

# Billings County EMS honored

## Koehler and Michels earn top state awards for leadership and service

By Gaylon Wm. Parker

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Each year, the North Dakota EMS Association recognizes those individuals who have made significant contributions to the provision, development and improvement of local, regional and state pre-hospital care. At their 50th annual conference on April 10 in Bismarck, two members of the Billings County Ambulance Service received special awards.

Amber Koehler receives Bradley J. Burgum Leadership Award

Amber Koehler was selected as the recipient of the North Dakota EMS Association's Bradley J. Burgum Leadership Award, recognizing an EMS professional who exemplifies integrity, humility, lifelong learning, fairness, empathy, adaptability, and an unwavering commitment

to excellent patient care - qualities demonstrated by Brad Burgum during more than 30 years of service as an EMT.

Nominated by Krystal Thorndike, Koehler is an Advanced EMT with 12 years of service who is known for consistently compassionate, detail-oriented care and steady clinical judgment. Colleagues describe her as highly organized and self-motivated - someone who takes initiative, supports team readiness, and quietly mentors newer providers with patience and professionalism.

Koehler's service is deeply rooted in her community. Before joining full-time, she volunteered for years and continues an EMS legacy reflected in her



Amber Koehler and Kyle Michels

family's long-standing commitment to helping others. She is recognized for follow-up care that extends beyond the call - checking in

on patients, supporting recovery, and staying engaged through community boards, committees, and events.

Kyle Michels re-

ceives first-ever ND EMS Association's Presidential Award

This award is given to an individual selected by the Association President for outstanding leadership and dedication to the future advancement of EMS and the ND EMS Association.

President Cheryl Flick described Michels as hardworking, motivated, and elevating. He strives for excellence, pushing those around him to achieve more. He reminds leadership to take things "one step at a time" and that "change is for the better." Whether he is attending task force sessions, think tank meetings, or creating top-of-the-line social media posts, Michels is constantly pushing EMS into the future. His drive and knowledge make him deserving of this award, but his effort and commitment truly make a difference.

About North Dakota EMS Association:

Formed in 1976 and today 1,900 members strong, the North Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association (NDEMSEA) is an association dedicated to representing our EMS providers, providing educational services, advocacy, and access to valuable resources. NDEMSEA is a leading resource for pre-hospital emergency medical service providers in North Dakota. The Association provides an awards program, mental health and wellness programs, a leadership academy for service leaders, and a voice on EMS legislation. NDEMSEA has one of the longest-running EMS conferences at 50 years. Education remains a priority, providing 160 hours annually to over 1,000 attendees.

### SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



#### Belfield High School

Name: Rubi Johnson

Family: Kwirt, Amanda, Sutton, Mollie

Do you have any nicknames? No

What is your favorite class? Math

Favorite social media app? TikTok

What is your favorite TV show? Criminal Minds

Who is your favorite musician? Gregory Alan Isakov

Favorite food? Chicken strips

Least favorite school lunch? Chili

How do you stay informed on current events? TikTok

Least favorite chore to help with at home? Vacuuming

What is your favorite holiday? Why? Thanksgiving, because it's fall and I get to see my family

What are your plans after high school? College rodeo and study to be a nurse practitioner

What do you do in your spare time? Rodeo, bake and play basketball

Do you have any pet peeves? Burping, being late

Who is your role model and why? My parents, because they always support me and drive me everywhere

If you could choose a super power, what would it be and why? Telekinesis, so I could control things

If you could meet one person from history, who would it be? George Washington

What would you do if you won the lottery? Travel everywhere

What is your dream job? To own my own bakery

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201 Hwy. 10 E, Belfield, ND  
**701-575-4232**  
6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., M-F  
8 a.m. - Noon, Saturday

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37885  
**ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025**  
of the  
XL Specialty Insurance Company  
In the state of Delaware

Total Assets	3,876,489,724
Total Liabilities	2,990,436,510
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds	0.00
Common Capital Stock	5,812,500
Preferred Capital Stock	0.00
Aggregate Write-ins for Other Than	0.00
Special Surplus Funds	0.00
Surplus Notes	0.00
Gross Paid in and	
Contributed Surplus	609,191,580
Unassigned funds (surplus)	27,049,134
Total Capital and Surplus	886,053,214
Total Liabilities, Capital And Surplus	3,876,489,724

**NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2025**

Total Direct Premiums Earned	3,165,304
Total Direct Losses Incurred	1,590,351
Total Accident and Health Direct Premiums Earned	0.00
Total Accident and Health Direct Losses Incurred	0.00

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE**

I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of March, A.D. 2026 (SEAL).

**JON GODFREAD**  
Commissioner of Insurance

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2025 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid, NOW THEREFORE, I, **JON GODFREAD**, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2027.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of March, A.D., 2026 (SEAL)

**JON GODFREAD**  
Commissioner of Insurance

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