



CAMEL Tales

POTENTATE'S MESSAGE

We "R" For The Kids!

Greetings, all! It's been another very busy month of Potentating.

Let's start with the Spring Ceremonial, hosted by our James Valley Shrine members: the Jamestown Clowns, Mystics and EZ Wheels. A big thank-you goes to Ken Grenz and Lady Kristen. Together, they assembled a wonderful team to help pull off the Ceremonial. What a fun time, with wonderful games, food, drinks and, of course, world-famous Jamestown shenanigans!

A huge thank-you to Past Potentate and Illustrious Sir Dennis "Fluff" Sand for getting the campground ready for all who camped. My Lady Kim and I are so appreciative of all the effort that goes into hosting such an event. As always, you all pulled it off in grand style!

The ceremony for our new nobles was again handled by our own Ritualistic Divan. Fantastic job, gentlemen! So many memories were made during ceremonial weekend. We even made a new campground friend, Reno, a.k.a. "Ribeye" Simmers!

Next up, I attended this year's Grand Communication in Grand Forks. It was held at the Masonic Center, a beautiful and historic building. Most Worshipful Sir Fred Kitko had a very good year. Several awards were given out. Congratulations to all who received a Masonic award.

Our own El Zagal Duster, Bob Simmers, was elected and is now Most Worshipful Bob Simmers, our Grand Master of North Dakota. My Lady and I were able to attend the evening banquet and were pleased to present Lady Carol with her new El Zagal Grand Master fez. I can't wait to start working with Most Worshipful Bob this year. I know he has a busy year planned. Congratulations also go out to Alan Dybing and Steve Reinhold of El Zagal for their elected positions on the Grand Line.

A big thank-you to our membership chairman, Nathan Hopper, for organizing Shrine Day at Newman Outdoor Field on June 14 to see the FM RedHawks play Winnipeg. It was a great game to watch, but the RedHawks couldn't pull it off. The game was tied 10-10 and went into extra innings, with Winnipeg pulling out a 13-10 win.

The Misfits cooked for the teams all weekend. Thanks for all you do, Misfits! Many

of you may not know that they have been cooking at Newman Outdoor Field for the RedHawks and visiting teams for a couple of years now. Lucky teams!

This week, we are getting ready for our East-West Shrine Bowl, June 17-20, on the Mayville State campus. We start with the parade on Thursday. Then, on Friday evening, my Lady and I have the honor of hosting dinner with

Imperial Sir Brad Koehn and his Lady Cheryl, as well as Imperial Chaplain Brian Hagmeier and his Lady Nadyne.

We will also be in the company of Imperial Sir Matt Sturlaugson and his Lady Mandii; East-West Football Chairman Jason Kaufman and his Lady Lisa; and this year's patient ambassador, Brandon, along with his parents, Brian and Kathleen. I can't wait to meet them all!

The North Dakota Shrine Bowl has gained some very nice publicity nationwide. The football committees from El Zagal and Kem do an exceptional job with this important event. The selected East-West 9-man and 11-man coaches do a wonderful job preparing these players in such a short amount of time for the games, which will be played Saturday afternoon and evening.

The Here Comes Summer Party is right around the corner, Thursday, June 25. This is a very nice event we put on for the public, featuring hot dogs, chips, snow cones and, of course, many games and bouncy houses. We hope you are able to come out and be part of the fun!

Finally, I would like to thank Noble Chad Dubuque and his Lady Shauna for the flower beds at our temple. They look just beautiful! Some may not know that each year they plant flowers using the colors of the Potentate and his Lady. So thoughtful and much appreciated!

July is right around the corner. Imperial Session is in Tampa this year, July 12 through 16. We come back late on the 16th and head right up to the Old Bastards Fishing Trip, July 17-18. Thanks to Shaun Englesrud for all you do in lining up this nice event. I can't wait to catch some walleyes!

It's a little further out on the horizon, but August includes the Mystics Fishing for a Cause, the Stated Meeting and MSA in Grand Forks. Hope to see you all in the coming months. Be involved!

That's enough for now. It's going to be another fun month of Potentating!

**Yours in faith,
Bruce H Ridgway
El Zagal 2026 Potentate**



Mark Your Calendar!

