant state labor office for official information.

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# Lelm takes lead on Talking Trail, Scott steps down

*Washburn Life attacks loaded agenda, including storefront grant update*

BY RALPH MANCINI  
EDITOR

In following up on an October presentation about a sightseeing experience known as Talking Trail, Washburn Life members agreed to form a committee to explore using the service at the group's Jan. 11 meeting.

Mark Lelm offered his assent to head the ad-hoc committee and apprise colleagues in his other community organizations of

what Talking Trail offers in terms of leisure, education and entertainment both for Washburn residents and visitors alike.

Dana Morrison, the site supervisor at the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, endorsed the provider of self-guided, expert-led tours when explaining how her own venue subscribes to Talking Trail.

"We added some tweaks for people who can't get into our facility," she said.

Washburn Life President

Tony Thoreson called the potential investment of under \$1,000 a "no-brainerish" kind of idea. Lelm concurred, but maintained that he would need to look at "the contracts" for any hidden fees.

At the end of the early-afternoon session, Vice President Claudia Scott announced that she would be stepping down immediately from her post with Washburn Life, citing too many commitments within the community as the reason for

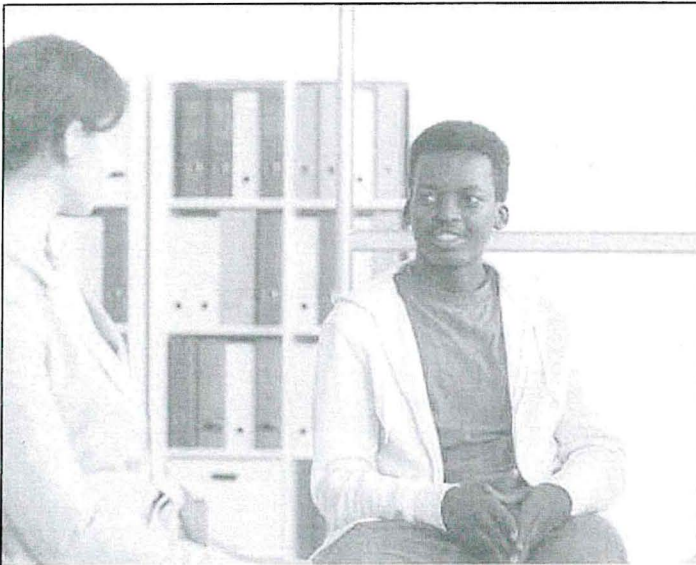
her resignation.

Washburn Life also touched on their \$5,000 storefront grant for community retailers. Currently, it was noted that the organization has \$10,000 left to contribute to future grant applicants. On that note, Scott suggested holding off on adding more funds in the new year until the dollars are actually needed following another storefront donation — or two.

Secretary Rhonda Johnson proposed and received

approval on turning over \$714 generated from a Santa Day meal in early December to Washburn's Dollars for Scholars fund.

What's more, Johnson informed that she would be distributing fliers to local businesses about this year's Taste of Washburn. As for selecting a charity to donate raised funds to for the March 26 event, Thoreson suggested that the matter be a primary topic of focus at the February meeting.



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Saturday, April 2nd @ 10 AM CT - Pride Contracting Inc. Retirement Auction. Offering: Skid Steer, Loader, Excavator, Trucks, Pickups, Trailers, Concrete Equipment & Much More. Location: Hazen, ND. Owner: Pride Contracting Inc. Tim & Julie Schwarz. Online Bidding for large equipment available through Proxibid. [www.wolfauctioneers.com](http://www.wolfauctioneers.com).

Friday, June 10th @ 10 AM CT - K. Duane Schwartz Estate Auction. Offering: TV 140 Bidirectional Tractor, Misc. small tractors, Shop Related Items. Location: NW of Hebron, ND. Owner: K. Duane Schwartz Estate. [www.wolfauctioneers.com](http://www.wolfauctioneers.com).

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**HEALTHY HAPPENINGS**  
**Radiology Services - Killdeer**  
Coal Country Community Health Center - Killdeer now provides radiology services to patients on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Call 701-764-5822 to schedule an appointment.

**CCCHC Offering Rapid Testing**  
Coal Country Community Health Center now offers rapid antigen testing to asymptomatic (no symptoms) patients for OSHA mandated weekly surveillance, return to work requirements, household contacts and travel requirements.  
Hazen Clinic: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. CT  
Killdeer Clinic: Tuesdays from 1 - 3 p.m. MT  
CCCHC will bill your private and government insurance programs for rapid testing and administration fees. Uninsured patients will be responsible for full payment of the bill. Call to schedule an appointment.

**New Clinic Space at Beulah Public School**  
Coal Country Community Health Center, in partnership with the Beulah School District, is excited to offer expanded primary care services to students. Beginning Wednesday, January 19, 2022, CCCHC will be opening a new clinic space located in the Beulah High School. Kayla Ternes, PA-C will be providing services to students in PreK through 12th grade. Appointments will be available Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. All appointments will need to be scheduled through CCCHC Beulah, please call 701-873-4445.

**SMC Hospice Valentine's Cookie Fundraiser**  
This Valentine's Day, help support your local Hospice program and make someone's day by sending them cookies! Order forms are available at local businesses and the SMC Hospice Office. Orders must be placed by Wednesday, February 9. Cookie trays will also be sold at Hazen City Hall on Saturday, February 12 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.) and Monday, February 14 at the Hospice Office, while supplies last. For more information, call SMC Hospice at 701-748-7380.





