

Xtra

www.bhgnews.com



Published by BHG Inc.,
to serve McLean and
Sheridan Counties

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 22
Garrison, ND

ECRWSS

Postal Patron

Deliver By Monday

Vol. 35, No. 47

Monday, Apr. 6, 2020

*The best circulation
for your dollar*

**STANDING
TOGETHER
WHILE STAYING APART**

**KRAUSE'S
Market**

**ORDER ONLINE FOR
CURBSIDE PICKUP**

KRAUSESMARKET.COM

SERVICE DIRECTORY

MEDICAL

Northland HealthCenters



Turtle Lake - Dental
701-448-9111
Hours: Mon-Thurs 8-5

Turtle Lake - Medical
701-448-9225
Hours: Mon 8-6:30; Tue-Fri 8-5
www.northlandchc.org Find us on  
You can now pay your bill online!

REAL ESTATE/INSURANCE

ROCCO'S RUFF 

BUYING OR SELLING A PROPERTY ALONE CAN BE RUFF
DON'T DO IT ALONE!
Call Mike today for your real estate needs.
See www.mikematteson.com for listings!

GARRISON INSURANCE
Insurance & Property Management
Mike Matteson
OWNER/BROKER
(701) 463-2099 (office)
(701) 337-6433 (cell)
11 Central Ave. E, Garrison, ND
Representing 11 Different Companies!

WEST INKSTER REALTY
FOR SALE 
"We are proud to stake out this property!"
Mike Matteson OWNER/BROKER
(701) 463-2099 (office)
(701) 337-6433 (cell)
11 Central Ave. E, Garrison, ND
Representing 11 Different Companies!

Contact us for all your Real Estate and Insurance needs!

SPECIALTY

Dakota Painting & Tree Service 

Interior • Exterior • Tree Trimming
Residential • Commercial • Stump & Tree Removal

Tom Rupp **Firewood Sales**
Cell 701-400-8864
Licensed & Insured

OPTOMETRISTS

Optometrist
Dr. Schindler & Dr. Deis & Hellebush
N. Main Street • Garrison
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
463-2224 • 1-800-876-1067 (Bismarck)

SPECIALTY

All Season Heating, Air Conditioning, Inc. & Sheet Metal

Randy Bertsch • 701-833-9484

 Serving the Garrison & Minot areas
25 yrs. locally owned & operated

Steve's PLUMBING Service LLC 

Owner
Steve Zacharias

PO Box 1174
Garrison, ND 58540
701-460-7471 (Steve)
szach@restel.net
Master Plumbing License #0012

Eyecare Professionals

Dr. James Helmers
Dr. John Helmers
Dr. Emily E. Zinke
Dr. Anna L. Helmers
Washburn 462-8636
Mandan 663-2020
1137 Border Lane, Washburn

PHARMACY

Monday thru Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Pharmacy Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sat.
We guarantee low prices.
Computerized pharmacy.
All records kept for your insurance & tax purposes.
Deliveries Mondays & Thursdays
Chase Pharmacy
31 N. Main Street
Garrison • 463-2242

SPECIALTY

HAUGEN'S DRAIN SERVICE 

- Power Snakes
- Sewer Cleaning
- 24-Hour Service

"For those sluggish drains and backed-up mains"
Residential-Commercial-Industrial
Washburn • 462-3730
Cell 315-0600

Robi's Repair INC. 

Dog Gone Clean Dog & Car Wash

Full Service Auto Repair for diesel, gas & transmission

615 Burleigh Rd, Wilton
734-6011 • robirepair.com

PRAIRIE CARPET SERVICES 

Joshua Benjamin
Owner & Operator, Ruso, ND
701-833-2884 • 701-448-2883

- Clean All Types of Flooring
- Carpet/Upholstery Cleaning
- Janitorial • Wall Cleaning • Air Ducts
- Flood & Fire Restoration
- Radon Test & Mitigation

Low Rates • Cash/Check/CC/Trade or Barter

deeter Garrison Dental

Dr. Matt Deeter | 701.463.2884
Dr. Terry Deeter | 51 North Main St
Garrison, ND 58540

Hours: Tues and Wed, 8 am - 5 pm
After Hours: Contact Cathy at 701.509.6387 for appointments and concerns

L & P CONTRACTING, INC. 

- Pole Building
- Foundations
- Flatwork

15601 16th St. SW
Minot, ND 58701 **Lorn 701-721-2630**

GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL

Are you receiving the best price on your Fuel?
Call me for a Transport load quote today.

LORI THOM
cell: (701) 720-1195
business: (701) 852-1194
e-mail: lthom@spfenenergy.com
Agriculture/ Construction/ Oilfield

FARSTAD OIL, INC. 

SCHLEHR CONSTRUCTION

Garrison, ND
701-340-0973
Jim Schlehr
Municipal water & Sewer lines
Rural water lines | Septic systems | Directional boring
FDHU Lic. #SC16-00072

Reminder
Classified Deadline Thursday • 9 a.m.

JB REPAIR, INC. 

www.jbrepairinc.com

ACDelco **EZGO**
Golf Cars
Trojan Batteries
701-463-2054
Jim Cell 701-337-6000
Garrison, ND 58540

- Hunter Precision Alignments
- Road Force Tire Balance
- Tire Sales
- Full Service Automotive Repair

Red Arrow Construction LLC 

Justin Whitecalfe
redarrow_justinw@outlook.com
C 701.799.9697

Free Estimates

Professional Installers:
• Seamless Gutters
• Siding & Windows • Steel Roofing
• Licensed & Insured

H.A. Thompson & SONS 

SINCE 1908

Heating & A/C Service for Business & Homes

2 Service Technicians located in Garrison!!

Curtiss Moe & Marc Beyer
701-223-3393

BAKERS ACRES Lawn & Landscape 

Donovan Baker, Owner
Locally owned and operated
Licensed/Insured

701-426-4764 or 701-337-2032
13875 Sakakawea Drive • Garrison, ND 58540

Landscaping ♦ Hydo Seeding ♦ Drill Seeding
Dirt Work ♦ Lawn Edging Installation
Lawn Mowing ♦ Hauling ♦ Spring/Fall Clean Up

Make your ads go further with ALL-ACCESS ADVERTISING

Any print ad runs on the BHG website for as little as \$5 per week!



Open 4th
Thursday
of Every
Month



Distribution Day - Garrison
Thursday, April 9 • Noon-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.
DRIVE-BY PICK-UP ONLY IN ALLEY

PRAIRIE FARE



Be Prepared Foodwise for Spring and Summer Disasters

BY JULIE GARDEN-ROBINSON
FOOD AND NUTRITION
SPECIALIST - NDSU

I thought I heard a freight train driving right by our house despite no train tracks in the vicinity.

I glanced at my alarm clock. It said 3 a.m.

My bedroom windows were open after an exceptionally muggy Fourth of July day. Now my drapes were flying over me in the strong wind.

Was I dreaming? I went downstairs to investigate with my parents. I was a teenager at the time.

When daylight broke, my parents and I ventured outside. Our small town looked as though a bomb had hit it.

