

Voters To Decide Future Of City Sales Tax

Stanley's 1½% city sales tax will come to a vote on Tuesday, June 9 as part of the city's election. The city sales tax was made possible years ago when Stanley established a Home Rule Charter. The advantage to the sales tax collection over property tax collection is that everyone who shops in the City of Stanley shares in the payment with the sales tax going to fund several areas including economic development, city infrastructure needs, the city park district, the library and Mountrail County Medical Center.

The city's sales tax has been used to fund a number of things throughout the community and by the city over the years since its inception. The 1½% city sales tax is divided with 20% going to the city's infrastructure fund, 20% to the city parks, 3.33333% to the library, 23.33334% to economic development and 33.33333% to the Mountrail County Medical Center.

Projects funded by the economic development portion of the sales tax fund in the past several years have included support for the Stanley Commercial Club for its Stanley promotion activities as well as sup-

plies like new banners, "Welcome to Stanley" signs, Christmas lights and more. It has also helped in the form of grants and/or interest free loans for new businesses and/or daycare startups as well as improvements and equipment for existing businesses. It has provided grants to help many of the facilities like the school, Flickertail Village and Mountrail Bethel Home.

The park board share has helped to fund the basic operations of the park district including operating and their major project of putting in the new outdoor swimming pool.

The library share has been used for several updates to the facility, as well as providing services to the entire community.

The city's infrastructure share has been used to cover costs associated with the planned improvements. That has included work in Country Estates, and the three phases of the capital improvement projects that have addressed the aging infrastructure in some of the original parts of the city. They also addressed issues with streets in the John Rian Addition and did chip seals to extend the viability of the streets. The city is

currently looking at capital improvement project phase four for the 2027 construction season. The ability to use this fund, along with oil and gas revenues, to help cover those costs has meant the city has been able to move forward with projects without asking voters for additional mill levies on their projects to cover the work. They have also been able to reduce the special assessments in recent projects by fully covering street improvements and covering a larger share, with the property owners seeing less costs.

Earlier this year, the city shared information that showed over the past five years the city has invested around \$12.5 million in projects with an estimated cost of \$4.6 million for CIP3.

Looking at that original \$12.5 million, they had received \$187,904 in grants for the projects and the city share had been \$11,173,866. That left \$1,189,838 to be certified in special assessments.

"We have been receiving a portion of the 1½ cent city sales tax for the Mountrail County Medical Center since July of 2013. For fiscal year 2045-2025, we received \$485,170.71 in funding," states MCMC CEO, Steph Everett. "For rural, community hospitals it is extremely difficult to recruit staff such as Nurses and Physical Therapists so we can continue to offer a full complement of care here at home. Taking into consideration the needs of our community, MCMC has been proactive at supplementing our local talent with these specialists, while also keeping our facility stocked with state of the art equipment to ensure safe, quality care for our patients. The money from this sales tax guarantees that we can continue to operate our Critical Access Hospital to the best of our ability to serve our community."

Minot State Announces Class Of 2026

Minot State University awarded 615 degrees, including 513 undergraduate and 102 graduate, as the University's Class of 2026.

Graduates are listed below by hometown and include their degree and major(s).

Congratulations to: Kenzie Kurtz, Berthold, Bachelor of Science in Education, Elementary Education; Katelyn Marie Schumaier, Berthold, Bachelor of Science in Education, Special Education; Mae-gan Chase, New Town, Bachelor of Science, Addiction Studies; Carson Hood Jr., New Town, Bachelor of Science, Management/Marketing; Grace Edwards, Powers Lake, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology; Madison Fraunfelner, Powers Lake, Master of Science, Speech Language-Pathology; Noah Fredrickson, Powers Lake, Bachelor of Arts, Professional Communication; Kyle Van Berkom, Powers Lake, Bachelor of Science in Education, Health and Physical Education; Luke Curren, Stanley, Bachelor of Science, Marketing/Entrepreneurship; Kayla Patterson, Stanley, Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice; Allyson Webster, Stanley, Bachelor of Science, Accounting; Susana Castro, Tioga, Bachelor of Science in Education, Special Education; Maelyn Sanders, Tioga, Bachelor of Science, Corporate Fitness and Wellness Management.

