

MORTON COUNTY News Journal

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Wednesday, November 5, 2025



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A YOUNG PAW PATROL fan enjoys meeting real police officers at the Mandan Trunk-or-Treat event.

photo | Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg

Under the hood of Mandan PD's Trunk-Or-Treat

By Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg

brendan.r@gspublishing.net

Trick-or-treating is a staple of Halloween Night, but it certainly isn't without its risks, and there are plenty of dangers that both children and their parents have to worry about during their candy crusades. Thankfully for those who want to celebrate while staying safe, there is an alternative that may leave both parties satisfied: trunk-or-treat events, just like the one that took place in Mandan on October 31.

As opposed to the Halloween tradition, trunk-or-treats take place in broad daylight, and are set up in large open areas such as parking lots. Rather than deal with the constant door knocking or leave their candy outside for anyone to take, adults who participate in the event simply hand out treats from the trunks of their cars to children who attend. To parents and law enforcement officials alike, these serve as a safe alternative to trick-or-treating that doesn't pose as many risks, which is what led the Mandan Police Department to hold one of their own.

"Nationally," said Captain Chris Miller with the MPD, "trunk-or-treats have been creeping into the public eye for safety officials in recent years. The Mandan Police Department is no different. The ability to take kids out in broad daylight and controlled spaces has really given Halloween a new look, and I think if it's both safe and fun, there's really no reason not to embrace it."

According to Miller, there are many reasons that would encourage people to look towards trunk-or-treat as a viable replacement for nighttime home visits. In addition to the threats that come with darkness, heavy costumes, and massive crowds, North Dakota's very nature during the fall and winter can make the process of hunting for sweets even more dangerous, making the trunk-or-treat an even more preferable option for those unwilling to let their children take the risk.

"Kids are usually wearing dark clothing on Halloween night," said Miller. "They usually trick-or-treat when it's dark out, which puts them in danger of being hit by cars on narrow residential streets. Here in North Dakota, it gets dark early, so the

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New-Salem Almont Holstein Drama team performance on Friday

By Richard Mendoza

mcnjreporter@gspublishing.net

New Salem-Almont's high school drama team are hard at work rehearsing for their performance at the regional competition, which takes place next Wednesday, November 12. Originally rehearsing "Brian the Comet" by Emily Hageman, NSA drama team director Laura Muth says the team will now perform "The Blind Spot" by Steven Stack. Muth described the change as one that would allow her team to better rehearse in practice because the characters are not as interwoven within the script as in "Brian the

Comet".

The story will follow the character of Luke, a high school student who struggles with difficult life issues and is overcome by feelings of inadequacy and depression, eventually making a life-ending decision. Luke is played by freshman Bentley Quissell. Quissell described Luke as a major support person for those in his life and one who attempts to help when and where he can but also someone who is "getting kicked in the ribs by life a little bit."

Those around the character of Luke, including his best friend Katie, played by senior Shelby Kalvoda, must deal with the repercussions of Luke's decision and the role they played in that decision. Kalvoda described her character as someone who also struggles with a lot of issues in their background life and needs to come to terms with the decisions made by Luke and themselves.

Quissell and Kalvoda shared that building chemistry for an on-stage performance together was not a difficult task because the two of them are outgoing people and have been friends in and out of the program for a while.

"We are friends, but

SEE PLAY | PAGE 6

City of Almont awarded million-dollar grant

By Richard Mendoza

mcnjreporter@gspublishing.net

The City of Almont has been awarded \$1 million in funds from the North Dakota Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) to support vital infrastructure, public safety and accessibility projects.

The October 15 press release by the CDBG stated the program received \$10 million in funding requests for the 2025 fiscal year. A little over \$3 million was awarded to five small-town ND communities, including Almont.

Award amounts were capped at \$1 million for recipients according to CDBG Project Manager Tonya Forderer.

Forderer explained that because there were \$10 million in project requests submitted from around the state, the decision to select from those requests and only provide \$3 million in awards was difficult. "It's really hard to narrow it [\$10 million in funds] down to only be able to award out to just a couple of projects," Forderer said. "Their [requests] are all worthy, necessary projects."

Applicant requests were provided to the CDBG committee and scored on a scale of zero to 400, with requests

scored on how they adhere to requirements. According to Forderer, applicants must apply for an eligible activity project and meet the national objective of being a low-to-moderate income percentage community. Funding is then provided by the CDBG for activity projects where a percentage of residents fall under the low-to-moderate income threshold.

"51% or more of a communities resident household income needs to be no more than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI)," Forderer said. In the city of Almont's case, approximately 58% of the CDBG funds would benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the area.

Forderer later said that because Almont scored high based on meeting the program's requirements, the city was eligible to receive full funding. She also shared Almont had not received any project money from the CDBG since 2009 and had made it clear in their request that in-town projects were reaching critical priority.

Almont city auditor Lynne Jacobson shared that much of the city's infrastructure, mainly utilities and transportation, are beginning to

SEE GRANT | PAGE 2



photo | Jerod Klabunde, Moore Engineering

ONE OF THE MOST URGENT issues needing to be addressed within the City of Almont is aging pipes. Pictured is a pipe that was broken and repaired in 2022.

New Salem Trick-or-Treat Events



ELM CREST MANOR very quickly became packed with children and families who came by to trick or treat.



LOCAL NEW SALEM YOUTH get a couple shots up at a basketball mini-game at the Trick or Treat Main Street After-Party.



NEW SALEM'S VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT made an appearance on Main Street and handed out candy to trick or treaters!



ROBERT GRADE hands out candy to a local New Salem girl inside the Metropolitan Hotel.



Grant

Continued from page 1

reach the end of their usefulness due to aging. Jacobson highlighted that the water and sewage lines along with the city's lift station need addressing, and that their water tower will also soon need to be replaced. "Everything is getting old. We're just at a point where things need to start getting replaced," Jacobson said.

While the \$1 million will help begin making necessary improvements in the city, Jacobson knows not every need will be met and that more funding is required. "We're going to have to do these projects a little at a time. Obviously, we won't get funding to do the whole town at one time, so we're just going to have to have some public meetings and [obtain] input from our engineer and our citizens to see where our greatest need is going to be," Jacobson explained.

Jerod Klabunde, Project Manager of Moore Engineering, shared that the city of Almont was provided with an engineering report on their sanitary sewer system, water system and streets in 2022. Klabunde added that the report was provided to help the city identify infrastructure issues and prioritize repairs. The most urgent issues found within the city according to Klabunde were related to aging pipes.

"The city has 17 blocks of asbestos cement pipe water mains from 1958. Pipes of this age and type get brittle, and communities typically experience more frequent water main breaks," Klabunde said. "Brittle pipes are difficult and expensive to repair. [Breaks] also occur unexpectedly, often times during winter months."

With the lack of business and residents, the city of Almont will continuously deal with issues related to fund-

ing. "We're kind of at the mercy of getting these grants from the government and other areas. We all know we're not going to be able to do it all at one time with the costs," Jacobson said. "Hopefully we can get a lot of grants in-town so that we can take the burden off our citizens."

Almont will still need to fill out a full application before the \$1 million is made available to the city according to Forderer, who likened this next process as "extra paperwork." A public notice recently released by the city stated that an application for the \$1 million will be sent to the CDBG to replace "four blocks of water main, sanitary sewer main, and roadway infrastructure to provide reliable drinking water distribution and wastewater collection service" within the city. Once this application is sent in December, funds will soon be released, and the city can begin focusing on tackling their needs.

Jacobson said that the plan is to begin working on addressing projects in 2026. "We're hoping to be able to start something in the spring depending on what our engineers tell us as far as being able to get some stuff put out on bids. There are environmental studies and different things that will probably have to be done prior to the [bids], but we're hoping that we could start within this next year," Jacobson stated.

Almont residents will have a chance to voice their opinions and ask questions on the application at a public hearing on November 19, 2025, at 7:30 p.m., at the Almont City Hall. Written comments are also accepted and must be received by December 3, 2025 at the City Hall.

FOR RENT

Elm Crest Assisted Living Apartment

The true success of Elm Crest Assisted Living comes in the fellowship of being around and enjoying the company of others, but having the opportunity to be as independent as you wish. Apartments are one or two bedrooms are are very spacious. **They are complete apartments with a kitchen, living room, and an extra-large bathroom with sit-down safety showers.** Rent is month-to-month, only a 30-day notice is required when vacating. Two apartments are Medicaid eligible for those under financial assistance.

The following are included in the basic monthly rent (the telephone is the only non-covered monthly service):
All utilities including Cable TV • Noon meal provided 7 days a week
Use of laundry facilities at no charge • Garbage removal
All maintenance, lawn care, and snow removal • Use of community room
Window blinds • Resident responder system for your safety
½ hour of housekeeping per week.

It is our goal to allow you to be as independent as safely possible; however, when you are ready for additional services, we are here to help. When services are needed, we will work with you to put a plan in place to assist in better coordinating your care. Elm Crest Manor Assisted Living has nursing staff on-call 24 hours per day through Elm Crest Manor. Elm Crest Assisted Living is for individuals 60 years of age or older.

For more information about Elm Crest Assisted Living, visit our website at elmcrestmanor.com or you can reach administrator **Carrie Zazeski** at 843-7526 or email at elmcrestadm@westriv.com.

An application must be completed in order for your name to be placed on our waiting list. Elm Crest Assisted Living is owned and operated by the Peace Church of New Salem, North Dakota. It is a smoke-free environment.

THE NEW SALEM AUDITORIUM was decorated for a spooky halloween after-party hosted by the New Salem Merchants Club.

For more photos visit our Facebook page!

Duppong's Inc.

SERVICE TECHNICIAN

We are accepting applications for a Service Technician. Farm equipment dealership or farm background experience is required. Applicant will have basic knowledge of engines, drivetrain, electrical, hydraulic, and air conditioning. Applicant must have the ability to read and understand service manuals. Various equipment training will be provided by the company. We offer competitive wages, health insurance, 401k, dental, and other employee benefits.