## Will You "Match the Match?"

By Ted Uecker, WRHS Foundation

Your local nonprofit organization, *West River Health Services Foundation*, has raised \$80,000 in matching funds for *Giving Hearts Day* -- from twelve, super-giving, matching fund sponsors. We know, kind of amazing isn't it? The individuals, families and businesses who stepped up ahead of Giving Hearts Day (on February 10<sup>th</sup> this year) are to be commended. Therefore, we sincerely acknowledge the following: Dacotah Bank, Jodi Uecker, JC Farms, Suzie's (Woodfire Grill), Wendy and Nevada Jorgenson, Dakota Western Bank, Dr. Josh and Dr. Carrie Ranum, Dr. Mark and Lanee Kristy, Clarence and Roberta Jost at the Mirror Lake Lodge, Slope Electric Cooperative Inc., David Nygaard and Anonymous. They are leading the charge for improved healthcare "close to home." You might be inspired. We are.

With that being said, now it's up to the rest of us to "match the match!" What's that, you say? Yes, we all need to consider a small (\$10) or large (\$100-\$1,000+) gift to help our area communities raise another \$80,000 to get to \$160,000! Or maybe we'll just triple the match this year and surpass \$240,000! How important are West River Health Services and Western Horizons Living Centers when you or your family need top care or need a caring place for your mom or dad? These two entities provide care for quite a huge rural service area -- including Hettinger, Bowman, Mott, New England, Scranton and Lemmon, SD. Reaching patients from west of Baker, MT, to north of Dickinson, ND, south of Bison, SD and east of McIntosh -- basically most everyone in southwestern ND and northwestern SD, plus a few into Montana!

And where will your gifts go? We are recommending you give toward our *New "Healthcare Heroes Endowment Fund,"* because we have over 50 job openings at West River and Western Horizons. Not the usual 20-25. Over the last seven years, our WRHS Foundation has gifted over \$100,000 for Scholarships to area youth pursuing a healthcare degree. And we're seeing very few of these same recipients applying for a job here. Therefore, our goal is to raise \$500,000 within five years for Healthcare Heroes Endowment, so we can utilize \$25,000+ in interest each and every year going forward for: significant academic loans; signing bonuses for top-priority positions; and spot bonuses for current healthcare heroes at West River and Western Horizons.

Of course, your gift to the WRHS Foundation, no matter where you place it (Healthcare Heroes Endowment Fund, Partners in Health Club, Ambulance, Western Horizons Living Centers, etc.) -- all will count for Giving Hearts Day gifts. You can give any time between now and February 10<sup>th</sup> -- Giving Hearts Day. All it takes is a check written to "WRHSF" with "Giving Hearts Day" written in the memo section and mailed to: WRHSF, 1000 Highway 12, Hettinger, ND, 58639. Or you can go online at [wrhs.com/giving](http://wrhs.com/giving). Plus, on February 10<sup>th</sup>, you can go to [giving-heartsday.org](http://giving-heartsday.org) and type in West River Health Services Foundation. Or call Ted Uecker direct at the WRHS Foundation at 701-567-3666. He'd love to visit with you about your giving plans.

We hope you will consider helping us "match the match," with a \$10 or more gift between now and February 10<sup>th</sup>. After all, we all want top-notch healthcare "close to home" right? Onward!

## ~ Northern Neighbor News ~ Truck Schedule

If you have furs or antlers ready to be sold please be aware that the Hansen Hide & Fur truck may be coming to a place near you.

On Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, the Hansen Hide & Fur truck will be in Mott at the Cenex Store at 1:20 pm MT. Following that stop, they will be on Main Street in New Leipzig at 2:15 pm MT.

Their truck will also make a stop south

of Wade's Station in Elgin at 2:40 pm MT. They will finish out the day at the Glen Ullin Cenex at 5:00 pm CT on Tuesday.

The following day, Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, the Hansen truck will be at the McIntosh Co-op at 11:35 am MT; at the Lemmon IGA parking lot at 12:50 pm MT; and then they will be at the Runnings Store in Hettinger at 2:05 pm MT.

## State of the State

North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum will give the 2022 State of the State Address Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am. The event will be held at the Festival Concert Hall at the Reineke Fine

Arts Center located at the North Dakota State University of Fargo. This year's address will be livestreamed at [www.governor.nd.gov](http://www.governor.nd.gov).



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Physical requirements include continuous standing and use of hands and arms, lifting up to 25 pounds, and the ability to perceive differences in colors.

Hours are flexible with an option for part time or full time, roughly 24-32 hours per week.

Interested parties can apply in-person at BHG Inc, 91 N Main Street, Garrison, ND 58540, call 701-463-2201 or send an email to [alysa@bhgnews.com](mailto:alysa@bhgnews.com).

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**3:00 – Closing and questions led by Gaugler family**  
For more information on the event contact the SCD office at 701-622-3381 or the Extension office at 701-622-3470.

[illegible]

**ASSISTANCE:** Will also offer the Lifeline telephone service program for qualifying low-income subscribers who are not already receiving a Lifeline discount from another provider. Lifeline programs a recently revised discount on eligible telephone service, usually broadband service. To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, an applicant or subscriber, on a monthly basis, must be a U.S. resident, a U.S. citizen, or a legal permanent resident, and must be enrolled in the National Nutrition Assistance Program (NNAP) formerly Food Stamp, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Public Housing Assistance or Veterans & Survivors Program benefits. Individuals whose household income is at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for Lifeline. Individuals who are receiving federal public housing assistance (rental) are also eligible. Additional T-Mobile Lifeline and T-Mobile Life support is available to those in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who actively make false statements or untrue statements to obtain Lifeline service may be subject to criminal and civil penalties.

[illegible]

*Aidan models his Monty Python Black Knight costume at the Fargo Challenger race over Halloween weekend.*

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

With a "ton" of miles logged throughout the streets and country roads of Elgin, Zacher's incredible running story has only just begun! He celebrates after his runs, by rewarding himself with a Watermelon Brisk Tea and a bag of Jalapeño Cheetos, but that's only the start of what he finds rewarding. Zacher shared that what he loves most about his runs is "meeting a lot of really cool people around town. I really like to talk to people before, after, and even some-



**Medals Aidan has earned from competing in many 5K and 10K races.**

times during my runs. I've met a lot of people that I might not have, if I wasn't running every day."

