

Dakota Datebook: Air Combat Command

By Jack Dura

The Cold War left many marks in North Dakota, from its Air Force stations near Fortuna and Finley to the giant concrete radar pyramid at Nekoma.

The base was activated in 1957 to counter northern attacks during the Cold War. Surveillance and air fueling support were early missions.

The 1970s saw a lot of upgrades at the base as its arsenal grew and bombing technology improved. The

base grew further in the '80s with the implementation of the Strategic Projection Force. This concept allowed for conventional warfare anywhere in the world.

But the '90s brought major changes. The Cold War ended and the Air Force prepared for an enormous reorganization. The bomb wing came off alert status after 35 years.

Today, the Minot Air Force Base supports over 12,000 residents, including active-duty personnel, civilians and their family members.

Advertisement for NDNA (North Dakota Newspaper Association) with QR code and website www.ndpublicnotices.com

Graduation Milestones Reached Across The North Dakota University System

North Dakota's colleges and universities are celebrating a major milestone this spring, with more than 7,500 students eligible to graduate across the North Dakota University System (NDUS) this spring semester.

"North Dakota's workforce needs continue to evolve, and our campuses are rising to meet tomorrow's challenges," NDUS Commissioner Brent Sanford said.

North Dakota's higher education landscape has experienced significant growth and momentum over the past decade, directly supporting the state's workforce demands:

- High school headcount has doubled in the last ten years.
North Dakota residents attending NDUS institutions has increased by 7.5 percent over the same period.
Four year completion rates have risen sixteen percent in the last decade, demonstrating that students are completing degrees more efficiently.
NDUS retention rates have increased by three percent over the past ten years.
New freshman enrollment is

up by 1,200 students in just the past two years.

"This data highlights a decade of strategic investment in student success, workforce alignment and educational access. As more North Dakotans pursue higher education and complete their degrees, the state is better positioned to meet workforce needs in energy, healthcare, education, technology, agriculture and other emerging industries," Sanford said.

Official graduation completion numbers will be released when a census report is completed and validated in fall 2026.

Stories of Student Achievement

Across NDUS campuses, students are reaching remarkable milestones, including those just graduating high school. These accomplishments highlight the system's commitment to access, innovation and early workforce preparation:

Bismarck State College (BSC) Early Entry Success: Among BSC's graduates are 42 high school stu-

dents who earned associate degrees or certificates through dual credit and early entry coursework, receiving their college diplomas before their high school graduation ceremonies.

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) Leading to Education and Advanced Preparation (LEAP) Beyond Program: This year, 39 high school students completed LEAP credentials. Their achievements include Certificates of College Studies, Certificates of Completion, Associate of Science degrees, and combinations of LEAP Beyond Associate credentials.

Valley City State University (VCSU) Teacher Cohort: Approximately 20 West Fargo Public School teachers completed their master's degrees this spring, advancing their professional skills and contributing to the state's educator workforce.

Williston State College (WSC) Dual Enrollment: Eleven Williston High School students earned their associate degrees one week before graduating high school, showcasing the strength of dual credit partnerships.

STANLEY COMMUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 OFFICIAL BALLOT

Two members of the board to be elected. VOTERS SHOULD VOTE ONCE IN EACH OF THE TWO SECTIONS BELOW

Area 2 consists of the Townships of Powers, Lostwood, Sidonia, Cottonwood, James Hill, Clearwater, Redmond, Palermo, and Crowfoot within the boundaries of the Stanley Community Public School District No.2. This is a three-year term.

- Deanna Kukowski
Write-in Name:
Write-in Name:

Area 3 consists of the Townships of Manitou, Ross, and Debing plus that portion of Unorganized Twp 155 Rge 94 and Unorganized Twp Rge 94 within the boundaries of the Stanley Community Public School District No.2. This is a three-year term.

- Matthew Ruland
Write-in Name:
Write-in Name:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

PARSHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT #3 JUNE 9TH, 2026

Two (2) School board members from the rural area (outside city limits).

