

UND prepares for NCHC weekend series at Minnesota Duluth: B1

# Grand Forks Herald

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018

## SHARING SEASON

### East Grand Forks to consider options for tax levy increases

By Emily Allen  
Grand Forks Herald

The city of East Grand Forks focused Tuesday night on establishing an appropriate levy increase for property taxes in 2019.

City Council members and staff debated for over an hour during their most recent work session, during which they considered a 6 percent levy increase. The council ultimately asked staff to return Dec. 4 with two more scenarios with a 5 percent increase and a 5.5 percent increase.

Over the last four years, East Grand Forks has had heated discussions on its yearly levy increase. In 2014 it was forced to cut \$180,000 intended for matching grants and the city swimming pool after former Mayor Lynn Stauss slashed a proposed 10 percent increase in half. The city enacted a 25 percent increase in 2015, followed by an 18 percent increase in 2016.

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### Roosevelt council member facing charges resigns

By Tess Williams  
Grand Forks Herald

ROOSEVELT, Minn. — A small-town city council member charged for disorderly conduct after allegedly intimidating a reporter during a public meeting has resigned.

Arlyn Stewart sent a letter to Roosevelt, Minn., mayor-elect Gerald Landby Monday to submit his resignation.

"I will no longer put up with the harassment from the general public and the news media," the Northern Light Region reported Stewart wrote.

The Roosevelt City Council has been under fire since an Oct. 1 meeting when former city clerk Alyce Siats screamed at a reporter from Baudette's weekly Northern Light Region for asking a question.

Siats acknowledged she "blew my temper," and said she told reporter Doris Knutson

RESIGNATION: Page A6



Photos Eric Hylden/Grand Forks Herald

Yvonne Griffin, holding Zachariah Griffin, and Ivory Wilkinson with Ezekiel Wilkinson, check out the annual "Festival of Trees" sponsored by the LISTEN Center at the Columbia Mall Wednesday.

### LISTEN Center sponsors 26th annual 'Festival of Trees' for area families



By Pamela Knudson  
Grand Forks Herald

The spirit of Christmas will be shared with nearly 70 needy families again this season, thanks to the efforts of the LISTEN Center, local businesses and volunteers in the Grand Forks area.

The annual "Festival of Trees," sponsored by the LISTEN Center, is on display through Dec. 8 in the Sears wing at the Columbia Mall.

This year, 69 trees have been donated by local businesses and decorated by people who give their time and supplies. They are scheduled to be delivered Dec. 9 to families in Grand Forks and Polk counties.

This is the 26th year the festival has been conducted, said Christy Potts, executive



Christmas trees from the annual "Festival of Trees" are displayed throughout the Columbia Mall.

director of the LISTEN Center. LISTEN stands for Love is Sharing The Exceptional Needs.

The names of families who

are eligible to receive the trees are provided by social service agencies, Potts said.

Receiving a donated tree frees up money for families

to pay for other things such as Christmas gifts and holiday travel, Potts said.

The LISTEN Center, a nonprofit organization, offers a day services program at 1407 24th Ave. S. Suite 100, for people with developmental or intellectual disabilities. The program includes activities, such as music and art therapy, visiting speakers and tours of various sites in the community.

The LISTEN Drop-In Center, 624 N. Washington St., is a resource for the whole community, Potts said, and includes computers, a pool table, and "dances every Friday night."

For more information, call the center at (701) 772-7840. Knudson is a features reporter at the Herald. Call her at (701) 780-1107, (800) 477-6572 ext.1107 or email pknudson@gfherald.com.

### State Board committee delays Stone House name change at UND



Tess Williams/Grand Forks Herald  
The J. Lloyd Stone House at UND.

By Sydney Mook  
Grand Forks Herald

A committee for the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education has hit the pause button on UND's plans to rename the J. Lloyd Stone House.

UND had proposed changing the name of the campus building to the Dr. Kathleen and Hal Gershman Engagement Center.

Earlier this year the Gershmans donated \$3 million to make renova-

tion of the building possible. The building was the original president's home and built in 1903. The name change is meant to honor the Gershmans' gift.

