

MERCER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MAY REPORT

COMPILED BY RYAN SCHLEHUBER

The Mercer County Dispatch Center received 522 calls for service in May. Of the 552 calls, 88 were for ambulances, three for fire departments and the remaining were for law enforcement follow-up. The Mercer County Sheriff's Office issued 18 citations, 24 warnings, served 140 court papers, assisted other agencies 14 times, assisted citizens 16 times and investigated six motor vehicle crashes. The Sheriff's Office also made seven misdemeanor arrests for alcohol related offenses. The Mercer County Correctional Center housed an average of 23 prisoners a day in April.

LEGAL NOTICES

	Total	290401	293301	293303	293313	293314	293316	293320	293321	293322	293323	293324	293381	293382	293383
Municipal Judge Pick City	539						41						146	210	183
Myron Stern	41						41								
write-in - scattered	0						0								
Total	41						41								
Park Board Member Unexpired 2-Year Term Zap Park	4				4										
Loretta Kritzberger	4				4										
write-in - scattered	21				21										
Total	25				25										
Park Board Member Zap Park	30				30										
Marci Girodengo	30				30										
write-in - Brett Nodland	9				9										
write-in - scattered	16				16										
Total	55				55										
Park Board Member Stanton Park	108	108													
Lester Dockter	108	108													
write-in - Curtis Gartner	6	6													
Hubert Sailer	109	109													
write-in - scattered	12	12													
Total	235	235													
Park Board Commissioner Beulah Park	716							212	204	170	130				
Ryan Ahlschlager	716							212	204	170	130				
Tonia Knudson	659							206	185	143	125				
write-in - scattered	9							6	0	0	3				
Total	1,384							424	389	313	258				
Park Board Commissioner Hazen Park	48											14	19	15	
Brett Hysjulien	48											14	19	15	
Darren Mund	515											142	196	177	
write-in - Arron Wick	7											3	2	2	
write-in - scattered	25											5	10	10	
Total	595											164	227	204	
School Board Member - Center Seat Center/Stanton School District	38	38					0								
Brian Dresser	38	38					0								
Kisa Kindsvogel	44	44					0								
Richard Schmidt	66	66					0								
write-in - scattered	3	3					0								
Total	151	151					0								
School Board Member - Stanton Seat Center/Stanton School District	95	95					0								
Laura Ann Bakken	95	95					0								
Ryan Olander	64	64					0								
write-in - scattered	1	1					0								
Total	160	160					0								
School Board Member - Rural Position Underwood School District	68						68								
Sarah Ness	68						68								
write-in - scattered	0						0								
Total	68						68								
School Board Member - City Position Underwood School District	44						44								
Brian Fransen	44						44								
Alix Ruff	21						21								
write-in - scattered	0						0								
Total	65						65								
School Board Member Hazen #3 School District	558	1	123	2	25							113	158	136	
Stephanie Huber	558	1	123	2	25							113	158	136	
April Mettler	571	10	144	2	30							114	144	127	
Laura Zingg	516	8	116	2	26							102	137	125	
write-in - scattered	2	1	1	0	0							0	0	0	
Total	1,647	20	384	6	81							329	439	388	
School Board Member Beulah School	997			138	64	83	220	194	165	133					
Travis Jordan	997			138	64	83	220	194	165	133					
Douglas Moore	982			152	60	82	203	200	153	132					
Daniel Ziman	1,028			157	60	82	223	201	166	139					
write-in - scattered	22			4	2	1	9	1	2	3					

	Total	290401	293301	293303	293313	293314	293316	293320	293321	293322	293323	293324	293381	293382	293383
School Board Member at Large Center/Stanton School District	3,029				451	186	248	655	596	486	407				
Caden Albers	91		91												
Ashlee Hazen	61		61												
write-in - scattered	1		1												
Total	153		153												

