

## 2015 Nebraska SciFest Slated For Omaha April 10-18

OMAHA, Neb. — The third annual Nebraska Science Festival — presented by the University of Nebraska Medical Center and scheduled for April 10-18 — is still a few weeks away. But, with a multitude of science- and technology-related activities in communities across the state, it's not too early to plan your SciFest schedule.

You'll find the entire schedule on [www.nescifest.com](http://www.nescifest.com), including these free activities of interest:

- Florence Branch Library — April 16 from 4-5 p.m. Children are invited to explore the exciting world of science! Guest instructor and experienced teacher Ms. Ziegler encourages a hands-on learning approach and the importance of recording observations. This program, Florence Science Club 3rd and up, is geared for the reading child who is comfortable following instructions and working with minimal guidance. If your child is highly motivated, but not in third grade yet, we encourage you to give us a call. Registration is required. For more information and to register, contact Paige G. Wagner, youth services librarian, at 402-444-5299.

- McMillan Magnet Center — April 16 from 5-7 p.m. McMillan Magnet Center, 3802 Redick Ave., will host a student-led, interactive evening of science. Attendees of all ages will enjoy physics, forensics, engineering and other science activities led by McMillan students and community partners. We also will have tables for guests to explore careers and opportunities related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). As Nebraska's only PLTW (Project Lead The Way) middle school, we look forward to demonstrating the many opportunities in STEM.

- Public Science Expo — April 18 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., The Durham Museum. There will be a wide variety of booths and hands-on activities to promote science and its impact in our everyday

lives (see listing of booths on our website). You especially won't want to miss the MEGA Brain, which measures approximately 18 feet long by 14 feet wide by 12 feet high. This giant exhibit, provided by Medical Inflatables Exhibits, provides visitors with a highly interactive educational experience about the central nervous system's most critical organ. Visitors enter the exhibit through the frontal lobe and exit through the cerebellum. Throughout the tour, visitors will learn about the various brain structures and normal brain function, observe examples of brain trauma and disease and view displays explaining some of the latest neurological medical technologies such as brain imaging. Free museum admission with an NE SciFest ticket (available on our website).

- Omaha AHEC 8th grade Award Competition — April 11 from 9 a.m. to noon. The Omaha Area Health Education Center invites the public to Omaha North High School, 4410 N 36th St., (Haddox Center) to observe eighth grade Science Fair participants run through their project presentations. Science presentations and hands-on activities will be facilitated. Awards will be given out later in the day. Awardees will be guaranteed a slot in the State Science meet.

The Nebraska Science Festival is a collaboration of organizations and individuals interested in the advancement of science literacy. The Science Festival is designed to make science accessible, interactive, relevant and fun for kids and adults alike. In addition to UNMC, other sponsors, to date, include Nebraska Medicine, the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures, Metro Credit Union, HDR, West Corporation and media sponsors KETV and the *Omaha World-Herald*.

For the full schedule of SciFest activities and participating sites, visit us on the web: [www.nescifest.com/](http://www.nescifest.com/). For additional info and updates, visit us on Twitter (@NESciFest) or Facebook (NE SciFest).

## Escaped Inmate Recaptured Thursday

BY ROB NIELSEN  
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

The Yankton County Sheriff's Department took an escaped state prison inmate back into custody without incident after he spent nearly nine hours on the run.

John Collins, assigned to the Yankton Minimum Unit, was last seen at his job site at the Yankton Senior Citizen's Center around 3 p.m. Wednesday. At 4:10

p.m., he was reported missing from the Center.

Lt. Clint Clites of the Yankton County Sheriff's Department told the *Press & Dakotan* that shortly before midnight, a motorist reported a hitchhiker a mile east of the James River bridge on Highway 50 east of Yankton. Deputies arrived around 12:05 a.m. and made contact with the individual who identified himself as Collins. He was then taken into custody and taken to the Yankton County Jail.

Collins is charged with second-degree escape.

Collins is currently serving a 10-year sentence for grand theft out of Lawrence County and a five-year sentence for forgery and a 10-year sentence for third-degree burglary out of Butte County.

You can follow Rob Nielsen on Twitter at [twitter.com/RobNielsenPandD/](https://twitter.com/RobNielsenPandD/). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net/](http://www.yankton.net/).

## Prison

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The medium-security prison, formerly a college campus, houses around 1,200 inmates. While the inmates may be unable to leave the grounds, prison officials believe in the importance of the prisoners remaining connected to their families and others.

"They need a good connection with their family because 90 percent of them will return to their community or somewhere else when they get out," Schieffer said.

The visits also help reduce recidivism, or a return to prison, said Deputy Warden Jennifer Stanwick-Klimek. "We really promote face-to-face visits," she said.

