



# DAKOTA DATEBOOK

## Fargo's Red Light District

BY JIM DAVIS  
 October 21 -- Liquor and prostitution appear to go hand in hand, especially if the liquor is illegal. In the early 20th century, most of the residents of Fargo who were prone to imbibe in the spirits of the vine did so by crossing the bridge to Moorhead, where wine and liquor were legal. But if they were looking for a little more warmth than alcohol could provide alone, then their footsteps may have veered to the seedier side of Fargo, to a place called the Hollow. This was located at the foot of First Avenue North where, in a variety of establishments, the world's oldest profession was practiced.

A woman by the name of Corrine Holmes recently had been issued an injunction, restraining her from conducting an immoral house in the Hollow, but she countered that she was in the hotel business. In fact, she was in the process of building a hotel that charged \$2 per day and there was nothing illegal going on. Nonetheless, she was under the watchful eye of the Enforcement League, an unofficial group of citizens dedicated to enforcing North Dakota's constitutionally mandated prohibition law.

So, Fargo's red light district carried a double vice in the eyes of the League and other organizations such as the Women's Christian Temperance Union, which supported the efforts to eradicate this menace to society. These efforts were directed by Andrew Johnson, one of the prime movers against the immoral houses, and a zealous leader of the Enforcement League in Fargo.

At 3:15 a.m. on this date in 1904, a terrific explosion rattled

the windows across the city and echoed throughout the valley. As the dust settled, an uninjured Corrine Holmes viewed the damage. Although the blast was significant, the 2-1/2-story building, with a thick foundation, was minimally damaged. The dynamite had been poorly placed under a small addition that took most of the force, and this section was reduced to kindling. A 30-foot length of fuse, which burned at one foot per minute, had allowed the perpetrator to be long gone by the time of the explosion.

Corrine Holmes vowed to continue her hotel business and offered a \$500 reward. The cowardly act actually aroused sympathy for Miss Holmes and suspicion was cast on the Enforcement League. Eventually, national prohibition would be enacted, and liquor and prostitution would go even deeper underground -- but until then, the Hollow wasn't necessarily a place for the sleazy.

**A Chance Meeting with JFK**  
 BY SARAH WALKER  
 October 22 -- If you were able to share a meal and talk a little with anyone you wanted, who would you like to meet with?

On this date in 1960, the *Aneta Star* reported that John L. Hanson, a native North Dakotan who grew up in Aneta and graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1953, didn't get to pick the who, but he found himself with a very prominent historical figure -- Senator John F. Kennedy.

Hanson, who was working in New York for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance, ran into Kennedy at a hotel. Kennedy was in town for a fundraising

dinner. He also met up with four presidents of New York and New Jersey dairy co-ops.

Hanson's report read: "While crowds were milling around the lobby of the hotel hoping to catch a glimpse of the candidate, I happened to be meeting a business friend and associate on the eighth floor. As my friend and I were on our way to dinner, we approached a small group of men in the hall. I stopped and asked one of them for a match. While I was lighting my cigarette, the door next to me opened and out stepped Senator Kennedy."

Hanson and his friend followed the small group into an empty room, where they received a few questioning looks. Hanson said he wished to cover their informal conference for his hometown newspaper. With that explanation, Hanson remained, and did indeed share the story with the *Aneta* paper. The report was quite brief, with Hanson calling the meeting an enjoyable conversation that mostly covered farm issues and general election topics. He concluded with the comment that he did not mean to write the article to be "politically pointed"; however, he did write, "I would like to share with some of my hometown friends in Aneta the fact that I was impressed by Sen. Kennedy's appearance, sincerity and apparent adeptness."

More than 60 years after Kennedy's assassination, historians, fans, politicians, scholars and people from all walks of life can note the opportunity one North Dakotan saw and took . . . and as a result, Hanson got to rub elbows with a bit of history.