People were standing outside, stunned and shaking their heads in disbelief. Many were crying. High-pitched sirens of ambulances rang out in the otherwise silent community.

A tornado had devastated our tiny Minnesota town. We had no warning.

Uprooted 100-year-old trees left gaping holes in our yard, but our home was undamaged. On the next street, houses were flipped upside down. The business my dad managed was missing its massive red roof and the concrete walls were cracked. Merchandise was scattered for many miles.

We soon heard news that several people had died. I knew them.

Thinking back, my dad maintained an exceptionally calm demeanor in the midst of devastation. It might have been his Scandinavian stoicism or maybe the fact that he had survived four years of World War II. Our family had been spared from injury.

Everyone rolled up their sleeves and began the massive cleanup and rebuilding effort. Soon the loud buzz of chainsaws cutting up trees and the sound of trucks punctuated our daily life.

I recall dragging tree limbs, raking for hours and making sandwiches to serve volunteers and residents at the emergency shelters.

Our town became a "curiosity" and some people felt the need to drive slowly through town and observe us. I helped check people in at the highway entrance to town. The visitor had to give a really good reason to enter our town. As a gatekeeper, I had strict rules to enforce.

The memories are etched forever in my mind and I learned many life lessons from my elders.

Unfortunately, most of us have to deal with emergencies of various types at points in our lives. The type of emergency varies depending on where we live. Blizzards, fires, hurricanes, tornadoes and floods can cause enormous destruction.

We have had our share of blizzards and floods in North Dakota during my adult years. Our community has flexed our collective muscles to lay sandbags several times.

Power outages, flooding, fires and other disasters can trigger food safety issues. Before a potential flood, do some planning. Raise refrigerators and freezers off the floor, especially in basements or garages. Move canned goods and other foods (and any items you value) from basements or low cabinets to higher areas.

Be sure you have appliance thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer, and find out where you can purchase dry and block ice.

If you lose power, be sure to keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed. A closed refrigerator will keep your food safe for up to four hours unless you add blocks of ice or dry ice.

A full freezer will hold its temperature for 48 hours, while a half-full freezer will hold its temperature for 24 hours. If available, you can use dry ice to maintain temperatures.

In the spirit of being prepared, here are some tips from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service. If flooding happens and it affects food, dishes, pans and other food-related items, follow these tips:

- Use bottled drinking water that has not come in contact with floodwaters.

- Do not eat any food that may have come in contact with floodwaters.

- Discard any food that is not in a waterproof container if any chance exists that it came in contact with floodwaters. Food containers that are not waterproof include those with screw caps, snap lids, pull tops and crimped caps.

- Discard cardboard juice/milk/baby formula boxes and home canned foods if they have come in contact with floodwaters. They cannot be cleaned and sanitized effectively.

- Inspect canned foods; discard any food in damaged cans. Can damage is shown by swelling, leakage, punctures, holes, fractures, extensive deep rusting or crushing/denting severe enough to prevent normal stacking or opening with a manual, wheel-type can opener.

- Discard wooden cutting boards, plastic utensils, baby bottle nipples and pacifiers that may have come in contact with floodwaters. They cannot be cleaned safely.

- Wash metal pans, ceramic dishes and utensils (including can openers) thoroughly with soap and water (hot water if available). Rinse and sanitize them by boiling them in clean water or immersing them for 15 minutes in a solution of 1 tablespoon of unscented liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of drinking water.

- Wash countertops thoroughly with soap and water (hot water if available). Rinse and then sanitize them by applying a solution of 1 tablespoon of unscented liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of clean water. Allow to air-dry.

See <https://tinyurl.com/floodsandfood> for more tips about food safety during emergencies. See <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/disaster> for NDSU Extension resources about disaster preparedness and recovery.

Be sure to keep some nonperishable food, such as canned goods, on hand in case of emergencies. Low-acid canned foods such as commercially canned beans last up to five years on your shelf, while acidic foods, such as tomatoes, have an 18-month shelf life, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Having a grill or another means of cooking food also helps with being prepared.

You can make this recipe as fast as you can open a can and a jar. You might have the ingredients in your cupboard.

Black Bean and Salsa Dip
2 (15-ounce) cans black beans, rinsed and drained (or your favorite beans)
1 1/2 c. salsa (mild or medium), reduced-sodium
Combine in bowl and refrigerate until serving. Makes eight servings. Each serving has 150 calories, 1.5 grams (g) fat, 9 g protein, 25 g carbohydrate, 7 g fiber and 370 milligrams sodium.

**PRESSER
RED ANGUS
BULL SALE**

PRIVATE
TREATY SALE

**Monday, April 6
1:30 p.m.**
at the Ranch
9 miles north and
2.5 miles west
of Mercer

Call 701-447-BULL (2855)
701-220-0189
Troy and Annette Presser
1035 14th St. NW
Turtle Lake, ND 58575

Extension postpones face-to-face work

North Dakota State University Extension is postponing, canceling or offering in an alternative format all face-to-face contacts through May 15.

"Earlier we had announced that this postponement of activities would be through April 5," says Greg Lardy, vice president of Agricultural Affairs and Extension director. "However, with the continuing COVID-19 situation, we've decided to follow NDSU's academic schedule with virtual learning, and teach and work remotely through May 15."

This includes 4-H meetings and activities, office visits, educational meetings, programs taught by volunteers, pesticide certification and

other in-person activities.

"I'm very proud of the faculty and staff who have so quickly changed their delivery modes," Lardy says. "For example, more than 200 people were on a webinar where our ag economists talked about the impacts COVID-19 might have on agriculture. Many of our county family and community wellness agents are teaching through Facebook Live and other technologies to teach nutrition and food safety to children who are home rather than in school. And some 4-H clubs are having their meetings virtually."

Lardy says most Extension personnel are working at home but still can be reached by email.

COVID-19 UPDATE: EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, the courthouse is CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

Some departmental staff will be available on limited basis during regular business hours on MONDAY through THURSDAY. Please CALL the courthouse offices/personnel you would like to do business with PRIOR to coming to the courthouse. The numbers for all courthouse personnel are shown below.

McLean County Courthouse Telephone Directory Front Desk (Main Line) - (701)462-8541

Auditor's Office	Recorder's Office
Beth Knutson (701)462-8825	Heidi Anderson (701)462-8826
Lori Foss (701)462-8818	Lori Blotske (701)462-8824
Nancy Leidholm (701)462-8817	Pandora Hummel (701)462-8827
Kayla Oberlander (701)462-8822	States Attorney's Office
Terri Guderjahn (701)462-8541	Marcella Albers (701)462-8832
Clerk of Court	Karissa Rittenbach (701)462-8833
Catherine Bailey (701)462-8829	Tax Director/Veteran Services/ Planning & Zoning
Chris Buske (701)462-8821	Todd Schreiner (701)462-8804
Cassie Goetz (701)462-8828	County Assessor
DES/Risk Management/Highway	Ryan Oberg (701)462-8820
Noelle Kroll (701)462-8809	Weed Board
Highway Superintendent	Vance Tomlinson (701)462-8807
James Grey (701)462-8802	Social Services
Extension Service	Front Desk (701)462-3581
Jan Hanson (701)462-8806	First District Health
Calla Edwards (701)462-8808	Pam Fischer (701)462-8814

LUBRICANTS

Spring Oil Sale

**TMS, HTB in 30 Gallon Drums
Save 50¢ per gallon**

All other lubricants Save 40¢ per gallon.
Good through April 30, 2020

Bulk Oil Available

Call for appointment and pricing

**Max Farm
Services**

115 Main Street
Max, ND
679-2487

CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 7

VFW Post 6940 will be meeting at the Underwood City Hall on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. to hold election of officers and other business. All members are urged to attend.

