

Obituary

Leslie Arthur Larson

October 31, 1942 - April 15, 2026



at age 80.

He was preceded in death by his father, LeRoy Larson; mother, Janet Larson; grandson, Drew Wold; and brother, Ronald.

He is survived by his wife, Nicole; daughters, Jennifer Gerard and Regan Hill; stepchildren, Tracy Wold and Jody Shafer; grandchildren, Devin Larson, Jesse Gerard, Lynn Wold, Derek Wold, Isaac Hill, Olivia Hill, Emma Hill, Aarika Cooley, Dustin Shafer and Kasey Holden; 4 great-grandchildren, David Damm, Jimmy Cooley, Emma Shafer and Ryker Shafer; and 7 brothers and sisters, Dewey (Linda), Larry, Bruce (Sharon), Elwood (Jennifer), Dean (Marcie), Janis (Greg), and Julie.

A funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at McVillage Lutheran Church, McVillage, ND.

Burial will be at the Valley Grove Cemetery, rural Klotten, ND.

Arrangements by Stanley-Iverson Funeral Home, McVillage, ND.

Leslie Arthur Larson, 83, Garrison, ND, passed away at his home on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Leslie was born on October 31, 1942. He was raised in rural North Dakota and farmed as a teenager with relatives. He graduated from Klotten High School in 1960. He joined the Air Force on January 22, 1963 and was Honorably Discharged on February 1, 1966. He graduated from NDSU in 1972. He was a big Bison fan "Go Bison!", and also loved watching the Minnesota Vikings, uff-da! He worked for McLean Electric in Garrison for 30 years, retiring



Garrison FCCLA members **Triniti Klinker**, **Leeann McGee** and **Kaia Radke** competed at the State Leadership Contest in Bismarck last week. (Photo by Abigail Peterson)

Silver, Bronze for GHS FCCLA

BY TYSON MATTHEWS
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Garrison High School's Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America members attended the State Leadership Contest in Bismarck last week. "They competed in their STAR events, made lasting connections, memories, tried out new experiences, and were recognized as a reinstated chapter," FCCLA Advisor Abigail Peterson said.

son said.

Kaia Radke and Triniti Klinker received a silver for their Professional Presentation "AI Against the Creatives"

Leeann McGee received a bronze in her Repurpose and Redesign project called "The Jean Journey."

"We are so proud of these students for trying something new this year," Peterson said. "We can't wait to see what FCCLA holds in the future."

County commission hears road updates, approves permits

Crack sealing, telecom permit discussed at March 3 meeting

BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

The McLean County Commission addressed road conditions, county finances and routine business during its regular meeting held Tuesday, March 3, at the McLean County Courthouse.

According to the meeting minutes published in the McLean County Independent on April 16, Chairperson Curt Olson called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. with Commissioners Steve Cottingham and Steve Lee present.

Commissioners approved minutes from the Feb. 3 and Feb. 18 meetings before turning to department updates. Road Superintendent Jim Grey reported that crack sealing had begun on County Road 41 and said he and Assistant Road Superintendent Travis Verke recently completed training on the John Deere Operations Center, a webbased system that will allow the county to better track equipment use and maintenance.

Grey also indicated plans to hold another used equipment

sale later this year, with additional information to be brought to the commission at a later date. At the request of Commissioner Lee, Grey provided an update on road conditions and recommended keeping current road restrictions in place.

The commission approved a permit for West River Telecommunications to install fiber cable facilities along the south side of McLean County Road 20 to serve a residence at 404 Nineth Ave., Southwest.

Knutson also addressed questions and complaints related to property tax discount deadlines, explaining that state law requires property taxes to be paid on or before Feb. 15 each year. Although McLean County tax statements listed a due date of Feb. 17 for 2025 real estate taxes, postmarks were used to determine eligibility for discounts on payments received after that date.

The commission approved the McLean County Auditor's year-end general fund transfer resolution, authorizing several

transfers to align revenue accounts. Transfers included funding for the School Resource Officer, Veterans Services, Disaster Emergency Fund, County Agent and Suicide Safety FollowUp Network (SSFNT) Officer.

Additional financial actions included approval of transfer resolutions for the Dakota Central Human Service Zone and the county's sweep account, acceptance of TruCommunity Bank's pledge of securities, and approval of certified township general fund balances.