Imperial Session _____ July 12-16

MSA _____ August 12-15

Mystics 7th Annual

Fishing for a Cause _____ August 8

Pro-Am Golf Tourn. _____ August 19



**TUESDAY
BURGERS**
5:30PM TO 7PM
EXCEPT ON
STATED MEETING NIGHTS

Official Call

The regular stated meeting of El Zagal Temple will be held on
Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 7pm
at El Zagal Shrine Center.

The purpose of this meeting is as follows:
To conduct any business properly brought before the chair.
Please wear your fez.

Attest William R Wedberg Jr. PP, Recorder

Yours in faith, Bruce Ridgway, Potentate.



TUESDAY BURGER UNIT SCHEDULE

5:30PM - 7PM

JULY 7, 2026 MISFITS
JULY 14, 2026 EMP
JULY 21, 2026 DIRECTOR'S STAFF
JULY 28, 2026 PROVOST
AUGUST 4, 2026 ARAB PATROL
AUGUST 11, 2026 NO BURGERS
AUGUST 18, 2026 MISFITS
AUGUST 25, 2026 EMP

El Zagal Camel Tales

Published monthly for
El Zagal Temple,
Shriners International
1429 3rd St N
Fargo, ND 58102
email: info@elzagal.org
www.ElZagal.org

Office Manager

Andrea Kallstrom
Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Temple Office / 701-235-7521
Temple Fax / 701-235-7522

DIVAN OFFICERS Elective

Bruce H Ridgway.....Potentate
Mark Kennard.....Chief Rabban
Shane Heiberg.....Asst Rabban
Casey Schoer.....High Priest & Prophet
Tim Dawson.....Oriental Guide
Bob Wedberg Jr. PP, PGM.....Recorder
Jason "Rocky" Rockswold PP.....Treasurer

Appointive

Colin Wegenast.....1st Ceremonial Master
Joel Swanson.....2nd Ceremonial Master
Blake "Ringo" Wrigley PP.....Director
Mark Grothe.....Chief of Staff
Nathan Hopper.....Membership Chair
David Rott, PP.....Parliamentarian

Membership

Nathan Hopper 720-938-8198
nathan.a.hopper@gmail.com

HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVES

Ken Leggate.....Dickinson	701-483-1681
Garret Njos.....Bismarck	701-426-3557
Paul Witthauer.....Jamestown	701-320-5433
Lonnie Stippich.....Hettinger	701-567-2664
Dean Anderson.....Gwinner	701-678-2695
Gary Grindall.....Detroit Lakes	218-234-0821
Jim Hildebrant.....Valley City	701-840-1056

CAMEL TALES DEADLINE 18TH OF THE MONTH BEFORE PUBLICATION

CamelTales Email
cameltales@elzagal.org

Editor

Daniel Fife

Publisher/Creative Editor
J&M Companies

GRAND MASTER

Greetings, Nobles:

I have just returned from the 137th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons of North Dakota. I am humbled to have been elected your Grand Master for the 2026-27 year.

It was an honor to have Potentate Bruce and Lady Kim from El Zagal Temple, Potentate Geoff and Lady Michelle from Kem Temple, and Imperial Sir Matt in attendance. It was great to see so many familiar faces at this Communication.

I look forward to serving you in the coming year and have an active agenda I hope to promote. Its priorities include membership; empowering our younger members to become involved; marketing; community recognition; a review of the bylaws; and the revival of district meetings and schools of instruction. In upcoming editions



of Camel Tales, I will expand on each of these initiatives.

I also attended the El Zagal Spring Ceremonial in Jamestown. It was another stellar presentation by the Nobles of the Jamestown area. With all the shenanigans taking place, one of the most popular moments appeared to be the renaming of my dachshund by Illustrious Sir Bruce. It seems we disagreed about the proper way to prepare a ribeye.

It is a privilege to be a Shriner and to serve children in need. Remember, the road to becoming a Shriner begins with becoming a Mason. Please remember your Blue Lodge and support it with your presence and talents.

Respectfully,

Bob Simmers

Grand Master

Grand Lodge of North Dakota A.F.&A.M.



FEB
12-14

AUG
12-15

MSA 2026: Grand Forks Welcomes the 95th Annual MSA

Kem Shrine is excited to host the 95th annual MSA 2026 in Grand Forks, North Dakota. The summer session will bring Shriners, ladies, families, and the public together for fellowship, local tours, marketplace opportunities, competitions, and Shrine parades throughout the Grand Forks area.