The McLean County Commission will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse in Washburn.

Thursday, April 9

GARC food pantry, Main Street, 12 p.m.- 2p.m. And 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., drive through only

The Lord's Pantry is open from 2-4 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 515 Kundert St. Turtle Lake.

Monday, April 13

Lamplighters county senior meeting is canceled

Tuesday, April 14

Lamplighters meeting canceled

Submit an event

To announce your free public event in the Xtra Calendar, simply fill out the form below. The form must reach the Washburn office by Wednesday. Mail to the Xtra, PO Box 340, Washburn, ND 58577; email: leadernews@westriv.com; phone: 701-462-8126.

Event: _____

Date: _____ **Time:** _____

Location: _____

Contact: _____

MEALS ON WHEELS

APRIL 6: Hamburger on a bun, tater rounds, corn, fruit cocktail.

APRIL 7: Chicken fried steak with gravy, whipped potato with gravy, California blend vegetable, pears, fruited cheesecake.

APRIL 8: Lemon pepper tilapia, paprika potato, mixed vegetable, pineapple in gelatin, pudding.

APRIL 9: Chicken alfredo, green beans, layered lettuce salad, pears.

APRIL 10: Closed

Corn harvest hits 75 percent mark

BY ALYSSA MEIER
EDITOR

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is reporting that North Dakota corn harvest is three-quarters complete as of Monday.

The March 30 crop progress report showed corn harvest at 75 percent, with sunflower harvest at 91 percent complete.

2020 planting was looking promising, with 62 percent of

reports indicating adequate topsoil levels.

There was good news in the cattle industry, with calving progress at 31 percent, up slightly from 25 percent at this time last year. Along with this, conditions for cattle were reported as 67 percent good at 16 percent excellent as of Monday.

Sheep and lamb conditions were largely good or better, with 16 percent at fair or poor.

MAX FARM SERVICES NOTICE

Due to the unforeseen events caused by the Covid 19 outbreak, the annual meeting of Max Farm Services scheduled for April 7, 2020 will be postponed to a later date to be determined, most likely after springs work. Dividend and equity checks will be distributed via the postal service in early April. Any questions regarding this postponement may be directed to

Dan Haugen at 701-679-2487.

Thanks for your cooperation.



Coal Creek adjusts for pandemic; outage continues

BY SUZANNE WERRE,
BHG NEWS

Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station at Underwood began its extended outage March 13, bringing in hundreds of out-of-state workers to work during the outage. The outage is projected to be done in early May when inspection and work on Unit 1 has been completed.

According to GRE's Lyndon Anderson, Leader - Communications, Great River Energy and Coal Creek Station implemented their pandemic plan in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in late February in advance of the outage.

The plant is currently at a medium threat response level, which means all employees who are able to work from home are instructed to do so. Other employees are asked to report to work as usual.

If the power plant would go into a high threat response level, the plant's most essential workers could be sequestered at the power plant, meaning those employees could essentially be

living at the power plant for two-week timeframes.

"If Great River Energy moves to a high threat level, the impact for most employees would be minimal because we took extra precautions when we moved to a medium threat level," said Anderson.

"In some situations, mission-critical employees might be asked to sequester at work for a period of time. A number of factors would need to be evaluated to make that decision," he added. "In addition, all projects at Great River Energy would be re-evaluated."

Power plant employees are deemed essential by the federal government and part of critical infrastructure, and will continue working during the pandemic to ensure an adequate power supply.

The outage work at Coal Creek Station is going very well, with activities proceeding on schedule, noted Anderson in an email to the News-Journal.

"A team at Coal Creek Station has been meeting on at least

a weekly basis to make sure that we are taking the actions to ensure the well-being of our employees and contractors on-site. We are following all guidance suggested by the CDC and the North Dakota Department of Health," he added.

Specifically, those guidelines at Coal Creek Station include:

Isolating the control room, warehouse and security areas

Expanding and segregating the work groups, break areas and bathroom facilities to improve social distancing

Staggering start, stop and break times to minimizing the congregating

Cleaning and disinfecting at a high level

Posting hygiene reminders in break and bathroom areas

Conducting meetings via conference call

Not allowing outside visitors (outside of outage contractors)

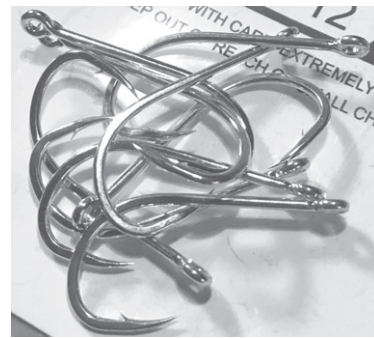
"We are pleased with efforts from all workers to follow recommendations to keep everyone safe," commented Anderson.

Five tips for better hooks

BY NICK SIMONSON
DAKOTA EDGE OUTDOORS

Whether in winter or summer or fishing opportunities in between, when it comes down to it, the hook point is where the business of catching fish happens. Having a sharp and stable hook on a spoon below the ice, a crankbait behind the boat, or a fly adrift in a riffle is key in connecting with fish of any species. What follows are a handful of tips to make sure hooks are at their best so you can be certain of every connection.

1. Invest in Quality. Like rifles, optics, rods and just about every other outdoors equipment market, hooks have their sliding scale running from inexpensive to intermediate to premier options, each with its pros and cons and varying levels of sharpness. Whether it's tying flies, buying jigs or replacing trebles on store-bought jerkbaits, there are high-end and low-end hooks available and it's the former that should be considered when looking to upgrade standard offerings or craft a jig to hit those favorite walleye waters. While it's up to the user to make a determination as to what brands are the best (try buying a few different makes throughout a season and getting a sense for the sharpness of each) it usually doesn't take long to find those that are just sharper and better setting. Keep those brands at the top of the list and rely on them as, while they may be more expensive than their competitors, they're probably the least costly (and arguably most important) part of any fishing set up.



2. Make the Switch. Utilize those preferred hooks on baits that come fresh out of the box, unless it's common knowledge those lure brands use a chosen style of premium hook. A six-dollar split-ring pliers will make short work of swapping out trebles on a crankbait or spoon and is a worthwhile investment to keep in a tacklebox for on-the-water work if hooks become blunted or dull. Never assume the hooks on a bait fresh off the tackle shop shelf are sharp and replace them or sharpen them if necessary. Confirm hook sharpness out of the box by testing them out before tying them on the line and swap with a chosen favorite as desired.

