

Obituaries

Randy Smykowski

FEBRUARY 23, 1956 – JANUARY 13, 2026

Randall John “Randy” Smykowski, 69, Wyndmere, passed away on Tuesday, January 13, as a result of heart failure. Born on February 23, 1956, in Morris, Minn., to Ted and Marjorie (Hoepfer) Smykowski, Randy brought joy and laughter to those around him throughout his life.

Randy attended primary school in Willmar, Minn., and graduated from high school in Watertown in 1974. On Oct.6, 1984, he married Nola Pinkham, and together they raised three daughters: Breanna, Brooke and Morgan.

Randy worked as a John Deere mechanic at Nelson Implement in Milnor before working for Klosterman Farms. He later found his “dream job” as head custodian at Wyndmere Public School, where he dedicated 22 years of hard work and care to students and staff.

Randy’s hobbies and interests knew no bounds. He loved gun and knife collecting and anything with a John Deere logo. From hunting and enjoying the outdoors to tinkering with small engines, woodworking, and pen-turning, he shared his many talents generously, but it was his friendly nature and ability to make a friend wherever he went that truly set him apart. Above all, Randy cherished time with his family.

He is survived by his daughters, Breanna (Randy) Bischoff, Brooke (Joe) Bruce, and Morgan (Evan) Messer; his grandchildren Logan and Leighton Bruce and Everleigh, Emmi, and Merrik Messer; his brother, Michael (Susan) Smykowski; and his sisters, Jolene (Tom) Katchmark and Janel (Dean) Dolezal. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ted and Marge; his brother, Steven; and his twin brother, Ralph.

Randy will be remembered for his kindness, hardworking nature, infectious laughter, and big smile. In honoring his memory, let us celebrate the legacy of a man whose warm heart and strong work ethic left a lasting impact. Funeral services will be held Saturday, Jan. 24 at 11 am at Wyndmere Lutheran Church, with visitation one hour prior to service. Burial will be at Elk Creek Cemetery near Wyndmere in the spring. Randy’s service will be live streamed on the Dahlstrom Funeral Home website www.dahlstromfuneralhome.com



Game & Fish

TURKEY APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for applying for the 2026 spring turkey season is Feb. 11.

The Game and Fish Department has made available nearly 8,500 licenses for the spring season that opens April 11 and closes May 17.

Applicants can apply online at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website, gf.nd.gov.

Spring turkey licenses are available only to North Dakota residents.

CONTEST ENTRY DEADLINE NEARS

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department’s annual Earth Day Patch Contest is an effort to heighten awareness about the environment.

Students who participate will develop a patch design using five colors incorporating an aspect of Earth Day such as environmental awareness, respect Earth, water quality, wildlife, or habitat conservation in North Dakota.

The contest is open to students in grades K-12. Winners are chosen from four grade categories (K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12). Each winner will receive an outdoor kit, which includes a pair of binoculars and field guides. The grand prize patch design winner is chosen from one of the four winning age categories.

The entry deadline is March 1. Refer to the Department’s website for [more information](#) about the contest.

GEAR ON WMAS

Hunters are reminded that tree stands, blinds, steps and other personal items such as cameras, must be removed from all North Dakota Game and Fish Department wildlife management areas by Jan. 31.

Items not removed by Jan. 31 are considered abandoned property and are subject to removal and confiscation by the Game and Fish Department.

Legals continued from page 13

standard and tells teachers exactly what standard a student is low or needs additional work in. (5) Morgan Mostoller will student teach under Ms. Nicolai in Kindergarten beginning January 5.

New Business- The board reviewed the Sargent County Bylaws with the addition of baseball. Dr. Larson recommended approval with dissolution of our existing co-op with Enderlin to be contingent of passage by North Sargent and Sargent Central. Berndt moved to approve the co-op with the contingency of passage by NS and SC, Wehlender seconded, motion carried by a unanimous vote.

The first draft of the 2026-2027 school calendar was presented. Mund moved to approve the 26-27 school calendar as presented, Bogart seconded, motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Committee Reports:

Facilities, Transportation, Technology: None. Mr. Syrstad, Dr. Larson, and Mr. Foertsch all passed the air brake test for the charter bus.

