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## Quote of the week:

“If you’re not careful, the newspapers will have you hating the people who are being oppressed and loving the people who are doing the oppressing.”

~Malcolm X

Oct. 31, 2016 • Vol. 1, No. 1

\$0.25

www.MidwesternScout.com



## FORT LINCOLN SERVES UP FRIGHTS

**Dustin White**  
*Editor*

South of Mandan, the fort, where George Custer was once stationed, takes on a transformation. With ghosts and ghouls taking the place of soldiers, the spirits take over at the Haunted Fort at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park.

Having finished their 15th year, the season started off a bit slow, which was expected with numbers being down around the board. However, while attendance was down on most nights this season, the energy and enthusiasm of the performers remained high.

Arriving at Fort Lincoln around 5 p.m., actors would begin their preparations for a night of haunting. Putting on their makeup, finding their costumes and getting into character was only one aspect though.

With new groups of volunteers every night, staff worked to help direct new recruits to where they would be haunting, as well as give them a bit of an idea of what

to expect. As with every year though, a few volunteers had returned from the last season, and were ready to scare those who dared the forts.

As the actors began their work on making sure the Haunted Fort would have a successful night, guests, ready to be scared, lined up. Wanting to beat the rush, cars would line up as soon as tickets went on sale.

Having created a great reputation for itself over 15 years of successful haunts, attendees are seldom disappointed, and know that their evening will be full of frights.

By 7:15 p.m., two hours after preparations had begun for each night’s performance, a staff and volunteer meeting is held. Matt Schanandore, Interpretive Events Coordinator for Fort Lincoln, goes over the general guidelines, in order to maintain the safety of those involved, but also stresses what the night is about.

“We want to scare the crap out of everyone, and do what we do best,” Schanandore said.

### The haunt opens

As the doors open for the nights haunt, a small crowd begins to build. As guests file through the commissary, and to Custer’s house, an air of anticipation builds.

However, as the night begins, it also appears to be a bit slow.

“We are a little behind last year, but there are a lot of events going on,” Schanandore said. “You can tell right away how well a night is going to go. We’ve been expecting lower numbers this year though as numbers have been lower around the board.”

While most nights had a bit of a wait, with warmer weather throughout the season, it wasn’t unpleasant. And unlike many haunts, guests were not left alone while they wait.

“I’ve waited outside a couple of haunts where there is nothing,” Schanandore said. “But we have concessions and like to keep our guests entertained.”

For those passing through, the wait, which builds their anticipation, seems to go by

smoothly.

### A balance

With hundreds of guests moving through the historic buildings at Fort Lincoln, the haunt becomes a balance. As the Custer house is a functioning museum, an additional level of care must be used.

Keeping that in mind, Schanandore has arranged the haunt so that the Custer house serves as a nice opening to the rest of the night.

Moving through the Custer house, guests are given a reserved look at what will come. Wanting to ease each individual into the fright that will come, the house serves as a way to dip ones toes.

As they travel through each building, the level of fear increases, until they reach the dark hood.

Instructed to place a hood over their head, guests have to direct themselves through the building by guiding themselves along a rope. For many, the proposition is just too much.

Pushed to their limits of

*Continued on Page 2*

# From locker to the main stage: CharLana 41

**Dustin White**  
*Editor*

“Once you’re in it, you never get out of it.” That is how Charlotte Pilling described figure skating. Having competed in high school, Pilling eventually found her way back to the sport. Instead of getting on the ice though, she began crafting costumes for other skaters.

For Pilling, it would be a way to use one passion to bolster another passion. Having started her own business, CharLana 41, at an early age, she was able to find a niche to fill.

## A present

It would be while Pilling was still in high school that her passion for designing clothes was sparked. As a teenage, she had asked for a sewing machine for her birthday. The new tool allowed her for new experimentation which would be the beginning of a career.

“My mother had come home one day and found all my clothing was taken apart and redesigned,” Pill-

ing said.

With a bit of help from her grandmother, Pilling would teach herself the skills she needed to create the clothing that she imagined.

Soon, she would find the ability to spread her passion, and her school mates would reap the benefits.

“At school, I had the locker number 41, and I sold clothing I made out of it,” Pilling said. “That’s how the name CharLana 41 came about.”

Eventually, Pilling would be able to move out of a locker and into a much larger space. At the same time, she would move to a smaller city, which had its own benefits.

“The market is over saturated,” Pilling said. “Moving to Mandan was one of the best things for my business as no one else did this in the area.”