Stanley Elementary Quarter 4 Honor Roll

5th Grade

Highest Honors (4.0): Eva Anderson, Evelyn Anderson, Parker Brunner, Tate Durfee, Zander Fladland, Ethan Gonzales, Linnaya Halvorson, Thiago Hernandez Reyes, Valerie Hernandez, Clay Herschberger, Anthony Hoaby, Elizabeth Hynek, Axel Istitail, Kelsey Johnson, James Kness, James Kuster, Ezra LeBaron, Rory Leupp, Aim Magallanes, Betty Marcel-lais, Destinee Martinez, Aidan Miramontes, Addison Nelson, Layla Nichols, Cambree Pitts, Jaelynn Roper, Jason Roses, Jayden Santos, Hogan Schepp, Sawyer Skarsgard, Bryan Song, Gabriella Upchurch, Sophie Vachal, AJ Whipperman, Camden Wollesen

High Honors (3.50 - 3.99): Di-anthony Armas, Brynlee Batteiger, Hermanus Boonzaier, Nathan Centeno, Eden Feldman, Bodie Fladland, Ariana Garcia, Mateo Garcia, Elise Harrison, Chasin Hudelson, Jeanetta Judeel, Josephine Kukowski, Emmeline LaBar, Aiden Marx, Charley Meinen, Amberly Mendez, Coen Nelsen, Dylan Rivera, Aryan-

na Seay, Courtney Sigloh, Elizabeth Wolter

Honors (3.0 - 3.49): Landen Anderson, Skyler Bishop, Matthias Johnson, Johnathan Lemmer, Madison Lizotte, Alaina Maurer, Koier Nordloef, Natalie Springfield, Jaxon Staheli

6th Grade

Highest Honors (4.0): Markus Beehler, Chance Drosdal, Marshall Fjeldahl, Hailey Goettle, Henzie Longmuir, Serenity Mullineaux, Charley Reum, Axle Sandeen, Ethan Song, Sophie Stafslie, Slade Stout, Cedric Wise

High Honors (3.50 - 3.99): Jaxton Cossette, Bryson Davis, Liam Lizotte, Kinley McDonald, Sophie Meckle, Oliver Mell, Carter Olson, Annabelle Penaflor, Holland Schow, Gael Vasquez

Honors (3.0 - 3.49): Ryker Green, Madison Harrell, Aniyah Honrud, Eli Johnson, Gracie Koehn, Liam Mestas, Carson Moon, Maria Alejandra Ruiz Vivas, Jacueline Salinas, Brant Sorenson, Brooke Stone, Justin Swider, Emilia Taylor

Matthew Jacobs Earns Recognition Of Excellence In Communication From Dickinson State

Matthew Jacobs of Stanley, ND, demonstrated exceptional skills in communications courses at Dickinson State University (DSU). This student was awarded the Recognition of Excellence in Communication by the Office of Academic Affairs following the fall 2025 semester.

The Recognition of Excellence in Communication is awarded to students in all disciplines who have exhibited a high level of achievement in communication-related courses at Dickinson State. Specifically, it is awarded to students who have earned an A or B grade in College Composition I and II (ENGL 110

and 120) and Fundamentals of Public Speaking (COMM 110) over the course of their collegiate career.

This recognition can be verified by employers who are looking for workers with good written and spoken communication skills and will be posted to the student's Merit Pages account

The University's mission is to provide high-quality accessible programs, promote excellence in teaching and learning, support scholarly and creative activities, and to provide services relevant to the economy, health and quality of life for the citizens of North Dakota.

ND Ranchers Face Potential Forage Shortage

Spring conditions are creating challenges for ranchers in the 2026 grazing season. Below-average temperatures have delayed cool-season forage growth.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor map released May 14, only two percent of the state is in drought, and nine percent is abnormally dry. However, the entire state has received below-average precipitation over the last 60 days. Many areas are 50 percent or less than normal, with areas in the McKenzie and Mountrail counties at less than ten percent of normal.

"Unfortunately, we are now half-way through the period for optimal forage production," says Miranda Meehan, North Dakota State University Extension environmental stewardship specialist and disaster education coordinator.

North Dakota grasslands are dominated by cool-season grasses; as a result, about 80 percent of forage growth occurs due to precipitation from between April 1 and June 30. Precipitation received in July and August accounts for only 20 percent or less of forage production potential.

