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House remodeling project

CertainTeed asphalt shingles and LP Diamond Kote siding



House remodeling project

CertainTeed asphalt shingles, Mastic Steel siding and Versetta on dormers/garage



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CALENDARSATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

LORD'S PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION is held at Trinity Lutheran Church (515 Kundert St.) in Turtle Lake from 10 am -Noon. No referrals or pre-registration required. All in need are welcome to recieved food at no cost.

PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD ANNUAL MEETING, SACA Lodge, 9:00 a.m.

THE THRIFT STORE, Garrison Area Resource Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

THE THRIFT STORE, 181 Ellsworth St., Makoti, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FULL SNOW MOON HIKE, Fort Stevenson State Park, 6-7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

OPEN DOOR COMMUNITY KITCHEN, Turtle Lake City Hall, Turtle Lake ND at 11:30 am to 1 pm.

SUPER SUNDAY SUPPER will be held at the First Lutheran Church, 709 5th Avenue, Washburn. Everyone is welcome to attend! Questions or Schedule a Meal Delivery: Call: Judy @ 701-220-4410 or Rhonda @ 701-315-0656. It is a free-Will Offering

GARRISON PARK BOARD MURDER MYSTERY, Cubby Hole, 3 p.m.

PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE DINNER, Bethelehem Lutheran Church in Wing, ND, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Church. Worship Services at 10:30 a.m. If you would like to pre-order sausage please contact Jeremy Saeman at 943-2630.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

THE WASHBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY invites you to join us Monday Mornings at 10:30 a.m. for our weekly children's story time Puppy Tales with Ichabod.

YOGA, First Congregational Church, Garrison, 8 a.m.

BONE BUILDERS, Garrison Senior Center, 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

THE THRIFT STORE, 181 Ellsworth St., Makoti, 3-6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

YOGA, First Congregational Church, Garrison, 8 a.m.

THE THRIFT STORE, Garrison Area Resource Center, 10 - 6 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous, First Congregational Church-UCC, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

COMMUNITY CLOTHING SHARE-EXCHANGE at 221 Main St. in Turtle Lake has a clothing opportunity at no cost each Thursday from 12:00 -6:00 p.m.

BONE BUILDERS, Garrison Senior Center, 10 a.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Garrison Hospital cafeteria (enter through ER), 8 p.m

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

TURTLE LAKE SENIOR CENTER 1:30 p.m. at Turtle Lake City hall.

MONDAY, MARCH 4

WASHBURN LIONS CLUB meets at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Center. Meal will be served before the meeting. All are welcome to join!

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

CLASSICAL CONVERSATIONS Classical Christian Community will meet at the Washburn Public Library from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. For questions or more information, Please contact Katrina Winterberg (CC Washburn Director) at 701-989-2206 or Washburnareacc@gmail.com

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

COMMUNITY CLOTHING SHARE-EXCHANGE at 221 Main St. in Turtle Lake has a clothing opportunity at no cost each Thursday from 12:00 -6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

TURTLE LAKE SENIOR CENTER 1:30 p.m. at Turtle Lake City hall.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

THE MERCER GOLDEN 50'S CLUB will meet at 2 p.m. at the city hall.

LIBRARY HOURS:

WASHBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY - Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. **UNDERWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY -** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. -Tuesday and Thursday 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

