

#### Bismarck Indian **School Closure** BY JACK DURA

June 30 -- For 30 years, Bismarck was home to one of 30 non-reservation boarding schools for Native students in the US. The Bismarck Indian School was established in 1907 between the Missouri River and the city's Northern Pacific Railroad tracks. Students largely came from the Fort Berthold Reservation, but also Standing Rock and Turtle Mountain, and some from other states, too.

The school had a tumultuous history, including five superintendents within a five-year span from 1917 to 1922. The school's first superintendent, W. R. Davis, was reported as popular with the students. Every student and teacher crowded the train platform to see him off after he retired in 1914.

The school closed for a short time in 1918, partly due to the Great War. School staff often doubled up on jobs, as in the case of a blacksmith/carpenter and a seamstress/cook. Many employees sought transfers, and resigned simply because they didn't want to stay. Poor maintenance also plagued the school.

The Bismarck Indian School served up to 125 students. It was under the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Girls learned about housework and sewing, while boys were taught about livestock and carpentry. Students were often treated poorly and punished for thefts, escapes and other behavior. Punishments included confinement and strappings.

Many students and their families resisted the school's forced assimilation into Euro-American society. Turtle Mountain families in particular resisted the school and often refused to send their children. Fort Berthold families threatened organized opposition against the school. As one of its superintendents wrote, the school had "one of the rottenest reputations" he had ever encountered.

In 1922 the school became an all-girl institution. It closed on this date in 1937, with the site later becoming a temporary camp for the Civilian Conservation Corps and military

#### Alf Paulson of Crosby BY DR. STEVE HOFFBECK

July 1 -- Alf Paulson had the great adventure of his life in 1945.

Born in Alamo (30 miles north of Williston) in 1921, Alf Harry Paulson was the son of Berndt and Kirsta Paulson, both of whom had been born in Norway.

Alf worked on his father's farm in Divide County until WWII. He joined the US Army in December 1942, and his strong, wiry frame -- 5' 9," 155 pounds -- got him noticed. Even more noteworthy, he was "proficient in Norwegian."

The OSS (Office of Strategic Services), the forerunner of the CIA, was recruiting soldiers for undercover sabotage of German war efforts. In particular, the OSS "was looking for men . . . for extra hazardous duty behind enemy lines" in Nazi-occupied Norway.

Because Alf Paulson spoke Norwegian, the OSS asked him to "volunteer for hazardous duty." Alf replied "that the whole US Army was hazardous," so they signed him up.

He became a member of the elite Norwegian Special Operations Group (NORSO), joining 74 men from the famous 99th Infantry "Norwegian Battalion."

Paulson got trained for winter and mountain warfare. including hand-to-hand combat, plus "intensive parachute and ski training." He also learned about demolitions, including "blowing up bridges and railroad tracks."

Finally, in March 1945, Operation Rype began. Rype, the Norwegian name for grouse, was the code name for this top-secret mission. Thirty-five specially selected men were led by Major William Colby, who would later become director of the CIA. They flew to Norway. The goal: blow up bridges and rail lines to trap 150,000 German troops in Norway, preventing them from joining the final battles in

Only 16 NORSO men, including Alf Paulson and William Colby, successfully parachuted into mountainous Norway. These 16 commandos worked with Norwegian Resistance fighters to destroy the Tangen railway bridge connecting northern and southern Norway, and later they dynamited "a mile and a half" of railway tracks, successfully de-

laying rail use by the Germans. WWII ended May 8, 1945, and on July 1 the *Minneapolis* Tribune published news that Alf Paulson and his fellow "Norway invaders'" were on their way

Alf Paulson came back home to farm near Crosby. The former ski trooper died in 2007. He had served in the "only combined ski parachute operation ever mounted by the US Army.'

### **Beginning Black Hills** Expedition

BY JACK DURA July 2 -- Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer was

busy in the summer of 1874. General Phil Sheridan had selected Custer's Seventh Cavalry for an expedition to the Black Hills to scout out a possible site for an Army fort. Custer's men were stationed at Fort Abraham Lincoln, across the Missouri River from Bismarck in Dakota Territory. Sheridan had first considered sending the expedition from Fort Laramie in Wyoming Territory, but decided against it based on perceived hostilities from Native Ameri-

Custer may have acquired the mission through his friendship with Sheridan. The sacred Black Hills had been set aside in the new Fort Laramie Treaty for the Great Sioux Reservation, but government officials were

allowed to perform duties there. Around 8 a.m. on this date in 1874, Custer's Black Hills expedition left Fort Abraham Lincoln. Most of the soldiers had already been camped south of the fort, spending a week getting used to camp life.