"So, if you are dry from April to June, plan for less forage from grazing and hay land sources," says Meehan.

Calculating precipitation for forage growth

Because precipitation influences forage production, April-to-June precipitation can be used to predict potential forage production deficits. For example, if precipitation during this period is 20 percent of normal, producers can expect forage production to be 80 percent lower than normal.

"These production predictions can then be used to make forage and grazing management decisions earlier in the grazing season that balance resources and reduce risk," says Kevin Sedivec, NDSU Extension rangeland management specialist.

Ranchers can use precipitation records for their location to predict forage production potential.

"By comparing the current year's precipitation for this time period with the median precipitation for the last 30 years at a specific location, ranchers can calculate the probability of receiving adequate precipitation for forage growth," says Sedivec.

For example, Grassy Butte typically receives 7.52 inches of precipitation between April and June and has received 0.35 inches as of May 15. The site needs 7.17 inches to achieve normal forage production.

The probability that Grassy Butte will receive adequate precipitation to achieve normal forage production levels can be determined by assessing the number of times it has received 7.17 inches in May and June in the last 30 years. Grassy Butte has received 7.17 inches four times in the last 30 years, so there is a 13 percent chance of receiving adequate precipitation to achieve normal forage growth in 2026.

Reviewing grazing plans

Given current conditions, ranchers should review and update their grazing and drought plans. NDSU Extension specialists offer the following management considerations:

- Evaluate alternative feed options and consider purchasing hay. Due to conditions in April, the growth of cool-season tame grass pastures or hay (crested wheatgrass, bromes) will be below average.

- Be sure to access and monitor water availability and quality throughout the grazing period. Test water quality for total dissolved solids as well as sulfates. Water quality should be monitored as long as drought conditions persist. Ensure the water supply is adequate and have a strategy in place when the water levels become low or toxic.

- Plan for removing cattle earlier, reducing the stocking rate or weaning calves early. Expect to seek alternative forages or feeding options if none of the above are desired.

- Take precautions to prevent nitrate poisoning because some plants accumulate nitrates during periods of drought.

- Maintain a monitoring plan to measure utilization and minimize overgrazing.

- Assess current year and car-

ryover winter-feed inventories. Purchase hay resources as needed. Hay is affordable in the northern Great Plains, but prices could rise if drought conditions persist.

- Consider establishing annual forages to provide supplemental feed if there is potential for late-season precipitation.

Having a plan in place with well-defined trigger dates for implementing drought management strategies will help ranchers get through the drought and minimize losses. The longer that management decisions are put off, however, the fewer the options that will be available and the greater the risk of losses.

For more information about grazing management, visit ndsu.edu/grazing-26.

For more information about dry conditions, visit ndsu.edu/drought-26.

Medicare Fraud Prevention Week

Medicare fraud is estimated to cost an estimated \$60 billion each year. Beyond the financial impact, fraud places a significant burden on beneficiaries through stress, lost time, compromised medical identities, and potential risks to their health. It also affects families, friends and caregivers, who often face added concern and lost productivity while helping loved ones recover from the effects of Medicare fraud.

"Medicare fraud has a devastating impact on both beneficiaries and the Medicare program," said Brenda Munson, Project Director, ND Senior Medicare Patrol.

"We educate individuals on how to recognize and prevent Medicare fraud. By helping stop fraud before it occurs, this program safeguards beneficiaries and strengthens the Medicare program for future generations."

Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones by joining the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) and their partners for Medicare Fraud Prevention Week, which runs through the week of June 5, because more people become eligible for Medicare when they turn 65. Learn more about Medicare Fraud Prevention Week at www.smpresource.org.

Vision Zero Highlights Dangers Of Lane Departure Crashes

As summer travel increases across the state, Vision Zero is reminding drivers that dry roads and clear skies do not eliminate the risks of distraction, fatigue, impairment and speeding. Lane departure crashes continue to be one of the deadliest crash types on North Dakota roads.

In 2024, a lane departure-related crash occurred about every two hours in North Dakota. A lane departure-related fatality occurred about every eight days. These crashes are also the most common type of crash resulting in injuries in rural areas.

Lane departure crashes happen when a vehicle crosses an edge or center line or otherwise leaves the traveled way. Because many occur at high speeds on rural roads, these crashes often result in serious or fatal injuries.