- Summer session dates: August 12-15, 2026.
- Highlights include the Welcome Party, golf tournament, Shriner's Marketplace, tours, Shrine A Rama, and Shrine parade activities.
- Registration is coordinated through each temple registrar, with registrations due to Kem by June 12, 2026.

Learn more: msa2026.org



DIRECTOR'S STAFF

Summer is here, bringing a brief reprieve from the hectic schedule we generally keep. Although our schedule is lighter than at other times of the year, we still have plenty going on.

As I write this, the Director's Staff competition team is hard at work preparing for the Midwest Shrine Association (MSA) competition. Our routine is nearly complete, and the maneuvers are coming together. I am pleased to report that we are much further along at this point than usual. As always, we hope to bring home a trophy.

Meanwhile, parade season is underway. The Director's Staff represented El Zagal in the Shrine Bowl Parade in Mayville, N.D., on Thursday, June 18. I was especially grateful for the beautiful weather after a week of wind and showers.

I'll leave you with a quote attributed to James Dent: "A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken."

Have a great summer!

Cheers,

Cal Braun

REDNECKS

Here we are—it's July, and the summer keeps rolling on!

The Rednecks had a blast in Jamestown. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making it such a great event, and an even bigger thank-you to Ken and Kristen for all the hard work that went into making it happen. Once you've had a chance to rest up, I'll be giving you a call for some tips, pointers, and advice!

Unfortunately, I don't think any of the Rednecks will be making the trip to the Shrine Bowl this year due to prior commitments here in Mercer County. We know it will be another great year supporting an outstanding cause.

After we grind our way through July and our Mercer County Fair Parade, we'll start getting a few mini-bikes ready for MSA. Just a fair warning, there will be two Rednecks attending this year, accompanied by their lovely ladies!

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

We'll see you down the road.

Waylon



Nightly Specials

Monday Night Football:

Bucket of 6 domestic beers \$17
(Busch Light, Bud, Bud Light, Coors, Coors Light, Ultra, Miller Lite).

Tuesday: Burger Night

Burger basket with fries \$11. (some sides extra)
Add: +\$2 for a domestic beer or \$2.75 for a premium beer.

Wednesdays: BOGO drink

Buy one and the next is on us!
(Limit one BOGO per person/per night)

Thursdays: Shriner appreciation night.

Happy hour pricing all night for Shriners and their Ladies.

Fridays: Free bar BINGO

Play at 6pm, 7pm, 8pm, and 9pm.
Win free drinks and bar swag.



Todd Reamann

Financial Representative
Principal Securities Registered Representative
Financial Advisor
Member-Principal® Financial Network

200 E Main Ave Suite 204 | Bismarck, ND 58501
D (701) 751-2389 | F (866) 893-3844 | C (701) 425-1095
reamann.todd@principal.com
www.principal.com/dakotas

EL ZAGAL SHRINE PRESENTS
NASHVILLE GETAWAY 2026
November 12-15, 2026

Join Bruce and Kim to explore the sights and sounds of Music City! Stroll the world-famous Broadway strip, enjoy incredible food, live music everywhere, and even spend an evening at the legendary Grand Ole Opry if you choose. Come experience Nashville your way — with great people and unforgettable memories.

YOUR 4-DAY JOURNEY INCLUDES:

- ✓ 3 nights accommodations (with Wi-Fi)
- ✓ Hotel just 5-minute walk to Broadway
- ✓ Hosted "Welcome" Cocktail Reception
- ✓ Breakfast daily
- ✓ Hop-On Hop-Off Trolley Ticket

Experiences

- *Speakeasy secrets tour OR dive bar tour (choose ONE)
- *Grand ole Opry show - optional add on

\$895 per person
Based on double occupancy
Single occupancy: \$1,435

RESERVE YOUR SPOT

- ✓ \$200 deposit per person guarantees your place on this fabulous trip
- Spots are expected to sell out — don't wait!

*Airfare not included
*Airfare can be arranged through Star & Compass or on your own

CONTACT STAR & COMPASS:
micki@starandcompass.com
408-482-9023

STAR & COMPASS TRAVEL
Group Travel for the Masonic Family

Get-On-Board

with Fargo Shriners and host Shaun Engelsrud!