Negotiations, Extracurricular, Budget: None.

Sports Co-op: Met in November.

MACC: Working on getting new gutters installed.

Sundale School: December 17 is the Christmas program.

SMMSL: None.

MCF: None.

Next board meeting will be January 14th at 6:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm, Bogart/Wehlender.

*Business Manager, Katie Bixby
Milnor School Board President,
C Fyre*

Publish January 23, 2026

COLLEGE NEWS

VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

Dana Arp Cogswell Dean's Honor Roll
Morgan Larson, Forman, President's Honor Roll
Howard Neustel, Gwinner, Dean's Honor Roll
Sadie Neustel, Gwinner, Dean's Honor Roll
Trista Weigelt, Gwinner, President's Honor Roll
Abigail Erickson, Rutland, President's Honor Roll
Mara Kempel, Stirum, Honor Roll

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Lutheran

NORDLAND LUTHERAN
Past. Julie Johnson, Rutland
Sunday, Jan. 25 & Feb. 1 & 8
9 a.m. Worship
10 a.m. Sunday School
HAVANA TRINITY
Pastor Julie Johnson
Sunday, Jan. 25
9 a.m. Worship
Annual Meeting to Follow
Sunday, Feb. 1 & 8
9 a.m. Worship
Worship will be at the Cafe at 9 a.m. for Church Services in Jan., Feb., & March

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Past. Julie Johnson Forman
Sunday, January 25 & Feb. 8
10:30 a.m. Worship
Sunday, Feb. 1
10:30 a.m. Worship
Annual Meeting to Follow
NAZARETH LUTHERAN
Cogswell
Sundays: 8:30 a.m. Worship
GUSTAF ADOLF
Pastor Jaime Decker
Sunday, January 25 & Feb. 1
9:30 a.m. Worship
Thursday
9 a.m. Bits N’ Stitches Quilting

MILNOR LUTHERAN
Rick Bryant
Sunday, Jan. 25
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
Annual Meeting After Service

Tuesday, Jan. 27
1 p.m. Yarn Angels
Wednesday, Jan. 28
3:30 p.m. Confirmation
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Rick Bryant
Sunday, Jan. 25
10:15 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship
Sunday, Jan. 25
11 a.m. Worship
Sunday, Jan. 25
Annual Meeting/Potluck After Service

ZION LUTHERAN, GWINNER
Welcoming people in the truth of Jesus Christ!
Rev. Mike Grieve, Pastor
Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Divine Service
11:15 a.m. Coffee
11:30 a.m. Bible Study
Tuesday: 7 p.m. Elders
Wednesday: Bible Study 9 a.m.

Catholic
ST. MARY’S, Forman
Rev. Timothy Schroeder,
Sunday Mass - 11 a.m.
ST. CHARLES, Oakes
Rev. Timothy Schroeder,
Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Mass;
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass
ST. PETER AND PAUL
Rev. Peter Anderl, Cayuga:
Sunday: Mass Time 7 p.m.
ST. MARTIN’S
Rev. Peter Anderl, Geneseo:
Sundays 10:30 a.m. Mass
ST. ARNOLD’S
Fr. Terry Dodge, Milnor:
Sunday Mass -

8:30 a.m. (April - September)
10:30 a.m. (October - March)
Mass Thursdays 8:30 a.m.
ST. JOHN’S, Wyndmere
Fr. Terry Dodge,
Sunday Mass -
8:30 a.m. (October - March)
10:30 a.m. (April - September)
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
ST. ALOYSIUS
Father Riley Durkin, Lisbon:
Saturday: 5 p.m. Mass;
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass
ST. VINCENT’S
Father Riley Durkin, Gwinner:
Sunday: 10 a.m. Mass
Last Saturday: 7 p.m. Mass
Last Sunday: 10 a.m. Mass

Methodist
UNITED METHODIST
Pastor Tiana Bohn, Milnor
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship
OAKES METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Clarence Mittleider
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship
Following Service
Community Church
Four Seasons Chapel, Forman
Pastor Jeff Sauer
Sunday Services 2:30 p.m.



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