

Candidate Facing License Proceedings

SIoux FALL (AP) — Former Republican U.S. Senate candidate Annette Bosworth is undergoing proceedings to determine if her medical license should be revoked after her felony conviction for election law violations in May. KSFY-TV reports that testimony in the South Dakota Board of Medical and Osteopathic Examiners proceeding started Friday. John Whipple is a physician with the Kansas-based Acumen Institute. He says Bosworth's license should be revoked because of her conviction. Bosworth has brought supporters to testify. Physician Thomas Dean says Bosworth didn't intend to break the law, but simply made a mistake. A jury found Bosworth guilty of six counts each of perjury and filing false documents. Earlier this month, a judge handed down a suspended sentence without prison time provided she completes three years of probation.

Before Rally, Officers Seize Drugs, Cash

STURGIS (AP) — The state Highway Patrol says so far this week there have been more than 40 drug arrests and almost \$6,000 in cash seized in western South Dakota as attendees of the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally continue to flood the region. This year's rally doesn't officially begin until Monday but bikers and visitors have been showing up for weeks. The patrol says since Tuesday morning there have been 16 felony drug arrests and 25 misdemeanor drug arrests, most of which have been in the city of Sturgis. The data also includes incidents elsewhere in the western part of the state. Officers have also issued 15 DUI arrests, 200 citations and 476 warnings.

Clowns Bring Laughter To Homeless

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A local group of professional and amateur clowns took their acts to the streets of Omaha to help bring laughter and meals to the homeless. Members of the Wild Clowndum helped distribute roughly 300 meals Wednesday from Holy Family Catholic Church's lunch program. James Parsons, a street minister with Blessed Family Street Ministry, told the *Omaha World-Herald* that the clowns bring happiness to those who "need that extra lift." Clowndum member Judy Quest, who has performed for years as "Dear Heart the Clown," is a regular volunteer with the meals program. She said she invites her costumed friends to help out every year. Quest said even clowns can sometimes have a hard time keeping their smiles. She has performed at the Nebraska Medical Center during birthday parties for children, including some with terminal illnesses. "That's really hard, but I have to keep that sadness inside," she said. "My purpose for being there is to make them happy and bring them joy, not bring them down." The group has around 40 members. The youngest member is in high school, and the oldest is 83 years old. "I like to tell people I've been a clown all my life, but I've only been doing it professionally for 10 years," said Jim Mueller of Papillion. The 73-year-old said that when "a kid hugs you and says you're funny, you've arrived."

Judge Orders Return Of Man's Collection

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A judge has ordered that a man's gun collection seized last year by police must be returned to him, but Lincoln ordinances won't let him have them in the city. Gun rights proponents say the case highlights the need for a state law ensuring consistent regulations statewide so cities can't enact stricter gun laws than the state. Supporters of gun control and city officials contend the ordinances ensure local leaders can protect citizens by keeping the weapons out of the hands of irresponsible owners. Police confiscated 24 handguns last August from Kevin Williams, who was accused of illegally possessing them after being convicted of having an illegal pocketknife, the *Lincoln Journal Star* reported. City Attorney Jeff Kirkpatrick said that during a 2010 traffic stop, Williams told a police officer that he had a butterfly knife. Police ticketed him for carrying a concealed weapon, because the knife was too long, and he ultimately paid a \$75 fine. Police learned four years later that Williams had purchased many guns, and his conviction on the weapons charge for the pocketknife made him ineligible to possess a gun in Lincoln for 10 years. An officer then seized Williams' guns under a city ordinance on unlawful firearm possession. Williams was ticketed and fought it in court. The unlawful-possession charge was dropped at the city's request last week. Attorney Bob Creager said his client will probably sell the guns since he can't keep them in the city. President Rod Moeller of the Nebraska Firearm Owners Association said Williams' story points to the problem of Lincoln's ordinance. "He pleaded (guilty) to a misdemeanor whose penalty, on the surface, was a \$75 fine," Moeller said. "No one would expect that if you paid a couple of parking tickets that you would lose your right to drive." Public Safety Director Tom Casady said the city's ordinance is meant to keep guns out of the hands of people the city identified as potentially dangerous. Kirkpatrick, the city attorney, said the municipal government level is appropriate for determining those kinds of restrictions since city governments are closest and most responsive to their citizens.

