NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Affidavit of Publication

Katie Foiles, being duly sworn, states as follows:

1. I am the designated agent, under the provisions and for the purposes of, Section 31-04-06, NDCC, for the newspapers listed on the attached exhibit.

A. Exhibit Attached (Overview):
NDNA Order Number: **26091NN10**
NDNA Invoice Number: **25729**
Description: **Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, Montana-Dakota Utilities, Ellendale 345kV Substation Expansion Dickey Cty, Case No. PU-26-293**
Publication(s): **Dickey County Leader, Oakes Times**
Date published to ndpublicnotices.com: **September 3, 2026**
Exhibit details publication(s) and run dates published as requested by the placing agency or department; description of published notice.

2. All of the listed newspapers are legal newspapers in the State of North Dakota and, under the provisions of Section 46-05-01, NDCC, are qualified to publish any public notice or any matter required by law or ordinance to be printed or published in a newspaper in North Dakota.

Dated: September 3, 2026

Signed: _____

Print Name/Title: Katie Foiles, Advertising Placement Coordinator

Notary Public: _____

My commission expires: May 4, 2027

NICOLE HERRIG
NOTARY PUBLIC
SOUTH DAKOTA
SEAL SEAL

11 PU-26-293 Filed 09/03/2026 Pages: 3
Affidavit of Publication With Tear Sheets
North Dakota Newspaper Association (NDNA)

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. **Case No. PU-26-293**
Ellendale 345kV Substation Expansion – Dickey Cty
Siting Application

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

On July 10, 2014, the Commission issued Certificate of Corridor Compatibility Number 154 Certificate 154) and Route Permit Number 166 to Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) and Otter ail Power Company designating a location for the construction and operation of approximately 1 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities in Dickey County, lorth Dakota.

On July 31, 2026, MDU filed an Application to amended Certificate 154 for a proposed xpansion to the Ellendale 345kV substation located in Dickey County, North Dakota. The urpose of this expansion is to increase the facility's reliability and operational flexibility while upporting growing commercial loads.

The issues to be considered in this proceeding are:

1. Will the construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility at the proposed ocation produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the itizens of North Dakota?

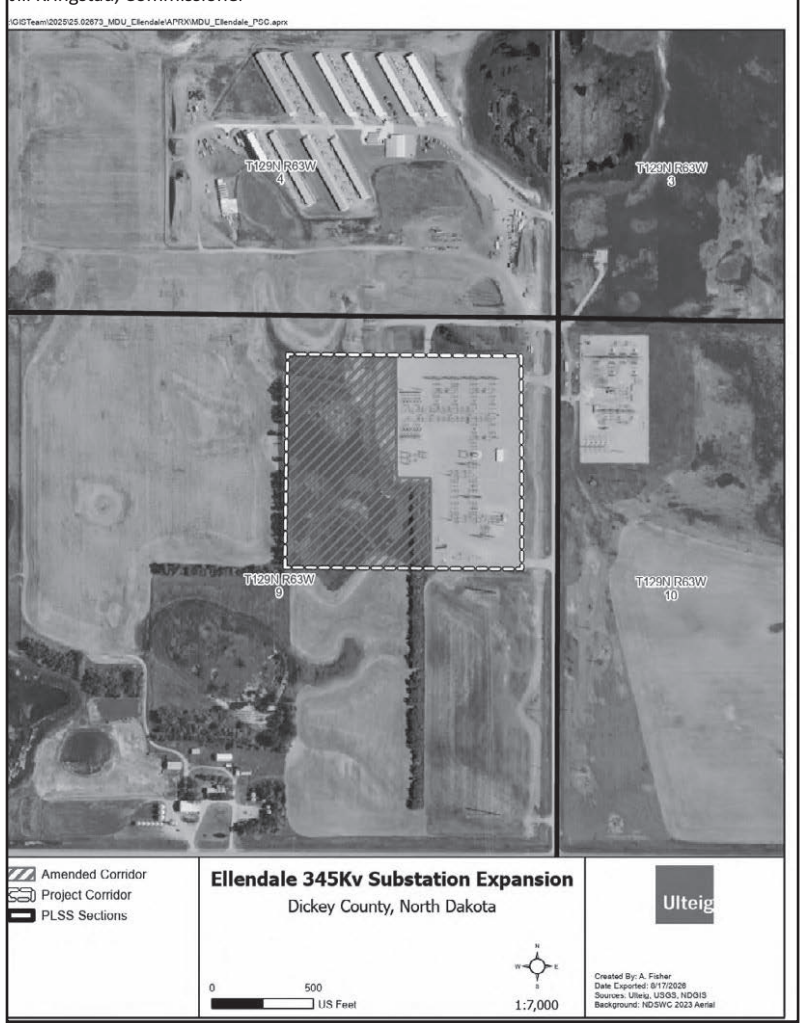
2. Is the proposed facility compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient se of resources?

