

# US will extend border hours at Noonan, Fortuna

By Jody Michael

Federal officials have announced they are extending the hours that the U.S.-Canada border crossings at Noonan and Fortuna are open each day starting Jan. 6.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said in a statement Monday that those two ports are among four in North Dakota that will permanently expand their operating hours.

The Noonan and Fortuna ports into the U.S. will operate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central time. They currently close at 5 p.m. under a reduced schedule that originated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"CBP continually monitors operations, traffic patterns and volume, and analyzes the best use of resources to better serve the traveling public," the agency said. "CBP will remain engaged with local and regional stakeholders, as well as communities to ensure consistent communication and to address concerns."

In Burke County, the Northgate port will maintain its current hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Portal port remains open 24 hours a day.

The other two ports of entry receiving expanded hours are Walhalla and Neche, both in Pembina County.

## 4-H News

### Roughriders 4-H

Our meeting was held at the Courthouse on Nov. 3 at 1 p.m. President Kailey Verlinde called the meeting to order. Bella Bays led the 4-H pledge. Charlie Verlinde read the treasurer's report.

Dylan Sorenson read the secretary report. Old and new

business was read by Kailey Verlinde. We welcomed the Wissbrods to the club.

For our club activity we made winter survival kits and Travis Binde talked about winter safety.

Roughriders  
Dylan Sorenson  
Reporter

## God is the most important reality in our life

### Pastor's Corner

By the Rev. Gregory Crane, St. Patrick's Catholic Church



What a blessing to live in a place where the newspaper has a "Pastor's Corner." In most newspapers in America, you wouldn't find such a segment, simply because many people have stopped believing in God. Maybe we like to say that we believe in God or that we're Christian, but if we're honest, I think many of us are atheists. We depend solely on ourselves. We don't go to church -- we just work hard.

And this is probably because it feels like God isn't real. Money is real; work is real; property is real; sports are real; family is real. But God... he seems fake, like an old legend that people without science once believed in.

But where do things come from? Who holds our atoms in existence? Do you? I don't. I don't know how to. If there is no God and all that exists is matter, then why do I feel like "I" exist inside my body? If I'm just a fancy biochemi-

cal computer, then why do "I" wake up each day inside this body? Couldn't it function without "me"? If evolution describes how we got here, then why is self-sacrifice the most fulfilling human act? And why do we love a beautiful sunset? Where's the evolutionary advantage in that?

But if God is real, then he is the most important reality in our life -- more important than politics, or sports, or science, or the economy, or even family. And that's worth having a little corner in the newspaper.

*Pastor's Corner is a meditation provided by members of the Divide County Ministerial Association.*

## One Time it was News

### 10 years ago

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2014: Six Divide County Maroons football players were among the selections to this year's All-Region 3 team. Seniors Evan Eriksmoen, Jarret Obenchain and Chase Jacobson and junior Dylan Olsen earned first-team honors, while seniors Travis Binde and Kendall Gjovig were All-Region honorable mentions.

Outgoing Divide County Treasurer Bev Dokken will be turning her office over to Sheila Haugland at the end of April. Dokken has been treasurer for 16 years and has been involved in the office the last 26 years.

Veterans serving during the era of two Gulf wars stand for recognition during the Crosby American Legion's Veterans Day program Tuesday last week, including Rob Krimm, Chuck Bossingham, Clare Dahl, Curtis Nygaard and Rodney Johnson.

Debbie Kury is Burke County's first female county commissioner. She defeated Commissioner Terry Nelson during the general election with 176 votes to Nelson's 113.

### 20 years ago

Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2004: Kasha Bakewell, Trent Bossingham and Natasha DeJardine were among Divide County first-graders in Ruth-Ann Nielsen's class showing off their knowledge of Pilgrim customs and the Thanksgiving story Tuesday afternoon during a classroom performance for parents and friends.

Federal legislation allowing 101% reimbursement of costs to some rural hospitals helped prevent an operating loss last year at Crosby's St. Luke's Hospital.

A Nativity display at Crosby's Assembly of God church is one of the couple of special events capitalizing on the popularity of Crosby's Christmas Stroll this year, giving people even more reasons to spend Thanksgiving weekend in their hometown.

Divide County High School senior Brandon Oehlke taps the shape of a state on the Smart Board, then drags it across to its proper place on the map. Oehlke and senior Lyle Gilbertson are teaching teachers and other students about this new high-tech instruction tool.

### 30 years ago

Wednesday, Nov. 23, 1994: Barry Haggins was named North Dakota Class B girls' basketball coach of the year as he led the Divide County Maroons within one game of a state championship.

Brenna Stefonowicz became the second member of her family to win a state basketball award. She was named Miss Basketball for 1994, and her brother, Rob, was Mr. Basketball in 1990.

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Retiring Divide County High School girls' basketball coach Barry Haggins gets a hug from senior Jody Joraanstad, left, as teammates Carrie Selle and Kara Hiltner look on after the Maroons won the third-place game at the state Class B tournament on Nov. 19, 1994.

an agreement to purchase the U.S. West telephone exchange in Crosby.

Sam Brooke was recognized for his performance in the one-act play competition at Williston on Nov. 10. He won honorable mention Best Actor's Award in the part of Andy Marler in the Drama Club's performance of "Juvie."

