

100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

The month of July has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in July 1926.

- Canadian Prime Minister Arthur Meighen's two-day-old government is defeated in Parliament by one vote on July 1. Many of Meighen's fellow Conservatives voted against him.
- Mexican President Plutarco Elias Calles publishes the Calles Law on July 2. The law mandated that all church property become government property and that all worship be conducted inside churches under the supervision of local officials.
- Less than two weeks after an attempted coup d'état against the government of Prime Minister Miguel Primo de Rivera, King Alfonso XIII of Spain issues a royal decree on July 3. The decree grants Primo de Rivera

an assortment of discretionary powers, including the right to banish and deport persons for the good of the country.

- Knobels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, Pennsylvania, opens on July 4. The amusement park is the largest in the United States to have no admission fee, as rides are paid for individually.
- Twenty-one Mexican prisoners escape from Blue Ridge State Prison Farm in Blue Ridge, Texas, on July 4. The prisoners escaped by sawing their way through the main building of the prison.
- On July 6, French Finance Minister Joseph Caillaux speaks before the Chamber of Deputies and asks for emergency powers to address the country's economic problems. The request is attacked in the chamber the following day.
- A bolt of lightning strikes the Lake Denmark Naval

Ammunition Depot in New Jersey on July 10. A resulting fire causes several million pounds of explosives to blow up over the ensuing three days, killing 19 people and destroying 187 buildings.

- Golfer Bobby Jones wins the U.S. Open in Columbus, Ohio, by a single stroke on July 10. With the victory, Jones becomes the first golfer to win both the British Open and the U.S. Open in the same year.
- King Victor Emmanuel III of Italy takes a boy who had just been hit by a train into his car on July 13. The boy dies in the vehicle while the King's car is rushing him to the hospital.
- Linton Wells and Edward Steptoe Evans complete their flight around the world on July 14. The pilots accomplish the feat in 28 days, 14 hours and 37 minutes, breaking the record of 35 days set in 1913.
- French President Gaston Doumergue and Moroccan Sultan Yusef ben Hassan inaugurate the Grand Mosque of Paris on July 16. The house of worship is the largest mosque in France.
- On July 18, U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant Faustin E. Wirkus is crowned

as "King Faustin II" while stationed on Haiti's Gonave Island during the American occupation of the Caribbean nation.

- An editorial published in the *Chicago Daily Tribune* on July 18 accuses actor Rudolph Valentino of being responsible for the installation of a face-powder dispenser in a men's washroom. The anonymous writer implies that Valentino is responsible for the feminization of American men. Valentino challenges the writer to a boxing

or wrestling match the following day in an essay published in the *Chicago Herald-Examiner*, but the anonymous author did not come forward.

- Eleven tourists on a sightseeing bus to Bear Mountain State Park in New York are killed on July 22 when the driver runs off a curve while driving downhill off the mountain. The bus rolls over three times before crashing into a building, and the driver is eventually charged with 11 counts of vehicular homicide.

Great Britain's first greyhound racing track opens on July 24 in Manchester.

- On July 26, Robert Todd Lincoln, the last surviving son of American President Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln, passes away in Vermont at the age of 82.
- Al Capone is freed from jail on July 29. Capone spent one night in jail after being arrested on charges arising from the murder of Assistant State's Attorney William McSwiggin

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

March 4, 2026
A regular meeting of the Leeds City Council was called to order by Mayor Nick Parslow on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 6:05 p.m. at Leeds City Hall. Present were council members Kyle Nelsen, Patrick Streyle and Kris Larson. Also present were city employees Al Lundstrom and Gina Harkness. Tony Gratton was absent.

Sheriff Report -- The Benson County sheriff did not attend the meeting but did provide a report with the February calls for the city of Leeds.

Public Works -- A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Nelsen, to replace the pump at lift station #3. The motion carried unanimously.

Nelsen made a motion to purchase 20 road barriers and a dozen cones to update what we currently have. The motion was seconded by Larson. The motion carried unanimously.

Larson made a motion to accept the public works superintendent's report. Streyle seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Financials -- A motion was made by Streyle, seconded by Larson, to accept employees' timesheets. The motion carried unanimously.