TURTLE LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Monday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. **MCLEAN-MERCER REGIONAL LIBRARY** - Riverdale Open Mon-Fri 8:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 5:00 **GARRISON LIBRARY** - open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays-Thursdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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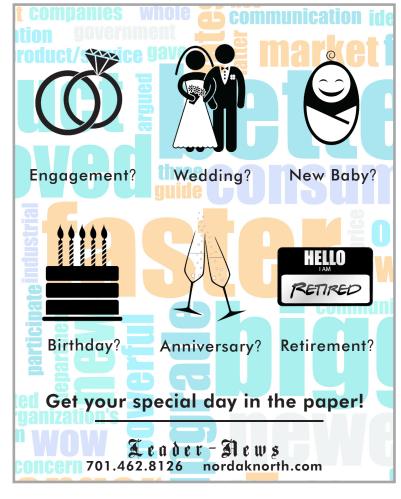
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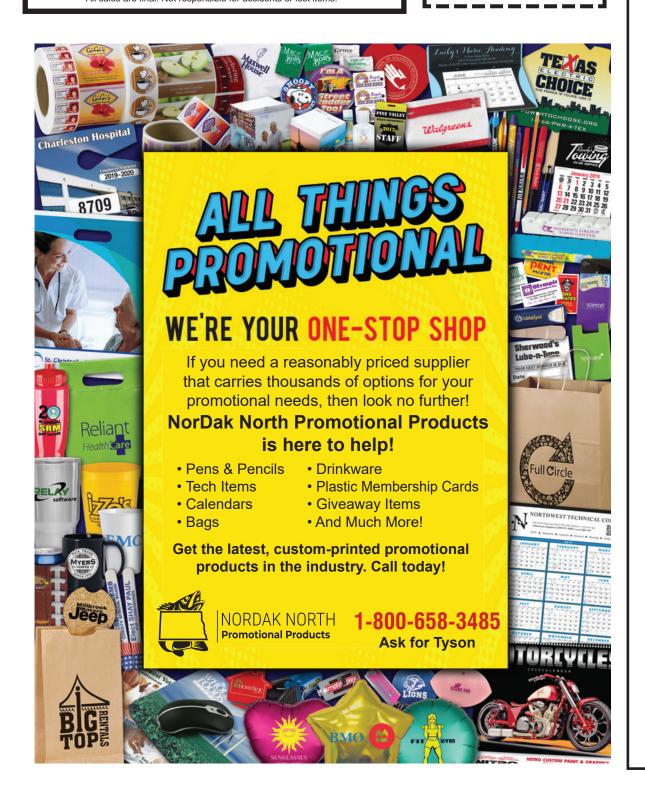
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DAKOTA GARDENER

BY JOE ZELEZNIK, FORESTER A walk in the woods

I took a walk in the woods last week with a colleague of mine, along with some graduate students. We were at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. Have you ever been there? It's a fascinating place.

Of course, to me, any forest is fascinating.

What is a forest, anyway? It's a simple question, but the answer isn't quite so easy. This is actually how I start out my introductory forestry class each time that it's taught. What's a forest? Is it just a bunch of trees? If yes, how many? There are dozens of definitions of "forest," and though many of them are similar, some are very unique.

The definition that we use in class is that a forest is "an ecosystem dominated by trees, but also consisting of associated flora and fauna, covering a considerable area." An ecosystem dominated by trees. I like that phrase, because it states very simply what makes a forest unique – trees are the main component. Yes, there are shrubs and grasses and forbs - associated flora. Yes, there are deer and insects and birds - associated fauna. But the main component of a forest is the trees.

Admittedly, the phrase "covering a considerable area" is rather vague. Certainly 50 acres is considerable. How about 10 acres? Or even one acre? Is a single-row shelterbelt considered "considerable?"

None of the standard definitions of forest agree on how big a treedominated ecosystem must be to be a forest. Some definitions say five acres while another says 10. One of the definitions lists only a single acre as being necessary to be considered as a forest. So, we leave that part of the definition vague. The area must be "considerable."

The specific forest we walked through at Knife River is about 80 acres. It's considerable.

I looked up at the forest canopy, the collection of individual tree crowns that consist of branches. and during summer, the leaves that produce food during photosynthesis. At Knife River, this particular canopy was in rough shape, having been damaged repeatedly by wind storms in recent years. There was a lot of debris on the forest floor.

I looked down, trying to find new tree seedlings coming up. There were very few, and those that managed to establish showed signs of being browsed by deer. This forest serves as a deer yard in winter, providing shelter from temperature extremes and howling winds. But the hungry animals also nip at any food that the forest might provide. It's a tough place for trees.

While I look at the trees and the shrubs, my colleague Shawn looks at the herbaceous plants, the ones that don't have woody stems or roots. This includes grasses, sedges, wildflowers and other forbs. Even in winter, he was able to identify a number of plants. The guy is amazing.

Unfortunately, many of the plants he identified were nonnative, invasive species, including brome grass and dame's rocket. The brome grass makes it hard for new trees to establish. It forms a dense canopy of its own, shading the soil and taking up any available moisture.

We took our walk in the woods to help us come up with ideas on how to regenerate the forest. The park managers want to establish new trees and we want to figure out how to best do that, even with all the challenges this site presents. We're actually pretty excited about the project, but I have to admit that I'm a bit apprehensive at the same time. It won't be easy.

Nevertheless, we'll give it our best shot. And we'll continue to walk in the woods, and observe, and learn. Have you taken a walk in the woods this winter? What have vou seen?