The prison has instituted a video visit program for inmates whose families can't make the trip to Springfield. Approved family members and friends can visit the inmates via Skype, with the visits scheduled in advance.

The video visits were implemented as part of the effort to keep prisoners connected to their families, Stanwick-Klimek said.

"We're not in a metropolitan area. We're located in a rural area without public transportation," she said. "In our situation, you approach incarceration differently."

### PAYING A VISIT

The face-to-face visits are held in a main room where prison officials can supervise the interaction. The visitation area includes vending machines, allowing families to share snacks.

The play area, which is part of the visitation room, contains fun and entertaining items for children. The area looks similar to any other play area, even if it's located behind prison fences.

The inmates and their children can enjoy videos, books and games. Toys, chairs and tables add to the setting.

A carpeted area provides room for working on activity kits or just sharing the moment. The activities fall under the watchful eye of animated characters such as



SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

Family visitation is a critical component for successful transition to the outside world for prisoners at Mike Durfee State Prison. In order to facilitate a relationship between fathers and their young children, the prison has set up a children's play area in their visitation center.

Shrek and Princess Fiona in one mural and Pooh, Tigger, Piglet and Eeyore on a facing wall.

The visits are made comfortable, but they do carry a number of restrictions, according to Stanwick-Klimek.

Visitation periods are held weekends and holidays. Multiple sessions are held each day, offering flexibility. However, inmates can only see the same visitor in two of three sessions offered a day and not during back-to-back sessions.

The afternoon sessions tend to draw more visitors, Stanwick-Klimek said.

"During the morning session, we have 10 to 15 inmates," she said. "In the afternoon, we'll have up to 60 or 70 inmates and their families, and in the evening, we'll have 50."

In addition, inmates and visitors cannot leave and return during a visitation session.

Visits are divided into two classifications. A Class I visit is a contact visit conducted in a designated visitation area. A Class II visit doesn't allow direct contact, requiring the inmate to be separated by glass and to talk with visitors by phone. All Class II visits must be scheduled in advance.

"The Class II visits involve disciplinary cases and sex offenders who refuse treatment," Stanwick-Klimek said.

Even Class I visits carry restrictions in terms of conduct by inmates and visitors and a ban on contraband. The inmate submits a list of his requested visitors, who undergo a background check. In addition, an inmate can refuse to see a visitor.

"That's pretty standard with open visitation," Stanwick-Klimek said.

Visitors over age 18 are subject to a pat search or metal detector upon entering the area, during the visit and upon leaving the area. Visitors under age 18 must be accompanied by a custodial parent or guardian or an immediate family member who is over age 18.

### FOLLOWING THE RULES

In addition to the immediate family members, inmates can add two friends who are at least age 18, an approved Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) sponsor and an approved Man-To-Man (M-2) sponsor. Attorneys and clergy will be allowed to visit after presenting proper credentials and identification.

"A fiancée is considered a friend until she and the inmate are actually married," Schieffer said.

Visitors must present two forms of identification the first time they visit an inmate. On subsequent visits, only one form of identification is needed.

In addition, visitors are

restricted in the items they can bring with them, Stanwick-Klimek said.

"You're not allowed to bring bags," she said. "You need to put your coats in a closet, and you're not allowed to bring cell phones with you."

Visitors also must observe rules of appropriate dress and proper behavior, Stanwick-Klimek said.

"You can't wear things like shorts, halter tops, tube tops and hoodies," she said. "Conjugal visits are not allowed, and inmates and visitors are restricted in their physical contact."

Failure to follow the rules means a visit will be denied or terminated.

While visits require rules and enforcement, prison officials note the contact also brings tremendous benefits.

The personal visits provide important skills as well as contacts preparing inmates for a successful return to society, Schieffer said.

"When (the prisoners) are pro-social, there are fewer disciplinary issues and more side benefits," she said. "It also helps them in re-entering back into the community."

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at [twitter.com/RDockendorf/](https://twitter.com/RDockendorf/). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net/).

## OBITUARIES

### Arnold Bierle

Arnold Bierle, age 83, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

Funeral services are 2:00 p.m., on Monday, April 6, 2015 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton with Reverend David Gunderson officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton. Visitation is from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., on Sunday, April 5, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Visitation resumes one hour prior to the funeral at the church.

Pallbearers are his grandsons: Jason and Austin Bierle, Matthew, Nathan and Jonathan Nakamura, Tanner, Travis, and Trenten Skorepa.

Arnold was born August 4, 1931 at home in Lesterville, South Dakota to Henry and Vivian (Vanorny) Bierle. He was baptized and confirmed at Martinus Lutheran Church in rural Utica, South Dakota. He attended Rockland School in Lesterville and then started farming with his dad. In 1954, Arnold joined the United States Army and was stationed in Bethesda, Maryland. On May 23, 1956, he married Naomi Sorenson in Yankton. They lived in Utica and Arnold worked for the Corp of Engineers then for Sears in delivery and maintenance department, and finally at Alumax, which is now Sapa.