3. Will the construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility at the proposed ocation minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system eliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and imely fashion?

Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a earing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons or requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearings must be received by October , 2026. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a formal earing.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North akota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require ny auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials please notify the ommission.

Issued: August 26, 2026
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, Commissioner
Randy Christmann, Chair
Jill Kringstad, Commissioner



Labor Day 2026 travel costs update

Grok Analysis, August 31, 2026

Drivers heading out for Labor Day weekend will pay record prices at the pump as Americans squeeze in one last summer trip.The national average for regular gasoline stood at $4.08 to $4.10 a gallon Monday, about 90 cents, or 27 percent, higher than the $3.19 average around Labor Day 2025, according to AAA.

GasBuddy said the holiday is on track to be the most expensive Labor Day on record, topping the $3.83 mark set in 2012. August is also poised to become the costliest August ever, the first month the national average stayed above $4 every day.Prices vary widely. California averages more than $5.60 a gallon, while some Southern and Midwestern states remain in the mid-$3 range. Analysts point to high crude oil prices and reduced Russian refining capacity.

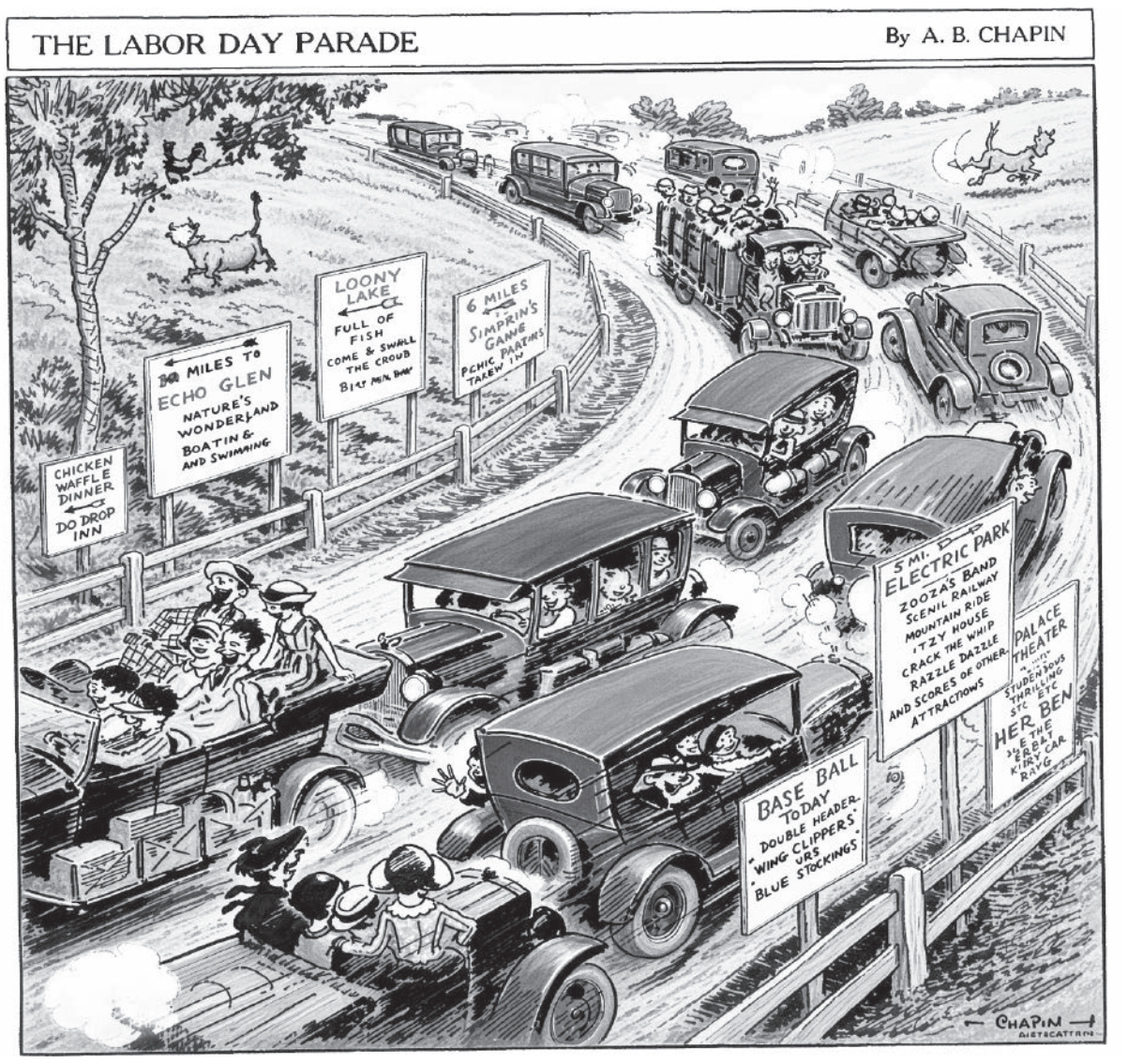
Travel demand remains strong even as costs rise. AAA lists Seattle, Orlando, Boston, Denver, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Anchorage and Atlanta among top domestic destinations, with national parks and Alaska cruises especially popular. Flights to leading U.S. cities are about 20 percent higher than last year, averaging $790 to $800 round-trip. Hotel rates are up about 9 percent. Domestic cruises and international flights are slightly cheaper.