### 40 years ago

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 1984: A new board was elected to guide St. Luke's Hospital through its first year as a community hospital, after being turned over to the community by the Sisters of St. Benedict. Board chairman was Steve Joraanstad, and other members were Jim Iverson of Columbus, Gaylen Melgaard, Dr. M.S. Nandra, Ron Stammen, Barbara Spooner of Noonan, Marcene Thvedt of Fortuna and John Andrist.

Divide County Superintendent of Schools Ron Stammen told board members that he was prepared to make application to join the Wil-Mac Special Education District and withdraw from Northern Plains Special Education.

Jill Braaten, Renee Joyce and Gwen Olsen each won a \$1,000 scholarship when they participated in the Robert Lee Williams Board of Regents Honor Scholarship Contest at Minot State College.

Greg Oien of Crosby was awarded the American Farmer Degree at the national FFA convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

### 50 years ago

Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1974: Raymond Nelson, 55, Flaxton, died at St. Luke's Hospital following a one-car accident.

Ouren Nelson, 24, his son, was also injured and required hospitalization.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Jacobson of Crosby on Nov. 27.

Noonan High School opened its basketball season with Don Overbo as coach. Six returning lettermen were Quinn Loucks,

Skip Espeseth, Jim Smithberg, Joel Aaberg, Scott Burner and Garth Fagerbakke.

Five returning senior lettermen for the Columbus High School basketball team were Ed Kihle, Jeff Bonsness, Monte Ellingson, Jeff Huwe and Shannon Burau. Other seniors on the squad are Perry Edwards, Jeff Hickman and Dean Watrud.

Bob Hotchkiss, Divide County Maroons basketball coach, returned seven lettermen, Joel Marshall, Tom Biel, Randy Boldt, Dan Hansen, Chuck Chaffee, Keith Overbo and Mark Overland.

### 60 years ago

Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1964: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ellison of Noonan had a daughter on Nov. 18.

New officers of Border Toastmasters were Paul Rogen, president; Almer Matson, administrative vice president; James Gallagher, educational vice president; Oscar Pederson, secretary; Gordon Anderson, treasurer; and Cliff Granrud, sergeant-at-arms.

George Rait, 56, was nominated by the Divide County Democratic-NPL convention as a candidate for the state Senate.

The Divide County 4-H recognition event named Liberty 4-H Club as the honor club of the year. Mrs. Melvin Olson and Mrs. Joseph Thvedt were the leaders. Key Club Award winners were Carlyle Norby of Cloverleaf Club and Bertha Haage of the Twin Valley Club.

### 70 years ago

Thursday, Nov. 25, 1954: A bond issue to help finance a new school in Crosby was passed in the election.

Mr. and Mrs. Idor Eknos of Westby were honored on their silver wedding anniversary.

Daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Delwin Bonsness of Columbus on Nov. 11 and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Torgeson of Colgan on Nov. 18. A son was born to Hans Lindseths of Wildrose on Nov. 21.

Mrs. Kenneth Odegard was elected neighborhood chairman of the Crosby Girl Scout Neighborhood Association to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Vernon Nichols, who was killed in an automobile accident. Mrs. C.E. Martin was secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Alvin Svangstuv was vice chairman.

Crosby High School's basketball teams started the season with Arne Martin beginning his seventh year as head coach. Returning letter winners were starter Russ Carlson, Bob Feeney, Charles Gardner, Butch Andrist, Larry Ralph and Pat Engberg. Three top prospects for varsity ball were Harry Olson, Larry Pierson and Paul Truax.

### 80 years ago

Friday, Nov. 24, 1944: A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Odegard of Crosby on Nov. 14.

Mrs. Helen Nelson of Wildrose celebrated her 100th birthday Nov. 11 when more than 100 relatives called at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Burtman.

Marie Rude of Stady and Arthur Holm of Crosby were married Nov. 18 in Plentywood, Montana.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Granrud received news that their son, Lt. Elmer Granrud, was alive and well after being missing in action in France. They had been held in a prison camp which had been recaptured by allied troops.

Kenneth Johnson of Columbus was killed in action while fighting with the armed forces in the Palau Islands in the Pacific area.

Lowell Fiskum, who was born in Divide County, was reported as missing in action over Germany.

### 90 years ago

Friday, Nov. 23, 1934: According to the official canvass of the vote cast in the November election, Divide County broke all records with a total of 3,969 votes. For the office of governor, Mrs. Lydia Langer carried the county by a margin of 569 votes over Gov. Tom Moodie.

Dr. and Mrs. George Lofthus of this city became the happy parents of a daughter, born at the Noonan hospital Nov. 16.

Herman Bilquist of rural Alamo and Miss Zelda Smith of Alamo were united in marriage Nov. 11 at the First Lutheran Church in Williston.

### 100 years ago

Friday, Nov. 21, 1924: Miss Ida Simonson and Axel Haiberg, both well-known young people here, were united in marriage at the Hughes residence in Crosby on Tuesday with Rev. J.W. Rosholt officiating.

A pretty wedding took place at the Matt Kolstad home in Crosby on Tuesday when Miss Emma Anseth and Andrew C. Corneliuson exchanged vows.

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