

Nordak North Publishing expands with acquisition of McClusky Gazette

Publisher says growth strengthens local journalism, creates new opportunities for readers and advertisers

BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

Nordak North Publishing has acquired the McClusky Gazette, ensuring the continued publication of a newspaper that has long served McClusky and Sheridan County while also expanding the company's network of community newspapers across central North Dakota.

Publisher Kelsey Majeske said the opportunity arose through discussions with the newspaper's previous owner, Alan Tinker, who was looking toward retirement and wanted to ensure the newspaper's future.

"The opportunity came about through conversations with the newspaper's previous owner, who was looking toward retirement and wanted to ensure the Gazette's future," Majeske said. "We understood the importance of the Gazette to McClusky and Sheridan County and felt it was a natural fit alongside our latest set of newspapers based in McLean County."

Majeske said Nordak North Publishing viewed the acquisition as an opportunity to preserve local journalism in a rural community at a time when newspapers continue to disappear across the country.

"When the opportunity presented itself, we saw a chance not only to preserve a long-standing newspaper but also to continue serving a community that was about to lose its newspaper," she said. "Local newspapers are disappearing across the country at an alarming rate, especially in rural communities. We believe towns like McClusky deserve access to community news, public notices, community information and coverage of local government."

The acquisition expands Nordak North Publishing's reach while creating additional opportunities for businesses and organizations that advertise throughout the region.

"Adding the McClusky Gazette gives local advertisers another platform to reach new potential customers," Majeske said. "Many businesses serve customers across county lines, and being part of the Nordak North family creates more opportunities for regional advertising while still maintaining a strong local focus."

She said advertisers will continue to reach hometown audiences while benefiting from the resources and marketing opportunities available through a larger newspaper network.

"Advertisers will continue to have access to hometown audiences, but they'll also benefit from the resources, expertise and marketing opportunities that come with being part of a larger network," Majeske said.

While the newspaper family continues to grow, Majeske said readers should not expect significant changes to the local focus of existing publications.

"Our commitment to each community remains the same," she said. "We try to have every newspaper maintain its local identity and focus on the stories, people and issues that matter most to its readers."

She added that adding another publication strengthens the organization as a whole by allowing newspapers to share resources, ideas and best practices.

"The goal isn't to change our current papers; it's to make all of them stronger and more sustainable," Majeske said.

The purchase also aligns with a broader strategy to ensure the long-term viability of community journalism.

"Growth is important because the continuation of community newspapers depends on it," Majeske said. "By expanding our network, we're creating a larger foundation that helps support community news, local advertising and public notices for years to come."

She said growth also allows the company to invest in employees and products while helping preserve local news coverage in communities that might otherwise lose it.

"Growth allows us to invest in our staff, improve our products and preserve local news in communities that might otherwise be at risk of losing it," Majeske said. "At the end of the day, our mission is to keep local journalism thriving, and growth helps us do that."

Majeske stressed the acquisition is about more than adding another publication to the company's portfolio.

"Acquiring newspapers is about more than adding publications to our company; it's about protecting an important community institution and ensuring local stories continue to be told," she said.

Looking ahead, Majeske said her vision for the newspaper remains rooted in local coverage. Readers can expect continued reporting on local government, schools, businesses, organizations, sports and community events.

"My vision is simple: to strengthen the Gazette as a community newspaper focused on its readers," she said.

"We also want to highlight the positive stories happening throughout the area and celebrate the people who make Sheridan County a great place to live."

The transition also includes new staffing support for the newspaper. Majeske expressed appreciation for Amanda Saueressig as she takes on a larger role in serving Gazette readers.

The McClusky Gazette joins the Leader-News, Central McLean News-Journal, McLean County Independent and Xtra as part of the Nordak North Publishing family.

"Our mission is to ensure these communities continue to have strong local newspapers for generations to come," Majeske said.

