

Hi, hello and welcome to our new subscriber of the week:

Mariia Podvolotska
Drayton, ND

Your Weather



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REGION: Concert Band, Drumline, Drama, and Creative Writing **PG. 2**



AGRICULTURE: Two North Dakota farmers highlighted for shift to regenerative practices **PG. 4**



REGION: Halloween theme Riverfest - the schedule is out **PG. 2**



Although Wisconsin is the “Badger State” badgers are found in North Dakota more commonly on the plains to the west. This pair of badgers were spotted in a field south of Drayton building a den recently. According to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, badgers are solitary, except when breeding or rearing young. Badgers are carnivorous, eating primarily small rodent such as ground squirrel, voles and moles.

Photo by Mike Alan Steinfeldt

Red Cross responds to devastating storms

Overnight, Friday, June 20, devastating tornadoes and high winds tore through eastern North Dakota and northern Minnesota, leaving behind fatal destruction in communities such as Enderlin, ND, and widespread damage in Bemidji, MN. Homes were leveled, power lines toppled, and families forced to flee to community centers, fire halls, and churches for safety. Trained American Red Cross disaster responders mobilized early Saturday morning assessing needs, delivering critical support and comforting people affected by the storms.

“Our hearts are with the families, friends, and communities grieving

‘STORMS’ CON’T PAGE 3

Classic cars, accordion music, and burgers

A night of fun at the Pembina County Museum

Join the Pembina County Historical Society Thursday, July 3, for an evening of vintage cars, lively music, and great food at the Pembina County Museum Grounds, 13572 Highway 5, Cavalier. The celebration kicks off at 5:00 p.m. and runs through 7:30 p.m., featuring a variety of attractions the whole family will enjoy.

The Valley Cruisers Car Club will be showcasing an impressive array of classic and vintage cars. Car enthusiasts are encouraged to come chat, admire, and explore vehicles from decades past. The Museum’s historic car collection, featuring

models from the 1920s through the 1960s, will also be on display.

In honor of Lawrence Welk Day officially proclaimed for July 2 throughout North Dakota and in Pembina County, the evening will include a “Tribute to the Accordion King” beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the Bathgate Depot deck. Drayton native Aimee Klein and fellow Fargo musician Bill Balsley, performing as “Aimee & Bill’s Multiple Personalities,” will deliver an entertaining mix of accordion music, comedy, candy, prizes, and audience participation.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own accordions and join in on classic tunes like the Beer Barrel Polka or Chicken Dance. Have a Lawrence Welk Show story? Share it during the tribute!

The Burger Night Fundraiser begins at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a full meal including a burger with all the fixings, beans, chips, bars, and a beverage for \$15. Proceeds benefit the renovation of the kitchen in the Biliske Building, which has served breakfast at the Annual Pioneer Machinery Show for the past 31 years. The renovation will feature updated serving spaces, lighting,

storage, and locally-sawn lumber from the Museum’s Arnold Sawmill.

PCHS president Scott Becker encourages everyone to come out to the Museum on July 3 for a toe-tapping, gear-turning, belly-filling evening of community fun!

The Pembina County Museum is located at 13572 Highway 5, Cavalier and is open to the public 11-5 daily; appointments can be scheduled outside regular hours. For more details, contact 701-265-4941 or pchsm@polarcomm.com.

Success and salutation

Local student enjoys learning and prepares for the future

This is the first in a series of stories about students doing unique and exceptional things.

By Christine Jensen

Experience is an outstanding learning tool, it gives you more than any text book can supply. For one area teenager, experience has been a gateway not only for learning new things but also for stepping forward into his future.

At the age of 16, Loki Sylskar of Drayton has been busy learning new and exciting things. He recently attended a few camps which he said were amazing on so many levels. He was also able to meet many new friends and said one of the things he enjoyed most about those experiences were the non-judgmental people he met in the process.

Loki is the son of Sean and Kayla Ambrose, Grand Forks, and Jim Zabriskie, also of Grand Forks. He currently lives with his grandmother Rhonda Sylskar in Drayton. When his parents moved to a larger city, he wanted to stay at Drayton Public School due to the smaller size. He also spends time with his great-grandmother Jean Helm on her farm near Drayton. He helps mow at the farm as well as mowing for his great-aunt and grandmother to earn extra money.

“I am so biased but he is a fine, upstanding young man,” Rhonda said. “He has a very good attitude and is so laid back and goes with the flow. He likes to try new things.

I hope he finds something he loves for a career. I am so proud of him.”

Loki has been playing saxophone for six years and guitar for seven years. He recently picked up the keyboard and has also been playing that for two years. He said he took lessons at Kenny’s music in Grand Forks which he said is an excellent place to learn.

“It’s fun to learn new things about how it all works,” Loki said. “You can really play any song you like even if it isn’t intended for a specific instrument. I picked up the guitar one day and thought this would be fun to learn. I just like to find fun things to do with my time.”

In addition to music, Loki has also been taking college courses. He started taking dual credit college courses as a sophomore. By the time he graduates high school, he will be one year ahead of schedule. He is currently taking two college courses throughout the summer including introduction to business and personal and community health courses and will take three additional courses during the school year which will include English composition, computer applications, and introduction to meteorology.

“I see an opportunity and I take it,” Loki said. “I like to learn new things because doing all of it will benefit my future.”

Loki assisted at Drayton’s Vacation Bible School for a few days but his time was cut short when he headed to the University of Jamestown for the North Dakota Leadership Summit. He said the camp was about team building and confidence building and is intended to teach about leadership and what options there are in relation to it.

“Everyone there was so accepting and non-judgmental,” Loki said. “There were about seventy kids in attendance. We had a

bunch of different speakers and events during the camp.”

He said one evening a dance was held called, “Neon Night.” During that specific event, several games like corn hole and Jenga were set up and they also provided snacks and drinks. Students stayed in the dorms and according to Loki the food was excellent. He said the camp was amazing and he was able to attend for free thanks to donations including some given by KodaBank in Drayton.

“I made a lot of friends there,” Loki said. “There were a lot of fantastic people.”

Loki was invited to attend the camp by Drayton Public School counselor Lauri Logsdon and he was grateful for the experience. According to Logsdon, Loki is an exceptional student. She said unfortunately at Drayton Public School, they don’t have advanced classes so they try to find other things for him to challenge his mind.

“He is amazing. He volunteers for pretty much anything we ask him to do at school,” Logsdon said. “He finished his 25 volunteer hours as a freshman but that doesn’t stop him from helping. He is gifted in music as well. He loves playing his saxophone.”

She said any time she gets a chance to nominate him for something in leadership or science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) roles, she knows he will jump at the chance to participate. She said he is so good at all of them.

“He has a loving support system at home and at school. We all urge him to try new things to challenge him. He lives to give back to our community,” Logsdon said. “I cannot wait to see what he becomes. He will no doubt have a picture on Drayton Public School’s Wall of Fame.”



Loki Sylskar, the first student featured in a new series about local students doing unique and exceptional things. Submitted photo



Loki, second from the left attended the School of Communication digital story telling summit held at the University of North Dakota. He learned a great deal and had hands on experience while also meeting new friends. Submitted photo

‘STUDENT SERIES’ CON’T PAGE 6

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