However, during the board's budget and finance committee meeting late Tuesday members questioned whether the Stone family had been contacted about the potential name change.

Member Dan Traynor said while he has noth-

ing against the Gershmans, it's important for the university to be in contact with families before bringing the issue in front of the board. He added that this is not the first time this has happened with UND, noting this has also come up with the Ray Richards family and the family of Ralph Engelstad.

Jed Shivers, vice president for finance and operations at UND, noted

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RESIGNATION

From Page A1

'I'm so g\*\*damn sick and tired of this bull\*\*\*\*'
Stewart allegedly approached Knutson and seemingly towered over her as he berated her before abruptly ending the meeting.

dom Of Information Act requests from the Herald and Northern Light Region.
Knutson said the council also disregards open meeting laws, which require governing bodies to publicly post meeting information in advance.

to appear in court again Dec. 10.
In this month's election, Roosevelt voters replaced all current council members, other than Stewart, whose term was set to end in two years.

issues they may face as they transition into office in January.
Knutson said the council has not had access to the mailbox since Siats resigned and current members voted last month to pay unopened bills.

resignation is enough. She said she doesn't have any personal issues with Stewart, but was doing her job by holding a public official accountable.
'We heard of irregularities, inconsistencies and things they were doing that weren't how they were supposed to be doing things, and we just kind of made a concerted effort to shine a light on the situation and I think brought it to people's attention,' she said.

Reach the writer at 701-780-1267, twilliams@gherald.com or on Twitter @ByTessWilliams.

TAX

From Page A1

Last year, the city enacted a 10 percent increase, despite Mayor Steve Gander's efforts to pass something smaller. This year, Gander has his sights set on 5 percent, having previously committed to the

number during budgeting discussions earlier this year.
'We're looking forward to the day (when) the average individual family would see their tax rate go up at about the level of inflation,' Gander said Tuesday.
He said a 5 percent levy increase could mean a 3 to 4 percent increase in prop-

erty taxes for taxpayers.
A 5 or 6 percent levy increase doesn't necessarily mean taxpayers will individually pay that much more. A resident's tax bill is determined by a property's value and annual increases in property assessments.
The city sent out statements showing what property taxes would look like under a 7.5 percent increase

on Nov. 19, City Finance Director Karla Anderson said, and there will be a public hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 4, before the council votes on a levy increase.
The approximately \$11.1 million budget Anderson presented Tuesday operated under a 6 percent levy increase and it was able to take care of all predicted expenses without cutting

any services.
Gander acknowledged a challenge in avoiding reductions of services the city offers and maintaining services with less money from the state.
Historically, the mayor said, East Grand Forks has received a significant part of its budget from Local Government Aid, which local governments receive

from the state. In the last two years, however, Gander said the city has lost 2 percent of its budget because of a decrease in LGA.
'So if we're talking about a 5 percent local (levy) increase, you already have to take 2 (percent) off of that, and that's 3 (percent) we have to work with to run our city,' he said.

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Ask Amy
Amy Dickinson
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST
11/29/18
Dear Amy: My husband had a long first marriage. He got divorced two years ago, and we started dating shortly after. We have been married for over a year now, and we have a newborn daughter.

Dear Upset: Even if your concerns were NOT valid (and I think they are), it is disrespectful for your husband to respond to your honesty by telling you to "wise up."
You are wise enough to see his relationship with his ex-wife as an encroachment on your marriage. Your husband simply does not get to tell you what to think or how to feel.

should be inspired to read it, too.
Gottman's research reveals that successful couples create indelible relationship imprints, and turn toward one another (not their exes) to tackle life's little and large challenges.
Dear Amy: My neighbor "Sara" and I are not friends, but we are friendly, or so I thought.
We make small talk when we see each other, usually about our kids, our town, etc. Sometimes Sara speaks first, other times it's me.

disagrees with. She may like you as a neighbor, but not want you to know the particulars about her life or her own political opinions.
Many people keep "friend requests" in a queue and only click through requests periodically.
Or -- possibly "Sara" is happy to chat with you over the backyard fence, but is otherwise not that interested in you. There is nothing wrong with this. It is the way of the world. In some ways, maintaining a cordial bit of friendly distance is the ideal situation for neighbors.

