

the region

Corps Maintains Release To Increase Storage

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Army Corps of Engineers is extending the current release from Gavins Point Dam in South Dakota to increase flood control storage heading into the spring runoff season on the Missouri River, which had record flooding this year because of heavy rain and melting snowpack.

The corps planned to cut the release on Thursday from 40,000 cubic feet per second to 20,000 cfs. The corps says Friday it will maintain the current release through Dec 7. It will then gradually decrease the rate until it reaches 20,000 cfs.

The corps' Jody Farhat says the adjustment could provide an additional 500,000 cfs of storage by the start of the runoff season.

Farhat says precipitation this fall is below normal over most of the basin, but that could change.

Man Seeks Permission To Clean Ditch

Chris Nelsen will request permission from the Mission Hill Township Board Monday to clean the ditch along the south side of 307th St. east of 44th Ave.

The project would result in approximately 1,300 feet of ditch being cleaned. Cleaning would also be done on the north side of 307th St. to restore functionality of the culverts that feed into the south side of the road.

The work would consist of clearing the bottom of the ditch of grass and sediment and restoring the grade to the original design. Waste materials would be hauled off site.

The project would be paid for by adjacent landowners, and no cost would be incurred by the township.

NDA Encourages Local Tree Shopping

LINCOLN, Neb. — With Christmas rapidly approaching, Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Director Greg Ibach would like to encourage Nebraskans to think locally this holiday season.

"Many Nebraskans are beginning their quest to find the perfect, fresh Christmas tree," said Ibach. "When considering your options, please think about visiting one of Nebraska's numerous Christmas tree operations. Not only will you be getting one of the freshest trees available, but the money you spend will stay in our local economy."

Nebraska's Christmas tree operations offer numerous varieties of Pine, Spruce, and Fir trees. Many of the farms also offer wreaths, swags, and garlands, as well as family experiences such as wagon rides, children's activities, pony rides, campfires, and snacks. Many farms are pet-friendly and offer gift and craft shops as well. Other services offered by some of the farms include tree cutting, cleaning, netting, and loading assistance.

To assist Nebraskans with locating Christmas tree farms, NDA has updated the "Nebraska Christmas Tree Growers Directory," featuring tree farms throughout the state.

Ibach also is encouraging Nebraskans to consider local options for gift ideas this holiday season.

"Holiday gift giving can sometimes be a daunting and difficult task, but numerous Nebraska companies are available to help you in your gift purchasing," Ibach said. "The 'Nebraska Holiday Brochure' is a good, quick reference of Nebraska companies that can make your gift giving experience easier."

Among the pages of the brochure, consumers will find Nebraska food and meat companies that package food products year-round in a variety of different ways. Meat products range from the traditional Nebraska beef and pork, to bison and ostrich meats. Food products include candies, desserts, jellies, baking mixes, pastas, wines, and seasonings.

Both listings are available online at www.agr.ne.gov or by calling 800-422-6692.

UP TO THE CHALLENGE



KELLY HERTZ/P&D
The YankTON Challenge wrapped up its inaugural campaign Friday with a victory celebration and awards ceremony at The Landing. More than 4,600 pounds was lost by participants from 30 local businesses during the 12-week period that began in August. ABOVE: Riverfront Broadcasting, L.C.C. (KYNT), of Yankton won the business division, followed by the Yankton School District and The Center. BELOW: Carmen Moeller of Shur-Co won the individual weight-loss title. Finishing second was Larry Wynia (right) of the Yankton School District, with Gerald Peterson of Kolberg-Pi-oneer, Inc., placing third. For more details, see page 5.



Decorative Items Can Pose Serious Fire Risk

Festive lighting, windowsill candles and ornamented Christmas trees are staples of the holidays, but these decorative items also pose a fire risk if handled improperly. In 2005-2009, on average, one of every 18 reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in a death, compared to an average of one death per 141 total home fires.

Holiday lights and other decorative lighting were involved in an estimated average of 150 home fires per year during the same time. These fires caused an average of eight civilian deaths, 14 injuries, and \$8.5 million in direct property damage per year.

"December is an exciting time where almost every home on the block is accented with decorations and seasonal lighting," said Lorraine Carl, vice president of communications for the National Fire Protection Association <<http://www.nfpa.org>> (NFPA). "Though decorations such as candles or Christmas trees certainly spread holiday cheer, it is important to follow basic safety steps so celebrations go off without a hitch."

