Thanksgiving weekend travel tips

Thanksgiving is consistently one of the busiest travel holidays of the year. In fact, AAA indicates that, in the United States, it may be the most traveled of all the holidays, with record numbers of both drivers and air travelers. In 2024, nearly 80 million Americans were expected to travel over Thanksgiving weekend. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is a particularly busy day on the roads, but high volumes continue throughout the weekend.

A high demand for travel during this time of year means individuals wanting to see friends or family for Thanksgiving should plan accordingly. These tips, courtesy of AAA and the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA), can make Thanksgiving travel go more smoothly.

· Book flights early. If you are able, secure flights early in the day and use personal time off from work to fly in to a destination at the beginning of the week. The propensity for flights to be delayed or canceled increases as the day and week goes on. An early departure may increase the chances of a flight leaving on time. Also, the TSA reports that the Tuesday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving, as well as the Sunday after, are the busiest days for Thanksgiving air travel. Choosing an alternative day to fly may mean smaller crowds and less stress.

Consider TSA Pre-Check®. TSA PreCheck is a paid program that enables you to get through security lines faster. Interested parties must verify their identities through a third-party service that handles PreCheck applications, and await confirmation of approval. A TSA PreCheck membership lasts for five years. This membership offers consistent time savings at the airport with dedicated PreCheck lanes, and the benefit of keeping items like laptops and liquids in your bag.

· Consider traveling by train. If Amtrak services your



destination, taking the train may be the least stressful way to travel over Thanksgiving. In addition to not having to navigate roadways or sit in traffic, you won't face security screening like you will at the airport. Once on the train, there is Wi-Fi, nice views and efficient travel. Trips booked in advance are more affordable than booking closer to the holiday.

Pack light. Avoiding the baggage carousel can shave much time off of travel. Plus, there's no risk of luggage getting diverted or not making it to your final destination. A carry-on bag is the way to go for ease, particularly if you must get on a different flight if the original one is delayed or canceled.

· Service your car. If road travel is planned for Thanksgiving, make sure your car is in good condition for a road trip. Be up-to-date on oil changes, make sure the tires are properly inflated and double-check your emergency preparedness kit prior to leaving. It also may be a good idea to invest in AAA benefits, which afford extra peace of mind in the event of a breakdown as well as savings on travel-related expenses, such as lodging.

· Pack your patience. In addition to your holiday essentials, it is wise to also pack some patience this Thanksgiving travel season. Leave extra time so you're not racing to your destination and can calmly contend with people also looking to get home for the holidays.

-metrocreative connection



What aging drivers can do to improve their driving skills

Motor vehicles have come a long way since the days of the Model T. Safety features in particular have undergone significant enhancements over the last several decades. Improvements in airbags, structural modifications like crumple zones and technological features like automatic emergency braking have helped to make modern vehicles far safer than the cars and trucks of yesteryear.

While there's no denying that modern vehicles are safer than ever, the human element remains an unpredictable variable. Even in an era marked by vehicles with greatly enhanced safety features, distracted or impaired drivers can compromise the well-being of everyone on the road.

Age is another variable unique to each driver that merits consideration when considering road safety. The National Institute on Aging notes that certain conditions associated with aging, including increased stiffness of muscles and joints, can make it difficult for seniors to safely operate motor vehicles. Seniors who want to ensure they're safe to drive can take various steps to ensure they are not compromising their own safety or the safety of others when getting behind the wheel.

· Have your driving skills assessed by a trained professional. The NIA notes that the American Occupational Therapy Association maintains a database of driving specialists who can help seniors assess their skills behind the wheel. These trained professionals may

assess existing skills and offer advice about how to overcome any issues aging drivers might be having.

Take a driving course. Safe driving courses can help drivers of all ages stay up-todate on the latest safety protocols and advice on how to drive safely. Modern driving is vastly different than it was when many current seniors became licensed drivers. A safe driving course can refresh drivers' memories about safety protocols, and some may even offer advice on how to navigate modern roadways, which may be marked by distracted drivers and feature vehicles with brighter headlights that can make it more difficult for older drivers to drive at night.

· Speak with your physicians about your medica**tions.** A recent study from the U.S. Food and Drug Adminstration found that the average adult age 65 and older now uses roughly four medications. Medications produce side effects that can affect every area of a user's life, including their ability to drive. Those effects might be heightened when taking more than one medication, and interactions also can lead to side effects that might not manifest if individuals were taking just one prescription. Aging drivers can maintain an honest and ongoing dialogue with their physicians to ensure they're aware of the effects their medications might be having on their ability to drive safely. Report any new side effects the moment they appear. -metrocreative connection

several months during a time

when the infant is too young to be vaccinated. **Protects kids** A flu vaccine can signifi-

Regularly check ac-

· Use a secured internet

-metrocreative connection



cantly reduce a child's risk of pediatric intensive care unit admission and even death from the illness.

