

Prairie Fare: A Mouse Story with a Cheesy Ending

"I saw a mouse run up the steps, into the closet and back downstairs three times," my husband commented casually.

"See? I pay attention to things," he added. "You didn't tell our friend she had a mouse running around in her house?" I exclaimed.

"We were having a nice time, and I didn't want to ruin the evening," he shrugged. "I would have screamed," I said, texting our friend. I glared at my husband.

"WHAT?????" she texted back. She was raised on a farm, so the mouse had no chance. She actually ended up trapping two mice.

Mice have been in the news lately because they can spread potentially deadly diseases such as hantavirus. Fortunately, hantavirus is rare in our area, but we still need to take precautions.

Rodents can also spread various types of bacteria, including salmonella. Without proper sanitation procedures, the germs can make their way to food from surfaces or our hands. That's why we always spend some time in food safety classes addressing pest control.

Unfortunately, this is a decidedly unappetizing column. I should have added a warning, but I'd like to share some cautions. I hope that you do not encounter mice, but here's what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends.

Mice and other pests are very opportunistic, always on the lookout for food and shelter from our cold winters. As you begin the summer season and clean cabins, garages, boats, cars and sheds, be sure to take care to avoid encountering mice or their waste products. Protective clothing, goggles or masks are often needed for clean-up.

Look for entry points for mice and other rodents, and seal any openings. Be aware that mice can fit through openings the size of a pencil eraser or use their sharp teeth to chew the hole larger. Rats can enter through the size of a quarter.

Fun fact: Their teeth continue to grow throughout their lifespan. Looking for gnaw marks is another way to spot an infestation.

If you are wondering if mice have been in your property, get a battery-operated black light and turn off any overhead lights. Rodent urine fluoresces, so you can see where they have been.

Avoid sweeping or vacuuming the area because that can spread the germs into the air you breathe.

If you suspect that rodents have been in a building, vehicle or other property, open the doors and windows and allow the space to ventilate for at least 20 minutes.

Wear rubber gloves and use a disinfectant product to clean the area and inactivate the bacteria. These chemicals are registered by the Environmental Protection Agency, and they have important directions for use on the container, including safety precautions.

You can also use a household bleach solution at a ratio of 1.5 cups of chlorine bleach per gallon of water. Place the solution in a spray bottle and spray the area with the waste product so it is wet. Next, let it soak for 5 minutes. Use paper towels to wipe up the area and place in a trash bag and dispose.

Next, mop the area with a disinfectant solution according to the directions on the

package. Wash your gloved hands, then remove the gloves and wash your hands.

For more detailed advice from the CDC about potentially contaminated carpets, upholstery, books and other property, see <https://www.cdc.gov/healthy-pets/rodent-control/clean-up.html>.

Here's to a healthy mouse-free summer season.

What recipe comes to mind after exploring this topic? I couldn't help but think of cheese, and here's an easy stovetop casserole recipe and nutrition analysis from Iowa State University's "Spend Smart. Eat Smart." program.

Cheesy Chicken Casserole
 1 tablespoon oil (canola, olive, vegetable)
 1 medium onion, diced (about 1 cup)
 1 clove garlic, minced
 1 ½ cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
 1 cup uncooked instant brown rice
 2 cups frozen vegetables (broccoli, mixed vegetables, etc.)
 2 cups cooked chicken, shredded or chopped
 ¾ cup cheddar cheese, shredded

Heat oil in a skillet over medium heat. Add onions and garlic. Cook for 2 minutes. Add chicken broth. Heat to boiling, then stir in instant rice and frozen vegetables. Reduce to low. Cover and cook for 10 minutes. Add chicken and cheese. Stir constantly until chicken is heated through and cheese is melted.

Makes four servings (1 ½ cups each). Each serving has 390 calories, 14 grams (g) fat, 32 g protein, 32 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber and 490 milligrams sodium.

Submitted by Julie Garden-Robinson

JUDICIAL SUMMONS

IN THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, COUNTY OF DICKEY IN THE DISTRICT COURT, SOUTH-EAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
 New American Funding LLC f/k/a Broker Solutions, Inc., d/b/a New American Funding, Plaintiff,
 v.
 Anthony Hehr and State of North Dakota, acting by and through the Department of Human Services, Child Support Division and United States of America, acting by and through the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and any person in possession, Defendants.

SUMMONS
 CIVIL NUMBER: 11-2025-CV-00083
 THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

- To the above-mentioned Defendants including all persons unknown, claiming any estate or interest in, or lien or encumbrance upon, the real estate described in the complaint.
- You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the Complaint in this action, which is herewith served upon you, by serving upon the undersigned a copy of an Answer or other proper response within twenty-one (21) days after the service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service.
- If you fail to do so, Judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.
- This Summons and Complaint will be filed with the Clerk of this Court.
- This action relates to the foreclosure of a mortgage upon the following described real property in the County of Dickey, State of North Dakota:
 Lot 4, Block 40, Subdivision of Outlot "E" and a part of Outlots "O" and "P" to the City of Oakes. Property Address: 204 Kola Ave, Oakes, ND 58474
- The Plaintiff is not seeking a personal judgment against the above-named Defendants.

