

Bakken Briefs

Ray freezes open enrollment

Ray Public School will stop accepting enrollment applications for out-of-district students as its building and buses reach capacity, the superintendent and school board decided Nov. 21.

The freeze applies to new open-enrollment applications from families in other school districts and to new tuition agreements with districts that have students attending school in Ray. It does not affect students already enrolled in Ray.

Superintendent Kristopher Kuehn said the school had already begun advising families inquiring about open enrollment that it was unlikely to accept any more applications.

“They can submit the paperwork, and we date-stamp them,” Kuehn said, “but as of right now we are not taking any. We have deemed ourselves to be at full capacity.”

—The Journal, Crosby

Burke hires Divide deputy

Deputy Austin Howard has joined the Burke County Sheriff’s Office starting Nov. 1.

After Sheriff Nick Throntveit took over for former Sheriff Shawn Brien, the department was understaffed. Howard comes from the Divide County Sheriff’s Office, where he spent the past four years.

The Devils Lake native graduated from high school in 2013. He joined the Marines and was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, where he was part of the law enforcement battalion.

He served in Afghanistan in 2015 and 2016 as military police force. He was also a member of the military SWAT team.

In 2018, he came back to North Dakota, went to the law enforcement academy and began his career at the Divide County Sheriff’s Office.

—Burke County Tribune, Bowbells

Stanley golf simulator opens

The Prairie Rose Golf Course has just the thing for the golfer looking to work on their game or just keep in shape this winter. This is the second season it is making its golf simulator available to the community.

The FSX2020 simulator by Foresight Sports uses regular golf balls and clubs. You hit the ball into the screen and watch the progress as the program tells you how far you have hit your ball and how much further you have to finish the hole. The graphics move along with you as you make your way through your selected course.

The simulator will be available on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., but only throughout the winter and early spring, as it is set up inside the clubhouse. Sign-ups are available through the golf course’s Facebook page.

—Mountrail County Promoter, Stanley

Honkers add girls’ wrestling

The inaugural season for the Kenmare-Bowbells-Burke Central high school girls’ wrestling team kicked off in Velva on Friday.

Coach Arlen Saylor will be leading the Honker girls. Saylor was an All-American wrestler at Dickinson State University and an assistant coach there and at Dickinson High School.

Varsity wrestlers for the Honker girls are junior Tagen Thornton and

seventh-grader Amaya Baptiste. Joining the varsity girls on the mat are three junior high wrestlers: Addi Peterson, Tenley Michel and Taley Michel.

While this is a young team, Saylor is optimistic about the possibilities. He is pleased with the amount of previous experience of the girls, having wrestled with the Honker boys in past years, as well as the Sundawgs club team.

—Kenmare News

Job training help for seniors

The Senior Community Service Employment Program in Williston helps provide on-the-job training for the 55-and-over community.

Veronica Crawford, a participant assistant with the program, said there is a lot that can hold older people back from employment.

“A lot of times, they’ve sat so long in their houses, and they have no confidence,” she said. “Their self-esteem is low. We help raise that as well, get them out and get them meeting people.”

The on-the-job training is federally funded, so employers can participate at no cost.

“We place them in training positions to raise their skill sets toward employment,” Crawford said. “Once they become job-ready, we help them. We have a job coordinator; he helps them with their resumes, setting up interviews.”

—Williston Herald

Minot’s ‘community kitchen’

A community kitchen, designed with accessibility features, has been added to the resources available through Independence Inc. in Minot.

Independence Inc., a service agency for people with disabilities, received \$50,000 from the Minot Area Community Foundation for half the cost and had a fundraising campaign for the remainder, said Scott Burlingame, executive director.

Construction started in June, and the kitchen was substantially complete by late September.

Among its features, the kitchen has lower counters, a microwave with accessibility mechanisms and an oven with front controls.

The kitchen will be used at Independence Inc., in its independent living skills classes and mentoring programs, but it also is available for use by other groups with a community focus.

—Minot Daily News

Card of Thanks

A huge thank you to everyone who came and had goodies/hot chocolate/cider and donated to the travel boys 6th grade basketball team before the parade of lights.

They appreciate it so much.

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Urban Native Elders Needs Are Not Being Met

Native Elders living in urban locations have needs that are not being met. This finding is significant because over 70 percent of Elders live in urban areas, not on reservations.

