

Dakota Attitude

Ruth (Molvik) Wigness

Interview: June 12, 2012 County: Divide City: Fortuna

High School “Gopher Gals” Still Meet Up

Ruth’s parents came from Norway. “We never spoke Norwegian,” Ruth remembers. “I think the newcomers got teased with their brogue, and my dad never wanted us to have an accent. Mom and Dad would speak Norwegian when they didn’t want us to hear what they were saying. I wish now that we had [learned].”

While attending rural school, one custom she remembers: “On May Day, we would bring a May basket for our teacher, get there early and leave it, and go hide in the countryside. Sometimes she did not find us for a half-day or more. Sometimes she would find us right away. One time they finally got a parent to find us, as were we going to miss the party at school. We thought it was a lot of fun.”

After two years of college, Ruth married Arden Wigness, an Air Force pilot. After Arden’s 10 years of military service, they returned to Fortuna to farm because of Arden’s father’s poor health. At Fortuna they raised their three children, Scott, Kent, and Kristi. Arden died on March 4, 2007, following a seven-year battle with Alzheimer’s disease. Ruth continues to live in Fortuna.

As to the church in Fortuna, Ruth mentioned, “Last service there were 10 people. The pastor has three churches. He goes to Ambrose to preach. He goes to Fortuna and then to rural Alkabo. We have young people in the community but very seldom in church. Oh, we have tapes and our minister plays a guitar sometimes and that is nice.” Asked if they sing familiar hymns or more contemporary, her reply is, “Amazing Grace was one of them today. It can’t be much more familiar than that. But I can’t sing. We have a very nice organ that was donated to us. But we are losing our organist now, or pianist, because she is moving. So this was really her last Sunday in church. Maybe we will find somebody.”

Some of the gals, including Ruth, who graduated during the ’50s from Grenora High School get together during the summers at Grenora Café. They call themselves the “Gopher Gals” after their high school mascot.

(Editor’s Note: The following profiles of North Dakota residents were collected by author James Puppe between 2004-2018, covering 617 subjects and 113,000 miles. He has given permission for his book to be serialized in North Dakota Newspapers at no charge. To find out how you can read the entire collection of Dakota Attitude profiles go to dakotaattitude.com.)

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God; Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (Make request). There are none that can withstand Your power.

O Mary, conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3 times).

Holy Mary, I place this prayer in your hands. (3 times).

Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you in full. Thanks.
GM

Stray Creek Services Liquidation AUCTION

Tuesday, November 4th, 2025 at 9 AM MT

Offering: Inventory Reduction of Heavy Equipment, Skid Steers, Large Shop Equipment, Vehicles, Trailers & Welding Related Equipment

Auction Location: 320 Legacy Court Dunn Center, ND 58626

Live On-Site Auction with Online Bidding Available through EquipmentFact (Lot Numbered Items Start at 12:00 PM MT)

Heavy Equipment & Machinery

LOT 1: 2013 JD 772G Motor Grader - 14' moldboard, w/ (2) 2' ext., also with 14' snow wing, 678 HRS, w/ripper, 80% tires SN 1D1W772GXDE654313

LOT 2: 2014 CAT D6T1XW Dozer - 8214 hrs, ripper, 10' blade, SN CAT00DD6TARCW01516

LOT 3: 2014 210 GLC Excavator - hydraulic thumb, 48" bucket, 4296 hrs, SN 1FF210GXEES2922

LOT 5: 1980 CAT 627B Scraper - 14 cu. yds, 10000 total hrs, 985 hrs on new front motor, rear motor 3900 hrs, front rubber 35%, rear rubber 19%, runs good. SN627HAF01005

LOT 6: 2011 Ditch Witch RT115 Quad Trencher - 7 ft., 1596 hrs, 18" bucket, new extra teeth & accessories, TRACX 80%, front blade with tilt, good, SN CMWR115QH00000221

LOT 7: Esch No-Till Drill Mod. 5507, 7 ft., like new, only used 26 acres. LOT 8: JCB Tele Skid 3T581 - 4,425 hrs, 70% tracks, joy stick, 2 spd, 4' boom, heatzair, diesel, regular maintenance completed. (NO attachments included)

LOT 9: MEC 1930 Scissor Lift - 19', 2-person (works good)

LOT 10: Daewoo C-25 LP Forklift - 5000 lbs, (very good)

Vehicles & Trailers

LOT 13: 2005 Peterbilt 379 Semi, 983,692 mi, Cummin 15X, double sleeper, tag aail, wet kit, back rubber 60%, tag aail tires 80%, front rubber 40%, DOT, runs great

