

# Snowstorm tracks toward Grand Forks area

## Grand Forks Herald staff

The National Weather Service in Grand Forks has issued a winter storm watch for Friday afternoon through Saturday. The system could harbor gusting winds that could reach 50 mph with temperatures of 40 degrees below zero. Blizzard conditions are likely with snow accumulations of 2 to 6 inches.

The Grand Forks area woke up to 2 to 3 inches of new-fallen snow on Wednesday, Jan. 15, according to the National Weather Service. By 9:30 a.m., NWS in Grand Forks had issued a wind chill advisory, which will be in effect through at least 3 p.m. Thursday. Wind chills may drop as low as 35 degrees below zero.

The heaviest snowfall on Wednesday had moved to the east of the Red River by 10:30 a.m. The high temperature reached -6 degrees with a northwest wind 13 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

The National Weather Service is



Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald

Wayne Vossler's 1-year-old yellow lab, Caramel, celebrates the joy of winter as Vossler digs out from Wednesday's snowfall.

tracking a pocket of upper-level energy that is expected to dive out of the Rockies late Friday, passing over the central Plains as its attendant jet stream dip, or trough, carries it eastward.

## PHASE ONE

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war between the two counties escalated. The North Dakota Soybean Growers Association hopes that the signing of the agreement is a sign that the trade war is de-escalating, according to Johnson.

"That's been a big export destination," Johnson said.

U.S. soybean exports to China fell from \$14.2 billion in 2016 to \$3.1 billion in 2018, according to the North Dakota Farmers Union. Meanwhile, total U.S. agricultural exports to China declined from \$21.4 billion to \$9.2 billion during that time period, NDFU reported.

During the past year, swine fever also has been rampant in China, and agricultural marketing experts have said that also has contributed to the decline in soybean exports.

The North Dakota Soybean Growers Association hopes that the agreement is a sign the trade war is de-escalating, Johnson said.

North Dakota Farmers Union President Mark Watne said he was "cautiously optimistic" about the Phase One trade deal.

"Until vessels carrying U.S. agricultural products are landing in Chinese ports, I'm going to be holding my breath a bit," Watne said in a prepared statement, noting that China bought 800,000 tons of soybeans from Brazil last week.

Enforcement of the Phase One agreement will be key to its success, and the U.S. will need to mend fences with other countries so they can assist in holding China's "feet to the fire," he

said. Minnesota state Rep. Deb Kiel, R-Crookston, said the agreement is key to the recovery of soybean export sales lost during the trade war.

"This is really important that there has been an agreement made. It's been devastating for our soybeans," said Kiel, a farmer and member of the Minnesota House Agriculture and Food Finance and Policy Committee.

Kiel was on hand for the Wednesday signing at the White House, along with Minnesota state Sen. Mark Johnson, R-East Grand Forks, vice chair of the Minnesota Senate Agriculture Rural Development and Housing Finance Committee, and Sen. Torrey Westrom, R-Elbow Lake, chair of the Minnesota Senate Agriculture Rural Development and Housing Finance Committee.

Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., called the signing of the agreement "very important to our farmers and ranchers."

"We've repeatedly made the case to the administration about the importance of securing ag purchases as part of any agreement with China because we need to recapture the Chinese market for crops like soybeans, as well as expand it for products like beef," Hoeven said in a prepared statement.

The Phase One Agreement, which commits China to purchasing a total of \$2 billion worth of American products during the next two years and also pledges to stop intellectual property and currency manipulation is a major victory for the U.S. and North Dakota, said Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-N.D.

# 2 injured in crash near Grand Forks

## Herald staff

Two people were treated for non-life-threatening injuries after a car crash southwest of Grand Forks around 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14.

Tanner Ault, 26 of Grand Forks, was driving a 1996

GMC Sierra southbound on 16th Street Northeast when he failed to obey a stop sign, according to a release from North Dakota Highway Patrol. He collided with the center driver's side portion of a 2002 Jeep Cherokee operated by

Russell Anderson, 83, of Grand Forks. Ault's vehicle came to a rest in the intersection of 16th Street Northeast and 12th Avenue Northeast, and Anderson's vehicle rolled and came to a rest upside down in the ditch.

Ault was uninjured. Ault's passenger, Emmitt Ault, 21, of Reynolds, and Anderson were treated for minor injuries. The crash remains under investigation. Charges are pending against Ault, according to the release.

# House sends impeachment charges to Senate

By Nicholas Fandos and Sheryl Gay Stolberg

WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives voted on Tuesday, Jan. 14, to send the Senate two articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump, appointing seven Democrats to prosecute the case and initiating only the third presidential impeachment trial in American history.

The 228-193 vote came almost a month after the House impeached Trump on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, formally accusing him of seeking foreign election assistance from Ukraine and then trying to conceal his actions from a House inquiry. Like that earlier vote, Wednesday's fell largely along party lines.

Only one Democrat, Rep. Collin C. Peterson of Minnesota, joined every Republican in voting "no."

Earlier Wednesday, Speaker Nancy Pelosi introduced the lawmakers who would serve as prosecutors, or managers, of the case. Both chambers were also grappling on Wednesday with a trove of new documents related to Trump's pressure campaign that played into Democrats' arguments that any trial must include new witnesses and evidence. More material was expected to be disclosed, according to an official

working on the impeachment inquiry.

At the White House, Trump denounced the inquiry anew as a "hoax," and encouraged Republicans to rally to his defense shortly before the vote.

As expected, the House prosecution team will be led by Reps. Adam B. Schiff of California, the chairman of the Intelligence Committee who led the Ukraine inquiry.

He will be joined by Reps. Jerrold Nadler of

New York, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Zoe Lofgren of California, Hakeem Jeffries of New York, Val B. Demings of Florida, Jason Crow of Colorado and Sylvia R. Garcia of Texas. Crow and Garcia are both first-term members.

The managers are scheduled to reconvene in the Capitol at 5 p.m. to finalize the articles with Pelosi in a formal "engrossment ceremony" that will mark the begin-

ning of an elaborate, and highly orchestrated, ritual. From there, accompanied by the House clerk and sergeant-at-arms, the managers will file from the House, through the old House chamber and the Capitol Rotunda to the Senate, where Democrats will present the articles to the secretary of the Senate.

The trial itself is not expected to start until Thursday.



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