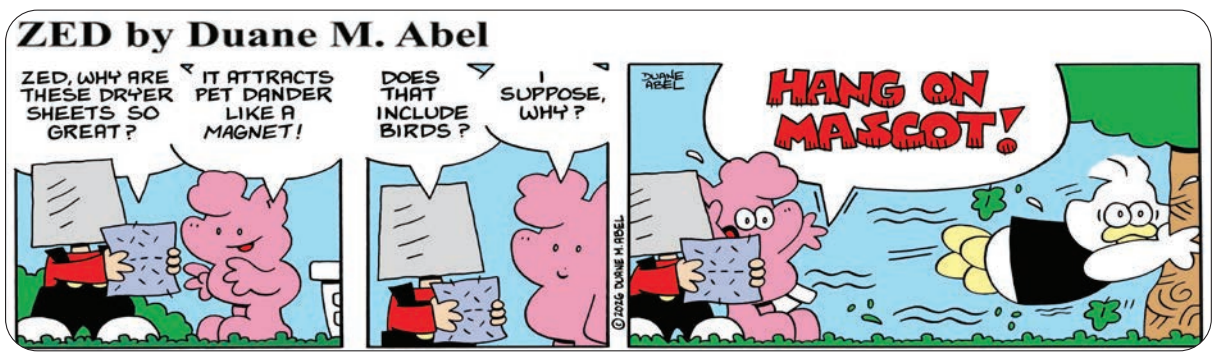
Snippets from pages past

Labor Day travels 100 years ago

Dickey County Leader, September 2, 1926

Crowded roads on the Labor Day holiday aren't new: the motoring tradition was getting seriously revved up by the mid 1920s. Greater wealth and more leisure time, combined with rapid advances in automobile technology and road improvements made for more and longer holiday trips. This cartoon from the *Leader* is a good illustration of why, even in rural areas, this decade can rightfully be called "the Roaring Twenties."