Duppong's Inc. has been in business over 40 years specializing in hay and grain handling agricultural equipment.

Interested applicants should apply in person or submit resume to:

Duppong's Inc.

www.duppongsinc.com
PO Box 640, Highway 49 East
Glen Ullin, ND 58631
Or call 701-348-3911
Or email: duppongsinc@hotmail.com

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P.O. Box 416
New Salem, ND 58563
701-843-7567

320 1st Ave. NW
Mandan, ND 58554
701-207-1379

mcnjournal@gspublishing.net

Jill M. Friesz..... Publisher

Ann Estvold Managing Editor

Brendan Rodenberg Reporter

Richard Mendoza Reporter

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EDITORIAL
Trick or Treat

Halloween has come and gone and I think I'm at least a couple pounds heavier from indulging on the tasty treats of the season.

While I loved Halloween as a kid – who doesn't like to dress up and pretend to be someone else? I

think I like it more as an adult. I love to see the excitement on the kids' faces when they extend their arms and shout out "trick or treat". Since one of my job titles is "the lady who takes pictures," I have the opportunity to visit with each kid as they stop by to have them strike a pose and tell me what they are. Admittedly, I'm getting to the age where I have no idea what cartoons kids watch and what 60% of the kids are talking about. But they are excited and full of smiles when they are posing for the camera, and I love every minute of it.

Since we live out in the country and it's been roughly 25 years since any kids have come knocking on our door looking for candy,



Jill M. Friesz

I am particularly happy area communities have all gotten on board with Halloween activities like Trunk or Treat. It's a great way to keep the kids safe, allow them to walk a couple blocks or around the community center to

experience the holiday. I wish there would have been something like that when our kids were young. I distinctly remember stuffing the kids in their car seats, driving a block, unbuckling them, unloading everyone from the car, to stop at house for a piece of candy... again and again and again. Of course, I wouldn't trade the memories I made with the kids and the pure joy on their faces when they got a treat, or terror on their face when a friend answered the door in a pig mask. I am just thanking communities to making it easier for families to enjoy Halloween in a safe and fun manner.

I hope you all enjoyed your favorite goodies!

THE WORLD around us

World Series

These Dodgers took their repeat bid to the limit – Game 7 of the World Series against a talented [Toronto Blue Jays](#) team, down to their final two outs and looking for all the world like those three-peating [New York Yankees](#) from 1998-2000 would maintain their status in the baseball pantheon. The final series score was Dodgers 5, Blue Jays 4.

Nigerian Terrorists

More than 7,000 Christians had been killed in Nigeria during the first 220 days of 2025, a civil-society watchdog said. This is an average of 35 killings a day, according to the recent report published by the Nigeria-based human-rights NGO International Society for Civil Liberties and the Rule of Law (Intersociety). The violence has displaced at least 12 million Christians since 2009, according to Intersociety. That year marked the start of Boko Haram's insurgency to establish a caliphate in Nigeria and the broader Sahel.

Afghanistan Earthquake

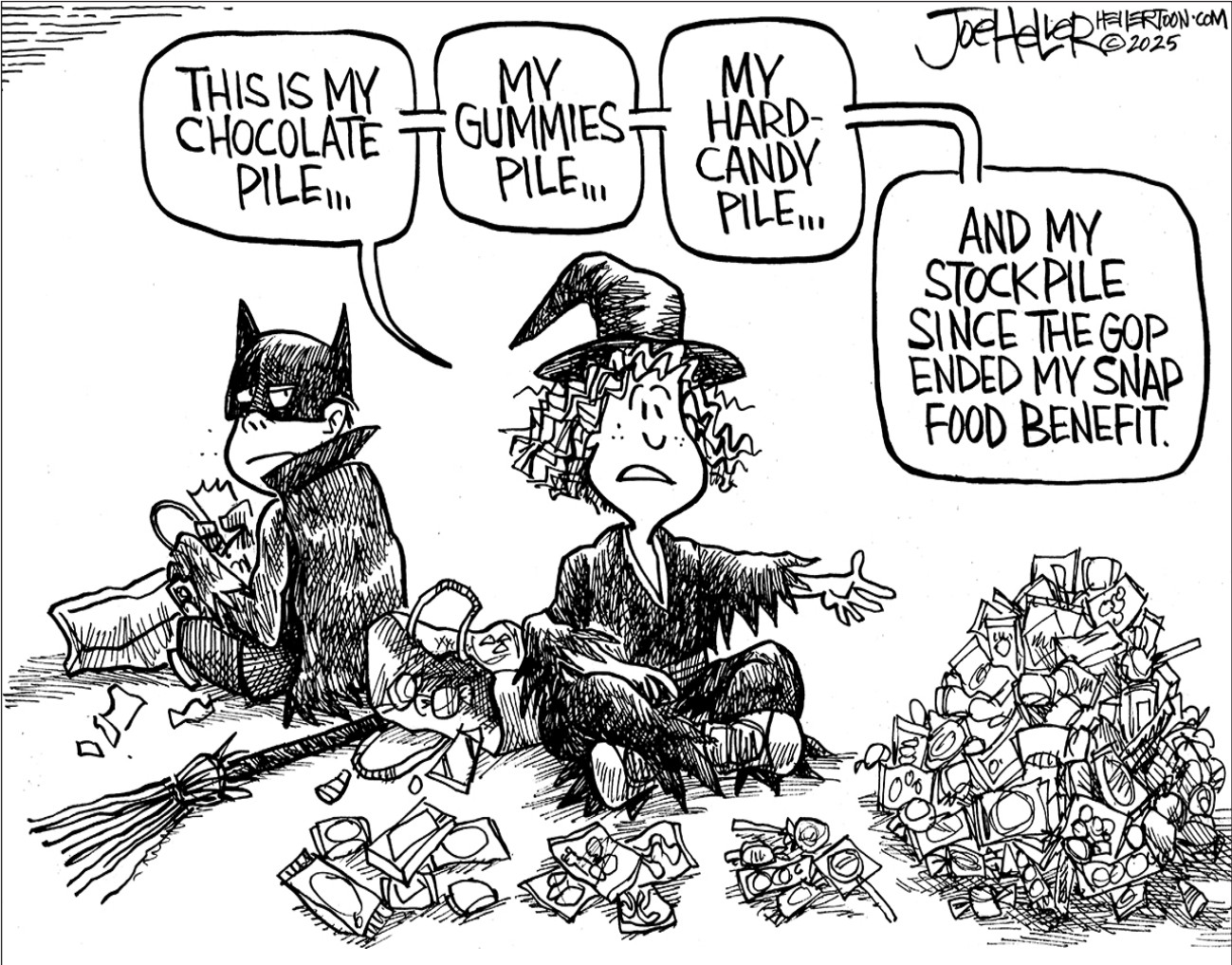
At least 20 people have died after an earth-

quake struck northern Afghanistan, local authorities say, with the toll expected to rise as rescue efforts continue. Hundreds have also been left injured, local officials told the BBC. The earthquake struck near Mazar-e-Sharif, one of the country's largest cities that is home to about 500,000 people, at around 01:00 local time on Monday.

Hurricane Melissa

Hurricane Melissa brought devastation and death to the Caribbean as it tore through the region as one of the most powerful Atlantic storms in more than 150 years. Torrential downpours and forceful winds unleashed widespread destruction along the storm's path in Jamaica, Cuba and the Bahamas. At least 30 people have died, though the full toll of the catastrophic storm may take days or weeks to be determined. As the hurricane headed toward Bermuda early Thursday, emergency officials in countries along Melissa's path have begun to pick up the pieces – clearing roads to reach isolated communities in need of relief.

**This column aims to document the world around us, preserving significant moments in history for future generations.*



LITTLE PASTURE ON THE PRAIRIE
The Art of Staying Still

Two weekends ago, I suddenly had the idea that we should go camping in the pasture. This is an idea I regularly have in late autumn, but usually don't act upon. I'm sure it's because after the first deep frost, the reality of what's coming settles in, but it's already too cold to camp comfortably. Still, it's only going to get colder from now until May, so there's a very real sense of urgency.

Unexpectedly, when I brought it up this year, the kids didn't think I was totally crazy, and agreed to join. The Man of the Ranch, deep in the throes of his busiest and most stressful season, declined but was happy to have a quiet night to himself.

Tucked into the teardrop camper—which is basically just a bed on wheels, and really isn't big enough for an adult and two medium-sized children, plus the thousand blankets I packed because I was worried we would get cold—we lay snuggled together with the door thrown wide open, outlining the sparkly stars above the dark grass. And the next morning, we watched the sun rise the same way. It was perfect. So perfect, in fact, I drove back out the next night after putting the kids to bed and slept there by myself. I did the same thing this weekend.

When I was a touring musician, I once spent a few weeks on the road with a bluegrass band full of hippies. They'd set up the tour—I was just the opener—and I didn't fully know what I was

getting myself into. We traveled from Minnesota all the way down to the Carolinas and back, weaving our way through mountains and meadows, playing mostly traditional venues, with a few notable surprises. It was early April, still cold up north, but fully spring by the time we made it to Kentucky, where we played a show on the front porch of a ramshackled farmhouse. The farmhouse was also where we were supposed to spend the night, but there wasn't much room inside, so I slept in a tent in the front yard. The farmers served us beer and brats, and they had a pig roast for concert attendees in full view of the pig pen where the roasting pig's siblings happily shuffled and snorted beneath the shade of towering oak trees.

I was a city kid. A conscientious vegetarian. I'd once spent a whole summer in a tent, traveling across the US, so I was no stranger to sleeping outside, but I was a stranger to every single aspect of farm life. When I woke up under those oak trees in Kentucky, full of a peace I had never experienced before, I earnestly wondered if I could find a way to never sleep inside again.

I didn't find a way that year, but we made it back to Minnesota to watch a second spring

unfold, and I was alive to that unfolding in a way I had never been before.