Custer led an expedition of a thousand men and one woman. It included 10 companies of his Seventh Cavalry, 60 Native American scouts, 100 wagons, and hundreds of horses, mules and cattle, as well as a battery of Gatling guns and a cannon. Officers' wives waved goodbye as the men marched to the southwest. The band played "The Girl I Left Behind Me" as the soldiers left the fort.

The first day on the trail was hot and sticky. The men were happy to be on the move after fighting off mosquitoes on the bivouac grounds. About five miles in, the wagon train stopped for water on the north branch of the Little Heart River. The crossing took longer than expected as many of the wagons got stuck. Four wagons had to be unloaded to get out of the muck. One wagon's contents were left behind.

The men used extra mules and ropes to pull the wagons out. It was five hours before all the wagons passed through the creek. Despite the delay, the expedition covered 15 miles on the rolling prairie of Heart River country. It was familiar territory where the soldiers had hunted pronghorn, and was close enough to the fort to still receive mail later that day. Still, the day was hot and about a dozen men "gave out."

The expedition made camp about five miles northwest of present-day St. Anthony, ND.

They killed and ate some cattle and hunted pronghorns. Supper was ready by 10. Some men ogled a comet in the sky. Everyone was asleep by midnight, and wake-up was set for two o'clock in the morning.

#### Dr. Henry Windell and His True Love

BY DR. STEVE HOFFBECK July 3 -- Today's story is one of true love -- a love story that unfolded near Bowbells, Kenmare and in Minot. It begins in Bowbells in 1903. That June, an epidemic struck the town. A man got severely ill from typhoid fever caused by Salmonella typhosa, a fearfully infectious bacteria in contaminated food or water.

This was the worst kind of typhoid, for every person who provided medical care for the diseased man caught the bacteria and became sick, including the local Bowbells physician, Dr. Moses Bushenville, two local nurses and Bowbells' Methodist pastor. Typhoid infected seven more people, becoming an epidemic. The original patient died, followed by three more deaths.

Dr. Bushenville and others were transported to Minot. where Dr. J. D. Windell attended to them in his hospital. Needing more help, Windell called for his brother, Dr. Henry C. Windell of Kenmare, who came right away. Heartbreakingly, both Windell brothers got infected just before Dr. Bushenville died.

Dr. Henry Windell became deathly ill. In desperation, a doctor from Fargo was called in, but the doctor believed there was "no hope" that 33-year-old Henry could possibly recover.

Henry was at the point of

death, but word of his plight reached his hometown in Canada. Elizabeth (McMullan) Hays, age 33, who had been a dear friend of Windell's, decided to help. Elizabeth was a trained nurse, and she traveled to Minot

to provide care. On this date in 1903, a newspaper reported that the Bowbells epidemic had ended and that 16 people, including Henry Windell, were convalescing.

Elizabeth cared for Henry with patience and loving kindness, and remained with him constantly. With Elizabeth's attention, Windell began to gain strength, and, over two months' time, Henry got well again.

Poignantly, in the depths of typhoid fever, Henry fell in love with his kindhearted nurse, Elizabeth. Windell "concluded he couldn't get along without her" and asked her to marry him. Elizabeth accepted. They were wed in Kenmare's All Saints Episcopal church in August 1903. Soon thereafter, in 1907, Henry and Elizabeth Windell moved to Williston. They had a son, born in 1908.

Elizabeth passed away in 1921 and Henry died in 1926. They were married for only a short while, 18 years, but their story reverberates as a beautiful tale of love in the time of typhoid

#### Fourth of July BY JIM DAVIS

July 4 -- With many of North Dakota's young men and women already serving on the battlefields in Europe, the 4th of July in 1917 promised to be a day of commemoration and consecra-

For some it was difficult to call it a day of celebration, but unlike Memorial Day, with the somber reflection that death may await loved ones serving overseas, the 4th of July remained a celebration of patriotism, commemorating the battle for independence and democracy. According to the Pioneer Express from Pembina County, "It was observed as a day to be joyful of the memories of the past, proud of our history and progress, but thoughtful of the present and future.'

The town of Pembina celebrated with an impressive parade. This included many floats with themes such as liberty, the conservation of food, law and order, and transportation. There were other war-related floats such as a field hospital, a Red Cross ambulance, and even a naval theme represented by two large submarines complete with deck guns and radio antennas, and powered from beneath the waves by hidden automobiles. Young ladies flitted through the crowds pinning ribbons on lapels for those who contributed to the Red Cross.

The parade was followed by patriotic speeches, a ball game and picnics. Notably missing, however, were the fireworks, an otherwise grim reminder of the millions of shells falling on the battlefields overseas.