Dated: September 9, 2025
 /s/ Tyler S. Wirick
 Tyler S. Wirick
 376 East 400 South, Suite 300
 Salt Lake City, UT 84111
 Tel: 801-355-2886
 Email: tylerw@hwmlawfirm.com
 Bar Number: 10014
 HWM: ND21991

(May 14, 21 & 28)

Dickey County Weed Board - Spurge Beetles

The Dickey County Weed Board will be receiving a limited number of Leafy Spurge Beetles for dispersal in the summer of 2026. The exact date the Weed Board will receive the beetles is unknown, as the collection of beetles is based on weather and other conditions. If you would like to participate in beetle distribution, please contact Weed Officer Terry Weis at 701-224-0488 by June 15 of 2026. Beetles will be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis.

NOTICE

THE DICKEY COUNTY WEED BOARD wishes to inform the residents of Dickey County that road right-of-ways will be sprayed, and that spraying will continue for the duration of the summer and fall.

JEFF DIEMERT

DICKEY COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

Dickey County Commission Meeting Agenda June 2, 2026 9:00 am

- Zoom link available upon request if received by 4:00 PM June 1, 2026.*
- 9:00 Commission Meeting called to order
 - Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
 - Additions or Revisions to the Agenda
 - Approve Minutes
 - Approve Vouchers
 - 9:15 Public Comment Period
 - 9:45 Personnel Time
 - 10:00 Haying Bid Opening
 - 10:15 County Equalization Review
 - 10:40 Mowing Ordinance
 - 11:00 Highway Department
 - OTHER BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD
 - ADJOURNMENT
- ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE ITEMS ON THE DICKEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE AT 349-8303 BEFORE 9:00 AM MONDAY, ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE MEETING DATE.
- To request an auxiliary aid or service, please contact the Dickey County Title VI Coordinator at 349-8303 at least 5 business days before the scheduled meeting.
- To request a speaker card for the Public Comment Period, please contact the Dickey County Auditor's Office at 349-8303 or by e-mail at dcauditor@nd.gov before the meeting is called to order. The information included in the request should be your name, your address, and the agenda item from the current meeting agenda or the previous meeting agenda that the person seeks to address.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

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 Attorney for Personal Representative
 Court File No. 11-2026-PR-00016

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DICKEY COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
 In the Matter of the Estate of Mercedes R. Nishek, Deceased
 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the attorney listed above, to Bradley Nishek as Personal Representative of the Estate at P.O. Box 386, Ellendale, North Dakota 58436, or filed with the Court.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2026.
 /s/Bradley Nishek
 Personal Representative of the Estate of Mercedes R. Nishek, deceased
 P.O. Box 386
 Ellendale, ND 58436
 (May 21, May 28 & June 4, 2026)


Schnabel Auction Co.
 Florian F. Schnabel
 PO Box 330
 Kulm, ND 58456
 701-830-0489

Auction Sale


103 2nd Ave SW, Kulm, ND
 Saturday June 13, 2026 • 10:00 AM




Home to sell at 12:00 PM
 Home will be selling with washer, dryer, fridge, stove, 3BR, 2 bath, laundry, living, dining & kitchen. Full unfinished, poured basement w/water softener. Central air, electric heat, metal roof. Attached single garage.
 Legal description: Lot-6 BLK-013 S 25' Lot 6 & N 25' Lot 7 BLK 13 orig Kulm
 Immediately after the home, the 26x30 double garage & land will sell; Legal description: Lot 4 BLK 12 orig Kulm & Lot 5 BLK 12 orig Kulm.



Fishing
 Many rods & reels
 Many tackle boxes
 Lots of tackle; Ice fishing rods
 2 gas ice augers
Hunting
 Lots of traps; 1 nice long bow
 Good arrows; Deer antler
 3 compound bows
 Lots of reloading equipment
 Lots of ammo
 Snowshoes; Hunting blinds
 Decoys, decoys, & decoys
 2-man tree saw
Household
 3 full-size bedroom sets
 Smaller chest freezer
 Dining table; Sofa & chairs
 Curio cabinet; Vacuum cleaners
 Sewing machines; Large roaster
 Cast iron pans; Corning ware
 Dishes; Silverware; Pots & pans
 Everything else out of the house
Tools & More
 250 Lincoln arc welder



Good Running 330 International Tractor – Collectors item! Manufactured only one year!
 2004 Chevy Impala 3.4 eng, 212,000 miles – uses no oil
 22' Lund boat w/9.5 Evinrude & trolling motor
 Lawn Boy rider mower w/bagger – Works good!
 F525 JD zero turn mower – to be sold with confirmation
 Golf cart trailer, Snow thrower
 Skid steer trailer



Large socket set
 Set of combination wrenches
 Battery chargers
 Floor jack
 Air compressors
 Electric tools
 Sachs snowmobile 2-stroke scorpion motor

L445 New Holland Gas skid steer w/bucket & manure spikes w/grapple
 And much, much more
 Come and enjoy the day!
 Lunch catered by Kulm Tasty Treats.

Dell & Sally Widmer & Guest Consigners
 Statements made day of sale take precedence over all written material. Everything at this auction will be sold as is, where is, and with all faults. All printed material is believed to be correct, putting no blame or fault on the owner, auctioneer, and/or Auction Company.
Auctioneer: Florian Schnabel Phone: 701-830-0489
Clerk: Schnabel Auction Co. PO Box 330, Kulm, ND 58456 Lunch and Port-a-Potty Available
WEB SITE: www.facebook.com/SchnabelAuctionCo Cell: 701-830-0489

Oakes Times and the Dickey County Leader

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