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HARRINGTON-

in the U.S. Congress.

H.R. 491 is a bill currently pending in the House of Representatives to ensure federal retirees under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) receive equal cost-of-living adjustments.

Harrington said some federal retirees are subject to different formulas for calculating those adjustments, which can result in lower annual increases compared to other retirement systems.

The other measures discussed have to do with privatizing the postal service.

House Resolution 70 and Senate Resolution 147 are non-binding measures that would express the position that America's postal service should be kept a federal entity and not privatized.

"It's important that we remain an independent federal establishment," said Harrington. "[Privatization] would be detrimental for rural communities, especially North Dakota."

Harrington said they largely met with the staff of the U.S. Senators for North Dakota, Kevin Cramer and John Hoeven, as well as the aides to the Representative for North Dakota, Julie Fedorchak.

They were able to meet Fedorchak and Cramer themselves, even if only for a brief moment.

"Fedorchak came in and introduced herself, and Cramer attended a town hall meeting that evening and was able to stop in briefly and say hi," said Harrington.

"They've always been very receptive and very personable with us," she added about their overall experience in D.C.

Harrington said the U.S. Postal Service faces several challenges, but top among them is staffing - especially for rural post offices like the one here in New Rockford.

With that in mind, and with her many years of experience in the postal service, she has decided to continue working with the UPMA post-retirement to continue pushing toward improvements.

A 1987 graduate of New Rockford High School, Harrington has committed much of her adult life to the local post office - dedication that can hardly be taken for granted at a time when rural postal services are struggling to retain staff.

Her retirement comes 26 years after starting at the post office, and after 13 years as the postmaster in New

Rockford, from where she also oversaw the rural post offices of Oberon, Fessenden, Sheyenne and Fort Totten.

When asked what comes to mind when she thinks back on her many years with the postal service, Harrington said she'll always remember the team that surrounded her.

"I can't say enough good things about the people and the team that I worked with," she said. "I don't know if the community realizes their dedication to the job and their willingness to help out and step up when we need help or we're short on a route. They really all just go above and beyond."

And as for her plans in retirement, Harrington said she simply wants to enjoy life and spend more time with her family.

Meanwhile, a temporary "Officer in Charge" has stepped in at the local post office for the time being while the vacant position is advertised.

SIGNALS-

Thompson told commissioners and emergency responders in February that the LEC receives around \$250,000 annually from Eddy County and the N.D. Association of Counties for its services.

If Eddy County had been using State Radio in 2025, she said, 9-1-1 dispatching would only have cost the county a little under \$50,000.

"With the fiscal savings here I don't see any justification to stay where we're at," added Allmaras from the fire department's perspective. He also said residents likely won't notice a difference between the LEC and State Radio.

"From our perspective - and this is my opinion - the public, when they have an emergency and call 9-1-1, are not going to see a significant impact either way," he said.

Additionally, Thompson has told commissioners that the training standards for State Radio dispatchers are excellent and that its communication center is fully staffed - which couldn't always be said for the LEC in recent years.

Meanwhile, also in attendance Tuesday was Starr Klemetsrud, the director of the LEC in Devils Lake. She responded to a handful of questions from those in attendance and reminded the commission that State Radio doesn't offer many of the services offered by the LEC.

Reverse 9-1-1 calls, after-hours calls, automatic

pager tests and siren operation are currently offered by the LEC, but not by State Radio.

In addition to finding other methods of receiving those services, the county will also have to hire its own 9-1-1 coordinator, which Thompson has said would not be a full-time position.

"I totally understand the money savings, but I think that you're going to lose the camaraderie that you have and I think you're going to lose some of the services that you have," said Klemetsrud.

Another likely cost associated with a move to State Radio would be the purchase of new pagers, which could require the county to incur a one-time cost of up to \$40,000.

However, the commissioners, local officials and emergency personnel at Tuesday's meeting seemed unanimous in their belief that any complications from the transition are outweighed by the cost savings.