Vesicular Stomatitis Cases Confirmed

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota's Animal Industry Board says two cases of vesicular stomatitis virus have been confirmed in livestock in the western part of the state. The highly contagious animal disease is transmitted by flies and midges. It can infect horses, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs. It's rarely fatal. There also have been cases this year in Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Wyoming and Arizona. South Dakota State Veterinarian Dustin Oedekeoven (OH-duh-koh-vuhn) says good sanitation and biosecurity measures can help prevent the spread of the disease.

Germany Shelves Nazi Crimes Probe Of US Man

BY DAVID RISING
Associated Press

BERLIN — German prosecutors have shelved their Nazi war crimes investigation of a retired Minnesota carpenter whom The Associated Press exposed as a former commander in an SS-led unit, saying Friday that the 96-year-old is not fit for trial. The decision came more than two years after the AP published a story establishing that Michael Karkoc commanded a unit in the SS-led Ukrainian Self Defense Legion accused of burning villages filled with women and children, based on wartime documents, testimony from other members of the unit and Karkoc's own Ukrainian-language memoir. Efraim Zuroff, the head Nazi hunter for the Simon Wiesenthal Center, questioned why the U.S. Department of Justice itself had not initiated deportation proceedings against Karkoc after the evidence was revealed. "They should have been aware of his presence in the United States a long time ago, and if they were aware and did not take any action, that's very unfortunate, and I would say atypical, but it's obviously a failure," he said by telephone from Lithuania. "If they weren't aware of him then it means he slipped through the cracks, but once AP exposed him they should have moved ahead as quickly as possible." Karkoc's son, Andriy Karkoc, applauded Germany's decision Friday, but said his family can't recover from AP's "unsupported smears." "My father was and is innocent," he said. In Germany, Munich prosecutor Peter Preuss told The AP that Karkoc's attorney

had declined to allow him to be examined by a medical expert from Germany, and that his office's decision was based on "comprehensive medical documentation" from doctors at the geriatric hospital in the U.S. where he is being treated. He said doctors there had provided prosecutors with a comprehensive assessment of Karkoc's health over the past year, which was evaluated by a medical expert in Germany. "There are no doubts about the authenticity of the documentation of his treatment," said Preuss, who declined to provide specifics about Karkoc's health on privacy grounds. The German investigation began after AP's story in June, 2013, which established Karkoc was a commander of the unit and then lied to American immigration officials to get into the United States a few years after World War II. A second report uncovered evidence that Karkoc himself ordered his men in 1944 to attack a Polish village in which dozens of civilians were killed, contradicting statements from his family that he was never at the scene. Andriy Karkoc said Friday that there has never been any evidence or documentation to prove AP's story, and he questioned the validity of AP's sources. He said the ordeal has taken a toll on his father, who has Alzheimer's disease and is not capable of suing the AP for its "salacious manufactured slanders." Paul Colford, AP's vice president and director of media relations, said in a statement: "The Associated Press' stories were solidly reported and well-documented. We stand by them."

The U.S. Department of Justice has refused to say whether it has ever investigated Michael Karkoc, citing its policy of neither confirming nor denying investigations. But Andriy Karkoc said a top Justice official visited his father twice since the AP story, the last time as recently as several months ago. Department of Justice spokesman Peter Carr said Friday he also could not comment on whether his office would now pursue deportation proceedings against Michael Karkoc. "As we have said previously, we are aware of the allegations but will decline further comment at this time," he said in an email. Zuroff said that deportation proceedings would have sent a powerful moral message, even if the Justice Department had thought lengthy deportation proceedings would have been fruitless at Karkoc's advanced age. "They should have done it, if nothing else to make a public statement that we are aware of this individual in the United States who never should have been admitted in the first place," he said. Poland also initiated an investigation into Karkoc, which remains open. State National Remembrance Institute spokesman Andrzej Arseniuk told the AP on Friday that his office's prosecutors are currently awaiting a reply from the U.S. to a request for help identifying handwriting believed to be Karkoc's. The German investigation has taken longer than usual, because prosecutors first had to wait for a court ruling that they had jurisdiction in the case. That came last year, when

the Federal Court of Justice said Karkoc's service in the SS-led unit made him the "holder of a German office." That gave Germany the legal right to prosecute him even though he is not German, his alleged crimes were against non-Germans and they were not committed on German soil. Someone in that role "served the purposes of the Nazi state's world view," the court said. Andriy Karkoc said the Ukrainian Self Defense Legion was a guerrilla group fighting against the Nazis. "I never in my wildest dreams imagined anything like this would happen to our family and particularly to my father who has done nothing but build and contribute his entire life," he said. When cases in Germany are shelved they can be reopened at any time if circumstances change, but in this case Preuss said that is very unlikely. The news came on the day a Jewish newspaper in Britain reported that Stephen Anker, a retired clinical pharmacologist whose Nazi war crimes research done in his free time helped lead the AP to Karkoc, had located a former rifleman in Karkoc's unit living near Manchester. Anker said he hadn't found anything linking the 90-year-old man to war crimes but passed details on to German, American and Polish prosecutors many months ago in case they wanted him as a possible witness in the Karkoc case. Preuss would not say whether German investigators had planned to question him, but said the man is not considered a suspect.