## Connections

Mandan would also give Pilling a connection that helped her business grow much quicker. A local



*Dustin White photo*

**WORKING LARGELY WITH FIGURE SKATERS, CHARLOTTE PILLING HAS FOUND A NICHE WHICH SHE FILLS WELL.**

seamstress would send to Pilling a Bismarck coach who wanted a dress for her daughter. It was a moment that allowed Pilling to jump into the local market.

“All it took was that one connection,” Pilling said. “I wouldn’t have gotten into it as soon if it wasn’t for that.”

With a business beginning to take shape, Pilling would take her background,

and creativity to help push her forward.

“After high school, I went to school for math and wanted to be a teacher,” Pilling said. “A lot of what I do now is math. I’m taking a 2D item, which is fabric, and putting it on a 3D figure.”

Not being classically trained, and having taught herself from cutting things

apart, Pilling wasn’t bound to standard rules regarding her craft. Not like being restricted, she continues to push herself.

“I’m only limited by my customer’s imagination,” Pilling said. “If they can dream it, I can make it.”

For more information on CharLana 41, go to [www.Facebook.com/CharLana41](http://www.Facebook.com/CharLana41)

## Remembering the Forgotten: The Tale of Elizabeth Mann

**The Forgotten**  
*Dustin White*

The mysteries at Greenwood Cemetery in Mandan are quite diverse. Abandoned early in the 20th century, many who were buried in the grounds were eventually forgotten, yet were once pioneers in the area. One such individual was Elizabeth Mann.

Born on March 6, 1811, she would eventually meet and marry a John Scott Mann. The two would be some of the first pioneers in Mandan and Morton County, becoming well respected by all in the community.

Elizabeth would also become active in the Presbyterian Church in Bismarck, where she would initially be buried.

On Nov. 12, 1874, Elizabeth passed away. Little is said about her death, but from her obituary, it can be gleaned that she attempted to help all that she could. Being fairly wealthy at the time of her death, a portion of that help came in a monetary form.

She would be buried in the funeral grounds attached to the Presbyterian

Church, after the Rev. I. O. Sloan preceded over her funeral. Her body would later be reinterred at Greenwood Cemetery.

(Editor’s note: It is a bit disappointing that more couldn’t be found on Elizabeth Mann. A true pioneer, she lived in the area, for the most part, before the newspaper industry was established, and thus, much

of her history has been lost. However, interestingly enough, when she is mentioned, she is addressed as Elizabeth (or Eliza) Mann, while John Mann’s future wife would only be addressed as Mrs. Mann, suggesting that Elizabeth was seen as being important in her own right. The story of John Mann will be covered in a future column).

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## Frights at Fort Abraham Lincoln

*Continued from page 1*

fear, the idea of the dark hood is just too much. Almost 25 percent of guests will pass by it.

However, even with bypassing the last building, guests leave satisfied with the event.

### Ending a season

With numbers a bit low for the season, spirits remained high. While a few nights

proved to be a bit colder, most evenings proved pleasant, even though frightening.

As the 2016 season ended, staff at Fort Lincoln remain busy with additional events coming up through the remainder of the year. Continuing with their monthly hikes, on November 6, the park will be filled with blaze orange, as local hikers finish off the 12 month challenge.

## New Paper

Observations  
Dustin White

For two years, I worked as the editor of a weekly newspaper. Being a small community paper, I quickly took on many roles; reporter, photographer, copy editor, designer ... While my official position was as editor, the other roles I began to take upon myself ignited a spark.

The spark turned into a passion; a passion for the history, the culture, and blossoming art scene in the Bismarck-Mandan Metro area, as well as for the Midwest. Working for the weekly newspaper, I was able to pursue that passion, but early in 2016, that began to change, as new restrictions were put on my job positions; restrictions that would negate the work I had done over the last two years.

Faced with a decision to either sit and watch the quality of the paper devalue, or be forced from my position, I took the latter. From that decision, the *Midwestern Scout* was born, as a way to not only continue the work I was doing, but to build upon it.

It's been nearly a year now that I've been on this path. It's been a challenging endeavor, but finally seeing this paper go to print has been worth the effort.

There have been numerous hiccups, and in general, it has been a learning experience. But I believe that it is a worthy challenge to undertake. And hopefully the community finds it worthy of support as well.

The purpose of this paper is to serve the community, and as such, I want to hear from the community. I want to hear about what you would like to see in the paper, what stories you're interested in. And, if I publish something you disagree with, I want to hear about that as well.

I'm always open to new suggestions and comments. Please feel free to send me a line at editor@midwesternscout.com or to P.O. Box 217, Mandan, N.D. 58554. I look forward to serving this community, and bringing to print what hopefully is seen as a high quality product.

