

Carson Press

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Vol. 118, No. 26 | June 25, 2026

\$1.50



photo | Jill M. Friesz

SHOPPERS found treasures tucked away at every sale along the Highway 21 route.

Treasure hunters turn out for annual Highway 21 sales

The annual Highway 21 Treasure Hunt once again proved that one person's unwanted item can become another person's prized treasure as nearly 100 rummage sales drew hundreds of bargain hunters to communities across the region this past weekend.

According to event coordinator Luann Dart, an estimated 600 to 700 shoppers traveled the Highway 21 corridor in search of deals, unique finds and hidden treasures. Participants came from throughout North Dakota, including communities such as Lisbon, Dunseith, Coleharbor, Beulah, Harvey, Bismarck and Dickinson.

The annual treasure hunt has become a popular summer tradition, attracting both dedicated rummage sale enthusiasts and casual shoppers looking for an enjoyable weekend road trip. With nearly 100 sales spread across the area, visitors found every-

thing from antiques and collectibles to household items, clothing, furniture and handmade goods.

Adding to the event's success was near-perfect weather. While a steady breeze occasionally reminded shoppers they were in North Dakota, comfortable temperatures and dry conditions made for an ideal weekend to browse sales and travel from community to community.

The Highway 21 Treasure Hunt continues to grow in popularity each year, bringing visitors and economic activity to local communities while giving residents an opportunity to clean out garages, basements and storage sheds.

By the end of the weekend, countless treasures had found new homes, shoppers headed home with great deals and organizers were celebrating another successful year for one of the region's favorite summer events.

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

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History comes to life for Close-Up students

By Riley Dahl

news@gspublishing.net

History, government, and democracy came to life for a group of Flasher students during their recent Close-Up trip to Washington, D.C. From exploring national landmarks and meeting with elected officials to participating in a mock Congress and reflecting on the lessons of the Holocaust Museum, the experience offered students a firsthand look at the nation's capital and the workings of American government.

After a long travel day due to airplane mechanical issues, the Flasher Close-Up crew began their adventure in the country's capital. However, they weren't the only locals in the area. Flasher alumna Anna Hauge met with the group, as she serves as an intern for Senator Hoeven. Hauge had the privilege of serving as the tour guide for one of the two Flasher groups touring the Capitol.

The trip included many impactful moments for the group, yet nothing compared to their experience walking among the exhibits at the Holocaust

Museum. Flasher social studies teacher and trip chaperone Conrad Pederson says the students spoke very highly of the museum's importance.

"Additionally, the mock congress that students participated in with other Close-Up schools was rather impactful," Pederson says. "Students got to take part in the legislative process by engaging in committee work, markup, floor debate, and more."

Since many of the students had never seen how much work goes into creating legislation, they walked away with a new appreciation for the process.

"Many seemed to have come away with an understanding of both the difficulty and importance of compromise," says Pederson.

Aside from these impactful experiences, some stops were filled with excitement, including visits to the National Mall. "Students made several trips here as they engaged with many of the monuments,"

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submitted photo

NORTH DAKOTA SENATORS JOHN HOEVEN AND KEVIN CRAMER visited with Flasher Close Up students.