**Wrought-Iron Cross Cemeteries**  
 BY JAYME L. JOB  
 October 23 -- Beginning in the 1870s, a new group of immigrants began arriving in the United States. The newcomers were from Central Europe and Russia, but they spoke German. These "Germans from Russia" were ethnically German and had fled their villages on the Russian steppes to seek freedom overseas. Thanks in large part to the Homestead Act, Dakota Territory experienced the Great Dakota Boom during this time, as settlers flooded the territory seeking cheap land. The Germans from Russia found the area appealing, as it mirrored the harsh, treeless plains of the Russian homeland to which they had grown accustomed.

By 1910, over 30,000 Germans had arrived from Russia, settling mainly in the central part of the state. They soon became the state's largest ethnic group, and they brought their food and traditions with them. Although practicing many faiths, most followed forms of Catholicism or Protestantism. In Russia the Germans had settled in villages in which most members shared the same faith. The church became the center of their village lives, and when they became transplants on the Great Plains, they continued to prioritize the church.

One practice they maintained was the making of beautiful wrought-iron grave crosses (or Eisenkreuzen). The art of the grave crosses began in Germany and Austria as early as the 16th century. It was most common among Catholics, although others also made the crosses, which usually stood between two and six feet tall; they represented a symbol of hope and new life for the deceased loved one. The Germans who immigrated to Russia took the tradition with them, and continued to make the crosses once they arrived in the Great Plains.

Across North Dakota, thousands of iron crosses can still be found in abandoned prairie graveyards. In the 1980s, interest in the crosses and their preservation began to grow. Timothy Klobberdanz, an anthropology professor at NDSU, worked with several others to begin documenting the crosses and their locations.

On this date in 1988, the crosses of several cemeteries were added to the National Register of Historic Places to be protected as objects of cultural significance. Today, work continues to identify and document the crosses, works of art that have endured as "sentinels of the prairie."

**First Beer License in North Dakota**  
 BY JIM DAVIS  
 October 24 -- For North Dakota, prohibition had come with statehood in 1889. Although the ban on alcohol was extremely unpopular with the majority of citizens in the state, the Women's Christian Temperance Union and ministerial associations managed to thwart any efforts to amend the constitution and repeal the laws. Bootleggers and "blind piggers" became folk heroes, and bathtub gin became commonplace. Prosecuting violators was difficult, and people like Frank "Shoot to Kill" Watkins worked for the Enforcement League in an attempt to stop the flow of illegal booze.

With the initiation of the Volstead Act, prohibition became a national issue in 1920, so North Dakota was not alone in its fight against alcohol. But nationally, the law proved to be very unpopular and hard to enforce. It was so difficult to obtain a conviction that the state's attorney for Ward County decided to prosecute only the more serious infringements.

By the early 1930s it was evident that Prohibition was a failure, and Congress passed a series of laws modifying the Volstead Act, eventually eliminating it by the end of 1933. Following the national trend, the citizens of North Dakota passed an initiated measure by a large margin on Nov. 8, 1932. This repealed Section 217, Article 20 of the state's constitution, effectively ending prohibition.

The 1933 Legislature passed

Senate Bill 263 allowing the sale of beer by municipalities. However, that wasn't enough. Another initiated measure, which passed by almost 60,000 votes on Sept. 22, 1933, provided for the licensing of on-sale beer establishments.

On this date in 1933, Frank Zappas of Jamestown obtained the first beer license ever issued in the state of North Dakota. A special ceremony was conducted in the office of Governor William Langer with newly appointed State Beer Commissioner Owen T. Owen officiating.

Frank Zappas, a Greek immigrant, was the proprietor of the Palace of Sweets, a confectionary store he established in 1917. He was one of the leaders in the movement to abolish prohibition in North Dakota, and seeing the possibility of success, he remodeled his store into the Palace Café. The cafe boasted horseshoe-shaped booths and a private balcony for the celebration of special events.

It may be looked upon with a bit of irony that the second beer license was issued to the Gladstone Hotel, which was also located in Jamestown. Forty-four years earlier, almost to the day, Jamestown was serving as the center of the prohibition movement when the official news came that North Dakota was a dry state.

