

ended in January.

“The city they were in was on the front and being rocketed, there was no stability for the kids, no school. They were in fear for their lives all of the time,” Thrall said.

“Until there is peace, that’s what these people would be going back to. Going back to the threat of a rocket taking out their neighborhood at a moment’s notice,” he said.

In one of its first acts, the Trump administration issued an executive order on Jan. 20 canceling all humanitarian parolee programs for the 875,000 migrants from Ukraine, Afghanistan, Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela who had legal U.S. resident sponsors to support their temporary status in the country.

There are currently around 280,000 Ukrainians and 70,000 Afghans in the country through humanitarian parolee programs who await decisions on whether their stay will be extended.

Derrick Gross, executive director of CATCH, works with rural communities in welcoming immigrants and filing much-needed workforce shortages, including a number of Ukrainian parolees.

Gross said it is important to note that nearly all adult Ukrainian parolees in North Dakota are working and accompanying children are in schools here, meaning any sudden shift in their status would wipe out those positive impacts.

Differing from migrants with refugee status, humanitarian parolees are the responsibility of their sponsors and their own hard work. Parolees must secure employment and care for themselves with few benefits other than what they may get

“They are culturally very similar, for obvious reasons, meaning they’ve acclimated well.”

Sen. Kevin Cramer

from employers.

Sen. Kevin Cramer said he was keeping tabs on the situation and is advocating against deporting Ukrainian parolees for several reasons.

“They are basically refugees from a war-torn ally,” Cramer said. “They are culturally very similar, for obvious reasons, meaning they’ve acclimated well. And perhaps most relevant is, they are very productive in an economy that is workforce starved.”

Cramer said Ukraine will need citizens to return to the country to help with reconstruction when the time comes, but he saw no reason to rush their removal.

A piece of bipartisan legislation is currently being circulated in the Senate by Republican Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Democrat Dick Durbin of Illinois to grant Ukrainians in the U.S. temporary guest status. This would allow them to stay until the U.S. Secretary of State determines that hostilities have ceased in Ukraine and it would be safe for them to return.

Cramer said he was interested in the legislation but hadn’t yet decided if he’d support it.

Gross said people often don’t see the post-war reconstruction part of the picture when thinking about hu-



Several Ukrainian parolees and members of the Legacy Church community in Bismack at an event share tips on cooking American and Ukrainian dishes (Photo courtesy of Cory Thrall)

manitarian parolees. Most will eventually return to Ukraine unless they go through other legal processes to stay in the U.S.

“The whole point was to get them

out of harm’s way in a situation that wasn’t safe and sustainable,” Gross said of the initial aims of the U4U program.

“When the war does end, Ukraine

has a massive reconstruction to undergo, and they’ll need their citizens to execute that,” he said.

The North Dakota News Cooper-

ative is a non-profit news organization providing reliable and independent reporting on issues and events that impact the lives of North Dakotans.

Bill would create grants for maintaining fairgrounds

Ann Estvold
NDNA Legislative Intern

A Jamestown lawmaker noticed that his local Stutsman County Fairgrounds needed some sprucing up. After doing some checking, Rep. Mitch Ostlie, R-Jamestown, saw that this home county wasn’t the only one with maintenance problems.

Ostlie is sponsoring HB1591, which would allocate \$1.5 million for grants to county agriculture fair associations for the planning, designing and construction of infrastructure projects.

Ostlie initially asked for \$3 million, but the Senate Appropriations Committee cut the sum in half. Local fair associations would also have to provide at least \$1 for every dollar of state support.

Ostlie said the idea for the bill came from visiting with the Stutsman County Fair about infrastructure needs. Upon doing more research, he realized that Stutsman County wasn’t the only one with needs.

“Fairgrounds all across North Dakota are gathering places for their

communities,” said Mark Landa, a board member of the Greater Grand Forks Fair. Landa said the Grand Forks fairgrounds are the third-most utilized event facility in Grand Forks, even though it is only open for part of the year. All of the fairgrounds’ buildings need some repairs, Landa said.

“Improving the facilities should help these fairgrounds attract more people to their events, which should bring even more dollars to our communities and more tax dollars,” said Landa.

Others who support the bill said the funds were needed to update or build new infrastructure at their own fairgrounds. The legislation has not drawn any opposition, but its supporters say some smaller fair associations may struggle to raise the required matching funds.

