### **PUBLIC** NOTICES

that may affect the citizens' everyday lives Public notices have been printed in local newspapers, the trusted ources for comi unity information for more than 200 years

North Dakota newspapers also post public notices that are printed in newspapers on www.ndpublicnotices.com at no additional charge to units of governme

### **Burke County Equalization Meeting**

The Burke County Equalization meeting will be Tuesday June 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Burke County Courthouse.

Brandy Zepp, Tax Director May 7 & 14, 2025

### Notice of Hearing N.D. INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

**OIL AND GAS DIVISION** The North Dakota Industrial Commission will hold a public hearing at 9:00 AM CDT Thursday, May 29. 2025 at N.D. Oil & Gas Division 1000 East Calgary Avenue Bismarck, North Dakota. At the hearing the Commission will receive testimony and exhibits. Persons with any interest in the cases listed below, take notice.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If at the hearing you need special facilities or assistance, contact the Oil and Gas Division at 701-328-8038 by Thursday,

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA TO: Case No. 31761: Application of Continental Resources, Inc. for an order amending the field rules for the Viking-Bakken Pool and/or North Tioga-Bakken Pool, Burke County, ND, so as to create and establish the following: (i) an overlapping 2560-acre spacing unit comprised of Sections 2, 11, 14 and 23. T.160N., R.94W., authorizing the drilling of a total not to exceed two horizontal wells on said proposed overlapping 2560-acre spacing unit; and, (ii) two overlapping 5120-acre spacing units comprised of Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23 and 24, T.160N., R.94W., and Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 14, 15, 22 and 23, T.160N., R.94W., authorizing the drilling of a horizontal well on or near the section line between existing spacing units on each proposed overlapping 5120-acre spacing unit, and/or such further relief.

Case No. 31763: Application of Continental Resources, Inc. for an order amending the field rules for the Border-Bakken Pool and/or Stoneview-Bakken Pool, Burke County, ND, so as to create and establish an overlapping 3840-acre spacing unit comprised of Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 17, T.161N., R.94W. authorizing the drilling of a horizontal well on or near the section line between existing spacing units on said proposed overlapping 3840-acre spacing unit, and/or such further relief.

Case No. 31779: Application of Continental Resources, Inc. for an order pursuant to NDAC § 43-02-03-88.1 pooling all interests for wells drilled on the overlapping spacing unit described as Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 and 17, T.161N., R.94W., Border-Bakken Pool and/or Stoneview-Bakken Pool, Burke County, ND, as provided by NDCC § 38-08-08 but not reallocating production for wells producing on other spacing units and such other relief as is appropriate.

Case No. 31780: Application of Continental Resources, Inc. for an order pursuant to NDAC § 43-02-03-88.1 pooling all interests for wells drilled on the overlapping spacing unit described as Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 14, 15, 22 and 23, T.160N., R.94W., Viking-Bakken Pool and/or North Tioga-Bakken Pool, Burke County, ND, as provided by NDCC § 38-08-08 but not reallocating production for wells producing on other spacing units and such other relief as

Case No. 31781: Application of Continental Resources, Inc. for an order pursuant to NDAC § 43-02-03-88.1 pooling all interests for wells drilled on the overlapping spacing unit described as Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23 and 24, T.160N., R.94W., Viking-Bakken Pool and/or North Tioga-Bakken Pool, Burke County, ND, as provided by NDCC § 38-08-08 but not reallocating production for wells producing on other spacing units and such other relief as is appropriate.

Case No. 31782: Application of Continental Resources, Inc. for an order pursuant to NDAC § 43-02-03-88.1 pooling all interests for wells drilled on the overlapping spacing unit described as Sections 2, 11, 14 and 23, T.160N., R.94W., Viking-Bakken Pool and/or North Tioga-Bakken Pool, Burke County, ND, as provided by NDCC § 38-08-08 but not reallocating production for wells producing on other spacing units and such other relief as is appropriate.