**The Motive Was Revenge**  
 BY DAVE SEIFERT  
 October 25 -- A terrible tragedy took place on this date in 1913 near Ray, ND. Three people were brutally shot down. The motive seems to have been revenge.

The Dillon family farmed near Ray in Williams County in western North Dakota. It was the second marriage for Mrs. Dillon. She earlier was married to Maurice Culbertson, whom Mrs. Dillon divorced because of mental and physical cruelty.

The former Mrs. Culbertson eventually married a Mr. Dillon from western North Dakota. She and her daughter from her first marriage then settled in to the

family business of farming.

Things ran smoothly for the Dillon family until Mrs. Dillon's first husband, Maurice Culbertson, again entered the picture. Apparently he had not gotten over the divorce and was now looking for revenge.

Seeking out his former wife and daughter had led Culbertson to the Dillon homestead. Finding Mr. Dillon alone in the barn, he inquired if he might spend the night with them. After refusing Culbertson's request, Culbertson became angry and immediately fired four shots into Dillon's back. Culbertson then rushed to the house, where he encountered his former wife running to the barn to investigate the shots. Without a pause, he shot his former wife in the chest. Going into the house, he found his daughter getting ready for bed. As she turned to face him, he shot the 13-year-old, who later died without regaining consciousness.

Culbertson immediately headed for the nearby city of Ray. Thinking no one would soon discover the bodies, he registered at a local hotel. The next day, he hopped a baggage train heading east.

Culbertson didn't get far. He was arrested by the freight conductor who had received a tip that the murderer might be on his train. Somehow, Mr. Dillon survived the shooting and was able to identify Culbertson.

Had it not been for a heavily armed posse and jail guard, the frenzied citizens would probably have lynched Culbertson. The report indicated that if Mr. Dillon lived long enough to make Culbertson's identification possible, the would-be lynching mob would no doubt get its wish.

"*Dakota Datebook*" is a radio series from Prairie Public in partnership with the State Historical Society of ND and with funding from the ND Humanities Council. See all the *Dakota Datebooks* at [prairiepublic.org](http://prairiepublic.org), subscribe to the "*Dakota Datebook*" podcast, or buy the *Dakota Datebook* book at [shopprairiepublic.org](http://shopprairiepublic.org).

# Sudoku answers

3	1	9	8	6	7	2	4	5
2	5	7	4	1	3	8	6	9
4	8	6	9	2	5	7	3	1
5	3	2	1	8	9	6	7	4
7	9	4	3	5	6	1	8	2
1	6	8	2	7	4	9	5	3
6	2	1	5	3	8	4	9	7
8	4	5	7	9	2	3	1	6
9	7	3	6	4	1	5	2	8

X V B Q H A K T N R U T E R B V Y B E Q  
 B E L B A Y A P A T A V C I U Y I K S P  
 P L C A Y A F C N Y N H F A V S H F N B  
 I Y O L G R C B T B X H L U P Q X I E N  
 O U Q R O O A L I A B I L I T I E S P H E  
 H I O R U E C T T C G G P K E L T X X E  
 S S E N P E C F Y L F O V A Q K Y E A E A  
 S Y T H B V O Y P C E C N A L A B E L R  
 T S N M L T U B R M N C H S Y S M X Q N  
 T U I K Q U N R I Y I A S O F S S S X I  
 E R F L O K T C G N I T E K R A M E C N G  
 E V E O N O I S L L F E E B N O N C R G S  
 H L Q C X L N E O X A G T F B E I I F S  
 S E U H E O G C N C C O A E U E G F C K  
 X B I F P I A F C F R R I Q S Y R U X K  
 Y O T E S T U V R X Y G Y L Q I O A Q M P  
 T N Y T I U U A A M F I F N L M R P P  
 R M S O I A I V B A K Q F Y E P V Q V O  
 M O N E L A A C P L Q O F H S M T B X S  
 C R A S C Q U H E Y E E A X S E C U H A

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING DAKOTA PRAIRIE SCHOOL BOARD

October 9, 2024 - 7 p.m.  
 DP School Conference Room  
 The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Todd Jorde, with members Sarah Anderson, Jennifer Rusten, Dave Blasey and Charlie Stein present. Also present were Superintendent Jay Slade; Principals Dr. Jackie Bye and Clay Johnson; and Lori Dahl, business manager.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
 Motion by Sarah Anderson, second by Charlie Stein, to enter executive session as allowed under NDCC 44.04-19.2(1). All in favor, motion carried.

