

Yankton Area Under A Winter Storm Warning

From P&D Staff Reports

The immediate Yankton area is under a winter storm warning today (Thursday), with forecasters saying the area could received 5-9 inches of snow, along with rain, sleet and ice.

A winter weather advisory was posted for the region early Wednesday, but was upgraded to a storm warning Wednesday afternoon for Bon Homme, Hutchinson, Turner, Charles Mix and Yankton counties.

Clay, Knox and Cedar counties remained under a winter weather advisory at press time.

The spring storm is also expected to bring strong winds, with gusts up to 40 miles per hour possible during the day today.

The storm warning runs through 1 a.m. Friday, after which strong winds will still be a factor.

After a respite Saturday, increased precipitation possibilities return Sunday and into early next week.

Debate Stalls On Neb. Medicaid Expansion

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A group of conservative Nebraska lawmakers are trying to derail a proposal to expand Medicaid to more low-income adults.

State senators successfully stalled debate on the issue Wednesday when bill supporters weren't able to secure the 33 votes required to end debate.

Speaker Greg Adams of York moved the Legislature to discuss a different bill on 10-and-a-half hours of debate on Medicaid. It has not been determined when Medicaid expansion will be discussed again.

Bill supporters say expanding Medicaid is needed to help working Nebraska adults who can't afford private health care, but make too much money to qualify for Medicaid. Opponents are worried that expanding Medicaid won't be fiscally sustainable long-term and fear the state doesn't have enough doctors to see more Medicaid patients. — The bill is LB577.

Alcohol Enforcement Bill Advances In Neb.

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Lawmakers have advanced a scaled-back proposal to boost alcohol enforcement in Nebraska, but its fate this year depends on the budget.

The bill by Sen. Russ Karpisek of Wilber would require the Nebraska State Patrol to hire six new troopers. The patrol would then have to join forces with the state alcohol commission and designate six of its officers to focus on alcohol enforcement.

Lawmakers granted first-round approval to the bill on Wednesday with a 26-1 vote. The original proposal would have added 15 new officers.

Karpisek says he will press ahead with the legislation if there's still money in the state budget later this year. If there isn't, he says he will hold off until next year. — The bill is LB579

Tribal Official Sentenced For Embezzeling Role

ABERDEEN (AP) — A former elected district officer of the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux tribe has been sentenced to nearly three years in prison for her role in the theft of nearly \$350,000 from the tribe.

A jury earlier this year convicted 61-year-old Charlene Wanna on a felony count of aiding and abetting misapplication of tribal funds. Three other tribal officials pleaded guilty in the case and have yet to be sentenced — 53-year-old Lloyd LaBelle Jr., 62-year-old Jaqueline Wanna and 52-year-old Tammie Strutz.

The four will have to repay the money they stole between January 2007 and January 2009. Prosecutor Thomas Wright says the money was supposed to benefit youth, elderly and disabled people in the district.

Opposition Muted Ahead Of Keystone XL Hearing

BY GRANT SCHULTE

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — A proposed Canada-to-Texas oil pipeline would run just 1,000 feet from Terri Funk's doorstep, but the Nebraska farmer and her husband don't plan to protest or even attend the U.S. State Department's lone public hearing on the contentious proposal Thursday.

That's because the company building the pipeline has pledged to restore any of their land it digs up. So her opinion is this: Build away.

Just months after intense opposition in Nebraska helped delay and reroute the Keystone XL pipeline, Funk's position has grown more popular in this conservative state. Local politicians and landowners now largely support the line — or at least aren't actively opposing it.

"I'm not really worried about it," said Funk, who grows corn and soybeans in Antelope County, about 150 miles northwest of Omaha. "It's planting season right now, and we've got better things to do."

TransCanada, which is building the pipeline, has told the couple they could continue growing crops and that the disruption of their property would be temporary. The agreement, one of hundreds reached with landowners in the state, gives Funk little reason to drive to the planned eight-hour public hearing about 100 miles away in Grand Island.

Besides the individual deals with landowners, opinions have shifted in Nebraska since the line was rerouted away from the ecologically sensitive Sandhills region, which overlies the sprawling Ogallala Aquifer.

There still will be plenty of opposition voiced Thursday from environmentalists who maintain the pipeline could have catastrophic implications for global warming and still crosses parts of the fragile, sandy soil that is outside the officially designated Sandhills region. But in Nebraska — the most visible face of the opposition effort a year ago — even some opponents now seem resigned to idea that Keystone XL will be built.