# PASSION BECOMES A BUSINESS: JUKE JOINT COMICS

Dustin White  
Editor

Having a passion in life can always be a great thing. However, sometimes that passion grows a little to large, and it becomes a necessity to figure out a new solution. For Mike Swenson, that involved creating a comic book store in Bismarck; Juke Joint.

Juke Joint began out of a necessity. Having began, what would become a life-long passion, in 1984, Swenson's collection would swell over three decades. Not having enough room, it became the time for something new.

"It just came from having too much stuff at home," Swenson said.

However, it would be a local landlord that would have a lot to do with turning a collection into a store.

### Musician

While Swenson had a passion for comics, music would be his calling. After graduating from Bismarck, he would pick up and leave the state.

"I played in a full band, and did individual stuff as well," Swenson said. "It was my full time job. I bounced around and enjoyed the country."

Swenson would eventually find his way back to Bismarck, but it was under unfortunate circumstances. With his father passing



Dustin White photo

**WITH NEW SHIPMENTS OF COMICS COMING IN FOR WEDNESDAY, MIKE SWENSON IS BUSY GETTING THE STORE READY FOR THE BUSIEST DAY OF THE WEEK.**

away, it was time for him to come back.

He would once again connect to the music scene, and while he would do some solo work, as well as pick up playing with other bands when needed, he found an additional place to help other musicians get booked for different venues.

Working with his own band, Swenson had started renting a space at 500 North Third Street in Bismarck. It would be a place for them all to practice, but it would also serve another purpose.

"My collection was continuing to grow, and I started storing items in the building," Swenson said. "The landlord noticed and

suggested starting a store."

In 2013, that's exactly what Swenson did.

"I had noticed an increasing number of collectors in Bismarck and thought there was enough demand to support this business."

### A product

Relying on his background as a musician, Swenson chose the name Juke Joint for his new store.

"Juke joints were happening places in the 1950s," Swenson said. "They were a place to go and relax."

As Juke Joint opened its doors, it would be Swenson's collection that became the first draw. Lining the shelves was 30 years worth of collectibles, that would eventually find a place with other collectors.

"My passion became a product," Swenson said.

Juke Joint would quickly begin to build up a loyal customer base. While the demographic was relatively small, with comics being a niche product, Swenson said that the store has stayed on target for their five year plan.

"I have a big vision," Swenson said. "But I don't know if Bismarck could sup-

port something like that. With three years in business though, we are right on pace."

Building the business has had its struggles though. While comics have become more accessible to casual readers, the average reader continues to be around 30.

"We're trying to reach out to younger readers," Swenson said. "I've noticed though that a lot of kids today are afraid to start."

However, at Juke Joint, Swenson and his staff are more than willing to help new readers discover what they are interested in. Having kept his passion for comics, Swenson has built up a wealth of knowledge on the subject, which allows him to help new readers navigate through the various titles.

Yet, for Swenson, even with a store filled with comics, among other collectibles, he doesn't always find time himself to read the new works coming out. Busy with running the business, his passion has turned somewhat into work, but the tradeoff isn't negative.

"At times it becomes less fun," Swenson said. "But I get to be a professional kid for a living."

Juke Joint is located at 503 North Third Street, in Bismarck.



Dustin White photo

**WHILE IT LOOKS SMALL FROM THE OUTSIDE, JUKE JOINT IS BRIMMING WITH COMICS AND COLLECTIBLES. JUKE JOINT IS LOCATED ON THIRD STREET IN BISMARCK, NEXT TO THE POST OFFICE.**

# INVESTIGATING THE PARANORMAL: TRUE TIME PARANORMAL

**Dustin White**  
*Editor*

“In my home town, there was a spirit who was often seen on a local road. Some had talked to him, and shortly after, he would be a mile up the road. One night I decided to go out and talk to him. It was a darker shadow. After that, I took my friends to see it as well.”

This experience would be one of Kimberly Holbrook's, founder and lead investigator of True Time Paranormal Investigations in Bismarck, first encounters with the spirit world. However, it was something she was prepared for; something that had been with her most of her life.

“I had grown up dealing with paranormal things,” Holbrook said.

Those experiences would lead to a deep interest in the paranormal. By the age of 13, Holbrook was becoming invested in learning more, and exploring a new world. Eventually, the interest would lead her to founding True Time Paranormal Investigations, and what she says is a more scientific approach to the supernatural.

