

ANFINSON:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

munity performances. On Sunday, a sacred music prelude will take place at the Hettinger Lutheran Church from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., followed by a special service until 11:00 a.m. Later that afternoon, Anfinson and touring musician Michael Ellis will bring the performance to the Hettinger Assisted Living center at 1:30 p.m. and the Hettinger Nursing Home at 3:00 p.m., marking Anfinson's 60th year of performing for local seniors. The touring program concludes Monday with a 3:00 p.m. concert at the Mott Senior Center.

In tandem with the live performances, historical exhibits will be

open to the public at the Greenery, a community gathering space, from July 10 through July 12. Visitors can view generations of homesteading photographs and peruse antique player piano rolls belonging to Bertha Mueller, dating from the mid-19th century to the early 1900s.

Looking toward the future of the community, Anfinson urged both local youth and adults to remain deeply invested in community mentorship. Her core message to the next generation remains clear: get involved in as many local organizations as possible, because those experiences carry forward for a lifetime.

Ambulance measures both pass

By Luann Dart

luann@westriv.com

Two measures put forth by the Western Grant Ambulance District both passed during a special election June 16.

The district sought voter support for a mill levy increase and the annexation of the remainder of the ambulance service area into the taxation district, with 154 voters casting a ballot.

The first ballot question asked voters to consider annexing a sliver in eastern Grant County and portions of townships in Hettinger County and Adams County, which are currently in the ambulance's service area, but aren't in the taxation district. The ambulance service area, which is assigned by N.D. Health and Human Services, did not match the taxation district's boundaries, meaning some areas received ambulance services without providing tax support.

The question stated: "Shall the remainder of the service area be annexed into the existing taxation district of the Western Grant Ambulance District?"

That measure passed with 126 votes in favor and 28 votes against.

The second ballot question asked voters to consider a tax levy not to exceed 15 mills for the purpose of operating a rural ambulance district.

With the existing 2 mill levy, the Western Grant Ambulance District currently generates an estimated \$24,562. A 15 mill levy along with the annexation was estimated to generate \$248,876 in annual revenue.

That measure passed with 118 voters in favor and 36 against.

Legislation passed in 2023 mandated the formation of ambulance taxation districts for rural ambulance services. The Western Grant Ambulance District formed last year with a

seven-member board, which oversees the tax dollars and budget for the New Leipzig-Elgin Ambulance Service, which is the only ambulance service operating within the taxation district. The Carson quick response unit (QRU), which cannot transport patients, operates under the New Leipzig-Elgin Ambulance Service's license.

Maintaining a 24/7 ambulance service in 2026 is projected to cost \$1,207,013, which includes \$117,667 reserved for the purchase of a new ambulance.

Another part of the funding is courtesy of a unique program through Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center (JMHCC).

Effective July 1, 2022, JMHCC became one of the critical access hospitals in the nation selected to participate in a federal demonstration project, the Frontier Community Health Integration Project (FCHIP), allowing it

to receive cost-based reimbursement for a portion of the costs of operating an ambulance.

The project allowed JMHCC to sign a management agreement with the ambulance service to lease the ambulances and equipment and provide the physical service, including all the staffing.

That funding does not cover the entire cost of operating an ambulance, and the FCHIP expires in 2027.

The mill levy does not support any services of JMHCC, but will only be used by the Western Grant Ambulance District to fund the ambulance service.

Even with FCHIP funding, the service faces a revenue shortfall of \$566,909, which JMHCC is absorbing.

Passage of the 15 mill levy puts the shortfall at \$265,033 with FCHIP and \$594,421 without FCHIP, a shortfall which JMHCC would still carry.

Kindsfater earns scholarship

The West River Veterinary Clinic Legacy Foundation awarded the Charles Uecker, DVM Memorial Scholarship to Casey Kindsfater of Hettinger High School. He will receive \$500 at the completion of his first semester at the South Dakota School of Mines and majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

The West River Veterinary Clinic Legacy Foundation is a made up of board members from the community that have an interest in supporting the growth and development of our young adults through scholarships, preserve the history of our



CASEY KINDSFATER

community, and create opportunities for students to experience the veterinary profession and rural communities.



CLEANING HEADSTONES

Cleaning headstones from the harsh ND weather conditions.

Preserve your loved one's memory by protecting their gravestone.



Call or text for an estimate 701-426-7962

Discover Local Stories

FROM ALL GS PUBLISHING NEWSPAPERS!

Visit our website today to explore!

www.gspublishing.net

Gate City Bank

For a Better Way of Life.®

New Hettinger bank location planned to open in fall 2026

Gate City Bank is moving from Main Street where it opened here more than 50 years ago to a new stand-alone office.

The new location at 110 Adams Ave. will add a drive-up lane and create a refreshed, welcoming customer experience while continuing the same full-service banking customers rely on. Construction is expected to begin this summer with the new location planned to open this fall.

Gate City Bank has served the Hettinger community from 111 S. Main St. since Sept. 23, 1974. The move will provide improved access and convenience, while keeping the same friendly local team, services and hours. The bank will continue offering personal, mortgage and business banking, all delivered by a team committed to exceptional customer service.

The new office is designed to make banking more convenient and comfortable. A drive-up lane will provide faster, easier access, while bright, open interiors filled with natural light and warm hospitality touches will create a welcoming feel inside. For customers who need more support, private offices and comfortable spaces will be available for confidential conversations and day-to-day banking needs. Updated technology will help deliver a seamless experience throughout the location, and a mother's room will be available for team members and caregivers who need a private space. And, of course, visitors can look forward to fresh-baked cookies and coffee in the lobby.

"Hettinger has trusted us for more than 50 years, and we don't take that lightly," said Kevin Hanson, Gate City Bank President and Chief Executive Officer. "This new location is an investment in the people who live and work here – and in our promise to provide a better way of life. We're looking forward to serving this community with an even better experience."

Gate City Bank has 45 locations across 23 communities in North Dakota and central Minnesota with a 46th location planned to open in Horace, N.D., in 2027. The bank is also investing in its Mayville and Carrington, N.D., communities with new builds of these locations to offer a bright, fresh new experience for customers.

USPS - 005-180

P.O. Box 749
Hettinger, ND 58639
701-567-2424

adamscountyrecord@gspublishing.net

ADAMS COUNTY RECORD

Official Newspaper for Adams County, the cities of Hettinger, Bucyrus and Reeder, and the Hettinger School District.

Jill M. Friesz..... Publisher
Marco Santana Reporter

The Adams County Record is published each Thursday at GS Publishing, LLC, 109 S. Main St, Hettinger, ND 58639. Periodicals postage is paid at Hettinger, ND and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to: Adams County Record, P.O. Box 749 Hettinger, ND 58639



In Adams County\$50.00
All other subscriptions\$60.00
E-edition\$40.00

Proud members of the North Dakota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association.



HAUSAUER
SEAMLESS PRODUCTS LLC

- Seamless Steel Siding
- Decks
- Doors
- Seamless Gutters
- Versetta Stone
- Patio Doors
- LP Hardboard Siding
- Windows

6% VETERAN DISCOUNT

605-374-7373

hausauerseamlessproducts.com | Lemmon, SD

Call Today for a free estimate