

Kathleen "Kathy" B. Joyce, 1953-2026

Kathleen "Kathy" B. Joyce passed away after courageously facing health challenges for the last 15 years of her life. Born on August 21, 1953, in Fargo, North Dakota, to Elmer and June (Christensen) Knutson, Kathy grew up on a farm near Hope, North Dakota.

After graduating from Larimore High School, Kathy pursued higher education with characteristic determination, earning a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences and French from the University of North Dakota, followed by a Master's degree in Economics from North Dakota State University.

Kathy's professional life reflected her diverse talents and commitment to public service. She taught French, sharing her love of language and culture with students, and worked as a substitute teacher. Her career in public service included serving as an aide to Governor George Sinner and U.S. Congressman (and later Senator) Byron Dorgan, where she contributed to serving the people of North Dakota. She wrote grants for numerous non-profit organizations, helping to secure vital funding for community programs, and



served as a Technology Coordinator for the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, demonstrating her adaptability in an evolving technological landscape.

Kathy married John Joyce, and during their marriage welcomed the



light of her life, her son John. Though she and John later divorced, her devotion to her son remained unwavering throughout her life.

Smart as a whip with an insatiable curiosity, Kathy maintained a lifelong passion for politics,

public radio, and classical music. Her faith was deeply important to her, and she demonstrated her caring nature through nightly prayers for everyone she knew—if Kathy knew you, you were included in her prayers.

Even when health challenges required her to reside at Elm Crest Manor in New Salem, North Dakota, she remained deeply connected to the world around her and to the beloved friends who meant so much to her. When she could no longer dial the phone herself, she adapted with characteristic resilience, using voice technology to stay in touch with those she cherished.

Kathy is survived by

her son, Dr. John Joyce and his wife Celina of Erie, Colorado; grandchildren, Elliott, Kadence, Ethan, and Alanna; sisters, Karen Knutson, St. Cloud, Minnesota, Joy Chamley, Egan, South Dakota, and Marie Keese, Lincoln, Nebraska; friend, Vi Bergquist, St. Cloud; special friend, Gary Fiedler, Mott, North Dakota, whose steadfast devotion and companionship enriched her final years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and June (Christensen) Knutson.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate staff at Elm Crest Manor in New Salem, North Dakota, for the wonderful care Kathy

received during her time there.

A Celebration of Life for Kathy will be held at a later date, when family and friends can gather to share stories and honor her life.

Cards may be mailed to the funeral home and will be forwarded to the family. Memorials are preferred to Elm Crest Manor, New Salem, North Dakota, or Prairie Public Radio.

Kathy's warmth, intelligence, and kind heart touched everyone who knew her. She will be deeply missed.

To share memories of Kathy and to sign the online guestbook, go to www.eastgatefuneral.com.

COMMISSIONERS:

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Adams County Head Librarian LaNae Kristy was present to discuss the removal of a problematic tree at the county library. The cost would be about \$2,000.00 through Waddington Tree Service. Although Mrs. Kristy thought she would have enough money available in her budget, the commissioners recommended she work with the neighbors to remove the tree.

Aspen Lenning, Adams County Extension Agent, informed the commissioners of several upcoming events including a walking event, Stop the Bleed, pesticide class and several 4-H competitions.

Aging in Community representatives, Jim Gray and Kyla Sanders, met with the commission to let them know they are working on bringing this program into Adams County and the surrounding area with an office in Hettinger in April. The

goal of this program is to help retired adults stay in their home longer and be safe.

Justin Blade, road supervisor, updated the commission on the goings on of his department: the truck motor has been repaired, Blade has been preparing a gravelling schedule for the summer which will include 3 unorganized roads and a list of surplus items to sell. Road certification in unorganized townships will be discussed at the April meeting.

Commissioner Laufer reported on the meeting he had with Hettinger Mayor James Lindquist, road superintendent Justin Blade, and public works employee Nathan Nagel. Due to several projects have been neglected in the last 5 years, it was approved to hire a county/city employee.

Certified Driver's License training continues with Tom Arndorfer as the instructor. The

commission would like the employees to have completed their tests by the March meeting as the handbook does state they should have their CDLs within 6 months of hiring.

Gladen Construction was awarded the contract for bridge replacement/removal to happen this year. An RFP to be held at the end of the March meeting.

Discussion was held on the Country Club Road as the commission is still not satisfied with the condition. The commission decided to hold off another year before chip-sealing this road. However discussion was

held on if there is yet enough time to let bids for the Overhead Road (5-mile) re-construction, the Mirror Lake Road and South Cemetery Road chip sealings with bids to opened in April.

Rod and Melana Howe updated the commission on the \$1.2 million grant from the Flexible Transportation Grant to Hettinger Township for a reconstruction of South Mirror Lake Road/Lakeview Drive. The work is to include stabilizing shore lines and establishing ownership boundaries.

Adams County Sheriff Jordan Fisher updated the commission on his

department to include increasing the paper services fees which can be found at www.adamscountynd.com/departments/sheriff. Sheriff Fischer also shared his year-end report for 2025.

The Clerk of Court agreement with the State of ND was approved.

An agreement was drafted for five entities (Cities of Bucyrus, Haynes, Hettinger and Reeder and Hettinger Public School) and Adams County administer the 2026 Primary Election.

The final two actions were to move to advertise the Veteran's Service Officer position and pay the bills.

**REMINDER,
our deadline
for accepting
content is**

**Monday
@ Noon**

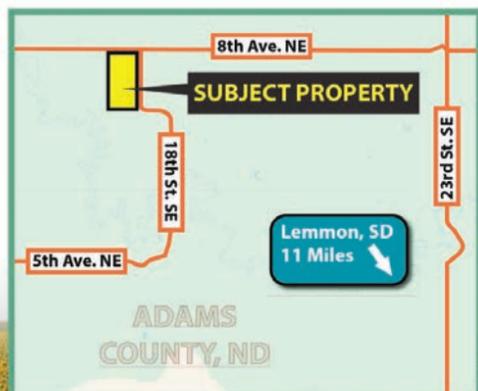
309.45 Acres • Adams County, ND

LAND AUCTION

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 – 4:30 p.m. (MT)

AUCTION LOCATION: Pifer's Regional Office • Bowman, ND

- 279.96 +/- FSA Crop Acres
- Legal: E½ 10-130-93
- Soil Productivity Index of 71.4
- Available to Farm in 2026!
- Online Bidding Available



OWNER: Vera A Tyler Family Land Trust

This sale is managed by Pifer's Auction Company, Kevin Pifer, ND #715. All statements made the day of the auction take precedence over all printed materials. The seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Seller to reserve all sub-surface minerals.

Pifer's
www.pifers.com



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