## Paranormal Investigation

Originally from Oregon, Holbrook would relocate to North Dakota. In 2008, she would take her passion and build it into True Time Paranormal Investigations.

“With the show Ghost Adventurers popularity rising, and the profession being taken more seriously, it gave me more confidence

to move forward,” Holbrook said.

However, they haven't been without a few skeptics. For Holbrook though, that is just part of the job.

“All I can do is show them what I have, and they can come to a conclusion from their,” Holbrook said.

It has been a learning experience though. While Holbrook and her crew are able to rely partially on research in their field, they have also had to learn quite a bit through experimentation.

“We have a lot of equipment,” Holbrook said. “We are continually trying different ways to approach this all.”

Part of that approach has been consciously trying to debunk their own findings. Not wanting to jump directly to the idea that each occurrence is supernatural, Holbrook and her crew examine other possibilities as well.

## Investigations

While Holbrook often seeks out various sites for investigations, her crew also gets a number of requests. Usually coming through their website, other requests come from their friends or previous clients who refer them.

Often, the sites they investigate are homes, but they don't shy away from larger investigations either. Having performed investigations at places such as Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, Holbrook has had her sights on the San Haven Sanatorium.

“It has been a three-year long process so far, but we definitely want to get up there,” Holbrook said.



*Dustin White photo*

HOSTING A PANEL DISCUSSION AT IMAGICON IN MINOT, THE TRUE TIME PARANORMAL CREW DISCUSSED THEIR METHODOLOGY, AS WELL AS THEIR BACKGROUND.

Regardless of the site though, Holbrook said that the method is largely the same. You have to know what you're dealing with.

“Anyone can do it, but if you don't know what you're doing, the outcomes can differ,” Holbrook said.

Part of knowing what one is doing comes with researching each site before hand. Before going to any site, Holbrook and her crew try to put together a brief history of the area, so they can know what they are dealing with.

At times though, the research brings up little. Going in largely blind from time to time, Holbrook said that her crew had to have a level of awareness.

“It's the knowing what to ask, what to say,” Holbrook said. “I need to know what's out there.”

Other times, it is more of a matter of weeding out the clients.

“Faking it hinders us,” Holbrook said. “We only want serious cases, we don't want our time wasted. But we have had a few problems were potential clients see it more as entertainment.”

## Building a Crew

“One person can't do it alone,” Holbrook said.

Realizing that, Holbrook knew she needed to build a crew. From early on, right by her side has been Michelle Stoxen.

“To do this, you have to show a passion and loyalty,” Holbrook said. “Michelle has been a great help, and funny enough, she doesn't even watch scary movies.”

However, not every team member that Holbrook has recruited has been as well suited as Stoxen. Others, whether they lack the passion, or don't understand the amount of

work that needs to go into each investigation, have caused problems.

“We have had some interesting individuals,” Holbrook said. “One in particular, during an investigation, decided to act as if they were possessed.”

With shows such as Ghost Adventurers, Holbrook said that one could learn how to fake such occurrences, which means that she, and her crew, have to have an amount of skepticism.

It isn't just her own crew that Holbrook relies on though. Forming almost of family, different crews of paranormal investigators often help each other when the need arises.

“We are like a parafamily,” Holbrook said. “We aren't in competition.”

For more information on True Time Paranormal, visit their website at [True-timeparanormal.webs.com](http://True-timeparanormal.webs.com).

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# RESEARCH POINTS TO SHORTCOMINGS OF PIPELINE ROUTE HISTORICAL REVIEW

*CONTINUOUS CULTURAL OCCUPATION DATING BACK TO 1300 A.D.*

**BISMARCK (UTN)** – The historical review done on the route of the Dakota Access Pipeline apparently leaves much to be desired. When it comes to understanding tribal history and events that took place near the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri Rivers, much of the historical record that distinguishes the location is absent from the pipeline company's filings.

That was the takeaway October 7 from North Dakota First Nation's Day in Bismarck.

"If the Cannonball River were excluded from primary resources...our North Dakota history would be poorer for it," said event keynote speaker Dakota Goodhouse.

Goodhouse presented the results of seven-months of research in a talk titled: "Remembering a River; Significant Mentions in Historic Resources."

"There is a continuous cultural occupation along this Missouri River tributary reaching back to circa 1300 through the tribal histories of the Mandan, Arikara, Cheyenne, Yanktonai Dakota, and Hunkpapa Lakota," he said. "The north and south banks of the Cannonball River are rife with physical evidence of historic and cultural occupations of people who are still here."

Goodhouse is a college educator, author, blogger and historian who researches history using a combination of resources like journals, maps, and Native American winter counts.

