

Neb. Lawmakers OK Cut To Early Voting Days

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska lawmakers voted 33-8 to pass a measure that would let voters register with fewer days to cast in-person early ballots.

On Thursday the Legislature gave final approval to the measure that would cut early voting days from 35 to 30 days.

Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh of Omaha introduced the bill because election officials say they need more time to program specialized voting machines used by visually impaired voters.

The 2002 Help America Vote Act requires specialized electronic voting machines to be available to assist voters with disabilities in casting their ballots privately. A Lincoln woman who is blind complained that the voting machines weren't ready when the early voting polls opened last year.

Lawmakers Pass STD Partner Treatment Bill

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska lawmakers gave final approval on a measure that would let doctors provide prescription antibiotics to sexual partners of patients who are diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea.

Lawmakers voted 37-9 on Thursday to allow doctors to provide medicine to treat some sexually transmitted diseases without giving a medical examination to the patient's partner. The doctor must prescribe the medicine to a named person.

Sen. Sara Howard of Omaha, the bill's sponsor, says this kind of treatment is only for people who are unable or unwilling to visit the doctor. She says she introduced the bill to help reduce high rates of sexually transmitted diseases in her district and in the state.

Partner treatment for sexually transmitted diseases is allowed in 32 states.

Daugaard Honors 8 Killed In Plane Crash

PIERRE (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has declared today (Friday) "A Day of Remembrance" to honor Gov. George S. Mickelson and seven others who died in a plane crash 20 years ago.

The eight men were returning from Cincinnati, where they had traveled in an ultimately successful effort to save the John Morrell and Co. packing plant in Sioux Falls.

In addition to Mickelson, the April 19, 1993, crash in eastern Iowa also killed Roger Hainje of the Sioux Falls Development Foundation, David Birkeland of First Bank of South Dakota, Angus Anson of Northern States Power, state Economic Development Commissioner Roland Dolly, state Energy Policy Commissioner Ron Reed, and state pilots Ron Becker and Dave Hansen, both of Pierre.

Daugaard asked that all South Dakotans pause for a moment Friday to remember the eight men and their contributions to South Dakota.

"The eight men who died in the state plane crash were great South Dakota leaders. Our state is a better place because of the lives and careers of these men," Daugaard said in a written statement.

Mickelson is remembered for creating a low-interest loan program that still exists to promote economic development, putting increased emphasis on tourism promotion, and boosting university research aimed at developing new industries in the state. Perhaps his most lasting accomplishment will be his proclamation of a century of reconciliation to improve relations with Native Americans in the state.

Keystone XL Opponents Brace For Protests In Neb.

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. — Opponents of a massive Canada-to-Texas oil pipeline converged on a snowy Nebraska town Thursday for a critical hearing on the project, but they already were preparing possible acts of civil disobedience should President Barack Obama ultimately approve it.

Despite a spring storm that brought sleet and snow to Nebraska, the U.S. State Department hearing in Grand Island drew more than 1,000 people from the around state, as well as activists from outside the region who consider Nebraska a key battleground over the Keystone XL pipeline.

As they waited in line for an opportunity to speak, many activists outlined plans for civil disobedience and state-court lawsuits designed to keep the project from moving forward. Project foes have promised to block workers, lie down in front of equipment and do whatever it takes to stop the pipeline from connecting Canada's tar sands region to Texas refineries.

Abbi Kleinschmidt, 54, of York, said she was prepared to stand in front of TransCanada's bulldozers in Nebraska if the pipeline is approved. The fifth-generation farmer said she fears that the half-mile of pipeline that could run through her corn and soybean farm would contaminate the groundwater that has sustained her family for generations.

"I hope it doesn't come to that," she said.

"But it's our job, our duty, to take care of this land."

Terry Frisch, a northern Nebraska rancher who owns land on the Ogallala Aquifer, has fought the project for four years. He said he has grown increasingly frustrated that the project, which he views as a threat to the state's groundwater supply. Frisch said some landowners are so angry in the desolate ranching country are so angry that some have discussed fighting back if they're moved by force.

"I'm 65 years old, and I've already lived longer than I thought I was going to," Frisch said. "I'm not going to ask my kids. But me? I'm not afraid to stand in front of a bulldozer."

Opponents are also looking to challenge the project in ways beyond physical protests, said Jane Kleebe, executive director of the anti-pipeline group Bold Nebraska. If the project wins approval, she said, many land owners are planning to challenge the company's eminent domain authority through the courts. She said any protests to block the pipeline will be peaceful.

Even if Obama approves the \$7.6 billion line, opponents said before the eight-hour hearing that they wouldn't give in.

"In Nebraska, you don't just take land," said Bill Dunavan, whose farmland sits in the pipeline's path. He and his wife are plaintiffs in a lawsuit that is challenging a state law that allowed for the project to move ahead.

On the national front, activists are gathering signatures from Nebraska residents and others who are willing to risk arrest if the president al-

lows the pipeline to proceed. Becky Bond, a San Francisco-based policy for CREDO Action, a cellphone company and progressive advocacy group, said 830 Nebraska residents have signed so far out of 59,000 people nationwide. In Nebraska, she said, the effort would likely include blocking construction crews.

