WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018

Snow could total 8 inches

By Tess Williams Grand Forks Herald

Sometimes winter arrives a little early.

And that's exactly what National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Barrett said is expected to happen this week. Estimates predict up to 8 inches of snow could accumulate in parts of the Grand Forks region by Thursday morning in a storm that was forecast to start Tuesday night.

That is just one month since temperatures in Grand Forks hit 80 degrees.

"It is somewhat unusual, but it's not unprecedented," Barrett

A cold storm system is moving in from Colorado and toward Wisconsin and will likely dump between 3 to 6 inches of snow on eastern North Dakota and northwest Minnesota, Barrett said. It's more common for similar systems to move through during November. Barrett said storms like this happen in October maybe once every 10 years or so.

"It's truly out of season," he said.

Marshall, Pennington and Red Lake counties could see the highest concentration of snow with up to 8 inches, though Barrett said the location of heaviest

snowfall could change still. Cold and air and precipitation were forecast to move in Tuesday night and snow flurries were expected to stop early

Thursday. Eastern North Dakota is expected to see wind gusts of 30-35 mph, while northwest

Minnesota is predicted to have 20-25 mph wind. Barrett said snow will like-

ly pile higher on grassy areas because pavement stays warm longer, but he said drivers should still be cautious. The weather service also warned of possible downed trees or branches and potential power outages.

Barrett said the winter conditions won't be in the area for long, however, because temperatures through the weekend are expected to be in the 40s. He said there's a potential for light precipitation. Fall weather is expected to resume in about a week to a week and a half, as Barrett said we will likely see mild weather again.

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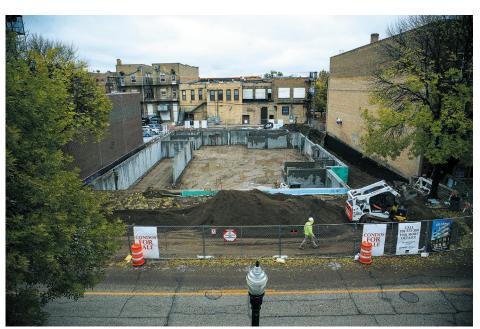


Photos by Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald

Loon Park by Ely's Ivy is one of several public spaces in downtown Grand Forks.

DESIGNING DOWNTOWN

Group invites public to participate in downtown action plan



Construction continues on a building on the former Arbor Park site in downtown Grand Forks.

By Emily Allen Grand Forks Herald

group responsible for planning an improved downtown Grand Forks invited the public to share thoughts on Town Square and other public spaces Tuesday night during a community kickoff event at city hall.

Consultants from RDG Planning and Design in Des Moines and Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services have spent the summer working on a downtown action plan with a steering committee of Grand Forks leaders since June, RDG planner Cory Scott said. His group collected 780 responses from a visual listening survey it offered earlier in the process, Scott said.

Those responses will influence signage, development and streetscaping downtown. "We need to understand a little bit more on what the alignment of the program will

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City clerk in dispute with reporter resigns

By Tess Williams Grand Forks Herald

ROOSEVELT, Minn. — A small-town city clerk who swore at a reporter last week during a public meeting said she has resigned.

Reporter Doris Knutson from Baudette's weekly Northern Light Region questioned the Roosevelt City Council during its Oct. 1 meeting when she discovered they'd met without proper public notification.

Siats shouted "My g**damn dad died!" at her when she meeting.

Siats said, "I blew my temper, but I did not say my 'g**damn father.' My exact words were 'I'm so g**damn sick and tired of this bull***t'."

Knutson said council member Arlyn Stewart then approached her and seemingly towered

over her as he berated her. He

adjourned the meeting imme-

left at that time.

Stewart has not responded to multiple phone calls from the

Knutson called the paper's publishers and helped file a report after the meeting. Roseau County Sheriff Steve Gust said the investigation is

filed against Stewart. "If she felt threatened that's definitely something to look Knutson reported clerk Alyce into. I can't give you a definite answer there, but we're looking into it," he said. "It's sad to pressed the legality of the have to go there for an alleged

assault that took place, that shouldn't be happening during public meetings. Gust said the investigation

will likely be wrapped up by the end of the week. Siats said she has not been contacted by authorities, and Knutson has

not been contacted again. Siats said she put in her res-

replacement. After the last meeting, she said she's calling it quits early.

harassed by people outside of town for the last year and a half," she said.

Siats said she's been yelled ongoing and charges could be at and told to shut up by those attending meetings.

Knutson coverbegan ing the City Council meetings about a year ago after she heard rumblings of dysfunction. She said council members are short-tempered and have screamed at citizens during meetings.

Knutson said the council disregards open meeting laws. According to the League of Minnesota Cities, public government bodies are required by law to post public notice three days prior to meeting or publish the event in a newspaignation three months ago but per. Attempts must be made

diately. Siats said she'd already had given the council until to contact all parties that have the end of October to find her requested notification. Knutson said the Northern Light Region

requested to be notified. Knutson said the council was The council has been unable to produce financial records for the last eight years. Since Siats's resignation, she said Stewart would be the point of contact for records requests. He has not returned repeated phone calls from the Herald. Siats also said the state may have records, though the League of Minnesota Cities said records would need to be obtained from Roosevelt because they are not kept at a statewide level.

Siats said she feels the dysfunction is not the result of council actions.

"As far as I'm concerned, we've tried to conduct very proper meetings and you can't when it's dysfunctional," she

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Year: 139 Issue: 102 Copyright: 2018 Newsstand price:

\$1.50