

Hunting tragedy

(Continued from page 1

He was transported to Feist Funeral Home in Wishek. Family members, including his parents, two uncles, a close friend and DiVenere, were at the scene throughout the recovery effort, Delzer said.

According to the State Forensic Examiner's Office, no autopsy will be performed since Hendricks' death was a witnessed drowning with no foul play suspected. Therefore, no exact cause of death has been determined.

Since the area is part of a federal waterfowl production area, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel were also involved in the operation. Other agencies assisting in the recovery included the McIntosh County Sheriff's office, Wishek Police Department, N.D. Highway Patrol and N.D. Game and Fish Department.

Delzer was highly complimentary of all the agencies and individuals involved, stating "absolutely everyone on the scene played an important role in successfully recovering Hendricks' body."

Thanks to Ryan Janke, publisher of the *Ashley Tribune* and *Wishek Star*, for permission to reprint this article.

For subscriptions or further information, see www.mcintosh-star-tribune.com



Fullerton's Family Way to host Thanksgiving Meal

By Ken Smith

Are you unsure what to do for a Thanksgiving meal, but would like to spend it with friendly people who will prepare and serve the whole thing? Consider driving over to Fullerton, where the Family Way Restaurant is hosting its third annual Thanksgiving meal with freewill donation as payment.

One of our favorite people is Sherry, the hostess at Family Way. She stopped by the office last week to tell us about this meal, which was highly successful last year. As she explained, the meal starts at noon on Thanksgiving day, and lasts until the food runs out. Last year, she said, that was about 6:00 pm.

Sherry emphasized that reservations aren't necessary Just come on over, bring yourself and friends if possible, and enjoy the blessings of good food. The freewill aspect of the event is important to Sherry and her husband Tony, who is the cook. It gives them a chance to display generosity to their diners, and in turn it gives the diners a chance to display generosity toward the restaurant.

Considering the challenges facing dining establishments nowadays, a good dose of seasonal generosity is something that would be good for all of us.

An ad for the meal is on page 9.



Ellendale City Workers hung Christmas decorations on Main Street last week, a good reminder that Christmas will soon be here.

"Food Fight": a friendly competition to support the Ellendale Community Food Pantry

Submitted

During the month of September, Choice Bank, Dakota Plains Credit Union and Starion Bank joined forces to have a friendly competition to see which financial institution could collect the most items to donate to the Ellendale Area Food Pantry.

We are pleased to announce a total of 814 items were collected and delivered to the food pantry. We are so lucky to live in such a generous community and it's because of people, like the residents of Ellendale, that we had such a successful Food Fight. Choice Bank was crowned the winner this year with collecting 402 items!

We hope to continue this tradition each year as the need continues to grow. The Ellendale Area Food Pantry is open 10am to 12pm the 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month and is located at 504 2nd Ave N in Ellendale.

Editor's Note: last Saturday we sat down with several board members of the Community Food Pantry to learn more about its role in the community. We also got to take a look at the recently completed addition that has added considerable work and meeting space and provided a bathroom and kitchen area. Look for more about this in an upcoming Leader.



Jeff Petersen, Choice Bank; Bridget Henning, Dakota Plains Credit Union; Shilo Comeau, Ellendale Area Food Pantry Coordinator, and Aaron Tschosik, Starion Bank. Below is a photo of items collected by Choice Bank



Forbes native recognized for higher ed leadership

Tim Flakoll, who has served as a Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) commissioner for more than 20 years, received the Phillip Sirotkin Award during MHEC's annual meeting, held in Cleveland, OH, November 6-8.

Phillip Sirotkin was the early visionary behind the regional higher education compact in the Midwest. MHEC established the honor in his name in 1999 and periodically confers the award upon individuals who have been voted upon by the entire MHEC commission.

"Tim has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to higher education and students across the Midwest," said MHEC President Susan Heegaard. "He played a key role in North Dakota becoming the second state to join the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement, which increases student access. He also has been a tireless advocate for open educational resources and has drawn on his experience as a North Dakota legislator to offer valuable insight for higher education policy. Receiving MHEC's highest award is a testament to Tim's outstanding contributions and leadership."