3. The Test. Test each hook and its point by utilizing the fingernail method. Simply place the point of a hook at a 45-degree angle to a fingernail and gently drag it across the surface. If the hook sticks a little and leaves a white line scraped on the nail, it's sharp enough to catch fish. Repeat the process on the water especially after catching a number of fish or working baits through rocky or snaggy stretches which may dull the hook point. Remember, if the hook slides off without making a mark, it needs sharpening, so focus on getting it to that point.

4. Sharpen Up. When

replacement hooks aren't handy, be certain to stash a hook hone or file in the tacklebox to gently reshape and sharpen those hook points that get blunted or become dull. Working the file along the angles of the hook and using a finer edge to touch up the point of the hook will help extend the life of the lure and keep things sharp for the next bite. Know when to say when though and recognize that no amount of field surgery can save some bent or blunted hooks. Additionally, those light wire hooks that lose their original bend from getting snagged and pulled loose may also need to be replaced as the shank weakens or takes on a wider U-shape.

5. Look at the Eye. Finally, be certain that knots are setting properly on the eye of every hook or jig for the best presentation and the ideal drive of the point into a fish's mouth on the strike. Check to be certain that knots made with superlines - which are capable of sliding through the smallest gaps on wire hooks - are positioned where they won't be ripped through those tiny spaces on a powerful hookset. Be certain all paint, burs, dried epoxy and other possible obstructions which could cut or damage line have been cleaned out of the eye of a hook, jig or fly for the best possible hookset.

By investing a few extra cents in a better hook and a few moments to make sure every offering hits the water with the sharpest point possible and the best possible setup, better success is guaranteed. Whether ahead of an outing or waiting for a season to start, any time is a good time to get a handle on hook sharpness.

Support Democracy. Subscribe to Your Local Newspaper.

HELPING WORDS

Faith, not fear

**BY PASTOR
BRANDON WOODRUFF**

We are living in strange and uncertain times. I never thought I'd see a day when many churches have stopped holding public services and people are vandalizing highway rest areas to steal toilet paper.

At the time I'm writing this, we don't yet know what the next round of directives or recommendations from the government will be or what the coming days will bring. This uncertainty creates fear and anxiety in many. But the reality is that we never know for sure what tomorrow (or even today) may bring!

The Bible reminds us that, while we try to convince ourselves otherwise, we are

not in control. We read in James, chapter 4, "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit'--yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'" (verses 13-15)

Yet for those claimed by God's grace, this uncertainty is no reason to fear. "For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'" (Romans 8:15) In faith we trust in God, in all circumstances, who has already given us

victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (Philippians 4; 1 Corinthians 15:56). The days are uncertain, but God is not. He remains mighty to save.

Especially in these dark and later days, continue to hold fast to the hope that is in you in Christ Jesus even as Christ holds you. Stay in the Word; make use of the many resources God has made available through the churches; hold one another up in prayer. Together, by God's grace, may we live these and all days in faith, not fear.

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD life up his countenance upon you and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

WRT to undergo building renovation

Beginning in Spring 2020, the WRT headquarters office, located on Main Street in Hazen, will see a major transformation as the cooperative invests in both employee training and a \$6.7 million building project.

"This is more than just a construction project, it represents a whole new outlook for WRT," emphasized WRT CEO Troy Schilling. "We believe our employees and members deserve an updated environment to reflect the state-of-the art technology WRT provides. We have focused on bringing fiber to you and are now focusing on providing an exceptional customer experience. We are proud to make this investment in our headquarters location, our employees, and our cooperative."

The transformation is two-fold as company-wide customer experience training will be kicking off this spring, as well as preparations for the new building project. WRT

employees will have ongoing company-wide training focusing on the customer experience - encompassing everything from our social media presence to follow-up after the installation. Members will be notified of upcoming projects, including the launch of the new website and a customer satisfaction survey.

Portions of the project will be pending the COVID-19 status and safety requirements. "The timing of this project has been modified a bit. We delayed on-site training and expedited some employee/department moves to work from home due to social distancing and safety. The well-being of our employees and members remain our priority throughout the building project and COVID-19 pandemic. WRT continues to focus on serving our members and making adjustments in our processes and procedures to reflect those needs," noted Schilling. At this time, WRT

members can call in for assistance, but technicians are limiting onsite visits to essential services and are checking for at-risk situations before visiting.

WRT members will see noticeable building changes in mid-April with the demolition of the original 1958 office, which is the current western "lower" portion of the building located on Hazen's Main Street. It will allow the cooperative to utilize the same space to construct a two-story office building to tie into the existing two-story brick building and eventually housing all Hazen employees under one roof. WRT employees, departments and resources have been spread across the street since 1996 when WRT purchased the former hardware store, located east of the Hazen Post Office.

The \$6.7 million project was approved by the WRT Board of Directors in February 2020, with anticipated completion of construction by Summer 2021.

Extension: Be prepared for flooding

The forecast is for a rapid warmup starting the last weekend of March, which will cause a rapid thaw, releasing the water in the snow cover.

"This may cause flooding in some rural areas," says Ken Hellevang, North Dakota State University Extension agricultural engineer. "Now is the time to prepare before water is accumulating on the farmstead."

Here is some advice from NDSU Extension on how to protect rural residences and other structures, livestock and stored grain from flooding, in case of flooding or wet conditions.

Protecting Your Home and Other Structures

- Test your sump pump to make sure it is operating properly.
- Move snow away from building foundations.
- Build small ditches to divert water away from your property.
- Build a dike around your

home or other structure. See NDSU Extension publication AE626, "Sandbagging for Flood Protection," for information on the correct way to build a dike. It's available online at <https://tinyurl.com/Sandbagging-NDSU>.

- Put appliances such as washers, dryers and freezers in basements up on wood or cement blocks if flooding is threatening.
- Shut off power to flood-threatened electrical appliances at the fuse box or breaker panel.
- Move valuables, such as irreplaceable family photos, high school yearbooks, tax records, insurance policies, household inventories, and hazardous material, such as agricultural chemicals, paint, oil and cleaning supplies, to higher locations.
- If your septic system's drain field will become flooded or saturated, plug all basement drains and drastically reduce water use in the house or any other water entering the septic

system. Unbolt toilets from the floor to plug the outlet pipe.

- Tie down fuel tanks and other equipment or material to keep it from floating away in floodwaters.
- Use material such as heavy plastic and duct tape to seal your well cap and top of the well casing to keep floodwaters out.
- Have an emergency power source, such as a standby generator.
- Assemble emergency supplies in case roads become impassable.

Protecting Your Livestock, Feed and Grain

- Be sure cattle are immunized properly in case they are exposed to floodwaters.
- Verify adequate drainage around the farmstead and grain bins.
- Move machinery, feed and grain to a higher elevation if possible.
- Move livestock to higher ground.