Abstracts of Insurance Legals

10801

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025 of the

Fortress Insurance Company
In the state of IL

Total Assets	184812863
Total Liabilities	93779315
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0
Common Capital Stock	19046430
Preferred Capital Stock	0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	0
Surplus Notes	0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	34046430
Unassigned funds (surplus)	37940688
Total Capital and Surplus	91033548
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	184812863

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned	3729
Total Direct Losses Incurred	502
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of March, A.D. 2026 (SEAL).
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2025 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and
WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid,
NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2027.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of March, A.D., 2026
(SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(August 27 and September 3 & 10, 2026)

10804

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025 of the

Continental Western Insurance Company
In the state of IA

Total Assets	207,652,072.
Total Liabilities	91,856,787.
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0.
Common Capital Stock	5,000,000.
Preferred Capital Stock	0.
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	0.
Surplus Notes	0.
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	30,653,727.
Unassigned funds (surplus)	80,141,558.
Total Capital and Surplus	115,795,285.
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	207,652,072.

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned	1,220,494.
Total Direct Losses Incurred	92,539.
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0.
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

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JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of March, A.D., 2026
(SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(August 27 and September 3 & 10, 2026)

10817

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025 of the

Plateau Casualty Insurance Company
In the state of Tennessee

Total Assets	101129963.47
Total Liabilities	59866872.96
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0
Common Capital Stock	4200000
Preferred Capital Stock	0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	0
Surplus Notes	0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	7129032.02
Unassigned funds (surplus)	29934057.65
Total Capital and Surplus	41263089.67
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	101129962.63

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned	1262
Total Direct Losses Incurred	3378
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

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JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

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(SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(August 27 and September 3 & 10, 2026)

10885

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025 of the

Key Risk Insurance Company
In the state of IA

Total Assets	134,311,575.
Total Liabilities	86,418,359.
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0.
Common Capital Stock	4,500,000.
Preferred Capital Stock	0.
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	0.
Surplus Notes	0.
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	29,750,000.
Unassigned funds (surplus)	13,643,216.
Total Capital and Surplus	47,893,216.
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	134,311,575.

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned	211,557.
Total Direct Losses Incurred	-27,245.
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0.
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

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JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

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(SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(August 27 and September 3 & 10, 2026)

10891

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025 of the

Concert Insurance Company
In the state of Illinois

Total Assets	149346273
Total Liabilities	115575496
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0
Common Capital Stock	4500000
Preferred Capital Stock	0
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	2400000
Surplus Notes	0
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	22197989
Unassigned funds (surplus)	4672788
Total Capital and Surplus	33770777
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	149346273

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned	22447376
Total Direct Losses Incurred	9309904
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

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JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance

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(SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(August 27 and September 3 & 10, 2026)

10900

ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025 of the

Preferred Employers Insurance Company
In the state of CA

Total Assets	105,611,289.
Total Liabilities	48,992,260.
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0
Common Capital Stock	3,500,000.
Preferred Capital Stock	0.
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than Special Surplus Funds	0.
Surplus Notes	0.
Gross Paid in and Contributed Surplus	7,500,000.
Unassigned funds (surplus)	45,619,029.
Total Capital and Surplus	56,619,029.
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	105,611,289.

NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025

Total Direct Premiums Earned	0.
Total Direct Losses Incurred	0.
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0.
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

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Commissioner of Insurance

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

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(SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(August 27 and September 3 & 10, 2026)

Library Corner

Reviews submitted by Jeanine Pahl

Hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs 1:30-5:30pm, Wed 1:30-7:30pm, Fri 1:30-3:30pm.
Please follow the Oakes Public Library on Facebook for the most up-to-date information.
742-3234-Ext. 155 • Oakes Public Library, Oakes, ND

Shadow Friends
by Tess Gerritsen

A famous scientist dies under suspicious circumstances, and retired spy Ingrid Slocum believes it is connected to a mission that almost killed her 30 years ago. With help from a former CIA partner, Ingrid searches for answers while dangerous assassins try to stop her. Together, the retired spies of the Martini Club must uncover old secrets and survive a deadly threat from the past.

Brain Damage
by Freida McFadden

Dr. Charly McKenna seemed to have it all until she was shot and nearly killed. She wakes up in a hospital unable to remember who she is or what happened. As her memories slowly return, she realizes someone wanted her dead. While searching for the truth, Charly begins to suspect that the person responsible may be someone she once trusted.

