

# Classifieds & Legals

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LEGALS

**In re Grain Buyer  
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE**

Hansen-Mueller Co.  
NOTICE BY NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, OF INSOLVENCY PROCEEDING FOR GRAIN BUYER HANSEN-MUELLER CO.

AND  
NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS PURSUANT TO N.D.C.C. § 4.1-59-25  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Hansen-Mueller Co., ("Hansen-Mueller") filed voluntary a petition for relief under chapter 11 the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nebraska (the "Bankruptcy Court"), being case no. 25-81226-TLS and pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) Hansen-Mueller's filing of this bankruptcy petition operated as an automatic stay against all proceedings as to Hansen-Mueller.

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that on January 13, 2026, the North Dakota Agriculture Department (the "Ag Department") obtained order from the Bankruptcy Court granting relief terminating the automatic stay to allow the North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner, by and through the Ag Commissioner, to proceed with an insolvency proceeding for Hansen-Mueller under North Dakota law.

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that by Order dated February 6, 2026 issued by the Ag Commissioner, Hansen-Mueller was found and declared to be insolvent within the meaning of N.D.C.C. § 4.1-59-21, and upon such insolvency a trust fund was found to be established with the Ag Commissioner being the trustee of the trust fund as described in N.D.C.C. § 4.1-59-22.

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that by the February 6, 2026 Order, the Ag Commissioner, by and through the Ag Department, was appointed and directed to take and complete all actions authorized and necessary under N.D.C.C. chapters 4.1-59 and 4.1-61 relating to the insolvency of Hansen-Mueller, including, among other matters, to publish and provide by ordinary U.S. mail the notice described in N.D.C.C. § 4.1-59-25 relating to the outstanding noncredit-sale contract receipt holder claimants and credit-sale contract claimants to file claims for unpaid grain purchased or marketed by Hansen-Mueller and/or grain Hansen-Mueller has been unable to deliver; and to take all action necessary to secure and obtain the proceeds from the surety bond, issued for Hansen-Mueller grain buying license, with such proceeds being available for distribution to noncredit-sale contract receipt holder claimants (less expenses incurred by the Ag Commissioner in the administration of this insolvency) in accordance with the provisions of N.D.C.C. chapter 4.1-59 and for the credit-sale indemnity fund to be made available for payment to credit-sale contract claimants, up to but not exceeding the statutory limits in accordance with the provisions of N.D.C.C. chapter 4.1-61.

LEGALS

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that any outstanding noncredit-sale contract receipt holder claimants and credit-sale contract claimants shall file their claims against Hansen-Mueller with the Ag Commissioner, to the following individual who has been designated by the Ag Commissioner to receive claims filed in this action: Daniel L. Gaustad  
Attorney at Law  
24 North 4th Street  
Grand Forks, ND 58203

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that any claim to be made against Hansen-Mueller in this insolvency proceeding must be filed on or before May 1, 2026.

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that any outstanding noncredit-sale contract receipt holder claimants and credit-sale contract claimants filing a claim with the Ag Commissioner in this proceeding shall include receipts, contracts or any other evidence of the claims as required by the Ag Commissioner to enable the Ag Commissioner, acting by and through the Ag Department, to determine the validity of the claim. Information and documents to be filed with a claim may include, but is not limited to, grain warehouse receipts, scale tickets, checks or other memoranda given by Hansen-Mueller for, or as evidence of, purchase or marketing of grain, and any distributions received or to be received under Hansen-Mueller bankruptcy proceeding.

NOTICE IS FURTHER PROVIDED that if an outstanding receipt holder or credit-sale contract claimant fails to file a claim, as described in this Notice, on or before April 1, 2026 the Ag Commissioner shall be relieved of further duty or action under N.D.C.C. Chapters 4.1-59 and 4.1-61 on behalf of said noncredit-sale receipt holder claimant or credit-sale contract claimant and the noncredit-sale receipt holder claimant or credit-sale contract claimant may be barred from payment for any amount due.

DATED this 6th day of February, 2026  
/s/ Doug Goehring  
DOUG GOEHRING  
North Dakota  
Agriculture Commissioner  
(2:17, 24)



General Auction

**Dr. Blaine Burdick**  
Optometrist  
**2020 EYE CARE**  
211 4th St. NE Ste. 1  
Devils Lake, ND  
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8:00 am-5:00 pm  
**662-2040**  
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Chapter 7, 11, 12 & 13  
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**Bulie Diaz**  
Law Office  
Devils Lake  
701-662-8029  
Cando  
701-662-8029  
Grand Forks  
701-795-5062  
OR  
1-800-993-4307

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**DRS. ENDERLE & JOHNSTON**  
OPTOMETRISTS  
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DAKOTA DATEBOOKS FOR FEBRUARY 2026

**DAKOTA DATE-BOOK: The Groundhog and His Shadow**

February 2: As the calendar turned the page from 1940 to 1941, there was more than enough bad news in the papers. The front page of the Fargo Forum reported on the fighting in Europe, and the predictions were bleak. It seemed as if the countries of the world were falling like dominoes before the German Army. And Great Britain was fearful of worsening air attacks.

