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# **Your Weather**



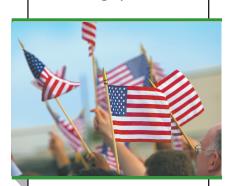




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# Hatloy, Christensen re-elected to School Board

By Mike Alan Steinfeldt

Drayton School District #19 held its annual School Board election Tuesday, June 10 at the Drayton School.

Two school board members ran for re-election for two rural seats on the board, they were incumbants Mark Hatloy, who is currently School Board President, and Reid Christensen.

There are three rural and two city positions on the school board.

Both ran unopposed and were elected handily. Hatloy received 119 votes and Christensen received 122votes. There were a total of 4 write-in votes.

Every two years, residents of the district decide whether or not to publish the official minutes from each school board meeting in a publication within the school district.

Once again this year, voters said yes to publishing the minutes by a 119 to 13 margin.

Also on the ballot, district residents were asked to grant Drayton School District #19 the authority to levy up to an addition 20 mills for the school district's general fund. According to business manager Angela Aasand, voters are asked to authorize that authority to the school district every 10 years. The funds

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### **State Trap Tournament**

Drayton student's results

More than 65 high school teams featuring over 1,200 student-athletes gathered for the North Dakota Trap Shooting State Tournament in Horace, ND last weekend.

Drayton's Lincoln Aasand received a patch for finishing top 100 overall in the state of ND during the season in the male division.

Conference season average placement for Nulla Thompson is third place with an average of 15.8 and Peyton Larson in second place with an average of 20.1. Larson's score tied with first place. Lincoln Aasand came in third place with an average of 23.0.



Team members from L to R: Jaxon Wilson, Carlos Quezada, Ryan Corrick, Loki Sylskar, Lincoln Aasand, Gunnar Kuznia, Reegan Aasand, Nulla Thompson, Peyton Larson and Assistant Coach Michael Larson. Not pictured: Ethan Lund, Ethan Sherill and Head Coach Leeland Bratlie. Submitted photo

# North Dakota is now the leader in Measles cases in the nation

By Tim Henderson North Dakota Monitor

As super-contagious measles continues to spread and nears a six-year U.S. record, cases in its original epicenter of West Texas may be subsiding as hesitant residents become more concerned and willing to vaccinate, while North Dakota is a new focus with the highest rate of any state.

The reality of measles may be overcoming vaccine misinformation in some areas, despite the purge of experts from decision-making roles in the Trump administration under Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. The nation's top vaccine expert resigned under pressure in March.

On June 11, Kennedy appointed eight new members of an immunization advisory panel — some of whom are vaccine critics - after sacking all 17 members of the group two days earlier. Kennedy called his actions "a major step towards restoring public trust in vaccines."

The University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, however, called the committee's mass replacement "one of the darkest days in modern public health history." The Infectious Diseases Society of America called the move "reckless, shortsighted and severely harmful," saying Kennedy's criticism of the original 17 committee members is "completely unfounded."

In West Texas, where outbreaks are concentrated, the city of Lubbock hasn't seen a new case in 20 days, said Katherine Wells, public health director for the city. The

area is east of the largest Texas outbreaks, which were centered on a Mennonite community with religious objections to vaccination.

Wells attributed the recent success to a combination of more vaccinations, public awareness campaigns and willingness to stay home when sick to avoid transmission.

"I talked to some people who, because there's so much information about the risk of vaccines and the bad side effects, I can see from a parent's perspective, 'Why would I give my child that?'" Wells said. "Now they've seen measles in their community, so now they're thinking, 'OK, now I'm going to get vaccinated.'"

# **Outbreak moves north**

In North Dakota, however, the state's 34 cases give it the highest rate in the nation, followed by New Mexico and Texas, according to the North Dakota Public Health Association, a nonprofit health advocacy group that published an analysis of individual states' data on Facebook. The state's first case since 2011 was reported May 2.

"This is not a result of local public health failure," the organization posted. "This is a result of persons in the community choosing not to have their children vaccinated and resisting local public health recommendations and urgent efforts to increase vaccination uptake."

Dr. Stephen McDonough, a pediatrician and former state health officer in North Dakota, said he hasn't seen signs of improvement

in the state. He doubts recent federal moves will do anything but make the situation worse.

"The outbreak in North Dakota is real, has not peaked vet and is expanding," McDonough said in an interview. "It was just a matter of time before North Dakota experienced a measles outbreak due to our low immunization rate."

Middle school band students in Minot, North Dakota, had to cancel trips to a regional band festival and parade in May because of the outbreak. Some 150 unvaccinated children were asked to quarantine for 21 days to avoid further spread.

North Dakota had a 90% vaccination rate among kindergartners for the 2024-2025 school year, a number that has declined from about 95% in the 2019-2020 school year, according to state records. Vaccination coverage at 95% or above is needed to halt measles transmission.

North Dakota's small population makes its measles rate misleading, said Jenny Galbraith, an immunization manager for the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services.

However, the state has suffered from low vaccination rates in recent years as more parents have claimed exemptions based on personal philosophy, religion or other reasons as allowed by state law. With about 7% of children exempted, it's almost impossible to reach the goal of 95% vaccination, she said.

# **Football Camp** at Drayton

Led by coaches Nathan Foster, Matt Rarick, and Raven Smith, the 2nd Annual Drayton football camp was a success Thursday and Friday of last week.

The camp was open to pre-k to sixth grade kids. This year's participants were from Drayton, Sebeka MN, and Stephen, MN.

Participants took part in drills and wrapped up with a twohand touch football game.

See page 10 for more pictures

# The Cavalier Thrift Store kicked off summer by **donating \$30,000**

Submitted by JoDee Dungan

They say you can tell when the Thrift Store is open by the large number of cars on Main Street. The store is fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers, shoppers, and people donating. This makes it possible to continue supporting many worthwhile causes and organizations. The Thrift Store is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 1:00-4:00. The Thrift Store will be closed on Friday, July 4 and Saturday, July 5 so the volunteers can enjoy the holiday weekend with their families.

Donations are only accepted during store hours. Please do not leave items outside. Items left outside may be discarded due to insects, rodents, or rain.

Donations in June were made to:

Bathgate Fire Department Cavalier Fire Department Crystal Fire Department **Drayton Fire Department** Mountain Fire Department Neche Fire Department Pembina Fire Department St. Thomas Fire Department Walhalla Fire Department Andvari Cemetery **Bathgate Cemetery Bruce Cemetery Cavalier Cemetery Crystal Cemetery** Hallson Cemetery Mountain Cemetery Oak Lawn Cemetery Park Center Cemetery Pembina Cemetery **Peters Cemetery** St. Helen's Cemetery St. John's Cemetery St. Patrick's Cemetery Thingvalla Cemetery

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