And I also started to think I might not be such a city kid after all. So now, after an adulthood of hard travel, I'm trying to think of a word for the kind of

pilgrimage that requires you to stay instead of go. A word for the kind of journey that doesn't cross rough, unfamiliar terrain in search of wisdom, but reawakens us to the grandeur of ev-

eryday life—the wisdom inherent in our own bodies and the body of the land that surrounds us.

The word "Pilgrimage" is derived from the latin root "pelegrinus," or traveller, and "agri" for land (the same root as we use for "agriculture.") The best I've come up with for my new word is: Still-grimage, a practice that requires you to stay still, to be present to the wind and the weather of your own front yard, or the park down the street, or the east pasture, with its lone cottonwood, almost leafless now, but still singing to the constellations as they slowly dance overhead.



Eliza Blue

MORTON COUNTY
News Journal
All LOCAL.
All the time.

Question of the Week
What Halloween candy do you eat first?

Candy	Count
Candy bars	32
Suckers	12
Gummy Bears	9
Reese's PB cups	28

Next week's question...
What is your favorite part of deer hunting season?

Option	Count
A. Thrill of the chase	12
B. Time with friends & family	10
C. Enjoy nature	8
D. Delicious venison	10

Total Responses: 81

Submit answer to:
jill@gspublishing.net or answer on our Facebook page.
This is a weekly feature seeking public opinion. It is not a scientific poll.

A Look Back... 25 Years Ago



NEW SALEM HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL John Lynch instructs students on safety procedures during the spring-like storm last Wednesday which produced as many as ten tornadoes, six of which touched down. Students at NSHS were moved to the inner hallways to wait until the tornado threat was over.

New Salem Journal

Sirens Send Many To Their Basements

What a difference a week can make! Last Wednesday, a frenzy of tornadoes threatened the area, while farther west, winter storm warnings were being aired, and this week the threat was of the first winter snowstorm—that's North Dakota! During the afternoon last Wednesday, ten funnel clouds were spotted in and around Bismarck, a half dozen of those turning into all-out tornadoes which came to the grounds, including one spotted just three miles east of New Salem. Last Wednesday's scare began about midafternoon when

three tornadoes touched down in the north part of Bismarck with other reports following. At around 2:30 p.m., CT, Bismarck mayor Bill Sorensen declared a state of emergency and requested no travel in the city as sirens alerting residents sounded. Students were held at school until given an all-clear from weather spotters and city officials. As the spring-like storm left the Bismarck-Mandan area, a tornado was reported three miles east of New Salem, touching down and swirling grass, dirt, and some debris around, but causing no damage. Students in New Salem schools were also

held, with high school students gathering in the high school band room and hallways. West River Head Start students remaining at the school were taken to Security First Bank to wait out New Salem in a downpour of rain mixed with hail and high winds which lasted 15-20 minutes. The staff at Elm Crest Manor was aware of the impending bad weather and followed their procedure, which involves evacuating all residents to the central hallway area of the home in front of the nurses' station and offices and between the east and west fire doors. As always, the New Salem Volunteer Fire Department also kept the staff at the home and schools posted as to the position of the storm and what could be expected and when the danger was over. A total of 42 homes were reported damaged in Bismarck, while just one injury was reported.

New Salem Man Charged In Son's Death

Leonard Randall, age 44, of New Salem, is facing a charge of felony negligent homicide, and other charges, following an October 20 accident which claimed the life of his 7-year-old son, Jason Matthew Randall. Randall was arrested Tuesday, October 21, and a cash bond

of \$10,000 was set in Morton County District Court Wednesday by South Central District Judge Tom Schneider. A witness to the accident reported that Randall's car was weaving when he was driving north on Highway 31. At one point Randall overcorrected, and the car rolled. Matthew Randall was thrown from the vehicle. The accident occurred six miles north of New Salem. Randall is being charged with driving under the influence as well as driving while his license was suspended or revoked and driving without liability insurance, the last two charges both misdemeanors. Randall had informed Judge Schneider that he is on probation in North Carolina for a past DUI offense and served time in jail in Illinois for burglary. Randall, who has lived in New Salem with his wife and children for the last five or six months and is a dairy worker, previously lived in Arizona where he made a living selling firewood at flea markets. Judge Schneider set the cash bond at \$10,000, saying Randall is a possible flight risk because he does not have family here and has no strong ties to the community.

New Salem Sue sign upgraded



NEW SALEM LIONS CLUB members Keith Olson and Dan Klug stand alongside local contractor Joshua Hoesel of Hoesel Constructions as the finishing touches are placed on the new and improved Salem Sue Sign on I-94.

photo | submitted photo



MORTON MANDAN PUBLIC LIBRARY visitors got to meet a box turtle from the Dakota Zoo on Wednesday, October 29 as part of the library's ZooBookafoo fall Storytime event. The library offers programs for all ages from kids to adults. MMPL is wrapping up their fall programming to prepare for the holiday season. During Mandan's Holiday Lights on Main, which runs from November 27 to January 10, the library will be open until 7:00 p.m. on Fridays. For more information about the library and upcoming events visit their website or Facebook page.

photo | Ann Estvold

JOB OPPORTUNITY

In-Home Caregiver Wanted
Schedule: 5 days/week, 5 hours/day
Pay: \$20+ per hour (depending on care level)
Ideal candidate has experience in acute, long-term, rehab, home care, or hospice

Email: (prisentik@gmail.com) for more details

Taylor Schmitt
PHOTOGRAPHY

701-516-7209

taylorsschmittphotography1@gmail.com
Sports • Seniors • Events • Families • Couples •
Real Estate • Concerts • and more!



Recipe: Sweet Alabama Pecan Bread

From the kitchen of: Joy Zimmerman

Ingredients:

- 2 C. all-purpose flour
- 1 C. white sugar
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- ½ tsp. baking soda
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 C. pecans, chopped
- ¾ C. buttermilk
- ½ C. vegetable oil
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. almond extract

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease and flour a 9x5-inch loaf pan, then line with pan with parchment paper. In a mixing bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt and stir together. Add in the pecans. In a separate bowl, whisk together the buttermilk, oil, eggs, and extracts until combined. Gradually pour the wet ingredients into the dry mixture. Stir gently until just combined - don't over mix. Pour batter in the pan. Smooth the top with a spatula. Bake for 50-60 minutes until done - testing with a toothpick. Let cool in the pan for 15 minutes. Then transfer to a wire rack to cool.

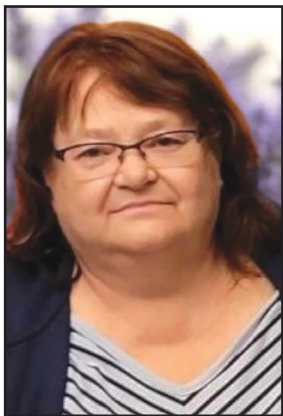
To submit a recipe, email to: djzimm@westriv.com
or mail: Joy Zimmerman, 7670 57th St. SW, New Leipzig, ND 58562

Thomas Eick, DO
Psychiatrist



He's right here.

Coal Country Community
Health Center



Gloria (Schaner) Cofer

Gloria (Schaner) Cofer, 73, of New Salem, passed away on October 26, 2025, surrounded by her loving family.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, October 31, 2025, at St. Pius V Catholic Church, New Salem, ND, with Father Stephen Folorunso as Celebrant. Burial will be at Graceland Cemetery in New Salem, ND.

Visitation will be held Thursday, October 30, 2025, from 5:00-6:00 pm at St. Pius Catholic Church in New Salem, with a Prayer Vigil at 6:00 pm. Visitation will continue at the church one hour prior to the service on Friday.

Gloria was born on March 22, 1952, to Leo

and Frances (Messer) Schaner in Mandan, North Dakota. She married Wayne Cofer on January 3, 1970, and the couple later divorced. Gloria was in the customer service industry most of her life, helping Wayne in their family car repair business, then later working at the local grocery store, and finally in the assisted care unit of the local nursing home until she retired.

Gloria was a devoted mother of four kids, and several fur babies: Baby, Punky, Sassy, Snickers, Taz, and many more. She loved working on crafting projects, bejeweling cookie jars, sewing Christmas stockings, or making jeweled holiday arrangements, especially with angels. She always enjoyed fixing puzzles and playing games- especially pinochle and rolling dice. In the summer, Gloria loved fishing and gardening, but her favorite time of year was Halloween. For many years, with the help of her family, she would turn her house/garage into a haunted house. Over 300 people would pass through the haunted house each year while she served her fa-

mous witch’s brew.

Gloria’s biggest highlight in her life was her family, and she always looked forward to spending time with them at gatherings and during the holidays. She loved her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren unconditionally.

Gloria will be missed by family and friends. Children, Tammy (Joe) O’Mara, Butte, MT, Tracy (Carrie) Cofer, New Salem, ND, Jason Cofer, Richfield, MN, Renae (Tim) Bleth, New Salem, ND; grandchildren, Kayla (Cedric) Hewitt, and Brianna O’Mara, and Shelby & Trayson Bleth; Great-Grandchildren, Kesler O’Mara, Kayleyanna & Tanyon Hewitt. Gloria will also be missed by her sisters, Helen (Schaner) Oster, Viola (Schaner) Beehler, Darlene (Schaner) Stein, her brother, Lloyd Schaner and numerous nieces and nephews.

Gloria was preceded in death by her parents, ex-husband-Wayne Cofer, sister Rose Mary Schaner, and many fur babies.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials.

“It’s Pasta Time” wordsearch winners

Congratulations to the winners of the “Its Pasta Time” crossword puzzle featured in the October 8 paper.

Winners include- Jeannette Schaff of New Salem, Brenda Doll of New Salem, Vicki Olson of Almont, Vickie Melchior of Almont, Janet Gerving of New Salem, Yvonne Schmidt of Mandan, Allison Thiel of New Salem, Natalle Gappert of New Salem and Keith Olson of New Salem. Please come to our office in Mandan or New Salem to pick up your prize package.

