

Congress must protect this affordable internet program



Rep. Mike Brandenburg

As another election year begins, we can expect to hear plenty of political bickering, negative campaigning, and heated disagreement. But before we rush headlong into that maelstrom, Congress has an opportunity to come together and save a program that promotes economic growth, workforce development, and innovation. I'm talking about the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

The ACP, authorized in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, is simple: it provides eligible citizens \$30 per month for internet service. As we learned during the pandemic, internet access is a necessity, not a luxury. From virtual classroom activities to job searching to interacting with government agencies, the internet is as much a part of our lives as electricity. And ACP helps keep 21.5 million households across the U.S. connected, including over 16,000 here in North

Dakota.

But there's a problem. ACP funding is set to run out in April. If Congress allows this to happen, millions of Americans who can least afford it will lose their lifeline to the internet.

And there's a potential solution. A bipartisan coalition of Representatives and Senators recently introduced the Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act (H.R. 6929/S. 3565) to provide \$7 billion of necessary funding. We are thankful to Senator Cramer for being an original cosponsor and a vocal proponent for keeping the program alive. We have asked Senator Hoeven and Congressman Armstrong to join him in ensuring North Dakotans don't lose affordable access to the internet.

Voting to protect the ACP should be a no-brainer for every member of Congress for three very simple reasons. The program is popular, has bipartisan support, and it works.

According to a recent poll, Americans across the board overwhelmingly support the ACP. Support spans rural (68%), suburban (78%), and urban (81%) areas, as well as strong majorities across all generations, with support peaking among seniors (83%). In fact, there is not a single subset of voters (age, income, race, political lean, gender, region) where support falls below 60%.

And the same poll shows bipartisan support as well, including 64% of Republicans,

70% of independents, and 95% of Democrats. In a nation where disagreement seems to be everywhere, Congress has found at least one program where Trump voters, Biden voters, and everyone in between supports.

The broad support is less surprising when ACP's benefits are laid out.

First off, the ACP flows to rural broadband providers and private companies rather than the government itself. This public-private partnership allows many providers to participate, creates competition, and maximizes consumer choice in the marketplace.

And households are making the most of the benefits. According to Brookings, ACP has already created more than \$2,200 in economic benefit for low-income households enrolled in the program. ACP creates opportunities for entrepreneurs and small businesses in underserved areas, and helps small businesses around the nation connect with customers in their community and beyond. Further, students have access to online learning platforms, educational resources, and remote educational programs, leveling the playing field and promoting education for all Americans who want to learn.

Finally, the benefits are going to those who really need it. For example, U.S. veterans often fall on the wrong side of the digital divide, with as many as 15 percent of veteran households lacking internet access as recently as 2019. But the ACP is helping change the narrative. According to the USAC, more than 800,000 of the 2.5 million eligible veterans have signed up for ACP.

Beyond the immediate impacts, the ACP amplifies the impact of our investments in high-speed internet. In North Dakota, we are investing more than \$301 million of federal resources into improving broadband infrastructure, providing devices to those who lack them, and promoting the adoption of technology among our least connected and rural communities. We were one of the first states to benefit from Federal investments in the implementation of broadband through our rural broadband providers over the last two decades and now nearly every other state is



Rep. Josh Boschée

as well. But those investments cannot live up to its full potential if ACP funding dries up and thousands of North Dakota households lose access to the internet.

In an increasingly interconnected world, Congress has the opportunity to ensure residents stay connected. Technology is moving fast, and American cannot afford to fall behind other countries. Our economy, and the well-being of our citizens, depends on it.

The ACP is a critical component of our nation's continued economic growth, workforce development, and spirit of innovation. Allowing the ACP to end would be a great disservice to families who rely on the program to access vital online services and resources.

Congress should join together and show America that smart, practical programs can still garner overwhelming bipartisan support. It is time to fully fund the ACP, and it should be one of the easiest votes of the year for Senator Hoeven and Congressman Armstrong.

Rep. Josh Boschée (D-Fargo) has represented District 44 (downtown and north Fargo) in the North Dakota House of Representatives since 2013 and currently serves as the House Minority Leader. Rep. Mike Brandenburg (R-Edgeley) served in the North Dakota House of Representatives from 1997-2002 and from 2005 to today, representing District 28 (Logan, McIntosh, LaMoure, Dickey and Sargent Counties). He serves on the House Appropriations Committee.