Project supporters argue that opponents are well-intended but misguided.

"There is no alternative to pipelines. There is no safer way," said Brigham McCown, a former administrator for the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration under the Bush administration. "I've looked at this project, and . . . I wish every pipeline in this country were built to this project's specifications."

Environmental activists previously staged protests at the White House, in which they were arrested for handcuffing themselves to the front gate. A 79-year-old grandmother from suburban Oklahoma City was arrested earlier this month after she tied herself to an earth mover that was working on the pipeline's southern leg in Oklahoma.

After months of quiet, a State Department report has cleared the way for a final decision on the plan by Calgary-based TransCanada to transport oil extracted from Alberta tar sands more than 1,700 miles to refineries on the Gulf Coast.

Opponents are now focused on the new secretary of state, John Kerry, who will make a recommendation to President Barack Obama on whether to green-light the project.

No Insurance Coverage In S. Dakota Crash That Hurt 4 Boys

BY CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE — An insurance company does not have to cover a Rapid City woman for a crash because her policy expired 12 hours before she hit four boys on their bicycles, the South Dakota Supreme Court ruled Thursday.

Tamara Bradford pleaded guilty to two counts of vehicular battery for the September 2007 crash and was sentenced to eight years in prison. Authorities said

her blood-alcohol level was three times the legal limit for driving when she hit and injured the boys, who were riding their bicycles or standing along the road.

After a lawsuit was filed on behalf of the boys, Alpha Property and Casualty Insurance Co. declined to cover Bradford for the crash.

The Supreme Court said Bradford's insurance policy had expired just after midnight on Sept. 23, 2007, about 12 hours before

the crash, because she had failed to pay a premium due the day before the accident.

Robin Zephier, a Rapid City lawyer representing the boys, said he will talk with his clients about a possible appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. He said Bradford has cooperated in the case in an attempt to get insurance coverage to help pay the boys' medical expenses.

Zephier said he had hoped the South Dakota court would

recognize an Ohio ruling that would have allowed the policy to be in effect the entire day of Sept. 23, rather than just for one minute after midnight.

"Insurance policies need to be more consumer-friendly when it comes down to giving a person the benefit of a doubt," Zephier said.

A lawyer for Alpha Property and Casualty did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

OBITUARIES

Joan (Janssen) Guenther

Joan (Janssen) Guenther, 81, of Omaha, and formerly of Crofton, died on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at the Brookstone Village in Omaha.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 10:30 am at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Crofton with Fr. Michael Schmitz officiating. Burial will be in the Beaver Creek Cemetery in Crofton. Visitation will be on Friday from 4-8 p.m. with a vigil service at 7 p.m. at the church. The Wintz Funeral Home in Crofton is assisting with arrangements. Memorial are preferred to the St. Rose of Lima Church, the Crofton Senior Citizen Center or the Crofton Public Library. To view the video tribute or



Guenther

to send online condolences, please visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Honorary pallbearers will be Joan's grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Joan was born to Emil and Mary Janssen on May 26, 1931, in Sioux City, Iowa, the oldest of five siblings. She was a graduate of Crofton High School. Joan married Wilfred Guenther on February 15, 1949, at St. Rose of Lima Church, Crofton, Nebraska. She passed away on June 22, 2005 at the age of 78. They lived on the family farm north of Crofton. She lived in her Crofton home until 2009 when she moved to an independent liv-

ing village in Omaha.

Joan was an avid homemaker, a great cook, and an accomplished seamstress. Her life was dedicated to the well-being of her family. She enjoyed being a long-time writer of the "Bits and Pieces" column for the *Crofton Journal*. A long-time parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Church, she was also a member of the Ladies Guild and the Christian Mothers. Singing with the Sweet Adelines was a special event in her life, as well.

She is survived by her children: Marcia (Victor) Quinonez of Seattle, Washington; Karen (Lonnie) Hegge of Omaha, Pat Pollard of Omaha, Diane (Joe) Goudy of Fairfield, Iowa, Duane (Elaine) Guenther of Crofton, and Beth Guenther of Omaha. Her legacy includes 14 grandchildren and 13

great grandchildren. She is also survived by 3 sisters, Janet and Duane Goeden of Menominee, NE; Rosemary Schieffer of Riverton, WY; Judy and Leon Cantin of Sioux Falls, SD and a brother, Joe and Diane Janssen of Crofton.

Besides her husband, she was preceded in death by infant son (Michael), her son-in-law, Bob Pollard, and her parents.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
April 19, 2013



Hartington * Coleridge * Crofton
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Hartington, Nebraska 68739

Barbara Suess

Funeral services for Barbara K. Suess, 65, of Scotland will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, April 22 at the United Church of Christ in Scotland with Rev. Ron Shifley officiating. Interment will follow in Ebenezer Cemetery, rural Scotland.

Visitation will be held on Sunday from 3-7 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland.

