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# **Coal Country Deliver by Monday**

Monday, December 24, 2018 Vol. 51, No. 41

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# NDATC announces launch of new brand

The North Dakota Association of Telecommunication Cooperatives (NDATC), an organization representing members of North Dakota's independent telecommunication industry including West River Telecom/WRT, announced today the launch of a new brand and identity. The organization will now be known as BAND: Broadband Association of North Dakota.

WRT is one of 18 member organizations that are part of BAND. The change in name reflects the commitment of the member organizations to evolve with the communication needs of North Dakotans, with an important shift from telephone to broadband.

Why BAND?

"Customer needs and demands have changed significantly over the years, so it is important that our services and our direction evolve as well," Troy Schilling, WRT CEO, said. "This name change also reflects the evolution of our industry and our business model. We are now a broadband company."

BAND was formed 65 years ago when a group of North Dakota telephone cooperatives met at the Patterson Hotel in Bismarck. Their mission: to guard against unfavorable legislation, and to ensure the highest quality communication systems were available

across North Dakota.

This mission has carried the organization through a revolutionary era of communication. At the time of the association's creation, a majority of rural North Dakota residents had party-line service, wires were strung from pole to pole and "long distance" calls were prohibitively expensive. Today, rural areas of the state have access to some of the fastest and most affordable broadband technology found anywhere in the United States.

As communication methods evolved around the world, BAND and its member organizations have evolved with them. Since 2013, WRT has spent close to \$100 million and plowed nearly 5,000 miles of fiber across their service territory in a commitment to bring 100 percent fiber connection to members. The cooperative has approximately 100 miles left to plow to reach the 100 percent goal by 2019.

BAND commitment

"The business model and specific goals of BAND and its members have changed a great deal in the past 65 years," Schilling said.. "What hasn't changed is our commitment to working together, dedication to our customers, and providing the innovative, high quality services that North Dakotans and all of rural America deserves."

Today, BAND and its member organizations continue to build off of their 65-year-old promise: to evolve with the needs of its subscribers "at the end of the line." Together, they are ensuring North Dakota is the most connected

state in the U.S.

"We don't know what services and technologies customers will use in the future," BAND Executive Vice President David Crothers said, "but we do know that it will be broadband and Internetbased and it will require more capacity and more speed in more places. WRT and the other independent broadband providers in North Dakota are committed to meeting that challenge just as we have done for the last 65 years."



# Local clinic receives bomb threat

By Kate Johnson

Coal Country Community Health Clinic, along with other state and national health care facilities, received a bomb threat last week.

The e-mail came through the IT department's address and stated that someone had placed in a bomb in their business. Coal Country Community Health Clinic CEO Darrold Bertsch said the structure of the e-mail was very generic that it did come off as a phony threat. However, any threat is taken seriously.

On Thursday, Dec. 13 CCCHC and other sister clinics in Beulah, Hazen, Killdeer and Center were evacuated.

They evacuated their staff and patients and notified law enforcement. Mercer County Sheriff's Department and the Beulah Police Department were on the scene to search the building to ensure that the threat was false.

The buildings were deemed safe and staff and patients were able to re-enter. Because of the nature of the threat Sakakaewea Medical Center in Hazen was not evacuated but patients and staff were briefly moved into other areas of the hospital that was not near the

clinic – which had been evacuated.

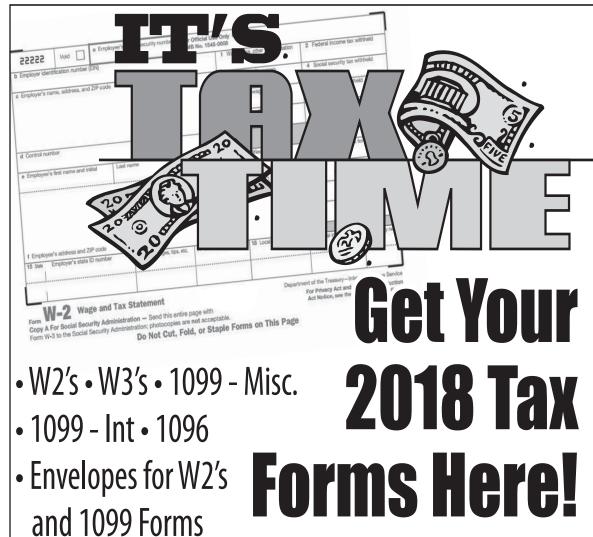
Because a bomb threat occurred in the community Beulah School District and Hazen School District did send all of their schools into a soft lock down until law enforcement notified them that it was safe and the threat was a fake. A soft lock down is that no one leaves or enters the school. Classroom shades are pulled over the window and classroom doors are locked.

Hazen Public Library also received the emailed threat. They contacted Hazen Police, but did not lock down as the email had since been determined to be a hoax.