Nelsen made a motion, seconded by Larson, to accept the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Streyle, to approve the minutes with corrections from the Feb. 4, 2026 regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business -- A motion was made by Nelsen, seconded by Larson, to accept the street sweeping quote by Mathsen Sweeping. The motion carried unanimously.

Nelsen made a motion to send a final nuisance letter to a property, as well as the state's attorney and the environmental health director with the Lake Region public health department, and invited the property owner to the April 1, 2026 council meeting. The motion was seconded by Larson. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business -- A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Streyle, to have the auditor fill out a certification of occupancy for Midwest Metalworks, LLC. Nelsen abstained; voting in favor were Larson and Streyle. No member voted against the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Streyle made a motion, seconded by Larson, to accept the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Streyle, seconded by Larson, to split the plumbing bill with Earl's Bar. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Larson, seconded by Streyle, to approve payroll and accounts payable. The motion carried unanimously. The bills were as follows:

Bank of ND	\$2,090.00
BC Farmers Press	68.64
BC Treasurer	306.94
Blue Cross Blue Shield	1,168.37
CenDak Cooperative	981.90
Cindy Ritterman	150.00
First Dist. Health Unit	30.00
Gessner Iron Works, LLC	1,056.82
Hawkins	359.67
Leeds Airport Authority	24,498.39
Mac's Hardware	62.94
NCB Electric, LLC	7,852.87
ND Telephone Co.	262.67
ND Workforce Safety	889.69
Northern Plains Elec.	711.32
NRG Technology	
Services	1,316.52
Otter Tail Power Co.	2,777.13
Payroll	13,764.02
Plunkett's Pest Control	54.14
Quill Office Supply	133.97
Rugby Lumber	95.00
Verizon	159.58
Visa	899.91
Waste Management	6,226.57

A motion was made by Nelsen, seconded by Larson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Gina Harkness
City Auditor

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

April 1, 2026
A regular meeting of the Leeds City Council was called to order by Mayor Nick Parslow on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6:13 p.m. at the Leeds City Hall. Present were council members Kyle Nelsen and Patrick Streyle. Also present were city employees Al Lundstrom and Gina Harkness. Tony Gratton joined the meeting via telephone for a brief period. Kris Larson was absent.

Sheriff Report -- The Benson County sheriff did not attend the meeting or provide a patrol report.

Nelsen made a motion to submit the renewal of our three-year contract with the Benson County Sheriff's Department. The motion was seconded by Streyle. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works -- Streyle made a motion to accept the public works superintendent's report. Nelsen seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Financials -- A motion was made by Streyle, seconded by Nelsen, to accept employees' timesheets. The motion carried unanimously.

Streyle made a motion, seconded by Nelsen, to accept the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

Council was called to order by Mayor Nick Parslow on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6:03 p.m. at Leeds City Hall. Present were council members Tony Gratton, Kris Larson, Kyle Nelsen and Patrick Streyle. Also present were city employees Al Lundstrom and Gina Harkness. Randy Thompson, the Benson County tax director, joined the meeting for a brief time. Aiden Jackson attended the meeting.

Tax Equalization -- Larson motioned to approve the proposed changes to Leeds city's property values. Streyle seconded the motion. All members voted yes and the motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Report -- A motion was made by Gratton, seconded by Larson, to accept the March patrol report that was provided by the Benson County Sheriff's Office. The motion carried unanimously.

Engineering -- Streyle made a motion to apply for the Army Corps grant. The motion was seconded by Larson. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works -- Gratton made a motion to accept the public works superintendent's report. The motion was seconded by Larson. The motion carried unanimously.

Financials -- A motion was made by Streyle, seconded by Gratton, to accept employees' timesheets. The motion carried unanimously.

