

## Memory Lane

### 100 years ago (January 2)

When the mercury dropped to twenty-seven degrees below zero on December 16, McClusky and vicinity was doomed to experience the longest cold spell in years, and which, continuing with no relief in sight, may turn out to be the longest period of continuous sub-zero weather ever known here.

The minimum of cold, thirty-five degrees below zero, was registered here on three different days, December 18, 27, and 28, according to records kept by Edward Tapley, local weather observer.

So far, there have been no reports of damage, loss of life, or loss of livestock due to the prevailing cold spell. Farmers are well stocked with feed. There is no shortage of coal.

Max Peck is alive today after surgeons extracted a bullet from his heart, that fact being hardly less remarkable, his friends said, than the manner of Peck acquiring the missile in his bosom.

Lonely in a lodging house on Christmas Eve, Peck decided to end his life. Having no weapon suitable for suicide, he constructed a cannon of a piece of lead pipe, rammed home a charge of black powder, and for a bullet used a piece of steel spike. He placed it on a table, pointed it at his heart and exploded the charge with a red-hot wire.

Dr. Carl Meyer opened a "flap" in Peck's chest, cut through the sac around the heart, stilled its beating by grasping it in his hand, and pressure forced out the spike bullet. The heart was then relaxed into position and resumed its beating.

(January 9)

"If you want engineers come to Gransville Township," said Fred Kluck when he called on the Gazette last week to advance his subscription. It seems that Fred took a course in engineering at a Fargo School a couple of years ago, and the first summer he worked at his trade he cleaned up a nice sum of money. His good fortune caused most of the young men of his neighborhood to hasten to an engineering school this winter and there'll be no shortage of engineers in that township in a month or so.

Fred farms with his father

and reported that their crops were very good this past year. He made the trip from his home, a distance of 22 miles, in his Ford in an hour.

### 75 years ago (January 5)

It may be bleak and cold outdoors, as January weather usually is in North Dakota, but the thoughts of pupils in the Denhoff school are diverted when the gaze at a blooming cotton plant.

The cotton plant, which will be a year-old next month, last week had one fully developed bowl, another just past the blooming stage, and a third in blossom. The plant is about 15 inches in height.

Miss Marnie Fritz of McClusky and a member of the Denhoff faculty planted the cottonseed in February of 1949. Miss Fritz now plans to use the seed from the North Dakota plant to determine whether it will produce more plants.

The cotton blossoms in the early stage are white but turn to a deep pink in the final stage.

Congressman Usher L. Burdick has announced plans for an all-out congressional investigation of alleged "payroll padding" on the part of members of Congress. Burdick added that such "an investigation should serve the dual purpose of

exonerating the innocent and exposing the guilty.

January 12

A paragraph published in two North Dakota weekly newspapers reunited a brother and sister who had not seen each other for nearly 50 years.

The paragraph, about visitors at the Otis Mummert home in Underwood was republished by the Sanish Sentinel.

In faraway Madras Oregon, the paragraph in the sentinel was noticed by Mr. S. Minto Wolfskill.

She wrote Mummert asking if he was the brother she had not seen since the turn of the century. He was. They had lost touch with each other in 1907.

A family reunion is planned. Mr. and Mrs. Otis Mummert are former residents of McClusky.

### 50 years ago January 8

The Bradley Wills Benefit Supper and Program was deemed to be a

huge success by the more than 225 people who attended. The program was held on Monday night, December 30th at the grade school auditorium. Pastor Ernest A. Roy, Master of ceremonies described the turnout as "A tremendous testimony of a people who can set aside their own problems to look at and help in the problems of others."

Although there were "many hands" involved in the total program, more than 25 volunteers donated almost a full day to preparing the foods that made up a most delicious meal. The many hours that were put into the delicious meal was something to behold, for as one walked into the auditorium, they were greeted with a most appealing setting of tables.

During the meal, the audience was entertained with organ melodies by Mr. Keith Lehman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merle Lehman, who was home from school in Lancaster, Massachusetts, and Mrs. Juanita Marie Babshaw, daughter of Pastor Roy, who is from Tempe, Arizona.

The solos rendered by Mrs. Barbara Figgins, a new arrival to our area and Mrs. Betty Lehman, Jr., were beautifully rendered and much enjoyed as they added a good Christian flavor to them.

Mayor "Bud" Berg, although not forewarned and purposefully according to Pastor Roy, brought his greetings to the audience and gave his special thanks to the Seventh Day Adventist Churches for their untired efforts to help in offsetting the heavy expense of little Bradley Wills' open-heart surgery.

Ward Unruh caught a big perch on Sunday while ice fishing from a shanty at Brush Lake. The perched weighed one pound, two ounces, measured 13 inches in length, and was caught. His brothers Wynne and Wayne were also fishing at the time. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Armin Unruh of McClusky.

Note: the 25-year (2000) files for the Gazette have been requested from the State Historical Society library and will be added when the copies arrive in our office. The year was split between two printers of the paper and some issues were missing and no bound volume was available.

## JDA from page 1

Ottetail Power electrical service also needs to be switched over.

