

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

March 2026: Stop in at the Lake Region Arts Center, corner of 4th and 4th downtown Devils Lake! Open Wednesdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Stop in and check out the artwork on display!

March 19: Come and Meet the candidates! Trygve Hammer, candidate for the US House of Representatives will be at the Pekin Community Center March 19. There may be other folks running for office present, as well. A free will offering soup bar will be open at 5:30 p.m. Comments and civil discussion to follow. Door prizes and \$20.00 gas cards for students (until gone).

March 20: Ladies Ag Night Social 5 p.m., dinner 6 p.m., 7 p.m. guest speaker at the Hofstad Ag Center, LRSC, Soil Conservation District. Must be 18+ to attend, \$30 per person.

March 21: This month's exhibition at the Lake Region Art Center, corner of 4th and 4th in the historical downtown Devils Lake, is from Deana Novak, Williston, ND. This artist will be in Devils Lake at LRAC for a one-day workshop on Friday March 21 - there is still room to sign up to learn about Novak's "cut & paste" collage

art. There is a fee of \$40 per person to attend. A reception will be held March 21 at 6:30 p.m. at LRAC for this versatile artist who is well known throughout ND for her long arm quilting, among other things!

March 21: Our next District 15 Dem-NPL board meeting is scheduled for this Saturday, March 21 at 11 a.m. out at the White House Cafe in the Holiday Mall. If you join us, lunch is on your own. You are welcome to come and hear about highlights of the state convention as well as plans for the NO KINGS protest on March 28. Thanks! Keep checking our FB page for more updates!

March 22: "Yee haw!" Barrel Racing in the Altringer Arena of the Ramsey County Fair Grounds - Devils Lake, ND. Entry Fees, open & Youth Side Pots \$30, \$10 office Fee/person, 4D format .5, .5 1 splits. Time blocks 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., exhibitions 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 12 p.m. run starts with Pee Wee, open/youth combined draw followed by 2nd Go, Futurity and Derby side pots. Series awards given to champions and reserve champions in each Division.

March 24, 2026: National Ag Day and National Ag Week

celebrated around the country in various ways! Watch for special pages and stories dedicated to agriculture in the Country Peddler and Devils Lake Journal!

March 27 - 29: 21st Annual Lake Region Boat, RV, Lawn & Garden Show March 27-29 at the Burdick Sports Arena in Devils Lake, ND. Great Deals and Free Admission.— at Burdick Arena, Turn on Firebird Lane off College Drive North.

March 28: Holiday Mall Spring Craft Show - off College Drive South, Devils Lake, ND. - Contact Beckie at 701-662-8165 for vendor spaces and more information.

March 28: Service Carnival sponsored by Devils Lake Lions Club on March 28 at the Hope Center. Event is 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. We will be assembling Birthday kits, Hygiene kits and making tie blankets. Please join us for a morning of service and friendship. Bring a friend.

April 6: Notice is given that the deadline for filing to have a candidate's name printed on the ballot for the Devils Lake Public school Board is Monday, April 6 at 4 p.m. The following offices are up for election: 2 positions - School Board Member (3-year terms) and 1 position - School Board member (1-year

term). A candidate for a school district office must prepare and sign an affidavit of candidacy, a campaign disclosure form and a statement of interests form. These documents must be filed with the school district business manager for Devils Lake Public Schools by the above deadline date and time. All forms are available from either the school district business manager for Devils Lake Public Schools or may be obtained at the Superintendent's office at the Sports Center, 1601 College Drive N., Devils Lake, ND.

April 13: Due to a scheduling conflict, the April meeting of the Devils Lake Basin Joint Water Resource Board has been rescheduled to Monday, April 13, at 8:00 a.m. in the Historical Meeting Room (basement) of the Ramsey County Courthouse.

April 14: The Hope Center will be having their annual meeting on Tuesday, April 14 from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Cake and punch will be served.. Come and see how we can all make a difference to help feed those in need in our community.

April 15: Odd Fellows Pancake and Sausage Feed, KC Hall, Devils Lake, ND, from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sponsored by

Crofton Lodge #3, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Proceeds to be used locally.

April 18 & 26: "Yee haw!" Barrel Racing in the Altringer Arena of the Ramsey County Fair Grounds - Devils Lake, ND. Entry Fees, open & Youth Side Pots \$30, \$10 office Fee/person, 4D format .5, .5 1 splits. Time blocks 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., exhibitions 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 12 p.m. run starts with Pee Wee, open/youth combined draw followed by 2nd Go, Futurity and Derby side pots. Series awards given to champions and reserve champions in each Division.

May 2: "A night of 1,000 Drawings" at the Lake Region Arts Center! This is your opportunity to participate in a fundraiser for the LRAC. Pick up one of the 1,000 blank postcards at LRAC Wednesdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. or Saturdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and turn that postcard into your very own piece of original artwork that they will then sell on May 2 to benefit the Center. Don't forget to sign your artwork before you turn it in - April 25, 2026 is the last day to turn it in but you can turn it in anytime between now and then!