- ANISSA HOVE
SHAUN PACKINEAU
ADAM NAATZ
BANDI POITRA
NATHANIEL PACKINEAU
WRITE-IN
WRITE-IN

\*\* CANDIDATES ARE PLACED IN THE ORDER OF RANDOM DRAW \*\*

OFFICIAL BALLOT NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL

DISTRICT #1 JUNE 9, 2026

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT THE CITY AREA #1 FOR THE TERM OF THREE YEARS (VOTE FOR ONE ONLY)

- DOUGLAS BRATVOLD
PETE YOUNG BIRD

OFFICIAL BALLOT NEW TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL

DISTRICT #1 JUNE 9, 2026

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT THE WEST AREA FOR THE TERM OF THREE YEARS (VOTE FOR ONE ONLY)

PUBLIC NOTICES logo: BECAUSE THE PEOPLE MUST KNOW

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 22nd, 2026 at 8:35 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by Michael & Amanda Hinkle-Applicant/Landowners, for the purpose of placing a manufactured home on land zoned agricultural, a tract of land 6.42 acres more or less, described as Outlot 2 located in the SW 1/4 NE 1/4 of Section 33, Township 154 North, Range 91 West (Sikes Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments can be mailed to Mountrail County Planning & Zoning, PO Box 248, Stanley ND 58784-0248 and will be accepted until Noon on Friday, June 12th, 2026. Phone: 701-628-2909 or Email: melissav@co.mountrail.nd.us

Mountrail County complies with Title VI Nondiscrimination Standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act. These policies can be viewed at the Mountrail County Human Resources Office. If any special accommodations are required, please contact: Mountrail County Title VI Compliance & ADA Coordinator, Randi Schumaier, P.O. Box 69, Stanley, ND 58784-0069, phone: 701-628-8980, Fax: 701-628-2276, email: rschumaier@co.mountrail.nd.us

June 22nd, 2026 P&Z meeting Monday, June 22nd, 2026 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM (America/Chicago)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://meet.goto.com/730307109

You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (571) 317-3112 Access Code: 730-307-109

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Dated at Stanley, North Dakota this 29th day of May, 2026. Charlie Sorenson, Chairman Planning & Zoning Commission

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The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 22nd, 2026 at 8:41 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by IYL Investments, LLC-Applicant/Landowner, for the purpose of placing a manufactured home on land zoned residential, a tract of land 6.46 acres more or less, described as Lot 1 of Polley Acres Subdivision located in Gov't Lot 4 (NW 1/4 NW 1/4) of Section 5, Township 154 North, Range 93 West (Rat Lake Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 22nd, 2026 at 8:47 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn-Applicant/Landowners for the purpose of placing a mobile home on the North 10.00 acres of Outlot 3, described as a tract of land 24.13 acres more or less, known as Outlot 3 of the SE 1/4 of Section 1, Township 156 North, Range 89 West (McGahan Township).

The provision regarding a conditional use is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 22nd, 2026 at 8:50 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a variance request filed by Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn-Applicant/Landowners, for the purpose of placing a mobile home older than 8 years old, on land zoned Agricultural, on the North 10.00 acres of Outlot 3, described as a tract of land 24.13 acres more or less, known as Outlot 3 of the SE 1/4 of Section 1, Township 156 North, Range 89 West (McGahan Township).

The provision regarding a variance is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 22nd, 2026 at 8:38 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of discussing a conditional use request filed by IYL Investments, LLC-Applicant/Landowner, for the purpose of developing a manufactured home park on land zoned residential, a tract of land 6.46 acres more or less, described as Lot 1 of Polley Acres Subdivision located in Gov't Lot 4 (NW 1/4 NW 1/4) of Section 5, Township 154 North, Range 93 West (Rat Lake Township).

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The Mountrail County Planning & Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 22nd, 2026 at 8:44 A.M. via GOTOMEETING or in the Commissioners room in the Mountrail County Courthouse located at 101 North Main Street, Stanley, North Dakota, for the purpose of receiving comments on an amendment to zoning request to re-zone the North 10.00 acres of land of Outlot 3 from Commercial to Agricultural, filed by Jerimey & Nichol Bruhn-Applicant/Landowners on a tract of land 24.13 acres more or less, known as Outlot 3 of the SE 1/4 of Section 1, Township 156 North, Range 89 West (McGahan Township).

The provision regarding an amendment to zoning is contained within the Mountrail County Zoning Land Development Code. The Land Development Code may be viewed at the Mountrail County Planner's Office during office hours or online at www.co.mountrail.nd.us under the Planning & Zoning section.

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ATTEST: Melissa Vachal Planning & Zoning Administrator June 3, 10, 2026

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