MICROWAVE CHOCOLATE CREAM PIE

A simple, delicious pie to brighten these 'home-bound' days.
Bev Helm, McClusky, ND

Ingredients

- 9-inch baked pie shell
- 1-1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup baking cocoa
- 1/3 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups milk
- 3 Tablespoons butter
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla
- Whipped topping or whipped cream
- Grated semi-sweet chocolate for garnish. (optional)

Directions

Sift together sugar, cocoa, cornstarch and salt in a large (3 qt.) microwave safe bowl or saucepan. Using a wire whip, add small amount of the milk to form a thick paste then add rest of milk, stir until well blended. Microwave on high, stirring occasionally, until thickened about 8-10 minutes. Remove and blend in the butter and vanilla. Put into cooled, baked pie shell and press plastic wrap onto surface to make a creamy filling. Chill well, remove plastic wrap, top with whipped topping and garnish with grated chocolate. Enjoy!



CINNAMON CARAMEL CHEESECAKE SQUARES

Makes 24 squares

- 2 8-ounce packages seamless crescent dough
- 2 8-ounce packages cream cheese
- 1 egg
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup sugar, divided
- Flour for dusting
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup caramel topping

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Unroll one package of crescent dough into a shallow baking pan. Roll out the dough to edges.
2. Heat the cream cheese in a microwave-safe bowl, uncovered, on high for 30 to 40 seconds, or until softened. Whisk until almost smooth.
3. Add the egg, vanilla and 1/2 cup of the sugar to the bowl. Whisk until smooth. Spread over the crescent dough.
4. Lightly sprinkle the flat side of a cutting board with flour. Unroll the second package of crescent dough and roll it into a 13- by 12-inch rectangle.
5. Fold the dough in half from the short end; gently lift and place in the pan. Unfold and gently stretch the dough over the cream cheese layer; press the edges to seal. Cut off corners of dough hanging over and discard.
6. Bake 22 to 24 minutes, until golden brown.
7. Combine the remaining 1/4 cup sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl. Place the caramel topping in a 1-cup measuring cup.
8. Remove the pan from the oven. Immediately pour the caramel topping over the cheesecake and spread to the edges of the crust. Sprinkle with the cinnamon-sugar mixture; let stand for 10 minutes.
9. Using a utility knife, cut into 4 x 6 rows to make 24 squares.

HAVE A RECIPE YOU WANT TO SHARE?

E-mail leadernews@westriv.com or give us a call at 701.462.8126 with your ingredient list and directions, and we'll include it in a future recipe column! We would love to share local, homestyle recipes from our readers.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

- **DEADLINE:** 9 a.m. Thursday.
- **CLASSIFIED WORD ADS:** Terms – Cash, Check, Visa or Mastercard.
- **COST:** \$8 a week for 20 words, each additional word is 25 cents. Half price for each additional week. Can be placed in other papers for half price. Giveaway ads are free one week only.
- **CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATE:** \$9.50 per column inch.
- **CONTACT INFORMATION:** Phone: 462-8126 • Fax: 462-8128
Email: leadernews@westriv.com • Website: bhgnews.com
Mailing address: The Xtra, PO Box 340, Washburn, ND 58577
- **DELIVERY PROBLEMS:** If you're having any problems getting your Xtra - when and if - we want to know. Call our Garrison office at 701-463-2201 or 1-800-658-3485 when you want to report problems.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANT TO SAVE some money? Check out the specials in this week's Xtra. If you're not receiving the Xtra, call 701-463-2201.

1-E-TFN-NC

58540

SUPPORT GROUPS: Alcoholics Anonymous Hotline, 888-680-0651. AA meetings in Center on Sundays at 5 p.m. CT at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (794-3381); in Garrison, Garrison Memorial Hospital Cafeteria, Thursday at 8 p.m.; in Washburn on Sundays at 7 p.m. at First Lutheran Church (701-460-1373 or 701-202-6701); in Wilton, Mondays at 7 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 734-6533. Open meeting, Butte, Call 626-7402 or write Box 244, Butte, ND 58723; in McClusky, Grace Lutheran Church, 402 4th St. W, Sundays at 8 p.m. Positive Changes NA, Fridays at 7 p.m., Washburn United Methodist Church, 701-460-0663.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to be included in the 2020 McLean County phone book and do not have a land line, please call us with your cell phone number. You don't want to miss some important calls from friends and acquaintances. We do not sell our list. Please call or email your local newspaper.

40-4-P-X-NC

58577

This is the month your subscription comes due. Please pay careful attention to notices that are sent to you in the mail. You don't want to miss a week. If you have questions, please call your newspaper office. To pay online, go to bhgnews.com. And for a bonus: Add a free online or a give a free print to a friend.

45-47-P-E-NC

FARM RELATED

ND17009GT SOYBEAN SEED

Glyphosate tolerant RR1 technology

You can keep your harvested beans as seed for future crops!
Discounts for purchases of 500 units or more.
Call (701)426-4028



LIVESTOCK

TURTLE LAKE WEIGH STATION will be shipping cows and bulls out April 6 and April 20. Have them there by 11 a.m. Call Darin, 701-315-0144.

43-TFN-E-X

58577

GIVEAWAY

5 GALLON JUGS, for industrial purpose only: not to be used for human or animal consumption/food or beverage. Pick them up at the McLean County Independent office at 91 North Main Street, Garrison, ND.

15-TFNNCIX

58540

FARM RELATED

SEED FOR SALE

Yellow Peas

Agassiz Carver

Inca Saffron

Chickpeas

Orion

HRSW

Barracuda Rebel

Camaro Breakaway

ND VitPro Cannon

Durum

ND Grano

Oats

CS Camden

Soybeans

Legacy LS-0239N RR2X

Yield Powerhouse

ND17009GT

Keep your own seed

Custom conditioning,
treating, inoculatingNEW - double inoculate with
liquid and peat SAVE BIG

HELP WANTED

THE WASHBURN PARK BOARD is recruiting for various summer positions: lifeguards, park maintenance and coaches for little league, pee wee and T-ball. Starting pay is \$9 per hour. Applications will be accepted until April 5. Interested individuals should send a letter of application and resume to: Washburn Park Board, PO Box 551, Washburn, ND 58577

47-48-P-X

58577

MISC. FOR SALE

FAIRVIEW COLONY CHICKENS - \$8.00, Smoked Chickens - \$14.00, Turkeys by the lb., Pot Pies - \$12.00. Taking orders now, call Darcy at 337-5411. Delivery date April 21st.

49-2XPDXI

58540

USED ALUMINUM PRESS Plates. 23 x 35, two for \$1 available at the McLean County Independent, Garrison. 463-2201.

1-E-TFN-NC

58577

ORDER PRINTS, custom mugs, puzzles and more of pictures from all BHG newspapers at bhg.smugmug.com.

35-P-TFN-NC

58577

Help wanted Coaching Positions

Garrison Public School District is seeking applications

URGENT* elem bbb start date to be determined & no coaches yet

• **HEAD AND ASST**

VOLLEYBALL coaches need for 2020 season

• **ASST. FOOTBALL COACHES** for 2020 needed

• **JH FOOTBALL COACH** needed for 2020

• **CROSS COUNTRY COACH** for 2020 needed

Please stop by Garrison High School for an application.

Applicant must included a resume and three references.