"I'm not really happy with the way it is, but you can only fight for so long," said Todd Cone, who was a vocal opponent of the initial

route that cut through the Sandhills near his property. "It's moved off to the east now. And I guess my thought is, those people over there, they need to stick up for themselves."

Supporters and opponents are expected to pack the State Department's only hearing before Secretary John Kerry recommends to President Barack Obama whether to build the \$7.6 billion Canada-to-Texas line. A recommendation by the department, which has jurisdiction because the pipeline would cross a U.S. border, is not expected until summer.

A poll last year by the Omaha World-Herald showed Nebraskans support the pipeline by more than a 2-to-1 ratio, and the state's governor and congressional delegation — all Republicans — have either backed the plan or relaxed their opposition. That support mirrors national sentiment about the pipeline. A poll last month by the Pew Research Center showed that 66 percent of those polled favor building the pipeline, compared with 23 percent who oppose it.

The pipeline would carry 800,000 barrels of oil a day across six states to refineries along the Gulf Coast. One leg of the pipeline from Cushing, Okla., to ports near Houston, already has been approved and construction is proceeding.

Jane Kleeb, executive director of the anti-pipeline group Bold Nebraska, said it's wrong to conclude opposition to the project has waned. A core group of Nebraska ranchers, property-rights advocates, young people and American Indians will continue to fight the pipeline, and national and global opposition remains strong, she said.

Kleeb's group is among those trying to persuade Obama to reject a federal permit for the pipeline, and opponents also have filed a lawsuit challenging a new Nebraska law that allowed the Department of Environmental Quality to review the new proposed pipeline route.

The law is key because it allowed the state to re-launch its review after Obama denied a federal permit for the original pipeline route last year. TransCanada was allowed to reapply once the pipeline through Nebraska was rerouted around the Sandhills.

Nebraska remains a

battleground for national groups because the opposition originated with local landowners, said Becky Bond, the policy director for the San Francisco-based CREDO, an environmental advocacy group that opposes the pipeline.

"What's happening in Nebraska proves that this isn't a red and blue issue," Bond said. "Nebraska proves that this is a common-sense issue about protecting our water and our climate."

National opponents have formed a new group, the "All Risk, No Reward Coalition," which recently ran television ads in large markets, including Boston, Denver, Los Angeles and Philadelphia, and planned to air the ads Tuesday in Lincoln, Neb. The ad targets what the group calls TransCanada's poor safety record and highlights a recent oil spill in Arkansas.

Opponents say the thick, gooey oil derived from tar sands in western Canada is harder to clean up than conventional oil. The Keystone XL pipeline would carry a similar type of oil.

The Sierra Club sent emails to supporters showing video of the Arkansas spill, warning that tar sand pipelines are "disasters waiting to happen."

Terry Frisch, a landowner from the north-central Nebraska community of Atkinson, insisted a core group of Nebraska opponents — dubbed "the posse" — remains strong, but he acknowledged some landowners have moved on.

Although the line was shifted away from his property, Frisch said he remains ardently opposed because of fears the pipeline could endanger the aquifer.

"This has caused some real friendships to go by the wayside," Frisch said. "The only ones who are satisfied with it are the politicians and the ones who are bought off by TransCanada. But this is all we've got. It's all we've got. We're expected to feed the world, and this water is our lifeblood. We won't live without water."

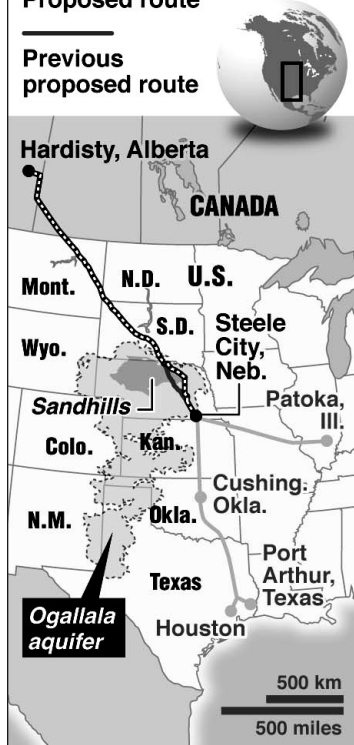
Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman, who opposed the initial route but supported it after the route was changed, said this week he was satisfied the state listened to landowners' concerns. He pointed to a 2,000-page review by the state Department of Environmental Quality that concluded the project would have a minimal environmental impact.

Still in flux

The State Department had no major objection to the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline in a new draft report, but does say whether it should be built or not.

