

Prison's Learning Experience

Additional S. Dakota Inmates Complete GED And Vocational Training Programs

PIERRE — More state prison inmates completed their General Educational Development (GED®) program and other course work while incarcerated during state fiscal year 2013.

Between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013, a total of 229 state prison inmates earned their GED credential. The number of completions in the previous state fiscal year was 167.

Inmates entering the state prison system who lack a high school diploma are required to work toward earning their GED credential while incarcerated. The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation provides funding for inmates to receive Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) classes leading to the GED credential.

"Not having a high school education or GED is a stumbling block for post-high school education and employment and a barrier to successful reentry for offenders," said Secretary of Corrections Denny Kaemingk. "The Department of Corrections (DOC) is committed to maximizing opportunities for their rehabilitation."

The DOC is preparing for upcoming national changes to the GED system, including transitioning from paper and pencil to computer based testing beginning in January 2014. The current five sections of the GED exam will be reduced to four sections measuring knowledge and skills in reasoning through language arts, mathematical reasoning, science and social studies next year. The changes are designed to align the GED exam with the Common Core standards adopted by most states, including South Dakota, to increase college and career readiness.

During state fiscal year 2013, another 212 inmates graduated from vocational training programs while in prison, earning certificates of completion in areas such as automotive body repair, automotive mechanics, welding, landscape design, construction technology and computer applications. There were 150 vocational completions the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Inmates at Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield work on various projects as part of the automotive body vocational program.

previous fiscal year.

More DOC inmates completed other course offerings during state fiscal year 2013 than in the previous year.

A description of the courses offered to inmates is included below:

- AEL / GED — General Educational Development (GED) tests are a group of subject exams which, when passed, certify that the taker has high school equivalent-level academic skills.

- Common Sense Parenting — Common Sense Parenting was designed by Boys Town as a practical, skill-based parenting program that applies logical strategies and easy-to-learn techniques in addressing issues of communication, discipline, decision making, relationships, self-control and school success.

- Credit When Credit is Due — The course is designed to help individuals gain a better knowledge of money issues and responsibilities revolving around the world of credit.

- Job Search Assistance Program — The

Transition Assistance Program assists inmates in their transition from correctional life to civilian life. This three day workshop includes information on employment services and programs, resumes, interviews and applications, and veteran benefits information. The Department of Labor & Regulation provides the JSAP course.

- Thinking for Change & Thinking for Change Aftercare — Thinking for Change (T4C) is an integrated, cognitive behavioral change program for offenders including cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and development of problem solving skills. The aftercare course continues to develop the skills learned in the T4C classroom. Emphasis is on dealing with daily issues and managing thinking errors.

- Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) — MRT is a cognitive-behavioral program that combines education, group and individual counseling, and structured exercises designed to foster moral development in treatment-resistant clients.

Comment Period For Land Protection Plan Extended

DENVER — Due to public interest, the comment period for the Ponca/Niobrara Land Protection Plan has been extended to Sept. 30.

To increase conservation efforts and recreational opportunities along the Missouri River, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and

National Park Service (NPS) are proposing to work in partnership with willing landowners and local communities. Please see additional information that is attached.

Interested members of the public are invited to come and visit with FWS and NPS staff who will be available to

answer questions and discuss the proposal at the following dates and locations:

- Tuesday, Aug. 20 — 9 a.m.-noon; 25414 Park Avenue, Niobrara Village Council Room, Niobrara, Neb.

- Tuesday, Aug. 20 — 1:30-5 p.m.; 100 East Main Street, Spencer Village Office,

Spencer, Neb.

- Wednesday, Aug. 21 — 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Vermillion Public Library Conference Room, 18 Church Street, Vermillion.

- Tuesday, Aug. 27 — 9 a.m.-noon; Blue Moon Resort, 518th Avenue, Verdel, Neb.

