

# Obituary



## Richard Erdmann

Richard Erdmann, 77, of Baldwin, passed away peacefully at his home of natural causes on February 7, 2026.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 AM, on Friday, February 13, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 413 Bismarck Ave, Wilton, ND.

Visitation will be held from 5-7 PM, on Thursday, February 12, at Eastgate Funeral Service, 2302 E Divide Ave, Bismarck, ND.

Burial will be held at 3 PM, at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan, ND.

Richard was born on June 23, 1948, in Harvey, ND, to Cecil and Ida Erdmann. He was raised on the family farm north of Denhoff, ND where he learned the values of hard work and dedication that stayed with him throughout his life. He attended school in Denhoff and graduated from Goodrich High School.

Richard proudly served his country in the United States Army and was stationed in Germany. Following his honorable discharge, he returned home and married Lorraine Mullen, on May 14, 1972. Together, they built a life rooted in family and community.

Richard farmed for several

years near Denhoff before moving his family to the Bismarck-Mandan area in 1979. In 1985, he began a long and dedicated career with Northern Improvement. Starting as a field mechanic, Richard's strong work ethic and leadership led him to eventually retire as shop superintendent in 2014.

Following his retirement, Richard was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. With determination and strength, he battled and beat the disease after several years of treatment.

In his free time, Richard enjoyed yard work, gardening, woodworking, fishing, camping, and spending time on the pontoon. Above all else, his greatest joy was his family—especially attending his great-grandchildren's activities and cheering them on.

Richard is survived by his children, John (Patty) McClusky, Joe (Rebecca) Baldwin, and Ella (Walter) Uhlich, Bismarck; nine grandchildren; and fifteen great-grandchildren. He is also survived by brothers, Jerry (Sue), Steve (Vonnice), and Bill (Kim); sister-in-law, Aileen Erdmann; and stepdaughter, Donna (Scott) Fowler.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lorraine; parents, Cecil and Ida Erdmann; brother, Michael; and stepdaughter, Kimberly Zayzay.

Richard will be remembered for his quiet strength, devotion to family, and the steady presence he provided to those who knew and loved him.

To view more details, sign the online guestbook, share memories, and to view the service livestream, visit [www.eastgatefuneral.com](http://www.eastgatefuneral.com).

# Emergency responders conduct hazardous materials exercise in McClusky

**Information courtesy  
Emergency manager Delbert Hoffman**

On January 28, 2026, a tabletop emergency preparedness exercise was held at the McClusky Ambulance Bay to test local and regional response capabilities during a simulated hazardous materials incident.

The exercise brought together area first responders, city and county officials, medical, personal, local businesses, and representatives from multiple state agencies. Participants worked through a detailed scenario involving a hazardous material fire within the city of McClusky.

The scenario addressed a wide range of response chal-

lenges, including fire suppression, evacuation and shelter-in-place decisions, reunification plans, public warning systems, and traffic management through road closures and detours. Officials also evaluated how information would be shared with the public during such an incident.

According to organizers, the purpose of the exercise was to assess emergency planning and operational coordination among agencies, strengthen operational communications, and test public information and warning systems. The tabletop format allowed participants to discuss strategies, identify gaps, and reinforce

interagency cooperation in a controlled environment.

Exercises like this are a key part of ongoing efforts to ensure responders and government partners are prepared to protect public safety during emergencies involving hazardous materials.

The "CODE RED" notification system was recently updated for Sheridan County. If you would like to receive emergency notifications from the county, use the following link to sign up: <https://accountportal.onsolve.net/sheridancountynd> You can also call the Sheridan County Emergency Manager at (701) 363-2368 to sign up as well.

# Memory Lane

## 100 years ago

Forty businessmen and farmers of the community joined in the McClusky Commercial Club on Monday evening. This was the first big meeting of the club and the beginning of the drive for members.

P.A. Winter, chairman, was in charge of the meeting and spoke at length on the purpose of the club and a few of the things that could be accomplished for the community through the organization.

Now that the Commercial Club has members it will be able to conduct business and begin its proposed work in earnest in meetings to follow. A list of members of the club will appear in the next issue of the Gazette.

A luncheon was served following the adjournment of the meeting Monday Evening and the "Dakotans" local orchestra played several selections.

## Prophet Mountain News

A regular German blowout was given at the Christ Haux home last Monday evening when all the old timers met had a big time.

W.D. Frankhauser returned to Anamoose Tuesday after having completed business activities in this neighborhood.

Alice Shawstad and Mildred Saueressig spent the weekend in Denhoff visiting with Amelia Kandt.

Martin Okert spent the week with Ernest Baron repairing his car.