In Fargo, Island Park was the scene of a special flag raising with the Fargo Band playing The Star-Spangled Banner.' That was followed by a day of patriotic speeches. A flag committee had been organized to hand out flags as people entered the park. A reading of the Declaration of Independence was followed by the audience singing "America." Here, too, a ball game entertained the crowds, and the evening featured a patriotic program. As a special treat, free lemonade was supplied for

the children. At the Chautauqua in Tolley, ND, Governor Fraizer spoke to more than 15,000 people, the largest crowd ever assembled at that event. But as celebrations commenced across the state, war news continued to worsen. Battlefield casualties mounted, and National Guard units were entering the final stages of the organization as they readied for activation. North Dakota would soon be entering the war in a bigger way, with much more at

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## **Immunization** clinic information

Immunization clinics by the Nelson-Griggs District Health Unit are held on the following dates each month.

- Lakota Courthouse, 2nd Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- McVille Health Unit, 3rd Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m. • Cooperstown City Hall, 4th

Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Vaccines are available for all ages, including adults, children and infants.

# Why do we celebrate on July 4?

July 4, 1776, is an important date in American history that is widely considered the birthday of the United States of America. But some people argue that August 2 should actually be America's birthday, since that was when the Declaration of Independence was signed.

The National Archives says that the Second Continental Congress adopted the United States Declaration of independence on July 4, 1776, formally severing ties with Britain. The approved Declaration was printed on July 5.

On July 19, Congress ordered that the document be engrossed on parchment, which is a process of copying an official document in large hand.

It is surmised that the engrosser was Timothy Matlock,



an assistant to Charles Thomson, secretary to the Congress. It was nearly a month after the Declaration was adopted before the document began to be signed by delegates.

The signing of the Declaration of Independence occurred primarily on August 2, 1776, at the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia, a building later renamed Independence Hall.

John Hancock, who was the President of the Congress, was the first to sign the engrossed copy. Signatures were arranged by states from northernmost to southernmost. Fifty-six delegates eventually signed the document, although not all were present to sign on August 2.

Some delegates never managed to sign the Declaration, including Robert R. Livingston of New York, who was a member of the Declaration's drafting committee.

-metrocreative connection

# NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE THE **MAXIMUM MILL LEVY AUTHORITY FOR** MICHIGAN AREA AMBULANCE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that on July 15th, 2025, an election will be held to grant the Michigan Area Ambulance District the authority to levy a maximum allowed mill levy rate of 15 mills. Any qualified elector residing in the district territory is eligible to cast a ballot. The polling location will be the Michigan Ambulance Service building located at 117 Broadway N, Michigan ND 58259 on July 15th, 2025, from 7am – 7pm CST. Absentee ballots may be obtained by completing an absentee ballot application which can be found online at vote. nd.gov. The completed application must be emailed to *mavas@polarcomm*. com or mailed to:

Michigan Area Ambulance District PO Box 17

Michigan, ND 58259

Sample Ballot

Shall The Michigan Area Ambulance District levy a tax not to exceed 15 mills for the purpose of equipping and maintaining a rural ambulance service district.

Yes - Means you approve the measure as summarized above No - Means you reject the measure as summarized above

## TERRITORY OF THE MICHIGAN AMBULANCE DISTRICT

Central	151	59	1-4, SE 1/4 of 5,
			8-12, NW 1/4 of
			14, N 1/2 of 15,
			NE 1/4 of 16
Melvin	151	58	1-26, 29
Adler	151	57	1-36,
Williams	152	59	1-36,
South Michigan	152	58	1-36,
Petersburg	152	57	1-36,
Rubin	153	59	1-3, 10-15,
			22-27, 34-36,
Michigan	153	58	1-36,
Nash	153	57	1-36,
Enterprise	154	59	1-3, 10-15,
			All of 16
			excluding
			NW 1/4,
			NW 1/4 of 21,
			E1/2 of 22,
			23-25, E1/2 of
			26, E1/2 of 35,
			36
Sarnia	154	58	1-36,
Dahlen	154	57	1-36,
Walsh Sauter Perth	155	59	1-2, 11-14,
			23-26, 35-36
	155	58	1-36,
Cleveland	155	57	7, 17-21, 27-35
Shepherd	156	59	36,
Latona	156	58	16, 19, 21,
			27-35
	Adler Williams South Michigan Petersburg Rubin Michigan Nash Enterprise  Sarnia Dahlen Sauter  Perth Cleveland Shepherd	Adler 151 Williams 152 South Michigan 152 Petersburg 152 Rubin 153 Michigan 153 Nash 153 Enterprise 154  Sarnia 154 Dahlen 154 Sauter 155 Perth 155 Cleveland 155 Shepherd 156	Adler 151 57 Williams 152 59 South Michigan 152 58 Petersburg 152 57 Rubin 153 59  Michigan 153 58 Nash 153 57 Enterprise 154 59  Sarnia 154 58 Dahlen 154 57 Sauter 155 59  Perth 155 58 Cleveland 155 57 Shepherd 156 59

All of the City of Michigan All of the City of Petersburg