Nathan Schneider, a spokesman for the Burke County Fair Association in North Dakota’s northwestern corner, asked that the bill require lesser match amounts for smaller counties. Landa said that one-third of the state’s county fairs are in coun-

ties with populations with fewer than 3,000 people.

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved an amendment to allow a grant recipient to provide \$1 of matching funds from nonstate sources for every \$2 of grant funding received, with the state agriculture commissioner put in charge of distributing grants. The Senate will vote later on the bill.

Notices

South Valley Township

NOTICE OF MEETING
The South Valley Township Tax Equalization meeting will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Cythia Haakenson farm.
(March 31 and April 7, 2025)

Rolette Equalization

NOTICE OF MEETING
The Rolette Board of Equalization meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rolette City Hall.
(March 31 and April 7, 2025)



Turtle Mountain Head Start/Early Head Start

Recruitment/Enrollment

Will Your Preschooler Be Ready???

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Classrooms will fill up fast!!

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Independence

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Parent Activities

Community Resources

Fatherhood Activities

Implementation of Ojibwa Language



Required Documents
Updated Immunization Record
Physical Exam
Tribal Enrollment
Foster Parents will need Placement Forms/Custody

Head Start Locations:
Belcourt Center 701-477-0260—Kim Azure ext. 213, Iris Nadeau ext. 239, Melinda Poitra,-218
Dunseith Center 701-244-0340 –LouAnn St.Claire
If you need an application mailed please call Head Start.