Dickey County Senior Menu

Ellendale: 349-4513
Oakes: 742-3509

Friday: Stuffed cabbage roll, mashed potatoes, green beans, apricots.

Monday: Baked cod with garlic butter, lemon dill orzo, seasoned zucchini, fruited jello.

Tuesday: Chicken kiev, O'Brien potatoes, carrots, peach crisp.

Wednesday: Ground beef stroganoff, seasoned egg noodles, beets, pears.

Thursday: Pork chop, mashed potatoes, roasted brussels sprouts, pineapple.

Dickey County Public Transportation

Handicapped Accessible Vehicles

Ellendale:

Monday - Thursday
8:30am - 4:30pm

Oakes:

Monday - Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm

To Aberdeen:
The third (3) Monday
of each month

If you need a ride, call:
349-4513 or 742-3509

The McIntosh County Bus goes through Ellendale on their way to Aberdeen the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. If you would like to catch a ride call: 701-731-0072

GUELPH NEWS... by Rose Sell

Seems to be getting nicer out so why not take the opportunity to attend the nondenominational services at the Guelph Community Church on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. with Pastor Scott Townsend officiating? Dress is casual and fellowship following is a given.

Musical History: There are several people who remember the organizing of the Guelph School Band in 1956-57 by Ray Holland (director/teacher) with 27 members from grades 7-12. They looked pretty sharp with their (new to them) uniforms for the spring concert.

So along with that came the support of the community in the form of Guelph Band Mothers. It's interesting to note that these first members passed along their spirit of community involvement to their progeny: Mrs. Esther Beck, Mrs. Mildred Brown, Mrs. Delphine Bensen, Mrs. Bernita German, Mrs. Shirley German, Mrs. Mable Hansen, Mrs. Marie Maddock, Mrs. Madeline Maddock, Mrs. Esther Warner, Mrs. Pearl Thorpe, Mrs. Virginia Scheffert, Mrs. Genevieve Vie, Mrs. Ethel Sund, and Mrs. Marge Visto. These mothers sponsored innumerable functions, always

involving food, to raise monies to buy uniforms and instruments which were then rented to students for a fee of \$5 monthly. The band performed in parades, concerts, social gatherings, contests from local to state, basketball games, etc.

When the school closed in 1970, the band members at that time went on to join the Oakes School Band. Otherwise, the Guelph Band no longer existed. That is, until 1982 when the community decided to gather former band members and started practicing to perform at the 1983 Guelph Centennial under the direction of Mrs. Vivian Weseloh. This band performed at many parades around the area, as well as the Riverside Supper Club, funerals and always the Guelph-Ludden Turkey BBQ held every summer on the third Sunday of July, now under the direction of Susan German. You know I'm old when I tell you I'm the only original member of the Guelph School Band still playing.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
"It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it."

- Albert Einstein

Public Notices

ndpublicnotices.newzgroup.com

IN THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, COUNTY OF DICKEY IN THE DISTRICT COURT, SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Treehouse Series V Trust, Plaintiff,

vs.
Dustin Titus and Zulema Titus and LVNV Funding LLC, and any person in possession, Defendants.

NOTICE OF REAL ESTATE SALE
CIVIL NUMBER: 11-2023-CV-00037

1. Judgment in the amount of \$51,412.73, having been entered in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants, which Judgment was filed with the Clerk of Courts of Dickey County, North Dakota, on November 3, 2023, for the foreclosure of a real estate mortgage.

2. Notice is hereby given pursuant to said Judgment that the real property described as:

The Lot 12 in Block 42, Subdivision of Outlot E and part of Outlots "O" and "P", Chesley's Westview Park, Oakes, North Dakota.

MORE CORRECTLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Lot 12 in Block 42, Subdivision of Outlot E and part of Outlots "O" and "P", Chesley's Westview Park, City of Oakes, Dickey County, North Dakota.

