

AROUND THE AREA

UND announces fall 2025 president's roll of honor, dean's list and graduates

Nearly 1,300 University of North Dakota (UND) students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the 2025 fall semester president's roll of honor. To qualify for the UND president's roll of honor, a student must have an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.80 or higher. The student must also have earned a minimum of 30 semester hours and have completed a minimum of 12 hours at the close of the semester, eight of which must be for traditional letter grades.

President's roll of honor
Carrington: Hudson Schmitz, Mya Schroeder, McHenry: Brienna Ehlers
New Rockford: Keaton Cudworth, Mya Cudworth
The UND 2025 fall semester dean's list comprises

students whose grade point average are in the top 15% of the enrollment in each of the University's degree granting Colleges and Schools. A student must have completed no fewer than 12 semester hours of academic work for the semester, of which eight or more hours must be graded work rather than "satisfactory/unsatisfactory."

Dean's list
Carrington: Emma Hatch, Hudson Schmitz, Mya Schroeder, Reagan Wolsky
Fessenden: Emily Schmitz
New Rockford: Ava Bullinger, Keaton Cudworth, Mya Cudworth, Cheri Schaefer, Andrew Storstad
Sykeston: Anna Copenhaver
Nearly 900 students graduated from UND at ceremonies on December 19 in which host UND President

Armacost and keynote speaker and alumna Jill Cholewa delivered powerful messages of gratitude and congratulations.

Three separate ceremonies were held: the Professional and Graduate Ceremony in the morning, and two Undergraduate Degrees ceremonies in the afternoon - on a day when Mother Nature tried to deliver a wintery message of her own.

"Today is a day of celebration, and you braved the slick roads out there, the snow and the wind, and we're so glad that you would be here," Armacost said. "But, our students - this day is for you."

The Winter Commencement address at all three ceremonies was given by Cholewa, a 1977 and 1979 graduate of the university, a 2015 recipient of the Sioux

Award for Distinguished Achievement and Leadership and a longtime supporter of UND academic and athletic programming. She is a retired business owner currently serving as a SCORE Certified Mentor for small businesses and resides in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Local graduates include (listed by name, hometown, degree, major and honors):

- Emma Hatch of Carrington, N.D.; Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing, Cum Laude
- Mya Cudworth of New Rockford, N.D.; Bachelor of Science, Biology/Professional Health, Summa Cum Laude, Scholar in the Honors Program
- Lilisa Reese of Warwick, N.D.; Master of Social Work, Social Work.



701 Rundown by Leasa A. Lura

The counties and cities within the state of North Dakota hold many interesting news stories. Here are just a few of the feature stories that others are reading in communities around the state.

Steinwand changes plea

A jury trial scheduled for this month for a former North Dakota Game and Fish director has been canceled as a plea deal is in the works.

The trial for Terry Steinwand, 71, of Mandan, formerly from Garrison was tentatively scheduled for Feb. 17, 2026, at the Morton County Courthouse.

However, during the deposition conference on Feb. 13, 2026, the trial was canceled as a plea deal was put into play. Just days before his trial was set to begin, Steinwand changed his plea pushing his Change of Plea hearing to March 4, 1016.

The Morton County Sheriff's Department charged Steinwand on September 8 with gross sexual imposition with a victim under 15 with the defendant at least 22.

(Story by Tyson Matthews, McLean County Independent)

ND task force arrests Mexican national in Bakken

A multi-agency federal and state task force has arrested an undocumented Mexican national following a targeted investigation into the possession of child sexual abuse material in Mountrail County.

The suspect, identified as Hugo Lopez-Diaz, was taken into custody on February 6, after federal agents executed a search warrant at a local residence in Stanley. According to a formal media release from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the operation involved agents from the U.S. Border Patrol's Grand Forks Sector, the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security.

Authorities say that electronic devices seized during the search were examined by forensic specialists and a phone belonging to Lopez-Diaz contained child sexual abuse material. This led to immediate charges from the state of North Dakota.

Lopez-Diaz is currently awaiting prosecution. The North Dakota Attorney General's Office is expected to lead the legal proceedings.

