

11th Annual Ellendale Predator Hunt Results

Total teams: 103; Total hunters: 304; Total Racoons: 204; Total Coyotes 279; Total Skunks: 13; Total Fox: 14  
1st Place: 1190 points (36 animals) - \$3,192 - James Sandness, Eugene Sandness, Tavon Stadler, Brennon Weight; 2nd Place: 1190 points (35 animals) - \$2,280 - Jayden Michaelson, Zach Melcher, Zach Pollock, Remington Harrell; 3rd Place: 1100 points - \$1,824 - Garrett Hebl, Cael Hebl, Trevor Boss, Henry Lettenmaier; 4th Place: 1090 points - \$1,368 - Hunter Sherman, Jayden Paul, Ron Paul, Owen Lesko; 5th Place: 860 points - \$456 - Tyler Efraimson, Josh Pettigrew  
Lightest Raccoon: \$100 - 5.3 lbs - Dalton Gartner, Wyatt Nelson; Heaviest Raccoon: \$100 - 31.8 lbs - Garrett Hebl, Cael Hebl, Trevor Boss, Henry Lettenmaier; Lightest Coyote: \$100 - 17.6 lbs - Mason Kamlitz, Erich Scheffert, Dillon Deering, Stetson Stearns; Heaviest Coyote: \$100 - 40.2 lbs - Mason Kamlitz, Erich Scheffert, Dillon Deering, Stetson Stearns; Most Skunks: \$100 - 9 - Tyler Efraimson, Josh Pettigrew; Ugliest "Dog" Coyote: \$100 - Mason Kamlitz, Erich Scheffert, Dillon Deering, Stetson Stearns  
Kids Gun Door Prize: -Savage 17 HMR: Landon Schmidt; -G Force 20 gauge: Hank Deering; -Savage 223: Hannah Lematta; -Winchester SXP 20 gauge: Emmitt Gross  
Door Prize Winners: ; - 4-wheeler: Daniel Larson; -Browning X bolt 243: Joe Woodring; -Ruger 5.56: Miles Kronberg; -Mossberg 6.5 Creedmoor: Brandon Rekow; -Mossberg 243: Dave Erlandson; -Savage 243 (Donated by Wood Lake Pheasants Forever): Levi Dinger; -Winchester 17 WSM: Owen Miller; -Ruger 10/22: Levi Christenson ; -Rossi 22 Mag: Taylor Matchtemes; -Rossi 22 LR: Trey Carlson; -Yeti Cooler (Donated by ND Ducks Unlimited): Kayla Nelson  
Thank you to everyone who participated. It was a wonderful turnout. We are especially thankful for all the sponsors that made this possible!  
See you next year! --Troy Olson



These particularly photogenic hunters took fourth place with 1,090 points and a check for \$1,368: Hunter Sherman, Jayden Paul, Ron Paul, & Owen Lesko. It's a good bet they'll be back next year, hunting for an even better prize. (Photo by Ken Smith)

AREA EVENTS

- FEB. 6 & 7 (FRI. & SAT.): ARCHERY VS. JAMESTOWN @ ELLENDALE ARCHERY BUILDING
- FEB. 6 (FRIDAY): BASKETBALL VS MPB, BOYS JR @ 4:30, BOYS JV @ 6:00, BOYS VARSITY @ 7:30
- FEB 7 (SATURDAY): THUNDER WRESTLING REGIONAL DUEL, NAPOLEON HIGH SCHOOL @ 10:00AM
- FEB. 9 (MONDAY): BOYS JH BASKETBALL VS EKM @ 5:00
- FEB. 14 (SATURDAY): VALENTINE'S DAY

Newspaper groups seek giving hearts gifts



The North Dakota Newspaper Association Education Foundation (NDNAEF) and the North Dakota News Cooperative (NDNC) are among hundreds of worthy local charities seeking gifts in the lead up to Giving Hearts Day, Feb. 12. "This has been the largest public-facing appeal NDNAEF has ever made," said Cecile Wehrman, Executive Director of the North Dakota Newspaper Association. NDNAEF each year awards tens of thousands of dollars in grants to support activities that benefit local news reporting across the state, journalism education, and literacy through support of Kid Scoop News ND. Partnering with NDNC, which grew out of the association several years ago to increase the amount of quality content available to newspapers, the two non-profits together are appealing to people who believe a free press is essential to a healthy society. A series of newspaper ads, articles and social media posts have been circulating over the past three months, all with the aim of making more people aware of the work the organizations do behind the scenes to support quality local reporting. From the North Dakota Spelling Bee, to internships for young journalists, the appeals have included people sharing how the state benefits from NDNAEF programs. "When you support NDNAEF, you're insuring North Dakota students have a love of language and a love of learning – skills they will carry with them the rest of their lives," said Miranda Streifel, ND Spelling Bee director. Zachary Wieand and Ann Estvold are two young journalists who have had reporting internships supported by NDNAEF. Estvold was the legislative reporter during the 2025 Legislature,