2026 WALLEYE CONNECTION: Thursday JULY 16 to Sunday JULY 19



Departure site: FARGO, ND

Destination: Ballard's Resort on Minnesota's Lake of the Woods

Per Person Package Includes:

Round trip motorcoach transportation...Three nights lodging...Two days guided walleye fishing...Eight meals...Rods...Reels...Bait...Tackle...Ice...Fish processing...All taxes...

Special Rate = \$775 per person

REGISTRATION CLOSED

\$300 Deposit Saves Your Space

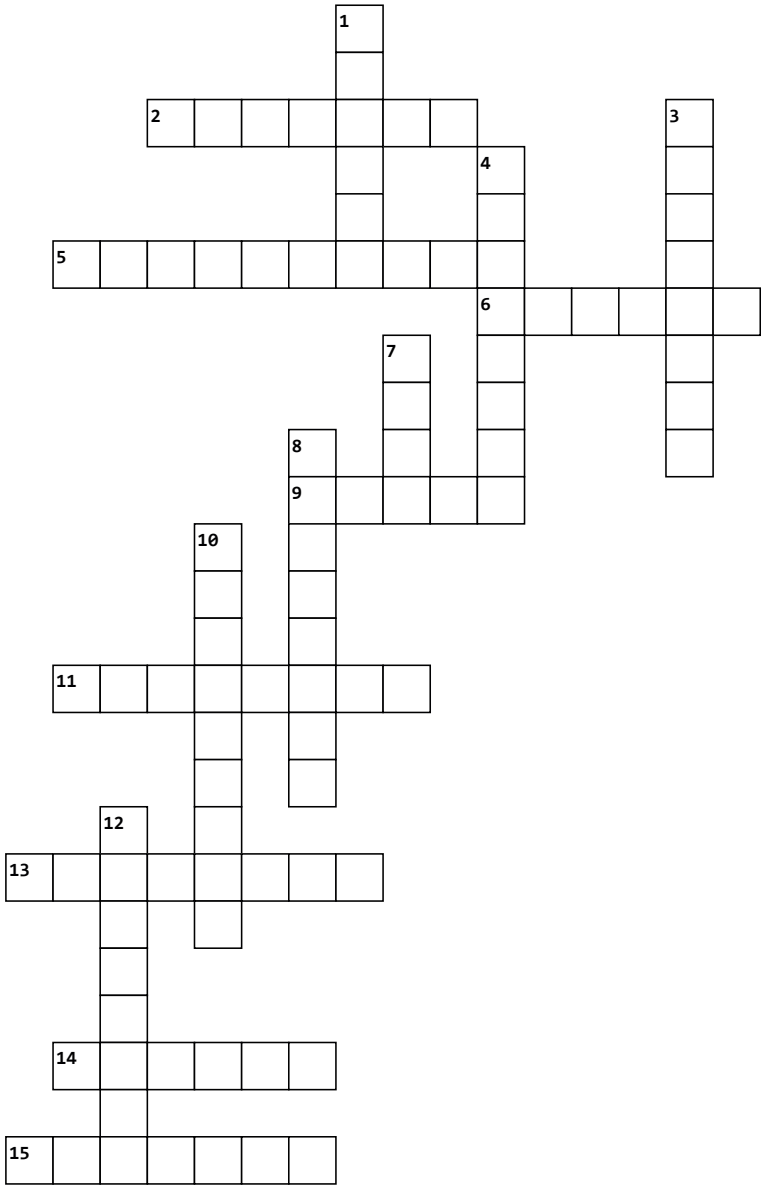
Registration Deadline MARCH 31



#218.634.1849



BallardsResort.com



Across

Down

2. Freedom represented by a famous statue

5. Juicy red picnic fruit

6. Season that includes July

9. Bird featured on the Great Seal

11. America's pastime played in warm weather

13. Handheld Fourth of July light

14. Outdoor meal on a blanket

15. Independence or personal liberty
1. Marching holiday celebration

3. Backyard summer cookout

4. Bright summer weather

7. Patriotic banner with stars and stripes

8. Tart yellow summer drink

10. Colorful explosions in the night sky

12. Outdoor fire for roasting marshmallows



Your future is limitless.

Our offerings include Business Insurance, Employee Health & Benefits, Private Client Services and Retirement & Wealth.



thrivent

Here for your full financial journey.