Signed by, Kelly Armstrong, Governor Chairman, NDIC

NEWS TIP? 377-2626

### **ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT** FOR THE YEAR ENDING **DECEMBER 31, 2024**

of the Flaxton Farmers Mutual **Fire Insurance Company** 

In the state of North Dako	ta
Total Admitted Assets	
Total Amount of	, ,
All Liabilities	1,864,87
Surplus as Regards	
Policyholders	2,807,09
Total Income	1,678,71
Total Disbursements	1,868,54
NORTH DAKOTA BUSIN	NESS ONL'

**FOR THE YEAR 2024** Net Premiums Received.....1,496,446 Net Losses Paid ......

### **Property for Sale** on Sealed Bids

The City of Bowbells is accepting bids for the following property:

Lot 24, Block 1 OT, Bowbells City Bids must be submitted to the City Auditor at Bowbells City Hall, 100 Main Street NW or mail to: City of Bowbells, PO Box 100, Bowbells ND 58721 by 4:00 pm, May 12th, 2025. Please write "Bid for Lot 24, Block 1, OT, Bowbells City" on the envelope. The bids will be opened at the next City Council's regular meeting on May 12th, 2025 at 7:00 PM

This lot is zoned Commercial The bid must contain intentions for the site and any project must start within one year or the property reverts back to the City with no refund. The highest bidder will be contacted and payment will be due within 7 business days. The City of Bowbells has the right to reject any and all bids.

The property advertised shall be sold to the highest bidder if that person's intentions are deemed in the best interests of the City of Bowbells by a majority of the members of the Bowbells City Council.

Sale to be a Quit Claim Deed paid by the buyer, sold as is with no warranty or guarantee. The City of Bowbells has the right to reject any and all bids.

Lanette Jager **Bowbells City Auditor** April 30 & May 7, 2025

### Notice of Public Hearing for Zoning Change

Notice is hereby given that the Burke County Planning and Zoning Commission will conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Burke County Courthouse, Main Street Bowbells ND at which time and place all interested persons will be heard on the request of Fritel Construction Company, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit or property described as the following: W/2 SW/4 (28), E/2 SE/4 (29) SEC

28-TWP 159-RNG 90 The change is further described as a

CUP to operate a gravel pit. This proposal is available to the public for inspection at the Burke County Planning & Zoning Office, Burke County Courthouse, Main Street, Bowbells ND, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8am-4pm. If any special accommodation is required, please contact our office in

Dated this 21st day of April, 2025. Jill Edwards Burke County Planning and Zoning Commission May 7 & 14, 2025

### **Notice of Public Hearing** for Zoning Change

Notice is hereby given that the Burke County Planning and Zoning Commission will conduct a public hearing on May 20, 2025 at 8:05 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Burke County Courthouse, Main Street Bowbells ND at which time and place all interested persons will be heard on the request of Theodore Hawbaker, 10741 Hwy 52, Portal ND 58772, for a zoning amendment on his property described as the following:

NW corner of Gov Lot 4, Sec.26, T164N-R92W

The change is further described as a Variance and Conditional Use Permit for a 30ftx30ft easement to place a 10ftx10ft MDU building

This proposal is available to the public for inspection at the Burke County Planning & Zoning Office, Burke County Courthouse, Main Street, Bowbells ND, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8am-4pm. If any special accommodation is required, please contact our office ir

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2025. Jill Edwards **Burke County Planning** and Zoning Commission May 7 & 14, 2025

# **State Reports First Measles Case Amidst Declining Vaccination Rates**

## Large outbreak could burden local healthcare

### by MICHAEL STANDAERT

With North Dakota reporting its first measles case since 2011, local health authorities are bracing for further spread as outbreaks of the highly infectious disease increase across the country.

The case appeared in an unvaccinated child in Williams County who authorities believe contracted the disease from an out-of-state visitor.

North Dakota health authorities state the child is being isolated at home to contain spread of the virus and attempting to trace anyone unvaccinated who has been in contact with the child.

As of May 2, the Centers for Disease Control confirmed 935 measles cases, up from 884 known cases a week before. A total of 121 people have been hospitalized nationwide with 3 deaths confirmed.