Bertsch said this was experience they can learn from. While they have emergency plans in place for weather related disasters and threats, a bomb threat is foreign to rural clinics.

While they did exercise their evacuation plans for the threat Bertsch said they will be learning from the experience. "We will talk about what we could have done different and tweak our process and plan," said Bertsch.

"We will use it to improve our process that we may need to engage in the future."



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# Texas Hold'em Tournament

**January 5, 2019** Hebron Community Center - Hebron, ND Registration: 11:00 am CT First card dealt at 12:00 Noon CT

Paving out final table Buy-In \$100 - Payout 75% Tournament will fill at 150 players Pre-register by calling Mark Aman - 701-974-3980 Sponsored by Broken Arrow Saddle Club

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# HY HAPPENINGS

Coal Country Community Health Center—Beulah, Hazen, Center and Killdeer will close early on Mon, Dec 24 at 12 pm in observance of Christmas Eve. CCCHC Clinics will be closed all day on Tues, Dec 25 in observance of Christmas Day. Regular business hours resume Wed, Dec 26th. We wish you a wonderful holiday season!

### **Hazen Hospital Auxiliary Love Lights 2018**

Purchase a love light in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special. The lights will be lit during the Holiday season on the large tree located in the main galleria of Sakakawea Medical Center. The names of those honored will also be printed in the local papers. For more information or to obtain a "Love Lights" form contact Carrie at 748-7380.

### Give The Gift of Life!

The holidays are the sweetest time of the year and life is the sweetest gift of all! Register to be an organ, eye, and tissue donor to give someone a greater chance of receiving that gift. Learn more about organ donation and transplantation on the organdonor.gov and donaciondeorganos.gov





Saturday, January 5, 2019 @ 10:00 AM CT. Ralph Renner Collectible Gun Auction AND Guest Steve Gowin. Online Bidding Powered thru Proxibid 150 plus guns, more information coming soon....Baymont Inn & Suites, Mandan, ND. www.wolffauctioneers.com

Saturday, January 25, 2019 @ 1:00 PM CT, Heinle/Preisinger/Gomke -Hebron Community Center - 160 acres Absolute Real Estate. G&G Auctioneers 701-878-4001 www.midwestauctions.com/gandg

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# Winter fishing regulations

North Dakota anglers are encouraged to refer to the 2018-20 North Dakota Fishing Guide or the state Game and Fish Department's website for winter fishing regulations.

In addition, anglers can visit the Game and Fish website, gf.nd.gov, for an extensive list of fishing questions and answers.

Some winter fishing regulations include:

•A maximum of four poles is legal for ice fishing.

Tip-ups are legal, and each tip-up is considered a single pole.

 Mechanical devices that set the hook are legal; however, the use of any device that automatically retrieves the fish is illegal.

- There is no restriction on the size of the hole in the ice while fishing. Materials used to mark holes must be in possession of anglers and spearers as soon as a hole larger than 10 inches in diameter is made in the ice.
- It is only legal to release fish back into the water immediately after they are caught. Once a fish is held in a bucket or on a stringer, they can no longer be legally released in any water.
- It is illegal to catch fish and transport them in water.
- It is illegal to leave fish, including bait, behind on the
- All aquatic bait, such as fathead minnows, must be purchased or trapped in North Dakota.
- Depositing or leaving any litter or other waste material on the ice or shore is illegal.
- The packaging of fish (including parts thereof) away from one's permanent residence must be done in such a manner that the number of fish in each package may be easily determined.
- The daily limit is a limit of fish taken from midnight to midnight. No person may possess more than one day's limit of fish while on the ice or actively engaged in fishing. If a situation occurs when an angler fishes overnight, the first daily limit must be removed from the ice by midnight prior to continuing
- The possession limit is the maximum number of fish that an angler may have in his or her possession during a fishing trip of more than one day.
- It is illegal to introduce anything into the water for the purpose of attempting to attract fish (chumming, artificial light, etc.) that is not attached or applied to a lure.
- Licensing of fish houses is not required in North Dakota. However, any unoccupied fish house must have displayed on its outside in readily distinguishable char-

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acters at least three inches high, either a registration number issued by the depart-

ment, or the owner's name and address or name and telephone number.

