

Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust

Block 6 – St. John's Cemetery: Part IV of VIII

by Kathy O'Connor
This is a continuation of Block 6 of St. John's Cemetery. This part includes three more of the 19 unmarked graves in Block 6 – Mary Knox, Margaret Knox and Lewis Knox.
Mary Knox: Mary Catherine Knox was born on Oct. 25, 1897 in Minnesota to James Sr. and Mary Katherine (McNeil) Knox. She was the third child of seven children (Lewis, Sabina, Mary, Rose, James, Ellen and Margaret).
In the 1900 census, Mary was living with her father and mother and two brothers, Lewis and James Patrick Jr. and two sisters, Rosanne and Sabina in Duluth Township, Minn. Shortly after 1900 they moved to Washington Township, Eddy Co. N.D. where they resided until 1923 when they moved to Redfield, S.D. Between 1900 and 1923, James Patrick Sr. died in 1905, Lewis Daniel died in 1918 and James Patrick Jr. died in 1922. In the 1930 and 1940 census, Mary was living with her mother and her sisters Rose and Ellen in Redfield, S.D., where Mary's mother was the manager of a rooming house. In the 1950 census, Mary Catherine was the head of the

household in Redfield, S.D. as her mother had died in 1944. Mary was never married and her occupation was listed as the manager of a boarding house. Her sister Rose was also living with her and her occupation was listed as a saleslady for a retail department store.
Mary Catherine Knox died on Oct. 5, 1960 in Redfield, S.D. She was laid to rest beside her mother and father (James P. Sr. and Mary) and two brothers (Lewis and James P. Jr.) in Block 6, Lot 9 of St. John's Catholic Cemetery, New Rockford, N.D. Mary Catherine Knox does not have a stone marking her grave.
Margaret Knox: Margaret Bridget Knox was born on Aug. 28, 1902 to James Patrick Sr. and Mary Katherine Knox. She was the seventh child of seven children. Her obituary as taken from the New Rockford Transcript reads as follows:
"Funeral services held for pioneer Eddy lady Wednesday afternoon. St. John's Catholic Church was the scene of solemn requiem Mass over the remains of Margaret Knox, 46, daughter of pioneer residents of the Lake Washington community, who passed away

March 11 (date discrepancy). Mass was sung by a nephew of the deceased, Rev. James Joyce, who was assisted by Rev. Fr. Sommerfield of Sykeston, N.D. and Rev. Frs. O'Donovan and Edward Arth of St. John's. Interment was in Calvary (St. John's) Cemetery with Wilfred Boyle, Henry Allmaras, Floyd Williams, Herbert Seckinger, George Allmaras and Carl Beauclair, pallbearers.
"Margaret Knox was born May 28, 1902, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Knox, who homesteaded in Lake Washington in the late 90s. She attended the Lake Washington Consolidated and graduated from New Rockford High School.
"After teaching in the rural schools of Eddy and Wells Counties for several years, Miss Knox moved to Redfield, S.D., where she joined her mother and sisters and again taught for a number of years. More recently she was employed in a hardware store in Redfield, S.D.
"She is survived by four sisters, Mrs. R.E. (Gene) Joyce, Mitchell, S.D.; and Mary Catherine, Rose and Ellen of Redfield, S.D."
Margaret Bridget Knox died on March 8, 1948 and

was laid to rest in St. John's Catholic Cemetery beside her father and mother and one sister and two brothers in Block 6, Lot 9. She does not have a stone marking her grave.
Lewis Knox: Lewis Daniel Knox was born on May 25, 1890, the oldest child of James Patrick Sr. and Mary Katherine Knox. His obituary taken from the New Rockford Transcript under a list of influenza victims reads as follows:
"Louis (spelling difference) Knox. One of the fine young men of the McHenry Country passed over the dark river the latter part of last week when Louis, son of Mrs. James Knox, died at Valley City, N.D. of the prevailing malady. Deceased was a young man of exceptional promise, a dutiful and helpful son and brother, and to his mother and four sisters and brother is extended the condolences of a community who knew and admired him during his sojourn among them.
"The funeral services were conducted Tuesday morning at St. John's Church in this city and the remains laid to rest in this cemetery north of this city."
Lewis Daniel Knox died on Oct. 25, 1918 from complications of the Spanish flu. It was the 20th century's worst influenza outbreak and one of history's deadliest pandemics. He was laid to rest in Block 6, Lot 9 in St. John's Catholic Cemetery beside his mother and father and two sisters and one brother. He does not have a stone marking his grave.