Nathan Hopper
Financial Advisor
720-938-8198

Advice | Investments | Insurance | Banking | Generosity

28304A R4-23

We FIX Parking Lots

www.jbsurfacesfargo.com

- Parking lot striping
- Asphalt patching / pot hole repair
- Crack sealing and repair
- Line and cure removal
- Handicap ADA signage
- Sealcoating and more

Jeff Brusseau, President
jeffb@jbsurfacesfargo.com
Office: (701) 282-0175



BRYCE ANDERSON & ASSOCIATES

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

- Tax Preparation & Planning
- Small Business Services
- Monthly Accounting Services
- Corporations - Partnerships
- Accounting
- Individuals - Non-Profits

293-7727

1461 Broadway Ste. 103 • Fargo, ND 58102

Submissions:



- ✓ Submissions should all be sent to cameltales@elzagal.org. Please include accurate information, including all names and locations of those in the photos.
- ✓ Submission deadline for Camel Tales is the 18th of each month prior.
- ✓ Submissions for the EZ in a Minute may be made anytime. Please allow one week for publication
- ✓ Photos should be of high quality .jpg, .gif, or .pdf. Please, no photos of photos.

JAMESTOWN CLOWNS

Hello, Nobles and Ladies,

Ceremonial is over, and it was another success in Jamestown. The parade was well attended, and Ringo's appearance in the baby buggy drew comments all day, including: "That baby buggy baby sure is an ugly one!"

Ken Grenz and his Lady did an outstanding job. They put the right people in the right roles, and the weekend was fabulous.

Everyone who helped is greatly appreciated. The out-of-towners were left wondering: How does that crew in Jamestown do it?

Aaron Raap lined up the Corn Maze again. Thank you, Aaron. We hope you still read this!

Recent Events

The Shrine Bowl Parade was a great success, and the Perham parade was wonderful. We would have welcomed a larger turnout from the Clowns, but it was a good event.

The Clowns at the Rodeo on June 26 and 27 did a bang-up job. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Coming Up

- July 4: Sanborn
- July 18: Wimbledon. Floyd is in charge.
- July 19: Water Carnival. Richie has the details.
- July 25: Buffalo Days Parade in Jamestown. Rory has stepped up to coordinate.

Watch for emails with additional information about these events.

Once again, Tory ran a brisk meeting, only 59 minutes. By the time his reign is over, he will have us in line. Then we can get to work on a new president. The fun never ends for the Clowns.

Thanks for reading,
Weezer



STEVEN LARSON
BROKER - OWNER
Cell: 218-841-8533
E-Mail: slarson@arvig.net
www.atthelakes.com

COLDWELL BANKER
AT THE LAKES

BLAKE MELAND
CONCRETE & SKIDSTEER WORK

Blake Meland
Home: 218.863.6482
Cell: 218.770.8926

- Cement Work
- Driveways
- Sidewalks
- Retaining Walls
- Landscaping
- Beach Restoration
- Patios
- Rip-Rap
- Steps

28TH ANNUAL EL ZAGAL

BENEFITING Shriners Children's

JOIN US
Wednesday,
August 19th, 2026

OXBOW COUNTRY CLUB
Oxbow, ND

Charity Pro-Am Golf Tournament

GateWay CHEVROLET
HOLE IN ONE WINS!
CADILLAC LYRIQ

U-MOTORS
Win AN ATV

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

REGISTRATION ...	10:00-11:30
LUNCH	11:00
SHOTGUN START	12:00
DINNER	6:00-8:00
AWARDS PRESENTATION .	7:00

COST

FULL TEAM	(4) ..\$1,100
HALF TEAM	(2) ...\$600
SINGLE PLAYER. .	(1) ...\$375

HOLE SPONSORSHIP \$150

NERESON AUTOMOTIVE
"The Place With All The Cars"
LONGEST PUTT
\$250 Gift Certificate
Can be used at any Nereson Affiliate.

CHOICE WEALTH
LONGEST DRIVE
\$250 CASH

ABSOLUTE INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC
Your Absolute Solution
Closest to the PIN
\$250 CASH

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT GOLF@ELZAGAL.ORG

NERESON AUTOMOTIVE

Detroit Lakes
800.422.3317 • nereson.com

Brad Richards
cell 218.234.6358
brad@nereson.com

Shriner Friendly
Since 2005

Labby's
Grill & Bar

1100 19th Ave. N. Fargo ND 58102
701-478-LABS (5227) | dlab5@yahoo.com

WWW.LABBYS.COM

OLD BASTARD'S FISHING TRIP

Ballard's Resort
JULY 16TH - 19TH



JULY 12-16, 2026
imperialsession.com

Imperial Potentate Brad T. Koehn and First Lady Cheryl and the 2026 Imperial Session Committee look forward to welcoming you to Tampa, Florida, for the 152nd Imperial Session of Shriners International.