ent steps to reduce their risk

of contracting the flu, which

includes frequent handwash-

ing, keeping a distance from

others who are sick and eating

a healthy diet to help boost the

immune system. Getting an an-

nual flu shot is another notable

and highly beneficial strategy to

Reduces risk of getting

The primary reason to get

a flu shot is to train the body's

immune system to recognize

and fight off the most common

strains of influenza anticipated

in a given year. During seasons

when the shot is a good match,

individuals who get it can reduce

their risk of flu contraction by

Lessens severity of the flu

For those who do get the flu,

being vaccinated means the ill-

ness is likely to be less severe

than it might be for those who

Prevents serious condi-

The flu can be dangerous to

vulnerable populations, but the

virus also can lead to health

problems like inflammation of

the heart or brain, pneumonia,

or the worsening $\bar{\text{of}}$ conditions

like asthma and diabetes. By

getting the vaccine, one can re-

duce their risk of these serious

Offers protection to preg-

Pregnancy increases risks

posed by the flu. The flu shot

can reduce the chances of flu-

related hospitalization for preg-

nant women. Also, the mother's

antibodies to the flu will be

passed to the fetus, helping to

protect the newborn baby for

40 to 60 percent.

are not vaccinated.

tions

outcomes.

nant women

beat the flu.

the flu

metrocreative connection

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING **OBERON CITY COUNCIL**

September 8, 2025 A regular meeting of the Oberon City Council was called to order at 7:28 p.m. on Sept. 8, 2025. City council members present: Mayor Faron Stensland, Shawn Trottier, Ellis LaPorte and Kim Krebsbach, and City Auditor Tina Ploium.

Agenda -- Krebsbach made

motion to approve the agenda; LaPorte seconded. All in favor; the motion carried.

August Meeting Minutes Krebsbach made a motion to approve the meeting minutes; Trottier seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion carried.

New Business --Garbage: Why is the city paying for business dumpsters? There are seven total dumpsters in the city and there are two businesses

Will be sending letters and bills to all residents, including those only here Old Business -- Water resource

manager hire. Auditor Report -- Pay LaPorte for mowing all summer, \$125 per mow.
Bills and Payroll -- Krebsbach made a motion to approve bills and

payroll; Trottier seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion carried. Otter Tail Power Co. ... Otter Tail Power Co. Otter Tail Power Co. Otter Tail Power Co. 49.60 364.20 Otter Tail Power Co. ND Telephone Co. .. Waste Management Central Business

Systems. 26.00 106.00 Grand Forks Utility Oberon Post Office ND Workforce Safety 1,108.20 \$3,501.32 Next meeting is Monday, Oct. 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting

> Tina Ploium City Auditor

Faron Stensland

adjourned.

Tips to protect your personal financial information

Identity theft is a very real threat in the digital age. While it once was complicated for criminals to collect personal data, such as identification numbers, emails, phone numbers, and more, the connectivity the internet offers can sometimes make stealing information as easy as clicking a button.

In 2024, the Federal Trade Commission fielded more than 1.1 million reports of identity theft. Credit card fraud was the most common crime. Also, 2024 saw the largest data breaches in history, impacting billions of users and subjecting customers to the potential of having personal data exposed and ultimately exploited.

Although there is no foolproof way to keep personal and financial data safe, people can take several steps to safeguard their information.

Use strong, unique passwords. Have several different and complex passwords for each online account to prevent a compromised password from providing access to all of the accounts. People can use a password manager to help create and store these unique passwords. The U.S. Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency says that strong passwords

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES **RELATING TO** N.D. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 75-03-42 **AUTHORIZED ELECTRONIC MONITORING**

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services will hold a public hearing to address proposed amendments to N.D. Admin. Code chapter 75-03-42 relating to authorized electronic recording and documentation at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 2025, in Bismarck, N.D. in Room 210, located on the second floor of the Judicial Wing of the State Capitol. Copies of the proposed rules

are available for review at human service zones offices and at the state-operate behavioral health clinics. Copies of the proposed rules and the regulatory analysis relating to these rules may be requested by telephoning (701) 328-2311. Written or oral data, views, or arguments may be entered at the hearing or sent to: Rules Administrator, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services, State Capitol - Judicial Wing, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250. Written data, views, or arguments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 22, 2025.

ATTENTION PERSONS DISABILITIES: If you plan to attend the hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Department of Health and Human Services at the above telephone number or address at least two weeks prior to the

Dated this 30th day of October,



should be at least 16 characters; feature a random string of mixed-case letters, numbers and symbols; or comprised of a memorable phrase of four to seven unrelated words, known as a passphrase.

· Use two-factor authentication. Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) on all accounts to add an extra laver of security. This second form of verification often comes by the way of a texted or emailed code that must be entered to log into an account.