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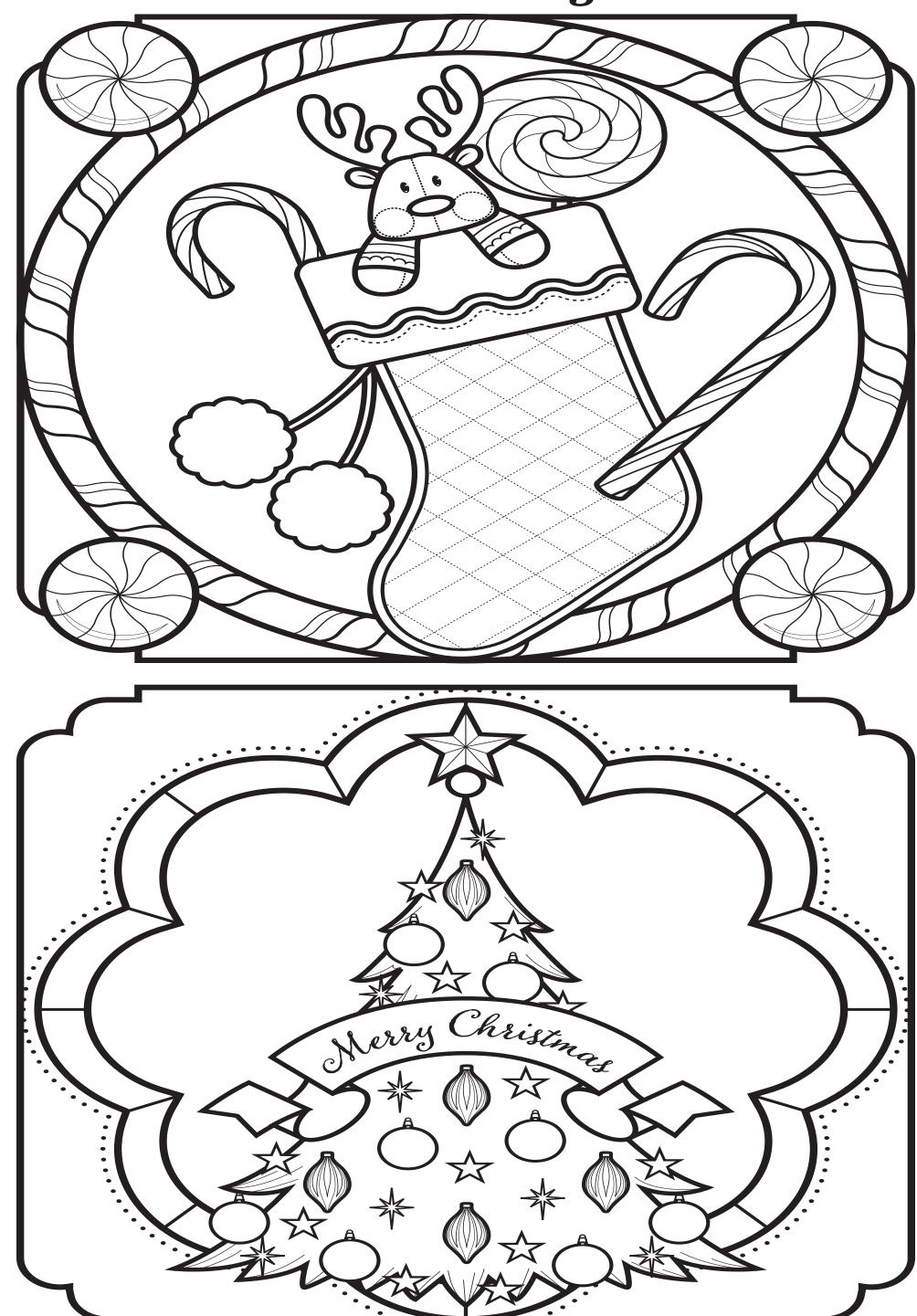


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McClusky Gazette - 363-2492
McLean County Independent - 463-2201
McLean County Journal - 448-2649
Mountrail County Record - 627-4829
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### **HELP WANTED**

MEALS ON WHEELS has an opening for dining hall assistant. Monday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm. Call Linda at 748-2493 for an application or information.

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THIS NEWSPAPER offers free job wanted ads to anyone seeking employment at a local or area business. Please list your job skills or the type of work you are seeking. A free ad of up to 25 words may be printed up to a month in this newspaper. Mail your ad to Beulah Beacon, 324 2nd Ave. NE, Beulah, ND 58523 or Hazen Star, Box 508, Hazen, ND 58545. Or email it to Beaconoffice@bhgnews.com or Hazensales@bhgnews.com.

CONSTRUCTION specializing in kitchen and bath remodels, additions and finishing work. Local references available. Call 701-210-1148 ask for Bob.



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### **HELP WANTED**

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For information and the company application, please visit www.coalcountryhealth.com

Coal Country Community HEALTH CENTER



Great River Energy (GRE) has the following Job Openings:

- Associate Chemist to collect and analyze process samples at Coal Creek Station in Underwood, ND. Will safely operate the chemical injection, water treatment, and demineralizer systems for maximum efficiency and output. Bachelors degree in Chemistry or a science field. Application deadline is January 7, 2019.
- Building Utility Maintenance Technician at Coal Creek Station in Underwood, ND. Will perform general building repair, building maintenance and general housekeeping to maintain equipment, facilities and grounds. Complete project work such as painting, sandblasting, tile work, staging materials and equipment for scheduled

maintenance and clean up. High school diploma, GED or equivalent. A minimum of two years of experience in a generating plant or heavy industrial facility required. Application deadline is January 3, 2019.

