

Dakota Datebook Presents:

REMEMBRANCE IN STONE

By Carole Butcher

October 13, 2025 – Whitestone Hill was designated a State Historical Site in 1904. On this date in 1909, a crowd gathered at the top of the hill to commemorate a new monument. The monument was carved from Vermont granite. At the top of the tall column, a soldier forever stands with his bugle to his lips. The column is surrounded by twenty granite headstones, one for each soldier killed 46 years before. The event began with a military bugle call. Congressman Thomas Marshall delivered the official address. He asked those present to remember that they stood on ground “made sacred by the blood of the soldiers of 1863.”

The Dakota Uprising was a heart-breaking event in Minnesota, but the following years extended the tragedy to the Dakota Territory. In the summer of 1863, General John Pope sent a force into the Territory to end the hostilities. The troops of General Alfred Sully came across a large gathering of Dakota at Whitestone Hill. They had come together to prepare for winter. While some of them had probably participated in the uprising, most had not. Some had even risked their own lives to protect settlers during the violence.

Sully attacked the camp on September 3. He lost 20 men, at least some of them to friendly fire. It is estimated that as many as 300 Dakota were killed. Most of the Dakota dead were women and children. Sully spent the next two days destroying everything the fleeing Dakota had left behind. They burned all the lodges as well as tons of buffalo meat. They destroyed everything from weapons to cooking pots to children’s toys. The Dakota who escaped were left destitute for the coming winter.

The 1909 commemoration made no mention of the Dakota casualties. Marshall’s speech focused on the necessity of supplanting the native culture with white civilization. Over the years, a more balanced evaluation has evolved. In 1942, a small memorial was added to the site to acknowledge the loss of Dakota life. By 1976, the committee that planned a commemoration was determined to

honor all those who were killed. And today, 150 years after the event, descendants of Native participants have taken an increasing role in determining how Whitestone Hill is remembered.

LEARNING

By Sarah Walker

October 14, 2025 – Students in North Dakota have, throughout decades past, been subject to the changing of seasons in an agricultural state. Different farm-related chores sometimes took precedent over the classroom. You may have a parent or grandparent who was finished with school by the time they were twelve or fourteen. And it didn’t just happen here; it happened across the country.

On this day in 1925, however, the Fargo Forum reported that Cass County kids were actively seeking more of an education. Statistics from the county showed that 87 percent of the eighth-graders from Cass County had enrolled in high school. Moreover, 48 percent of high school students were set to go on for more education at normal schools and colleges.

“According to figures compiled by Miss Carolina Evingson,” county superintendent of schools, the Cass County schools had “established a record not only in North Dakota but throughout the country.”

These averages may seem low, compared with today, but in 1925, only about 60 percent of students in the United States went on to receive even a high school education. The average number of high school graduates who continued their education was a paltry 25 percent. Cass County’s average was over 20 percent better than that of the nation’s, in these categories. Definitely, that was something to be proud of.

Miss Evingson said that the reason for this “happy situation” was due to the principals and superintendents of the schools, as well as to the parents, who constantly reminded their children of “the advisability of obtaining as much education as possible” as well as the opportunities it opened for both men and women.

Twelve smaller town schools also set records by sending their entire graduating class of eighth graders to high schools in the fall. These lucky towns were Chaffee, Erie, Rose Valley, Page, Hunter, Argusville, Grandin, Hickson, Tower City, Leonard, Gardner and Kindred. Cas-selton was listed as a thirteenth school that was “very close to the 100 percent mark.”

And, you may wonder, what about the country towns, where there may have only been one-room school houses? Where farm kids were especially ruled by the changing of the seasons?

Well, by the time of the report’s release, 100 percent of all the eighth-grade graduates of those rural one-room schools were either preparing to enter or already had entered high school classes.

CHAFFEE SWINDLED

By Derek Dahlsad

October 15, 2025 – Herbert Chaffee became president of the Amen-ia and Sharon Land Company bonanza farm near Amen-ia, North Dakota, when his father passed away in 1892. The Chaffees believed the welfare of their workers was key to the success of the bonanza farms, but this benevolence was vulnerable to abuse.

In October 1909, a California gold miner named John Armstrong arrived at the farm in need of Chaf-fee’s help. The old miner said he had \$40,000 of gold bullion as collateral if Chaffee would consider lending him money. The gold was in Min-neapolis, and Armstrong invited Chaffee to see the gold for himself.