The first ever Native Urban Elder Needs Assessment Survey (NUE-NAS 1.0) was administered nationally, through the National Resource Center on Native American Aging (NRCNAA), housed at the Center for Rural Health (CRH) within the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The results of the survey have been released in a report and data booklet format.

In total, 1,023 urban Elders from 41 states, ages 55 and older, were surveyed from March 2021 through November 2022.

The NRCNAA and partners met with AARP in the summer of 2018 to propose the idea of conducting a national survey, specifically looking at the health and social needs of the urban Native Elder population. After realizing its importance, AARP was on board with sponsoring this project. It was understood that in the first year the project and effort would be benefited by involving individuals who were passionate and dedicated to advancing health equity for our urban Native Elders. As a result, the Coalition on Urban Indian Aging (CoUIA) was formed in 2019 to ensure that the project was focused on promoting urban Native Elder health. This unique partnership brought together six organizations with one goal in mind: improving health equity for urban Native Elders.

Data Results
The results show needs greater than initially thought:

- Only 56.7 percent of Elders had visited a dentist or dental hygienist in the past year.

- 39.8 percent reported being diagnosed with a disability. Of those with a disability, 37.9 percent said it was due to chronic disease, 35.5 percent due to accident/injury, 31.5 percent other, 5.9 percent military service, and 5.6 percent congenital (Elders could select more than one option).

- Most (50.2 percent) relied on Medicare for healthcare coverage.

- 30.2 percent of respondents cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn’t enough money for food; 30.6 percent ate less than they felt they should because there wasn’t enough money for food.

- Most urban Native Elders socialized 1-2 times per week (26.3 percent) or 3-4 times per week (23.4 percent), although 25.9 percent reported never socializing.

“This project is very important,” said Dr. Collette Adamsen, the director of the NRCNAA and associate director of CRH, “because we don’t know of any other project that has taken on research of this magnitude that focuses on identifying the needs of our urban Native Elders across the nation. We knew the

data collection had to be done the right way, be culturally appropriate, and respectful of our urban Native Elders and the urban organizations that serve them. These Elders are living in urban areas and many times do not have the support and services needed. This project gives the opportunity to gather evidence of these needs and use this data to fill those gaps in services and resources. This effort is about improving the quality of life for our urban Native Elders and allowing them to access the services and resources that will improve their health and well-being - to let them know that they are not forgotten.”

The data shown in the report and data booklet is aggregate data. Each urban organization participating in the survey received their own data, which remains confidential.

Partners leading this effort include: Administration for Community Living; National Council of Urban Indian Health; National Indian Council on Aging, Inc.; NRCNAA; Kauffman and Associates, Inc.; UND Center for Rural Health; and AARP.

There were 132 questions on the survey, covering topics such as physical, social, emotional, and mental health service quality; overall quality of life; unidentified needs; among other topics. All questions were asked to provide data to support improvement of health equity, quality of life, and overall cultural responsiveness. The survey was designed to be taken in-person at their urban organizations through a scantron hard copy survey or online using computers, tablets, and smart phones. Assistance was available to help Elders fill out the surveys by urban center staff. After analyzing the results, each urban center that participated was able to acquire specific data for the urban Native Elders they served, allowing them to identify and work to address their Elders’ needs.

The project faced some challenges initially due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first planned administration of the survey was slated for April 2020. However, with older adults being the most susceptible to infection, a new plan was developed that included pausing the project until the COVID-19 situation improved. When it was determined safe for Elders and urban centers to open back up, the NRCNAA partnered with its first pilot site to administer the survey in March 2021. After the pilot site completed its surveys, NRCNAA officially rolled out the survey to all urban organizations and urban Native Elders in May 2021. The original project was projected to last 25 months. Due to the pandemic, it took five years instead.

Food/Health/Caregiving
Survey results indicate that food insecurity is prevalent among the Elder population, and that many of the Elders who have health conditions

are caregivers to grandchildren.

- Among the 15.6 percent of Elders who said they didn’t have enough money to buy the food they needed, 16.5 percent had an annual income of less than \$5,000; 89.4 percent were at a high nutrition risk (none had a good nutrition status); and 34.6 percent reported taking care of grandchildren.

- Among the 35.5 percent of urban Native Elders who took care of grandchildren, the average number of chronic illnesses was 3.15; 11.8 percent made less than \$5,000 annually; 58.2 percent said their health was excellent, very good, or good.