Contact Nick Klemish at 463-2818 for more information.

HELP WANTED



Turtle Lake Hospital

**Part-time Clinic Nurse
Full-time Nurse Aide**

Experience preferred but not required. Contact Brenda

701-448-2331 ext 207.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

HELP WANTED

- **HS Track Coach**
- **FACS/Home Ec-HS**
- **Bus Driver w/CDL**

**\$25 per hour
w/benfits**

**Contact:
Wayne Fox
Superintendent
743-4350 ext. 2205**



White Shield School

MISC.

Alex Fischer and family would like to thank the Underwood Fire and Ambulance for setting up the silent auction February 14th and donating the proceeds to help with Alex's medical expenses. We would also like to thank those that donated items to the auction and came out to support him. All of your thoughts and prayers during Alex's recovery have been very much appreciated.

Thank you,
Alex Fischer and family

48-1T-XT

58577

**Reminder
Classified Deadline
Thursday • 9 a.m.**

HELP WANTED

GSSC SECURITY OFFICERS

GENERAL SECURITY SERVICES CORPORATION™

Washburn & Center, ND

Qualified applicants must be professional, punctual, engaged persons with an excellent work ethic. Employment contingent on passing a criminal background check. Please call (218-726-1606) or email Bill (BillL@GSSC.net) for more information.
EOE/AA/Disability/Veterans/M/F Employer
Immediate full-time & part-time openings!



BENEDICTINE LIVING CENTER
OF GARRISON
Benedictine Health System

Culinary Services Manager

Responsible for the direction, implementation, and supervision of all meal services and nutritional support for elders. Provides a quality assurance program that certifies elders therapeutic nutritional requirements are met. Manages the selection, training, development, and performance of assigned initial and ongoing clinical nutritional assessments and menu planning. Manages the department's budget.

Eligible associates are offered medical, dental, vision and life insurance; disability coverage; paid time off (PTO), and 401(k).

To apply online and learn more about BLC of Garrison *please apply online at* www.blcgarrison.com

EEO/AA/Vet Friendly

Police Officer

The City of Garrison, North Dakota is accepting applications to fill an immediate opening for a full-time police officer.

Applicants must currently possess a North Dakota peace officers license or be in the process of attaining a license. Have a valid driver license and be able to pass the background check.

This is a salaried, full-time position with a pay range of \$39,000 - \$40,000 DOE annually with benefits. The city pays 80% single/family health and dental plan.

Please submit cover letter, resume, copy of law enforcement training record, and completed city application to Chief Travis Tesch, P.O. Box 459, Garrison, ND 58540, by 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday April 15, 2020.**

Applications and job description can be obtained at www.cityofgarrisonnd.com or by contacting garrisoncity@restel.com or calling 701-463-2296

*The City of Garrison is an
Equal Opportunity Employer.*



HELP WANTED

Maintenance

The City of Coleharbor is seeking a motivated self starter for a part time maintenance position. Position includes operating and maintaining city water and sewer systems to include pump house, hydrant flushes and lubrication, turning water on and off for local residents, garbage bin relocation, mowing and grounds keeping, meter reading, miscellaneous highway maintenance may include road blading and weed spraying. Will pay for water operator certification training. Hours are flexible and will vary due to season. Wage will depend upon experience. Questions contact Mayor Pochant (701)400-7889.

*Mail Resume to City of Coleharbor
PO Box 65 Coleharbor, ND 58531*

HELP WANTED

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

is recruiting for the following positions to be located at Riverdale, ND.

Apply online at <http://www.usajobs.gov> under Vacancy Announcements:

Student Trainee - Electrical Engineering
(Announcement WTHI203111167200PI)

Student Trainee – Civil Engineering
(Announcement WTHI203123157458PI)

Closing date is 06 April 2020.

**For additional information please
contact David Beck at (701)654-7754.**

Catch the Great Bargains in the Classifieds!

phone 462-8126 • fax 462-8128 • email leadernews@westriv.com

HELP WANTED

 **BENEDICTINE LIVING CENTER OF GARRISON**
Benedictine Health System

HELP WANTED
Come Join Our Team!!

- RN/LPN
- CNA

Apply at www.blcgarrison.com
or call Jody Lawson
at (701) 463-2226
"EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

HELP WANTED

 **CENEX OF GARRISON**

Night Time & Weekend Cashiers

Must be able to work weekends. Stop in for an application.

NOTICES

HAVE YOU BEEN in a relationship where you were emotionally or physically battered? Call McLean Family Resource Center, 701-462-8643 24/7, Washburn. The office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. EEOC compliant.

1-E-TFN-NC 58577

SERVICES

LICENSED CONTRACTOR ready to move or relocate your trees or shrubs! For a free estimate call Steve @ Huey's Tree Moving 701-460-7000.

49-TFNCHXI 58540

I HAUL away broken vehicles and scrap metals for FREE! Ca\$h for \$ome. 833-2884. U call, I Haul.

44-TFNALL 58540

JUST A NOTION! is taking in clothing alterations and repair; knit/crochet repair. Call for free consultation! Charlene Binsfeld, Washburn, 701-220-5831.

34-9-E-PD 58577

WE CLEAN and install all types of flooring including carpets, upholstery, walls, air ducts. Let us clean your boat, camper, under appliances. We have dump trailer for debris removal. Low rates, cash/check/credit. Prairie Carpet Services, (701) 833.2884 or 448.2883.

46-TFN-P-X-PD 58540

PET BOARDING, daycare, home visits. Located rural Wilton. \$20/dog for overnight stay. Country Pets on Facebook. Text/Call June at 701.301.2516.

35-TFN-P-X-PD 58579

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Two bedroom home with single attached garage on 3 lots. Located at 211 3rd Street west in McClusky, ND. Freshly painted, includes stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer. Sale price is \$35,000. For more information call 701-641-7785.

44-47-P-X-PD 58577

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

1 Bedroom Apartment for rent. Low income. All utilities and cable included. Washburn 701.471.3233

47-XT, 48-P-X 58577

NOW RENTING

Heritage Heights Apartments
1040 Custer Dr., Washburn

New management, remodeled rooms, lower rates, 1 or 2 bdrm. apts. All utilities paid including cable.

701-527-4739 or Manager 701-220-8145

SERVICES**GOT GERMAPHOBIA!?! WE DO TOO!**

In Home Cleaning Service Sanitation & Disinfection

 **PRAIRIE CARPET SERVICES**

Joshua Benjamin
701-448-2883
OR 701-833-2884

WORK WANTED

THIS NEWSPAPER offers free job wanted ads to anyone seeking employment at a local or area business. List your job skills or the type of work you are seeking. A free ad of up to 25 words may run up to a month in this newspaper. Mail your ad to Leader-News, P.O. Box 340, Washburn, ND 58577 or email leadernews@westriv.com.

1-E-TFN-NC

58577

STATEWIDES**HELP WANTED**

NEEDING FARM HELP: GACKLE, ND. Operate tractor and air seeder, sprayer, combine, haying, general maintenance, and trucking. CDL a plus but not required. Housing available. Wage negotiable depending on experience. Pat 701-269-2204.