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As road conditions worsen, and with the added truck traffic on area roads, please use extreme caution when traveling.

### **Survival Kit For Winter Driving:**

Clip'n' Save

- Coffee can or other empty and clean food can
- 60-inch length string (cut into 3 equal pieces used to suspend can)
- 3 large safety pins (tie string to safety pins and pin to car roof interior to suspend can over candle)
- 1 candle 2" diameter (place on lid under suspended can for melting snow). Canned Sterno will also work to heat water.
- 1 pocket knife, reasonably sharp (or substitute with scissors)
- 3 pieces of bright cloth 2" wide x 36" long (tie to antenna or door handle)
- Several packets of soup, hot chocolate, tea, bouillon cubes, etc. (mixed into melted snow to provide

- warmth and nutrition)
- Plastic spoons
- Packages of easy to eat, high energy foods like peanuts and candy or canned, ready-to-eat soups or fruit
- 1 pair of socks and 1 pair of gloves or glove liners; cotton is not recommended because it provides
- no insulation when wet).

   Extra clothing and a blanket or sleeping bag
- 2 packages of book matches
- 1 sun shield blanket or 2 large green or black plastic leaf bags (to reflect body heat)
- 1 flash light and batteries (keep separate)
- First aid kit

- Toilet paper and sealable container for bathroom purposes
- Fire extinguisher
- Small tool kit
- Ice scraper/snowbrush
- Shovel
- Sand or other traction aid
- Tow rope or chain
- Jumper cables
- Road flares or warning lights
- Gas line antifreeze
- Large plastic garbage bag
- Pencil stub and paper
- Plastic whistle
   Cellular phone with a charger
  You may want to keep the survival

You may want to keep the survival kit in the passenger compartment in case you go into a ditch and can't get to or open the trunk.

The recent warm temperatures and sunny skies have been nice – but we all know what's waiting for us just around the corner – Winter! The cold and snowy season is almost here and the question is – are you ready for it?

You should ... Get a Kit ... Make a Plan ... and Be Informed. Keep a high level of situational awareness by listening to the forecast every day. When snow, sleet, or freezing rain is in the forecast expect that it will impact your day to day routine, and be ready when it does!

# Mercer County Sheriff's Dept. Travel Advisories What they mean –

**Use caution advisory** – is issued by this office when visibility is reduced and driving conditions require that people reduce speed.

**No travel advised –** means that law enforcement and the highway department have determined that near zero visibility is occurring and/or that the driving surface of the road is blocked or covered with ice and driving is a determent

Road closed no travel allowed – (extreme conditions are present) is issued when roads are blocked and vehicles are stuck on the roadway. No travel will be allowed by any vehicle regardless of the situation. Barricades or officers will be blocking the roads leaving and entering the closed area. Drivers going around barricades will receive complaint and summons to district court. Schools, mines and power plants will be notified by phone.

All this information is given to the weather service and television and radio stations as it is occurring.

### **Winter Weather Terminology**

<u>Watch</u> is issued when the risk of a hazardous winter weather event has increased, but its occurrence, location, and/or timing is still uncertain.

Warning or Advisory is issued when a hazardous winter weather event is occurring, is imminent, or has a high probability of occurrence. A warning is used when there is a threat to life or property. An advisory is for less serious conditions that cause inconvenience, and, if caution is not used, could lead to situations that may threaten life or property.

Snow criteria for a warning is 6 inches or more in 12 hours or less, OR, 8 inches or more in 24 hours or less. Snow criteria for an advisory is 3 to 5 inches.

Winter Storm Warnings and Winter Weather Advisories may be issued for a combination of elements like snow coupled with wind and blowing snow, or snow coupled with sleet and freezing rain.

- Sleet is pellets of ice. Sleet bounces when it hits the ground.
- Freezing Rain is rain that freezes when it hits the ground or objects on the ground. It forms a sheet or glaze of ice.
- Ice Storm is used to describe occasions when the ice from freezing rain is significant enough (1/4 inch thick or more) to cause damage.
- <u>Blizzard</u> is a storm with winds of 35 mph or higher AND visibility frequently below 1/4 mile in snow and/or blowing snow AND these conditions last three (3) hours or longer. There is no set temperature requirement for a blizzard.

<u>Wind Chill</u> is that part of the cooling of a human body caused by moving air. Moving air accelerates the rate of heat transfer away from a human body.

- Wind Chill Advisory is issued for wind chills of 25 to 39 below zero with a wind speed of at least 5 mph.
- Wind Chill Warning is issued for wind chills of 40 below zero and colder with a wind speed of at least 5 mph.

This message brought to you by:

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