Earlier this year he began researching existing sources for historical reference about the area where the Cannonball River divides Morton and Sioux Counties and flows into the Missouri River. The area is the focus of conflict over construction of the controversial oil pipeline aimed to pass within one mile of the Cannonball and snake its way



*United Tribes News photo DENNIS J. NEUMANN*

**UTTC NATIVE STUDIES INSTRUCTOR DAKOTA GOODHOUSE DURING FIRST NATIONS DAY OCTOBER 7 AT THE NORTH DAKOTA HERITAGE CENTER.**

under the Missouri River and Lake Oahe. His work also included the east bank where Beaver Creek enters the Missouri in Emmons County.

## Significance

The area was a gathering place along main travel routes of Native People who lived there in established villages. On the north and south banks of the Cannonball, the Big River Mandan Villages were prominent earth lodge settlements there 600 years ago.

Goodhouse found more than a dozen mentions of significant historical events and occurrences that are missing from the Dakota Access Pipeline Class II survey report filed with the Historic Preservation Office of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. He viewed the survey report at the state agency but is prevented by law from revealing its contents. Instead, he summarized the volume of evidence that was readily available to researchers but not included in the historical review process for siting the pipeline.

According to Good-

house, the survey fails to mention the Cannonball River observations of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery in 1804.

Not mentioned were the 1833 descriptions of Prince Maximilian von Wied-Neuwied, who observed the nearby terrain and the sandstone balls, known as concretions, found in the stream that give the river its modern name.

Also missing were the observations of botanist John Bradbury who observed the river in 1811 and made a return trip in 1819, for the express purpose of collecting additional botany specimens.

The report does not mention the many deaths from the great prairie fire of 1762-63 recorded on winter counts in the National Museum of the American Indian, nor the dramatic flood of 1825 that killed over 150 people opposite the mouth of the Cannonball.

Absent is any reference to the work of Dr. Raymond Wood, a well-known expert in Plains Indian cultural and archaeological sites on the Upper Missouri, who believed the north Can-

nonball Village sites to be "extraordinary and significant."

About 75 audience members at the North Dakota Heritage Center applauded when Goodhouse said, "It is absolutely preposterous to say that there are no burial grounds nearby. To say so would be to suggest that no one ever died in any of the cultural occupations."

Goodhouse concluded that the area, and the north Cannonball Village site in particular, is highly meaningful in terms of the development of Mandan culture, inter-tribal and military conflicts, natural disasters, the 1837 smallpox epidemic, and for the location of the historic Cannonball Ranch.

Goodhouse reiterated he was prevented by law from revealing whether the route of the pipeline would cross the north Cannonball Village site. But those with access to online earth maps would be able to determine that for themselves.

In closing his talk, Goodhouse quoted from the late Vine Deloria Jr. about sacred places. "The first and most familiar kind of

sacred lands are places to which we attribute sanctity because the location is a site where, within our own history, something of great importance has taken place. Unfortunately, many of these places are related to instances of human violence. Every society needs these kinds of sacred places because they help to instill a sense of social cohesion in the people and remind them of the passage of generations that have brought them to the present. A society that cannot remember and honor its past is in peril of losing its soul. Indians, because of our considerably longer tenure on this continent, have many more sacred places than do non-Indians."

Goodhouse is a Native Studies instructor at United Tribes Technical College. Read his historical research and see his photos and maps on the Cannonball-Missouri River area here: <http://thefirstscout.blogspot.com/>.

# CHANGING THE SYSTEM FROM WITHIN: MARVIN NELSON

**Dustin White**  
*Editor*

"I've always been politically active," Marvin Nelson, candidate for North Dakota Governor said. "It's always been a part of family life."

Growing up on a small diversified farm, with the school house for the township voting on their land, politics would form a special part of Nelson's history. Going out to the school house on election days, he recalls a few of his earliest memories.

"We'd go out, with dad, on election day, to the house and see the results from the last election still on the board," Nelson said. "We'd sweep up the dust bunnies, check the out-houses to make sure they had all the necessities, and start the wood burning stove for those days that it was a bit cold."

That involvement would stick with him as he completed high school and went off to college. Returning to Rollette County, Nelson would serve as the treasurer, and eventually became active in a number of other organizations. But agriculture seemed to his main calling.

Working as an agricultural consultant, Nelson would stay involved in farming. Really enjoying talking about policies, he would make a name for himself.

## A change

As with many people's lives, change often occurs quite quickly. For Nelson, that was no different. That change started with a firefighter.