- Among the 15.8 percent of urban Native Elders who reported not feeling very safe or not feeling safe at all, 47.5 percent were disabled; 20.3 percent had a memory issue; and 38.5 percent took care of grandchildren.

“Our Native urban population is underrepresented in national data sets, which is key to identifying and addressing the needs of this population,” continued Adamsen. “If there is no data to justify the needs, then Native urban Elders are left out of the conversation, especially when it comes time for the allocation of resources and funding.”

Next Steps
Planning is underway to bring the data on a roadshow to share what has been learned and encourage discussions on how these needs can be met. CoUIA is hopeful that a second phase of NUENAS will begin in 2024, that can work on publication of journal articles and inform policy decisions.

“I am so grateful for all of the partners who played a role in the success of the needs assessment survey,” Adamsen said. “The data collection is the first step in truly beginning to understand what our urban Native Elders need and will help us plan for how to meet those needs.”

Card of Thanks

The Stanley Wrestling Club would like to thank everyone for coming out to our meat raffle fundraiser, and for the continued support for our youth wrestling program. A huge thank you to the parents and wrestlers that helped work at the raffle, we could not do this without you! Special thanks to the following businesses for sponsoring the event and donations: Stickman, DJF Trucking, Ace Hardware, Twin Lilies Photography, Locken Oilfield Services, Batteiger Lawn Service, Springan Stevenson Funeral Home, Gustafson Septic, Plinkers, Stanley Optometry, Snyder Family, 701 Cornhole, and E & E Meats.

Stanley Wrestling Club

Stanley Park District Football Book Winners

Sept. 10th- Kyle Nichols; Bryan Fluhner
Sept. 11th- Colter Fladeland
Sept. 14th- Beth Gjellstad
Sept. 17th- Ashley Skarsgard
Sept. 18th- Sheila Morgan
Sept. 24th- Erin Peck, Grand Forks; Jubal Jarmin
Sept. 25th- Abbey Ruland
Sept. 30th- Addy Nichols; Chelsey Collins, Minot
Oct. 1st- Cathy Springan; Addy Nichols
Oct. 2nd- Lindsey Hoaby
Oct. 7th- Joan Hollekim; Mark and Nikki Longmuir
Oct. 8th- Cade Schneider; Kali Gandrud
Oct. 9th- Cody Uran, South Dakota
Oct. 14th- Jimmy Enge
Oct. 15th- Jubal Jarmin; Arlo Borud
Oct. 16th- Alex Hellman, Bismarck
Oct. 21st- Megan Peck, Grand Forks; Matt Ruland
Oct. 22nd- Chance Bieri
Oct. 23rd- Bryan Fluhner; Knox Schneider
Oct. 28th- Lee Murphy; Tyler Gjellstad
Oct. 29th- Deb Fladeland; Parker Kok, Plaza
Oct. 30th- Zander Fladeland
Nov. 4th- Jake Hellman; Angela Schepp
Nov. 5th- Kali Gandrud; Bill Rudolph
Nov. 6th- Brian Owen, Minot
Nov. 11th- Angela Schepp; Jimmy Enge
Nov. 12th- Cade Schneider; Addy Nichols
Nov. 13th- Bennett Uran
Nov. 18th- Jimmy Enge; Stacey Barstad
Nov. 19th- Nixie Anderson; Linda Wienbar
Nov. 20th- Kyle Nichols
Nov. 26th- Miss Rystedt’s Class
Nov. 27th- Matt Ruland; Brian Owen, Minot
Dec. 3rd- Christy Iverson

Memorials Received By Mountrail Community Food Pantry

The Mountrail Community Food Pantry received a donation in memory of Jerome Lautenschlager, Roy Jensen, Tilman Jones, Kim Walker, Pastor James Stenslie, Winnifred Kvamme, Ardella Johnson, Les Bomstad and Syd Craft from Marvin and Geraine Johnson.

A donation was also received in memory of Les Bomstad, Syd Craft and Amy Strasser from Mark and Penny Uran.

Donations are appreciated and may be mailed to 6989 84th Ave NW, Stanley, ND 58784.

PUBLIC NOTICE

No hunting, trespassing, or carrying of firearms or weapons of any kind is allowed on the following property in Mountrail County, described as, Township 156 North, Range 90 West of the 5th P.M.

Section 1: SW1/4
Section 2: SE1/4NE1/4, Lots 1 & 2, SE1/4, SW1/4

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