The word search was presented by the North Dakota Wheat Commission to Celebrate National Pasta Month. Prize packages include a t-shirt, one box of Dakota Growers Pasta, cooking utensils, a tote bag and recipe card.

Event Calendar

November Western Plains Public Health Clinics

10 Immunizations at Western Plains Public Health in Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

12 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

13 Footcare at Glen Ullin Senior Center 12:30 p.m.-1:30p.m. Call 701-622-3591

13 Footcare at Hebron Senior Center 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Call 701-622-3591

17 Immunizations at Western Plains Public Health in Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

18 Footcare and Blood Pressure for Seniors 60 and Older at Elm Crest Manor, New Salem. 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

19 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

19 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Library Square in Mandan 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

24 Immunizations at Western Plains Public Health in Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

26 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Call 667-3370 for appointment.

Area Veterans Day Events

Flasher- Flasher school is hosting an event on Friday November 7 at the school gym. All Veterans are welcome to attend.

New Salem- Legion Post 91 with Elm Crest Manor is hosting a social on Tuesday November 11 at 2 p.m. in Elm Crest Manor. There will be a small ceremony to honor the Veterans of Elm Crest followed by a pie and ice cream social. The event is free and open to the public and family members.

Glen Ullin- Glen Ullin post #239 will be having a small program and flag folding ceremony on November 10th at the school. Another program will be held at the nursing home on the 11th.

Mandan- Mandan’s Legion will be participating in the Bismarck Veterans Day events.

Post 91 to hold meeting

American Legion Post #91 of New Salem will meet Sunday, Nov. 9 at the City Auditorium basement. Social and discussions will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by a meeting from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. All members and veterans are welcome to attend. Potluck is encouraged - or just come and eat.

Post 91 meets the second Sunday of every month.

18-year-old Mandan resident struck by train

By Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg
brendan.r@gspublishing.net

An 18-year-old from Mandan was killed after being struck by a train on the morning of Sunday, October 26.

According to a press release from the Mandan Police Department, at approximately 12:09 p.m., officers were called to assist a man who was struck by a BNSF train on tracks near Memorial Highway’s 2500 block. At the time of arrival, the victim was in critical condition- but succumbed to his injuries

after being transported to a local hospital.

The man was later identified as 18-year-old-Mandan resident Hoksila Runningbear. Although little is known about the events that led up to this incident, investigators are currently following up with witnesses to piece together Runningbear’s activity beforehand. A final report from the State Medical Examiner’s Office is also pending.

At the time of this article’s publication, the case is still considered active.

MORTON COUNTY Golden Age Menu

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6	TUESDAY NOVEMBER 11
Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Carrots, Fruit Cocktail	BBQ Ribs, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Pears
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7	WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12
Lemon Pepper Fish, Rice Pilaf, Broccoli, Peaches	Chili, House Salad, Crackers, Caramel Roll, Chilled Peaches
MONDAY NOVEMBER 10	
Chicken Fettucine Alfredo, Mixed Vegetables, Orange, Breadstick	

Call 701.663.6528 to have meals delivered to you if you are 60 or older

CORRECTIONS: In last week’s paper, the Glen Ullin-Hebron Bearcats were incorrectly referenced in our story on the New Salem-Almont Volleyball team as the Bobcats. In a separate story, Isaac Olin was also incorrectly noted as being a Senior at New Salem-Almont High School. Olin is a Junior. Reporter Richard Mendoza acknowledges his mistakes and apologizes for any confusion this may have caused our readers.

Have a meeting notice?
Email Us at
mcnjournal@gspublishing.net
to have it featured
in the community calendar

Church Directory

PEACE CHURCH
843-7376
Pastor Mark Hassler
peacechurchnewsalem.org
Sunday
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Wednesday
3:15 Sprouts
6:30 Bible Study

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pastor Marcy Dawson
Sundays 9:00 a.m. Worship

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod
Hannover, ND
Rev. Zelwyn Heide
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.
Midweek Worship
Sundays 8:30 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Bible Study

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Salem
Rev. Zelwyn Heide
Sundays 10:30 a.m. Worship

ST. PIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. Stephan Folorunso
Sundays 10:30 a.m. Mass
Thursdays 9:00 a.m. Mass
Fridays 9:00 a.m. Mass

CROSSWINDS COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Rev. Carl Black
Corner of 5th St. & Oak Ave.
Sundays 10:00 a.m. Worship
Wednesdays
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

ALMONT UNITED & SIMS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Bill Dodd
Sundays 10:00 a.m. Worship

ST. MARY QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. Stephen Folorunso
Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass

WORD OF LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH
843-8597
Rev. Gaylen Lynnich
Sundays 10:00 a.m. Worship

LIGHT OF THE PRAIRIE
400 Main Ave., New Salem
Pastor Alyssa Fitzgerald
Sundays 10:00 a.m. Worship

ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
348-3885
Pastor Tony Sifuentes
203 F St. S, Glen Ullin
pastorsifuentes@hotmail.com
Sundays 9:00 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School



photo | Richard Mendoza

PRACTICE Freshman Bentley Quissell and Senior Shelby Kalvoda, who play Luke and Katie respectively, practice their lines in the New Salem-Almont High School Library.

We always cover heavy topics that people normally don’t want to talk about,” Kalvoda said. “We’re really bringing out the New Salem image by pushing out the topics people don’t want to talk about.”

Quissell explained that discussing sensitive topics like the ones in this month’s play are incredibly important because many people don’t want to express themselves or been seen in a vulnerable way. “Everybody portrays themselves in a bit of a different way when they’re around certain people. Luke does this

throughout [the play]. It happens in real life. People change and they struggle with certain things,” he said.

Despite making a change in the play they will perform just a few weeks away from the regional competition, Muth says things have gone well in rehearsals. Even with some of her performers missing practice due to other activities, such as sports and FFA, Muth is confident in her team’s ability to perform well.

Emphasizing the dedication it takes to be in the drama team, Muth shared rehearsals usu-

ally run until 8 p.m. “We generally tend to rehearse in the evenings, usually [at] six o’clock. [Some] kids, they’re in school all day, then go to practice, then they come to rehearsal. They aren’t home from eight in the morning until eight at night,” Muth stated. “So, they have to be dedicated to [perform] and they have to love it, otherwise it’s too much.”

With the first performance of the play taking place in New Salem this Friday, November 7, Muth shared that the community performance is an opportunity for her performers to get those “first performance jitters” out in front of friends and families. “When we go to competition, they are more locked in because they know what the audience reacts to, and they’ve got down it so well,” Muth said.

Sharing that helping her students get over on-stage nervousness is her specialty, Muth tries to incorporate a bit of fun to relax her performers. “We play a lot of games... games that make you look

ridiculous. They get comfortable doing dumb things in front of each other and then they start having fun playing with it in rehearsal. Once an audience is out there, they’ve done dumb things so much that they just come out and [perform].”

The NSA Holstein Drama team will host their Community Performance at the New Salem City Auditorium Friday, November 7 at 7:00 p.m. A student-directed ensemble performance of “21 Guaranteed Ways to

Get Detention” by Ian McWethy will take place before the performance of “The Blind Spot”.

Full Cast List:
Bentley Quissell as Luke; Shelby Kalvoda as Katie; Bailey Maier as Grace; Sofia Young as Lydia, Maksim Nelson as Todd; Connar Van Iwaarden as Mark; Matthew Franciere as Will; Cloe Gniffke as Miss Rainor; Ensemble includes Deacon Blackburn; Kiera Simonson Gavin Ballensky-Selle

New Salem-Almont School Board Minutes

**NEW SALEM-ALMONT SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
JULY 22, 2025 6:00 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**

President John called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Feland, Lausch, Miller, Gilstad, Reiner Pletan, and John were present. Hoovestol joined the meeting via phone. Richard Mendoza of the Morton County News Journal was also in attendance. Superintendent Christopherson, Principal Bennet, and Business Manager Dukart also attended.

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lausch moved to dissolve the 2024-2025 School Board, seconded by Miller. All members voted “Aye.” The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Christopherson asked for nominations for School Board President for the 2025 2026 school year. Gilstad nominated Reiner-Pletan, followed by Miller nominating John. Nominations were closed. Lausch asked that the two nominees briefly share why they would like to be president. John spoke first, followed by Reiner-Pletan. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Hoovestol: Austin John
Reiner-Pletan: Monica Reiner-Pletan
Lausch: Monica Reiner-Pletan
John: Austin John
Miller: Austin John
Gilstad: Monica Reiner Pletan
Feland: Austin John
Austin John received four votes, and Monica Reiner-Pletan received three votes. Austin John was elected School Board President for the 2025-2026 school year. John called for Vice President nominations. Gilstad nominated Reiner-Pletan, with a second by Feland. With no other nominations, nominations were closed, and Reiner-Pletan was elected Vice

President.

It was moved by Reiner-Pletan and seconded by Lausch to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the June 16, 2025, regular board meeting and policy committee minutes, the June bills, and the June Financial Report. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

An update on the Post 91 Master Sgt. Mark McCowan Memorial was added to the agenda under New Business, item number 9.

In unfinished business, the second reading of policy ABAC on Virtual Learning was held. Miller made a motion to approve the policy, seconded by Lausch. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion passed.

The second reading of policy FFI Student Use of Personal Technology was held. Lausch made a motion to approve the policy, seconded by Gilstad. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion passed.

Board Member Roles and Responsibilities were provided. No discussion was had. Reiner-Pletan made a motion to approve the following board appointments for the 2025-2026 school year, seconded by Gilstad.