The commission also approved a letter outlining the county's proposed use of opioid settlement funds, reappointed Cottingham to the Mercer-McLean Library Board for a three-year term, and approved a local raffle permit for McLean County Racers Inc. to hold 50/50 drawings and raffles at the McLean County Speedway.

Monthly fee collection reports were received from the recorder's office and the sheriff's department, and commissioners approved payment of vouchers.

McLean County Sheriff's - Calls of Service

COMPILED BY KELLI AMELING
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Jan. 25

Deputies responded to a motor vehicle crash at about 8:15 p.m. in the 600 block of Son of Star Avenue near White Shield. A case file was created in the incident.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 11:30 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound near mile marker 130 for speeding. A 20-year-old male of Montrose, Colorado, was cited for speeding.

Jan. 26

Deputies responded to a motor vehicle crash at about 11:30 a.m. in the 2000 block of 23rd Avenue Northwest. It was reported a vehicle with two people crashed into a ditch and hit a pole. It was noted the vehicle went through a couple of fence lines and was not operable. No injuries were reported and the landowner was contacted.

Jan. 27

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 10:30 a.m. on U.S. Highway 82 Northbound near mile marker 120 for window tint. During the stop, deputies could smell marijuana, in which a search of the vehicle was performed. During the search a small blunt was found. Monte Rooks, 22, of Eastpointe, Michigan, was arrested for driving under suspension.

Deputies responded at about 2:40 p.m. to the Cenex in Wilton for a gas drive off. The driver of the vehicle was contacted.

Deputies responded at about 2 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near Coleharbor on a report of a Traffic Hazard. It was reported a traffic sign looked to be knocked down. A short time later, dispatch received a call stating someone had been in a crash admitting to hitting a stop sign. Deputies made contact with the driver and a temporary sign was placed by the department of

transportation.

Deputies responded at about 6 p.m. to Frontage Road in Coleharbor for a fire call. It was reported there was a fire under a semi on the road. Firefighters handled the scene.

Jan. 28

Deputies responded at about 7:20 a.m. about 4 miles south of Washburn for a motorist assist. The driver stated they hit something in the road the car was disabled.

Deputies responded at about 8:30 a.m. to the city of Wilton about a parking problem. Deputies noted separate issues including a vehicle parked 4 feet from the curb. Deputies will attempt to contact the owners.

Deputies responded at about 1 p.m. in Wilton for a welfare check. A caller stated they would like a welfare check on their daughter as she had not been heard from and she was pregnant. Deputies made contact with a neighbor who said she did not live at the address anymore.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 5:15 p.m. on Seventh Street in Washburn for expired registration. A 35-year-old male of Bismarck was cited for failing to display front plates.

Jan. 29

Deputies responded at about 8:30 a.m. in Washburn for a parking violation. Deputies noted three vehicles had been parked for more than 48 hours.

Deputies responded at about 1 p.m. to the Wilton RV Park for a report of a theft. According to the city of Wilton, a man was parked at the RV park and left without paying. Deputies looked into it.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 7:15 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound near mile marker 114. Marissa Hidalgo, 26, of Bismarck, was arrested for criminal warrants.

Jan. 30

Deputies responded at about

9 a.m. to the 100 block of Fifth Avenue in Garrison for parking complaints.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 1:20 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 Northbound near mile marker 142. A 19-year-old male of Bottineau, was cited for speeding and given a verbal warning for obstructed plates.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 2 p.m. on N.D. Highway 41 northbound near mile marker 6 for speeding. An 18-year-old female of Upham, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 3 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 southbound near mile marker 126. A 22-year-old male, of Stanton, was cited for failing to display current tabs.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 3:30 p.m. on N.D. Highway 37 eastbound near mile marker 51. A 58-year-old male, of Garrison, was cited for expired tabs.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 5:45 p.m. U.S. Highway 83 southbound near mile marker 140. A 76-year-old male, of Bismarck, cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 7 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 southbound near mile marker 140. A 47-year-old male, of Bismarck, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 8:15 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 southbound near mile marker 139. A 43-year-old male, of Bismarck, was cited for expired registration.

Jan. 31

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 4:20 p.m. on N.D. Highway 37 near mile marker 45. A 49-year-old male, of Minot, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 5:30 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 in Underwood. A 30-year-old male, of Minot, was cited for speeding.

Abbey Pelton, DNP

She's right here.



COAL COUNTRY COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTER