

Classified Ads

Classified ads are 25 words for \$5 and 10¢ for each word over 25. Call 701-473-5436 and ask about our 13-week special.

HELP WANTED

ELEMENTARY TEACHERS wanted: Christian Crossroads Academy, Stanley, ND. Opening fall 2026. Opportunity to integrate skills and faith. Learn more at CCAND.com or call 701-621-2341. (N)9p

SERVICES

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ELECTRICAL SERVICES: Reliable and experienced. Competitive rates. From simple household problems to installing a brand new electrical system, we can take care of it all! Call now and have the ZIP Code of the service location when you call! 1-877-403-0282. (N)9p

STRUGGLING WITH DEBT? If you have over \$15,000 in debt, we help you be debt-free in as little as 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call now: 1-877-688-0872. (N)9p

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ND FARM LAND values surge upward. Are you selling or renting? Pifer's Auction and Farm Land Management. Bob Pifer, 701-371-8538. Kevin Pifer, 701-238-5810. Free valuation. (N)9p

HEALTH/MEDICAL

VIAGRA AND CIALIS users! 50 pills SPECIAL \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 1-833-641-3417. (N)9p

AUTOS WANTED

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to help find missing children and prevent abduction. Fast, free pickup, running or not, 24-hour response. No emission test required, maximum tax deduction. Support Find the Children, call: 1-833-545-0694. (N)9p

Call 473-5436 to Advertise

Anderson Law Office  
Jeffrey D. Anderson, ND #05056  
PO Box 628  
Lakota, ND 58344  
701-247-2996  
lawkota@polarcomm.com  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
IN DISTRICT COURT, NELSON COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA.  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CAROL E. MANBECK, DECEASED.  
Probate File No. 32-2025-PR-00034  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Douglas G. Manbeck, PO Box 533, Lakota, ND 58344, personal representative of the estate; with his attorney listed above; or filed with the Court.  
Dated this 11th day of December, 2025.  
/s/ Douglas G. Manbeck  
Douglas G. Manbeck  
Personal Representative  
(Publish Dec. 25, 2025 & Jan. 1 & 8, 2026)

Business & Service Directory

CONSTRUCTION

T. H. RENOVATIONS  
TOM HESS  
PO Box 24  
Lakota, ND 58344  
~ Licensed & Insured ~  
Schedule your next project now!  
Call/Text/Email for Estimate  
701-247-3567 or tomhess1234@gmail.com

INSURANCE

Lakota Farm Services  
Serving the area since 1946  
Mark Huso and Beau & Taylor Schaley  
210 Main St. - P.O. Box 546  
Lakota ND 58344  
Phone 701-247-2468  
www.lakotafarmservice.com

AGRICULTURE

CHS  
Devils Lake  
701-662-5051  
Lakota  
701-247-2917

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

YOU CAN PLACE a 25-word classified ad -- like this one -- in every North Dakota newspaper for only \$160. It's easy. Contact this newspaper for details. (N)9p

CASH PAID FOR high-end men's sport watches! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Dayton, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call 1-833-641-6634. (N)9p

LOOKING FOR THE most complete listing of ND media? ND Media Guide. Call 701-223-6397, ND Newspaper Association. (N)9p

MISCELLANEOUS

WE BUY VINTAGE guitars! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg, and Gibson mandolins / banjos. 1-833-641-7066. (N)9p

WE BUY HOUSES for cash AS-IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair cash offer: 1-701-498-1853. (N)9p

WATER AND FIRE damage restoration. Our trusted professionals will restore your home to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-936-0513. Mold remediation services are also available! (N)9p

HAVE A NEWS release or other information that needs to reach all ND newspapers? ND Newspaper Association can help! One call does it all. 701-223-6397. (N)9p

Lakota American Subscriptions Make Great Gifts \$30 for one year subscription (in-state) \$38 for one year subscription (out-of-state) Call 701-473-5436

Publisher's Notice

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call North Dakota Fair Housing Council toll-free 1-800-265-0907. HUD toll free 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Equal Housing OPPORTUNITY



DAKOTA DATEBOOK

Dakota's First Delegate to Congress January 5 -- Sometimes, it's "who you know."