Armstrong, Herbert Chaffee, and Chaffee’s son Eben arrived in Min-neapolis on this date in 1909. Eben Chaffee took shavings from the gold bars for analysis by a gold assayer. Armstrong claimed a jeweler had given him the name of assayer W. H. Harper, who happened to be living at the nearby Rogers Hotel.

Chaffee and his son met Mr. Harper and gave him the shavings from the miner’s bullion. Harper’s tests showed the metal was pure gold.

Chaffee cashed a \$25,000 check, worth over half a million in today’s

dollars, and gave Armstrong the loan in crisp \$100 bills. The trio then went to dinner, but as they ate, the younger Chaffee became suspicious. He excused himself and went to find Harper, the assayer.

Armstrong, realizing the jig was up, and also left the table, saying he’d be right back. Young Chaffee found that Harper had checked out immediately after the gold was tested. The Chaffees rushed back to their hotel and found Armstrong’s room empty.

The whole process had been a scam from the beginning. Chaffee took the supposed gold to another as-sayer’s office, and found it to be \$15 worth of brass.

Two years later, a man was ar-rested in California for performing the same scam on a woman in Ohio. Chaffee’s son traveled west and iden-tified the man as none other than John Armstrong.

A few days before Armstrong’s extradition to Minnesota, a drowned body found in San Pedro Bay Cali-fornia was identified as Armstrong. However, the police thought the scammer was much too smart to have taken his own life, and they be-lieved Armstrong faked his death to get away with Herbert Chaffee’s \$25,000

LUTEFISK SHORTAGES

By Dr. Steve Hoffback

October 16, 2025 – Eating lute-fisk is not for the faint of heart, for this peculiar Norwegian form of cod-fish smells to high heaven. But to Norwegian-Americans, eating snow-white, light and flaky lutefisk was a joy at holiday dinners, especially at Christmastime, as a taste of Norway for those immigrants who had left its fjords and shores for America. For non-Norwegians, the penetrating aroma of lutefisk cooking in the kitchen could make them cringe or induce them to make fun of the lye-soaked codfish.

On this date in 1941, newspapers held dire news for Norwegian-Americans in North Dakota, as a terse ar-ticle announced that the holiday supply of lutefisk would have to come from Iceland, not Norway it-self. The German military had in-

vaded Norway in 1940, and the country fell under Nazi control.

Genuine lutefisk had long been prepared in northern Norway, the only place where the best conditions prevailed for properly processing the codfish pulled from the deep seawat-ers surrounding the Lofoten Islands. The German occupation made it dif-ficult to get lutefisk shipments to America. Hence, lutefisk supplies had to come mainly from Iceland, and some optimists hoped the Ice-landic fish would be “just as good as the best from Norway.”

But the Norwegian church-people at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bis-marck felt they had to have the real lutefisk from Norway for their fifth annual lutefisk supper, held in Janu-ary of 1942. Fortunately, the astute congregational leaders had ordered 850 pounds of lutefisk from Norway from a Duluth supplier the previous summer, before the shortages began.

So there was lutefisk-joy that Janu-ary as the “Bjornsons, Bjerkes, Bjellas, Bakkens and Bensons” gathered to feast on the “glorified cod” floating in rich, golden butter. They also gobbled down “3,200 pieces of lefse” and “1,600 fattigman” – the popular “poor man’s” cookies, washed down with plenty of strong coffee. The churchwomen also cooked 75 pounds of tasty Norwe-gian meatballs for those non-lute-fisk-eating spoilsports who said: “hold your nose and pass the fish.”

Through the war years, the lute-fisk supply was reduced and the Trinity Lutheran congregation had to make do with codfish from Iceland, Newfoundland or Alaska. Only when Norway was freed in 1945, did the real lutefisk return to the tradi-tional church suppers.

CHAMPION BARREL RACER

By Cathy A. Langemo

October 17, 2025 – North Dakota champion barrel racer Maude (Kirk) Gullickson was born on this date in 1911 in Washburn. Maude was the youngest daughter of Grant and Maude Kirk. She started riding horses as a toddler and rode nearly every day of her life until she was 73 years old. Maude american and rode

barrel-racing horses for most of her life, winning both the North Dakota State Cloverleaf title and the first North Dakota Rodeo Association State Champion Barrel Racer Title in 1955.