"It was a volunteer firefighter that got me to run for office," Nelson said. "He had been injured, he was self-employed, with three children, all under the age of six. The community had come together and filled

his house with toys for the children for Christmas. But he was losing the house."

Having applied for disability, the firefighter was earning just a couple hundred dollars a week, which wasn't enough to live on. Under today's policy, he would have gotten \$0.

"How can we do that to our volunteers, who are subsidizing the state by risking their lives," Nelson said. "They are subsidizing the state monetarily by millions of dollars."

That injustice was too much for Nelson. He would throw his hat into the ring, and found himself working to change the system from the inside.

## People

The State Congress seemed to be an ideal fit for Nelson. Enjoying debate in school, he was right at home when participating with those who had differing views. And as with many of those elected, he was looking for change.

Seeing the most important aspect of North Dakota being the people, he set out to help change the system for their better good.

"We should expect, rightfully so, that the government should be concerned with the welfare of its people," Nelson said. "This current government is not."

Moving forward, Nelson acknowledges that there is an uphill battle. But it's a fight he is willing to take.

"We've had 24 years of wealthy Republican businessmen serving as the governor of North Dakota, and after each session, things have continued to get worse," Nelson said. "I can't conceive how we've gotten here."

But while the path to where the state currently is may be a bit murky, the path forward is more clear, and it starts with one idea:



*Dustin White photo*

## MARVIN NELSON

responsibility.

"When you start representing other people, you're also responsible for them," Nelson said. "It really is a different experience, one that my opponent hasn't gone through."

## Financial shortfall

The issues that Nelson has spoken about came to a culmination during a special session in August. Facing a \$300 million budget shortfall, a bill was forced through the N.D. legislature in just three days, the shortest time allowed, in the state's constitution, for a bill to be passed.

"We were told we didn't have time," Nelson said. "The troops were told to shut up and ram it through. It was kind of a waste of three days."

With a bill that went unchanged, the cuts made have a potential to hurt those most in need. For Nelson, one of the major concerns is the rural health care providers.

"The cuts make running a nursing home almost impossible," Nelson said. "Then we are cutting

medicaid, which nearly kills hospitals. The policy has been to close local hospitals."

The fear that Nelson has is that the quality of life for many will be lowered.

"Where are our priorities?" Nelson said. "We have home maker services that save the state money, but the government cut their budgets. It will definitely lower the quality of life for some. When do government officials become responsible?"

The problem is potentially larger. With a need to build additional infrastructure in the state, that opportunity is being cut as well. Cutting daycare support, an increasing amount of individuals are finding it nearly impossible to work and have their children properly looked after. Without a workforce, the economy is unable to diversify.

## Change is needed

For Nelson, the current situation is reminiscent of the 1980s farm crisis. A quick fix simply won't work.

"During the farm crisis, suicided rates shot up above

normal rates," Nelson said. "Programs were put into place, but once the rates declined, they were pulled. Those running the state always take the cheap way out. Do they believe in people?"

While Nelson saw a need for a change, what would push him to enter into the race for the position of governor though was a bit of a nudge. With a small class year, many didn't want to jeopardize their seats in a reelection year.

"Maybe I'm crazy and the rest aren't," Nelson joked. "But I was asked if I would enter the race. Somebody's gotta change it."

It was another uphill battle, but Nelson is confident that it is doable. And knowing that change is needed for the betterment of the people of North Dakota, it is a task he is willing to undertake.

However, Nelson also knows that the change can't happen all at once. Real change will take awhile, but someone needs to start it. Nelson is willing to do just that.

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# ROLLING INTO A NEW SEASON WITH BIG WINS

**Dustin White**  
*Editor*

Going into their sixth season, derby fever is beginning to kick up for another year. Building on seasons past, the BisMan Bombshellz, Bombzillas and Bomberz have had the chance to continue with their strong growth.

Kicking off season six with a strong double-header, the Bombshellz and Bomberz had the chance to show the area what derby was all about.

## A revival

While roller derby began as far back as the 1880s, initially as endurance races, it wouldn't be until the mid-1930s until the contemporary sport emerged. A decade later, the golden age of derby would begin as, in 1948, the sport would debut on television, which led to a drastic rise in live attendance.

However, as the popularity of roller derby began to sore, promoters of the televised events sought to make them a full performance, including scripted lines. Viewers were not impressed, and by the late 1960s, the sport was on a decline.

Attempts to revitalize the sport occurred in both the 1980s and 1990s, as new shows were broadcasted on

television. However, none were able to last more than a couple seasons. While the sport was unable to garner a television audience, it would grow in another area.