John B. Todd was a lowly captain in the US Army, stationed at Ft. Pierre in Dakota Territory.

Todd resigned his commission in 1856 to become a "sutler" or military post trader near Vermillion in present-day South Dakota.

Todd's career, however, was jump-started by the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860. After the Civil War broke out, Todd was appointed by Lincoln to the rank of brigadier general, and afterward was elected the first delegate to Congress from Dakota Territory.

How did a lowly trader from the wilds of Dakota Territory become a general and a congressman?

John Todd was a cousin to none other than Mary Todd Lincoln, the president's wife!

Congressman Todd died on this date in 1872.

Governor Frank Briggs BY LANE SUNWALL

January 6 -- It was on this day, Jan. 6, 1897, that Frank Briggs was sworn in as North Dakota's fifth governor. But his tenure would prove tragically brief.

Frank Arlington Briggs was born on Sept. 15, 1858 to a successful carpenter in Hennepin County, Minn. Following school, Briggs entered the newspaper industry and prospered as both a printer and editor. Married to Nannie Meek in 1877, the couple moved to Dakota Territory in 1881. There, in the budding communities of the Northern Plains, Briggs worked as a bookkeeper, Mandan real estate agent and eventually in the public sector as one of Mandan's early postmasters. Following his stint with the postal service, Briggs began his relatively rapid rise to the top of North Dakota politics, first serving as Morton County's treasurer in 1886, then advancing to statewide office as North Dakota state auditor eight years later.

In 1896, Briggs reached the summit of North Dakota politics, succeeding his fellow Republican, Governor Roger Allin, to the governor's mansion. Briggs' responsibilities as governor were not limited only to state and local problems but international as well.

On Feb. 15, 1898, the USS Maine exploded in Havana harbor. The ship's demise only increased tensions between the United States and Spain, eventually resulting in war between the two countries. This was the first major national conflict since North Dakota had been admitted as a state, and many among the state's population were eager to prove their worth on the battlefield.

Numerous community leaders pressed Governor Briggs for commissions or other favors allowing them to recruit their own men for the war. Briggs, while not necessarily interested in the niceties of military protocol in selecting officers, was very interested in the political fallout should he not select the best candidates to lead the companies North Dakota would send to the Spanish-American War.

Ultimately, Briggs avoided bruising the sensibilities of potential political foes by granting the National Guard preference in forming the state's wartime forces. Not only did this save Briggs any potential political embarrassment, he gave the National Guard veteran leaders command of its troops, instead of giving it to political hacks.

Although Briggs worked hard to establish himself as a competent governor, his term was cut short. On Aug. 9, 1898, just 19 months after his inauguration, Governor Briggs died of tuberculosis, becoming

the first North Dakota governor to die while in office.

Newspapers from around the state wrote of Briggs' virtues for days following his death, while the remaining portion of his term was completed by Lt. Governor Joseph Devine. Although Briggs was laid to rest in his family's plot in Howard Lake, Minn., some maintain that his spirit resides still in North Dakota, haunting the old governor's mansion where he died more than 125 years ago.

Jens Dixen's School

BY CHRISTINA SUNWALL January 7 -- Danish settlements were founded across North Dakota, but the largest and best-known were in the northwest portion of the state. By 1910 this region held 25% of all Danes in North Dakota.

Their presence remains highly visible even today. Names like Denmark Township leave little doubt as to its original occupants, and the Danish windmill in Kenmare continues to draw tourists. However, a small stone monument north of Kenmare may be less familiar. This monument was erected in 1952 to honor Brorson, a Danish folk school, and its principal, Jens Dixer.

Born in Denmark in 1858, Jens Dixer immigrated to Wisconsin and eventually North Dakota, establishing a homestead north of Kenmare in 1901. With an interest in evangelism and missions, Dixer became active in the Trinity Danish Evangelical Lutheran congregation.

Through this local church, he found an opportunity to excite others about Christian missions when the local pastor organized a school for young Danish men who needed something useful to occupy the winter months. Holding classes first in the parsonage and later in the church, the pastor and two female instructors offered a variety of religious and secular subjects in both English and Danish. A separate boarding house offered accommodations. The school proved so successful that it continued the following winter and was officially named Brorson High School in honor of the Danish hymn writer.