LOT 14: 2014 Chevy K3500 Silverado 4x4, 4-door pickup - Duramax, auto, 221,056 miles, 9"Xnaphide flatbed box @ Thunderstruck bumper (Service Skid NOT included)

LOT 15: 2019 Road King Hydraulic Dump Trailer - 7x16 w/ roll tarp

LOT 16: 2019 ABU Flatbed Trailer - 82' x 20', w/ ramps

LOT 17: 1989 Valh Low Boy Semi Trailer, rubber @ 30%, gas powered pony motor, 18 mo ago New deck bed, axels, wiring, air lines & brakes all updated. TYAS433E9B01071

LOT 19: DCT-EEZ and 14 Tilt Bed Trailer - 82' x 20'

LOT 20: 2007 HTC Alum Step Deck Trailer - 43'

LOT 25: 1985 Hobbs Pneumatic Trailer - used for fly ash

LOT 28-B: CON, EX box, 20' w/ (2) 7' side doors - v. good

LOT 29: Bobcat 30C Post Hole Diggers - 9", 12" bits

LOT 30: Haugen 1850 Dakota Driver

LOT 31: Bobcat 30C Post Hole Diggers - 20" bit

LOT 32: Bobcat 30C Post Hole Diggers - 20" bit

LOT 33: Wolverine Concrete Mixer - 4', never used

LOT 34: Wolverine Trencher 72", never used

LOT 35: Wolverine Trencher 72", never used

LOT 36: Wolverine Hydraulic Breaker

LOT 37: EDGE 7200 Brush Mower - quick-tach skid steer

LOT 38: Edge 727 Sweep

LOT 39: 84" Dirt Bucket (Bobcat)

LOT 40: 8' Snow Bucket

Welding, Fabrication & Metalworking

LOT 41: 80" Bobcat Rock Bucket

LOT 42: 96" Snow Dozer skid steer attach

LOT 43: Haugen 6' Bucket & Grapple

LOT 55: BOOS CNC Plasma Water Height Control Table, 5'x10', single phase, 220V, cuts up to 1" thick sheets, w/Hypertherm Power Max 85 Plasma Cutter and 50" Screen - runs great.

LOT 56: Lincoln Power MIG 200

LOT 57: ESAB EMP 205 IC Rebel - 3 in 1, AC/DC

LOT 58: Tnu-Weld Stud Welder TW-1321

LOT 59: Lincoln SP-100 Wire Feed

LOT 62: Service Skid-Miller Bobcat 250 Welder & Acetylene Torch & Rolair Air Compressor Items on Skid (Grease Unit NOT included)

LOT 63: Marvel Series 60HZ Metal Band Saw - 18" w/ tilt, 3 phase

LOT 66: Scotchman 6509-24M - 65 ton ironworker, (sheets & punches) 3 phase

LOT 66-B: Bridgeport End Mill Series 1, 3 phase, 2HP, DX06CNC read outs, w/ accessories

LOT 69: Angle Iron Sheer, up to 6"

LOT 71: 60 Ton Sheet Metal Break - shop built, 5' Hydraulic Hose Cutter & Bender

Welding Tables - (1) 4x5, (2) 4x4

K-series Oxygen & Acetylene Bottles (75/25 mixed bottles some 100% Argon)

LOT 76: 2022 EZ Sander DX3760M230-1 - Single Phase (Very Good)

LOT 77: 2022 Cyclone Cabinet Sand Blaster - Mod. 6035 (Very Good)

LOT 78: 2018 Clemco 3 cu. ft. Sandblaster w/ hoses

Generators, Compressors & Power

LOT 48: Sullivan Palatek C375 Portable Air Compressor - 2,849 hrs

LOT 48A: Quincy Air Chiller(Compressor) - lowers air to 35°

Shop Equipment & Tools

LOT 49: 12'x12' Gantry on wheels w/6 ton hoist, HD

LOT 50: Coats Rim Clamp 5065 Ex Tire Machine

IRON:

New angle iron, square tubing, round tubing, rectangular tubing, flat bar, flat stock, C-channel, round rod, square, aluminum, round pipe

Mesh sheeting & Flat Sheeting

1/2 to 22 ga. sheeting, full sheet 4x8 and 5x10 alum. and steel

(50) 1/2" rebar, 20'

- 100 '4" 3" Drill Pipe, 50'

- 25 '2 7/8" Drill Stem

- 300 Sucker Rod

Racks, Storage & Bins:

Lockable Roll Bins (3) - 8'x7'x3'

Lock-Bolt Cabinets (2) - 6'x6'

Miscellaneous

LOT 51: 500 Barrel Frac Tank

LOT 52: Snow Ex Salt Dispenser - alum hopper, truck mount, 12V elec. motor, 2cu yd, new

Seller: Stray Creek Services

PUBLIC NOTICE

Morton County Commission Minutes

MORTON COUNTY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
September 23, 2025

The Morton County Commission Regular Meeting was called to order on September 23, 2025 at 5:30 PM by Chairman Boehm at the Morton County Courthouse, 210 Second Avenue NW, Mandan, North Dakota. Others present were Commissioners Zachmeier, Buckley, Morrell and Tokach and Auditor Rhone. Also present were States Attorney Koppy, Sheriff Kirchmeier and Recorder Seefeld.