A modern revival began in 2000, and within a decade, more than two thousand teams existed world wide.

At home in Bismarck, the Bismarck Bombshellz would form in 2010. It began with a few local women who decided that the area could use a roller derby team. By 2013, that initial team would expand to three, including one male roller derby team, the Bomberz.

Traveling around the Midwest, the teams remain busy throughout the fall, winter and spring. With practice a couple times a week, as well as a duty to give back to the community, members of the teams build a strong bond not only between each other, but also with area as a whole.

## Opening bouts

Beginning their season on Oct. 22, the Bombshellz and Bomberz opened to a room packed with excited fans. With each event being family oriented, fans of all ages bustled around, as their anticipation grew, waiting for the first bout of the night to start.

As with every home



*Dustin White photo*

**FLYING AROUND THE TRACK, THE BISMAN BOMBSHELLZ OPENED THEIR SEASON WITH A BIG WIN. FOR MORE PHOTOS, GO TO [WWW.MIDWESTERNSCOUT.COM](http://WWW.MIDWESTERNSCOUT.COM)**

bout, the night opened with a brief explanation of roller derby, so that those who were attending their first bout could catch on to the action quickly.

After the opening, the night was filled with a quickly paced game. Soaring around the track, athletes battled each other to push their teams to the lead.

Finishing the first bout, the Bombshellz would take home the win. Raising the bar high for the Bomberz, the male team had a lot to live up to.

Win or lose, the Bomberz were going to put on a great show. Fighting hard, the Bomberz would also take

a lead, and finish with a win.

## Remembrance.

A fun filled event, the night wasn't without an amount solemnity. It would be the first season after the passing of a beloved member of the roller derby community: Jason Martis, known as Sacre Bleu to his derby family.

Diagnosed with stomach cancer, Martis would bravely fight. Staying up beat, he was ready to take on the fight ahead of him, and the community had his back.

An avid member of the Bomberz, and a mentor to many players, teammates, fans, and even member of

other teams began pouring out their support for Martis, which made an impact.

"It really helps, makes me feel good inside knowing that I have a lot of people thinking of me," Martis said.

On June 22, Martis would lose the battle, and passed from this world. However, his memory, and the impact he made, has lived on in the roller derby community.

Displaying their respect for their fallen teammate, Martis's jersey would take a seat on the bench for the Bomberz bout, and a moment of silence was held. For many, he was there in spirit.

## Rediscovering a lost Cemetery: Greenwood

**Dustin White**  
*Editor*

It was the first cemetery set up west of Jamestown. Planned to be a beautiful resting place for those who passed before their loved ones, problems would lead to Greenwood Cemetery being closed, and largely abandoned.

Organized on Jan. 16, 1882, Greenwood Cemetery would be situated on a tract of land that had been used to an unknown amount of time as a burial site. Outside of Mandan, it was seen as an ideal place for a cemetery, as it would have room to grow and Mandan did as well.

The first known burial was that of Elizabeth Mann, the wife of John Mann, who had dealings at Fort Abra-

ham Lincoln. Passing away in 1874, Elizabeth would first be buried in Bismarck, in the cemetery near the Presbyterian church. With John finding a new home in Mandan, he would have his deceased wife moved closer, so they could be buried as a family.

Slated as a 10 acre plot of land, there is also evidence that burials had been made outside of the actual site. Eventually occupying nearly 40 acres, various burials would go undocumented. In 2009, as Mandan was building a new water reservoir, 36 graves would be discovered.

After Greenwood was incorporated, the cemetery would experience a number of problems. While it was located between Mandan and Fort Abraham Lincoln, the

site would only be short lived, even though the main path between the fort and city bisected the cemetery, and was well used.

However, burials at Greenwood would often become difficult. With the Heart River flooding each spring, the cemetery became inaccessible for a portion of the year.

Other problems also plagued the cemetery though. Lack of funding caused trouble for the organization from the beginning.

Even with funding, the organization had trouble staying in tact. With all but one of the members of the board leaving the state, board meetings became less frequent. The members that remained were nearing death themselves.

By 1905, the Mandan

Pioneer reported that the cemetery had been completely abandoned. Already, the burial grounds were unfenced, and covered in weeds and high grass. For nearly 70 years, the site would slowly be forgotten.

## Rediscovered

The land surrounding Greenwood had been fenced off, by adjoining land owners, and public access to the cemetery was closed off. With the site out of public memory, the site would nearly be lost forever.