By 1905, at the prompting of Jens Dixer, a school building was erected next to the church. At a cost of \$7,000, the three-story building included classrooms and accommodations for up to 40 students as well as an apartment for the new principal, Jens Dixer. Enrollment quickly increased, ranging from 30 to 40 students each winter, paying \$55 for tuition, room and board. The school also increased operation from four months to six.

The private school continued to flourish; enrollment reached as high as 56 in 1913. But after the United States became involved in World War I, enrollment declined and the school closed its doors in 1920. The building fell out of use and Jens Dixer pursued other mission-minded endeavors.

Although short-lived, the Danish folk school left an indelible mark on the national and international religious

TOPS meetings in McVile

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), a weight-loss group, meets every Monday at the Cedar Ridge Apartments in McVile. Weigh-in time is 6 p.m. and meetings start at 6:15 p.m. Meetings take place on Hamlin Street North, just south of the school. A meeting sign will be posted on the door to use, on the west side of the apartments. Attendees' first meeting is free.

Chapter fees go to purchase TOPS supplies and awards for members. For more information, call Artha at 322-4341 or Gayle at 322-5136.

landscape. Twenty-five former students became pastors, including Dixer's adopted son. Dixer inspired several students and teachers from Brorson to go into the foreign mission field, and today the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria still recognizes Dixer's influence as a crucial part of its early foundation.

Jens Dixer died on this date in 1931. Twenty-one years later, residents of the Kenmare region honored his service by erecting a stone monument marking the former site of Brorson High School.

Gold Rush in Lisbon

BY DR. STEVE HOFFBECK January 8 -- "Gold." The mere mention of the word sets pulses pounding and hearts longing for the glistening yellow metal. When a landowner finds flecks of gold on his land, he hopes for bigger flakes, or golden nuggets, or even the mother lode.

Such a landowner was H. W. Griswold, a Chicago businessman who bought 340 acres of Ransom County land, nine miles west of the fledgling town of Lisbon, in the spring of 1883. Griswold bought acreage along the beautiful Sheyenne River -- presumably as cattle pasturage. Sometime that summer, however, Mr. Griswold found gold in a mound of dirt thrown up by a gopher. He took the dirt to an assayer and was told "it was rich in gold."

Griswold searched further and found more gold in an "80-foot ledge" of quartz and other rocks, and had it analyzed by experts. The analysis on 130 specimens of sand and rock calculated out to \$414 to \$1,360 of gold to the pan, with some silver in there, too.

News of the gold leaked out through an electrifying article in the local Lisbon newspaper in late October 1883. Within days a Lisbon gold rush was on, as articles appeared in Grand Forks, Bismarck and all the way to Chicago and New York.

Griswold gathered a cadre of Chicago investors to buy rock-crushing mining machinery, and their company started ore-digging immediately. Other frenzied gold-seekers bought up the land along the Sheyenne River for 20 miles from Lisbon to Fort Ransom. Lisbon was wild with excitement -- with gold fever.

But on this date in 1884, the Grand Forks Herald reported that Griswold and his associates had "abandoned all further mining enterprises until spring," leaving "one by one" as a frigid Dakota winter touched their fingers and toes.

When April arrived, Griswold came back, bringing an ore-crushing machine to smash an accumulated 2,000 tons of raw ore. During the summer, the gold rush fizzled -- Griswold's ore didn't pan out. By August, a report said that the "few people who worked the Lisbon gold mines have quit."

Once the Lisbon gold rush was over, shouts of "gold!"

were hushed and replaced by the murmuring waters of the Sheyenne River flowing over the shining gravel near the former Griswold mine.

Renville

BY SARAH WALKER January 9 -- On this date in 1933, Mr. Felix Renville and his wife were getting ready to travel from their home in Fort Yates to New York to appear on Robert Ripley's radio program, "Believe It or Not."