Mrs. John Markle spent the week at the Nordahl Lasher home taking care of Mrs. Lasher, who has been quite ill.

Several young folks of this vicinity were guests at a party at Fibelstad's last Friday evening.

Hugo Sauessig drove cross country to Anamoose with a load of hogs Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Baron and children were guests at Melom's Saturday evening.

## 75 years ago

A group of farmers from the Martin Area paid a visit to the county agent's office some time ago and one of the farmers was Albert Fiesel, who asked for plans for building a combination machine shed and farm shop.

Numerous experiments have been carried out to determine the value of a shelter for Machinery and the came up with the conclusion that it does not pay to house farm machinery, according to Banks H. Sieber, county extension agent.

There are indeterminate values such as better management, better appearance of the farmstead, and ease of making repairs during the slack or stormy season in favor of the machine shed or farm shop. Where a farm tractor is used during the winter months it would definitely pay to have it properly housed.

Parts for machinery are getting scarce in some cases due to the steel shortage; therefore, it is important that the farmers make their repairs now.

The American Legion Auxiliary of McClusky will hold a public auction of miscellaneous items at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, in the community room. This is the second year the Auxiliary has held a public auction.

The Legion Auxiliary, which is primarily a service organization, plans to use the proceeds from the sale for their many philanthropic projects. Rehabilitation and child welfare have always been major phases of the work.

This year the organization plans a generous donation to the community playground equipment program for the local park.

The organization sends a local girl to the annual American Legion auxiliary-sponsored Girls State. In addition,

they contribute to the Leonard Wood Memorial fund for research on Hansen's disease and the educational loan fund. They donate to most community sponsored drives such as Cancer research, March of dimes, Red Cross and Heart research.

Following the auction there will be a whist party. Entertainment will be provided for those who do not play cards. Prizes will be given for whist and bingo. There will be a door prize and a prize to the couple or individual coming the longest distance.

Lunch will be served for which a charge of 25 cents will be made.

"It is hoped the public will cooperate by turning out and supporting the Auxiliary in their major fundraising effort," said the organization's committee arranging the sale and card party.

**50 years ago**

Mayor Alvin (Bud) Berg turned over a generous gift to the Park Board president Vernon Kluck for the maintenance of the Kathy Davis Memorial Pool. The check for \$1,000 was from John E. Davis, Sr., former North Dakota governor who now lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

Davis said he had read of the pool's deficit for the past season and wanted to help the Park Board with its financial responsibility.

A special election will be held at the Goodrich School on Thursday, February 19, to decide on a special mill levy to raise \$36,000 To buy and equip two school buses. Full details of the election are given in the legal notices of this paper.

The proposed mill levy would be spread over a five-year period. Polls open at 11 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. and all voters are urged to vote. A 60 percent majority is needed to carry the question.

## 4-H from page 1

The Sheridan County Hipology team members are Anna Axt, Sarah Axt, Paedyn Boehm, Kaycee Crimmins, Sydney Crimmins and is coached by Sarah Crimmins.

Sheridan County 4-H also started a livestock judging team this year. that allows 4-H'ers to enhance their livestock evaluation and selection skills and showcase their communication skills by defending their decisions.

Participants judge six classes that are broken down into either market or breeding stock for beef, sheep, swine, and goats.

During judging, 4-H'ers pick out physical traits and give reasons on why they placed the class the way they did to a judge.

The livestock judging team had their first contest in Dickinson February 7th, which gave the kids a good experience of what a Judging contest looks like. They" did great" for their very first contest according to Mittleider.

The livestock judging team has two members this year; Emmett Parson and Wyatt Wiersch and is coached by Lea Mittleider.

Other 4-H team in Sheridan County 4-H offer are the agronomy contest and archery. Par-

ticipants in these two contests have not competed yet this year.

Agronomy participants strengthen their crop knowledge by evaluating crops and seed, and the factors that affect market quality. They also identify crop seeds, weed seeds, plants, insects, equipment and agronomic disorders and test their soil knowledge.

The Agronomy Team has one member, Scott Pfennig, and is coached by Jon Strobel.

Archery allows the kids to learn how to be safe and responsible, the principles of archery and much more in a controlled environment.

The Sheridan County Shooting Sports/Archery team members are Bud Blumhagen and Waylen Dieterle and is coached by Eric Blumhagen.

The archery program collaborates with the McClusky/Goodrich School archery team for joint practices.

Additionally, 4-H members Rubie Sauressig and Romy Tedford participate in archery through the school-based program. Families that are interested in any of these events may contact the Sheridan County Extension Office for additional information.

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