



Doris Conitz Gilligan

Mother left us on December 14, 2025, with her children, Mark and Terri, by her side.

She was born Doris Conitz on May 2, 1933, in Blue Grass, North Dakota, to George and Alma (Becker) Conitz. She grew up alongside her brothers, Myron and Gordon, attending the local country school through the eighth grade, then graduated high school from New Salem High School. She later continued her education at Dickinson College, where she played the saxophone in the marching band. After earning her degree in Journalism, she began her career in Bismarck, North Dakota, working for the Tax Department and later for Standard Oil Company.

In the early 1950s, Doris was selected to become a stewardess for Frontier Airlines, a role that brought her to Billings, Montana. While bowling in Billings, she met Frank Pratt, whom she married in 1955. Together they raised their children, Terri and Mark.

She worked for Kurth, Conner, Jones, Ryan & Davidson Law Offices before joining the Montana State University Extension Office, where she remained until her retirement in 2005. She was a dedicated, hard working woman who took pride in every job she held.

Outside of work, Doris was an avid bowler

throughout her life and was inducted into the Montana USBC Hall of Fame in 1991. She also found joy in ballroom dancing and playing bridge. She enjoyed participating in the competitions of both of these hobbies. Travel was another of her great pleasures. Over the years she explored Germany, Japan, Thailand, Spain, and many other destinations. She also made countless trips to Texas to visit her daughter and grandchildren as they were growing up. She loved gardening with Terri and treasured her trips to Oregon and Washington to visit Mark on his fishing boat. Nothing delighted her more than visits from her grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great grandchildren, who traveled from Alaska and Texas to spend time with her.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents, George and Alma; her brothers, Myron (Evelyn) Conitz and Gordon Conitz; her nephews, Clifford and Greg Conitz Sr.; and her grandson, Drew Rector Sr.

She is survived by her children, Mark and Terri; her granddaughter, Terez; her grandson, Travis (Clover) Lowery and their children; and her great grandson, Drew Rector Jr. She leaves behind a family who adored her and will carry her memory forward with love.

Doris lived a life defined by hard work, grace, and devotion to her family. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

She will be laid to rest on Sunday, July 19, 2026 at 1:30 pm at Graceland Cemetery in New Salem, North Dakota. A luncheon will be provided prior to the memorial at Peace Lutheran Church at 11:30 am.

Ministerial Moments

Fr. Stephen Folorunso

Catholic Church of St. Pius V.

God is Spirit. He does not live in buildings. Though, there are Places of worship dedicated to Him. But in reality, He is everywhere. In the Old Testament we read about God giving precise instructions to the Israelites to set aside a specific place where they would worship him. In the beginning, while they wandering the wilderness on their journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, it was a tent (tabernacle). Later on, when they settled down in the Land God gave them clear instructions and specific guideline of how a Temple should be built and how it should serve or set aside exclusively for prayers.... This is, worship, including sacrifice. In the course of time, people began to use the Temple as a place not only for prayers but for "commerce", buying and selling of goods, for currency exchange what

we now call "foreign exchange" today and so on. The excuse might have been that the things traded would be used for sacrifice and prayers. We know how Jesus was not impressed about this and we see for once Jesus being angry and drove them out. In the New Testament, Jesus instructs us to worship God the Father in Spirit and Truth, He encourages us to make our body the Temple of the Holy Spirit. He did not negate the church as place of worship rather; He ask us to see God in each other and cares for one another as He care for us. He invites us to make our Bodies His Temple.

As we continue to worship God in Spirit and in Truth in our respective churches, let us pray that the Lord will answer our prayers wherever and whenever we call upon him and grant us the Grace to love and serve one another as He has loved us. We are His People; We are His Temple.