Business Manager: Annie Dukart
Special Education Representative: Brian Christopherson
Homeless Liaison: Amanda Wald
Building and Grounds Committee: Reiner-Pletan, Feland, John
Transportation Committee: Feland, Hoovestol, John
Finance Committee: John, Lausch, Reiner-Pletan
Personnel: Lausch, Miller, Reiner-Pletan
Negotiations: John, Lausch, Reiner-Pletan
Policy: Gilstad, Lausch, Miller
Curriculum: Gilstad, Lausch, Miller
HRCTE: Reiner-Pletan

Dollars for Scholars: Gilstad, Hoovestol
All members voted, “Aye.” Motion passed.

Miller moved for John to be the Designated Lunch Official. Lausch seconded. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Gilstad motioned for Security First Bank to be appointed the official bank depository. Feland seconded the motion. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Reiner-Pletan moved, and Miller seconded, that the Morton County News Journal be the district’s official newspaper. All members voted, “Aye.” Motion passed.

Gilstad moved, and Reiner-Pletan seconded authorization for Supt. Christopherson to be the representative and to receive and expend federal funds for the Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Title V programs. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

An open enrollment application was presented to the board. Miller made a motion to accept the open enrollment application, seconded by Feland. All members voted, “Aye.” Motion passed.

Reiner-Pletan made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Consolidated Application. Lausch seconded the motion. All members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Miller made a motion to authorize the Business Manager to destroy records no longer required by law to keep and any records that have no further administrative or business use to the school district. Gilstad seconded the motion. All members voted, “Aye.” Motion passed.

Supt. Christopherson presented the quarterly Pledge of Securities. Miller moved, and Feland seconded a motion to approve. All members present voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Supt. Christopherson pre-

sented the preliminary budget to the board. Discussion ensued. The board agreed, after reviewing the expenditures and revenue from 2024-2025 and the upcoming budget for 2025-2026, that the school district can reduce the miscellaneous mills by one mill as discussed last fall. Miller motioned to preliminarily levy 69 mills (approximately \$1,188,865.10) for the general fund, 1 mill (approximately \$17,229.93) for the tuition fund, 5 mills (approximately \$86,149.65) for the miscellaneous fund, and 10 mills (approximately \$172,299.29) for the building fund. Gilstad seconded the motion. The motion passed in a roll call vote with all members voting “Aye.” The official budget meeting will be held Monday, September 15, 2025, @ 7:00 p.m. in the New Salem-Almont High School Conference Room. Copies of the preliminary budget are available in the high school office.

Miller updated the board on the Post 91 Master Sgt. Mark McCowan Memorial. The memorial is on track to be completed in the Spring of 2026 and dedicated on Memorial Day 2026.

There were no committee reports.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared updates on summer projects and highlighted important upcoming dates as back-to-school time nears.

Principal Bennett highlighted preparations for the upcoming school year. She updated the board on kindergarten boot camp and in-service topics for teachers.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2025, @ 6:00 p.m. in the High School Conference Room.

Feland made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lausch. All members voted, “Aye.” The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Published November 5, 2025

Mandan Public Schools

Monday, November 3

Lewis and Clark Spirit Day

Elementary Breakfast- chocolate chip muffin top, cereal, cinnamon toast, fruit, juice, milk

Elementary Lunch- crispito, mac n' cheese, baby carrots, red pepper strips, fruit, Un-crustable, string cheese

Middle/ High School Breakfast- banana split boat, Dutch waffle, oatmeal, cereal, toast, benefit bar, juice, fruit, milk

Middle/ High School Lunch- popcorn chicken and breadstick, bbq pork sliders, corn, pizza, salad, sub sandwich

Invitational Band Festival

Concert in Mandan High School gym 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 4

Lewis and Clark PTO in Library

Elementary Breakfast-bagel bites, cereal, oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit, juice, milk

Elementary Lunch-sweet and sour chick, fried rice, corn, broccoli, fruit, fortune cookie, deli roll-ups, cubed cheese, Cheez-its

Middle/ High School Breakfast- frittata wrap, long john, oatmeal, cereal, toast, benefit bar, juice, fruit, milk

Middle/ High School Lunch-chicken and waffles, cheesy breadsticks, peas, hamburger and fries, salad, sub sandwich

Volleyball vs Jamestown at Mandan High School Sophomore A and B matches at 4:30 p.m. JV at 5:45 p.m. Varsity at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 5

Mary Stark school spirit day

Elementary Breakfast-McBrave biscuit, cereal, cinnamon toast, fruit, juice, milk

Elementary Lunch- chicken strips, tator tots, cucumber slices, fruit choices, rice Krispie treat, chicken ranch wrap

Middle/ High School Breakfast- McBrave biscuit, pancakes, oatmeal, cereal,

toast, benefit bar, juice, milk, fruit

Middle/ High School Lunch-chili and cinnamon roll, corn dog, green beans, pizza, salad, sub sandwich

Thursday, November 6

Elementary Breakfast-long john, cereal, oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit, juice, milk

Elementary Lunch- traveling taco, pintos with pizzazz, celery sticks, fruit, churro, pizza

Middle/ High School Breakfast- bagel bites, long john, oatmeal, cereal, toast, benefit bar, juice, fruit, milk

Middle/ High School Lunch-crispitos, traveling taco, potato wedges, sherbet, hamburger, salad, sub sandwich

Friday, November 7

Elementary Breakfast- French toast, cereal, cinnamon toast, fruit, juice, milk

Elementary Lunch- pizza, lettuce salad, cauliflower, fruit, cookie, flavored bread, sun seeds, yogurt

Middle/ High School Breakfast- breakfast pizza, yogurt and bagel, oatmeal, cereal, toast, benefit bar, juice, fruit, milk

Middle/ High School Lunch-pancakes, chicken sausage patty and scrambled eggs, McBrave biscuit, hashbrowns, pizza, salad, sub sandwich

Varsity Football Semi Finals TBA

Varsity Swimming Regional Tournament 4:30, diving prelims

Varsity Volleyball Regional Tournament play in game 6:00 p.m. at Mandan High School

Saturday, November 8

Varsity Swimming Regional Tournament 8:30 a.m. Mandan Aquatic Center

Sophomore A and B volleyball tournament at Mandan High School 9:00 a.m.

JV volleyball tournament at Mandan High School 9:00 a.m.

New Salem- Almont
Public Schools

Monday, November 3

Breakfast: Waffles, Cereal,
Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch: Goulash, Chicken
Tenders, Fruit, Veggies, Milk
PTO Food Drive (Students
Can Bring Non-Perishable
Food Items to Classrooms)
District 8 – Volleyball at Un-
derwood at 4:30 p.m.
9:00 a.m. – Jostens visiting
with the Juniors and Seniors

Tuesday, November 4

Breakfast: Egg Patty, Toast,
Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch: Chicken Fajitas, Rice,
Fruit, Veggies, Milk
5/6 – Boys Basketball vs.
Hazen at 5:30 p.m.
Concessions: Dollars for
Scholars

Wednesday, November 5

Breakfast: Donut, Cereal,
Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch: McRibs, Buttered
Noodles, Fruit, Veggies, Milk

Thursday, November 6

Breakfast: Muffin, Cereal,
Fruit, Juice, Milk
Lunch: Tacos, Fruit, Veggies,
Milk
5/6 – Boys Basketball at
Center at 5:00 p.m. – Bus
Leaves at 4:00 p.m.

Friday, November 7

Breakfast: Pancakes, Sau-
sage, Hashbrowns, Cereal,
Fruit, Juice, Milk
(Guest Chefs – Wear Orange)
Lunch: Chili Dogs, Chips,
Fruit, Veggies, Milk
7/8 – Girls Basketball at
Flasher at 6:00 p.m. – Bus
Leaves at 4:15 p.m.
One Act Play Performance:
Competition Show: The Blind
Spot
Younger Kids Skit: Guaran-
teed Ways to Get Detention
7:00 p.m. in the City Auditori-
um – Tickets \$5.00

Saturday, November 8

5/6 – Boys Basketball
Tournament at Flasher - Bus
Leaves at 7:30 a.m.
5th Grade Plays at 9:00 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m.
6th Grade Plays at 10:00 a.m.
at Noon
Semi Finals for Nine-Man
Football Playoffs

*MEALS SUBJECT TO
CHANGE WITHOUT
NOTICE*



New Salem-Almont
School Board Minutes

NEW SALEM-ALMONT
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025
6:00 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL
CONFERENCE ROOM

President John called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. John, Reiner-Pletan, Gilstad, Hoovestol, Lausch, and Feland were present. Miller attended via phone.
Superintendent Christopherson, Principals Olson and Bennett, and Business Manager Dukart were in attendance. Along with Richard Mendoza. All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
Reiner-Pletan moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the August 18 regular meeting, as well as bills and financial reports for August. Lausch seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.
One item was added to the agenda under new business: 3. Annual Fiscal Report.
There were no public comments.
In unfinished business, representatives from Kraus-Anderson presented the completed facility assessment report. Discussion was had. The building and grounds committee will meet before the next regular board meeting to discuss the report.
Reiner-Pletan made a motion to levy 69 mills (approximately \$1,188,865) for the general fund, 1 mill (approximately \$17,229) for the tuition fund, 5 mills (approximately \$155,069) for the miscellaneous fund, and 10 mills (approximately \$172,229) for the building fund. The motion was seconded by Lausch, a roll call vote was held, and all members voted, "Aye"

motion passed.
In new business, Supt. Christopherson presented the board with the School District Annual Compliance Report for approval. Lausch made a motion to approve, with a second by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.
Principals Bennett and Olson updated the board on state assessment status. Both schools are still waiting for results.
The Annual Fiscal Report was presented to the board for approval. Gilstad made a motion to approve, with a second by Lausch. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.
There were no committee reports.
In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared an update on things happening around the school. He provided an update on the community center committee. Supt. Christopherson also shared a reminder of the school's computer science and cybersecurity plan.
Principal Olson provided an update on state testing as well as how students are doing with returning to school and enrollment in online and college courses.
Principal Bennett shared the elementary is off to a good start. Things are going well with the transition to the combined 4th and 5th grade classes and settling into a new routine.
The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 20th at 6:00 pm in the high school conference room.
Lausch moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m., seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