So, if you happen to see Aidan running, while you're out and about...a friendly hello...an enthusiastic wave...or even a Watermelon Brisk Tea are all incredible ways to show him that his community supports his running journey!

### Current hospitalizations

4  
as of Jan. 10

**Dates:** Dec. 1-31  
**Tests:** 271  
**Positive tests:** 65

**Dates:** Jan. 1-9  
**Tests:** 165  
**Positive tests:** 29

**JoAnn  
Ryherd**

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at Hope Congregational Church in Elgin with Pastor Ed Zimmerman, officiating. Burial will be in the Spring of 2022 at the Ebenezer UCC Cemetery north of Elgin.

JoAnn Naomi Emilia Hintz was born on May 16, 1936 to Otto and Ann (Nuss) Hintz, eight miles northwest of Elgin, ND at the Henry Nuss farm. She was the third of six children. In

1941, just before starting school her parents relocated to Dickinson, ND where she attended Berg Elementary School and Dickinson High School. While in Dickinson, she was very active in the Camp Fire

Girls Organization. In 1951; her family headed west to California. Her first home in California was in the little town of Dos Palos where she completed one semester of her sophomore year in high school. Next came a move to Fresno where she attended Central High School from which she graduated in 1954. Following graduation, she was employed by Pacific Telephone Co. She left that position to work as a secretary and office manager for Youth for Christ. She remained in that position until her marriage in 1966

to Gerald D. Schmidt when they moved to Coalinga, California. It was in Coalinga where their son, Jon was born. While in Coalinga, "Jo" worked as a secretary

for the First Presbyterian Church and Coalinga School District before accepting a position with Fresno Co. Dept of Social Services where

Russia, (Treasurer) and Elgin Days Committee. She was also involved with hill care at Dakota Hill Housing and Jacobson Memorial Care Center. She acted as a site manager for Senior Meals as well as being on the Board of Directors serving as treasurer, president and secretary. (not all at once). She entertained also with others at Dakota Hill, Jacobson Memorial Care Center, and Senior Meals in Elgin, New Leipzig, and Carson.

On June 25, 2005 Jo married Ellis Ryherd. Along with a new husband, she gained three new grandsons and three granddaughters and his sons, Kevin and Michael who were both ministers so they officiated the ceremony.

Jo loved playing "Stix" with several of her lady friends (an "old hen's party" according to her husband). Jo loved to sing but was disappointed that in later years her voice "cracked" and she could no longer do solos.

She is survived by her son, Jon (Cammie) Schmidt, Brentwood, CA; three step-sons, Keith (Reda) Schmidt, New Caney, TX, Kevin Ryherd, Scotland, SD; and Michael Ryherd, Flower Mound, TX, one step-daughter, Pam (Joe) Rodrigues, Madera; grandsons, Eric Schmidt, Christian Schmidt, Mike Schmidt, Shawn Rodrigues, Zakk Ryherd, Tyus Ryherd, Isaac Ryherd, and granddaughters, Ashley, Payton, and Hailey Ryherd and great grandson, Mark along with many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

Preceding Jo in death were her husbands, Jerry Schmidt, Ellis Ryherd, her parents, Otto and Ann Hintz, several aunts and uncles and one great-nephew, Jeff Hann.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.evansonjensenfuneralhome.com](http://www.evansonjensenfuneralhome.com).







## Standing Rock Sioux Tribe COURT DOCKET



This is the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal court docket for Dec. 20, through Dec. 23, 2021. The court docket is public record and reflects actual convictions, not the original charges filed upon the defendants as they often change.

Extra conditions, such as probation, no alcohol use or orders to obtain chemical evaluations are not included as well as time suspended. A new condition has been added on to any sentence: Contact the Probation Officer within 1 week.

Chief Judge, Michael T. Swallow, Presiding:

Boyd White Twin: Disorderly Conduct on Premises of an Elders, 5 days, \$100. Fines/cc;  
Bruce Flying Horse: Disorderly Conduct, 15 days, \$100. Fines/cc;  
Mikal White Mountain: Hindering Law Enforcement Officer, Driving Without a License, 20 days, \$250. Fines/cc;  
Shilo White Eagle: Unlawful Use/Tampering of a Motor Vehicle, Driving Under the Influence, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, 30 days, \$250. Fines/cc;  
Kimberly St. Pierre: Disorderly Conduct, Criminal Contempt, 10 days, \$200. Fines/cc;  
Rodney Sam: Domestic Violence, Interfering with Emergency Communication, 10 days, \$250. Fines/cc;  
Ronald Yellow Jr.: Failure to Register with SORNA, Criminal Possession of Drugs X3, Child Neglect, Criminal Possession of Drugs with Intent to Deliver or Sell, 180 days, \$800. Fines/cc;  
Rodd Rough Surface: Criminal Contempt, 10 days, \$250. Fines/cc;  
Sibashon Holy Bear: Burglary, Accomplice, Criminal

Contempt, Criminal Possession of Drugs, Posses of Drug Paraphernalia, Criminal Possession of Drugs with Intent to Deliver/Sell, 180 days, \$600. Fines/cc;  
Floyd Montclair Jr.: Driving Without Required Registration, Driving Without a License, 5 days, \$200. Fines/cc;  
Berneil Miner: Criminal Contempt, 15 days, \$200. Fines/cc;  
Adam Alkire: Interfering with Emergency Communications, Disorderly Conduct, Family Violence, 10 days, \$250. Fines/cc;  
Chante Skuya Folsom: Criminal Contempt, 15 days, \$100. Fines/cc;  
Brenton Crow Necklace: Disorderly Conduct, 5 days, \$70. Fines/cc;  
Patrick Chasing Hawk: Child Neglect, Criminal Possession of Drugs, Reckless Driving, 30 days, \$350. Fines/cc;  
Elwood Good Left: Criminal Contempt, 30 days, \$250. Fines/cc;  
Monique P. Marshall: Criminal Contempt, 30 days, \$200. Fines/cc.

