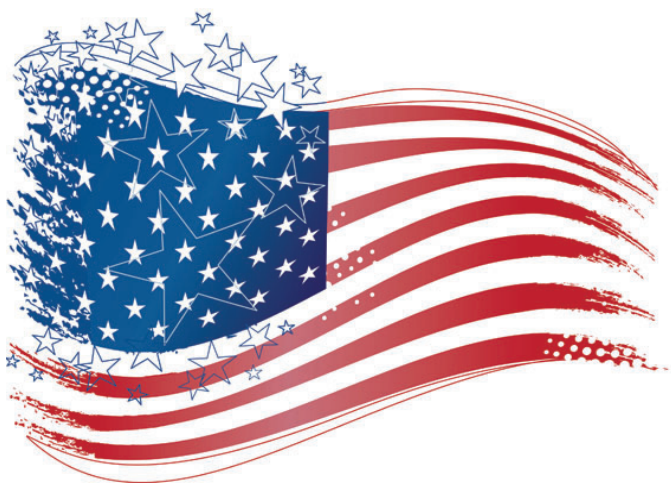




Lakota American

75¢

See us online at
lakotaamerican.com

Official Nelson County Newspaper -- Lakota, North Dakota 58344

USPS 303-400

Lakota American

Volume 125, Number 2

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Lakota Cloverleaves 4-H Club News

BY MARGARET ESTVOLD
4-H Club Leader

On November 9, 2025, Siena called the Lakota Cloverleaves 4-H Club meeting to order. Pledges were said. Roll call was: "What is your favorite subject in school?" Secretary and treasurer reports were given.

Old business: Hopefully, you are all enrolled in 4-H online. Some of you wore your 4-H t-shirts during National 4-H Week. Congrats to Rebecca, Siena and Laura for being named 2024-25 Outstanding Cloverbud, Outstanding Pre-Teen and Outstanding Teen at the Nelson County Awards Day in October. We all had a great time at the Nelson Pumpkin Patch on

October 8.

New business: On November 15, our club sponsored a bake sale to raise funds for Laura and Levi to attend the National 4-H Consumer Decision Making event in Texas. Nelson County 4-H Project Day is December 30. More details to follow. Our next meeting will be December 14 at 2 p.m. We will have our annual Christmas potluck party after the meeting. Everyone bring a snack to share. The meeting was adjourned.

Lydia Dahl did a demonstration on "Making Carmel Sauce" and Siena Dahl did a demonstration on "Flower Arrangement." We finished the day with some tasty snacks.



Siena Dahl doing a demonstration on flower arrangement.



Lydia Dahl doing a demonstration on making caramel sauce.



Members working on their projects.



Members designing and working on their projects.



Members designing and working on their projects.



Members with their pumpkin garlands.

Area posts observe Veteran's Day in Pekin

BY JUDY TWETE
Unit 135 President

Area posts and units, including Aneta, McVile, Pekin and Tolna, observed Veterans Day in Pekin, ND on November 11, 2025. Members of the Legion Family, made up of veterans, auxiliary members and other guests, made for a nice evening to celebrate our veterans.

It was mentioned that the "water carriers and those supplying the ammunitions" to keep small rural posts and units afloat, were especially recognized. A lot of hard-working members do much to supply the energy to be productive, while assisting veterans, serving military, families and their communities. This is where the National American Legion shines with their National slogan of "Be the One" comes in.

Picking up the ball and being committed to the great programs of this service oriented organization, are so important.

A delightful prime rib meal was prepared and served by the famous Danny Bakken from Cooperstown. Tolna and McVile's posts treated all guests to this delicious meal.

Ole Semling Post 135 was the host post this year. Commander Sateren opened the evening with table grace and continued after the meal with introductions, the POW/MIA Table service and introduction of our local violinist, Jordan Ridgeway, for some patriotic music.

Recognition of 50-year members was presented. Pekin's Commander, Doug Messner announced that David Foreng was a 50-year member and a certificate would be presented to him when he was in the area.

McVile's Unit had two 50-year members -- sisters, Carma Hanson and Dawn Johnson. Carma, although living in Grand Forks, had participated in Safe Kids car seat checkups with some help from Unit 135 in McVile. Carma is ND Department Legislative Chairman and her articles on legislative issues pertinent to Auxiliary and Legion issues are published in the Legion/Auxiliary quarterly newspaper.

Membership Chairman, Marilyn Dehne presented Dawn her 50-year certificate. Carma was unable to attend.

As an elementary school



teacher in Devils Lake, Dawn's students create cards for area veterans and had Betsy Ross visit her classroom and share proper flag etiquette information. Husband Scott accompanied Dawn.

Twete, introduced our guest speaker, Annie Gehardt, from Devils Lake. Annie is a Lieutenant Colonel in the North Dakota National Guard. Annie was deployed most recently to

Unit 135 President, Judy

(Continued on Page 12)

NDSU Extension partnering to deliver agricultural safety program

Session to be offered Dec. 4 at Webster Farms near Penn

Adopting safety practices on most farm and ranch operations is voluntary, underscoring the importance of working with community members to help producers identify hazards and take steps to reduce the risk of injuries and fatalities. In North Dakota, a large network of trusted community support exists to address the growing concern of agricultural injuries and fatalities.

To address farm and ranch safety efforts, NDSU Extension has partnered with the National Farm Medicine Center to offer the Rural Firefighters Delivering Agricultural Safety and Health (RF-DASH) train-the-trainer program in North Dakota.

The RF-DASH program will be offered in person Tuesday, Dec. 2 at the Killdeer Saddle Club in Killdeer, and Thursday, Dec. 4 at Webster Farms near Penn.

"In North Dakota we have a fantastic network of Extension agents, rural firefighters, ambulance squads and county emergency managers," says Angie Johnson, NDSU Extension farm and ranch safety specialist. "These professionals are community members and trusted sources of information that farmers, ranchers and their families listen to when it comes to addressing hazards regarding health and safety on their farm operation."

RF-DASH training opportunities are open to firefighters,



county emergency managers, EMS personnel, law enforcement, safety professionals, Extension agents, technical college instructors, rural insurance agents, farmers, ranchers and other rural community members interested in preventing agricultural injuries and fatalities. RF-DASH allows these trusted community partners to become leaders in farm and ranch safety prevention education and provide outreach opportunities to their local farmers and ranchers.

The event is free; however, registration is required by Nov. 25. Register at ndsuhq.org/safety-penn for the Penn training.

The RF-DASH program was created by the National Farm Medicine Center and the Upper Midwest Agriculture Safety and

Health Center with financial in-person training support from the CHS Foundation. The curriculum contains five modules with a hands-on component that focuses on injury prevention and emergency preparedness for farms and ranches:

- Introduction to Agricultural Emergencies
- Preplanning and Mapping Farms with Farm MAPPER
- Farm Hazard Analysis with Saferfarm.org
- Farm First Aid
- Approaching the Farm Community

"RF-DASH really forced me to take off my firefighter hat and focus on identifying farm-related hazards first," says Cale Woodhouse, past RF-DASH participant and firefighter for the Bismarck Rural Fire Department.

"I had to change my mindset to identify the potential safety hazards on the farm that could possibly end up bringing me here as a firefighter in an emergency response situation," says Woodhouse. "Instead of focusing on what the rescue process would look like, RF-DASH takes it a step further and asks, 'How do we prevent this from becoming a rescue situation in the first place?'"

Tim Zehnder, RF-DASH lead trainer, says RF-DASH aims to leverage the bonds between rural fire departments, farmers/ranchers and agricultural

(Continued on Page 12)