Nelsen made a motion, seconded by Streyle, to accept the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business -- A motion was made by Streyle, seconded by Gratton, to accept the bid presented by Ritterman Trucking to supply the city with gravel for 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gratton, seconded by Nelsen, to approve payroll and accounts payable. The motion carried unanimously. The bills were as follows:

Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$1,168.37
Bravera	1.00
CenDak Cooperative	874.11
Chemistry Lab	55.60
Earl Called, LLC	180.00
Farmers Union Oil Co.	
--York	345.25
Ferguson Waterworks	290.19
First Dist. Health Unit	30.00
Leeds Airport Authority	30,912.88
Leeds City Park Dist.	360.00
ND Sewage Pump Lift Station	675.00
ND Telephone Co.	270.25
Northern Plains Elec.	644.34
Otter Tail Power Co.	2,925.37
Payroll	20,405.27
Plunkett's Pest Control	90.65
Uline	3,482.83
US Postal Service	556.00
Verizon	159.58
Visa	871.49
Waste Management	6,226.57

A motion was made by Nelsen, seconded by Streyle, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Gina Harkness
City Auditor

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

May 6, 2026
A regular meeting of the Leeds City Council was called to order by Mayor Nick Parslow on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:13 p.m. at the Leeds City Hall. Present were council members Kyle Nelsen and Patrick Streyle. Also present were city employees Al Lundstrom and Gina Harkness. Tony Gratton joined the meeting via telephone for a brief period. Kris Larson was absent.

Sheriff Report -- The Benson County sheriff did not attend the meeting or provide a patrol report.

Nelsen made a motion to submit the renewal of our three-year contract with the Benson County Sheriff's Department. The motion was seconded by Streyle. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works -- Streyle made a motion to accept the public works superintendent's report. Nelsen seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

Financials -- A motion was made by Streyle, seconded by Nelsen, to accept employees' timesheets. The motion carried unanimously.

Streyle made a motion, seconded by Nelsen, to accept the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

Gina Harkness
City Auditor

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

Supply
Leeds Airport Authority 1,300.15
Leeds City Park Dist. 20,000.00
Alan Lundstrom 35.00
Mac's Hardware 139.04
Mainstreet, Inc. 143.33
Midwest Metalworks, LLC 225.00
ND Job Service 29.96
ND Sewage Pump Lift Station 9,075.00
NCB Electric 2,838.43
ND Tax Commissioner 66.06
ND Telephone Co. 318.77
Northern Plains Elec. 667.69
Opdahl Enterprise 5,500.00
Otter Tail Power Co. 2,826.79
Payroll 13,112.08
Plunkett's Pest Control 54.14
Quill Office Supply 62.86
Railroad Management 851.06
Ritterman Excavating 1,500.00
Verizon 159.52
Visa 1,570.74
Waste Management 6,226.57

A motion was made by Nelsen, seconded by Streyle, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Gina Harkness
City Auditor

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

Supply
Leeds Airport Authority 1,300.15
Leeds City Park Dist. 20,000.00
Alan Lundstrom 35.00
Mac's Hardware 139.04
Mainstreet, Inc. 143.33
Midwest Metalworks, LLC 225.00
ND Job Service 29.96
ND Sewage Pump Lift Station 9,075.00
NCB Electric 2,838.43
ND Tax Commissioner 66.06
ND Telephone Co. 318.77
Northern Plains Elec. 667.69
Opdahl Enterprise 5,500.00
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A motion was made by Nelsen, seconded by Streyle, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Gina Harkness
City Auditor

Tips for taming holiday traffic

Extended holiday weekends tend to fall on national holidays throughout the year, giving workers and students an opportunity to enjoy an extra day off from work and school. The open road beckons millions of people on three-day weekends, which serve as a great chance to get away.

According to AAA, holiday weekends see record-breaking traffic volume, with nearly 40 million drivers hitting the road. Those who are hitting the open road on a holiday weekend can take heed of these tips to avoid heavy traffic.

- Change your travel time.** Late mornings and early evenings tend to be especially busy on the roads. Instead, leave very early or very late to get to your destination, departing before 6 a.m. or after 8 p.m.
- Change your day.** Think about leaving a day earlier for a smooth drive. On a three-day holiday weekend, that would mean arriving on Thursday afternoon. When returning home, try to travel on a Tuesday or early Wednesday if you can manage the extra time off.
- Pack a cooler.** Motorists will be feeling hunger pangs at various times throughout the day, and there likely will be long wait times at rest stops and



fast food establishments. Skip the crowds by packing food to minimize stops.