The executive session began at 7:01 p.m.

**RECONVENE OPEN MEETING**  
 General meeting resumed at 7:16 p.m. Recommended action from executive session:

Motion by Dave Blasey, second by Jennifer Rusten, to reinstate the riding privileges after the two-week suspension with the agreed-upon conditions. All in favor, motion carried.

The board bills, financial reports and minutes were open for review and discussion.

Sam's Club MC/Synco ..	\$55.23
Capital One ..	129.01
Baymont Inn & Suites ....	192.60
Stephanie Bina ..	100.00
Blick Art Materials ..	25.08
Boote Septic Solutions ..	750.00
Brager Disposal	
Service ..	294.00
Braun Electric ..	1,832.20
Jackie Bye ..	42.42
City of McVilley ..	923.30
CMC Neptune ..	1,250.00
Cole Papers, Inc. ....	1,826.64
Cummins Sales	
& Service ..	144.36
Dickey Rural Networks ..	3,965.86
D & M Service ..	1,037.88
Farmers Union Oil Co. ..	4,060.97
Farmers Union Oil Co.	
--Tolna ..	548.89
Farmers Union Oil--	
Aneta ..	1,270.97
Farmers Union	
Lumberyard ..	255.50
First Care Health Ctr. ....	144.00
The Golden Rule ..	138.82
GF Public School ..	325.44
GF Co. Auditor ..	49.44
Hamster Oil, LLC ..	2,791.52
Hamley's School Buses ..	23.88
Information Technology Dept. ....	236.43
Innovative Office	
Solutions, LLC ..	216.28
Interstate Towing ..	570.00
I-State Truck Center ..	256.81
Sarah Johnson ..	48.95
Todd Johnson ..	325.00
J. W. Pepper ..	745.39
Keith's Lock & Key, Inc. .	238.56
Nicole Kirby 1 ..	1.75
Kolenda Heating	
& Cooling ..	31,288.58
LR Special Education ..	53,457.13
Lakeview Books ..	111.96
Lakota American ..	152.25
Tyler Larson ..	174.13
Patty Lippert ..	45.01

LeeAnn Loe ..... 120.00  
 McVilley Market ..... 165.17  
 Menards ..... 3,113.82  
 Michigan Hometown Foods ..... 29.33  
 Midamerica Books ..... 263.50  
 Nardini Fire Equipment .. 1,993.00  
 ND Center for Distance Education .. 1,872.00  
 ND Educators Service Co-op ..... 204.00  
 Northwest Tire ..... 139.28  
 Ohnstad Electric ..... 3,716.60  
 Otter Tail Power Co. .... 5,904.11  
 Polar Communications .. 1,561.18  
 Pomp's Tire Service, Inc. .... 722.76  
 Popplers Music Store .... 301.11  
 Tyrell Rose ..... 35.00  
 Renae Schanilec .. 46.46  
 Schoolblocks ..... 1,025.10  
 School Health Corp. .... 15.42  
 School Specialty ..... 189.30  
 Summit K12 Holdings, Inc. .... 1,995.00  
 Tri-County Water Users, Inc. .... 185.00  
 Victory Diesel, LLC ..... 1,296.46  
 Wallace Repair ..... 454.84  
 Xtreme Signs & Graphix ..... 549.92  
 Ashley Yoney ..... 50.00  
 Zaner-Bloser Ed. Publishers ..... 386.38  
 Total .. \$136,390.98

Motion by Sarah Anderson, second by Dave Blasey, to approve the minutes as printed, the financial reports as presented and the bills for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

**Elementary Principal Report:** Counselor behavior intervention specialist started Monday; she will be here one day a week. Parent-teacher conferences are on Monday in Petersburg; the scheduling program from last year is used again and is working well. New reading and math standards are presented by DPI for all grades, K-12. Elementary girls basketball finished October 5; the boys started October 7; we hired a para for a 5th grade student to play basketball, so he is supervised; two new students since the last meeting, the current enrollment is 156. Dr. Bye updated the board on upcoming events and community outreach projects.