OBITUARIES

Steve Aune

Steven F. Aune, age 59 of rural Volin, SD passed away at his home after a courageous battle with cancer.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at Trondhjem Lutheran Church, Volin, with Rev. Mark Ostrem officiating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations will begin at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a Scripture service at 7:00 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Steven was born January 8, 1954 in Yankton, SD to Freelan and Janice (Thomsen) Aune and baptized and confirmed at Trondhjem Lutheran Church. He grew up on a farm by Marindahl Lake and went to Rempp Country School, Gayville School and finished in Yankton. On July



Aune

28, 1973 he married Karen Suing. To this union, three children were born: Chad, Matt and Renae. They lived in the country in Volin, SD. In 2001 they moved to family century farm (family owned over 100 years) where Steven passed away. Steve was employed as a truck driver for Jack Frick and Cimpls. He drove a school bus for the Irene school district and then entered law enforcement for the state of South Dakota. Steve also farmed and owned Aune Farms Trucking Business with his son, Chad, up until his death. He was a member of the Tri-State Old Iron Association, Yankton County Zoning Board, served on the church council, and Trondhjem Cemetery Board

Steve enjoyed spending time with family and friends, especially his grandchildren. He enjoyed playing cards, country drives with his dad looking at John Deere machinery, eating popcorn, going to casinos and weekend evenings with his wife for supper, especially at Flegg's. Steve also went on an Honor Flight with his dad to D.C. His love for farming with John Deere equipment will be greatly missed. He will be remembered for giving grandkids 4-wheeling rides, tractor rides and sled rides, and also for the nicknames he gave them: Tyler — "lil dude", Taylor — "boo boo", and Keegan — "big keegs".

He is survived by his wife, Karen Aune of Volin, SD; sons, Chad (Callie) Aune of Volin, SD and Matt Aune (Julie Nowak) of Yankton, SD; daughter, Renae Aune (Ryan Barta) of Gayville, SD; three grandchildren (and

one on the way): Tyler Aune, Taylor Aune, Keegan Carl-Aune and baby Aune; parents, Freelan & Janice (Thomsen) Aune; brother, Doug (Marcia) Aune of Loveland, CO; sisters: Monica Cooke of Yankton, SD, Pam (Norman) Rokusek of Yankton, SD, Joyce (Dennis) Meyer of Winner, SD, Marsha (David) Heckenlively of Sioux Falls, SD, and Candace Fromm of Sioux Falls, SD.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Gerald Aune, uncle, Alton Aune, brother-in-law, Dale Cooke, and grandparents, Oscar (Alma) Aune and Soren (Mary) Thomsen.

Send condolences at www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com/.

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Thomas Odenbrett

Thomas H. Odenbrett, 75, of Vermillion, SD passed away Sunday, August 11 at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center after a short illness.

Tom was born May 14, 1938 in Fulda, MN to Bernard and Elizabeth (Einck) Odenbrett. He graduated from Fulda High School and joined the National Guard, serving from 1956 until 1967. In May of 1959, he married Colleen Willemssen in Fulda.

Tom and his wife moved to Vermillion in 1966 where they owned and operated Tommy's Printing and Type-writer repair. He also sold CB Radios and was known as Big Farmer. After selling the business in 1997, he operated C & T Enterprises, a lawn and snow removal business.

Tom's hobbies included wood-working, gardening, motorcycling and being outside. His love for the Missouri

River included jet-skiing, boating, and getting stuck on sandbars. One of his dreams was to boat down the Missouri River from Sioux City, IA to the Gulf of Mexico, but he and Colleen only made it to Columbia, MO where unfortunately his boat broke down. In his time away from the shop, he would volunteer his time for the Coast Guard Auxiliary and belonged to the Eagles Organization. He enjoyed going to polka dances and teaching his grandchildren how to polka. As those who knew him would say, he lived life to the fullest.

Tom is survived by his wife Colleen of Vermillion, a

daughter Shelley (David) Brunick, grandchildren Ashley, Michael, and Ryan Brunick, a brother Maurice (Carolyn) Odenbrett, and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sons, Timothy and Christopher, brother, David (Elfreda) Odenbrett, and sister, Mary (Dan) Klosterman.