Published November 5, 2025

New Salem-Almont
School Board Minutes

NEW SALEM-ALMONT
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2025 6:00 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL
CONFERENCE ROOM

President John called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. John, Reiner-Pletan, Gilstad, Hoovestol, Lausch, and Feland were present.
Superintendent Christopherson, Principals Olson and Bennett, and Business Manager Dukart were in attendance. Along with Richard Mendoza. All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
Reiner-Pletan moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the July 22 regular meeting and the transportation committee meeting, as well as bills and financial reports for July. Hoovestol seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.
There were no additions to the agenda or public comments.
In unfinished business, Supt. Christopherson updated the board on a few budget adjustments.
In new business, the transportation committee recommended that the board form an ad-hoc committee to explore the need for a new activity bus. The committee could consist of the transportation committee, the activity director, coaches, advisors, and other staff needed to discuss the needs of a new activity bus. Gilstad made a motion to allow the transportation committee to create an ad hoc committee to explore a new activity bus purchase. Hoovestol seconded the motion, all members present voted aye, motion passed.
Business Manager Dukart will research Certificates of Deposit (CDs) and present the information to the board for review and consideration.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared an update on professional development that was held during the first few days of staff being back in the building. He also provided an update on in-town bussing routes, limited gym space this fall due to events at the auditorium, the bus driver meeting held, and the annual highway patrol inspection of the buses that was done. Supt. Christopherson also shared that the completed facility assessment will be presented to the board during the next board meeting in September. He also provided an update on the Community Center Committee.
Principal Olson provided a demonstration and overview of the Yondr pouches students will be using to lock devices this year. He also shared an update on new staff at the high school and last minute preparations for the first day of school.
Principal Bennett shared that the elementary school is ready for the first day back to school, and they will have a welcome-back celebration in the gym for all elementary students. She provided the teachers with an overview of the new grading system and updated the board on other back-to school meetings held with teachers. She also shared that the Kindergarten Bootcamp held in early August was successful again this year. Principal Bennett thanked local organizations that donated supplies for back-to-school.
The next meeting is to be determined and will be announced as soon as the day is set.
Reiner-Pletan moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m., seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

Published November 5, 2025

What is Your Favorite Halloween Candy or Treat?

Mandan's Red Trail Elementary Kindergarten Classes

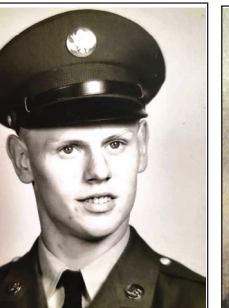
Ms. Hetzel's Class
Avianna B- gummy bears, Barrett B- gumballs, Parker B- Herseys , Haven B- Skittles, Marshall B- M&M's, Meah D- lollipops, Soren F- Skittles, Blakely F- lollipops, Maleigha H- peanut butter cup, Grayson H- Kit Kats, Dayne L- Sour Patch Kids, Lilli M- gummy bears, Max M- Skittles, Kaysen W- Kit Kats, Gavin W- Tootsie Rolls, Ava W- cotton candy, Oden Z- cotton candy

Mrs. Lingen's Class
Huxley B- chocolate, Xzander B- chocolate, Antonio C- Cookies and Cream Hershey's Bar, Carson E- cheese balls, Adeline E- Halloween fruit snacks, Quinn F- cotton candy, Madalyn G- Skittles, Lydia H- Starburst, Wyatt H- Halloween gum, Mila K- gushers, Waldemar K- gummy spaghetti noodle, Berkley K- cotton candy, Avani M- cotton candy, Oliver M- gummy worms, Cooper N- suckers, Braetyn R- cotton candy, Stella S- gummy Skittles, Nyellie W- cupcakes, Mrs. Lingen- Take 5

Mrs. Johnson's Class
Olivia A- ice cream, Phelan B- Skittles, Willow C- popsicle, Harper C- lollipop, Karlee F- lollipop, Antonio G- Pretzels, Maverick- Resse's Cup, Stella H- cotton candy, Kyrie M- cotton candy, Elizabeth M- chocolate, Reese O- ice cream sandwich, Axel R- carmel rolls, Mollie S- cotton candy, Roman S- cotton candy, Micah T- Starburst, Theo VB- Sour Patch Kids, Elbie Z- popsicle

VETERANS DAY

Honoring all who served

 Arlon Fuchs U.S. Navy Registration 5/2/1944	 Art Baumgartner U.S. Air Force	 Clarence M. Erhardt U.S. Army 1971-1972	 Dale R. Bateman U.S. Army 1976-1982	 David Sturn U.S. Navy 1975-1979	 Durwood Toepke U.S. Army 1956-1958	 Eckhart John Jacob Heid U.S. Army 1942-1946	 Gene Kreidt U.S. Army 1965-1974
 George Doll U.S. Army	 George F. Erhardt U.S. Army 1941-1943	 Gordonna Toepke U.S. Army 1956-1958	 Karl Riedel U.S. Army 1918-1919	 Larry L. Hargiss U.S. Army 1969-1970	 Loraine Lundstrom U.S. Army 1942-1943	 Loren Christian U.S. Army 1957-1960	 Mark Grove U.S. Army 1952-1954
 Meagan Miller U.S. Navy 1998-2008	 Melvin Rodenberg U.S. Army 1952-1954	 Raymond LeRoy Heid U.S. Navy 1945-1946	 Richard Cole U.S. Army National Guard	 Robert "Bob" Erhardt U.S. Army 1967-1972	 Ronald E. Dressler U.S. Army 1961-1964	 Todd Remington U.S. Air Force 1985 - 2011	 Tommy Hargiss U.S. Army 1942-1944
 Travis F. Bateman U.S. Army 2002-2008	 Truman Ness U.S. Army	 Randy Christian U.S. Army 1969-1971	 Ray Yanish U.S. Army 1969-1972	 Eugene Schaff U.S. Army 1953-1961	 Marlene H Christian U.S. Army 1964-1970	 Ingram Opp US Army 1954-1962	

 Thank You Veterans <i>we honor all who served</i> WRT www.westriv.com 748.2211	 CHS Southwest Grain Thank you for your service to our country Phone: (701) 843-7555 Web: chssouthwestgrain.com	 HONORING OUR VETERANS AND CELEBRATING THEIR BRAVERY, SACRIFICE, AND UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO OUR FREEDOM AND PEACE. Morton County News Journal 843-7567 mcnj@gspublishing.net www.gspublishing.net
 Thank you for your bravery, sacrifice, and dedication to our country! Curtis RUD OIL New Salem, ND 701.843.7508 5am - 11pm daily	 MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE A Touchstone Energy Cooperative	 Honoring Our Veterans Capital credit union Grow With Us Insured by NCUA

Treats

Continued from page 1

chance of an accident is even higher. That's definitely our largest concern this time of year."

During their event on Halloween night, representatives with the Mandan PD opened up their nearby parking lot and fully-decorated building for costumed kids, who gathered treats from the backs of vehicles brought in by multiple city organizations- including the Mandan Fire Department, Morton Mandan Public Library, and Eide Ford Mandan- all of whom rallied to help support the idea of providing a safe and fun Halloween celebration for the community.

"When we started out," said Miller, "it was just Morton County and the City of Mandan. But word gets around pretty fast in this area, so we had a lot of turnout from other groups willing to help out. The reception has always been great, and everyone's happy to lend a hand if it means helping out the local kids. We've got all sorts of first responders and local businesses

who've come out to support us."

Of course, this is not to say that just the children and their parents benefit from the arrangement. Miller notes that events like these are perfect ways to help introduce officers to the people they serve in a non-urgent situation, and in turn helps law enforcement get to know the public better. This creates a stronger bond between Mandan's staff and citizens, all while helping to celebrate one of the year's most beloved holidays.

"Seeing us in a different environment than usual is always nice," said Miller. "It's a lot like one of our Grill with a Cop events in that it gives us a chance to meet people face-to-face. A lot of times, we're only seen responding to calls for service from a small part of the community. It's good to introduce ourselves in a less formal way, and for people to know that we're people like anyone else. And, of course, to have a great and safe Halloween."



photo | Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg
A MEMBER of the Mandan Fire Department handing out candy during Trunk-or-Treat in Mandan.



photo | Richard Mendoza
A LINE begins to form as trick or treaters make their way down Main Street in New Salem.



photo | Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg
KLAYTEN AND KHLOE Peterson trick-or-treat at the Morton Mandan Public Library's bookmobile, where staff are also dressed up for Halloween.



photo | Richard Mendoza
RESIDENTS Residents at Elm Crest Manor handed out candy to local youth who came by to trick or treat.



photo | Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg
A FAMILY OF THREE, all dressed as the Pokemon Snorlax, seek out candy at Mandan's Trunk-or-Treat event.



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TUESDAY Street Taco \$2. ⁰⁰ Speedy Gonzalez \$10. ⁹⁹	FRIDAY Lunch Ranchero Cheese Steak \$12. ⁴⁹ Lindo Special \$19. ⁹⁹
WEDNESDAY Lunch Burrito Croqueta \$11. ⁴⁹ Chicken Fajitas \$17. ⁹⁹	SATURDAY Tacos Al Carbon \$13. ⁹⁹ Mixed Fajitas \$22. ⁹⁹

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-Avaline Hauge



photos | Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg
"It was brilliant how they used every room. The actors were spaced out perfectly, and it looks like people are really interested in seeing it come back. The acting was nice too, and it's cool to see how much of the community was involved."
-Twyla Boehm



"They obviously worked a long time on the special effects. The whole thing was fun, and you can tell everyone put in a lot of work. I'd love to see what they could do with even more people helping out."
-Shelley Hauge



"It's kind of obvious where some things are going to happen, but there's a lot of detail in every room, so that doesn't matter as much. I thought the whole experience was cool, even if I wasn't scared."
-Roland Wolf



"I really enjoyed the storyline they constructed. I think it'd be interesting to really add more of Mandan's history in or tell another story next year, but for what it was, this is a great first attempt."
-Stephanie Hauge

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BRAVES SENIOR #12 BRAIDEN BOSCH celebrates as Casper Holup (#7) pummels the final touchdown path for fellow senior Tayton Giggee (#62). **photo | Megan Holkup**

Braves battle hard in playoff loss to Fargo Davies

It was a tough and cold game in Fargo on Friday night as the Braves took on Fargo Davies in the opening round of the playoffs. Battling the chill and a strong opponent, the Braves managed to frustrate

Davies throughout much of the contest, keeping the pressure on with dynamic offensive plays and a relentless, hard-hitting defense. Though they didn't come away with the win, the Braves' intensity

and teamwork kept the Davies sidelines unusually quiet for most of the night, showing just how much heart this team brought to their postseason fight. The game ended in favor of Davies, 34-6.