In accepting the award, Flakoll reflected on his journey from a young boy who was indifferent to school to his decades as a passionate higher education advocate. "I wish my mother and father were here to see me receive this award," he said. "When I was a college freshman, I told my mother I wasn't sure I was going to make it,



Tim Flakoll, at last summer's 4th of July celebration in Forbes. Amid his many education-related pursuits and creative hobbies (such as stained glass), Tim finds time to regularly visit relatives and friends in his home town. (Photo by Ken Smith)

and she simply said to me, 'Tim, do the best you can.' I have tried to live by those words."

Flakoll grew up in Forbes, ND, and currently lives in Fargo, where he serves on the Cass County Commission. He was a member of the North Dakota State Senate from 1998–2016. He served on the Senate Education committee for 18 years and was vice-chairman and chair from 2012–2016. He also served as provost for Tri-College University of Fargo-Moorhead and was named provost emeritus by North Dakota State University in 2024. He served as MHEC chair (2017–18), vice chair (2016–2017), and past chair (2018–2019).

Aiden Miller (EHS 2025) gets ND Association of Counties scholarship

Bismarck, ND - The North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo) has awarded \$2,000 scholarships to six students from around the state. Qualified candidates are children or grandchildren of North Dakota county employees.

Aiden Miller, son of Cresta Miller, Dickey County Deputy Clerk of District Court, is one of those recipients. Aiden is a Freshman at the North Dakota State School of Science.

The NDACo Scholarship Fund was established in 1998 with contributions by county donors and Nationwide Retirement Solutions and continues to receive contributions from individual county employees, officials and corporate supporters.



Aiden Miller photo via NDACo

DVEC seeks applications for \$1,000 Basin scholarship

Dakota Valley Electric Cooperative (DVEC) is seeking applications for the \$1,000 Basin Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC) scholarship to a high school senior who will be enrolling in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited college or vocational/technical school in the fall of 2026.

Now in its 35th year, the scholarship program is funded by DVEC's power supplier, Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

Applicants must be high school seniors enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time course of study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school in the fall of 2026. In addition, applicants must be U.S. citizens and dependents of a DVEC member.

Scholarships will be awarded regardless of financial needs, or other awards or scholarships a student may receive.

The winning recipient will be selected based on academic record; SAT/ACT scores; leadership and participation in school and community activities; honors; work experience; a personal statement of career goal; and a written recommendation by a third party.

Applicants must also write an essay describing, "How does the electricity provided by your electric cooperative improve the quality of life in your community?"

All applications must be postmarked or returned to DVEC by Jan. 31, 2026. The winner will be announced after March 1, 2026.

Scholarship applications are available for download on www.dakota-valley.com.

Applications are also available by emailing pats@dakotavalley.com, or you may call 800-342-4671 and ask for Pat.



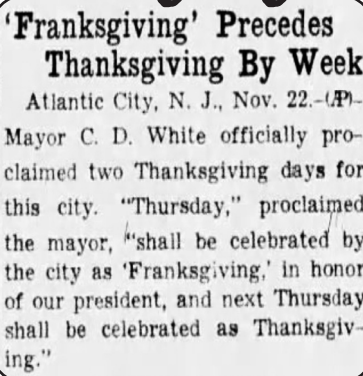
Ever heard about Franksgiving?

In 1863, President Lincoln designated Thanksgiving as a national holiday to be held on the last Thursday of November.

But in 1939, to boost Christmas shopping during the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving up a week—from November 30 to November 23.

Some states refused to go along with the change, creating two different Thanksgivings in 1939 and 1940. Congress finally settled the matter in 1941 by passing a law declaring Thanksgiving to be the fourth Thursday in November (not necessarily the last).

Many newspapers jokingly referred to the early date between 1939 and 1941 as "Franksgiving."



As told by this 1939 clipping from the *Fargo Forum*, some people used the date change as an excuse to celebrate two holidays.

Some used the term lightheartedly; others wielded it as a jab at what they saw as FDR's kingly over-reach.

Public Notice: Ellendale Public School

ELLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, OCT. 13, 2025

The Ellendale Public School Board met on October 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. with the following board members present: Michele Thorpe, Val Wagner, Kristi Gilbert, Jeff Goehring and Cresta Miller. Others present were Jeff Ringstad, Lana Norton, Cindy Rall and Allison Radermacher.

Mrs. Thorpe called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. There were no communications or visitors.