## Bullhead man indicted for meth trafficking

ABERDEEN, S.D. — U.S. Attorney Dennis Holmes announced that a Bullhead, S.D., man has been indicted by a federal grand jury for Conspiracy to Distribute a Controlled Substance.

Eric Paul Archambault, 32, was indicted on Oct. 13, 2021. He appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Mark Moreno on Jan. 5, 2022, and pled not guilty.

The maximum penalty upon conviction is 40 years in federal prison and/or a \$5,000,000 fine, a lifetime of supervised release, and \$100 to the Federal Crime Victims Fund. Restitution may also be ordered.


The indictment alleges that between 2018 and 2021, on the Standing Rock Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota and North Dakota, Archambault knowingly and

intentionally conspired to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine.

The charge is merely an accusation and Archambault is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The investigation is being conducted by the Mobridge Police Department, Northern Plains Safe Trails Drug Enforcement Task Force, Bureau of Indian Affairs — Office of Justice Services, Standing Rock Agency, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Cameron Cook is prosecuting the case.

Archambault was released on bond pending trial. A trial date was set for March 15, 2022.



### ROCK CREEK GRANT SCHOOL

## ROCK CREEK GRANT SCHOOL

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Rock Creek Grant School  
c/o Karen Montana  
One Indian School Road  
PO Box 127  
Bullhead, SD 57621

The Employment Application and Benefit Information can be found on our website  
<https://rockcreekgrantschool.us>  
If you have any questions:  
605-823-4971  
Andrew.b.decoateau@k12.sd.us



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Contact Principal Virginia Long Feather  
[virginia.longfeather@k12.sd.us](mailto:virginia.longfeather@k12.sd.us)  
605-823-4235

Applications can be picked up at the School or on our website <https://www.littleeagleschool.org>



Lyla Connell- Be more obedient.

*By Sue Bachler*

We decided to be a healthier family! (An easy thing to do while you are eating and drinking sugar!) Together, we would make healthier food! This would make us feel better and be able to do more things, like ride bike... in the springtime, and ice skate longer and, well hopefully stay well from the flu and have fun. Healthier isn't easy! Our menu took a long time to

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## Honor Roll



Students on the Junior high B honor roll include: Anthony Whitetail, Braden Belling, Lilliana Calderon, Khloe Dydymott, Aaron Kottre, Jackson Reynolds, Brianna Schantz. Not pictured is Brayden Brehm, Shayna Lauer.

## Custer District Health Foot Care Clinic to be held

The Morton County Custer District Health will be holding their foot care clinic in Glen Ullin at the Senior Center located at 110 West Main Street from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. CT on Thursday, February 10, 2022. For an appointment call 348-3838.

## Bobcat Zone 2 Closed Immediately

Bobcat hunting and trapping in Zone 2 is closed immediately, after the zone's predetermined harvest limit of eight has been reached. Zone 2 is the area east of U.S Highway 83.

The bobcat season in Zone 1 has no harvest limit and is open through March 15.

## God Bless



our men and women in the service

**SELL IT WITH A FREE CLASSIFIED AD IN THE Glen Ullin Times, Hebron Herald, New Salem Journal and Richardton Merchant**

To say "THANKS FOR YOUR PATRONAGE" in 2021

## Bearcat Boys Basketball

**action** By coach Greg Pruitt  
continued from Page 6

The Bearcats took an early lead his family were still in our hearts. There is more to life than basketball and I believe we grew that night in that aspect.

Finally, the team traveled to Killdeer to play another key regional match-up. This time the Bearcats came away with the big win over the Cowboys 66-53. The team played exceptional on both sides of the courts. Ben Hosman had a phenomenal game with 23 points 6 assist and 4 rebounds. We had balanced scoring from Gunner Remboldt 15, Tyus Thomas 13, and Canyon Unruh 9. This puts the Bearcats at 3-1 in region play and sitting good as the positioning goes. Our quarters consisted of 15, 15, 20, 16 which tells you that the kids played hard for 32 minutes. This is one thing we have been stressing as a coaching staff to consistently be consistent. We have to play for 32 minutes if we want to get deep into the regional tourney in March. I am proud of the improvement and effort from our team and we are looking forward to the rest of the season.

## Just Joyce

Hello Readers,

This past Sunday, the temperature was in the 30's. Monday was low 40's, Tuesday mid-30's. All three days or partly cloudy to cloudy.

## Tax Commissioner Advises Taxpayers on 2022 Tax Season

Tax Commissioner Brian Kroshus has announced that the 2022 individual income tax season will open on January 24, coinciding with

These sites are run by AARP or the IRS, and most will open in February. Details, location information, and contact information to schedule an



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"WRT is an equal opportunity provider & employer"

**MONTHLY SERVICE BATTERY:** Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, "universal service" means basic telephone service that is available to all consumers. WRT provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic services are offered at the following rates: Single Party Residence & Business Service - \$22.50/mo. Local residence & business service includes: Voice grade local service; the public switched network; full-rate local exchange service free of per minute charges; access to emergency services such as 911 & enhanced 911; and toll blocking/hold limitation. Broadband Internet access service which is the capability to transmit and receive data is available in various packages.