According to an article in the Mandan Daily News, the curious event prompting the show to invite Renville extended back to 1918, during World War I, when he was a machine gunner in the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

The Meuse-Argonne campaign started on Sept. 26, 1918 and was the final large-scale offensive of World War I. The battle lasted until the Armistice. In the process, more than 26,000 Americans were killed and more than 120,000 wounded.

On November 2, the day after the final push began, Felix Renville was injured so badly that he was thought to be dead. Gassed and suffering from multiple shrapnel wounds, he said his body was examined by a buddy, his corporal and captain. None of them found any sign of life.

"The corporal pushed me . . . called my name," Renville later reported. "I was bleeding and didn't seem to breathe. He put me down and went on."

Luckily for Renville, who was left for dead on the battlefield, he was nonetheless carried off to a hospital by first aid men. When he regained consciousness more than 10 days later, he asked the man on the bed next to him about the progress of the war.

"It was over two days ago," the man replied.

Renville, who was a Sioux Indian, stated that blood transfusions left him with "mostly Irish and Swedish blood."

After he came to, he contacted his father to make sure he knew he was alive -- and, according to Renville, after all the uncertainty, this positive proof of his son's life caused Renville's father to have a heart attack. He died before Felix returned to North Dakota.

"Ripley's Believe It or Not!" is a franchise that began in 1918, involving cartoons, books, film, TV, Internet and radio -- sharing the story of "bizarre events and items so strange and unusual" that listeners might question the claims, including the story of a North Dakota man who, for a time, had claimed a spot amidst the "legion of the dead."

"Dakota Datebook" is a radio series from Prairie Public in partnership with the State Historical Society of ND and with funding from the ND Humanities Council. See all the Dakota Datebooks at prairiepublic.org, subscribe to the "Dakota Datebook" podcast, or buy the Dakota Datebook book at shopprairiepublic.org.

Sudoku answers

2	5	7	8	9	4	9	1	3
9	4	8	6	1	3	7	5	2
3	1	9	2	5	7	4	9	8
8	7	3	1	9	5	6	2	4
4	9	1	6	3	2	8	7	5
5	9	2	4	7	8	3	6	1
7	8	4	5	2	9	1	3	6
6	3	5	4	7	1	2	8	9
1	2	9	3	8	6	5	4	7

H	A	B	I	T	J	T	L	A	B	E	P	B	C	T	L	P	A	R	J
M	H	J	P	E	S	R	M	B	C	L	Y	H	S	A	S	B	U	G	V
I	E	C	Y	R	P	A	N	O	A	H	A	F	C	T	C	O	U	E	G
U	B	C	R	P	R	N	D	N	T	N	I	F	O	G	H	A	S	D	E
N	I	O	H	O	T	S	F	Y	G	I	M	E	O	I	E	C	W	C	C
O	M	B	F	M	T	F	D	E	P	P	V	I	V	C	N	A	I	R	D
I	P	J	N	T	E	O	T	A	E	W	P	A	N	E	U	I	U	I	C
T	R	E	P	G	N	R	N	C	N	P	E	R	T	D	M	S	I	R	N
N	O	C	J	N	O	M	E	C	I	L	R	F	O	I	S	E	P	O	O
E	V	T	M	S	T	A	M	O	T	A	S	S	L	G	O	E	N	B	I
T	E	I	V	O	S	E	T	T	U	W	I	A	V	A	R	N	T	T	T
N	M	V	I	N	O	E	I	N	O	E	S	C	M	G	O	E	I	T	A
I	E	E	S	I	L	O	M	T	R	N	T	I	T	E	A	G	S	A	N
C	N	H	I	T	I	N	M	A	Y	E	E	W	C	C	M	B	S	S	I
A	T	O	O	A	M	V	O	B	V	R	N	P	R	O	M	I	S	E	M
G	C	C	N	R	C	S	C	I	S	T	C	E	T	G	R	U	R	L	R
G	Y	A	U	I	I	U	Y	L	Y	E	D	C	M	B	T	V	P	E	
I	J	P	C	P	W	H	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	I	N	E	B	N	T
U	U	J	O	S	G	W	G	T	Y	N	E	Y	E	D	I	E	J	O	E
H	R	G	L	A	A	M	U	Y	M	H	J	E	F	P	T	O	R	C	D