May 2: St Olaf will

be having their spring rummage sale on Saturday May 2 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We will be serving caramel rolls and other breakfast treats in the morning and Barbeques starting at 11:00 a.m. A wide variety of items are available to purchase with a donation to WELCA. Thank you for our support.

May 29 - May 31: Devils Run 39th Car Show and Rod Run in various places throughout Devils Lake and the Lake Region. According to organizer Stan Orness, "Right now we have Devils Run entries from six states and one Canadian province. I believe this will be a record year. DON'T MISS IT!!! Details at www.devilsrun-carshow.com"

May 30: It's A Woman's World (featured as part of Devils Run), Bill Jerome Arena in Roosevelt Park, Devils Lake, ND. Contact Tara Rogness for more information.

If your club, church or organization has an event you would like us to feature in this Community Calendar of Events, please send it by e-mail to loloison@cmpapers.com or mrobinson@cmpapers.com or by US Mail to The Devils Lake Journal, 516 4th Street NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301.

Fire

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the love feast," Bennett said on the morning of Tuesday, March 17.

"It's like Jason said last night at the meeting," Bennett added. "There's a ton of stuff that we deal with, that nobody really sees, which is fine. That's our job, and any firefighter you're going to talk to, when they get awards like that, they're like, 'It's our job,' ... but it's an honor."

"It's not something you expect," he said. "You're just trying to do your job and doing as best you can, ... (but) you don't do it for the plaque."

"It's what we're supposed to do," Bennett added. "Always nice to get rewarded for doing the right thing."

Farmers

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classes were held just outside the door so Mr. Fagerlund attached padding to the door to deaden the noise! In 1975 the program was moved to the new Lake Area Vocational Center on the high school campus until its end in 1989.

The Annual State FFA Convention was attended by many and the Devils Lake Chapter has contributed its share of state officers, including: Bob Weed, Officer at Large 1946-47 and State President 1947-48; Mike Connor, State President 1961-62; Terry Borstad, Officer at Large 1964-65; Richard Frith, State President 1968-69; Jay Olson, Officer at Large 1969-70 and Keith Maetzold, Officer at Large 1970-71.

During the Devils Lake 'All School Reunion' in 2000, former State Officers and American Farmers conducted the opening and closing ceremony for a chapter meeting under the benevolent eye of Norris Fagerlund seated "under the Owl". Several hun-



Mike Connor writes, "The American Farmer Key, the highest award in FFA, which I received at the National Convention at Kansas City, MO in Oct 1963. The key is also on display at the ND FFA Foundation office in Bismarck."

dred former chapter members, spouses, educators and friends of FFA joined together to honor one of the most outstanding high school programs ever conducted at Devils Lake!

The FFA Gavel

It was tradition in those years that the Chapter President of the B.E. Groom Chapter (Langdon High School) would present the newly elected State President a

beautiful wood gavel that was made by the members of the B.E. Groom Chapter in their woodworking shop program. The Chapter Adviser in those years was Richard 'Dick' States. On Friday morning, immediately after my election, the 'gavel' was presented to me. At this time it escapes me if I 'closed' that session, but don't think so...quite frankly was in a state of shock at what had just happened. I can remember sitting towards the back of Festival Hall (I was not a delegate to that convention) and as the names of the officer nominees were read, I leaned over the seats to whisper to Mr. Fagerlund (Chapter Adviser) and saying ".....well, I'm out of the running, wonder who is going to get President?" (the fellow I had picked as the new prexy was nominated as VP). The next thing I heard Mr. Fagerlund say "Mike-they just named you!"

Jim Huesgen, a Devils Lake jeweler, engraved a beautiful silver plaque and mounted it on the gavel as a gift to mark the gavel as mine immediately after the convention.

I used the gavel at all District

meetings in the fall of 1961 around the state, at all other official FFA functions that I presided at during the year and at the 1962 State Convention.

In the early 80s, Willy Hartl who was the director of the woodworking program at the ND School for the Deaf saw the gavel on my desk one day and said "....we need to mount that on a nice plaque!" which he did.

Since that time where ever my work found me, the plaque and gavel were hung proudly on the wall by my desk!

I hope it will have a place of honor with the North Dakota FFA Foundation in the years ahead!

Submitted on December 6, 2014: Mike Connor Member-Devils Lake Chapter State FFA Association President 1961-62 American Farmer Degree 1963 - used by permission of Mr. Connor via telephone, March 13, 2026 - LAO.

Note: Next week look for a story about the FFA Organization and how it came back to DLHS, who is the advisor and the leaders of the 2026 FFA Organization. - LAO



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or **86%**

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*2024 North Dakota State Study, Conducted by Coda Ventures

REDUCE YOUR 2026 PROPERTY TAX BILL BY UP TO \$1600!

Eligibility requirements for the Primary Residence Property Tax Credit:



- Must own a home in ND and reside in it as your primary residence
- One credit per household, no age or income restrictions
- Must apply and be approved annually to receive the credit



ND Tax
NORTH DAKOTA



Application Deadline: April 1, 2026
Apply Online: www.tax.nd.gov/prc