ANYONE CAN RUN STATEWIDE with HELP WANTED ads in all the newspapers of N.D. with the NorthS-CAN program! \$160 /25 words / all ND papers. NDNA, 701-223-6397.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

10K IN Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief, 701-936-8487.

EDUCATION /TRAINING

TRAIN AT HOME TO DO MEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 701-929-9679. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Now offering a \$10,000 scholarship qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 701-929-9679 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ND FARM LAND Values surge upward. Are you selling or renting? Pifer's Auction and Farm Land Management. Bob Pifer 701-371-8538. Kevin Pifer 701.238.5810. Free valuation.

LIVESTOCK FOR SALE

YEARLING GELBVIEH AND BAL-ANCER BULLS for sale by private treaty, calving ease and performance, priced right with BSE and guarantee.

The sky is the limit
of what you can
sell or buy in the
classifieds.
Call 462-8126

STATEWIDES

Call or text anytime. 701-425-6895.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
LOOKING FOR THE most complete listing of ND Media? Get the ND Media Guide for Only \$25! Call 701-223-6397, ND Newspaper Association.

AUTOS WANTED

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 701-809-7415.

HEALTH/MEDICAL
ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 877-736-5537.

ATTENTION: OXYGEN USERS! Gain freedom with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator! No more heavy tanks and refills! Guaranteed Lowest Prices! Call the Oxygen Concentrator Store: 701-404-5994. (24/7)

CASH SETTLEMENTS

Recently diagnosed with LUNG CANCER and 60+ years old? Call now! You and your family may be entitled to a SIGNIFICANT CASH AWARD. Call 701-404-5389 today. Free Consultation. No Risk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

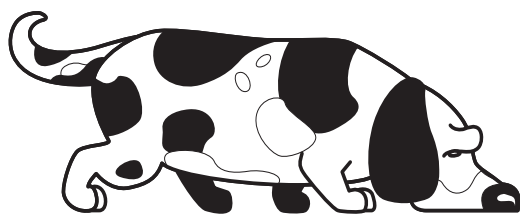
\$5,000 Reward: Allen and Sandra Foster, Napoleon, ND offering \$5,000 to anyone with information leading to charges of burglary from their farm. Call (701) 754-2495 or 1-800-472-2121.

MISCELLANEOUS

WE MAKE IT easy to place an ad in one or all the North Dakota newspapers. One order, one bill, one check. We provide the ad design and tear sheets. Call the North Dakota Newspaper Association, 701-223-6397.

We print . . .**Raffle Tickets****BHG Inc.**

Garrison • 463-2201
Washburn &
Underwood • 462-8126

**Sniff Out a Great Deal in the Classifieds**

Shoppers with a nose for bargains head straight for the Classifieds. In the Classifieds, you can track down deals on everything from cars to canine companions. It's easy to place an ad or find the items you want, and it's used by hundreds of area shoppers every day.

Real ID deadline extended

BY ALYSSA MEIER
EDITOR

The Department of Homeland security has allocated an extra year for Americans to get their Real ID.

According to a press release from the Department, the Real ID enforcement period has been delayed from Oct. 1, 2020 to Oct. 1, 2021. Citing the COVID-19 pandemic, Acting Secretary Chad Wolf said the delay was necessary in order to allow state and federal entities to focus on curbing the

spread of the virus.

Wolf said it has also become more difficult for individuals to obtain their Real ID at this time.

"States across the country are temporarily closing or restricting access to DMVs," Wolf said. "This action will preclude millions of people from applying for and receiving their REAL ID."

By Oct. 1, 2021, travelers will need a Real ID in order to board domestic flights in the U.S.

Isaak: A year later**Homicide trial set for Nov. 30**

BY ALYSSA MEIER
EDITOR

One year has passed since the Mandan quadruple homicide of four RJR Maintenance and Management employees, with this week marking the anniversary of a Washburn Chiropractor being arrested for the crime.

Chad Isaak, owner of Washburn Chiropractic on Main Avenue, was arrested on April 4, 2019, three days after employees of RJR were found dead at the Mandan business location.

Isaak was charged with four Class AA felony charges and given a \$1M bond during an initial hearing that month. Isaak, who lived in Northview Estates in Washburn, pleaded not guilty on all charges during an August hearing.

Since the initial hearing, Isaak has procured four attorneys in his defense, and is preparing for a Nov. 20 trial. According to court documents, the trial date has been rescheduled at least three times.

Court documents show 18 different search warrants being approved, with searches including Isaak's truck, saliva, computer, phone and camera. Other warrants applied to Facebook and Google information and the RJR building.

In December, Isaak requested a change of judge, with Judge James Hill then replaced by David Reich. No explanation was given for the change.

Isaak is tied to the murders of RJR owner Robert Fakler, as well as employees Adam Fuehrer, William Cobb and Lois Cobb. The victims were found dead inside the RJR Maintenance and Management office in Mandan on the morning of April 1, 2019. McLean County Sheriff's Department officers arrested Isaak on April 4, 2019 after identifying his vehicle as matching the description of a suspect vehicle tied to the murders by surveillance video.

THE HYMNUS TREE

- Small Artisan Boutique
- Custom Product Printing
- Arts & Crafts Supplies
- STEAM Project Kits
- Creative Lab
- Art Parties



Open Mondays and Tuesdays 1-7pm
216 LINCOLN AVE UNDERWOOD
701-712-8060

Personalized to your needs • Designed In-House • Quality Service



Business Cards



701-463-2201
jobwork@BHGnews.com

Call 463-2201 or 462-8126

to place your ad in the
Business & Professional Directory.
You can advertise your business
in the Business & Professional
Directory for only
\$5.00 an inch per week.

COUNTY APPROVES TRANSMISSION LINE AMENDMENTS

BY SUZANNE WERRE,
BHG NEWS

After nearly two hours of testimony, questions and answers, the McLean County Planning and Zoning Board and McLean County Commission Thursday night both approved zoning amendments that would prohibit transmission lines from being erected closer than one mile beyond the ordinary high water mark of the Missouri River, Lake Sakakawea or Lake Audubon.

The amendment also requires any new applicant for an electrical power generation plant to provide the county with written documentation regarding, among others, its greenhouse gas and pollutant releases, its risk for black or brown out, and importantly, the impact a new power plant would have on the existing power plant and coal mining activities in the county.

Erickson also stated that if the amendments are approved, that doesn't mean the county is completely prohibiting possibilities of other forms of energy coming into or through the county; it means those asking would need to come before the county to ask for approval, and at that point the county would approve or deny the request.

The public county meeting, which was held with about 20 people in attendance, each sitting a minimum of six feet away from each other in the Underwood City Hall gymnasium, was broadcast through Facebook Live to a little more than 200 people who opted to attend the meeting remotely.

McLean County State's Attorney Ladd Erickson started discussion in the meeting, citing protection of the state's multimillion-dollar recreational and agricultural economies as the reasons the board and commission should adopt the amendments. Erickson also gave a history of Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station and a rundown of the power company's plans for CCS, which in a statement to Minnesota's regulatory agency as recently as 2017, repeatedly stating that they had no plans to close Coal Creek Station, and that it "should be operating well into the future."