North Dakotans were aware of the fighting, and concerned for what the future would bring, but there was also positive news as folks were still able to take some joy amid the winter weather.

On this date in 1941, the groundhog saw his shadow, predicting six more weeks of winter, but rather than dwell on the length of the winter, plans were in the works for some fun. The Fargo Forum reported that the American Legion post was sponsoring a special 11-car Northern Pacific train to take almost 300 people to the winter carnival in St. Paul. Another eight-car Great Northern

train would carry 100 to the event.

For those who did not want to venture to Minnesota, there was plenty to do in North Dakota. Wahpeton's sixth annual winter festival featured 26 members of the new figure skating club in an exhibition and a competition. They were joined by members of the Fargo skating club. The Wahpeton Independents hockey team held a game against a team from Fergus Falls, and a snowman-building contest was scheduled.

The city had collected Christmas trees and planned to burn them in an evening bonfire.

In Enderlin, residents gathered for a hobby show attended by more than 500 people. Exhibits included carvings, paintings, ceramics, and a stamp collection. Local students provided music and performed a play.

Fargo citizens attended an event called "Get to Know Your Hockey," featuring a game at the Fargo Arena. The program was designed to promote the game of hockey, and cards explaining the rules were passed out to the audience. Ladies were admitted free, and gentlemen

were encouraged to bring their wives or girlfriends with the promise that the action would surely give them a thrill.

The groundhog may have seen his shadow, and world headlines may have been grim, but that did not stop the hearty residents of North Dakota from enjoying winter in 1941.

Dakota Datebook Written by Carole Butcher  
**DAKOTA DATE-BOOK: Free Coal for Needy Families in Grand Forks, 1921**

February 3: Winter in North Dakota is not for the faint of heart, for blasts of Arctic cold can freeze your nose or your toes. Sub-zero temperatures in January and February have always posed a challenge to homeowners, with the poorest residents of North Dakota facing the greatest challenge in paying to heat their homes. Today's Dakota Datebook tells how the people of Grand Forks provided assistance to its neediest citizens back in the 1920s, and how a coal-mining company helped out.

It was on this date in 1921 that the Grand Forks Herald reported

that city officials had helped 52 families in the month of January with "supplies of various kinds." The county had a "poor fund" that gave assistance by various means, providing groceries, clothing, heating fuel, rent money, hospital care, or medicines, and the city had an Overseer of the Poor, Mrs. Edith M. Pierce, to determine who was eligible for the assistance.

Among the families who needed help were 19 widows with children, 22 cases of sickness, 11 cases of lack of employment, and three homeless children. Additionally, Mrs. Pierce was able to help 35 families with heating assistance in the form of coal from the western part of the state.

Each of the 35 families got "a ton of coal" delivered to their home, free of charge, courtesy of the Whittier-Crockett Coal Company from their big coalmine located near the town of Columbus, right next to the Canadian border.

The Whittier-Crockett Coal Company owned the largest strip mine in Northwestern North Dakota, and the company's president, H.A.

Whittier, established a tradition of sending coal to several cities in the state. Whittier called the gift a "thanksgiving offering" to Dakotans because his company had "enjoyed very liberal patronage" throughout North Dakota and he wished to give something back to its poorest citizens.

Grand Forks got a traincar-load, as did Fargo, Devils Lake, and Minot. Each railway car contained 35 tons of "screened lump lignite" coal. The Great Northern Railway shipped the cargo for free.

Red Cross volunteers delivered the coal to the families, using wagons owned by the city. Those tons of free coal warmed hearts and homes that cold mid-winter of 1921.

Dakota Datebook written by Dr. Steve Hoffbeck

Recruiting the number of soldiers officials called for appeared impossible. Company B of the Dakota Cavalry had been thrown together at Sioux City, Iowa in December 1862, and that same month, the previous governor had created a consolidated Company C, but a need

remained, and Hutchinson's new recruitment order proved ineffective. Generals Alfred Sully and Henry Hastings Sibley eventually led their punitive expeditions with cavalries from Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska.

Companies A and B of the Dakota Cavalry did play a small role, however. In 1864 they traveled as a bodyguard for Sully for a rendezvous near present-day Pierre, South Dakota, prior to the Battle of Tahkahokuty Mountain, also known as the Battle of Killdeer Mountain, the largest armed conflict between the U.S. Army and Plains Indians.

Dakota Datebook written by Jack Dura

"Dakota Datebook" is a radio series from Prairie Public in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and with funding from the North Dakota Humanities Council. See all the Dakota Datebooks at prairiepublic.org, subscribe to the "Dakota Datebook" podcast, or buy the Dakota Datebook book at shoppairiepubli