Super Valu will continue to be wholesaler when the store reopens. The new name will be McClusky Groceries, LLC, instead of McClusky Market, LLC, to avoid delivery errors with Turtle Lake Market.

LLC status is pending with the First District Health Unit for license for preparing food.

The EIN application date was not set per Gessner stating this was not possible until the loan was approved.

The first loan payment due date was unknown until closing and the bank. The bank will provide this information on January 3, 2025, the closing date.

"McClusky Groceries" will need to obtain state approval to employ minors.

Most Holen's Super Valu staff plan on staying on.

JDA stated they will also need to see what the budget will bear for hiring a manager.

All vendors for Holen's Super Valu were notified of the change in operations by Holen's. McClusky Groceries is staying with Super Valu's distributors.

The store has a landline telephone but will likely need a cell phone. Buying a Trak phone was discussed.

Discussion on insurance revealed it will be paid out of \$2,000 that Belile stated was a personal note.

Discussion of opening date and how to notify the public included local newspaper and flyers.

JDA shares Facebook account with city and thus JDA's grocery is not separate. The grocery would need a separate Facebook page. A "Grand Opening" will be held later.

The next JDA regular meeting is on January 6, 2025, 6 p.m., to be followed by an executive session to discuss wages.

No Century Code references were provided.

Some discussion was held on proper notice and open meeting requirements.

## Dakota Gardener

By Kelsey Deckert, Horticulturist,  
NDSU Extension - Burleigh County

### Setting garden goals for the new year

Now is a good time to reflect on your 2024 garden and set gardening goals for 2025.

Welcome to 2025! It is the time of year that we often hear the saying, "New year, new me." Everyone is setting New Year's resolutions. Now is a great time for gardeners to reflect on the past growing season and set their resolutions for this year's growing season.

First, if you keep a garden journal or make notes about your garden review the notes, as that will be a great starting place for setting goals. If you are like me and don't keep notes, think back to your garden and what worked, what didn't, what was successful and where there were struggles.

When it comes to setting New Year's goals, there are many ways to achieve them. Tips that I believe work well for setting goals are: keep them small, be realistic, revisit the goals throughout the year as a check-in and share your goals with others. Sharing your goals with others helps keep you accountable.

For me, 2024 gardening was simply an overall struggle with grassy weeds. I actually put my garden to bed very early as I couldn't keep up with the weeds. I covered my garden completely with landscaping fabric sometime in early July. That was when I made my first goal for this year, I am moving to a no-till garden and will cut holes in the fabric for planting.

The next struggle I had was weeds in my flower bed, again I had grassy weeds but I also had thistle and other troublesome weeds. Goal number two: spray my flower bed with glyphosate as the young weeds start to emerge this spring and add in a good layer of organic mulch. Goal number three: expand my perennial bed. My grandma saved some larkspur and Shasta daisy so I have seed for that goal.

These are simple goals that are small and realistic. The last goal I have for my garden

is to add in a hardy rose bush. I have a friend who inspired me with the beautiful roses he has in his yard. I have visited with him about the care he provides for his roses, and along with my own research, I'm willing to give it a try!

Goals that you may try this year could include a new vegetable variety, a new plant, a healthier turf, less pesticide use, more pollinator-friendly plants, minimal/no-till gardening or composting.

You may have seen previous Dakota Gardener columns that inspire you and if you have any questions about your New Year's goals for your garden or landscape, NDSU Extension is a great resource.

For more information about gardening, contact your local NDSU Extension agent. Find the Extension office for your county at [ndsu.ag/countyoffice](http://ndsu.ag/countyoffice).

## Obituary



**Marlan Sorenson**

Marlan Sorenson, 82, Bismarck, passed away on December 25, 2024.

A memorial service was held Friday, January 3, at McCabe United Methodist Church, 1030 N 6th St, Bismarck.

Visitation as held Thursday, January 2, at Eastgate Funeral Service, 2302 E. Divide Ave.

To share memories of Marlan and sign the online guestbook, visit [www.eastgatefuneral.com](http://www.eastgatefuneral.com).

## Legals

### McClusky-Goodrich School Public Hearing

September 10, 2024

The McClusky-Goodrich School Board held a Public Hearing on September 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the High School Home Ec Room. The purpose of the hearing was to inform the public of the submission of the Certificate of Levy and to answer any questions that they might have. Present were School Board members Sarah Crimmins, Elizabeth Stober, Deneen Richter, Levi Boehm and Scott Stroh, Superintendent Kara Munro, Principal D'Aulan Bussman, Business Manager Faye Hagen, and Publisher Allan Tinker. Crimmins opened the meeting

at 7:00 pm. Handouts were available outlining requested appropriations and estimated revenues. Following discussion, Stroh moved to close the hearing. Boehm seconded. Motion carried 5-0. The hearing adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Faye Hagen  
Business Manager  
(Jan. 9, 2025)

### McClusky-Goodrich School Minutes

August 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the McClusky-Goodrich Board of Education was held on August 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the High School Home Ec Room. Present were President Sarah Crimmins; Directors Elizabeth Stober, Scot Stroh,