

CLASSIFIEDS

701-462-8126 |

Deadline Monday @ 3 p.m.

SKY

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roughly 60 miles of the surface. The maneuver used the Moon's gravity to sling the crew into a distant retrograde orbit, giving the astronauts a rare view of the lunar far side and a brief communications blackout as the spacecraft slipped behind the cratered horizon. NASA later released striking images of stark gray terrain and a crescent Earth hanging in the distance, photos that quickly spread across social media.

The flyby came as engineers on the ground worked through a pair of early technical issues. One involved a set of sensors in the spacecraft's environmental control system that briefly returned erratic data. Another centered on a balky communications router that forced the crew to switch to a backup channel. NASA said neither problem threatened the mission, and both were resolved through software resets and troubleshooting from Mission Control. Still, the hiccups offered a reminder that deep space travel remains unforgiving, even with decades of experience behind it.

Over the course of the journey, the crew traveled hundreds of thousands of miles, witnessing views of Earth and the far side of the Moon that only a handful of humans have ever seen. They even caught a glimpse of the April 8 solar eclipse from space, a moment that blended celestial mechanics with human presence in a way few missions ever have. Each astronaut brought a unique background to the mission, reflecting NASA's goal of building a diverse and experienced team for the next era of exploration.

Reid Wiseman, the mission's commander, is a U.S. Navy captain and former chief of NASA's astronaut office. Known for his steady leadership, Wiseman emphasized the mission's role in preparing for future lunar surface operations.

Victor Glover, the pilot, previously served on the International Space Station and became the first person of color to travel toward the Moon. Before launch, he said the crew was "going for our families," underscoring the personal commitment behind the mis-

sion. Christina Koch, a mission specialist, holds the record for the longest spaceflight by a woman and participated in the first allfemale spacewalk. She told NASA she was "going for our teammates," highlighting the collaborative spirit of Artemis.

Jeremy Hansen, also a mission specialist, is a former fighter pilot and the first Canadian to join a lunar mission. He said he was "going for all humanity," reflecting the international partnership behind Artemis.

Artemis II arrives at a moment when public attention often drifts elsewhere. But NASA leaders say this mission is part of a long campaign to expand human presence beyond Earth. The agency envisions a future where astronauts live and work on the Moon, conduct scientific research and test technologies that could one day carry humans to Mars.

For rural communities, where agriculture, energy and weather shape daily life, the Artemis program may feel far removed. Yet the technologies developed for space exploration often find their way into everyday tools, from satellitebased crop monitoring to improved communications systems. NASA officials say the economic and scientific benefits of lunar exploration will ripple across the country.

As images from Orion continue to circulate, Americans are getting a fresh look at the Moon and Earth from a vantage point unseen for half a century. Mission Specialist Jeremy Hansen captured the spirit of that moment when he told viewers back home, "When you look up here, you're not looking at us. We are a mirror reflecting you. And if you like what you see, then just look a little deeper. This is you."

In a time when negative news can feel overwhelming, Artemis II stands out as a story of ambition, cooperation and hope. It's a reminder that humanity is still capable of looking upward together. Now that the crew is home, the path to the Moon's surface and beyond feels closer than ever.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Mercer Rural Fire Protection Annual Meeting & Election

Annual Meeting And Election For The Mercer Rural Fire Protection District
The annual meeting and election will be held at the Mercer Fire Hall Friday April 24th at 7pm.
Byron Fiedler,
Secretary/Treasurer
(April 16 & 23, 2026)

Horseshoe Valley Township Equalization Meeting

April 20th at 2 p.m.
at the Orvin Ravnaas home, 1919 16th Ave NW, Turtle Lake, ND.
(April 9 & 16, 2026)

Wise Township Equalization Meeting

Wise Township Tax Equalization meeting will be held on April 27th, 2026 at 7:30 pm at the Mercer Fire Hall. Supervisors meeting will follow.
Marjorie Fiedler
Wise Township Clerk
(April 16 & 23, 2026)

Catch the Great Bargains in the Classifieds!
462-8126

City of Coleharbor Council Minutes

November 19, 2025

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by President Pochant @ 7:00 p.m. Present were council members Tim Bosak, Len Lindbo, Stetson Pedersen, and City Auditor Del Kolke. Public present were representatives from Harbor Bar and Wolf Creek Winery and Tyson Mathews (McLean County Independent Editor).

Motion Pedersen, second Lindbo to approve the October 15, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion Pedersen, second Bosak to approve the bank account balances and bills as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion Pedersen, second Lindbo to authorize city auditor to pay any bills that would impose late fees if the date due is prior to the monthly council meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

City auditor developed a Public Comment Policy to align with recently approved legislation requiring each public entity to include a public comment portion to their agendas.

Motion Pedersen, second Bosak to approve the 2026 Harbor Bar liquor license. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion Pedersen, second Lindbo to approve a raffle permit to the Harbor Bar for their ice fishing tournament in January. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion Lindbo, second Pedersen to remove existing names from Dakota West Credit Union accounts and add Del Kolke, Chris Holt, and Justin Pochant. All in favor, motion carried.

No interested applicants for the maintenance position at this time. The ad will be run again in area publications.

Lindbo offered to have additional master keys made for lagoon and fenced area as well as garbage dumpster.

Approved Bills: Visa 571.66; ND Dept. of Health 27.00; Circle Sanitation 838.60; NorDak North Publications 1,062.20; Breanna Lemer 182.00; Breanna Lemer \$69.26; Del Kolke 692.63.

Next meeting Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the Coleharbor Community Center. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.
(April 16, 2026)

Notice of Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the McLean County Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 20th, 2026, at 1:30 P.M. in the Conference Room of the McLean County Courthouse (Ground Floor) at Washburn, North Dakota, for the purpose of hearing and considering all testimony regarding a request for a zoning change submitted by Rainbow Energy Center, LLC, whose post office address is Bismarck, North Dakota, involving land described as the S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ section 18, Township 145 North, Range 82 West (60 acres). The above-named applicant seeks a zoning change to allow for continued use of generation in McLean County.
(April 9 & 16, 2026)

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WASHBURN
503 MAIN AVE, COZY two bedroom, two bath home with 1,020 sq. ft. main floor plus a sun-room, two stall garage and two storage sheds. Semi-private lot located close to downtown business district. Home has been cared for and is in move-in condition. Seller will pay up to \$2,000 in buyer's costs. **\$129,000.**

UNDERWOOD
804 2nd Street SW - 1976 5 bedroom home on 4 lots with exceptional upgrades and outdoor living! Plenty of room to build a shop! The heated 2-stall garage adds year-round convenience. \$299,000.

View online at www.realtor.com
www.bismarckmandanhomes.com
www.mikenelsonrealty.com
Mike Nelson Realty
Mike Nelson, Broker/Owner
701-462-3709 Office
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Financing Options Available
Contact Your Trusted Seed Advisor
701-256-2599