N.D. Angus University Feed-out in June

Cattle producers will have an opportunity to see how Angus-sired cattle from their operation perform in a feedlot during the North Dakota Angus University calf feed-out program this summer and fall.
North Dakota State University's Carrington Research Extension Center (CREC) is partnering with the North Dakota Angus Association (NDAA) to sponsor the North Dakota Angus University Feed-out. This is the 14th year of the program.
"Feed-out projects like North Dakota Angus University are a great way for producers to learn more about their calves' performance compared to other herds," says Karl Hoppe, Extension livestock systems specialist at the CREC.
Ranchers can consign steers to the program by contacting the CREC. Consigned steers must be at least 50% Angus genetics and weigh between 800 and 1,100 pounds at the time of delivery. Consigned cattle will be delivered to the CREC feedlot the week of June 2-6, 2025.
Ranchers who consign cattle pay the feeding costs based on the average cost of gain plus veterinary costs and a modest yardage charge. The CREC will carry the feed, veterinary and yardage costs until the cattle are marketed. After the cattle are marketed, costs and all applicable fees are deducted from the sale price without an interest charge. Consigners of the program must also be NDAA members.
Participants in the North Dakota Angus University will receive periodic progress reports on their calves' performance, as well as a final report on overall performance, efficiency and carcass traits of their calves.
In 2024, calf performance was measured during a 133-day feeding study. Steers had an average daily gain of 4.14 pounds per day. Shrunken live weight at harvest averaged 1,484 pounds, and carcass weight averaged 932 pounds. The cattle graded 97% USDA Choice or better with 51% meeting Certified Angus Beef (CAB) specifications and 19% Prime quality grade.
The NDAA offers \$1,500 in prizes to the top three carcasses at the end of the feed-out. These prizes are sponsored by Neogen, Western Ag Reporter, Martin-Trudeau Insurance and LaMoure Feed & Seed.
More information is available at ndsu.ag/ndaurenroll.
To consign a group of cattle or for more information, contact Colin Tobin, CREC animal scientist, at 701-652-2951 or colin.tobin@ndsu.edu; Karl Hoppe, NDSU Extension livestock systems specialist, at 701-652-2951 or karl.hoppe@ndsu.edu or Sydney Glasoe Caraballo, North Dakota Angus Association Feed-out program chair, at 678-989-7189.

Lester pleads guilty to charges related to death of 3-year-old

On April 14, 2025, acting United States Attorney Jennifer Klemetsrud Puhl announced Austin Ray Lester, age 29 of Tokio, N.D., appeared in United States District Court and pleaded guilty before Chief Judge Peter Welte to involuntary manslaughter and two counts of child neglect in Indian country, as well as assault of a child with a dangerous weapon in Indian country. Lester's sentencing date is scheduled for Aug. 5, 2025.
The charges are related to the August 2022 neglect and death of a 3-year-old child within the boundaries of the Spirit Lake Reservation. A co-defendant, Krissy Louise Hinsley, was also charged with involuntary manslaughter and child neglect in Indian country and is scheduled for a change of plea and sentencing hearing on July 28, 2025.
This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office, District of North Dakota, Assistant U.S. Attorney Lori H. Conroy.

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Want to sponsor a brick at the Swimming Pool?

Bricks will be permanently placed on the walkway leading to the doors of the pool, visible every month of the year!

Interested? Here's some information on how to get it!

1. Make a \$100 donation to the New Rockford Park District
2. Fill out sponsor information and the engraving boxes on the brick form (some restrictions apply)
3. Bring donation and FULLY COMPLETED form to City Hall

Funds go directly to new or updating park facilities, programs, etc.

Contact Macey at: (701) 302-8105 or nrparksandrec@gmail.com