LOCAL CHURCH DIRECTORY

BUTTE

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
• Sunday School 10 a.m.
• Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
• 626-7589

MERCER

Our Savior's Lutheran
• Sunday School 10 a.m.
• Worship 9 a.m.; 447-2694
Mercer Baptist Church
• Pastor Paul Stout
• Sunday School, 10 a.m.
• Worship, 11 a.m.

REGAN

Assembly of God Church
• Rev. Steve Denn
• Sunday School 10 a.m.
• Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

RIVERDALE

Riverdale Community Church
• Pastor Alan Hathway
• Sunday worship service, 9:00 a.m.

• 463-2665, pastor's office
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
• Pastor Van Vechten Crane
• Sunday worship service, 11 a.m.

TURTLE LAKE

St. Catherine's Catholic Church
• Father Logan Obrigewitch.
• Saturday mass 5:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
• 448-2551

Turtle Lake Baptist Church

• Steve Vetter
• 448-2222.
• Wednesday: WOW 6 to 7:30p.m.
• Youth Group: 6 to 8 p.m.
• Thursday: Men's Bible Study 9 to 10 a.m.
• Sunday: Bible Hour 9:15 a.m.
• Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist

• Pastor Casper du Plessis
• Sabbath School, 10 a.m.
• Church Service, 11:10 a.m.
• 485-2698

St. Olaf Lutheran Church

• Worship, 11 a.m.
• Sunday School 10 a.m.
• 448-2698.

Turtle Lake Methodist Church

• Pastor Charles Springer
• 541-961-1442
• Sunday Worship Service, 9 a.m.
• 448-2277

UNDERWOOD

Augustana Lutheran Church

• Worship Service, 10 a.m.
• Pastor Giselle Loucks
• Sunday School for Pre-K - 6th Grade at 10:00am

New Life Church

• 519 BORCHARDT AVE.
• Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
• 701-707-9852

St. Bonaventure Church

• Father Logan Obrigewitch
• Sunday Mass, 8:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church

• Rev. Matt Thompson
• Worship Service, 2 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

• Rural Pick City
• Worship service, 11 a.m.

WASHBURN

Birka Lutheran Church
• Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.
• Pastor Giselle Loucks

Journey Church

• Pastor Kayla Buckley
• 10 A.M. Worship Service
• Nursery (0-2), Preschool (2-5), and Elementary Kids Church (K-6th Grade) at same time as morning service

First Lutheran Church

• Pastor Paul Krueger
• 709 Fifth Ave.
• Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10:45 a.m.
• Holy Communion first and third Sunday of each month; 462-3775.

St. Edwin's Catholic Church

• Father Logan Obrigewitch
• Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
• Rosary prayed 1/2 hour before services.

United Methodist Church

• Pastor Annie Carlson
• Sunday School for preschool to sixth grade, 9:30 a.m. (Sept. through May)
• Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.
• 462-3220

Washburn Baptist Church

• Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
• Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

WILTON

First Presbyterian Church

• Pastor Justin Enney
• Adult Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
• Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
• W.O.W 6-7:30 PM.Wednesdays during school year.
• Confirmation 6-7:30 P.M.
• Wednesdays during school year.
• Men and Women's Bible Study 4:00 Wednesday
• Website: firstpreswilton.org

Mission Evangelical Free Church

• Adult Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
• Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
• Awana, 6-7:30 p.m. Wed. during the school year.
• 734-6959.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

• Sunday Mass/Eucharist, 8:30 a.m.
• Holy Days: As announced.

St. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

• Rev. Fr. George Pruys
• Saturday Confession, 4:00p.m.
• Divine Liturgy, 4:30 p.m.
• Holy Days: As Announced

Sunne Lutheran Church

• Sunday School, 9 a.m.
• Worship Service, 10 a.m.
• Website: sunnelutheran.org

WING

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

• Pastor Trisha DeBoer
• Sunday School, 10 a.m.
• Worship Service, 11 a.m.
• Communion celebrated on the first Sunday of each month and major festivals.

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