

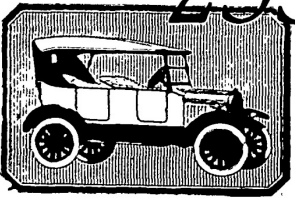
Read About the History of this Area: Keith Norman

Farm prices in 1924
Historians often adjust prices from the past to modern dollars. A number of university economic departments have created calculations of what a dollar from 1920, for example, would be worth today. I might write that a cotton blanket sold

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in 1924 for \$2.35. When adjusted for inflation, that would be \$44.00 today, That assumes average inflation impacting the value of all items. It is a good rule of thumb but it doesn't work that way in real life. Here is another example from 1924. Ralph Lynde & Son, the Ford dealer in Ellendale, advertised a Ford Touring Car for \$295 in the January 3, 1924 *Leader* (see photo). Adjusted for average inflation, that would be about \$5,500 today. Not a bad price for a brand-new car. But there is another way to look at it. Wheat prices were about \$1 per bushel in the winter of 1924. No. 1 wheat was a few cents above the \$1 per bushel price while No. 2 wheat was a few cents less than a dollar at that time. There might have been some reduction in those prices at the local elevators but to keep the numbers simple, we'll say wheat sold for \$1 per bushel in 1924. That means 300 bushels of wheat would buy you a brand-new car. Let's say a farmer can get \$4 per bushel today. The \$1,200 a 300 bushel load of wheat would generate isn't going to buy a new car. In fact, you would be on the bargain lot to find a used car with a \$1,200 price tag. Wheat yield wasn't good back in the 1920s.

In fact, the average yield in North Dakota through the 1920s was less than 8 bushels per acre. Using that average, it would have taken the yield of about 37 acres of land to buy that new car. Modern wheat yields are closer to 50 bushels per acre. If we look 37 acres with a modern yield at \$4 per bushel. We come up with a gross income of \$7,400. Still less than any new car, but now we are at least shopping on the main used car lot. There are other factors. The costs of farming the land today is much higher than in 1924. And the cost of living was much lower, with the cost of a woman's cotton union suit at less than \$1. Getting the farm wife a pair of four-buckle overshoes for doing winter chores would cost \$3.25. And if you wanted to dress her up a bit, a pair of silk hose was just 95 cents. For the farmer of 1924, it cost about a bushel of wheat to get his wife a nice pair of silk stockings. Maybe that is why they call it the good ol' days.