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO N.D. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 75-03-21 LICENSING OF FOSTER HOMES **FOR ADULTS**

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services will hold a public hearing to address amendments proposed N.D. Admin. Code chapter 75-03-21 relating to definitions, application, facility requirements, general substitute caregiver and respite care provider qualifications, and temporary assistants regarding licensing of foster homes for adults at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 2025, in Bismarck, N.D. in Room 210, located on the second floor of the Judicial Wing of the State Capitol.

Copies of the proposed rules are available for review at human service zones offices and at the state-operated behavioral health clinics. Copies of the proposed rules and the regulatory analysis relating to these rules may be requested by telephoning (701) 328-2311. Written or oral data, views, or arguments may be entered at the hearing or sent to: Rules Administrator, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services, State Capitol - Judicial Wing, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250. Written data, views, or arguments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December

ATTENTION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If you plan to attend the hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Department of Health and Human Services at the above telephone number or address at least two weeks prior to the hearing.

Dated this 31st day of October,

· Consider extra security for your credit report. Individuals can contact the three major credit bureaus and bolster their credit-related security. A fraud alert tells businesses to check with the person before opening a new account to verify if it is really him or her. An initial fraud alert or active duty fraud alert expires in a year, while an extended fraud alert lasts seven years, but requires an FTC identity theft report. A credit freeze is a greater measure of security that keeps others from getting into the credit report at all (with a fraud alert the credit report can still be accessed). That means no one can open a new credit account while the freeze is in place. It must be lifted each time a person wants to open a new account.

· Protect your identification numbers. Individuals should not carry a Social Security card in a wallet or give out their Social Security Number (Social Insurance Number in Canada) unnecessarily.

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES RELATING TO N.D. ADMIN. **CODE CHAPTER 75-02-01.2** TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR **NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM**

TAKE NOTICE that the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code chapter 75-02-01.2 relating to definitions; diversion; transition assistance; decision and notice; monthly review; good cause; eligibility; asset limits and exempt assets; income, unearned income and deductions; reinstatement; benefit computation; essential services; payment; disqualification and sanctions; and the job opportunities and basic skills program for the temporary assistance for needy families program at 9:00 a.m. on Friday. December 12, 2025, in Bismarck, N.D. in AV Room 210, located on the second floor of the Judicial Wing of the State Capitol.

Copies of the proposed rules are available for review at human service zones offices and at the state-operated behavioral health clinics. Copies of the proposed rules and the regulatory analysis relating to these rules may be requested by telephoning (701) 328-2311. Written or oral data, views, or arguments may be entered at the hearing or sent to: Rules Administrator, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services, State Capitol - Judicial Wing, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505-0250. Written data, views, or arguments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December

ATTENTION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If you plan to attend the hearing and will need special facilities or assistance relating to a disability, please contact the Department of Health and Human Services at the above telephone number or address at least two

weeks prior to the hearing.
Dated this 30th day of October,

· Exercise caution on the phone and when answering emails. Scammers can mislead others by using seemingly legitimate phone numbers or email addresses to solicit information. Always verify the validity of requests before sharing personal

counts. People should doublecheck all financial accounts periodically for suspicious transactions. Each year individuals are able to request and check a free credit report from Experian, TransUnion and Equifax.

connection. To reduce the risk of data being stolen, only review financial information when utilizing a secured (password locked) internet network.



City of Warwick is requesting bids for snow removal. Submit bids to: City of Warwick, PO Box 826,

Devils Lake, ND 58301. The City of Warwick reserves the right to

accept or reject any or all bids. --Lottie Caldwell, City Auditor

SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PUBLICATION

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OFFICE OF SCHOOL FINANCE AND ORGANIZATION SFN 7618 (06-08)

TO: COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OR DESIGNEE

After verification of the items below, please transmit this statement for publication in accordance with NDCC, section 15.1-09-35 to: Name and Address of Official Newspaper of the School District

The publisher is requested to send a copy of the published statement and the bill for publication to: Name of Business Manager School District Name and Number School District Address Ft Totten 30 03-030 Beginning Fund **Ending Fund** Revenue Expenditures Balance July 1, Balance June 30, 2024 2025 General Fund 11,463,811.81 3,626,194.74 4,980,718.38 10,109,288.17 Tuition Fund 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 Miscellaneous Fund 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 General Fund (01) 11,463,811.81 3,626,194.74 4,980,718.38 10,109,288.17

	Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2024	Revenue	Expenditures	Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2025
Special Reserve Fund Group (02)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects Fund Group (03) -	88,319.00	2,000,000.00	0.00	2,088,319.00
Sinking & Interest Fund Group (04)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Food Service Fund Group (05)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Student Activities Fund Group (06)	3,325.20	70,504.50	153,081.98	-79,252.28
Trust and Agency/Consortium Fund (07)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

0.00	
0.00	
	0.00

I do solemnly swear that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information within is a true and correct statement of all revenue and expenditures of the school district.

Signature of School District Business Manager

This report is found correct in every particular and is hereby

Signature of School Board President