2. New Business: Superintendent Evaluation was added to the agenda. Miller motioned, seconded by Wagner to approve the amended agenda. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

The consent agenda included the 9/10/25, 9/15/25, 9/24/25 and 9/26/25 minutes, financial reports and bills as presented. Gilbert reviewed the bills and the following bills were presented for payment:

September Payroll DD 375-379, 7175-7235 Ck#16120-16136 \$309,241.63

27577 281 Repair 515.00 Tow Bus

27578 David Bennett 150.00 DOT Physical

27579 Cenex Fleetcard 4,547.95 Gas/

Diesel		
27580 Central Business Systems	429.39	Managed Print Services
27581 Chad's Electric	98.00	Wiring
27582 Cole Papers	2,553.79	Custodial Supplies
27583 Dakota Electronics	265.00	Power Supply Office Radio
27584 DPCU	1,364.74	Supplies/Training
27585 Dickey County Leader	401.10	Publishing
27586 DRN	218.82	Maple River Phone/Hosting
27587 Edgeley Public School	200.00	Fine Arts Dues
27588 Ellendale City of	2,172.19	Utilities/Garbage
27589 Ellendale True Value	155.02	Custodial Supplies
27590 EPS Activity	336.00	Lunch & Learn Meal
27591 EPS Operations, LLC	1,232.79	Spire Sets
27592 Farmers Union Oil	919.28	Chemical/Gas/Fuel
27593 Follett Software	213.93	Single Site Support
27594 Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park		122.00 Field Trip Passes
27595 Forum Communications	257.92	Jamestown Sun Subscription

27596 The Forum	301.59	Forum Subscription
27597 Amy Goehring	119.00	Brainpop
27598 Elliott Construction	4,050.00	Sept Owners Rep
27599 JW Pepper	476.48	Music
27600 James River Special Ed	375.89	Therapy Services
27601 James River Special Ed	48,941.92	1st & 2nd Qtr Payments
27602 Jarman's	288.00	Softener Rent
27603 LEAF	448.00	Printer/Copier Lease
27604 Mathcounts	160.00	Registrations
27605 Ross Merkel	560.00	Mowing
27606 Mertz Lumber	54.52	Supplies
27607 Aubrey Middlestead	468.75	August '25 Tech Support
24608 Mission Mechanical, Inc	13,945.67	Repairs/Maintenance
24609 NDCDE	18,163.00	Online Coursework
24610 NDACDA	30.00	Honor Audition Fees
27611 NDCEL	1,650.00	Training/Registrations
27612 NDSBA	1,125.00	Convention Reg
27613 NDUC	987.86	3rd Qtr Premium
27614 ND Attorney General	80.00	Background Checks
27615 Oakes Ambulance	20.00	CPR/AED Training
27616 Oakes Truck & Trailer	3,136.79	Repairs
27617 Olson's Pest Technicians	175.00	Monthly Service
27618 Performance Oil	719.75	DEF/Anti-Freeze Bulk
27619 PFM Financial Advisors	20,000.00	GO Bond Services
27620 Pitney Bowes	200.00	Postage
27621 Popplers Music	477.50	KELOEE Music
27622 Quadient Finance	400.00	Postage
27623 Quadient Leasing	134.22	Postage Meter Lease
27624 Cynthia Rall	240.89	MS/HS Rewards
27625 Jeff Ringstad	123.90	Mileage
27626 Lisa Ringstad	65.00	Colony Supplies
27627 SRCTC	13,155.00	2nd Qtr As-

essment		
27628 Taylor Music	53.98	Music Supplies
27629 Carrin Thorpe	510.00	Mowing
27630 Mathew Thorpe	550.00	Mowing
27631 Michele Thorpe	73.40	Supply Reimbursement
27632 University of ND	105.00	Honor Audition Fees
27633 US Food Service	230.80	After School Snacks
27634 Verizon Wireless	443.13	Hot Spot Billing
27635 Vital Network	24,000.00	Software Renewal
ACH MDU	5,193.44	Electricity
ACH TMS	47.25	Monthly Fee
ACH Ellendale Public Schools	289.92	eFunds Fees
ACH LEAF	896.00	Catchup Lease Payment
Total	\$179,619.57	
It was motioned by Gilbert, seconded by Goehring to approve the items on the consent agenda. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.		
EPS Spotlight:		
• Varsity VB taking 1st place in the Enderlin Tournament.		
• JH VB taking 1st place in the Matchbox tournament in Aberdeen.		
• EPS Football keeps winning and preparing for playoffs.		
• Aubrey M represented EHS as NDH-SAA distinguished student athlete distributing State Golf Awards.		
• New Presidents, SADD - Mya Glynn, FLCA - Natalee Smidt and Student Council - Mya Glynn		
• New Fellowship Christian Athletes (FCA) has been well attended over lunches on Wednesdays. Thank you to Mrs. Radermacher and Alicia Knutson for overseeing this new group.		
• Mrs. Rall teaching math at the Maple River Colony has been a tremendous help to bring normalcy to our colony students.		
• EPS students engaging with their artistic side as a result of Jamie Eberle offering the Artist in Residency instruction.		
• Thank you to Gene Hanson for inviting students to his pumpkin patch.		

