

Hi, hello and welcome to our subscriber of the week:

Patti Thompson  
Drayton, ND

Your Weather

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**RIVERFEST:** Check out the pic collage **PG. 9**

Community saddles up to honor local horseman

By Rebecca Davis

The dust will fly, and the memories will ride again as friends, family, and horse lovers gather on Sunday, July 27, for the Lonnie Longtin Memorial Horse Show. The event kicks off at noon at 10419 130th Ave. NE, the site of Lonnie's beloved arena just outside Walhalla. Spectators and participants alike are welcome to attend and help celebrate the legacy of a man who spent his life sharing his love of horses with others.

The show will feature an exciting lineup of both classic and unique events, including barrels, poles, flag race, key hole, bareback on a buck, rescue race, gunny sack race, obstacle race, boot race, water bucket event, and the crowd-favorite hangman race. Divisions are broken down by age: Leadline, Children's (7-12), Juniors (13-17), and Adults (18 & up). Entry fees are \$4 per event or \$20 for unlimited entries per horse/rider combo.

The horse show is being organized by Lonnie's great-nieces, Tiffany

**'LONGTIN' CON'T PAGE 2**



Gerry Longtin and Gracee Thorlakson. Photo courtesy of The Borderland Press

RESULTS OF DRAYTON CURLING CLUB'S HALLOWEEN SUMMER SPIEL



**1st event champs**  
(L-R) Chris Dolan, Ross Harvey, Austin Harvey, Brian Unbehaun



**3rd event winners**  
Aiden Fitzgerald, Jackson Askew, Carter Mitchell, Jake Ring



**2nd event winners**  
Megan Junge (lead), Robert Archer (second), Alex Tiffany (third), Dusty Nelson (skip)



**4th event winners**  
Patrick Reilly (lead), Noah Morken (second), Daman Flaten (third), Brock Olafson (skip)

22 teams participated in the annual Summer Spiel in Drayton last weekend. Chris Dolan and Ross Harvey earned their fourth win in four years. Seen in their photo, the extra broom with the hat is in memory of the team's lost skipper, Mark Wilmert, who passed away in March.

Deuce of August

North Dakota's longest-running ethnic celebration marks 126 years

By Hilary Nowatzki

Mountain is preparing to host its 126th annual Deuce of August Festival, a celebration of Icelandic heritage that transforms this tiny town of 70 residents into a bustling destination for thousands of visitors for one weekend of each year.

"We are the oldest ethnic festival in the state of North Dakota," said Curtis Olafson, one of the event's organizers. "The reason we have such longevity is because people really enjoy our event. It's quite a sight to come to Mountain on our big weekend."

The festival spans three days, offering something for everyone from genealogy enthusiasts to food lovers, music fans, and families seeking fun entertainment.

Friday kicks off with the innovative "Friday Forum at the

Deuce," featuring free lunch and presentations. A highlight is the Icelandic Ólafsson Gin and Reyka vodka tasting at the Gardar Country Club, which Olafson described as "Gleðistund fyrir alla" meaning "Happy Hour for everyone!" in Icelandic.

Evening entertainment includes the band Whiskey Wheeler and a special Icelandic Bingo night. Olafson says if you don't know what "Icelandic Bingo" is, then you'll just have to come find out for yourself!

Saturday's centerpiece is the much-anticipated parade, starting at 10:30 am. Olafson reminds readers that there is no sign up process for being in the parade.

"We've been doing this for 126 years," Olafson noted. "Just show up!"

The parade will be broadcast live on KXPO AM 1340 and the August the Deuce Facebook page.

There will be family-friendly activities galore, including children's Icelandic storybook time, inflatable games, and a North Dakota state-sanctioned pedal tractor pull. A new addition this year is a horse show, encouraging parade participants to stick around for additional equestrian entertainment after the parade.

A special 2pm Heritage Program promises to be a festival highlight, according to Olafson, as a special group of men have travelled all the way from Iceland to host a performance.

"We have a combined men's choir from Iceland - 65 men's voices," Olafson explained enthusiastically. "If you've never heard an Icelandic men's choir before, I can assure you, this is well worth the trip. I'm a singer

**'DEUCE' CON'T PAGE 2**

Run with purpose

Levi's Hope 5K returns to Cavalier

Lace up your running shoes and mark your calendars: the Levi's Hope 5K is back on Friday, July 26 at 8:30 a.m., starting at the Cavalier City Pocket Park just off Main Street.

Held in conjunction with the Cavalier All School Reunion & 150 Year Anniversary Celebration, this community event isn't just a run — it's a chance to rally around a meaningful cause that hits close to home.

The 5K route winds through the beautiful paved trails and flat roads of Cavalier, offering a scenic and accessible course for runners and walkers of all ages and abilities. Whether you're aiming for a personal best or just in it for the fun and fellowship, you'll be part of something bigger.

Levi's Hope exists to support families affected by Congenital Muscular Dystrophy (CMD) — a rare, progressive disease that affects muscle development and mobility. The namesake of the race, Levi Gagner, is a local boy whose life has been shaped by CMD. His journey — and the grit, love, and hope his family embodies — is at the core of this event.

**"CMD changes everything," says Kyle Gagner, Levi's father, and founder of Levi's Hope. "It can be isolating and financially overwhelming for families. This 5K is our way of saying, 'You're not alone.' Every step you take, every dollar raised, goes toward**



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**lifting that burden — practically, emotionally, and spiritually."**

All proceeds from the Levi's Hope 5K go directly toward helping families living with CMD, providing them with resources, encouragement, and support.

Register today at [www.levishope.com/5k](http://www.levishope.com/5k), or simply show up the morning of the event. Whether you're a runner, a walker, or just a fan of doing good — come be part of a morning that's more than a race.

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