Church Directory

Assembly of God – Rolette Sunday School at 9 a.m. Sunday Worship at 10 a.m. Evening Service at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Gene Wilson 246-3250	United Methodist Church – Rolla Worship at 8:30 a.m. Rick Craig, Pastor • 968-3361 www.rollaumc.com	St. Ann’s Catholic Church – Belcourt Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 5 p.m. Confessions: Sat. 9:30 am & 4-6:30 pm, Sun. 8-11 a.m., 4:30-6 pm and before or after daily Masses Monday – Friday Morning Mass: 6:30 AM QOP Monday – Friday Evening Mass: 5 PM QOP Tuesday: 11th and 12th grade Youth Group 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday: 6th-12th Youth Group 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday: 4th-5th Grade Open Youth Room 4:30-6 p.m. Friday: 6th-12th Open Youth Room 6:30 to 8 p.m. Saturday: No Youth Group Rev. Michael Slovak, S.O.L.T., Rev. Dave Brokke, S.O.L.T., Rev. Fred Alexander, S.O.L.T., Rev. Anthony Hession, Deacon Francis Davis • 477-5601 ext. 0
Ebenezer Lutheran Brethren – Rolette 9:00 a.m. Morning Worship and 10:15 a.m. Sunday school/Bible Class Pastor Gene Wilson 246-3488	Anishinabe Church of God – Dunseith Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. Kidz Zone at 11 a.m. Prayer & Communion, Tuesday at 6 p.m. Pastor Daniel Bean 228-2056	St. Anthony’s Catholic Church Belcourt Sunday Mass at 11:30 a.m. Fr. Michael Slovak, S.O.L.T. • 477-5601 ext. 0
Sacred Heart Catholic Church Rolette 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays at 11 a.m. 2nd and 4th Sundays at 9 a.m. Fr. Petro Ndunguru 246-3449	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints – Rugby Sunday services at 10 a.m. 202 2nd St. West, Rugby President Val Christensen- 246-3579	St. John the Baptist Catholic Church – St. John Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m. Confession Saturdays 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Rev. Richard Fineo 477-3081
Valle Lutheran Church – Rolette Children/Adult Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship at 8 a.m. • 246-3574 Mountain View Ministry	Dunseith Jesus Name Church of the Apostolic Faith 111 Main Street in Dunseith Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday School at 11 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7:30 p.m. Pastor Todd Belgarde - 244-2230	Presbyterian Church, St. John Sunday Worship at 9:00 a.m 477-5376
Salem Mennonite Church 3 miles south of Mylo Sunday School at 10 a.m. Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday Evening at 7 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 8 p.m.	Peace Lutheran Church and United Methodist Church Joint Worship – Dunseith Combined Sunday Worship at 12 noon Children/Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. 244-5781 Mountain View Ministry	Emmanuel Chapel – PCG, St. John Sunday School and Sunday Worship, 6:30 p.m. 218 Grace Street, St. John Rev. Wayne Hanson - 477-8578
Harvest Church Nondenominational 4635 78th Street Wolford, ND 58385 Sunday Fellowship Time 9:00 AM Sunday Service 10 AM with Children’s Church Wednesday Evening Worship at 7 PM Senior Coffee twice a month on Fridays Pastor Jonathan Frohms 701-550-0577	St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Church, Dunseith Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. Sunday Mass at 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Rev. Michael Slovak, S.O.L.T. 244-5738	St. Benedict’s Catholic Church Rural Belcourt Sunday Mass at 8:30 a.m. Confession: Sundays 8 to 8:30 a.m. Rev. Richard Fineo 477-3081
Turtle Mountain Baptist Church, Rolla Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7 p.m. Pastor Frank Sheridan - 477-3213	St. Sylvan’s Episcopal – Dunseith 10 a.m. on the First and Third Sundays Father Paul Zaharia 701-720-2880	Assembly of God - Belcourt Turtle Mountain Worship Center Prayer Meeting Wednesdays at 6 p.m. Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Sunday Worship at 11:00 a.m. Curtis Patnaude, pastor Phone 477-6017
Presbyterian Church - Rolla Sunday Worship at 11:00 a.m ACT, Wednesdays at 6:30 pm 477-5376	Christian & Missionary Alliance – Turtle Mt. Alliance Church, Dunseith Pastor Gary Dorn • Youth Pastor Joel Musser Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Church Service at 11 a.m. Youth Group, Wednesday 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. 244-0532	Notre Dame Catholic Church Willow City 1st and 4th Sundays, Saturday Evening at 5 pm; 2nd Sunday at 11 am; 3rd and 5th Sundays at 9 am. Weekday Mass is Thursday at 9 am. Fr. Petro Ndunguru 246-3449
Immanuel Lutheran Church Rolla - L.C.M.S. Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Holy Communion: Observed 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month Rev. Scott Ramey - 477-5122	All Nations Lutheran Church Rock Lake - L.C.M.S. Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Scott Ramey- 266-5361	Wolford Lutheran Church Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. Coffee: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Rev. Barb Haugerud
Our Savior’s Lutheran Rolla Wednesday Youth Group at Presbyterian Church at 7:05 p.m. Sunday Worship May and August - 10 a.m. June, September and October - 12 noon July, November and December - 8 a.m.	Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church - Rock Lake Sunday Mass Schedule at 10:30 a.m. Jan., March, May, July, Sept. Nov. Sunday Mass Schedule 8:30 a.m. Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct, Dec. Rev. Thai Arul 477-5277	Church on a Mission Pentecostal Church of God 19th 1st St., 3rd Ave. SE, Dunseith (701) 244-0268 Rev. Lloyd and Rae Flansburg
St. Joachim Catholic Church Rolla Saturday Mass at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass Schedule at 8:30 a.m. Jan., March, May, July, Sept. Nov. Sunday Mass Schedule 10:30 a.m. Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct, Dec. Rev. Thai Arul 477-5277	United Methodist Church Rock Lake Sunday Worship at 9:45 a.m. Rick Craig, Pastor • 968-3361	Emmanuel Church - Dunseith Sunday School and Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. 3rd Avenue South - Dunseith Rev. Wayne Hanson - 477-8578
Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Bisbee 1st Sunday at 9 a.m. 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Sundays, Saturday at 5 p.m. 4th Sunday at 11 a.m. Fr. Petro Ndunguru 246-3449		

The church directory is presented by the following businesses and professional firms in our communities who encourage you to attend the church of your choice.

ROLLA DRUG Phone 477-3174	JOHNSON OIL CO. Tesoro Products Rolette - 246-3771	HARLOW’S BUS SALES & SERVICE Harlow Hageness, owner Rolette 246-3700
DACOTAH BANK Member FDIC First State Insurance of Rolla	ROLETTE STATE BANK Member FDIC	LEEVERS FOODS Rolla’s Full Service Grocery
SMP ST KATERI HOSPITAL Rolla • 477-3161	ROLETTE INSURANCE AGENCY at Rolette State Bank - 246-3395	MUNRO MOTOR COMPANY Phone 477-3124 - Rolla