Take back roads. Make the drive part of the trip by sticking to back roads and scenic byways. This may add some time to the drive, but you'll avoid much of the gridlock of highways and interstates.

Consider public transportation. Public transportation can alleviate travel-related stress on a holiday weekend. Someone else, be it a train conductor or a bus driver, will navigate their way through traffic while you relax with a good book or stream a movie on a tablet.

Bring along entertainment. AAA suggests audiobooks, podcasts and games for passengers to help pass the time on the road.

Reduce stress as much as possible. Being a courteous driver and giving others a wide berth can minimize your own stress. By leaving ample time to get to your destination, you will feel less pressured to weave in and out of traffic or tailgate.

Stay local. Of course, the easiest way to beat holiday weekend traffic is to stay close to home. Build fun at home, and choose less popular travel weekends for your getaways.

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Make the most of a visit to a fair or carnival

It is fair and carnival season again. Fairs pop up across the country promising food, fun and fellowship. From big-name musical events to carnival rides to food on a stick, there is truly something for everyone in the family. Attending a fair likely will be on the agendas of individuals and families who are looking to maximize summer. Here are some tips to make the most of these excursions.

- Check for deals.** Fairs start advertising their dates weeks in advance. Participants should check websites or other avenues to see if there are any discounts for buying admission tickets ahead of time. Also, certain days or times may feature a lower price of admission, or there may be wristbands of family fun packs, so it helps to see if there are such offerings.
- Know before you go.** Check the event's website to find a schedule of activities, which vendors are available and any other pertinent information. This helps people plan their trips, particularly for multiday fairs or carnivals that may feature different events on different days.
- Budget accordingly for fun.** A day at the fair for the family is likely to be expensive. From admission to parking to ride tickets to food, there are expenses at every turn. Bringing along extra cash is wise, as some vendors may not accept credit cards.
- Check the weather.** An overcast or drizzly day may keep the crowds at bay and won't make for a complete fair wash-out. However, fair-goers should always have an eye on the weather to plan their trips. Pouring rain may shut down many rides. Strong sun can beat down and make the day uncomfortable, so it may be best to arrive in the evening.
- Consider carpooling.** Parking can be tricky at fairs, which tend to pop up in large, open fields on the outskirts of town. There may be extra fees to park, or the lot may be a significant distance from the entry. By carpooling, expenses can be reduced, and someone



can drop off the passengers and then go park the car.

The odds are against you. Playing a few fair games for fun is par for the course. But people should keep in mind that the odds of walking away with the grand prize are low. Set a budget cut-off for spending on carnival games; otherwise, a person may empty their wallets quickly.

Check out the animals. Many fairs feature livestock exhibits or have petting zoos. These animals may be with

farmers or agricultural students who can share some information.

Try a new food. Food is one of the main attractions of these seasonal events. People shouldn't be afraid to go out of their comfort zones and try something new or different. You also can keep food costs down by bringing snacks. Some events may have restrictions on which foods and beverages can be brought in. After all, food is a big moneymaker for fair organizers and vendors.

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Lake Region Livestock Inc.
Devils Lake, ND
701-662-2223 | 800-858-7049
Chris Plummer - owner & manager

- **Tue., July 7: No Sale**
- **Tue., July 14: Regular Sale & Weigh-up Special**
- **Tue., July 21: No Sale**
- **Tue., July 28: Regular Sale**

► **REMEMBER, SHOTS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**
★ Call ahead if interested in marketing any bred cattle to ensure proper advertising. ★

For market information, a farm appraisal, to consign livestock or for trucking arrangements call
Chris Plummer @ 701-256-0878
Check out www.lakeregionlivestockinc.com
or for current & past sale results.

July is Leon's

35th

ANNIVERSARY

in Park River

Stop in at either location or go online to check out our clearance for great deals!

105 4th St. E
Park River, ND
701-284-6266



448 Hwy 2 West
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