Commissioner Glenda Collier added that the LEC will likely be looking to construct a new facility in the near future, which could increase costs for Eddy County even more.

"I can't come up with anything that has changed my mind, and the fire department, sheriff's department and ambulance can't come up with another reason either to outweigh the [cost savings]," said Collier.

With that, Collier made a motion to withdraw from the LEC in 2027, which was carried unanimously.

Before adjourning, Thompson told commissioners she expects the county will have an opportunity to sign a contract with State Radio at their next regular meeting on Tuesday, April 7.

Commissioners were also told that several individuals are already planning a tour of the State Radio dispatch center in Bismarck on April 9.

Meanwhile, Eddy County is still contracted with the LEC for 9-1-1 dispatching through the end of 2026, and is not expected to switch over to State Radio until January 1, 2027.

Notably, the county's

decision Tuesday does not terminate its ability to send inmates to the LEC beyond 2026.

Thompson said the decision on whether the county will continue housing inmates at the LEC will be made by the Eddy County Sheriff's Office at a later date. She noted that Eddy County can already - and often does - send their inmates to the Stutsman County Correctional Center in Jamestown.

Nevertheless, the move marks the end of a decades-long partnership with the LEC and will reshape how emergency calls in Eddy County are handled.

The county is expected to begin working with State Radio on the transition to its dispatch service sometime this fall, in preparation for services to officially switch over in 2027.

DPRCA-

the meddling mother of the bride. New Rockford native and local favorite Tessa Hartl returns to the stage as hotel owner Audrina Brown, while Drew Relling portrays Audrina's uncle, Wilberforce "Bubba" Brown, the hotel manager.

Rounding out the cast are Hannah Guilinger as the receptionist, Candy, and Josh Widmer as Douglas DuPont, a guest on a quest to expose the hotel's secrets.

This production is recommended for ages 13 and up due to some adult themes and humor.

"Sandy Toes & Salty Kisses" opens Thursday, April 9 and is live at the Old Church Theatre in New Rockford for eight performances only. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through April 19.

The Bistro is back, open 90 minutes before showtime each night. Choose from among their popular flatbreads, salads and sandwiches or try one of the new rice bowls on the menu.

Book your seats and reserve your table with a call or text to 701-399-9634, or purchase show tickets online at www.dprca.com.

Community Calendar

SPRING FEVER GARDEN FORUM watch parties at the Eddy County Extension office on Monday nights until April 13 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The online sessions are free. Free seeds and bulbs will be provided each week. Registration is encouraged at <https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/extension/events/spring-fever-garden-forums>.

FIELD TO FORK 2026 WEBINAR on Wednesday, April 1 is Safe home canning: Start with the recipe, finish with confidence. Speaker: Karen Blakeslee - Kansas State University Extension associate. All are welcome to the watch party at the Eddy County Extension Office.

BUNNY BRUNCH at the New Rockford Eagles Club from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 4. Enjoy breakfast and photos with the Easter Bunny.

NEW ROCKFORD EASTER EGG HUNT on Saturday, April 4 at 1 p.m. in Centennial Park, downtown New Rockford. Welcome all ages up to 12. Hosted by Mindy's Clubhouse. If you are interested in donating or helping with this event in any way, reach out to Mindy at 701-302-0201.

BROASTED CHICKEN FEED at the New Rockford Eagles Club on Saturday, April 4 from 5-9 p.m.

WOMEN'S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING on Monday, April 6 at 3 p.m. at the Allmaras residence, 218 6th St. N., New Rockford. Everyone welcome.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 30 supper and meeting on Tuesday, April 7. Post opens at 5:30 p.m., supper at 7 p.m. with meeting to follow. Election of Post 30 officers is on the agenda.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING on Tuesday, April 7 at 7 p.m. at the Allmaras residence, 218 6th St. N. Everyone welcome.

