

# 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
- 10:15 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](mailto: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

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



### 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

### 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

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](http://www.facebook.com/SchnabelAuctionCo)  
Cell: 701-830-0489

# Oakes Times and the Dickey County Leader



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