Buckley moved and Morrell seconded to approve the agenda with correction. All voting aye, motion carried.

Buckley moved and Tokach seconded to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2025 regular meeting. All voting aye, motion carried.

Tokach moved and Morrell seconded to approve bills and payroll. On a roll call vote, all voting aye, motion carried.

Morrell moved and Buckley seconded to approve the abatement #7150-7151. All voting aye, motion carried.

Tokach moved and Morrell seconded to approve the abatement #7152. All voting aye, motion carried.

Tokach moved and Morrell seconded to approve out of state travel for Recorder Seefeld to attend the PRIA conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on Feb 24-26, 2026. All voting aye, motion carried.

Chair Boehm opened the Public Hearing on the 2026 Budget at 6:00 PM. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:02 PM.

Morrell moved and Buckley seconded to approve the 2026 budget with a total budget of \$36,225,071 and a property tax levy of \$10,804,792. All voting aye, motion carried.

Morrell moved and Tokach seconded to approve policy 800-003, Social Media Policy as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Buckley moved and Morrell seconded to approve out of state travel for 7 Highway Department employees to attend the 40th Annual Local Roads Conference in Sioux Falls, SD on October 20-22, 2025. All voting aye, motion carried.

Tokach moved and Morrell seconded to authorize Auditor Rhone to sign loan documents for the following special assessment projects: Mantahni, Entzel 2nd-9th, Prairie Ridge Estates, Yellow Rose Estates and Howe'n Wolf Estates, Special Assessment numbers 2490, 2586, 2589 & 2588. All voting aye, motion carried.

Public Comment period as required by NDCC 44-04-20.1 was opened at 7:52. There was no public comments and comment period was closed at 7:52.

The total of all county funds expended from September 12, 2025 through September 23, 2025 equals \$1,019,353.29.

A detailed list of funds expended by check is available for public inspection anytime during regular business hours at the Morton County Auditor's Office.

Morrell moved and Tokach seconded to adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Nathan Boehm, Chairman, Morton County Commission

PUBLIC NOTICE

Glen Ullin School Special Board Minutes

Glen Ullin School District No. 48
Special School Board
Official Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 17, 2025
Multi-Purpose Room 8:45am
OFFICIAL
Meeting ID: 242 503 847 571 2
Password: bS2Nk26e

1. Call To Order:
President Jill Feser called the meeting to order at 8:27 pm in the Glen Ullin School MultiPurpose Room. A roll call was taken of the board members present, Andrew Jacobson, Matt Morman, Chasity Wood and Mitchell Bettenhausen. Also present was Business Manager: Kayla Schumacher; and Superintendent: Martin Bratrud. Other guests were Nancy Bittner,

2. Action/Discussion
a. Chasity Wood made the motion to accept the final 2025-2026 Mill Levy Certificate. Mitchell Bettenhausen seconded the motion. A roll call was taken: Andrew Jacobson- yea, Chasity Wood – yea, Mitchell Bettenhausen -yea, Matt Morman -yea. Motion carried.

3. Adjournment:
Chasity Wood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Mitchell Bettenhausen seconded the motion.

9.Notes:
a. Next Regular Board Meeting: October 8th , 2025 at 7:00 pm
Jill Feser, School Board President /s/Jill Feser
Kayla Schumacher, Business Manager /s/Kayla Schumacher

Sermonette From

Pastor Tony Sifuentes
Bethel Assembly of God Church,
Glen Ullin

Man’s Eyes Are Opened
2 Peter 1:1-11

Spiritual blindness is a condition that can hinder a believer from accessing divine direction, promises, and understanding.

It is true that we walk by faith and not by sight, faith opens our spiritual eyes.

The more we see those unseen things in the spirit, the greater the realm of faith for our circumstances will be.

When our eyes are opened by the Lord, we gain clarity, direction, and depth in spiritual matters.

Faith is the root of the Christian life. Faith is necessary for salvation. Unsaved people cannot grow in the Lord because they do not have this first ingredient of saving faith.

We are in a time when every believer needs to function in the ability to see, to have spiritual awareness.

Lord, empower us by the Holy Spirit to have eyes to see.