Funeral Mass will be 10:30 AM Wednesday, August 14 at

the St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion with burial to follow in the Calvary Cemetery in Vermillion.

Visitation will begin at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday with a Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m. all at the church.

Visit hansenfuneralhome.com.
Yankton Press & Dakotan
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Highway Work Set For Charles Mix Co.

MITCHELL — The South Dakota Department of Transportation is advising motorists that an intersection improvement project on Highway 46 in Charles Mix County is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, Aug. 14.

The intersection improvement will add an eastbound right-turn lane off Highway 46 at the intersection of BIA 29 (Marty Corner).

The approximate time to complete the project is three weeks.

Impact to traffic should be minimal. A shoulder closure will be placed in the eastbound lanes of Highway 46 and flaggers will be present.

Motorists are reminded to watch for slow-moving and turning construction vehicles and construction workers near the driving lane.

Complete road construction information is available at www.safetravelusa.com/sd or by dialing 511.

Nebraska DHHS To Hold Hearing

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is holding a hearing on proposed regulations related to Medicaid coverage of outpatient services for children's mental health and substance use disorder treatment. The hearing will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, in the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln, 301 Centennial Mall South, lower level conference room A.

The Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care will accept comments on these regulations that will establish covered and non-covered services, definitions and requirements for each covered service, and standards for providers, location of services and reporting.

Anyone may attend and comment at the hearing or submit comments in writing. Written comments will be given the same consideration as oral comments. Written comments must be postmarked or received by 5 p.m. CT on the day of the hearings and should be sent to DHHS Legal Services, 301 Centennial Mall South, P.O. Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509-5026, fax 402-742-2382, or e-mailed to DHHS.RulesandRegs@nebraska.gov.

Draft regulations are available online at <http://www.sos.ne.gov/rules-and-regs/regtrack/index.cgi/>.

Draft copies of the regulations are also available at the office of the Secretary of State, 402-471-2385, or call DHHS Legal Services at (402) 471-8223.

Spraying Of Mo. River Sandbars Slated

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will have a contractor spraying sandbars in the Missouri River between Pickstown and Ponca, Neb., from Sept. 3-20.

Aquatically-approved herbicides for vegetation control on emergent sandbar habitat will be used. Approximately 10 sandbars will be treated in the Pickstown to Niobrara reach (river miles 870.0 to 846.0) and approximately 30 sandbars will be treated in the Yankton to Ponca reach (river miles 805.0 to 754.0).

Riverboat Days Adds Kayak Race

The inaugural Yankton Riverboat Days Kayak Run, a six-mile "fun run" style race on the Missouri River, will begin at 2 p.m. on Aug. 17 near Chief White Crane State Recreation Area.

The new event gives festival goers who enjoy paddling an opportunity to put some time on the river into their celebration of Riverboat Days 2013.

Jarett Bies is organizing the event. He is part of the team that founded and hosts the South Dakota Kayak Challenge, a 72-mile race on the river held each May. He says the Aug. 17 event is a race, but one that focuses on safety and fun.

"We're grateful to the Yankton Riverboat Days Committee for letting us join the signature event of the city, and we hope all paddlers around the region will join us for this outing," says Bies. "The route is short but sweet, and we've got great support from a number of agencies to make it a safe and successful shindig."

The race starts at a sandy spot just off of Toe Road in Yankton and ends at Paddle Wheel Point. Shuttles will transport racers from parking lots at Yankton's Visitors' Center back to the start. Registration for the event covers insurance and T-shirts.

Racers who leisurely approach the course will most likely finish in less than two hours, Bies says. The route takes racers past Riverside Park, where a majority of the festival's activities take place. It is scheduled at 2 p.m. so that parade goers and others can still take part in the fun.

The South Dakota Canoe & Kayak Association is sponsoring the event.

You can sign up or get more information here: <http://yrbdkayakevent.blogspot.com/>. You can check out the event's Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/KayakRiverboatDays/>.

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