Erickson cited several examples of how McLean County has worked with different economic sectors to come to compromises or beneficial agreements, adding that the goal of the amendments is, in part, to provide regulatory clarity.

As you get closer to water, the standards get more stringent, and the amendments would enable the county to have more "regulatory clarity."

Following more than an hour of testimony from Erickson, who drafted the amendments, and another nearly hour-and-a-half of follow-up comments by a few people attending the meeting, the motion to approve the amendments passed through planning and zoning by a vote of 4-1, with chair Rick Hultberg voting against the amendment. The motion was passed with no discussion coming forward from the committee members.

The McLean County

commissioners then approved the amendment by a vote of 3-0 following minimal discussion/comments.

Commissioner Steve Lee indicated he was voting in favor of the amendment in part to ensure that if other power generating sources make their way into McLean County, pushing coal out, that the land that has been disrupted by the years of the coal mining operation is reclaimed and returned to farmers before any other changes to the landscape are made.

Lee said the thousands of acres of land that have been taken for coal mining needs to be returned to farmers before any new-source power lines are erected.

"We would be happy to sit down with Great River Energy and consider options," said Lee.

In his address to the commission before the votes, Robert Harms, an attorney for North Dakotans for Comprehensive Energy Solutions, asked the commission to postpone its decision on the ordinance amendment, asking them to "put this proposal on pause for a variety of reasons."

Harms addressed the verbiage of the amendment, which specifically addresses "electrical power transmission lines from NDPSC permitted wind turbines" saying it makes McLean County look like it is anti-wind power.

At least that's what a letter from Great River Energy appears to infer – that by approving the amendment, the county is not just anti-wind, but anti-development, said Harms.

"I think it would be a whole lot more productive if they would come here and visit with you rather than by a letter," said Harms, regarding Great River Energy's response to the proposed amendments in which GRE asked some of the language of the amendments be removed.

In its letter to the county, GRE stated, "in the event GRE decides to retire Coal Creek Station, GRE's preference would be to heavily reinvest in North Dakota and McLean County and continue for decades our long partnership with the State and the county. Unfortunately, the Wind Transmission Line Setback would effectively prevent those investments."

The letter went on to say that GRE believes the setback would be invalid and appears to be a "transparent and targeted attempt to prohibit wind generation from being transmitted into or through the County from the south or west."

The letter outlines some of the reinvestment plans GRE would have if the power plant is retired, stating that 800 megawatts of wind energy would be interconnected to GRE's high voltage line on



Dave Nehring of Faces of North Dakota Coal streamed Thursday's public meeting using Facebook Live, with more than 200 people watching the meeting remotely.

the site of CCS. The wind projects would provide North Dakota with 700-800 temporary construction jobs, additional permanent jobs, more than \$100 million in property tax payments, and nearly \$100 million in landowner payments.

In addition, the letter states that GRE would make a payment of up to \$15 million over five years in lieu of coal severance and conversion taxes the county would have normally received. A substation, transmission lines and related infrastructure would be located near Coal Creek Station, and would add to the county's tax base.

The letter urged the commission to reconsider its zoning amendment, which would "be a sign that McLean County is open to adapting to the new energy future that is coming to North Dakota."

Harms urged the commissioners to rethink the amendments, saying the county shouldn't have a policy that looks "anti-development," and that the 800 jobs that are currently filled at CCS and the adjacent Falkirk Mine, wouldn't necessarily be saved by enacting these amendments.

"I think that talking to GRE might be a better approach in trying to keep those jobs," said Harms. "But if not, at least be open to other jobs that might be available to the people of McLean County that you're trying to help."

Erickson countered saying that he hopes McLean County's ordinance might spark some interest at higher levels, possibly with legislation, arguing that coal-fired power is necessary for base load power, even as the country moves toward more green energy.

"That's a good conversation for our country to have," said Harms.

Erickson suggested a meeting with Great River Energy, with Harms in attendance as well, to discuss the possibility of a combination of base load and

green power.

In his address to the commission, Underwood farmer Gene Wirtz told the commissioners he doesn't think the biggest issue facing CCS isn't the threat of wind power moving in, it's natural gas, which is a lot less cheaper.

"Natural gas is the biggest threat to coal, I think, in this area. I think a new form of power is inevitable, and I think there are some good ones," said Wirtz. "We don't want to be the only county that doesn't have wind energy in it, and there are a lot of jobs that go with wind."

Underwood's Steve Hammes, and long-time employee at CCS, urged the commission to do what it could to keep the power plant running as-is, and not issue any wind generation permit.

Erickson said the county isn't trying to completely prohibit wind farms in the county – the county wouldn't take that opportunity away from farmers who would be able to get some decent income from renting out the land for the wind turbines – but the county does need to have a say in order to protect the recreational and agricultural land. A wind moratorium is not a good idea, said Erickson.

"Some farmers might want it," said Erickson. "The reality is that these grids are going to have green . . . we would have a hard time denying somebody's bread and butter."

Underwood's Roxie Kapanke, a tour guide at Falkirk Mine,

encouraged the county to find a way to make people more knowledgeable about what the power plant and mine mean to the community and the state, also pointing out that CCS is one of the most efficient coal-fired power plants in the country.

When asked, Kapanke said she would be willing to address the legislature on the issue.

The final person to address the commission was Washburn long-time farmer Don Streifel who admits back in the early 70s, he was pretty anti-coal. He urged the commission to "look out for McLean County."

"My recommendation is you pass these resolutions, and a few extra," said Streifel. "You're going to need all the stock you can get because they'll run over you . . . You do whatever you need to do to look out for the interests of McLean County."

The zoning board and commission followed up with their approval of the amendments, effective immediately, March 26, 2020.

Commissioner Lee spoke on the county's willingness to embrace new business opportunities, but the commission's priority is to protect the county's interests.

"I firmly believe McLean County is open for business," said Lee. "Business that is beneficial to McLean County, and that's our concern. We want to make sure that projects that go through here are beneficial to us."

Promiseland Designs

Upholstery, Repair, Leather Wear, Tack & Gifts

Dana & Rita Wright
owners/designers

14 Main Street E
Hazen, ND 58545

701-748-2261

promiselanddesigns@westriv.com • www.promiselanddesigns.com



Goodrich Rural Fire Protection District

For Sale by written bid

1984 Ford Econoline 350 van/ambulance, 460, AT, 48K
1988 Chevy Scottsdale 2500 4x4, extended cab, 350, 5 sp manual, 92K
Bid truck with or without wildland fire tank & pump unit

Information or viewing call

701-884-2566, 701-989-1965, 701-315-0310

Submit bids to: Goodrich Rural Fire, 207 1st St, Denhoff, ND 58430
Bids accepted until May 2, 2020

District Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



Locally owned
& operated for
over 30 years

E & E TREE SERVICE

• Stump Grinding

• Tree Cutting & Clean-up

• Licensed & Insured

Contact 701-460-0836 • Turtle Lake