"Summer driving can create a false sense of security," said Karin Mongeon, NDDOT Highway Safety Division director. "When roads and

visibility are good, drivers may be more likely to speed, lose focus or become distracted. But it only takes a moment for a vehicle to cross the center line or leave the roadway."

North Dakota continues to invest in roadway safety improvements designed to reduce lane departure crashes and lessen the severity of crashes when they do occur. These safety features include rumble strips, wider edge line pavement markings, cable median barriers and enhanced curve warning signs.

Drivers are encouraged to:

- Eliminate distractions and keep their focus on the road
- Get adequate rest before long trips
- Always drive sober or find a sober ride
- Obey posted speed limits
- Always wear a seat belt

This campaign is part of North Dakota's Vision Zero strategy to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries statewide.

NDSU Extension Sets Fencing School Event

Fencing is an essential part of livestock management.

North Dakota State University Extension will host a fencing school event on June 10 at the North Central Research Extension Center in Minot, North Dakota.

The interactive program will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include classroom instruction and hands-on demonstrations. Morning sessions will cover North Dakota fencing laws, virtual fencing and energized fencing systems. Afternoon sessions will focus on live construction demonstrations, fencing tools and fencing materials.

"Whether you are repairing an existing fence, planning a new fencing project or wanting to learn more about different fence systems, this school will provide practical information and hands-on experience for participants of all skill levels," said Paige Brummund, NDSU Extension agent in Ward County.

Registration is for a set fee and includes lunch. Registration is requested to ensure adequate meals and materials for participants. Addi-

tional information and registration are available at ndsu.edu/fencing-school26.

For more information, contact James Rogers at james.rogers.1@ndsu.edu or 701-857-7677 or Brummund at paige.f.brummund@ndsu.edu or 701-857-6444.

The North Central Research Extension Center is located at 5400 Highway 83 S in Minot.

MEMORIAL DAY!

After Memorial Day, feel free to take the flag home and keep for your family in honor of your brave vet. Thank you for their service. Due to needed mowing, if Flags and Flowers are not removed by Monday, June 1, we will be removing them. If you would like to keep yours, please take them before the morning of Monday, June 2.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - STANLEY RESIDENTS CONSIDERATION OF ABOLISHMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT


There will be a public hearing held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Stanley City Hall located at 221 South Main Street Stanley, ND, for the purpose of taking comments on the possibility of abolishing the Stanley Municipal Court. The Stanley City Council requests your presence and input before moving forth on any action regarding the abolishment of the Stanley Municipal Court.

Dated this 12th day of May 2026.
Ada Arneson, Stanley City Auditor

Stanley Commerical Club Meeting
Wednesday, June 3 at Noon
at Microtel Inn and Suites
901 Jarard St. SE, Stanley

Happy 81st Birthday on May 25 to Clayton Howell of Palermo, ND

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 120th ANNUAL MEETING of the patrons of the FLAXTON FARMERS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY will be held on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at the MEMORIAL HALL in Bowbells, ND:
6:00 p.m. Barbeque 
Business Meeting to Follow
Medora Musical Package to be given away as Grand Prize!
(Must be a Policyholder to win Grand Prize)

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Call or stop in today to learn more!

Mountrail County Medical Center Clinic is starting to give the annual flu vaccine.

Get Your Flu Shot

Everyone ages 6 months and older should get an annual flu vaccine. A flu vaccine is especially important if you have a chronic health condition such as heart disease or diabetes

Please call today to get your annual flu vaccine - 701-628-2505.
The regular flu vaccine will be \$35 and High Dose will be \$90 at time of visit or billed to your insurance at the same rate.

We have the higher-dose flu vaccine specifically designed for ages 65 and older.

Mountrail County Health Center
Many Avenues - One Goal... Your Health

UNEARTH A STORY™

You are invited to

Stanley Public Library's 2026 Summer Reading Program
Open House registration is May 28th from 2-3:30 pm

Students ages 5 to 13 are invited to participate.

The program will run
Thursdays, beginning June 4th through June 25th.

2 sessions will be offered each Thursday
1 pm - 2 pm ages 5-7
2:30pm - 3:30 pm ages 8-13

For more information contact the Stanley Public Library at 628.2223.