MERCER COUNTY MEASURES ABSTRACT OF VOTES NORTH DAKOTA PRIMARY ELECTION JUNE 9, 2026

	Total	290401	293301	293303	293313	293314	293316	293320	293321	293322	293323	293324	293381	293382	293383
Constitutional Measure No. 1 relating to constitutional amendments be comprised of a single subject	1,768	5	137	139	146	73	98	81	210	183	146	113	132	160	145
Yes	556	0	37	60	42	20	17	27	55	53	58	48	36	57	46
No	2,324	5	174	199	188	93	115	108	265	236	204	161	168	217	191
Total	2,324	5	174	199	188	93	115	108	265	236	204	161	168	217	191
Stanton City Measure No. 1 Stanton	111		111												
Yes	111		111												
No	2		2												
Total	113		113												
Beulah City Measure No. 1 Beulah	350								94	85	98	73			
Yes	350								94	85	98	73			
No	569								185	164	122	98			
Total	919								279	249	220	171			
School Building Fund Increase Center/Stanton School District	64		64				0								
Yes	64		64				0								
No	103		103				0								
Total	167		167				0								
Publication of School Board Minutes Center/Stanton School District	164		164				0								
Yes	164		164				0								
No	7		7				0								
Total	171		171				0								

RAIDER

Cont from Page 1

look at how effective a K-9 unit was. That's when he decided he wanted to be a K-9 handler himself.

Baker found Raider at Performance Kennels in Buffalo, Minnesota, and, through a fundraiser held at Bronson's Marketplace in Beulah, in which community members and business owners contributed money, Baker was able to purchase Raider from the kennel.

K-9 teams handle a wide range of tasks, including narcotics detection, building and area searches, tracking, vehicle and school searches, apprehension and evidence recovery. The use of dogs in law enforcement goes as far back as the Middle Ages when Scotland officers would use bloodhounds to track criminals. The first formal police dog training began in 1899, in Belgium, where wolfhounds and sheepdogs were used. The term "K-9," shorthand for "canine," officially appeared during World War II.

The little information Baker knows of Raider's family was that Raider's father and sister worked in a federal prison system in Minnesota. Raider, himself, was originally trained as a dual-purpose K-9, which meant he was trained for narcotic detection and apprehension of suspects. Under Baker's care, Raider focused on narcotic detection.

Baker and Raider spent weeks in Minnesota learning deployment tactics and training him to be alert and know how to indicate a narcotic odor. After training, the duo went through a narcotic detection certification.

"That would ensure we could effectively find a variety of odors that included heroin, methamphetamine and cocaine," Baker said. "Two years ago, once North Dakota voted not to allow recreational marijuana, Raider also was trained on locating the odor of marijuana."

The pair "cut their teeth" with the Bismarck Police Department's K-9 teams and, every so often, with the Stark County Sheriff's Office.

"Roughly four years ago, we started training with the North Dakota State Patrol once a month and we stuck with that training group and the K-9 teams," Baker said. "Every month, with the State Patrol, we would rotate training locations to include Mercer County, Stark County, McKenzie County and Burleigh/Morton County."

The monthly goal was to have 16 hours of training time so Baker and Raider would split that up between group training and individual training. They would also have in-service training once a year for a week, which was conducted at Camp Grafton near Devils Lake. Once a year, Baker and Raider would have a certification that focused on finding nar-



SUBMITTED PHOTO | ADAM BAKER
Mercer County Sheriff's K-9 Deputy Raider, who passed away to cancer last week, had been with the department since 2020. He has also served at police departments in Beulah and Bismarck with Deputy Adam Baker.

cotics on vehicles, in barns, in rooms and in open areas.

"Raider was a big asset to the Mercer County Sheriff's Office for the years that he worked for our agency," said Mark Schmitt, chief deputy at Mercer County Sheriff's Office. "I had the opportunity to watch him work over the years when it came to searching for narcotics and he was a huge asset to our agency in taking narcotics off of the streets of Mercer County."

Schmitt said Raider was an even a bigger asset when it came to community relations due to his approachable demeanor.

"Raider was loved by school kids when he visited the area schools and was a huge hit at multiple community events because he was a very approachable K-9 officer," he said.

What Baker loved most about Raider was his ability to leave work at work and just be a regular dog when he was around Baker's family.

"He could hang out with the family and didn't need to be in a kennel. The only rule was not to feed him human food but if the kids dropped food or held it too low, he would certainly sneak a bite," Baker said.

"Raider hated when I would leave him at home if I left because he was sure I was going to work without him. He would grab one of my shoes and bring over to his bed so it was next to him. He wouldn't chew it up or grab anyone else's shoes but only mine and wanted it next to him for some reason."

After Raider died, he was cremated and the family held a private funeral.

"I'll always miss talking with Raider on night shifts in the middle of nowhere, seeing how happy he and my family was when we would come home from working, the enjoyment the community had when meeting him and the work he did in keeping the community safe from illegal narcotics," Baker said.

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