• Congratulations to Lana Norton for recertification in the Business Manager Certification Program.		
• Val Wagner and Michele Thorpe earned and received the NDSBA Service Awards, way to go!		
• October is National Principals Month, Thorpe thanked Mrs. Rall and Mrs. Radermacher for their service.		
• Aidan T placed 3rd at the regional cross country meet with the team earning 8th place!		
Ringstad presented the Student Outcomes Report, highlighting key educational data available in the board members' folders. The report includes results from the Spring 2025 NDA+ Summative Assessment, district-wide performance trends, and data from the BARR (Building Assets, Reducing Risks) program.		
Wagner provided an update on the transition from Be Legendary to Student First Governance. Discussion was held. Wagner moved, and Miller seconded, to endorse the Student First Governance program and pursue participation in it. On a roll call vote, all voted yes.		
The board received an update on the School Construction Project, which remains behind schedule. While summer delays were due to rain, current setbacks are primarily related to coordinating subcontractors and securing their presence on-site. Progress includes underground prep work by electricians and plumbers, ongoing bricklaying by masons, planned slab pouring, and steel delivery. Additionally, NDSB has completed a safety assessment of the facility and practices, with adjustments now being implemented to improve overall safety protocols.		
Rall provided an updated on the virtual COGNIA review; staff are currently uploading the required data to the platform. Parent-teacher conferences are set for Wednesday, October 15th. The first transition meeting for Infinite Campus has been held, raising additional questions. Stage upgrades have continued with lighting access and the installation of independent microphones for music events. Brief updates were also provided regarding Vital Networks and the BARR report.		

Radermacher reported on September attendance. The Lunch Buddies program begins in October with TBC students joining the general lunch population. Fall reports include EES Reading Curriculum and MIS03. NDA+ Interim Testing data and Summative Data with updated growth goals based on trends. EES students visited Gene Hanson's pumpkin patch. Conferences are set for October 15, with early dismissal at 1:00 p.m. She provided an update on Behavioral Health services and the first meeting with South Country Human Services.

Norton reported on NDSBA attendance, financial audit updates as well as the Valuations Northwest appraisal happening the end of October.

Vance reported on coach openings. He provided an update on Region cross country and the Thunder football season. Volleyball's regular season is ending, with Districts beginning October 31. Elementary boys' basketball has started; the One Act Play will be performed locally on October 30, with Region competition on November 6. The music trip to Minneapolis is scheduled for November.

Goehring moved, seconded by Wagner, to approve payment of invoices from Co-op Architecture for \$8,588.00 and Foerster Testing for \$10,120.00 from the building fund, as well as the Olaf Anderson Construction invoice for \$55,908.00 using loan proceeds. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

The superintendent self-evaluation is due on October 26th, with the board evaluation due to Thorpe by November 1.

Next Regular School Board Meeting is Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Since there was no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Lana Norton, Business Manager
Formally Approved by the Board

(November 20, 2025)

Landfill Hours Oct. 1 to November 30

Monday & Wednesday: 1 pm–5 pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 9 am–12 pm (noon)

EARLY BIRD BOWLING

TEAMS		HIGH SCORES	
BALL BUSTER	20 4	KAISA LEMATTA	200
PAHL FARMS	17 7	SUE BONIEK	184
BOLLINGER FARMS	17 7	AMY MITTLEIDER	168
PIN PUSHERS	15 9	HIGH SERIES	
LIVIN ON A SPARE	11 13	SUE BONIEK	465
WE DON'T GIVE A SPLIT	8 16	AMY MITTLEIDER	440
SHORT CIRCUIT	8 16	REVA BOHNENKAMP	428