MORTON COUNTY Golden Age Menu

THURSDAY JUNE 25

Meatloaf or Liver & Onions, Baked Potato, Garden Blend Vegetables, Tropical Fruit

FRIDAY JUNE 26

Hickory Smoked BBQ Pulled Pork, Roasted Sweet Potato, Coleslaw, Pears, Cornbread

MONDAY JUNE 29

Beef Tips & Mushroom Gravy, Onion Mashed Potatoes, Buttered Peas, Apricots

TUESDAY JUNE 30

Baked Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Apple-sauce

WEDNESDAY JULY 1

Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Country Gravy, Green Beans, Pineapple

Call 701.663.6528 to have meals delivered to you if you are 60 or older

Tell them you saw it in the Morton County News Journal!

Event Calendar

July Western Plains Public Health Clinics

1 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 am-11:00 am. Call 667-3370 for appointment

6 Immunizations at Wester Plains Public Health, Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment

8 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 am-11:00 am. Call 667-3370 for appointment

9 Footcare at Hebron Senior Center 8:30 am-11:30 am. Call 701-622-3591 for appointment

9 Footcare at Glen Ulin Senior Center 12:30 pm-1:30 pm. Call 701-622-3591 for appointment

13 Immunizations at Wester Plains Public Health, Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment

15 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 am-11:00 am. Call 667-3370 for appointment

15 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Library Square, Mandan 1:00 pm- 2:30 pm Call 667-3370 for appointment

20 Immunizations at Wester Plains Public Health, Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment

21 Footcare and Blood Pressure for Seniors 60 and older at Elm Crest Manor, New Salem. Call 667-3370 for appointment

22 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 am-11:00 am. Call 667-3370 for appointment

27 Immunizations at Wester Plains Public Health, Mandan. Call 667-3370 for appointment

29 Footcare and Blood Pressure at Mandan Senior Center 8:00 am-11:00 am. Call 667-3370 for appointment

June Western Plains Public Health Clinics

29 Immunizations at Western Plains Public Health in Mandan, 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Call 667-3370 for appointment

Morton County Fair Board Meeting

The Morton County Fair Board will meet on July 6, 2026 at 7:00pm central time at the New Salem Fire Hall in New Salem.

Post 261 Meeting

Legion Post #261 of Almont will be hosting their monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 1 at the Almont Legion Hall starting at 7 P.M. New and prospective members are welcome to attend.

New Salem Lions Burgers in the Park

The New Salem Lions Club will have a burgers in the park event on Thursday, June 25 weather permitting. The event will run from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Main Street Park.

New Salem Ambulance District Meeting

New Salem Ambulance District will have their preliminary budget meeting at 6:30 p.m., June 25, 2026, followed by Board meeting.

Everyone Swims at Raging Rivers

Everyone Swims is designed for special needs or differently abled children, adults, and their family members/guardians to enjoy Raging Rivers in a fun, welcoming, and inclusive environment. This summer's events will take place on June 25 and July 30 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Admission is \$6.00 per person. During this time, guests will have access to the kiddie pool, lazy river, tube slides, and bathhouse. Raging Rivers is located at 2600 46th Ave SE, Mandan.

New Salem Youth Meals

Youth Summer Meals available every Friday from 9-10am. Families can come to the south entrance of Peace Church and receive 7 meals each week for each child 18 and under throughout the summer. Parents or guardians will need to fill out a Parent Consent Form one time only.

Have a meeting notice? Email Us at mcjournal@gspublishing.net to have it featured in the community calendar!

BIDS WANTED

Minnesota Power, owner of Bison Wind Energy Center is seeking bids for an **agricultural lease** allowing the harvest and removal of hay resources from Gov't Lots 1-4 of Section 4 T140N R86W. Total harvest area is approximately 190 acres.

Invitation For Bid packages are available at 1101 N 8th Street, New Salem, ND

during the business hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Call Ben at 701-320-9268 (1) day ahead of time to schedule a pickup appointment. Completed bid packages are due by 4:00 p.m. central time Friday June 26th, 2026.

THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT PROJECT AND IS NOT SUBJECT TO PUBLIC BIDDING LAWS OR REGULATIONS.