

# Hunters Safety

## Belfield resident recognized for hunter-education efforts

By Gaylon Wm. Parker

bcpnews@gspublishing.net

Bruce Baer, a Belfield resident who has worked to teach young students hunter-safety education courses for more than 25 years, was recently recognized for his quarter century of work as a volunteer in those efforts. Baer also earned the "Hunter Education Instructor of the Year" award from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department after being nominated by fellow instructors Roger Decker and Ruth and Larry Johnson.

During a ceremony in late February, Baer received \$1,000 to purchase a firearm of his choice for his 25-year recognition and the executive board presented him with an engraved plaque in recognition of his work. All North Dakota hunters born after 1961 are required to take the course in order to obtain a hunting license of any kind, and many young people take advantage of those classes this time of year.

With all that in mind, hunter safety education classes are about to resume in Belfield, with the first classroom course coming on March 17 and 19 from 6 to 8:30



p.m. Classes also will be held on March 21, 24, 26 and 28, with the Saturday classes taught from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All classes are hosted at Choice Bank, 201 Main St. N in Belfield. Online classes are available on March 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. and March 28 from 8:30 a.m. to completion.

Enrollment information can be found online at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's website. Classes are limited to 20 apiece.

Traditional classroom courses are free, and all hybrid/online courses are \$24.95. For more information, please visit [www.gf.nd.gov](http://www.gf.nd.gov).



Bruce Baer

# Threat assessed

## South Heart public school addresses alleged social-media 'threat'

By Gaylon Wm. Parker

bcpnews@gspublishing.net

South Heart Public School Superintendent Jule Walker recently sent out a letter to the students' parents and guardians on March 4, 2026 indicating staff was aware of a "potential threat" involving students. According to the letter, "law enforcement was notified immediately," and the school followed all available safety protocols.

There was no perceived immediate danger to the students or staff at SHPS, and no classes were missed as a result, while adding, "the matter has been addressed, and charges have been filed in connection with [the] incident." No names were released pertaining to the incident, due to the age or ages of the student or students, neither of which was specified.

"Law enforcement has been involved at the outset, based upon some reports of some social media that was used outside of the school-day - of course different things impact the education environment, so we need to address them for the safety of all our students and staff - so we continue to work with law enforcement to make sure that their process works in a timely manner, which helps ours to do

the same," Walker said in an interview with the Billings County Pioneer. "So, we're working collaboratively for safety; that's what we're about and making sure that we've shared the information to lead us to safest and best results."

Walker hoped the incident didn't create "chaos and turmoil" for parents, students, guardians or staff and was doing her best to guide everyone through the process in sending the letter, while following the advice of law enforcement professionals. "It helps that we're all working together and making sure that - in that process - we're protecting everyone that needs protected because we're dealing with minors, just like they (law enforcement) are doing for us."

She added, "Social media is so prevalent with kids these days and it just gets a life of its own ... we don't want that to do damage to the learning environment, and so, yes it's being dealt with and we're following policies and procedures for the protection and safety of all."

For more information about South Heart School and their activities, please keep reading the Billings County Pioneer and/or visit the website at [www.southheart.k12.nd.us](http://www.southheart.k12.nd.us).

### Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendour of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God; Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity (Make request). There are none that can withstand your power.

Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3 times)  
Holy Mary, I place this prayer in your hands. (3 times)  
Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you in full. Thanks

### 2026 SUMMER BUS TOURS

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### ELECTION NOTICE

Billings County Rural Fire Protection District

Billings County Rural Fire Protection District annual board election will be held March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 7:00 PM at the Medora District Rural Fire Hall.

Published February 26, March 5 & 12, 2026

### NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION DEADLINE FOR FILING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the school board election of the Belfield Public School District #13, is set for Tuesday, June 9, 2026 for the purpose of:

-electing 2 school board members, each for a term of 3 years

The election will be held in conjunction with the Stark County Elections - locations of precinct and polling times to be set by Stark County.

Any person who is a qualified voter of this school district is qualified to be a member of the school board. Interested candidates must complete a Statement of Intent and a SFN 10172 Statement of Interests form and file them with the business manager's office prior to 4:00 p.m. on April 6, 2026. All forms are available from the business manager's office, 302 3rd ST NE, PO Box 97, Belfield, ND 58622.

Mandi Arnold  
/s/ Mandi Arnold, Business Manager

Published March 5 & 12, 2026

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