Now that Minnesota and Montana have confirmed cases, it is only a matter of time – or one plane ride away – for cases to appear in North Dakota, health experts say.

"That's a term we're using a lot right now, one plane ride away, whether they're coming from overseas where there's a lot of measles, or Texas," said Kylie Hall, operations director of the North Dakota State University Department of Public Health Center for Immunization Research and Education (CIRE) in Fargo.

Besides Texas, with the majority of cases at nearly 700, outbreak clusters have sprouted in New Mexico, Ohio, Kansas, Indiana and Michigan.

What worries local healthcare providers and officials about the current nationwide spread is it comes at a time when vaccination rates have declined for infants and kindergarteners to a point where community spread will likely occur.

## Declining vaccination rates

Current North Dakota kindergartener rates of MMR vaccination, which protects against measles, mumps and rubella, have declined from a 2019-2020 high of 94.75% down to a current 89.98% rate.

For comparison, the latest coverage rates in Texas where the largest outbreak is centered were at 94.35%, higher than North Dakota's current rate.

Having a rate at or close to 95% provides for "herd immunity," according to healthcare providers, and numbers below that create stronger conditions for community spread.

"We have truly no chance of hitting our 95% goal for measles right now," said Jenny Galbraith, adult immunization manager at the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services.

"Measles is our most infectious disease that we have to deal with day to day, and if

you're an unvaccinated individual who comes into contact with someone with measles you have a 90% chance of turning around and getting measles yourself," Galbraith said.

Infants between 19 and 35 months of age currently have an 80.9% MMR vaccination rate in the state, a figure that slightly declined from an 81.4 percent rate in early 2022.

"What's really sad about it is, I think because of the power of immunization, we have a society of parents and people in general who don't remember what vaccine preventable diseases look like and how horrible they are, and they take lives and change lives," said Dr. Joan Connell, a pediatrician at the UND Center for Family Medicine in Bismarck.

Spread could be particularly problematic in pockets of North Dakota where MMR vaccination rates for children at kindergarten age are much lower than average.

Sheridan County has the lowest MMR vaccination rate at around 57%, followed by 59% in Grant, 66% in Billings, 70% in McKenzie, and 70% in Logan counties.

The highest measles vaccination rates are in the northeastern part of the state and include Steele and Benson, with 100% coverage.

Populous counties like Cass, **Burleigh and Grand Forks** counties are all below herd immunity status with 92%, 88% and 91% of kindergarteners vaccinated in those localities.

Hall said both the lower vaccination rates and the amount of measles spreading in the country have increased concern, a departure from a year ago when rates were about the same but cases were limited.

Now we re at the point where we have multiple outbreaks of uncontrolled spread of the disease," Hall said. "Really, it's just a matter of time before we see a case."

Since measles is known to spread through the air and can remain in a room and on surfaces for up to two hours, sometimes even traveling between floors through ventilation systems, one concern is that clinics that do not have negative pressure rooms to isolate cases could facilitate the spread.

"Most clinics don't have a negative pressure room," Galbraith said.

Hospitals in the state have 238 negative pressure rooms, she said, but the data doesn't distinguish between adult and pediatric negative pressure rooms.

"There are likely very few of those in our state," she said of pediatric negative pressure

Getting patients who display signs of measles isolated quickly is key to limit spread, since a room would need to be sealed off for at least two hours before someone can go back in and sterilize it, she said. Catching those cases could be

difficult, however. "A lot of times kids affected with measles don't develop the rash until typically like day

four," Hall said. Those kids might have coughs, runny nose, red eyes or symptoms of a typical respiratory disease, and be brought into a clinic not knowing they have measles, potentially infecting others who are unvaccinated in the clinic at the same time, she said.

Hall is also concerned about hospital capacity and the lack of negative pressure rooms, particularly in a pediatric setting.

"Because it's airborne, the air in that room cannot be shared with other patients. So you need specific types of rooms," Hall said. "Even if it was 10 or 20 cases, you know, in a short time, you might need two, three, four or five of those rooms at any given time."