JUMBLE - THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.
ITAOR, OPMHR, LOVTIE, EYEWLA
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

HOROSCOPE - Jacqueline Bigar Horoscope
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Your magnetism emerges.
People don't often see how talented you are. You tend to be modest and try not to toot your own horn.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE - THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews
FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 29, 2018
ACROSS: 1 Curvy letter, 4 Inaccurate, 9 Made fun of, 13 Part of a royal flush, 14 As sore as \_\_, 15 Angelou or Rudolph, 16 Sore, 17 Merchant, 19 Fraternity letter, 20 Pauses, 21 Part of a knife, 22 \_\_ than; besides, 24 J. Edgar Hoover's agcy., 25 Bar, 27 Give a sermon, 30 Fess up, 31 Sandwich maker's need, 33 Know \_\_; ability, 35 Hockey score, 36 Compensate, 37 Actress Delany, 38 Isn't \_\_ to; probably won't, 39 Bursting at the \_\_; too full, 40 Generous one, 41 Wobble, 43 Ready for dinner, 44 Stewart or Carew, 45 Stupid, 46 Toss, 49 Skate smoothly, 51 Spanish article, 54 Not easily restrained, 56 Student summons, 57 Egg on, 58 Spend foolishly, 59 Catch sight of, 60 \_\_ away; leaves, 61 Follows orders, 62 Burro.

SUDOKU PUZZLE - Sudoku puzzle
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★
PREVIOUS SOLUTION:
2 7 1 8 9 4 6 5 3
4 9 3 5 6 2 8 7 1
8 5 6 7 1 3 4 2 9
6 8 7 3 4 5 1 9 2
3 2 5 9 8 1 7 6 4
9 1 4 6 2 7 3 8 5
7 3 9 1 5 6 2 4 8
5 6 2 4 3 8 9 1 7
1 4 8 2 7 9 5 3 6

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You can almost count on someone not understanding what you say. A great deal of activity could be triggered as a result of this miscommunication. A boss could be unusually distant or cold. Worrying won't do you any good. Tonight: Clear out some paperwork and errands.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
When your creativity surges, you have little to be worried about. Today, you exhibit unusual imagination and have the ability to focus on whatever issue is at hand. You can't seem to detach from a problem that has been quietly nagging at you. Tonight: Be naughty and nice.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You could need some time to relax in order to stay on top of a situation. You might not see the logic of slowing down. Try a slower pace, at least for a day. Confusion surrounds your home. Do not be surprised if you are caught in the middle of a disagreement. Tonight: Be a couch potato!
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Honor a fast change of pace. Several people are determined to find you, no matter what! Stop for a moment and listen to what each person is sharing. Slowing down and listening will help you to center yourself. Be more of an observer right now. Tonight: The less said, the better.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You have good financial sense, which you often display. Of course, everyone enjoys letting go sometimes. Set limits on how far you will go with your spending. You have a lot of people you want to spoil and indulge this holiday season. Tonight: Buy some eggnog on the way home.

WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED
MOO AMPLE TECH
RUMP BALES ACHY
STIR SPENT CHAD
STIMULATE TORE
MIRE ELI
ASCEND MAMACASS
SWORD MOPES GAP
TEAS BOWED MINI
EDS FADED MELEE
RETAINED LINERS
FTD SEAT
SCAR ACCESSORY
COME NOONS REAL
ACES NOISE SARI
MASH ALLEN DDE
39 Stores away, 48 Hit the ceiling, 40 Sand mound, 49 Snatch, 42 Wears away, 50 Misplace, 43 Trimmed shrubs, 52 Mont Blanc's range, 45 \_\_ Moore; brand of canned beef, 53 Devious, 46 Gangster, 55 Deuce, 47 Sandwich type, 56 "Who Wants to \_\_ Millionaire"