feeding weekly stories to dozens of newspapers that otherwise would not have the resources to carry reports from the Capitol. "I learned the importance of government reporting and also the importance of sharing what is happening," she said. Today she is managing editor of the Morton County News Journal, which serves New Salem and Mandan. Weiland's internship at the Bismarck Tribune in 2022 ultimately led to a full time job there – something that may never have happened if not for the internship program. "That internship was the first time I had really been in a professional setting," said Weiland. "In both cases, we were able to keep young people who grew up in North Dakota, reporting in North Dakota," said Wehrman, a pattern that's been replicated at newspapers across the state each year, with newspapers large and small placing interns supported by NDNAEF. One of the greatest contributions NDNC has been making in recent years has been to conduct the ND Poll – the only regular, non-partisan poll of North Dakota voters. For instance, a recent NDNC poll surveyed North Dakotans on their desire for free school lunches, a statistic that was mentioned by multiple legislators during North Dakota's recent special legislative session  
(continued on page 8)

PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS**  
The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will receive bids for the construction of the following project(s):  
Job No.: 23341  
Project No(s): NH-9-999(477)  
Length: 0  
Type: BOX CULVERT JOINT REPAIRS, SPALL REPAIRS, WINGWALL REPLACEMENT, SCOUR REPAIR  
County(s): DICKEY, LAMOURE, & TRAILL Cos  
Location: VARIOUS US/STATE HIGHWAYS - STATEWIDE  
Job No.: 24789  
Project No(s): HES-2-999(079)  
Length: 0  
Type: PAVEMENT MARKING  
County(s): DICKEY, BARNES, CASS, KIDDER, LAMOURE, LOGAN, MCINTOSH, RANSOM, STEELE, & STUTSMAN Cos  
Location: VARIOUS US/STATE HIGHWAYS - VALLEY CITY DISTRICT  
Bids will be received via the Bid Express on-line bidding exchange at www.bidx.com until 09:30AM, February 27, 2026. 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.htm approximately 30 minutes after bids are opened. The proposal forms, plans, and specifications are available on the NDDOT website at http://www.dot.nd.gov and may be inspected at the Construction Services Division, 608 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota. All bidders not currently prequalified with NDDOT must submit an online Contractor's Prequalification request to the Department at least ten (10) business days prior to the bid opening. The online application can be found on the NDDOT website 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 Transportation (February 5, 2025)

**SPRING LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER**  
The North Dakota Game & Fish Department announces the following summary of regulations from amendment No. 1 of the 2025-2026 small game, waterfowl, and furbearer proclamation. The 2026 spring light goose conservation order will be in effect Feb. 21 - May 10, 2026. Only light geese may be taken. Light geese include snow geese, blue geese, and Ross's geese. There will be no daily or possession limit on light geese during the conservation order. Apply online at gf.nd.gov. A complete proclamation along with amendment No. 1 that contains regulations for the 2026 spring light goose conservation order is available from the NDGF Department, 100 N Bismarck Expy Bismarck, ND 58501-5095, Ph: (701) 328-6300, or online at gf.nd.gov. (February 5, 2025)

**WILD TURKEY HUNTING PROCLAMATION**  
The North Dakota Game & Fish Department announces the following summary of regulations and changes for the 2026 spring wild turkey hunting proclamation. The season will run from Apr.11 through May 17. There are 8,490 licenses available in 21 open units. Bag limit is one bearded or male wild turkey. Deadline to apply is Feb. 11. Only residents are eligible. Apply online at gf.nd.gov. Licenses issued by weighted lottery. A complete 2026 fall wild turkey proclamation is available from the NDGF Department, 100 N Bismarck Expy Bismarck, ND 58501-5095, Ph: (701) 328-6300, or online at gf.nd.gov. (February 5, 2025)

**THE ELLENDALE AREA SENIOR CITIZENS WILL HOLD A NONPROFIT FINALIZATION MEETING: FEBRUARY 10, 2026, 3:00–5:00PM, AT THE ELLENDALE AMERICAN LEGION. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: HOLLIJOKRONBERG@HOTMAIL.COM**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
Notice is hereby given that the Dickey County Planning and Zoning Board will be holding the following public hearings:  
• February 18, 2026, 6:00 PM Dickey County Fair Grounds Archery Building in Ellendale  
• February 24, 2026, 6:00 PM Growing Small Towns in Oakes  
The purpose of the hearings is to discuss and consider the adoption of the Dickey County Planning and Zoning Ordinances. This hearing provides an opportunity for community members to voice their opinions and concerns about some, or all, of the proposed ordinances. We look forward to hearing the public's input.  
The proposed zoning ordinances will be available for review at the Auditor's office from 8:00-12:00 and 12:30-4:30 after February 3, 2026. A link to the document will also be available in the quick links section of [www.dickeynd.com](http://www.dickeynd.com), after said time.  
This meeting will be conducted in accordance with NDCC 44-04 (Open Meetings Law)  
(February 5, 12 & 19, 2026)

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