The arrest comes as part of a significant increase in interior enforcement activity across what DHS Secretary Kristi Noem has labeled the "High North" sectors.

(Story by Steve Hallstrom, the McKenzie County Farmer)

Sheriff seeking help in investigation over dead horse

The Bottineau County Sheriff's Office announced recently that it was seeking the public's help in investigating the shooting death of a horse.

The BCSO received a phone call on February 8 regarding the suspicious death of a horse in a rural part of the county. It was determined that a horse sustained gunshot wounds, leading to its death. The shooting took place near unoccupied structures in a fenced pasture in the area of 12th Avenue NE and 104th Street NE.

It is believed that the shooting took place sometime in the overnight hours between February 7-8.

(Story by Matthew Semisch, the Bottineau Courier)

Commission to remove commenting on social media

To help keep the focus on information flow from the county, the Emmons County Commission has opted to disable commenting on social media posts for county pages.

During the February 3 Emmons County Commission meeting, Linton auditor Marlys Ohlhauser presented a social media policy to county leaders that mimicked Burleigh County's current policy.

Ohlhauser explained when the county is trying to post information through social media, such as a meeting agenda, numerous comments are made on the post that has nothing to do with what the post was about.

Emmons County Sheriff Gary Sanders echoed the concern saying the comments "aren't always pleasant."

"I am open to criticism, that don't bother me - but any time there is a new posting, the keyboard warriors - often from out of state - are posting about stuff the post isn't even about," Sanders said.

"You are not trying to silence people, they can share it and make all the comments in the world on their own page," District 2 Commissioner Erin Magrum said, adding that posting on social media gives the county a way to reach a group of people that maybe aren't getting information through other avenues like the newspaper.

(Story by Kelli Ameling, the Emmons County Record)

No Cameo Players in '26

The Northwest Cameo Players have announced that they will not be presenting a play in 2026, citing difficulties in finding actors.

"We couldn't find enough people to do it," said Mary Dhuyvetter, Cameo Players vice president.

"We had the play, we had the director," Dhuyvetter said. "The (Noonan) Lions were willing to sponsor it. We just could not find people."

Last year's Cameo Players production of "What is Susan's Secret?" was its first since 2019. In 2020, the community theater troupe was weeks away from performing before canceling amid the pandemic and the hiatus continued until 2025.

"We talked to people personally. We had a thing on Facebook. We had an ad in The Journal," Dhuyvetter said, but the group was still unable to cast the final two men needed.

Despite the disappointment of there being no show in 2026, Dhuyvetter holds out hope for doing a show in 2027. The group typically starts rehearsal in February and performs in April.

"I would hope we could," Dhuyvetter said, adding that it's not too early for someone interested to reach out.

"We're always looking for people."

(Story taken from the Journal, Crosby)

Senior Meals

March 2 - 6

Monday: Hamburger on a bun with lettuce, tomato and pickle, confetti coleslaw, potato wedges and fruit sauce.

Tuesday: Baked chicken breast, glazed sweet potatoes, seasoned green peas, bread and fruit sauce.

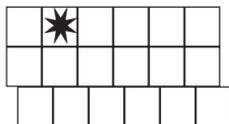
Wednesday: Stuffed pork chop, buttered red potatoes, broccoli with cheese, corn-bread and fruit sauce.

Thursday: Porcupine meatballs, mashed potatoes, herbed green beans, a roll and fruit sauce.

Friday: Shrimp scampi with linguine, low sodium vegetable, a roll and fruit sauce.

Sheyenne

by Patti Clifton



Watching the cross-country skiing Olympics Biathlon on Saturday gives one an appreciation of the athleticism and stamina required to compete. The late Gail Carlson of Sheyenne competed in a series of long-distance cross-country ski races in the Riviere Rouge Race in Canada in 1981. Incredible!

Sheyenne received about 8 inches of snow last Wednesday.

Saturday evening, Jeff and Denise Labrensz enjoyed the Lovin' Spoonful concert at the Spirit Lake Casino. They briefly felt like they were 20 years old again!

