

Letters to the editor

The viewpoints and opinions expressed in "The Letter to the Editor" column do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the staff or owner of the *Leader*. Well written letters to the editor are always welcome. Please keep them brief and to the point. Send to dcleader@drtel.net.

Dear Editor:

Earth Day is a day to celebrate achievements made to better the environment and sustain the goal of leaving the Earth better than it was, for the next generation. Today's farmers and ranchers are true conservationists. They have a deep love and appreciation for the land because it, in turn, supports their families. These hard-working people are dedicated to caring for the resources entrusted to them, and they also know first-hand that caring for the environment through regenerative practices protects their way of life for future generations.

Their commitment to the land is highlighted by the fact 78 percent of beef farmers and ranchers intend to pass their operation on to future generations. This longstanding commitment brings with it a strong sense of pride in the lifestyle — which includes the animals and the land.

North Dakota ranchers are focused on enhancing grass-land ecosystems through responsible land management practices. Our cattle are important partners in making that happen, with their unique ability to convert low-quality forage into nutrient-dense beef on land often unsuitable to grow other food. We are proud that North Dakota producers are leading the way when it comes to sustainable beef production. They are producing more beef with less resources, enhancing the environment and continually working to make the world a better place.

Sincerely,

Jason Leiseth

North Dakota Stockmen's Association President
(701) 770-1129

Dear Editor:

The measure to eliminate property tax is being circulated, and signatures collected to place it on the November ballot. There is also a strong, concerted effort to once again scare voters to go against their own best interest.

The measure is simple and does two things: it provides huge RELIEF by using excessive state revenue to replace what we are currently paying in property taxes. We get to keep that amount every year! And it creates true REFORM by stopping taxation based on valuation increases, ending confusing mil levies, and no longer being forced out of your own home.

Elected officials are telling people that there will be no local control, and there won't be any money to hire teachers, police officers, etc. This is a scare tactic. They are trying to manipulate you with fear. The facts are that local governments will retain 100% complete control. They will be in total charge of determining their own budgets without state interference, and will be able to raise the revenue they need in future years beyond the amount the state is replacing. Those future increases will be the same as the expected increases in property tax, but they will be more fair and transparent, giving local people more control.

Some issues opponents use to scare you are due to a few current laws, rather than the measure itself. What they intentionally keep from you is that these concerns (for example township revenue) are easily addressed with bills that legislators are planning to introduce.

This Measure does what the Legislature had promised, but failed to deliver for the last 12 years. It's time for us to make true tax relief and reform a reality. We cannot fall for the campaign of fear dishonestly presented by the opposition. Go to EndPropertyTax.com

Rick Becker

Chair of Sponsoring Committee, End Unfair Property Tax
(701)-527-6902

ELLENDALE AREA EVENTS

- April 27 (Saturday): Track Meet at Ellendale, J.H. & Varsity, 11:00 am
- April 27 (Saturday Noon): O.P.E.R.A. Annual Meeting - w. free lunch & talk by director of the N.D State Historical Society - everyone is welcome!
- May 4 (Saturday): Track Meet at Ellendale, J.H. & Varsity, 11:00 am
- May 4 (Saturday): TBC Graduation, at Ray Ulmer Fieldhouse
- May 7 (Tuesday): Arts Council Annual Meeting with talk by artist Melissa Gordan (meeting 6:30 pm, talk 7:00 pm) Everyone is welcome!
- May 9 (Thursday): Track Meet at Ellendale, JH, 3:00 pm
- May 10 & 11 (Friday & Saturday): Missoula Children's Theater Performances (7:00 Friday, 2:00 Saturday)
- May 12 (Sunday) Baccalaureate/Senior Awards South Gym, 6:00 pm
- May 14 (Tuesday): JH/HS Pops Concert, South Gym, 7:00 pm
- May 19 (Sunday) 2024 Commencement, North Gym, 2:00 pm
- May 21 (Tuesday): last day of school

Public Notices

ELLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES, MARCH 11, 2024

The Ellendale Public School Board met in special session on March 11, 2024 2:30 p.m. for a School Board Retreat with the following board members present: Kristi Gilbert, Val Wagner, Michele Thorpe, Cresta Miller and Jeff Goehring. Others present were Lana Norton and Chip Sundberg.

Mrs. Thorpe called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m.

Thorpe welcomed visitors Jodi Bruns, Mike Brandenburger, Robert Erbele and Jim Grueneich.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion was held with Mr. Brandenburger, Mr. Erbele and Mr. Grueneich regarding education and legislative information.

Mrs. Jodi Bruns helped facilitate the review of the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. Discussion was held on Capital Improvements and priorities.