By the way, is a single-row shelterbelt considered a forest? Actually, no. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, for a shelterbelt to be considered a forest, it must be at least 120 feet wide, 360 feet long, and cover at least one acre. Is that "considerable?"

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North Dakota nonprofit is seeking executive director. For information on how to apply email billpatrie7@ gmail.com or call 701-391-3799 Deadline is March 1, 2024.

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- · 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

NEW IN the area? Get better acquainted with the Garrison Community. Welcome Wagon booklets are available at City Hall, the Firefighter's Museum/CVB or by calling 463-2600 or 463-2345.

SUPPORT GROUP: Alcoholics Anonymous Hotline 1-888-680- 0651. Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon meetings in Center, Sundays at 5 p.m. CT, St. Paul Lutheran Church, (no Al-Anon) 794-3381; in Garrison, Thursday at 8 p.m. at Garrison Hospital Cafeteria, enter through ER; in Washburn, Sundays at 7 p.m. First Lutheran Church, Harold call 460-1373 or Rachel 202-6716; in Wilton, Mondays at 7 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 734-6544.

DELIVERY PROBLEMS? If you're having any problems getting your XTRA - when and where you want it, we want to know. Call 1-800-229-5028 to report problems.

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CAMP OF THE CROSS is seeking a Part Time Assistant Cook. Hourly wage is \$18/hour. Interested applicants should send their resume to deaconjanie@campofthecross.com or call 701-301-9917.

LIVESTOCK

We have the following ship dates scheduled to ship cows and bulls, Monday March 4th, and Monday March 18th . As always, have them there by 11 am. Call Darin @ 701-315-0144 with any questions, also follow us on Facebook.

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.

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- We need help in April, May, and
- Duties involve driving a truck from our Washburn yard to farm fields in the area.
- Typically, a driver would make 2 to 4 deliveries per day.
- Stop at our office or call Darrell at 701-720-0268 to learn more about these positions and how to apply.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED White Shield School

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The McLean County Independent is seeking a FREELANCE WRITER

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P.O. Box 309, Garrison, ND 58540 or send resume via email to darla@nordaknorth.com or drop off at 91 N. Main St, Garrison



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Applications will be accepted in the McLean County Auditor's Office until 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, filling two (2) or more positions as a full-time Jailer/E-911 Dispatcher I. Starting salary is \$42,117.50 annually with opportunities for additional pay. A full benefit package is offered including employer funded health insurance (low deductible for both family and single); paid North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) defined benefit (pension) retirement; annual leave and sick leave; and access to excellent vision and dental insurances. For further information on the position or to obtain a McLean County job application, interested individuals may contact Lori by phone at (701) 462-8541; via email at lfoss@nd.gov; or visit www.mcleancountynd.gov/ employment. Résumés may be included with the application, but will not be accepted in place of an official application.

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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!

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HELP WANTED

Extension Administrative Assistant Posistion Open

The Sheridan County Commissioners and NDSU Extension Sheridan County are accepting applications for a part-time Administrative Assistant to serve as a support person for the Extension agent for work in all areas of Extension programming. This is a 28 hours per week, 4 days a week (flexible), full benefit position and is employed by Sheridan County.

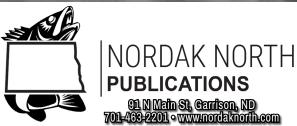
Duties of the position include answering and routing phone calls, maintaining administrative financial accounts and reports, preparing mailings, ordering supplies and publications, assisting Extension Agent in preparing for meetings and events and other duties. Applicants are required proficiency in MS Office software (Word, Excel, Publisher, Outlook, and PowerPoint.) Qualifications include a high school diploma, secretarial experience preferred, pass a criminal background check, have the abilities to take initiative, prioritize, multi-task, time-management and work independently as well as have excellent communication and organizational skills.

For application and information contact the Sheridan County Auditor's office, PO Box 439, McClusky, ND 58463 or phone (701) 363-2205. You may also contact the NDSU Extension Sheridan County office, phone (701) 363-2242 or email sarah.crimmins@ndsu.edu.

The Extension Office is located on the third floor of the Courthouse in McClusky. Applications must be returned by Friday, March 1st, 2024, 4:00 pm. The position is open until filled. Sheridan County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all applications.

Sheridan County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Shirley A. Murray Sheridan County Auditor





LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER?