She married Orville Gullickson in 1935 in Sanger, and they had two sons. The couple farmed and ranched northeast Oliver County near Center for 40 years. Maude was an integral part of the operation, assisting with cattle drives and brandings, and she made sure her sons and grandchil-dren learned to ride.

Maude competed in dozens of rodeos throughout North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and into Canada every summer from the 1950s through the ‘70s. She was an honorary member of the North Dakota Rodeo, Roughrider and National Old Timers associations.

Maude continued to compete in Old Timers events until age 70 and was named “Old Timers Rodeo Queen” in 1982. A year later, she traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada, and Amarillo, Texas, to participate in the National Old Timers Finals.

Maude volunteered her time and expertise to 4-H clubs, assisting and teaching girls who entered horse shows and attended horse camps. Several of the horses she raised went on to win championships, including Dakota Red Sands, winner of the Pennsylvania Rodeo Association barrel-racing championship. She was inducted into the North Dakota Cow-boy Hall of Fame in June 2011.

She loved reminiscing about the early days of rodeo when the prizes were trophies, ribbons and belt buckles, not cash. She once said, “I’ve won enough buckles to make a whole belt.”

Maude died on September 13, 2005, in New Salem

“Dakota Datebook” is a radio se-ries from Prairie Public in partner-ship with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and with funding from the North Dakota Humanities Council. See all the Dakota Datebooks at prairiepub-lic.org, subscribe to the “Dakota Datebook” podcast, or buy the Dakota Datebook book at shop-prairiepublic.org.

Legals: Your Right to Know

NOTICE OF LEASING STATE SCHOOL LANDS

The Board of University and School Lands will offer the following lands for lease in McHenry County.

Bjornson (151-080)

AC	Term	Rent
16	E2SE 480 5	\$1291

Schiller (152-075)

AC	Term	Rent
36	NE4 160 5	\$2300

Smokey Lake (154-075)

AC	Term	Rent
16	NW 160 5	\$3640
16	SE4 160 5	\$3640
16	SW4 160 5	\$2847

Rose Bush (154-076)

AC	Term	Rent
36	NE4 160 5	\$2888
36	NW4160 5	\$2798
36	SE4 160 5	\$2521
36	SW4 160 5	\$2944

Gorman (155-075)

AC	Term	Rent
36	NE4 160 5	\$3640
36	NW4160 5	\$3640

I - Regarding payment for unprecie-ated costs

AC	Term	Rent
36	SW4 160 5	\$3640

Denbigh (156-077)

AC	Term	Rent
16	NE4 160 5	\$3626
16	NW4160 5	\$3640
16	SE4 160 5	\$3640
16	SW4 153 5	\$3474

Riga (156-078)

AC	Term	Rent
16	NW4160 5	\$3640
16	SE4 160 5	\$3482
16	SW4 160 5	\$3451

Egg Creek (156-079)

AC	Term	Rent
9	S2SE4, E2SW4 160 5	\$3351

Red Cross (157-075)

AC	Term	Rent
13	NE4 160 5	\$3542
13	SE4 160 5	\$2865
13	SW4 160 5	\$3640
36	NE4 160 5	\$1397
36	NW4160 5	\$2211
36	SE4 160 5	\$1648

Hougoum (157-076)

AC	Term	Rent
17	N2SW4 75 5	\$1707
18	NE4 156 5	\$3557
18	SE4 160 5	\$3435
32	NE4 160 5	\$3640
32	SE4 160 5	\$3535
32	SW4 160 5	\$3503

Gilmore (157-078)

AC	Term	Rent
16	N2 320 5	\$3225

Saline (157-079)

AC	Term	Rent
28	N2SE4 79 5	\$1808

Auctioneer will read specific require-ments at the auction. The public lease auc-tion will be held in City of Towner, Senior Citizen Center at 10/21/2025 2:30 PM CT. Other than the descriptions of the lands to be auctioned, the information contained in this advertisement may be revised prior to the auction upon further review by the North Dakota Department of Trust Lands. Any such revisions will be announced at the auction and will be binding upon the bidders. Bidding will begin at minimum rent. 1st year’s rent must be paid in full im-mediately after the sale. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. For more information, visit https://land.nd.gov or call (701) 328-2800. For auxiliary aids and services, please call by 10/8.

