

Obituaries

Marian Schmidt

April 26, 1937



egg money to purchase her cherished organ. Her passions included knitting, gardening, and baking. Marian was a dedicated member of the Sunnyslope Homemakers club for over 40 years and played the organ for church services at St. Matthews for many years. Together with Arnold, Marian enjoyed memorable bus tours, especially to Branson, MO, and Nashville, TN.

One of Marian’s greatest joys was her grandson, Trevor; she cherished their childhood sleepovers and delighted in watching him grow into a remarkable young man. Marian’s legacy of love and devotion will be remembered by her family and all who knew her.

She is survived by her sons, Warren Schmidt and Kendal (Michele) Schmidt; grandson, Trevor (fiancée Lauren) Schmidt; step-grandsons, Brendan and Connor; step-great grandsons, Kellan and Sullivan; sisters, Carolyn (Don) Nett, Sharlene Fredrich, Darlene Tomlinson, and Jolene Mann; sister-in-law, Marlene (Paul) Sorenson, Trudy Heaton; and many nieces and nephews.

Marian was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 43 years, Arnold and infant son Stuart; parents, Richard and Elviva Kostenko; brothers-in-law, Harold Newman, Tony Mann, Dennis Fredrich, and George Tomlinson; in-laws, Elmer and Marion Schmidt, Lorraine and Edgar Schmidt, and Gerald Schmidt.

She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all whose lives she touched.

Funeral arrangements are being made by Thompson Funeral Home, Garrison, ND.

Marian Schmidt, age 88, of Max, ND, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 30, 2026, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Max, ND. Burial will be held in the Spring at St. Matthew Cemetery, rural Max, ND.

Visitation will be held one hour prior to services on Friday.

Marian was born on April 26, 1937, the eldest of five daughters. The family moved to Max during her childhood, where Marian attended Max School and graduated in 1955. In April 1956, she married Arnold Schmidt, the love of her life, and together they built a beautiful life on the family farm.

Marian was a talented singer, having competed in and won numerous competitions during her high school years, even qualifying for State. She worked alongside her father at his implement store on Main Street and managed the books for the Max Development Corporation Lumber Yard. She was a devoted farm wife, raising small grains, sheep, cattle, and chickens with Arnold. Marian’s industrious nature shone through as she saved

Janet Bergquist

September 6, 1967 - January 24, 2026



Janet Kay Bergquist (Schlichting), 58, Wilton, passed away on Saturday, January 24, 2026.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 31, 2026, at Bismarck Funeral Home. There will be time for lunch and fellowship at 1:00 p.m. at the Wilton Memorial Hall, 105 Dakota Ave, Wilton, ND. Burial will be in the spring.

Visitation will be held Friday, Jan. 30, 2026, from 5:30-7 p.m. at Bismarck Funeral Home, with a Prayer Service at 7 p.m.. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service on Saturday.

Janet was born September 6, 1967, in Garrison, ND to James and Ruby Schlichting, youngest of 5. She was raised and educated in Garrison, gradu-

ated in 1985 and then continued education at Bismarck State College, receiving a business degree in 1987. In 1995 she started her career at UPS as an IT tech working there for 29 years before retiring in 2024.

Janet married Bruce Bergquist “the love of her life” on June 16, 2001, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Wilton, ND. They made their home on a farm north of Wilton where together they ranched with her cattle, horses, cats, and dogs. Janet did many things on the farm, but her favorite was mowing lawn, as she really enjoyed having a well-manicured lawn.

In 2006, Janet and Bruce welcomed their first child, Garrett, and in 2008 they welcomed their second son, William. Janet adored her boys and treasured time spent together, whether it was trips to the movies in Garrison, visiting cousins in Missouri, or cheering at Timberwolves games. Janet and Bruce enjoyed spending time together trail riding and traveling with friends, creating many special memories, including vacations to Cancun. As the boys grew older, Janet was their biggest supporter, proudly cheering them on in basketball, FFA, 4-H, and archery. As a family, they also loved going camping, making lasting memories together at New Johns Lake. Family traditions were

especially important to Janet, and one favorite was making homemade pizza together for birthdays and holidays.