**BATTERY BACKUP:** When WRT installs fiber optics, we offer to install a battery backup unit (at no extra fee) - so fiber needs power to operate. If your electricity fails, the backup unit will power the equipment & provide voice service for approx. 8 hours. WRT offers additional battery packs to extend the length of voice service and provide internet service backup - for \$20/mo. Please keep in mind these are emergency use: 1) Keep at least one basic, CORDED phone on hand to use in case of power outage, as cordless use additional power; 2) If you have a generator, make sure the battery backup unit is plugged into an outlet that is served by the generator; 3) Periodically check the indicator light on your battery backup unit to see if it is getting low or out of charge. Batteries should be stored above 41°F and below 104°F. General battery life is 3-4 years, depending on usage & storage conditions and have a limited 3-year manufacturer's warranty. If you have any questions or would like to extend your battery backup time, call WRT at 701-748-2211.

**ASSISTANCE:** WRT also offers the Lifeline telephone assistance program for qualifying low-income subscribers who are not already receiving a Lifeline discount from another provider. Lifeline provides a monthly service discount on eligible telephone or eligible broadband service. To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, an applicant or subscriber, one of their dependents or their household must participate in one or more of the following programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly Food Stamp); Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance or Veterans & Survivors Pension Benefits. Individual whose household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are also eligible for Lifeline assistance. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available. Additional Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up support is available to those qualifying individuals living on Tribal Lands. Tribal Lifeline Link Up provides for additional telephone service discounts, and in addition to the previously cited programs, for those individuals residing on Tribal Lands, participation in the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance program, Head Start, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations or Tribal TANF qualify them for that support. Only eligible statements may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireless or wireline service. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:** West River Telecommunications Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employee. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/household status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720-2500 (voice) or TTY or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint (https://www.usda.gov/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 622-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, (2) Fax: (202) 859-7442; or (3) email: program.discrimination@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WRT: 701-748-2211, FAX: 701-748-2211, WWW.WESTRIV.COM



## Governor's Column

By: Governor Kristi Noem

**God bless the 235th MPC**  
On January 5th, I joined several state and local officials for a deployment ceremony honoring the 235th Military Police Company. The unit from the South Dakota National Guard is heading to Guantanamo Bay for a challenging operational mission.

The war in Afghanistan may be over, but the War on Terror still carries on. Our state's brave soldiers are stepping up to continue keeping our streets safe from international terrorism. During my speech, I highlighted half a dozen soldiers who were going on their fourth deployment since joining the National Guard.

These amazing troops have answered the call to serve and have been sent into action again and again. Still, they continue coming back and proudly serve with the best National Guard in the nation.

During his speech on Wednesday, Captain Patrick Moran, Commander of the 235th, highlighted some of the recent missions his troops have prepared for in recent years. He also spoke about his soldiers understanding their core mission, regardless of the venue.

"When I first took command of the 235th, I knew this, and I told the Soldiers that the professional that we want is the one that is willing to do the job – the job that others are not willing to do. I asked the unit for a motto, they came up with 'Guardians over Glory,' Captain Moran recalled in his speech.

"In a way that represents the 235th and what the history of the 235th Soldiers have done. They are the ones that don't need the eye candy. They have always been the ones to step up and do whatever job asked of them."

And they have been asked to do a lot in recent years. In June of 2020, the 235th was put on standby with less than 24 hours to prepare to be deployed to the riots in Minneapolis. That deployment was stayed, and instead the 235th successfully kept the streets peaceful in Pierre, Sioux Falls, and Rapid City.

## State of the State Continued from Page 5

can also exercise their First Amendment right to pray. We will protect the freedom to worship and re-install a right that has been absent for far too long in our schools.

**Economic Freedom**

Another fundamental liberty is the right of individuals to provide for themselves and their families. Government, at times, abuses its power and interferes with that liberty. But never in our history have we seen government shut down liberty as we saw during the pandemic.

State after state imposed mandates and lockdowns. Closed businesses and churches. America is still suffering the consequences.

Other states told people that

They worked with local law enforcement and the Air National Guard Security Forces during President Donald Trump's Fourth of July visit to Mount Rushmore. For most of 2020, members of the 235th were serving on Medical Transport Teams. In November 2020, they transitioned to vaccine mission teams. Throughout 2020 and 2021, their soldiers also served in Call Centers.

And then, in January 2021, they were deployed to Washington, D.C. Two weeks later, they were back in South Dakota training 800 National Guard soldiers on minimizing civil disturbances.

Over the last 16 months, while most of these other calls to action were happening, 113 members of the 235th Military Police Company have been training for this mission to Guantanamo Bay. Captain Moran was very clear about how unique this mission is to his Company.

"We won't be dodging bullets across a battlefield," Cpt. Moran explained, adding "we will have to battle complacency, mental health challenges, and strive for keen attention to detail and awareness on a daily basis."

"GFMG has some of the world's most dangerous and uniquely challenging prisoners and the 235th will be the Soldiers that will be hands on – in close contact with them on a day-to-day basis. If anyone knows about corrections or detainee operations, they know that this usually is not the most desired job that Soldiers want. This is the difficult task. No battle glory, no combat badges, this is the job that normally doesn't come with a plethora of awards or recognition."

I know our soldiers are ready for this mission because they have a clear vision for why they are serving in the first place: Guardians over Glory.

Thank you to Commander Moran for your inspiring words and strong leadership. I speak for all of South Dakota when I say we are praying for your safe return from this important mission. Godspeed.

they weren't essential – picked winners and losers. We kept the doors to businesses open.

Ace Hardware in Sioux Falls is a great example of a thriving business in South Dakota. They weathered the worst days of the pandemic without laying off a single employee. They innovated quickly, protected the health of their staff and customers, and continued their passion for quality service and customer care. Similar success stories can be found time and time again around our great state.

Here with us today is a young woman named Alyssa Nix, a small business owner in Sioux Falls. Alyssa was born and raised in Sioux Falls and started working in retail and fashion when she was 16 years old. In February 2018, she took out a loan to purchase a women's clothing boutique, which fulfilled a life-long dream for her. She is proud to sell clothing and

accessories that make women feel confident about themselves at all budget levels and for all occasions.