NR-S PROM is on Saturday, April 11 in the NR-S gymnasium. Grand march begins at 8 p.m.

NEW ROCKFORD SPRING CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES on Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9. Sign up by texting 701-302-0513 or fill out a form online at <https://forms.gle/JyNiq2Tg6B27goVZA>. Deadline to sign up is Monday, April 27.

APRIL ITEM OF THE MONTH at the Eddy County Hunger Free Food Pantry is pasta sauce. Donations can be dropped off at First Lutheran Church, 436 1st Ave. N., New Rockford.

BINGO at Ostby Hall in Sheyenne on Saturdays at 7 p.m.

EDDY CO. VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER Same day appointments available. Please call 701-302-8087.

RELAX & RETREAT MASSAGE offers massage therapy through VA Community Care Program. For more information, call 701-302-0325.

TOPS 370 is a weight loss support group. Meetings are on Mondays at 5 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in New Rockford. For more information call 701-947-2138.

COMMUNITY AMBULANCE SERVICE BOARD meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Ambulance Hall, New Rockford.

SHEYENNE VFW meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Sheyenne VFW Post 2696.

LAKE REGION SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE support group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of North Star Community Credit Union, Devils Lake. For info call Theresa at 701-662-4790.

FOOT CARE CLINIC every third Wednesday of the month at Eddy County Public Health. Call 701-947-5311 for appointments. Cost is \$25.

EDDY-NEW ROCKFORD LIBRARY BOARD meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.

NEW ROCKFORD POST OFFICE has a new phone number, 701-505-8842. The office is open 9-11 a.m. and 12:30-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SHEYENNE POST OFFICE also has a new phone number, 701-404-1149. Open 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Please contact the Transcript at nrtranscript@gmail.com or (701) 947-2417 to have your event notices listed.

Women's Auxiliary Cemetery Association ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
7:00 p.m. at the Allmaras residence, 218 6th St. N., New Rockford
EVERYONE WELCOME!

NOTICE

Wells County Weed Control Board is accepting bids for spraying Wells County State Highway and county highway right of ways for 2026 spring and fall season.

Required equipment will have the capability of a minimum of 35 feet and a smaller ATV/UTV for spot spraying.

All chemical and surfactants provided by the Wells County Weed Control Board.

Bids should be submitted on per hour basis on approximately 300 miles, more or less.

Applicator must be commercially licensed right of way sprayer and insured for a minimum of two million dollars.

If you have any questions, contact Dale Schmitz 701-693-6099.

Bids must be submitted by April 17, 2026 to:

Wells County Weed Control Board
PO Box 2
Fessenden, ND 58438

The Wells County Weed Control Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.



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Contact Your Trusted Seed Advisor

701-256-2599

EDDY COUNTY 2026 TAX EQUALIZATION ASSESSMENT MEETINGS			
Township	Time	Date	Location
City of New Rockford	9:00 AM	20-Apr	City Hall, New Rockford
City of Sheyenne	6:00 PM	20-Apr	Ostby Hall, Sheyenne
Hillsdale, Bush, Gates, Grandfield & Eddy Twps.	5:00 PM	20-Apr	Ostby Hall, Sheyenne
Tiffany, Sheldon, New Rockford & Munster Twps.	9:00 AM	22-Apr	Eddy County Courthouse
Pleasant Prairie, Superior & Rosefield Twps.	10:00 AM	22-Apr	Eddy County Courthouse
Paradise, Cherry Lake, Columbia & Lake Washington Twps.	9:00 AM	23-Apr	School House Café, Grace City
Freeborn Twp.	5:00 PM	23-Apr	Hamar Hall, Hamar
Colvin Twp.	6:00 PM	23-Apr	County Shop, Colvin Twp
Eddy County	9:00 AM	2-Jun	Eddy County Courthouse

EACH TAXPAYER has the right to appear before such board for a review of his/her assessments as determined by the office of the County Director of Equalization.

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