Since there was no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Lana Norton, Business Manager Formally Approved by the Board

(April 25, 2024)

ELLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES, MARCH 28, 2024

The Ellendale Public School Board met in special session on March 28, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. with the following board members present: Kristi Gilbert, Val Wagner, Cresta Miller, Jeff Goehring and Michele Thorpe. Others present were Chip Sundberg, Allison Radermacher, Cindy Rall and Lana Norton.

Mrs. Thorpe called the meeting to order at 7:04 a.m. There were no visitors.

Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Gilbert, seconded by Miller to amend the previously approved 2024-2025 Ellendale Public School and Maple River Colony School Calendars. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Motioned by Goehring, seconded by Gilbert to enter executive session to discuss administrative contract negotiation strategy at 7:09 a.m. with Kristi Gilbert, Michele Thorpe, Jeff Goehring, Cresta Miller and Val Wagner present. The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is North Dakota Century Code section 44-04-19.2 On a roll call vote all voted yes. Motion carried.

The executive session was adjourned at 7:29 a.m.

It was motioned by Miller, seconded by Gilbert to approve the recommended 2024-2025 salary and benefit increases for the business manager, superintendent, high school principal

and elementary principal as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

School property mowing bids were received from Jeff Thorpe, Matt Thorpe and Merkel Mowers. Track property mowing bids were received from Jeff Thorpe, Matt Thorpe and Merkel Mowers. Football Field season mowing bids were received from Jeff Thorpe and Merkel Mowers. It was motioned by Miller, seconded by Goehring to accept the following bids: -Matt Thorpe in the amount of \$175 per occurrence for the track property. -Merkel Mowers in the amount of \$175 per occurrence for the school property. -Merkel Mowers in the amount of \$70 per occurrence for the Football Field seasonal mowing. On a roll call vote, Goehring-Yes, Miller-Yes, Gilbert-Yes, Wagner-Yes, Thorpe-Abstain due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the capital needs/priorities list. It was motioned by Goehring, seconded by Miller to authorize Mr. Sundberg to gather proposals for contracts for construction services. On a roll call vote, all voted yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 a.m.

Lana Norton, Business Manager Formally Approved by the Board

(April 25, 2024)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DICKEY COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

In the Matter of the Estate of Susan E. Hasz, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Kimberly E. Kemmet has been appointed Personal Representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Claims must either be presented to Kimberly E. Kemmet, c/o Stock Law, S.P., P.O. Box 612, Hillsboro, ND 58045, personal representative of the estate, or filed with the Court.

Dated this 18th day of April, 2024

Charles A. Stock
Attorney at Law
Stock Law, S.P.
PO Box 612
Hillsboro, ND 58045

Telephone No.: 1-218-790-1802
cstock@hillsboro-law.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

Court File No. 11-2024-PR-00010
First publication on the 25th day of April, 2024.

(April 25, May 2, & May 9, 2024)

School Board election is June 4

Official Ballot

Ellendale Public School District No. 40
Dickey County
State of North Dakota
Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Vote for Two (2) Members for the ELLENDALE SCHOOL BOARD.

Area: EAST RURAL for a term of three (3) years.
Vote for ONE (1) name only!

Valerie Wagner -----

Myron Meyers -----

Write In
Fill in Name -----

Area: RURAL AT LARGE for a term of three (3) years.
Vote for ONE (1) name only!

Cresta Miller -----

Tyler Hokana -----

Write In
Fill in Name -----

How do dogs know a storm is approaching?

There are many theories, but no one really knows.

BY JOHN WHEELER.

FARGO — What is it that dogs are picking up on when they get nervous before the people in the house are aware a storm is coming? A quick search on the web offers a pack of websites offering answers with great certainty but nothing in the way of support. Air pressure changes more in the vertical than horizontal. Riding up an elevator ten floors is a greater pressure change than from any approaching storm, so that's likely out unless you know a dog that freaks out on an elevator ride.

A dog's sense of smell is many times more acute than that of humans, but there is no evidence that storm smells are carried far out ahead of an approaching storm. The sound of distant thunder is more plausible because sound waves can travel out ahead of a storm and humans are not that good at hearing low-frequency sound at low volume. The fact is, we don't know why some dogs seem sensitive to approaching storms.

John Wheeler is Chief Meteorologist for WDAY Television.



Ellendale Area Arts Council

The Ellendale Area Arts Council will hold its annual business meeting at 6:30pm May 7, 2024 at the Opera House. Everyone is welcome to attend; membership is not required.

At 7:00, after a short business meeting, artist and mental health specialist Melissa Gordon of Bismarck, will present a talk on the role of the arts in maintaining mental health and balance. The general public is warmly welcomed.

Robin Smith, Secretary
(April 25 & May 2, 2024)

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