Braves Swim and Dive tops Jamestown

The Braves Swim and Dive team competed against Jamestown on October 28. At the meet the athletes honored cancer warriors for which each of the events were dedicated to. Mandan won with a team score of 136. The next competition for the Braves is the Regional tournament on November 7 and 8 at the Mandan Aquatic Center.

Mandan vs. Jamestown
Mandan 136
Jamestown 50
200 Yard Medley Relay: first place- Ava Francis, Emma Masseth, Catherine Lindsey, Peyton Kienzle- 2:02.05; second place- Lynnea Jackson, Grace Goettle, Malayna Gerhardt- 2:09.26; fourth place- Grace Opolka, Lenora Thomas, Brianna Kitzmann, Jayda Starck- 2:31.78; did not place- Kylie Brew, Leigha Sarvis, Ryleigh Larson, DeLainis Kroh- 2:40.19
200 Yard Freestyle: first place- Corinne Lindsey- 2:15.50; second place- Lyn-

nea Jackson- 2:15.67; fourth place- Maddie Opolka- 2:28.60; did not place- Maddox Larson- 2:28.60, Lenora Thomas- 3:01.54, Carrie Bierman- 3:08.94
200 Yard Individual Medley: first place- Emma Masseth- 2:22.96; second place- Catherine Lindsey- 2:34.77; third place- Katelynn Kitzmann- 2:42.29; did not place- Brianna Kitzmann- 2:49.84, Ryleigh Larson- 3:07.37
50 Yard Freestyle: first place- Ava Francis- 26.61; fourth place- Malayna Gerhardt- 28.65; fifth place- Zoey Kienzle- 28.86; did not place- Grace Opolka- 30.36, Grace Goettle- 30.94, Jayda Starck- 33.08, DeLainis Kroh- 34.94
100 Yard Butterfly: first place- Catherine Lindsey- 1:04.80; third place- Katelynn Kitzmann- 1:18.17; fourth place- Maddie Opolka- 1:21.16; did not place- Cadence Erhardt- 1:25.54, Maddox Larson- 1:26.76
100 Yard Freestyle: first place- Peyton Kienzle- 1:00.60; third place- Malayna Gerhardt- 1:02.11; fourth place- Zoey Kienzle- 1:03.56; did not place- Brianna Kitzmann- 1:07.72, Leigha Sarvis- 1:14.52, DeLainis Kroh- 1:17.37
500 Yard Freestyle: first place- Corinne Lindsey-

6:05.51; fourth place- Jayda Starck- 7:12.21; fifth place- Carrie Bierman- 7:54.31
200 Yard Freestyle Relay: first place- Maddie Opolka, Lynnea Jackson, Zoey Kienzle, Corinne Lindsey- 1:54.90; second place- Katelynn Kitzmann, Maddox Larson, Ryleigh Larson, Peyton Kienzle- 2:03.24; fourth place- Kylie Brew, Ellie Graff, Olivia Beck, Julia Graff- 2:17.15
100 Yard Backstroke: first place- Emma Masseth- 1:04.94; second place- Ava Francis- 1:20.77; third place- Grace Goettle- 1:22.30; fourth place- Peyton Kienzle- 1:23.04; did not place- Ryleigh Larson- 1:44.45, Lenora Thomas- 1:45.13, Leigha Sarvis- 1:45.23
400 Freestyle Relay: first place- Ava Francis, Emma Masseth, Catherine Lindsey, Corinne Lindsey- 4:05.55; second place- Malayna Gerhardt, Grace Opolka, Katelynn Kitzmann, Maddie Opolka- 4:20.59; fourth place- Zoey Kienzle, Maddox Larson, Grace Goettle, Cadence Erhardt- 4:34.55; did not place- Jayda Starck, DeLainis Kroh, Carrie Bierman, Lenora Thomas- 5:26.75



MANDAN BRAVES SOPHOMORE QUARTERBACK KALE RINAS (#3) rushed through multiple Fargo Davies defenders during a run. **photo | Megan Holkup**

Braves Volleyball split matches with Minot North and Bismarck High

The Braves volleyball team took to the court on October 28 to play the Minot North Sentinels. All four Mandan teams won, 10B 2-0, 10A 2-0, JV 2-0 and Varsity 3-2. The Braves then traveled to Bismarck High School on the 30. The 10B and 10A teams won 2-0, JV lost 0-2 and Varsity lost 0-3. The Varsity team is now 7-10 in WDA play and 10-20 overall. The Braves play again on Friday, November 7 for a Regional Play-In Game against Williston.

10A- Mandan 2, Minot North 0
JV- Mandan 2, Minot North 0
Varsity- Mandan 3, MNHS 2
Mandan 25 20 25 17 15
Minot North 20 25 23 25 9

Kills- Jersey Hammes 12, Allyson Holzer 4, Anna Lyles 4, Kennedy Keller 7, Anna Claire Bugbee 14, Keya Condon 1, Aubrey Karsky 2
Blocks- Hammes 0.5, Holzer 1.5, Lyles 2, Keller 2.5, Bugbee 3, Karsky 0.5
Assists- Hadley Harris 3, Gabriele Frohlich 24, Keya Condon 15
Digs- Harris 22, Hammes 15, Holzer 4, Frohlich 10, Lyles 6, Kayla Corbin 18, Keller 14, Bugbee 1, Condon 5, Eliauna Ellersick 2, Karsky 3
Aces- Harris 2, Frohlich 5, Keller 4, Condon 1, Ellersick 2

School
10B- Mandan 2, BHS 0
10A- Mandan 2, BHS 0
JV- BHS 2, Mandan 0
Varsity- Mandan 0, BHS 3
Mandan 19 13 22
Bismarck 25 25 25

Kills- Jersey Hammes 5, Allyson Holzer 3, Gabriele Frohlich 3, Anna Lyles 4, Kennedy Keller 5, Anna Claire Bugbee 6
Blocks- Frohlich 1, Lyles 0.5, Keller 0.5, Bugbee 2.5, Aubrey Karsky 0.5
Assists- Hadley Harris 2, Frohlich 16, Keya Condon 4, Eliauna Ellersick 1
Digs- Harris 12, Hammes 4, Frohlich 6, Kayla Corbin 6, Keller 9, Bugbee 2, Condon 11, Ellersick 2

Mandan vs Minot North
10B- Mandan 2, Minot North 0

Braves vs Bismarck High

Lady Holsteins punch ticket to Region 4 Tournament

By Richard Mendoza
mcnjreporter@gspublishing.net

After a come-from-behind Halloween evening victory, the New Salem-Almont Lady Holsteins secured their spot in the Region 4B Volleyball Tournament with wins over their district eight tournament opponents Wilton-Wing and Central-Mclean.

Before their comeback victory on Friday evening, the Lady Holsteins beat the Wilton-Wing Lady Miners 3-1 on Thursday, October 30.

Leading 11-9 at one point in the first set, the Holsteins went on a 14-5 run to win by a 25-14 final score. Middle hitters Zoe Robinson and Kendall Erhardt helped guide the Holsteins throughout their first set victory as the pair contributed a number of kills and blocks.

A slow start to begin set two saw the Holsteins trailing 10-5.

Two kills from Erhardt helped close the gap from 10-5 to 10-9, but the Miners rallied to widen their lead. Now trailing 17-13,

the Holsteins embarked on a 12-4 run helped in part by strong serves from Hannah Vander Wal and Raleigh Miller. With the Miners making crucial mistakes on offense and defense, the Holsteins came away with a set two win by a 25-21 final score.

Set three began similarly to set two, and the Miners took an early lead as the Holsteins struggled early on. Rallying to take an 18-14 lead, the Holsteins were in great position to win the set, but the Miners responded with an 11-4 run. Wilton-Wing took set three by a 25-22 final score.

Despite opening set four with a strong showing offensively, the Holsteins 7-2 lead quickly vanished. Wilton-Wing's offense tied the match at 9-9, but Erhardt, Miller and Robinson helped spark the stagnant Holstein offense to give NSA a 17-14 lead. After a 5-2 run by the Miners to tie the set, NSA went on a run of their own to win the match. A 25-18 set four win for the Lady Holsteins set them up for a Halloween evening

match against the #2 ranked Central-Mclean Lady Cougars.

Final score
New Salem-Almont 25 25 22 25
Wilton-Wing 14 21 25 18

Friday evening's match saw the Holsteins struggling early on to defend and break through the Cougars stout defense. NSA lost sets one and two by 25-13 and 25-14 final scores.

Engaging in an intense back and forth throughout the third set, the defensive hustle from both sides translated to positive offensive momentum. For the first time in the entire match, the Holsteins found themselves with the lead after a strong team effort in defending and executing on offense.

A 6-1 run gave the Cougars a 17-16 lead, and the two sides engaged in another relentless back and forth. With the Holsteins needing just one point to win the set, outside hitter Keely Norton sent forward a two-handed attack which found open space in the corner

of the Cougars side, giving the Holsteins a 25-22 set three win.