AREA EVENTS

- April 10 (Thursday): Basketball, girls elementary vs. Oakes
- April 11 (Friday): Casper Carnival, EPS South Gym. 6:00-8:00
- April 12 (Saturday): Annual Ellendale Community Easter Egg Hunt (location dependant on weather) 10:00 am
- April 18 (Good Friday): Easter break, no school
- April 21 (Monday): Easter break continued, no school
- April 26 (Saturday): Track & Field Varsity meet, 11:00
- April 26 (Saturday): Bob & Gwen Tatum Memorial Service

~~~~ WEATHER TALK ~~~~

John Wheeler: April snow melts quickly, except when it doesn't

FARGO — The heavy, slushy accumulations of snow early this week illustrated a striking difference between freshly fallen April snow and old winter snow pack slowly melting in April. The snow that fell Monday and Tuesday was barely 32 degrees. An old snow pack from midwinter, particularly if it is still fairly deep, tends to harbor temperatures several degrees below freezing. This old, cold snow takes much longer to melt than slushy, fresh snow that is almost not frozen anyway.

It must also be pointed out that not all April snows are barely frozen. Our region has received much more severe April blizzards that dropped snow with temperatures in the teens. When followed by a severe April cold snap, this sort of fresh snow could take a couple of weeks to melt, despite the strong April sunshine. We tend to say, about April snow, that it always melts away quickly. In fact, it often does, but not always.

John Wheeler: A winter with limited snow does not make a summer drought a certainty

FARGO — Two winters with limited snow cover has led to two springs with a high wild-fire risk across North Dakota and northwest Minnesota. However, true drought conditions are really only developed during the warm season. During winter, the ground is usually colder than 32 degrees often to a depth of several feet. Liquid water from rain or melting snow has a very hard time penetrating the cold ground because it instantly freezes, sealing the soil surface from additional penetration.

For this reason, most winter precipitation, even in a very snowy winter season, runs off into rivers. Even during a serious spring flood, only the top few inches of soil are usually saturated. If it doesn't rain in May and throughout the summer, drought can develop or worsen, no matter how much snow there was during winter. What a snow-less winter does is increase the danger of spring wildfires due to all the exposed dead vegetation. Today's snow helps alleviate that situation.

Public Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
DICKEY COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH
DAKOTA

Gregory W. Deckert
DECKERT LAW, P.A.
12912 63rd Avenue North
Maple Grove, MN 55369
763-587-7100
greg@deckertlawfirm.com
Attorney for Petitioner
Probate No.11-2025-PR-00003

NOTICE OF HEARING
In the Matter of the Estate of Mary L. Marshall, a.k.a. Mary Lee Marshall, Deceased.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Robert T. Marshall has filed herein a Petition for Formal Probate of Will and Appointment of a Personal Representative.

The hearing will be held on the 1st day of May, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the courtroom of said Court at the county Courthouse in the City of Ellendale, County of Dickey, State of North Dakota. Any persons having an interest may file an objection stating why said Petition should not be granted. Such objections, if any, must be in writing, filed with the Court and copies served by mail on all interested persons.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2025.
DECKERT LAW, P.A.
/s/ Gregory W. Deckert
Gregory W. Deckert (##05857)
12912 63rd Avenue N
Maple Grove, MN 55369
Telephone: 763-587-7100
greg@deckertlawfirm.com

(March 27, April 3 & April 10, 2025)

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
IN DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF DICKEY
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Civil # 11-2025-PR-0007

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
E. JOANNE BROKAW, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed copersonal representatives of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three (3) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Kevin T. Brokaw, Mary Jo Fries, Lynn A. Brokaw and Gregory J. Brokaw, copersonal representatives of the estate, by and through their attorney, Brian L. Bergeson, at PO Box 2196, Bismarck, ND 58502-2196 or filed with the Court.

Dated this _28th_ day of March, 2025.

Kevin T. Brokaw,
Co-Personal Representative
Mary Jo Fries,
Co-Personal Representative
Lynn A. Brokaw,
Co-Personal Representative
Gregory J. Brokaw,
Co-Personal Representative

Brian L. Bergeson (ID 05780)
BERGESON & GULER
LAW OFFICES, P.C.
125 Slate Drive, Suite 7, Box 2196
Bismarck, ND 58502-2196
(701) 223-1986
bbergeson@gbg-lawoffice.com
Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives

(published April 10, 17 & 24, 2025)

Whitestone Township

Whitestone Township will hold its annual tax equalization meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 10:30 AM at the home of Frank Kaiser. Following the meeting we will be discussing other township business.
Frank Kaiser
Whitestone Township Clerk
(April 3 & 10, 2025)



By: Jeff Beach, *North Dakota Monitor*, April 4, 2025

The North Dakota Senate on Friday approved a controversial bill allowing a state agency to trump local government zoning authority on electrical transmission lines.

The 27-18 vote went against the wishes of landowners gathered in the chamber and a committee recommendation.

Supporters of House Bill 1258, including Sen. Terry Wanzek, R-Jamestown, said unreasonable setback rules threaten to shut down power line projects that benefit the whole state.

Wanzek represents an area where a large power line is planned but a township rule says the line must be a half-mile from residences and threatens to make finding a route impossible.

"Most of the time, I support local control," Wanzek said. But he said the current situation allows a township board and just a few landowners to stop a major project.

"Sometimes the local folks go a little too far," Wanzek said.

Some bill opponents referenced the landowners who traveled to oppose the bill, both on Friday and in a previous hearing where they

overflowed the committee room.

Sen. Keith Boehm, R-Mandan, said the bill was drafted to support a single project, though it would affect future high-voltage powerlines. Testimony in committee referenced the JETx project, a transmission line from Jamestown to Ellendale with towers that are 150 feet high.

"Every time we use legislation to push something through, we poke that bear, and if it wakes up, the consequences will be far more dramatic," Boehm warned.

The bill gives the state Public Service Commission, which approves power line projects and related utility rate increases, the ability to determine that a local ordinance is unreasonable.

The commission last year approved the JETx project in a split vote.

The bill had the support of utility companies

Landowners, local governments lose struggle over power lines



People opposed to House Bill 1258 line the benches in the back of the Senate chamber on April 4, 2025. (Michael Achterling/*North Dakota Monitor*)

that argued restrictive zoning laws drive up the cost of power line projects and mean higher bills for customers.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Thursday gave the bill a do-not-pass recommendation on a 4-3 vote.

The bill had previously passed the House 86-7. It now goes to Gov. Kelly Armstrong.

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