Proposed route

Previous proposed route



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Source: TransCanada Corp., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ESRI, TeleAtlas, USGS, U.S. State Department

TransCanada spokesman Shawn Howard said the company has listened to the concerns of Nebraska residents during a series of state environmental hearings. The company also submitted to four federal environmental reviews and nearly a dozen state and local ones, he said.

"The product we carry is essential, and the need for it doesn't change," Howard said. "Would you rather get it from Venezuela, and have to ship it farther, in a way that's less safe? Where do Americans want to get the oil that we all use to power our homes and our vehicles — including the vehicles and airplanes that are going to bring the opponents to this meeting?"

OBITUARIES

Adolph Juran

Adolph W. Juran, 88 of Wagner, died Monday, April 15, 2013 at the Good Samaritan Society in Wagner.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 19, 2013 at the United Methodist Church in Wagner, with burial in the ZCBJ Cemetery, rural Wagner.

Visitation will be Thursday from 2-6 p.m. at the Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner.

Adolph Wilbert Juran, son of Adolph and Agnes (Bartunek) Juran, was born December 2, 1924 in Charles Mix County. He died Monday, April 15, 2013 at the Good Samaritan Society in Wagner. Adolph attained the age of 88 years, four months and 14 days.

Adolph lived with his parents on the homestead farm by the eight mile corner east of Wagner. He attended Chateau Creek District No. 5 in Charles Mix County through the eighth grade. At the age of 18, Adolph had a corn picker accident on Halloween Day, October 30, 1940. Dr. Richard Honke was only able to save his left hand.

Adolph met Hermina Baack in Sioux City, IA, where she worked as a telegraphy operator and at the Gus Family Restaurant. They were married on June 28, 1948, by Rev. Wagner at the Methodist Church in Wagner. Their first home was with Adolph's brother and sister, farming together west of Wagner. They later moved to

Adolph's folks in 1949.

A daughter was born to their union on October 6, 1950. In 1955, they moved to the John McKee farm and then in 1956, they moved to Mrs. James farm 1 1/4 east of Wagner, where they lived until 1967. At this time, Adolph's parents moved into town and he and Hermina moved back to the homestead.

Besides farming, raising black Angus cattle and sheep, Adolph took a part time job at the Avon Sale Barn for 12 years.

In 1979, at the age of 50, Adolph attended the Marty School to get his high school diploma. In 1980, he attended an auctioneer school in Mason City, IA. Through the years, Adolph and Hermina held many community auctions at their farm and enjoyed the help of the Fousek family.

After retiring, they moved into Wagner in 1988. While living in town, Adolph mowed lawns for eight years for the ZCBJ Cemetery. He and Hermina also served as custodians at the United

Methodist Church for eight years. Hermina passed away on June 7, 1998. Adolph resided in their home until 2011, when due to failing health, he moved to his daughter's home in Minnesota. On March 18, 2011, Adolph became a resident of the Wagner Good Samaritan Society.

Adolph was a member of the Presbyterian Church for 18 years and the United Methodist Church for 51 years.

Adolph will be remembered as a "doer" by his family and friends. He loved square dancing with Hermina and attending dances at Czech Days with her.

Thankful for having shared his life are his daughter Sheila May Juran of Welch, MN; two grandsons: Loren C. and wife Julie and their son Dean C.; and Ronald C. and wife Candy M. and

their children: Allyssa Lee and Dillon Anderson; one sister, Maragret Fuchs of Wagner; and one niece and two nephews.

Adolph was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Hermina; infant twin daughters; infant son Richard; parents; and a brother Edward; and one nephew.

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April 18, 2013

Avis Mayberry

Funeral services for Avis E. Mayberry, 86, of Niobrara, Neb., are at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 20, 2013, at the Niobrara Lutheran Church. The Rev. Gary Harris will officiate, with burial in the L'Eau Qui Court Cemetery in Niobrara.

Visitation is 5-7 p.m. Friday at

the church in Niobrara.

Brockhaus Funeral Home, Niobrara is in charge of arrangements.

Avis died Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at Alpine Village in Verdigr, Neb.

Phyllis Turgeon

Phyllis Turgeon, 86, of Thornton, Colo., and formerly of Yankton, died peacefully in her sleep on Friday, April 12, 2013, at the Alpine Living Center, Thornton.

Arrangements are pending under the care of the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

Francis Armstrong

Francis M. Armstrong, 88, of Vermillion died Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at Prairie Estates Care

Center, Elk Point.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

DuWayne Lundstrom

DuWayne A. Lundstrom, 72, of Yankton died Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at his home in Yankton.

Arrangements are pending with the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Yankton.

Kenneth Stucky

Kenneth D. Stucky Sr., 76, of Yankton died Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Arrangements are pending with the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Yankton.

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