Joseph A. Heringer COMMISSIONER
1707 N 9th St | Bismarck ND 58506-5523

PHONE: 701-328-2800 | FAX: 701-328-3650 | WEB: https://land.nd.gov
(September 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8 & 15, 2025)

GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP NOTICE TO MOW

All landowners or renters in Granville Township are required to mow all road ditches adjacent to their property by Octo-ber, 15, 2025.

Brian Gotvaslee, Clerk
(October 1, 8 & 15, 2025)

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will receive bids for the construction of the following project(s):

Job No.: 23404
Project No(s): HEN-INF-9-052(485)006
Length: 4.766

Type: ACCELERATION LANES, DECELERATION LANES, TURN LANES, PIPE, EMBANKMENT, AG-GREGATE, HMA, SIGING, PAVE-MENT MARKINGS & INCIDENTALS
County(s): MCHENRY, BURKE, FOSTER, & WARD Cos
Location: US 52, NEAR PORTAL TO CARRINGTON

Job No.: 23641
Project No(s): INF-NH-4-052(104)141 & HEN-INF-4-052(101)167

Length: 45.053

Type: HMA MILL, HMA OVER-LAY, SUBCUTS, EMBANKMENT, AG-GREGATE BASE, CULVERTS RIP RAP & INCIDENTALS

County(s): MCHENRY, PIERCE, SHERIDAN, & WELLS Cos

Location: US 52, NEAR JCT ND 14 TO JCT CMC 5216 (FESSENDEN) & US 52, INTERSECTION OF US 52 & ND 3 (HARVEY)

Bids will be received via the Bid Ex-press on-line bidding exchange at www.bidx.com until 09:30AM, Novem-ber21, 2025. Bids will be opened at that time at the NDDOT building on the capitol grounds in Bismarck and the bid results will be distributed and posted online at https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/bidinfo.ht m approximately 30 minutes after bids are opened.

The proposal forms, plans, and speci-fications are available on the NDDOT web-site at http://www.dot.nd.gov and may be inspected at the Construction Services Di- vision, 608 East Boulevard Avenue, Bis-marck, North Dakota.

All bidders not currently prequalified with NDDOT must submit an online Con-tractor’s Prequalification request to the De- partment at least ten (10) business days prior to the bid opening. The online appli-cation can be found on the NDDOT web-site at https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/contractors.htm

NDDOT reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive technicalities, or to accept such as may be determined in the best interests of the state.

For disability/language assistance, call 701-328-2978.

Requested by:
Ronald J. Henke, P.E., Director
North Dakota Department of Trans- portation

(October 15, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION OF NAME CHANGE

IN DISTRICT COURT, WARD COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF BJORN ED-WARD KEELING, A MINOR CHILD

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Peti-tion will be filed by the Petitioner with the above-entitled court requesting an Order changing the name of Bjorn Edward Keel-ing to Bjorn Edward Villafranca.

Pursuant to N.D.CC 32-28-02, thirty days previous notice of the intended appli-cation must be given in the official news-

paper printed in the this county as well as in the official newspaper of the county where the non-custodial parent resides. You are hereby notified that thirty days after publication, petitioner intends to file a pe-tition requesting entry of the Court’s Order changing the name of Bjorn Edward Keel-ing to Bjorn Edward Villafranca. Any ob-jection to granting this name change must be given in writing to the address listed below within 30 days of the dates of this publication. The written objection must also be filed with the Court. If no objec-tions are given, the Court may respond to the Petition without further hearing.

/s/ Shannon Aniceto Villafranca
Shannon Aniceto Villafranca

3100 11th Ave Se Lot B1

Minot ND 58701

(October 15, 2025)

MINUTES OF THE ANAMOOSE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

PRESENT

BOARD

Carrie Hager, President

Kip Brandt, Director

Heather Mayer, Director

Amanda Olson, Vice President

ADMINISTRATION

Steve Heim, Supt.

Brittany Bromley, Prin.

Stacy Bruner, Bs. Mgr. B

Pres. Hager called the regular meeting of the Anamoose Public School Board to order at 7:10 A.M. Sept 11, 2025 with 4 board members present, 1 absent, 0 visitors. There was a quorum to do business.

After reviewal of agenda, moved by Olson to approve the agenda as presented, second Brandt, RCV-UC.