Galbraith said her department is working with local health care providers to remind people who are not up to date on their measles vaccinations to do so, as well as discussing plans for what to do if a measles case comes into their

"It's really infectious, so even if someone going into like a waiting room can wreak havoc, get a lot of people sick," she said. "So we're preparing for the possibility, in hopes that even if we do have a case introduced, we can really minimize it, and we won't end up in a Texas situation where it really seems to be spreading out of control."

### Vaccine skepticism rises

ticism following the Covid pandemic as well as more vocal opponents of vaccines are widely seen as the reason for the decline.

Those declining to have children vaccinated for personal or religious beliefs in North Dakota have also increased.

Personal belief exemptions increased from 1.2 per 100 children in 2011-2012 up to a current 4.36 rate. Religious exemptions - which were nearly zero in 2011-2012 – have also risen to a rate of 2.36 out of

A poll from leading healthcare information provider KFF released April 23 found a 15% increase over the past year in the number of adults reporting to have heard or read false claims that measles vaccination is more dangerous than being infected by measles.

The KFF poll also found an increasing number of people are confused about the false claim that MMR vaccines were proven to cause autism, with at least half of adults polled expressing some uncertainty.

Dr. Faisal Siddiqui, a pediatrician at St. Alexius Health Neonatal Clinic in Bismarck said he believes some of the anti-vaccination messages get spread through social media

The North Dakota News Cooperative is a new nonprofit providing real journalism about North Dakotans for North Dakotans. To support local journalism, make your charitable contribution at www.newscoopnd.org.

and kind of overwhelm the message that vaccinations for something like measles actually work.

"We see a lot of parents who end up coming to us with refusals, but if you give them the proper education, appropriate resources, good data and point them towards data that is authentic, real and scientifically proven, most of them end up changing their thoughts and we are able to get them vaccinated," Siddiqui said.

Connell said she hoped parents could become more well versed on interpreting medical literature and understanding what are quality studies and what are not.

"I think what we're seeing is these low-quality studies, with a low number of patients, and low validity, and people are taking the conclusions of those and making major healthcare decisions," Connell said.

"They've been able to do that because their kids aren't dying from vaccine preventable diseases or losing their sight or hearing, but that is going to change," Connell said. "It's just very sad for me, I never thought that at the twilight of my career I'd be seeing more sickness in kids, and that's a reality for me now."

A Stanford University study published in the leading medical journal JAMA predicted that measles could become endemic over the next 25 years if the current declining vaccination rates continue, leading to hundreds of thousands of cases nationwide.

A decline of 10 percent more in MRR vaccinations could lead to millions of cases, the study found.

"Every parent wants to be able to say that they did the very best that they could for their child," Connell said. "My heart just already bleeds for those parents who made decisions to not vaccinate based on a poorly constructed case report that they put all their weight and belief in."

The North Dakota News Cooperative is a non-profit news organization providing reliable and independent reporting on issues and events that impact the lives of North Dakotans. The organization increases the public's access to quality journalism and advances news literacy across the state. For more information about NDNC or to make a charitable contribution, please visit newscoopnd.org.

Souris Basin Planning Council (SBPC) received a Regional Livestock Development and Planning Grant from the North Dakota Department of Agriculture. This grant assists counties, townships, and regional planning councils in livestock development planning. SBPC has elected to use this grant to conduct a regional site analysis to assist in identifying locations that meet minimum State siting and local zoning regulations, as well as being in proximity of necessary infrastructure to support animal agricultural production. The planning area includes Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, Mountrail, Pierce, Renville, and Ward Counties and Townships. SPBC contracted with the First District Association of Local Governments (FDALG) to conduct the regional site analysis/strategic plan.

We will share the site analysis report for Burke County during the **Burke County Planning & Zoning Commission** meeting. FDALG will present a report of the findings and answer questions.

- Date: Tuesday, 20 May 2025 Time: 9:00 a.m. Location: Burke County Courthouse (103 Main Street, Bowbells, ND 58721)
- For more information on this project please visit qr.link/zlx4tj or scan the QR code.
- For questions, please contact Erin Parker at erin.parker@sourisbasin.org or 701.712.7317.



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