Real Property address: 204 Maple Avenue, Oakes, ND 58474

The above real property is the subject of the Mortgage dated February 24, 2006, which Mortgages, Dustin Titus, and Zulema Titus, executed and delivered to CitiFinancial, Inc., and recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder

of Dickey County, North Dakota, on February 28, 2006, Instrument Number 172318, which is subject to the entered Judgment. Said Mortgage was assigned to Plaintiff, its successors or assigns, by Assignment of Mortgage recorded March 31, 2023, Instrument Number 195049.

3. In order to realize the amount of \$51,412.73, as of November 3, 2023, plus interest accruing thereafter on said amount at the rate of 11.27% per year together with the costs and expenses of sale, will be sold subject to redemption as provided by law as one parcel of land at public auction, subject to the lien for unpaid real estate taxes and assessments of Dickey County, North Dakota, and easements and restrictions of record, to the highest bidder for cash under the direction of the Sheriff of Dickey County, North Dakota, at the main entrance of the Dickey County Courthouse located at 309 North 2nd Street, Ellendale, North Dakota 58436, on February 29, 2024 ("Sale Date"), at 11:00 AM.

4. If the sale is set aside for reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

DATED this 5th day of January, 2024.
SHERIFF OF DICKEY COUNTY
Chris J. Estes
Sheriff / Deputy Sheriff of Dickey Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.

By /s/ Zachary Nesbit
Zachary Nesbit
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376 East 400 South, Suite 300
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Tel: 801-355-2886
Email: zach@hwmlawfirm.com
Bar: 07552
(January 18, 25 & February 1, 2024)

Join us for our 74th Annual Meeting

Friday, February 9th
Kulm Community Center
Supper at 6:30pm with business meeting to follow



Even a Small Ad Gets Noticed

Dickey County Leader
701-349-3222 • dcleader@drtel.net

Oakes Times
701-742-2361 • oakestms@drtel.net

ELLENDALE MOTOR VEHICLE BRANCH OFFICE HOURS

Starting January 4, 2024, our new office hours will be:
Monday - 8:00am to 1:00pm and 1:30pm to 4:00pm
Tuesday - 8:00am to 1:00pm and 1:30pm to 4:00pm
Wednesday - Closed
Thursday - 8:00am to 1:00pm and 1:30pm to 4:00pm
Friday - 8:00am to 1:00pm and 1:30pm to 4:00pm.

Remember to always contact the office at 701-349-2045 to setup an appointment.

Office physical address is
101 1st St S; Ellendale ND 58436.

PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA
FEBRUARY 6, 2024 • 1:00 pm

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88435823141?pwd=TTRVTW5MYVhaWmoybmNuVzTME1yQT09> and a password of Commiss or dial 1-301-715-8592 and enter Meeting ID# 884 3582 3141 and use the password of 3945036

1:00 Planning Commission Meeting Called To Order
Roll Call
Additions or Revisions to the Agenda
January 16, 2024 Minutes Reviewed
Discussion of Sample Plans Reviewed
Set Next Meeting Date

-OTHER BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD
-ADJOURNMENT

ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE ITEMS ON THE DICKEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE AT 349-3249 BEFORE 9:00 AM MONDAY, ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE MEETING DATE.

To request an auxiliary aid or service please contact the Dickey County Title VI Coordinator at 349-3249 (ext.111) at least 5 business days before the scheduled meeting.

South Country Human Service Zone in Ellendale is hiring for an Eligibility Worker I. This position is data entry and processing applications for Economic Assistance programs. Full benefits included: health insurance, retirement and fringe health benefit.

Apply online at <http://www.hhs.nd.gov/careers>

Contact Michelle Masset at 701-254-4502 with questions. Position closes 2/7/2024

Free Aging Well Watch Party on February 15th

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body

Workshop Objectives

1. Identify how certain behaviors affect our brains and bodies.
2. List strategies for healthy decision-making in the following areas:
 - Sleep
 - Smoking
 - Mental Health
 - Physical Activity
 - Balanced Nutrition
 - Cognitive Engagement
 - Social Engagement

Workshop Summary

This program is intended to provide you with science-based recommendations about taking care of our brains and bodies. Learn about the latest research providing insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging.

Time: 10:00 a.m. - come early for coffee, cookies •
no registration required

Location: Oakes Senior Center
207 S. 5th St

Questions? Call 349.8327

NDSU Extension - Dickey County Danielle Dinger
Extension Agent/Host

NDSU EXTENSION