After reviewal of regular Aug 14, 2025 school board meeting, moved by Mayer to approve minutes as presented, second Olson RCV-UC

The Board then reviewed monthly ex-penditures, after reviewal, moved by Olson to approve all listed expenditures, second Brandt RCV-UC. Monthly financials re-viewed Gen. (cks 800435,27082-27135) \$63,326.89, Hot Lunch (cks 800430,2367-2370) \$3154.81, Activities (cks 3781, 3798) \$6579.22, motion moved by Brandt to approve financial as presented, second Olson, RCV-UC.

Prin Report –down 1 student
Supt. Heim’s monthly report included: update on School Board Convention. Dis-cussion on Kindergarten milk and discus-sion on milk prices, motion by Olson to eliminate kindergarten milk in the future years and no charge for second milk, sec-ond by Brandt and unanimously carried. Discussion on Title IX and 504 training,

update on USED numbers.

Unfinished business-

i. Budget

a. 25-26 Budget- reviewed and dis-cussed

i. Daycare project - completed

ii. Tax Meeting – no patrons attended

iii. Title \$ funding – update

Discussed budget with taxes as pre-sented, Motion by Brant to approve budget with 67.57 mills for general, \$12,000 (2.83 mills) for building fund for a total of 70.4 mills, second by Olson and unanimously carried.

New Business

1. Home Schooling Policy

a. Discussion on current Homeschool-ing policy. Change of policy to add that stu-dent must be enrolled in Drake Anamoose Public School for 10th/11th/12th grade to be eligible for Val/Sal awards and add Ad-ministrative Rules. Motion Brandt to ap-prove policy and administrative rules as presented, second by Olson and unimously carried.

2. Compliance Reports- Anamoose Public School is meeting all DPI regula-tions and report has been submitted. Mo-tion by Olson to approve as presented, second by Mayer and unanimously carried. Next meeting will be on Oct 8, 2025 with tax meeting starting at 7 am and Board Meeting to follow.

There being no further business to dis-cuss, moved by Olson to adjourn, second Mayer MC.

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO AP-PROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD.

Stacy Bruner, Bs. Mgr.

Carrie Hager, Pres.

(October 15, 2025)

TOWNER CITY MINUTES

The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Towner met in regular session September 8th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with Shawn Anderson calling the meeting to order. Commissioners Bailey Anderson, Birky, Berdahl and Schaff were present.

Agenda: Schaff/Berdahl M/S to ap-prove the agenda as presented. Carried.

Minutes: Berdahl/Birky M/S to approve the minutes of the August 4th, 2025 meet-ing as presented. Carried.

Bills: Schaff/Birky M/S to approve the bills as presented. Carried. General Fund – Envision \$1225.68, Waste Management \$1870.47, SRT \$290.72, Wold Engineering \$1637.50, ND One Call \$10.50, Van Diest Supply Co. \$188.00, Otter Tail Power Co. \$2142.40, Swanston Equipment \$2400.00, Dakota Fire Extinguishers \$229.00, Minot Baseball \$241.88, McCormick Law \$385.00, Towner Hardware Hank \$472.38,

Robert Mohagen \$92.35, Dave Spies \$295.52, Lila Larson \$204.10, Niah Wol-lenzien \$770.30, Water Fund – Envision \$100.26, AE2S \$184.04, FDHU \$30.00, Otter Tail Power Co. \$353.69, Towner Hardware Hank \$10.78, Postmaster \$205.57.

Kyle Bailey reported 891,616 gallons of water sold in the previous month. He also reported that he and Ian recently closed the splashpad and winterized it. They are currently working on flushing sewers and tree trimming. Kyle presented the board with an estimate for repairing an extra lift station pump and informed them that Maguire would be conducting a water tower inspection this month.

Schaff/Bailey M/S to accept the tree re-moval bid from The Ground Up. Carried.

Berdahl/Birky M/S to accept the fee of \$3889.25 per resident for hooking into the new sewer line on the NW end of town. Carried.

There being no further business to dis-cuss Shawn Anderson adjourned the meet-ing.

Shawn Anderson, President N i c h o l e Livedalen, City Auditor Towner City Com-mission

(October 15, 2025)

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Relating to the transportati on of water; boat safety equipment; initial applicatbn for guide and outfitter license; hunthg guide and huntng outfitter examination.

TAKE NOTICE that the NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT will hold a public hearing to address proposed changes to the N.D. Admin. Code. ND