With momentum on their side, the Holsteins began set four with an early 9-3 lead. Norton, Miller, Robinson, and Erhardt helped push the Holstein lead to 16-10, which ballooned to 21-12. With a chance to win the set, strong defensive efforts from Robinson and Keisha Tomac allowed Vander Wal to send the ball over the net, which found open space between defenders. The Holsteins tied the match at 2-2 with their 25-19 set four win.

The fifth and final set of the evening saw strong defensive efforts from Robinson and Norton give NSA an early lead, but the Cougars responded to take a 4-2 lead. Following a NSA timeout, a three-point lead became a five-point lead for the Cougars, who now led 11-6.

Embarking on a 5-0 run, the Holsteins tied the set at 11-11. Quickly regrouping, the Cougars scored three consecutive points to take a 14-11 lead. With help from a block by Robinson and

two poor kill attempts by the Cougars, the Holsteins rallied back to tie the game. Robinson then provided two kills which both tied the game and gave NSA the lead. Needing just one point to finish their comeback, Norton's ensuing serve could not be properly dug out by the Cougars, who were unable to properly send the ball back over the net, giving the Holsteins an 18-16 set five win.

Final score
New Salem-Almont 13 14 25 25 18
Central-Mclean 25 25 22 19 16

The Holsteins will enter the Region 4B tournament as either the first or second seed in district eight depending on the results from Monday's game against the Flasher Bulldogs. (At the time of writing, this match had not yet occurred.) The Region 4B tournament will take place at Killdeer High School on Monday, November 10.

Holstein Box Scores



Volleyball

New Salem-Almont	3
Wilton-Wing	1
New Salem-Almont	3
Central McLean	2



Morton County Box Scores

Football

Grant Co/ Flasher	14
NR/S-M	60

Volleyball

Glen Ullin/ Hebron	3
Hettinger/Scranton	1

Glen Ullin/ Hebron	3
Mott-Regent	2

Flasher	3
St. Rock	0

Flasher	3
Washburn	0



Football

Mandan	6
Fargo Davies	34

Volleyball

Mandan	3
Minot North	2

Mandan	0
Bismarck High	3

Swim and Dive

Mandan	136
Jamestown	50

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VARSITY HOLSTEIN TEAM MEMBERS: Shelby Kalvoda, Raleigh Miller, Bailey Maier, Sofia Young, Keisha Tomac, Zoe Robinson, Hannah VanderWal, Keely Norton, Haleigh Eggers, Alivia Goetz, Payton Doll, Avery Yanish, Kendall Erhardt, Rilyn Tellman, and Ryden Miller. Coaches: Head Coach Cadee Goetzfridt; Assistant Coaches: Tya Schiele, Ashlyn Thompson and Abby Mosbrucker.

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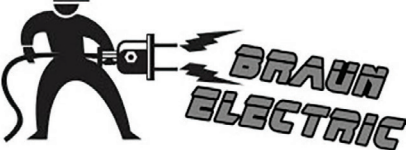
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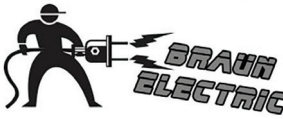


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Mandan woman receives Chamber EDC Unsung Hero Award

By Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg
brendan.r@gspublishing.net

There are hundreds of businesses scattered throughout the Bismarck-Mandan community, and in many cases, even those in Mandan have received special recognition for their work in making the town a better place- but this is not to say that individual employees can't be honored, too. This year, the 2026 Unsung Hero award was given to Jessie Hilfer, the Office Manager at Buehler-Larson Funeral Home.

According to the EDC, the Unsung Hero award is meant to recognize an employee in the community whose work is often overlooked. Fitting for its nature, Hilfer's recognition came as news to many. This is especially the case for Hilfer herself, who was surprised to discover her nomination while out of the office.

"I was away from work on a short vacation," said Hilfer, "but checking emails as we traveled home, and saw an email from the Chamber notifying me I had been nominated. I was flattered and surprised, curious about who would have nominated me. I know I make a difference, I don't doubt that. I get a lot of compliments and comments from families and the public; it is truly so flattering, but more so, I'm just glad to be able to help people through such a hard time."

Despite the weight that the prize carries, Hilfer states that her actions are fairly standard in her line of work. Any position in a funeral home requires immense patience and kindness, as clients are often undergoing great pain thanks to the circumstances surrounding their visit, and this is something that drives her to be as involved and helpful during the process as physically possible.

"I don't feel like anything I do is extraordinary," said Hilfer. "It's just necessary, but I am really good at reading a situation, and meeting people where they are at to provide them with what they need. I am usually the first person you see when you come into our building, so being a kind, compassionate, welcoming

presence and finding a connection so I become a familiar person they are comfortable coming to throughout their time in our care and after. Listening to the little things they say about their loved one, and finding ways to incorporate some small touches that make it special. When someone I know is in our care, or it's an exceptionally large family or complicated for some reason, I try to be a part of the planning meeting. I stay after hours to be available during the visitation, and attend the service to continue to be a familiar face, just seeing what their needs are and answering the many questions that come up. After a service is completed, I always reassure families that we are still here for them and to reach out with any questions, as it can be confusing, scary, and overwhelming.

Just as important as the funeral services, however, is the battle with individual or group grief and despair that can stem from burying a loved one. This means that everyone will require different forms of service, a problem Helfer believes can be solved by understanding and responding to the situation as quickly as possible.

"There are so many things that can make serving a grieving family difficult," said Hilfer. "Our job is to minimize the stress on the family. I try to see any issues or things that may be complicated and handle them before they become an issue. Large families, split families, tragic deaths, the cost of funeral services, and religious preferences are just a few things that can make funeral services difficult. I work with a team of true professionals, and we hold ourselves to a higher standard to provide at-

tention and care to each family as if they were our own."

It is this focus on supporting people during one of their most fragile times, be it before or after the ceremony itself, that makes any job at a funeral home so important- and likewise, what led the Chamber EDC to acknowledge Hilfer's work. However, even after the ceremony, she states that the goal of guiding families through loss with grace and kindness is still more important than any title.

"We will all experience loss at some time in our lives. We all deserve compassion and someone to "take the reins" when we're grieving. Funeral brain fog is real, as well as the funeral hangover. I often say that the family we are meeting with only has one opportunity to bury this loved one, and it's our job to help them make it as perfect as can be. To create the most special and personalized Celebration of Life for their loved one. There is so much hustle in today's world, and no one has time or patience anymore, it seems. My main goal for each family I help take care of is making them feel like they are my top priority. That their loved one is in the best hands. And that every detail, from the large to the small, will be handled with care and respect for their loved ones and their family."

In addition to the title of Unsung Hero, Mandan's community won another prize, as Copper Dog Coffee received the Small Business of the Year Award. A full list of annual awards and their winners can be found on the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber EDC's website.

New Salem Merchants Club Trick or Treat Main Street another success

By Richard Mendoza
mcnjreporter@gspublishing.net

Despite the weather announcing that winter is on the way, nothing was stopping New Salem trick or treaters in making the trip up and down Main Street to visit businesses who kept their doors open in the afternoon on Halloween. Before making their way to Main Street, trick or treaters began their afternoon visiting Elm Crest Manor. There to greet the treaters were Elm Crest residents, who lined up around Elm Crest's "great room" to hand out candy and other goodies.

At 3:30 p.m., the New Salem Fire Department opened the doors to the fire hall to hand out candy. Sims Valley and next-door neighbor of the fire hall Farmers Union Insurance also set-up inside. Along Main Street, local businesses, organizations and companies either set-up shop or opened the doors to their businesses.

From CHS Southwest Grain to Udderly Caffeinated, Braun Electric, Farmers Lumber and Gambles, the Metropolitan Hotel and NAPA, there were plenty of stops for trick or treaters. Tellmann's Market, DFC and the New Salem Ambulance Department also set-up along Main Street to hand out candy. New Salem Mayor Josh Gaebe, City Council member Shepard Olson and others handed out candy on the outside steps of the auditorium as well.

While the New Salem Merchants Trick or Treat Main Street event was supposed to begin at 4 p.m., Merchants president Bryan Moen said trick or treaters were spotted as early as 3:15. The after-party inside the auditorium also began earlier than anticipated as well, with Moen saying people were inside at 4 p.m. Inside the auditorium, games, animatronics and food provided a quick stop for trick or treaters before they voyaged out again on their chilly quest for candy. The decorations inside the auditorium were provided by the merchants club, and the games were provided by the local Lions Club.

By 6:00 p.m., much of the community had already left Main Street and the auditorium,

with Moen and others cleaning up inside. "It was a quick thing; people were in and out. Next year, it may be in our best interest to start earlier," Moen said. Sharing that last year's event saw a bit of waste with leftover food, Moen explained that less hot dogs were made to avoid any waste. "We made 250 hot dogs and sold 250. Our goal is to empty-out our supply so there is no waste, and we did that. The guys [Chance Hoesel and Aiden Hagemeister] said

kids didn't really want chips; they just wanted dogs, so we may have to scale back how many chips we bring." When assessing the event all-together, Moen said the event's goal of giving back to the community was certainly reached. "I don't see why we would call it anything short of a success...There's a few tweaks to make from here that may help the community [and the merchants], but it was a success," he stated.



A GROUP of local boys pose for a picture in front of Farmers Lumber and Gambles while trick or treating on Main Street.



A LINE FORMED along the sidewalk for a chance to grab some candy and peek inside Braun Electric's Spook Easy tent in New Salem.



COLLEEN ERFLE hands out candy to a local child outside Farmers Lumber and Gambles.



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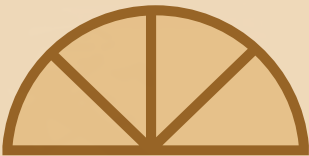
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A black and white photograph of a man in a military uniform, wearing a peaked cap and holding a rifle. The image is faded and serves as a background for the Veterans Day announcement.

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