

## A preview to upcoming Elections across Morton County

By Richard Mendoza

mcnjreporter@gspublishing.net

Tuesday, June 9, 2026, will serve as a day residents across Morton County will have a chance to vote for candidates in contention of several key positions in their respective towns and at the county level before the general election in November.

All potential candidates will have until Monday, April 6 at 4:00 p.m. to file the necessary paperwork, which may include an Affidavit of Candidacy and Statement of Interests forms. Deadlines for submitting documents may vary, so interested parties are advised to reach out to the offices of the position they are filing for.

### Morton County

Morton County has several four-year term positions up for election this year, including two at-large positions on the County Commission, currently held by Vice Chair Andy Zachmeier and Jackie Buckley.

The positions of Morton County Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder, State's Attorney, and Sheriff, currently held in order by Dawn Rhone (Auditor), Kari Hatzembuhler (Treasurer), Nancy Seefeldt (Recorder), Allen Koppy (State's Attorney), and Kyle Kirchmeier (Sheriff), are up for election as well.

### Mandan

The City of Mandan has two seats with four-year terms on the City Commission available. The positions on the City Commission up for election are currently held by Ryan Heinsohn and Dennis Rohr.

The Mandan Park

Board has three open seats with four-year terms available. The three seats are currently held by Vice President Miles Mehlhoff and commissioners Stan Scott and Layn Mudder.

The Mandan School Board have three of nine current members, Darren Haugen, Kama Hoovestol, and Marnie Piehl, with terms set to expire in 2026.

### New Salem

In New Salem, the mayor's position, currently held by Josh Gaebe, is up for grabs for a four-year term after Gaebe filled the last two years of a term left open by the passing of Lynette Fitterer in 2024.

On the New Salem city council, the seats occupied by Delton Kautzman, Perrin Goetzfridt and Bryan Moen are up for election.

The New Salem Park Board has 2 seats available, currently occupied by Andrea Mathern and Steve Kleinjan.

The New Salem-Almont Public School District has three area seats occupied by Jackie Lausch (Area 1-City of New Salem), Monica Reiner-Pletan (Area 2-North of Highway 10), and Mark Feland (Area 4-Almont/Sims) up for election.

### Almont

In Almont, two four-year city council positions, currently held by Kaity Olson-Brett and Sharmayne Erhardt, are up for grabs.

### Glen Ullin

The town of Glen Ullin has three seats with four-year terms on the City Council up for election and two seats with four-year terms on the town's Park Board.

The Glen Ullin public school district also has

two seats with three-year terms available, one of which is currently occupied by Mitchell Bettenhausen and the other currently vacant.

### Hebron

The town of Hebron has three seats on the city council and two on the park board up for election. The mayor's position currently held by Grant Walth is also up for election.

The Hebron Public School District has three open positions on the school board.

### Flasher

The town of Flasher has several openings on the City Commission, Park Board, School Board as well as for Mayor and Municipal Judge.

On the City commission, two positions for four-year terms and one position for an unexpired two-year term are available. The two open positions for four-year terms are currently occupied by Michael Ternes and Skyler Gross. The open position for an unexpired two-year term is currently occupied by Angel Kramer.

The mayor's position, currently held by Shelly Meyhoff, is up for election for a four-year term.

The position of Municipal judge, currently held by Andrew Kuntz, is also up for election for a four-year term.

Two positions on the town's park board, currently held by Jeanie Fitterer and Donnell Doll, are up for election.

The Flasher School District has three-at large positions available, currently occupied by Andrea Fleck, Joe Fleck, and Sherry Schmidt.

## Mandan launches 2026 Fourth of July schedule

By Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg

brendan.r@gspublishing.net

2026 marks 250 years since the USA was founded, and while Morton County has always been passionate about the Fourth of July, such an occasion needs to be treated with even more reverence. According to a press release from the Mandan Progress Organization, the anniversary will be celebrated in Mandan even more than usual, and feature both beloved old and explosive new events to help honor this once-in-a-lifetime milestone.

"This celebration only happens once in a generation," said Matt Schandore, Executive

Director of the Mandan Progress Organization, in the release.

"With four months to go, we're inviting the entire community and visitors from across the region to start planning their trip to Mandan to celebrate America's 250th anniversary together."

The largest of these explosive experiences is the upcoming "Prairie Pyro-Musical" - a show at 10:00 pm on

July 3, to be seen from the grounds of Mandan Middle School. The display, which will feature fireworks synchronized with patriotic music, will be put on by Mott-based Pegasus Fireworks. This partnership has been responsible for multiple pyro-musicals in the past, including the recent 'New Year, New Light' show that set a Guinness World Record for the largest number of Roman Candles fired in a single minute.

Fourth of July week also brings another state tradition to the area:

The Mandan Rodeo, which now takes place at the Dale Pahlke Arena. 2026 marks the 147th anniversary of the rodeo, and it is expected to feature all the classical rodeo competitions (such as bull riding, cattle roping, and steer wrestling). For those who prefer less athletic events, the Art in the Park festival at Dykshoorn Park will also run from July 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and on July 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will feature food trucks, local arts and crafts, and live entertainment at the

park's bandshell.

Finally, the celebration will conclude with Mandan's traditional Independence Day Parade. 2026's theme- appropriately named 'Celebrate 250' - will focus on our country's origins, and the many events that led up to participants are encouraged to theme their floats to important moments in American history. The parade, like the run before it, is set to take place at 10:00 a.m. on Main Street.

July 4th will also feature the Mandan Independence Day 5k Road Race at 8:00 a.m., where runners will dash down Main Street ahead of the floats.

Although July and its celebrations are still some time away, Schandore and the MPO encourage everyone interested to make plans as soon as possible. Spaces for vendors, sponsors, and visitors are all limited, and expected to fill up quickly.

More information on parade registration, vendor applications, and event schedules can be found on VisitMandan.com, or by downloading the city's official app.

**Check out our Facebook page for real time area sports updates!**

## REDUCE YOUR 2026 PROPERTY TAX BILL BY UP TO \$1600!

### Eligibility requirements for the Primary Residence Property Tax Credit:

- Must own a home in ND and reside in it as your primary residence
- One credit per household, no age or income restrictions
- Must apply and be approved annually to receive the credit



**Application Deadline: April 1, 2026**  
Apply Online: [www.tax.nd.gov/prc](http://www.tax.nd.gov/prc)

**Like what you see?**  
**Vote Morton County News Journal as the official newspaper for Morton County.**

- ✓ Fair and accurate coverage
- ✓ Highlighting our local communities and schools
- ✓ Keeping public notices accessible to everyone

**NEW SALEM PHARMACY**  
509 Ash Ave. New Salem  
**843-7563**



Proud to be serving our local communities!

Support your local hometown pharmacies. We provide hometown service, full prescription services, vaccine services and more!

**GLEN ULLIN PHARMACY**  
113 S. Main St. Glen Ullin  
**348-3303**