Nebraska Governor Again Donates To Death Penalty Cause

BY MARGERY A. BECK
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — True to his word, Gov. Pete Ricketts has again donated his own money to a group trying to save Nebraska's death penalty. A monthly financial statement released Friday by Nebraskans for the Death Penalty shows Ricketts donated \$100,000 to the group sometime in the last month. That matches his \$100,000 donation to the group in June, for a total of \$200,000. In all, the group raised nearly \$400,000 in cash for July. The largest donation for the month came from the conservative, Washington-based Judicial Crisis Network, which gave \$200,000. Nebraskans for the Death Penalty is overseeing a petition drive to put the death penalty question on the 2016 ballot. That effort began after Nebraska lawmakers abolished the death penalty last spring despite the governor's veto. Death penalty opponents have launched their

own campaign, Nebraskans for Public Safety, urging voters not to sign. Ricketts drew some criticism earlier this month when a June financial statement showed both he and his father, TD Ameritrade founder Joe Ricketts, had donated \$100,000 to the cause. At the time, the governor said he might give more money to the death penalty cause in the future. Joe Ricketts did not donate any more money in recent weeks, according to the financial statement. Gov. Pete Ricketts didn't directly address his latest donation in a written statement Friday, but stood by his support of the death penalty. "Nebraskans, including myself, don't want to — and wish we didn't have to — use the death penalty," he said. "However, I fully support giving voters the opportunity to decide whether the state of Nebraska can utilize this important tool to protect the safety of our citizens, law enforcement officers and corrections officers who deal with dangerous criminals

in our correctional facilities." A spokesman for the petition campaign thanked the Judicial Crisis Network and others for their donations. "We are grateful to have support from hundreds of Nebraskans who have volunteered their time and/or made a donation to support the petition drive," spokesman Chris Peterson said. "With less than four weeks until our deadline, we continue to work hard to gather enough valid signatures to put the future of the death penalty to a vote of the people and to put the repeal on hold until the voters have spoken." Nebraskans for the Death Penalty has to gather roughly 57,000 signatures of registered voters by Aug. 27 to place the law on the ballot, and 115,000 to suspend the law before voters decide the question. They also must gather signatures from at least 5 percent of the registered voters in 38 of Nebraska's 93 counties. Phone and email messages left Friday for Nebraskans for Public Safety were not immediately returned.

Your News! The Press and Dakotan



FOUR-DIMENSIONAL BREAST CARE

You're multidimensional — a wife, boss, soccer coach, grandmother — and so is your body. Avera has added 3D technology to its suite of breast care services because sometimes we need to look at a different angle. Our fourth dimension of care encompasses a mind, body, spirit approach to working with you. This is in line with our health ministry and the entire breast care program, which tackles breast cancer diagnosis, treatment and support with the belief that every woman is unique. Avera — breast care that's as multidimensional as you. Talk to your primary care provider to see if a 3D mammogram is right for you.



Schedule your mammogram today.
Avera.org/mammo

Blackburn Basement Systems
Waterproofing & Repair
Basement & Foundation Specialists™

Wet Basement? Basement Wall Bowed? Foundation Settling?

•Free Estimates •Financing Available
Toll Free 1-800-392-3389
www.blackburnbasementrepair.com

GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTER NEEDED:
The *Watertown Public Opinion*, a six-day newspaper and 24/7 digital information provider covering the Glacial Lakes Region of South Dakota and west central Minnesota, has an immediate opening for a general assignment reporter.

The position would focus on covering the local education beat, which includes one of the nation's top technical colleges, but would also include everything from cops and courts to writing feature stories for our print, digital and mobile platforms. In addition to strong writing skills, basic photography and video skills are necessary. If you are curious and enjoy writing, this might be the job for you.

Send a resume, cover letter and writing and photography samples to Christine Carter, Human Resources Manager, Watertown Public Opinion, P.O. Box 10, Watertown, SD, 57201-0010 or e-mail samples and requested information to chris.carter@thepublicopinion.com.

Watertown PUBLIC OPINION