Tom Clancy Pressure Depth
by Jack Stewart

(Jack Ryan Jr. #15) Jack Ryan Jr. is on Guam to work on a project for Hendley Associates. It's a perfectly ordinary insurance matter, but trouble finds the Ryans wherever they go. So, it's no surprise when Jack's involvement with a US Navy dive team working off the coast uncovers a threat to international security. For years, rumors persisted that the Soviets had placed a device for tracking American submarines on the sea floor. By now, the technology should be outdated. But the Americans are still interested in recovering it. It's a seemingly routine mission until they make a shocking discovery: the defensive network they thought they were looking for is actually a weapon unlike anything they've ever seen. That explains the arrival of a Chinese special operations team who seem determined to get their hands on the aging tech, even if they have to kill to do it. They're sure they can handle the Americans. But they don't know Jack.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

We continue to have a generous collection of Large Print books from NDSL. Stop by and look!

Bookworm Discovery Class - 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 in the library (Year round).

Lego Lovers - 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 (September-May).

Mayor's Column

As the summer vacation comes to a close, I was looking back on a wonderful summer for the city and some thanks and kudos are in order.

Thanks to the community in general for having your properties looking good for our guests coming to town for Irrigation Days. The flags and flowers on the light poles and the welcoming parks showed off our community pride. Thanks to the Chamber Board and to the city employees for all the extra efforts on their part.

Thanks to the American Legion for a wonderful fireworks display to celebrate our country's 250th Anniversary.

Thank you to coaches who lead our summer sports activities. Many of you are volunteers and we appreciate your willingness to give. Thanks to the management, lifeguards, and park board crew for providing a fun summer of swimming and lessons. Our pool brings pride to our town.

Thanks to the Chamber and Active Arts for bringing entertainment to the stage at Union Square Park. Thank you to the members of St. John's Lutheran Church for a memorable celebration of our 250th.

Then there were the volunteer crews who began the process of removal of overgrown trees and shrubs at the cemetery. As the picture shows, it was amazing to see what was inside some of those overgrown lilac bushes! Look for announcements for future opportunities to continue this work at the cemetery.

Thanks to the first responders for all they do for the city of Oakes and for the great Back to School Night.

All this civic pride makes me proud to call Oakes home.

Mayor Doug Sitzler

Back in the Day

100 Years ago...1926

1) Byron W. Lehman of Hecla, S.D., under arrest for the theft of an automobile in Oakes about a year ago, broke jail here Sunday night and at last report is still at large.

2) Dr. E.D. Timmins, dentist, deliberately committed suicide about 10 o'clock Saturday morning, shooting himself through the head with a .32 calibre revolver. The doctor had acted strangely around home for several days.

3) Saturday Specials at Gordinier Grocery: 24 bars Crystal White soap - $1.00; 1 pkg. Naphtha Soap Chips - 25c; 1 can peas - 18c.

50 Years ago...1976

1) Stephen McLean scored a hole in one at the Oakes Golf Club on Sunday, May 9. He scored the ace with a 4 wood on the 175 yard par 3 ninth hole.

2) The Oakes Chamber of Commerce has selected Mar Jean Smith to represent Oakes in the Miss ND Pageant to be held in Bismarck.

3) Specials at Super Valu: Blade Cut Chuck Roast - 58¢ lb; Armour Star Wieners - 12 oz. pkg. 79¢; Armour Star sliced bacon - 12 oz. pkg. $1.19; Oscar Mayer sliced bologna - 8 oz. pkg. 65¢.

25 Years ago... 2001

1) Since 1973 Steuck's Jewelry has called Main Avenue home. This past week the clock on the front came down ending an era. Mike, Jake and Pat Kelley were in charge of the demolition. The lot was purchased by Mark Anderson of Rudy's for expansion.

2) John Zetocha of First Southwest Bank, Oakes, recently graduated from the Dakota School of Banking. He has been employed by the bank as an Ag Lender for the past five years.

3) The Oakes United Methodist Church has gathered up all of the aluminum can tabs from this past year. They have weighed and bagged them. The grand total in weight was the largest total ever turned in so far from Oakes, 123 pounds. Ethel Day reported to The Times that it takes one thousand tabs to make a pound. You do the math!