Assistant Press Operator

- Full-time position
- Excellent hourly salary
- No experience needed, we will train
 - No weekend work
- Benefit package includes health dental, vision and 401K
 - Family orientated business

APPLICATION AVAILABLE AT THE MCLEAN COUNTY INDEPENDENT OFFICE.

Contact Darla Mautz at 463-2201 or email darla@nordaknorth.com for any questions.

SEASONAL MAINTENANCE POSITION

The City of Washburn is accepting applications for a seasonal public works position. All applicants must be 18 years of age at the date of beginning employment. The positions will be approximately 40 hours per week. Day to day activities, as directed by the supervisor, to include, but not limited to; mowing, weed control, garbage collection, patching, crack sealing, tree trimming, etc. Candidates must have a valid driver's license and be qualified to operate city equipment, including pickups, mowers, sprayers, trimmers, etc.; as needed. Salary range between \$18-\$20/hour.

Applications and a complete job description can be picked up at 907 Main Avenue, Washburn or www.washburnnd.com, or by contacting the City Office at (701) 462-8558. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

NOW HIRING 4 SEASONAL POSITIONS

Explore the Great Outdoors - Check out the WRT service area & your local cooperative!

- SEASONAL CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANT (x2)

Reports to Hazen, ND / Assists with all things construction & outside plant related

- SEASONAL INSTALLER REPAIR TECHNICIAN (x2)

1 reports to Hazen, ND & 1 to Washburn, ND / Brings happiness to our members by installing or maintaining equipment & services related to WRT's internet, voice & camera services



APPLICATIONS DUE @ 5:00PM on March 11, 2024
Full job description & application available
online at www.westriv.com/careers
Questions? call 701.748.4213

WRT is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WANTED: EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III-WASHBURN

Are you looking for a rewarding career with three-day weekends from March to November and overtime opportunities? If your answer is an enthusiastic yes, please keep reading!

The McLean County Highway Department is filling two or more full-time

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III (EO III)POSITIONS IN THE WASHBURN AREA.

The position may be underfilled at the Equipment Operator II (EO II) level dependent on the applicant pool. Applications will be accepted until **4:00 P.M.** on **Wednesday**, **February 28**, **2024**.

The new team member must <u>live within 60 minutes travel time</u> of Washburn. The successful candidate will operate heavy equipment (primarily motor graders) in road construction, snow removal, bridge projects, maintenance and other repair projects. To view the complete job description or to apply, visit our website, <u>www.mcleancountynd.gov/employment.</u>

If filled at the **EO III level** the starting salary is \$57,769.46 or \$27.77 per hour; if filled at the EO II level the starting salary is \$\$50,981.82 or \$24.51 per hour. There is no cost to the employee for participation in ND Public Employees Retirement System pension retirement program or the low deductible, health insurance.

Preference will be given to applicants with prior experience in operation and routine maintenance of construction equipment. High school diploma and class A North Dakota Driver's License with tanker and air brake endorsement is **REQUIRED** on the first day of work. For further information, contact Lori Foss by phone at (701) 462-8541; via email at Ifoss@nd.gov; or visit www.mcleancountynd.gov/employment. Résumés may be included with the application but will not be accepted in place of an official application.

McLean County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CATCH THE GREAT BARGAINS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS! 462-8126

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- WINDOWS
- INSULATION



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DISC Dalors Frontier Cooperative

FULL-TIME OR PART TIME EMPLOYEE`

Central Dakota Frontier Cooperative is seeking a **Full-Time or Part-time employee** to join our **Store Team** in Turtle Lake, ND.

If full-time the position offers competitive pay; an excellent benefits package that includes health, dental and vision insurance, paid vacation, profit sharing and 401K plan.

If part-time the position offers excellent pay, along with flexibility. If hired, the applicant will learn valuable skills such as inventory management, customer service skills, as well as numerous other skills that apply to the industry.

If interested stop by our Turtle Lake location to get an application or call the Store Manager at 701-448-2355.

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Contact the professionals at NDCF for a free, confidential conversation about your options as you plan your estate. www.NDCF.net | 701-222-8349







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Stop in or contact us for a FREE consultation.

BISMARCK, ND

2910 East Broadway, #18 **701-751-1038**



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- Lab
- Maintenance
- Radiology
- Dietary
- Housekeeping

Employment incentives may apply!

Search our open jobs and apply today.

www.chistalexiushealth.org/careers

Questions?

Email: kara.jones900@commonspirit.org or call 701-530-7178



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