Alyssa was nervous when the pandemic hit. She didn't know what the future had in store, and she didn't think she could keep her business going if she had been forced to close.

I heard about Alyssa's store from my daughters, so I decided to stop in one day when Bryon and I were in Sioux Falls running errands. While I was there, Alyssa and I chatted about the weather, horses (which we both love) and 4-H – we have both been 4-H leaders for years. During our visit, Alyssa told me with tears in her eyes that if our state made different decisions during the pandemic the past 2 years and not trusted her, she didn't know if her store would still be open. Her life-long dream would have come to an end. She was so grateful she was respected by her government and thankful to still be able to serve her customers.

Alyssa's American Dream is alive and well in South Dakota. Because we trusted small business owners, like Alyssa and Ace Hardware, to find ways to adapt, we gave them an opportunity to survive. Every other state in this country ordered some businesses to close. That didn't happen here.

Alyssa, I'd like to ask you to please stand and also thank you – thank you for your love for people and willingness to share your story. So many little girls dream of growing up and striking out on their own, owning their own business, and they can look up to you. Thank you for your strength and for not giving up on your dream. Would you all join me in giving Alyssa a round of applause?

**Cutting Regulations**

One way that we can continue to expand liberty is by remembering that government should not make it harder to have a career.

My Department of Labor is eliminating barriers to employment. And they're partnering with others to promote job training and match students with the best career for them. Here are a few examples:

In 2021, the Department of Labor worked with the Department of Education and schools across the state to promote "South Dakota Week of Work." The week included job fairs, job shadowing opportunities, and visits by professionals to classrooms to share their experiences in communities across the state. For example, Hanson High School hosted 40 guest speakers representing 16 different career areas.

We have partnered with Dakota State University to create a Future Workforce Finder tool. We are expanding the Upskill program to the South Dakota Women's Prison and other career fields to get workers trained for in-demand jobs. We are partnering with adult education providers across the state to offer more options for adults to achieve their GED, to help them in their career.

We are focused on EXPANDING opportunities and liberty, not regulating it away. And South Dakota's jobs market continues to be a national leader as a result.

Revenue Update and Tax Cuts. In order for us to defend

liberty, government must remain limited. And part of how we do that is through our budget process – through our commitment to fiscal responsibility. I want to assure every South Dakotan of this: we will not use one-time money – whether federal or state dollars – for ongoing expenses or new programs. It would be irresponsible to create or expand any ongoing programs with one-time dollars.

A month ago, I reported to you the exceptional revenue growth that South Dakota has enjoyed because of the steps that we took in South Dakota. Since that time, we've received even more great news, which I'm prepared to share with you today.

In addition to the estimates I gave you back in December, our economy is even stronger than expected. Ongoing general fund revenues were \$20.8 million higher than the revised estimates from December. So far this fiscal year, we're \$116 million above ongoing legislative adopted estimates. That's fantastic news, and we should return a portion of these strong revenues to the people of South Dakota.

I am announcing three proposals today to cut taxes and fees for the hard-working men and women in South Dakota.

First of all, let's eliminate fees associated with starting or renewing a business with the Secretary of State in South Dakota. In 2020, the theme of my State of the State was "Open for Business," and we are continuing that commitment today. We are already among the most business-friendly states in America, and with this step, we will make it even easier to do business here.

Let's also eliminate all fees for concealed carry permits in the state. We will pay the costs for federal background checks, as well. It will not cost you a penny to exercise your Second Amendment rights in South Dakota.

Three years ago,

Constitutional Carry was the very first bill that I signed as Governor. We guaranteed the right of our people to keep and bear arms. Together, we will continue to defend this key constitutional liberty.

Finally, although we don't have many taxes in South Dakota, I am proposing that we eliminate a ridiculous tax. Did you know that we have a bingo tax? This is largely a tax on our elderly populations and veterans. I'm proposing that we get rid of it, and this is just the beginning.

**Vaccine Legislation**


Financially, we see the impact of protecting liberty in South Dakota, but unfortunately, personal liberties are under attack. But that attack IS NOT coming from state government. It's coming from the Biden Administration in Washington, D.C.

I always promised you I would protect our state from overbearing federal intrusion into our daily lives. So we took action. South Dakota has joined four lawsuits against the Biden Administration's unconstitutional vaccine mandates, and we are winning in court. The issue has advanced to the United States Supreme Court and oral arguments were heard last week.

The COVID vaccination should be a choice. And we should reject the efforts that we're seeing in other parts of the country to divide us into two classes: vaccinated and unvaccinated. Unvaccinated Americans are still Americans. We live in a free country – free to make our own decisions. The government does not get to make them for us.

I am bringing legislation this session to protect the people's right to a medical or religious exemption from COVID vaccines, just as my executive order did for state employees. We will also recognize natural immunity. I

(Continued on Page 7)



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**MONTHLY SERVICE RATES:** Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, "universal service" means basic telephone service that is available to all consumers. WRT provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. WRT offers additional services to its customers at the following rates: Single Party Residence Service - \$22.50/mo. Local residence & business service includes: Voice grade access to the public switched network; interarea local exchange service fee of per minute charges; access to emergency services such as 911 & enhanced 911; and toll blocking/hold restriction. Broadband internet access service which is the capability to transmit and receive data is available in various packages.

