



# Steele Ozone & Kidder County Press

Single Copy \$1<sup>00</sup>

DEADLINE ALL COPY - FRIDAY NOON

WEDNESDAY June 10, 2026  
OZONE - VOL. 140 - NO. 34

BOX 350 - STEELE, ND 58482  
PRESS - VOLUME 120 - NO. 36

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## Reister's Award Winning Food coming to Steele

The last time the Ozone visited Lance and Matthew Reister was in 2022 when we told you the guys had taken over their family business, Reister Meats and Catering from parents Clyde and Penny Reister...around that same time, Matthew also bought the Medina Cafe. Prior to that, in 2019, we did a story on how Reister Meats and Catering have been selling award winning meat since the early 2000s and this story is to catch you up and all that is Reister in our area now, and what is coming our way.

To catch us all up, Matthew still owns the owner of the cafe. It's famous for its lunch specials including Tuesday's Indian Tacos, Wednesday's homemade chicken and dumplings (you choose meat and how many dumplings), the desserts, burgers and breakfasts. They are open every day from 7am to 2pm and typically serve 50 people per day. This would be enough to make someone proud of their weekly accomplishments,

however, this is a part-time gig for Matthew as he has a great staff and only works a few days a week at the cafe.

Lance and Matthew still own the Reister Meats and Catering retail store in Medina. Here, they are famous for their pre-seasoned ribeye steaks, seafood, deli meats and cheeses, cookies and buns, salads, and their own brats and sausage. This is where we will sit down and talk to these guys for a while. For years, Reister's team has been attending the North Dakota Association of Meat Processor's convention. They not only attend, but usually in full force. At the convention, they attend seminars, talk to people in the industry, and they enter a friendly competition for who has some of the best meat. Their past awards have been for several different kinds of brats, wieners, ring sausages, and more. This year, the team brought more awards home...they were... summer sausage, wieners, beef

sticks, and whole bone-in ham. Most times, the store will have these items on hand, but it's good to call ahead for the marinated

ribeyes or hams just to make sure. The hours for the store are 9:30 to 5:30 Tuesday through Saturday. If you want to call ahead or

pre-order buns, rolls, you are encouraged to do that too...486-3211.

Continuing on how the guys keep themselves busy, the meat plant down at their farm by (See "Reister's" on page 11)



Matthew Reister and Lance Reister with their Food Truck

## Tree Board busy in Steele

The Steele Tree board now officially has three members. Mason Harter, Josh Rode, and organizer/city councilman, Lucas Reski. They could use a few more members to help decide what trees to plant and where as the ash trees come down. The replacement trees going in where the ash were taken out are dutch elm disease resistant elm, linden, and hackberry trees. The team has taken down more than 20 trees and is currently on path to have

20 new trees planted by the end of June.

The grant they received will also make sure the trees are watered and maintained. The team continues focusing on getting ahead of the Emerald Ash Borer (Beetle) that is coming our way. These insects are in ND and it is just a matter of time before they start infecting Steele's ash trees (over 70% of the trees in Steele are ash). The team continues to seek funding to purchase new trees. They'll look for more grants, they'll talk to the city and park board as well as private citizens and may even do a fundraiser or two. The team is looking toward civic groups, families, and other volunteers to help plant the trees. If interested in any of these opportunities, call Lucas Reski at 316-0281.



One of the replacement trees

## Elections highlight County Commissioners meeting

By Richard Paolinelli

In their final meeting of the year before Tuesday's primaries, the Kidder County Commissioners met on Friday for their monthly meeting at the Kidder County Courthouse.

County Auditor Jean Schoenhard reported that 569 ballots had been mailed out for this election. As of Thursday evening, 416 of those ballots had been received back by her office. The latest a ballot could be received, and officially counted, was on election evening at 7 p.m. A recent change in the law did away with the "postmarked by" rule.

Schoenhard added that her office was ready, with all voting machines tested and operating nominally, for Tuesday's elections, which covered

several openings among county officials. One opening, barring an unexpected write-in campaign, that is unlikely to be filled is that of the County's State's Attorney.

Eric Hetland, who has served in that capacity for 15 years, decided not to seek another term. No one officially filed to run prior to the deadline. If a qualified candidate, who is a resident of Kidder County and is licensed to practice law in North Dakota, is not written in the Commissioner's could then appoint someone to the position once Hetland's term officially concludes.

Bismarck attorney Theresa Kellington, of the firm, Kellington & Oster, met with the Commissioners on Friday and informed the Commissioners that (See "Commissioners" on page 17)

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