Judy Cudworth celebrated her 80th birthday at the LHGS Coffee Shop on February 20. Her grandson Glenn flew in from Texas to

be here for the weekend. He was excited to see the snow. Peter and Patti Larson, Gary Anderson, and David and Karen Anderson enjoyed Judy's party.

The deep snow on Wednesday and then the blowing snow on Thursday had New Rockford-Sheyenne School and buses running two hours late both days.

Ash Wednesday service was held at First Lutheran. The sidewalks were cleared twice as the snow just kept coming.

February is when we really start looking forward to spring and summer, and the Sheyenne Rodeo Club has been planning summer 2026 for awhile.

The Fourth of July rodeo is actually on the 4th this year which is a Saturday.

Slack begins at 9 a.m. and the NDRA rodeo at 4 p.m.

The Sheyenne Stampede kick-off event was Saturday night at the Eagles in New Rockford. Delicious chili or knoephla soup and fry bread was served for supper, followed by the silent auction and the raffle drawing.

Michael Myhre was one of the 12 lucky winners of the gun raffle. The event also featured live music by the Ryan Keplin Band. They played lots of good dance songs. It was really fun to see the little cowpokes do the chicken dance.

This year, the Stampede barrel racing, ranch rodeo and concert is August 15. Make your plans now to be in Sheyenne July Fourth weekend and August 15 for some great entertainment. Go to the Sheyenne Stampede Facebook page to get early discount-priced tickets for August 15.

Neighbors, friends and family got together at Ostby Hall on Sunday to support Cheryl Logan with her fight against cancer. The spaghetti feed and bake sale proceeds will help with medical expenses.

The Sheyenne Senior Center Library Open House on Sunday showcased the wide variety of books, audio tapes and puzzles available. Stop by any Tuesday or Friday afternoon if you haven't been there yet. There is even a pool table.

Recently, Jeff and Denise Labrensz were in Fargo for a medical appointment. While there, they enjoyed visits with Doc and Marlys Throlson and Dick Evenson.

SOAM Lent worship services: March 4 at First; March 11 at Calvary; March 18 at Grace; and March 25 at Calvary.

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CITY OF NEW ROCKFORD FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ALL CITY FUNDS Period Ending December 31, 2025

Name of Account	Receipts	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursement
General Fund	\$ 574,546.57	\$ -	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 509,897.51
Office Change	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Street Department Fund	\$ 158,443.81	\$ -	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 199,368.37
Legacy Earnings Highway Fund	\$ 443.23	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Spec. Ass'mts Def. Fund	\$ 18,189.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Emergency Fund	\$ 7,491.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Economic Development Fund	\$ 111,485.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 111,485.66
Airport Fund	\$ 84,072.41	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 330,951.47
Siren Fund	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -
Infras. Impr. Fund	\$ 121,794.10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105,026.94
Equipment Fund	\$ 3,017.39	\$ 73,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 96,036.27
Fire Dept Equip & Bldg Fund	\$ 14,238.50	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 115.84
Municipal Infrastructure Fund	\$ 401,605.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 462,156.37
Community Development Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
American Rescue Plan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Flexible Transportation Fund	\$ 34,412.38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Street Project Fund	\$ 121.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 191.66
Special Assessment Fund	\$ 508,687.43	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 484,474.51
Lodging Fund	\$ 1,944.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Swimming Pool Fund	\$ 60,150.07	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,101.25
Improvement Dist. 2019	\$ 231,881.15	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 261,359.00	\$ 158,258.00
Water Main Replacement	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,560.04
Airport Rehabilitation Project Fund	\$ 1,810,607.38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,778,747.00
Water Works Fund	\$ 332,616.93	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 316,055.04
Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$ 117,551.90	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 103,643.06
Sanitation Fund	\$ 293,257.81	\$ -	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 294,090.41
Flood Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Works Reserve Fund	\$ -	\$ 15,826.00	\$ -	\$ -
Water Works Short Lived Asset Fund	\$ -	\$ 45,533.00	\$ -	\$ -
TRUST FUNDS				
Eddy New Rockford Library	\$ 32,270.99	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 37,794.79
TOTAL	\$ 4,919,778.87	\$ 412,559.00	\$ 412,559.00	\$ 5,054,054.19