He retired in 1993 and enjoyed cutting hay and working part-time planting grass with the Yankton County Conservation District. Arnold loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting and camping. He also enjoyed his horses and playing cards. He was a big sports fan who loved playing baseball and watching his favorite teams, the Dallas



Bierle

Cowboys and Minnesota Twins. Arnold loved attending his grandchildren's activities and

treasured the time with his family.

Arnold is survived by his wife, Naomi Bierle of Yankton; four children: Randy (Janelle) Bierle of Aberdeen, SD, Cheryl (Roger) Gregg of Yankton, Lori (Grant) Nakamura of Fresno, CA and Lisa (Larry) Skorepa of Utica; 13 grandchildren: Jason and Austin Bierle, Rachel (Bert) Cross, Matthew, Nathan and Jonathan Nakamura, Kayla (Mike) Pavel, Calsie (Ben) Donker, Kristina, Carley, Tanner, Travis and Trenten Skorepa; four great grandchildren: Vivian and Annalynne Cross and Lane and Elsie Pavel; brother, Richard (Judy) Bierle of Lesterville; mother-in-law, Esther Sorenson of Yankton; brother-in-law, Robert Gravholt of Lesterville; sister-in-law, Cecilia Sorenson of Yankton; aunt, Evelyn Bierle of Lesterville; and several nieces and nephews.

Arnold was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Shirley Gravholt; father-in-law, Melvin Sorenson; and brother-in-law, Wayne Sorenson.

To send an online message to the family, please visit [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
April 3, 2015

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Online condolences at:  
[www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com)

## 13th Annual Midstates Community And Economic Development Conference Brings Community Leaders Together

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, Neb. — The 13th annual Midstates Community and Economic Development Conference will be held Thursday, April 9, from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Marina Inn, Fourth and B Streets in South Sioux City, Neb.

The Midstates Community and Economic Development Conference is one of the largest rural development events in the three state region and is a joint project of 12 agencies and organizations in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. It is designed for local leaders and offers workshops on successful strategies and innovative ideas for rural development.

The keynote speaker and afternoon presenter this year will be Frank Spillers who will emphasize The Power of Engagement, this year's conference theme. Frank will share the secrets

to "The Be WUCA! Way-The Art of Getting Along." He, with the assistance of his wife Kimberlee, will share what communities have to gain through The Be WUCA Way! (Welcome, Understand, Care, Appreciate).

Two breakout sessions will feature six presenters representing success stories in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. Topics for these workshops include entrepreneurship, housing, leadership, youth and strategic partnerships. Towns represented will include Correctionville and Cumberland, Iowa; Hartington and Randolph, Nebraska; and De Smet and Madison, South Dakota.

Communities are encouraged to bring three or more representatives to the conference so one person can be at each of the three breakouts that will run concurrently. Registrations are due

by April 2, and online registration is available at [www.extension.iastate.edu/woodbury](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/woodbury).

The planning committee for the Midstates conference is made up of Iowa State University Extension-Woodbury County; Nebraska Extension-Dakota County; USDA Rural Development of Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota; City of South Sioux City, Neb.; City of Hawarden, Iowa; East River Electric Power Cooperative; SCORE; Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPACO); Dakota Resources; and Siouxland Economic Development Corporation.

Financial sponsors of the conference include Avera Health, Central Bank, City of South Sioux City, Dakota Resources, East River Electric

Power Cooperative, Heidman Law Firm, LLP, Iowa Area Development Group, Iowa-Nebraska State Bank, Nebraska Public Power District, Northwest Iowa Development, Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative, Plymouth County Economic Development, Security National Bank, SIMPCO Council of Governments, Sioux City Journal, Siouxland Community Foundation, Siouxland Economic Development Corporation, The Siouxland Initiative, South Dakota Community Foundation, and Wells Enterprises.

For registration details and additional information contact ISU Extension-Woodbury County at (712) 276-2157 or visit [www.extension.iastate.edu/woodbury/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/woodbury/).

### IN REMEMBRANCE

LaVina L. "Bunny" Prue  
1:00 PM, Saturday  
Community Center  
Santee

Virginia Donahoe  
10:30 AM, Monday  
Sister James Care Center  
Gathering Place  
Yankton

Harold "Les" Korff  
10:30 AM, Monday  
Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
Hartington

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**Easter Sunday**  
Virginia Baked Ham with  
Honey Mustard Glaze  
\$995 And Dessert!  
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2216 Broadway Yankton, SD