**High School Principal Report:** September was very busy; the 5K was a really fun day, the kids were really excited and a great day. We are getting two new students after the quarter with five new students at the high school so far this year. Conferences will have a soft skills report card for parents; if parents don't attend, we mail them out. Our new grading scale has shown between 18 to 32% fewer Fs from the same time frame last year, hopefully it holds. Mr. Johnson discussed suspensions, attendance and ongoing solutions for both.

**School Board Convention --** Both Charlie Stein and Jennifer Rusten will attend; the others will wait until closer to the convention to decide.

Discussion on Future Board Meetings -- Possibilities of Zooming

the board meetings; also discussed putting the agenda and the minutes on the website. The agenda must be posted at the business office and beyond that it is up to the board's discretion. The subject of an open comment period at the end of the meeting was discussed; NDSBA does not recommend this as a practice. It was also discussed to put the meetings over Zoom; most were OK with this; there was discussion on information on the website, and the option on the website to request information and address concerns; if board members' emails or administration's should be listed.

Todd Jorde commented on the parent advisory committee and what is discussed if the chain of command is followed. He was approached and told that there was no transparency, no contact numbers and/or how to become a part of the committee. Mr. Slade started the meetings as a way to open communication with parents; it is not a public meeting and is open to all parents; it was part of his article in the Knight Reader if anyone was interested.

**Policy Recommendations --** Reaffirm 28 policies and two board regulations we only need to reaffirm. They were sent to the board.

Motion by Dave Blasey, second by Charlie Stein, to reaffirm the 28 policies and two board regulations: AAC, ABAC, ABE, ABCÉ, ABDA, ABCBA, ACBD, ACDA, ACE, BA, BABR1, BBA, BBBA, BDAB, DFAA, FDB, FDD, FDE, FDH, FF, FFA, GAAA, GAAB, GAAC, GABBA, GABDA, GABDB, HCBA, HEBB, HEEB. All in favor, motion carried.

It is necessary to rescind seven policies: ABCC, BDAA, GCC, IB, KAB1, KAB2 and LBE.

Motion by Charlie Stein, second by Sarah Anderson, to rescind the following policies: ABCC, BDAA, GCC, IB, KAB1, KAB2 and LBE. All in favor, motion carried.

First reading of the following policies were recommended by the committee: FDH-BR1, FDH BR2, FFK-BR, FGA-BR1, GAAE, GACC, GCC, KAB, KAB-BR, KAB-E, AAC-BR2, ABEB and FDB-BR.

Motion by Dave Blasey, second by Charlie Stein, to have the first reading of the policies FDH-BR1, FDH BR2, FFK-BR, FGA-BR1, GAAE, GACC, GCC, KAB, KAB-BR, KAB-E, AAC-BR2, ABEB and FDB-BR. All in favor, motion carried.

Open enrollment for next year for a kindergarten student for the 2025-26 school year to attend Dakota Prairie.

Motion by Sarah Anderson, second by Jennifer Rusten, to approve the open enrollment to Dakota Prairie. All in favor, the motion carried.

The next meeting is Nov. 13, 2024 at 7 p.m. in McVilley.

Motion by Sarah Anderson to adjourn.

Lori Dahl Business Manager  
 Todd Jorde Chairperson

# Safe Medication Disposal Option



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## Sometimes the answers are right here in Nelson County.



### Kris Moen

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Insurance answers should come easily from local agents you know and trust. Someone down the road, not across the country. It's why we're focused on autos, homes and farms right here in our community