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**ASSISTANCE:** WRT also offers the Lifeline telephone assistance program for qualifying low-income subscribers who are not already receiving a Lifeline discount from another provider. Lifeline provides a monthly service discount on eligible telephone or digital broadband services. To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, an applicant or subscriber, one of their dependents or their household must participate. In one or more of the following programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly Food Stamps; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; or Veterans & Survivors Pension Benefit. Individuals whose household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are also eligible for Lifeline assistance. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available. Additional Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up support is available to those qualifying individuals living on Tribal Lands. Tribal Lifeline/Link Up provides for additional telephone service discounts, and in addition to the previously cited programs, for those individuals residing on Tribal Lands, participation in the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Lifeline/Link Up assistance program. Head Start, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations or Tribal TANF qualify them for this support. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireless or wireless service. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

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WRT IS HERE TO HELP

# Assistance Programs

WRT understands how vital communication is to everyday life. Help is available for those who can't afford services. Lifeline, Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up Assistance Programs can help eligible people pay part of their service costs.



**Lifeline** provides a monthly credit of \$9.25/month for internet services and \$5.25/mo for voice-only service. The Lifeline credit is applied to the main home phone number and will be applied to local voice &/or internet service.

The Lifeline plan does not include long-distance calls. Lifeline subscribers may opt to block long-distance calls on their line at no cost.

### **Who is Eligible?**

Applicants are eligible if they participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs as follows or have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (documentation required):

Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8

Medicaid

Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP / formerly known as Food Stamps)

You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.



FEDERAL MANDATE: Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility annually. Failure to properly recertify a recipient's continued eligibility for the Lifeline program will result in termination of the Lifeline recipient's monthly Lifeline discount and de-enrollment from the Lifeline Program.

[Apply for Lifeline](#)

## For More Information

If you are applying based on income, please remember to include mandatory documentation as listed on the applications. For questions or assistance please call WRT at 748-2211.

## Federal Poverty Guidelines

Estimated Income Requirements for a Household at or Below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines:

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.
-----------------------------------	----------------------------------



Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.
1	\$18,347
2	\$24,719
3	\$31,091
4	\$37,463
5	\$43,835
6	\$50,207
7	\$56,579
8	\$62,951
For Each Additional Person, add:	\$6,372

## Tribal Lands Lifeline and Expanded Link Up

The Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up program provide up to an additional \$25 in federal support to qualifying residents of Tribal lands and applies on the main home phone line. This \$25 is in addition to the \$9.25 monthly credit for Lifeline as noted above. Tribal Link Up is available to qualifying consumers and covers 100% of the charges (up to \$100) that the carrier customarily assesses for installing/connecting subscribers to the network.



## **Who is Eligible?**

Applicants are eligible if they participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs as follows or have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (documentation required):

Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX/Medical State Supplemental Assistance)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP / formerly known as Food Stamps)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)

Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit

Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance

Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)

Head Start (if income criteria are met)

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations You may also be eligible if your household income is equal to or less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see information above).



**Apply**





April 11, 2022

Dear WRT Member,

**Lifeline, Tribal Lifeline/Link Up, and Toll Blocking** support is available from WRT. These programs provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone or broadband service.

**What type of discount is available?**

**Lifeline** assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone or broadband service. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$9.25 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in Lifeline.

**Tribal Lifeline** provides up to an additional \$25.00 in federal support to qualifying residents of Tribal land and applies on the main home telephone line or broadband service listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. (The Tribal Lifeline discount cannot exceed \$34.25.)

**Tribal Link Up** is available to qualifying consumers residing on Tribal lands and covers 100% of the charges (up to \$100) of installing/connecting subscribers to our network.

**Toll Blocking** support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring large, long-distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost. Also, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

***How do I know whether I am eligible?***

An individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Federal Public Housing (FPHA)
- Medicaid
- Supplement Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribal Head Start (income eligible)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Program

In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines:

(Continued on back)



**2022 Estimated Income Requirements for a Household at or Below  
135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**

Persons in Family Unit	48 Contiguous States and D.C.
1	\$18,347
2	\$24,719
3	\$31,091
4	\$37,463
5	\$43,835
6	\$50,207
7	\$56,579
8	\$62,951
For each additional person, add	\$6,372

WRT's voice and broadband service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline, wireless or broadband service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. WRT is required to access the FCC's National Lifeline Accountability Database to verify if a customer is currently receiving Lifeline, as well as provide information to the database regarding new Lifeline subscribers.

***How do I apply to receive Lifeline, Link Up, and Toll Blocking discounts?***

To apply for this low-income assistance, please contact WRT at 701-748-2211 or 605-845-3100 or go to the website [checklifeline.org/lifeline](https://checklifeline.org/lifeline) and apply online.

Sincerely,



Pamela Schott

WRT Customer Service Manager



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## SERVICE & BILLING

### Establishing Or Transferring Phone Service

To establish or to transfer new residential or business phone service, call or visit a WRT office. To enable us to process your order to establish phone service, we will need to know your complete address, and how you want to be listed in the directory. We also need to know about previous telephone service in your name, and other credit information. We will ask for identification, and a number where you can be reached either at work or through a friend or relative until your service is established.

### Installation Rates

Installation rates will vary with the needs of your service. There are many steps involved in installing your phone service, but not every customer needs each step. The amount of work needed to install phone service for you will depend on the type of facilities and service you want.

### Deposit Policy

Customers may be asked to pay a deposit to establish telephone &/or internet service. The amount of your deposit is determined when you apply for service.

### You Will Be Billed For Changes In Your Service

Certain changes, except termination of service, and disconnection of certain options, require a service charge. The amount you are charged depends on the type of change requested. Consult your service representative for different services.

### Your Telephone Bill

#### How/When You Are Billed

Charges for local service and equipment are billed one month in advance. WRT billing statements are usually mailed within the first five working days of each month.

#### When to Pay your Bill

Payments are due the 20th of the month. Your payment is considered past due if not paid by that date. If your payments are not received by the due dates, or you do not meet your mutually agreed upon payment arrangements, your service may be disconnected.

#### Where To Pay Your Bill

In addition to mailing in your payment, you can pay by cash, check, or credit or debit card in WRT's offices in Hazen, Beulah, or Mobridge. Payments can also be dropped off in payment slots at all three offices after hours. Drop off locations are also located at Krause's Market in Hazen, and Bronson's Marketplace in Beulah.