Where:
Tampa Convention Center
333 S. Franklin St.
Tampa, FL 33602

When:
July 12-16, 2026

Be Part of the Fun and Fellowship of Imperial Session in Tampa!

Welcome to the official website for the 2026 Imperial Session in Tampa, Florida. Check our site often for updates on the schedule of events, All Nobility Evening, Ladies Luncheon, Marketplace, Shriners Zone, Parade and more.

Tampa is known for its vibrant culture, beautiful waterfront and diverse attractions. The area also boasts stunning beaches, the scenic Tampa Riverwalk and historic Ybor City.

At the 2026 Imperial Session, nobles, spouses and families from around the world will gather together to celebrate our great fraternity. We hope you can join us for the fun and fellowship!

Imperial Session 2026

INTRODUCING THE *Shriners Official Store!*



Show Your Fraternal Pride.

Shop the Shriners International Official Store.

We're excited to invite you to explore the new [Shriners International Official Online Store](https://shrinersofficialstore.com) — your trusted source for official merchandise designed exclusively for our members.

The store features apparel and hats designed to celebrate our shared values and traditions, all in one convenient place. Every purchase directly supports the fraternity and its members.

Enjoy 10% Off Your Order

Use code **OFFICIALSTORE10** at checkout

Valid now through June 7

Shopping for Imperial Session?

Whether you're traveling from abroad or simply want a smoother experience, make it easier by ordering in advance and pick up onsite in Tampa, Florida.

Place your order online and select pickup at Imperial Session in the Shriners Zone. Your items will be shipped to Shriners International Headquarters and ready for you when you arrive — no shipping concerns and no international delivery challenges.

[Start shopping today](#) and represent Shriners International with pride.

Imperial Session Pickup Details

Orders must be placed by June 7 to qualify for onsite pickup. Enter Shriners International Headquarters as your shipping address for convenient pickup during Imperial Session in the Shriners Zone at the Tampa Convention Center, helping avoid international shipping delays, duties or tariffs where applicable.

Enter the following in the "ship to" field:

Name: Your name

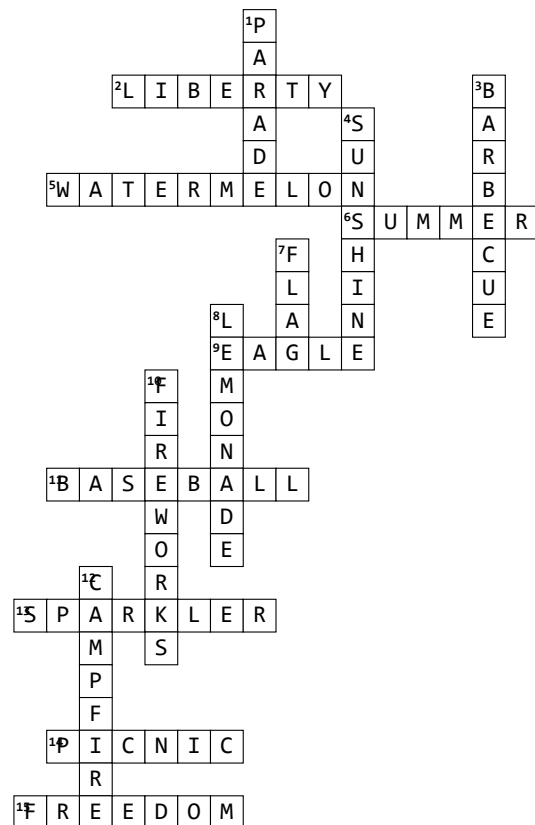
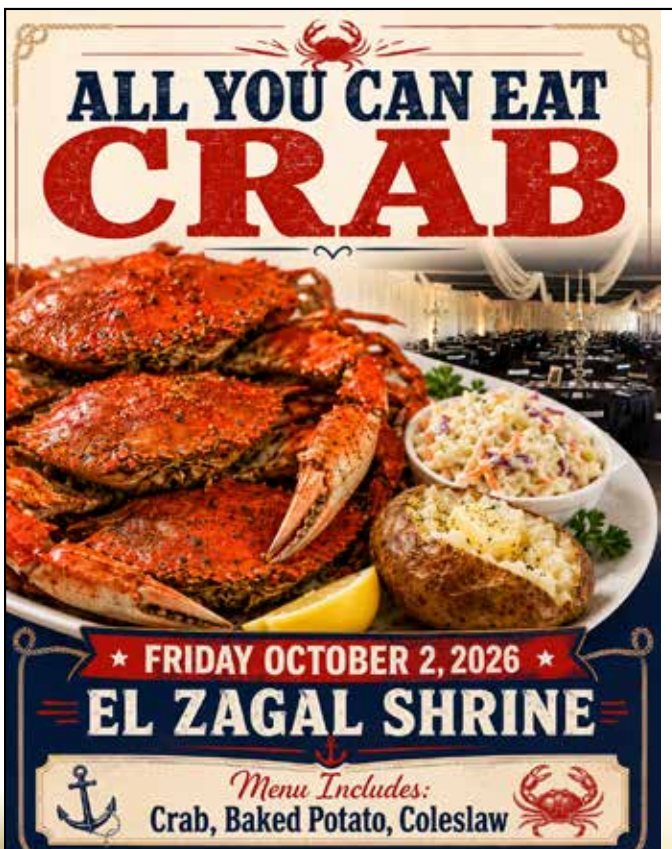
Company: Shriners Headquarters - DaSha Landry