Commitment to healthier food choices continues

SNAP changes targeted for Nov. 1

Bismarck, N.D. (Aug. 26, 2026) -In collaboration with and at the direction of the U.S. Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA), North Dakota Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced that North Dakota submitted a request to postpone from Sept. 1 to Nov. 1, 2026, changes to the list of items eligible for purchase with an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card under the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) Healthy Choice Waiver.

"This pause provides an opportunity for our federal partners and retailers to continue to prepare and for SNAP households to become more familiar with the changes to items that can be purchased with an EBT card," said HHS Economic Assistance Director Rebecca Askins. "The new timeframe also allows HHS to expand support for this initiative."

North Dakota SNAP participants can continue to purchase currently eligible items with their EBT card until the new SNAP Healthy Choice Waiver implementation date of Nov. 1. HHS will continue to provide updates as they become available.

If you have questions about SNAP, visit hhs.nd.gov/applyforhelp or contact the Customer Support Center by email at applyforhelp@nd.gov; by phone Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT, at 866-614-6005 or 701-328-1000, 711 (TTY); or by mail to Customer Support Center, P.O. Box 5562, Bismarck, ND 58506. You can also contact a local human service zone office.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. — Case No. PU-26-293
Ellendale 345kV Substation Expansion – Dickey Cty
Siting Application

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

On July 10, 2014, the Commission issued Certificate of Corridor Compatibility Number 154 (Certificate 154) and Route Permit Number 166 to Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) and Otter Tail Power Company designating a location for the construction and operation of approximately 11 miles of 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and associated facilities in Dickey County, North Dakota.

On July 31, 2026, MDU filed an Application to amended Certificate 154 for a proposed expansion to the Ellendale 345kV substation located in Dickey County, North Dakota. The purpose of this expansion is to increase the facility's reliability and operational flexibility while supporting growing commercial loads.

The issues to be considered in this proceeding are:

1. Will the construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility at the proposed location produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?
2. Is the proposed facility compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?
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For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials please notify the Commission.

Issued: August 26, 2026
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, Commissioner
Randy Christmann, Chair
Jill Kringstad, Commissioner

Public Notices

www.ndpublicnotices.com

BUDGET HEARING FOR VERNER TOWNSHIP

The budget hearing meeting for Verner Township will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dave Ehrlin residence.

Deb Ehrlin
Verner Township Clerk
(Published in the Oakes Times, August 27, September 3, 2026)

PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING
Public Budget Meeting for the Oakes Fire District
September 9 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Fire Hall.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING
Annual Board Meeting and final Budget Meeting
September 15 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Fire Hall.

Legals... It's your right to know

NOTICE FOR BIDS

The City of Oakes hereby requests sealed bids for the purchase of non-real estate property described as follows: 2014 Peterbilt Garbage Truck (8421.2 Hours - 116,916 miles - Good Tires) AND three hundred 95-gallon Trash Totes. Bids shall be submitted for all the listed property in one bid. The Minimum bid is $99,000. Prospective bidders shall contact the City of Oakes at 701-710-1868 or visit City Hall at 124 S 5th St during business hours for more details on the item to be sold. Sealed bids must be received by 4pm on September 4th at the City Hall. Sealed bids will be opened and reviewed at the regular council meeting first occurring after the bids are due, at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. The City reserves the right to accept the best bid or the highest bid or the best and highest bid or to reject any and all bids on each item for any reason and is not required to accept any bid at any time.

NORTH DAKOTA NICE
Dean B. Kaner

Golfers buy two pairs of pants in case they have a hole in one.

NDNA

OAKES TIMES

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Letter Policy

The Oakes Times welcomes letters to the editor on issues of public interest. To be published, letter must:

- Be signed and include your address. Unsigned letters will not be considered. Letters may not be used to thank specific people or organizations.
- The Oakes Times reserves the right to edit for length, taste and libel considerations. Letters must be 250 words or less and deal with only one topic.
- Be legible.
- Preference will be given to letters from the Dickey County area. Letters from outside the area will be considered if they are of sufficient interest.

Business Hours
Mon-Thurs: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Fri: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
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