#### Other Bill Paying Options

You may also pay online, by Automatic Bank Deduct...or Pay by Phone. Customers can access online bill pay via the WRT website or using the SmartHub app. Call WRT for more information.

#### Error On Your Bill

If you have a question on your bill, contact WRT and ask for a Customer Service Representative. If the error cannot be resolved, please pay the undisputed charges on time so you'll maintain a good payment record while the problem is being investigated.

## IT PAYS TO BE A WRT MEMBER!

Each year WRT members receive CO-OP CASH - just for choosing services from WRT

On average, WRT Members received checks totaling \$500+

(2020 average based on opening margin checks mailed in May & non-opening margin checks mailed in November)

WRT PO Box 437  
Hazen ND 58545

Year 2022

PAY TO THE ORDER OF **You! Our Awesome WRT Member!** \$500

**Five hundred dollars and no/100--**

FOR **Being a Loyal Member**

WRT

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## ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

WRT knows how vital access to reliable communications is to everyday life. We believe it is important to help connect those who can't afford service. WRT participates in Affordable Connectivity Program, Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline, Toll Limitation, Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up assistance programs.



**LIFELINE:** Assistance program for qualifying low-income subscribers who are not already receiving a Lifeline discount from another provider. Lifeline provides a monthly service discount on eligible telephone or eligible broadband service. By applying for and receiving the Lifeline discount.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible for Lifeline, an applicant or subscriber, one of their dependents, or their household must participate in one or more of the following programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly Food Stamps); Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; or Veterans & Survivors Pension Benefit. Individuals whose household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are also eligible for Lifeline assistance.

Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits also available.

**TRIBAL LIFELINE & TRIBAL LINK UP:** Additional support is available to those qualifying individuals living on Tribal Lands. Tribal Lifeline/Link Up provides additional service discounts, and in addition to the previously cited programs, for those individuals residing on Tribal Lands, participation in the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance program, Tribal Head Start, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations or Tribal TANF qualifies them for this support. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program.

**VERIFICATION:** Applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. Lifeline is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of eligible telephone or broadband service. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Call Lifeline Support (toll-free) at 1-800-234-9473, go to [www.checklifeline.org/lifeline](http://www.checklifeline.org/lifeline) or contact your local WRT office. WRT is an equal opportunity provider.

**AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM:** The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford internet service. The Affordable Connectivity Program provides: Up to \$30/month discount for broadband service; and Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands. It is limited to one monthly service discount per household. Members eligible for Lifeline may also qualify for ACP. For more information on the ACP, please call 877-384-2575 or go to [www.fcc.gov/ACP](http://www.fcc.gov/ACP)

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501  
605-773-3201

North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0485  
701-328-2400



*Note: Search results are based on program enrollment and information provided by the companies. The search results may include a company listed in your area that may not provide service to your address. Also, the search results might not show every company that is near you. A company may still offer Lifeline and/or ACP service even if it is not on the list. Please contact the company to confirm if they offer Lifeline or the ACP service for your address.*

## Companies near 57601

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

### Types of Service:

**Fixed Lifeline Service:** Lifeline home phone or Internet service

**Mobile Lifeline Service:** Lifeline mobile phone or Internet service

**ACP Home Internet:** ACP home Internet service

**ACP Mobile Internet:** ACP mobile Internet service

Showing 25 of 49 companies



Print List

Download List:



Company Name	Phone	Type of Service ▲	State
West River Telecommunications Cooperative	701-748-2211	ACP Home Internet	SD
Fidelity Cablevision, LLC	800-392-8070	ACP Home Internet	SD
CONSOLIDATED TELCOM	701-483-4000	ACP Home Internet	SD
CenturyLink or Quantum Fiber	866-642-0444	ACP Home Internet	SD
SWA Connect, LLC	866-350-0222	ACP Home Internet	SD



Company Name	Phone	Type of Service ▲	State
Clear Wireless, LLC	888-341-3471	ACP Home Internet	SD
West River Cooperative Telephone Company	605-244-5213	ACP Home Internet	SD
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	844-737-2700	ACP Home Internet	SD
EARTHLINK, LLC	888-327-8454	ACP Home Internet	SD
Maxsip Telecom Corporation	866-629-7471	ACP Home Internet	SD
Viasat	855-463-9333	ACP Home Internet	SD
Culture Wireless	404-254-6236	ACP Home Internet	SD
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company	402-632-4321	ACP Home Internet	SD
Lingo	866-405-4646	ACP Home Internet	SD
Verizon Wireless	800-922-0204	ACP Home Internet	SD
Verizon Wireless	800-922-0204	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Clear Wireless, LLC	888-341-3471	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Infiniti Mobile	214-323-8000	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Boomerang Wireless, LLC	866-488-8719	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Easy Wireless	877-476-3451	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Life Wireless	888-543-3620	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
NewPhone Wireless, LLC	855-204-3667	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Excess Telecom, Inc.	800-615-0898	ACP Mobile Internet	SD



Company Name	Phone	Type of Service ▲	State
AT&T Mobility LLC	866-986-0963	ACP Mobile Internet	SD
Valley FiberCom	605-437-2615	ACP Mobile Internet	SD

Show  records/page

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If you want to see more companies, see the list of companies in SD.

## Tell Us What You Think

We will continue to update this tool, so please check back often. If you have any comments or see something wrong – or if you are a company that needs to add or update your Lifeline or ACP information, email us at [LifelineProgram@usac.org](mailto:LifelineProgram@usac.org) or [ACProgram@usac.org](mailto:ACProgram@usac.org).

## More About the Data

The Companies Near Me tool is powered by USAC's Open Data initiative. This initiative allows the public to explore and analyze information submitted by universal service program participants and ACP participants.