Barb died on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at Landmann-

Jungman Memorial Hospital in Scotland.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Goglin Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Ruth Peterson

Jan 30, 1923-April 14, 2013

Ruth Peterson was born to Danish immigrants Soren & Katherine Simonsen. She learned to speak English only after starting school and in good weather and bad, she walked to school with her neighbor kids. Ruth was needed at home since her Mother had health problems so her school days ended at about age 16. She also worked as a housekeeper for several families then married Wayne in 1942.



Peterson

They lived with his parents for a while before renting a farm in partnership with Wayne's brother and sister-in-law and the two couples got started farming by sharing the work load. Daughter Jeannie was born on a hot July night in 1947 but Ruth had milked her share of cows in the morning.

After 7 years of marriage, she bought her first electric refrigerator and an iron. In 1952, they bought their own farm west of Viborg and lived there 35 years. She was the ultimate farm wife, helping with chores and field work. She cooked for extra men when they put up hay or threshed grain and filled her freezer every year with homegrown chickens and garden produce.

Sometime in the 1980's, she felt the *Viborg Enterprise* needed more local news, so she created her own weekly column called "Ruth's Bits n Pieces." She wrote it out by hand and it ran for 30+ years until last week. In 1987 they moved to town. Wayne and Ruth always loved and supported Viborg. She said Viborg gives her everything she needs.

She was a faithful DBS Lodge member and served as Secretary for many years. She belonged to Our Saviors Church her entire life and was a former Sunday School teacher and held Ladies Aid offices. Ruth has been Hospital Auxiliary President and was always a willing worker on the Viborg Pork Show Committee. She pitched in with Danish Days and proudly served as 2011 Danish Days Queen. She crocheted scarves by the dozens and gave them away. In 1989, Wayne, Ruth, Jeannie and Gordon made her dream come true by traveling to Denmark. She finally saw where her parents grew up and visit her Grandparents graves, whom she never knew. Her family gathered in her honor and she met almost 30 cousins for the very first time at age 66! She's always taught her family to be proud of their Danish roots. Ruth's life centered on family, friends and farm living. She absolutely loved "drop in" company and could make them feel appreciated by feeding them with no advance notice. She lovingly cared for Wayne through illnesses and surgeries. Ruth will be welcomed into Heaven by her dear parents, husband of 61 years and many dear friends.

Survivors are Jeannie and Gordon. Grandchildren Ross (Darcy) and Holly (Jim) Relf. Great grandchildren Lance (Ashley), Bridgette (Tyler Larson), Mitch (Lexi), Brett (Kaylee) and Brooklyn. Two nephews Dean (Mary) Flynn and Robert (Carol) Peterson. Niece Maris (Richard) Hauger. Two sister in laws Arda and Orleen Peterson. Cousins Ardis (David) Gorseth and Janice Ramsley along with many, many friends.

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Dr. Ronald Maly

Dr. Ronald Francis Maly, 79, of Euleless, Texas, and formerly of Crofton, Neb., died on Sunday, April 14, 2013 at an Assisted Living facility in Euleless, Texas.

A Memorial Mass is at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 27, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Crofton, with Father Timothy Lange officiating. Burial will be in St. Rose of Lima Cemetery, Crofton, with military services provided by the Crofton American Legion Post 128.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. tonight (Friday), with a vigil service at 7 p.m., at the Wintz Funeral Home, Crofton.

Kenneth D. Stucky Sr.

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

Funeral services are at 2 p.m. Monday, April 22, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home, Yankton, with the Rev. Dr. Rick Jensen officiating. Entombment will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery, Yankton, with military honors provided by the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791.

Visitation is 3-6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home, with the family present from 4-6 p.m. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the funeral service.

To send an online sympathy message, visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Vernet Mielke

Vernet Helen Marie Mielke, 86, died Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at the Freeman Medical Center, Freeman.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 30, at Immanuel

Lutheran Church, Menno, with the Rev. David Ellis officiating. Burial will be in the Menno Cemetery.

Visitations will be 4-8 p.m. Monday, April 29, at the Aisenbrey-Op-sahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Joseph 'Chito' Costillo

Joseph "Chito" Costillo, 83, of Wagner died Thursday, April 18, 2013, at the Good Samaritan Society, Wagner.

Funeral services are at 1 p.m. Monday, April 22, at the YST Gym, Wagner. Burial is in the Hill Church Presbyterian Cemetery, rural Dante.

Wake services begin today (Friday) at the Gym.

Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home, Wagner, is in charge of arrangements.

DuWayne Lundstrom

DuWayne A. Lundstrom, 72, of Yankton, and formerly of Cody, Wyoming, left us to be with his heavenly Father, Wednesday, April 17, 2013. He fought his battle with cancer very bravely and after eight years died peacefully at his home in Yankton in the arms of his loving wife of 52 years along with his daughter.

A Memorial Mass will be 10:30 a.m. on Monday, April 22, 2013, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yankton with Reverend Mark Lichter officiating. Inurnment will be in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Family will receive friends one hour prior to the Mass on Monday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.

To post an online sympathy message visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

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IN REMEMBRANCE

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Kenneth D. Stucky, Sr.
2:00 PM, Monday
Wintz & Ray Funeral Home
Yankton

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