2900 Rocky Point Drive

Tampa, FL 33607

Phone: Your phone number

Email: Your email



UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 2026

- August 4 Tuesday Burgers
- August 8 Mystics 7th Annual Fishing for a Cause
- August 11 Stated Meeting & No Burgers
- August 12 Corn Feed
- August 12-15 MSA
- August 18 Tuesday Burgers
- August 19 ProAm
- August 25 Tuesday Burgers



J&M
PRINTING
SINCE 1964

Printing | Variable Data
Creative | Direct Mail
Promotional | Large Displays

Rich Maras
Regional VP of Sales

rmaras@jprint.net
O: 701.476.0311
C: 701.730.1623

4666 S. Amber Valley Pkwy
Fargo, ND 58104
jprint.net



Call or visit our website for a FREE QUOTE

EL ZAGAL TEMPLE
1429 3rd St N
Fargo, ND 58102

Return Service Requested

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Fargo, ND 58102
Permit No. 122

JULY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	Tuesday Burgers	8	9	10	11
12 Imperial Session	13 Imperial Session	14 Imperial Session Tuesday Burgers	15 Imperial Session	16 Imperial Session	17	18
19	20	Tuesday Burgers	22	23	24	25
26	27	Tuesday Burgers	29	30	31	



Mike Hennebry
Senior Mortgage Loan Officer
NMLS# 1584104

5181 38th Street South
Fargo, ND 58104

Office: 701-356-1722
Cell: 701-238-3573

mike.hennebry@townandcountry.org
townandcountry.org | (800) 872-4358





Blake H. Wrigley
Keith D. Lingle

4102 15th Ave. NE, Box 1516
Fargo, North Dakota 58107-1516
bwrigley@wrigleymechanical.com

(701) 277-8570
Fax (701) 277-8573
www.wrigleymechanical.com

Certified for:
ASME "S" "U" "PP"
National Board "R"



HANSON RUNSVOLD
Cremation • Burial

701.232.3222 215 7th ST. S., FARGO, ND 58102



ALEX RYDELL
OWNER AND
LICENSED FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Eastern Star website -
www.northdakotaoes.org
Scottish Rite Language Center -
www.ritecarefargo.org
Fargo Masonic Website -
<http://www.fargomasoniccenter.org/>
North Dakota Grand Lodge -
<http://ndmasons.com/>
Minnesota Grand Lodge -
<http://mnfreemasons.org/grand-lodge/>



SirSpeedy

SIGNS • PRINT • MARKETING

701-298-9898
www.sirspeedyfargo.com

Premier Charter Service
2139 100th Ave. N
Moorhead, Minnesota 56560

Phone: (218) 233-3404



RICHARDS
TRANSPORTATION SERVICE
Fax: (218) 233-5769