On June 10, 1974, an innocent legal notice was published in the Bismarck Tribune. A local farmer had made an attempt to acquire the forty acre site. However, alert county officials became aware of the legal notice, and

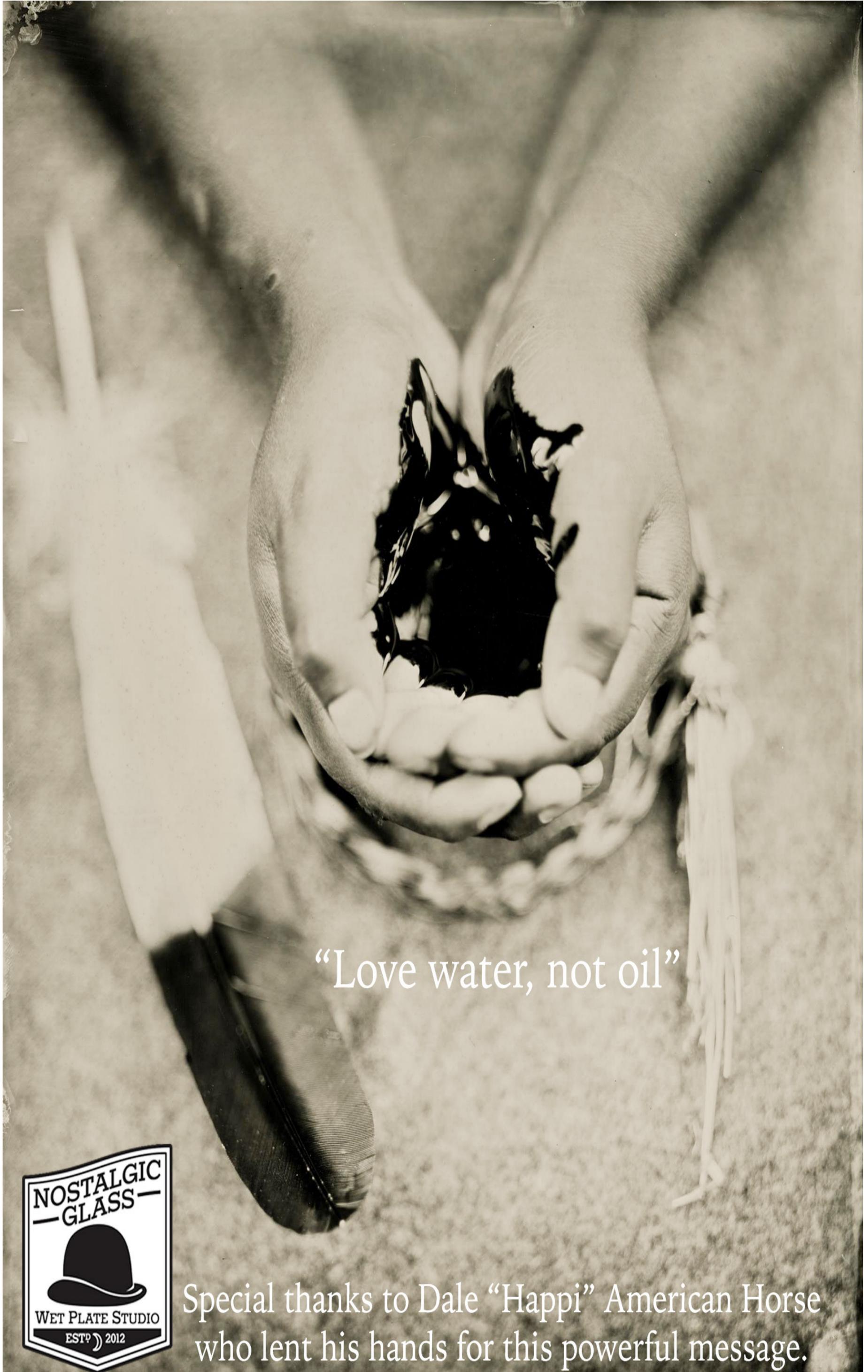
took action.

With Morton County, with the help of the Morton County Historical Society, becoming involved with the abandoned cemetery, the individual who had sought to acquire the land dropped their action, and Greenwood fell under the jurisdiction of the Morton County Commission.

In the seven decades the site was abandoned though, it had largely fallen into ruin. With gravestones missing, and many of those that remained broken, a great effort was needed to bring the site back.

Over the years, the gravestones that remained were fenced off, and portions of the cemetery are routinely mowed.

However, the site still remains a mystery to many.



“Love water, not oil”



Special thanks to Dale “Happi” American Horse who lent his hands for this powerful message.