Janet will be deeply missed by her loving family and husband of 24 years, Bruce; sons, Garrett and William Bergquist; her parents, James and Ruby Schlichting; siblings, Laurie (Bud) Fliginger, Paul (Lenore) Schlichting, David (Lisa) Schlichting; sister-in-law, Bellinda Schlichting; mother-in-law, Beverly Bergquist; in-laws, Brenda Schlecht, Brian (Nanette) Bergquist, Beth Teiken; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Mike Schlichting; father-in-law, Robert Bergquist; and grandparents.

Thank you to all our dear family and friends for your unwavering support and love during this difficult time. We are also grateful to the incredible staff at Sanford, especially her nurse, Naomi, for her compassionate care and kindness.

In lieu of flowers, in memory of Janet, please make memorials to donor’s choice.

A livestream of the services will be posted to her online obituary where you can sign the online guestbook and share memories with her family at www.bismarckfuneralhome.com.

SCHOOL continued from page 3

This is only the southern portion of the old part of the building. Elementary Principal Shelly Fuller reported for High School Principal Steve Dangel and herself. She said that both campuses are finishing up testing. Student engagement surveys are planned for February.

“We are also working on the schedule for the upcoming year,” she said. “Its earlier this year because of the Infinite Campus switch. That has been a giant undertaking and lots of meetings that we’re having biweekly and just a ton of work, but it will be great. It’ll be fine. And we are excited for that.”

“Activities are also in full swing, and we really appreciate the help of our drivers,” she said.

The school calendar for the 2026-2027 school year is finalized.

At their recent meeting, the board approved the calendar at this earlier time due to the Power School – Infinite Campus

changeover.

Dates of note: First day of school is Tuesday, Aug. 18. Christmas break is Dec. 18 – Jan. 4, 2027. The last day of school is May 19. Graduation is Sunday, May 21.

In other matters at the Wednesday, Jan. 21 meeting the board:

*Approved the resignation of music instructor Colleen Urlaub, effective immediately. She served the district for two years.

*OK’d June 9 as the date for the school board election. This is in conjunction with the state primary election. Terms are up for Lisa Maki and Julie Retterath. Hours will be 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. at the high school lobby.

Set the next board meeting for Monday, Feb. 23 at 6 p.m.

Attending the meeting was: Board President Rodger Affeldt, Chris Seidler, Julie Retterath (by phone), Lucas Dusek, John Kallberg, John Crawford and Lisa Maki (by phone).

Home Rule Charter is on its way to Coleharbor

BY TYSON MATTHEWS
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The January City Council meeting of Coleharbor was called to order Wednesday, Jan. 21, by Mayor Chris Holt, where the first reading of the Home Rule Charter ordinance was introduced.

City Attorney Mark Keffer discussed with the council the steps required to implement the tax.

After the second reading is approved, the ordinance will be published on the ND State Website for an additional 60 days before the tax can be implemented.

“We’ve talked about the 1.5 percent sales tax so I’m assuming you’d like to go forward with that,” Keffer said. “But then what about the use tax, the farm machinery tax and alcoholic beverage tax.”

Holt opened the discussion.

“My opinion is we only have two farmers in town,” he said while addressing the farm machinery tax. We don’t need to have that. My suggestion would be to keep alcohol sales tax at 1.5 percent.”

Sale tax, use tax and gross receipt of alcohol beverages will be set at 1.5 percent. This includes online sales.

Keffer said that Coleharbor won’t start receiving the tax revenue until the third quarter.

“I think that a year or so after we start receiving the tax, we should review it and see where we are sitting and decide if that’s enough or if it’s too much,” Council member Justin Pochant said.

The review will happen in September 2027.

The first reading was approved unanimously.

The city of Coleharbor passed a motion to add the Home Rule

Charter tax during a special election on July 29.

The city council hopes these taxes will offset the cost of projects to improve Coleharbor.

In other Coleharbor City Council news:

-Wolf Creek Winery has been granted a Class 1 license for on- and off-sale.

The license allows the winery to bring in alcohol for private events in addition to the wine they serve currently.

-There is a Coleharbor City Maintenance Worker position open. Watch the newspaper for application details.

-The council plans to work on an ordinance addressing semi-trucks using jake-brakes while passing through Coleharbor on Highway 83. Additional research will be done to determine whether it will fall into city or state authority.

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