Let’s pray that we will have increase in our ability to see our life, for our family, for our destiny in Christ, for others around us, for our city and regional impact, and for Kingdom building.

We need to see with greater clarity so that we can be a wise master builder according to His blueprints.

We are living in changing times and experiencing greater challenges. But there is good news.

We do not have to peer through the lens of adversity or hard times darkly.

Neither should we grope our way through hardship, veer off to the highway of destiny, or even engage survival mode in these times.

Rather, we can stand strong and brave because, as Spirit-filled believers, we have God given eyes to see through the night what others cannot!

A heart in tune with the heart of God opens up our eyes to heavenly views and our ears to holy harmony in the Word of God. There’s a sure calling from the throne for you... are you listening?

The first four verses of 2 Peter 1 are about what God does.

The next three are about what we do.

Then the last four are an explanation and exhortation of the results of putting all this together.

For a simple fisherman, Peter had a way with words.

We know that this is inspired by the Holy Spirit, but it also reflects Peter’s thoughts and style of communication, and I don’t know about you, but I find it very impressive.

Read 2 Peter 2:1-4.

It’s all about what God does for us.

I will pick out the key words here.

Faith, righteousness, grace, peace, knowledge of God, His divine power, everything... life and godliness, glory and excellence, precious and magnificent promises, partakers of divine nature, escaped corruption.

And when I read this, I can’t help but think of the different reactions that stir in the hearts of those that hear this.

If you are not a Christian and do not have heavenly interests as the top priority of your life, then Peter’s words here will appear bland and tasteless.

We discover that God has thought of everything and given it to us as a gift.

Life and godliness are given by his power as we know him more and more.

This is all accomplished through his own glory and goodness.

Look at verse 4 with me.

“Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”

Have you thought about the promises of God for his people?

Jesus said, “I will be with you always.” “I go to prepare a place for you, and I will come again to receive you unto myself...”

God always keeps his promises!

The Bible is filled with God’s good promises for his people!

God keeps his own word. He calls us to keep it too!

God supplies the gifts and the power to perform and partake of his

divine nature.

Peter gives the list of developmental additions to our faith that assure us of God’s good promises for us.

2 Peter 2: 5-7 lists them.

This is how we unpack the spiritual qualities of the divine nature in our lives.

This helps us to look like people called by God.

Each one of these qualities is a Godlike quality that builds us into his image.

We begin to look and act like our heavenly Father!

Just look at what blessings these will bring!

And look at what a loss an unspiritual mind that misses them brings!

God has given us all things in Christ!

We must give ourselves to him and be about the business of the kingdom and personal growth in Christ so that we find certainty and assurance in our walk with Christ.

Just look at the end of this... an abundantly supplied entrance into heavenly glory with Jesus Christ.

Where are you today?

What is your priority system in this life?

Just ask yourself where you spend your most energy and emotional attachment.

That is where you are giving yourself.

Is Jesus receiving your best efforts?

I wonder how many things we ask of Jesus and never see our prayers answered because Jesus asks something of us in return and we are not obedient.

Man’s eyes can be opened, and he can be delivered from the darkness of sin and shame, death, and corruption, hell and destruction by coming to Jesus Christ and by obeying Him.

I believe one of the greatest desires of a believer is to have our spiritual eyes opened.

Pray and ask God to open our spiritual eyes so that we may know the hope and the purpose of our calling and experience the riches of the glory of his inheritance.

I believe if ask God to open our spiritual eyes we will see what God wants us to see.

We will see the people that need to hear about Jesus.

We will see the opportunities available to us to do ministry.

We will see the resources available for us here in the church and

We will see those God has given you to help you in your faith walk and life’s journey.

We ask many things from God.

He only asks us to be obedient.

I wonder how many blessings have we have missed because of our disobedience?

If God can open our Spiritual Eyes to see from the inside out of the beginning and the end of our situation, we will know the right step to take and we will have more confidence in Him and won’t have to worry much.

Why do we struggle making the changes we should make in life?

I believe it is pride and commitment.

Ephesians 1:18: “I also pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you may know the hope to which he has called you.”

We need the Holy Spirit to cleanse our eyes of all that blocks us from seeing.

That He will wash our eyes so that we can see.

That our attitudes can be changed, our priorities brought into line, and we focus more clearly on the goal that is set before us.

To become more like Christ.

In His image men and woman in our time reflecting who Christ is wherever we may go.

Do not close your eyes becoming part of the negativity, the attacking, and the stubbornness.

Do not operate with one eye open, for worry and fear is not becoming of followers of Christ.

Open your eyes, open your hearts, and be the change you wish to see in the world.

AMEN

Have a blessed week!

Pastor Tony Sifuentes