Here are NFPA's tips for safe holiday decorating:

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Check the packaging; some lights are only for indoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.
- For proper Christmas tree safety:
 - Keep your tree well watered. A dry tree can be extremely dangerous. See how flammable a dry Christmas tree can be in comparison to a well-watered tree in a demonstration by NFPA.
 - Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
 - Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
 - Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
 - Get rid of the tree when it is dry. Check with your local community to find a recycling program.
 - Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

SDWG Celebrates 70th Anniversary of Civil Air Patrols, Sub Chasers

RAPID CITY — On Dec. 1, Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and its three hundred members across South Dakota, observe 70 years of vigilant service. But the celebration won't be complete until CAP's earliest members — now in their 80s and 90s — are "rightly honored" with the Congressional Gold Medal.

The CAP has squadrons in Sioux Falls, Yankton, Brookings, Pierre, Rapid City, Aberdeen, Philip, Spearfish, and Custer. The South Dakota Wing is located in Rapid City.

CAP, an all-volunteer service of more than 61,000 members, was founded 70 years ago on Dec. 1, 1941, less than a week before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor led to America's involvement in World War II. Known at the time as the Coastal Patrol, members soon proved their worth by conducting aerial missions at the request of the Office of Civilian Defense, displaying heroism that discouraged and eventually stopped deadly German U-boat attacks on supply ships leaving American ports headed to support the Allied war effort.

The "subchasers" flew at great personal risk. In all, 90 CAP planes were forced to ditch at sea. Of the 59 CAP pilots killed during World War II, 26 were lost while on Coastal Patrol duty and seven others were seriously injured while carrying out the missions. Their wartime service was highly unusual because they were civilian volunteers flying combat missions in their own aircraft at a time when the military could not adequately respond to the U-boat threat. The military decided to arm their aircraft soon after the patrols began and, all told, they sank or damaged two or more submarines and attacked 57.

Legislation has been introduced and is pending in both houses of the U.S. Congress, H.R. 719 and S. 418, that would award CAP a Congressional Gold Medal for its World War II service. It will be a diminished victory, however, if none of the World War II-era CAP members are alive to see this law's passage.

"These members from our earliest days as an organization helped save lives and preserve our nation's freedom," said Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, CAP's national commander. "They were truly unsung heroes of the war, using their small private aircraft to search for enemy submarines close to America's shores, towing targets for military practice, transporting critical supplies within the country and conducting general airborne reconnaissance. They provided selfless service, without fanfare, in defense of their homeland."

Time is now the enemy of the roughly 60,000 CAP volunteers from World War II. Only a few hundred of them are still alive today.

"Each week, each month, others are lost," said Carr. "We want to make sure those who remain, and those who have passed, are rightly honored for their great service to America."

These early CAP heroes included men like Vern Kraemer of Spearfish. Kraemer was not only a CAP sub chaser assigned to an East Coast squadron but a South Dakota aviation pioneer as well.

"Whether it was during the darkest days of World War II or during the recent unprecedented flooding on the Missouri River, South Dakotans have been at the forefront of the Civil Air Patrol in serving their state and nation when needed most," said Col. Teresa Schimelfening, commander of the South Dakota Wing.

To support CAP's Congressional Gold Medal legislation, contact federal legislators, both senators and representatives, and ask them to cosponsor H.R. 719 and S. 418. In both houses, two-thirds of the membership must sponsor a bill before it can be brought up for a vote. Sample letters and other details, including a list of current cosponsors, are available at www.capmembers.com/goldmedal.

Meanwhile, anyone with information on adult CAP members who served the organization during World War II is encouraged to upload their information into the World War II Congressional Gold Medal database at www.capmembers.com/goldmedal.

OBITUARIES

John Fuks

TABOR — John Fuks, age 67, of Tabor, SD, died Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, December 5, 2011 at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton, with Rev. Ken Lulf celebrating and Msgr. Carlton Hermann concelebrating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Yankton, SD. Military Graveside Rights by the Earnest-Bowyer VFW Post #791 and the SDRANG of Sioux Falls, SD.

Visitations will begin at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Scripture service at 7:30 PM. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Pallbearers are: Patrick Hynes, Thomas Hynes, Tyler Wriedt, Josiah Wriedt, David Kotab, Matthew Fuks, Doug Hill and John Cap. Honorary pallbearers will be the Staff and patients of the Dialysis Unit.

John was born on March 20, 1944 to Albert and Ella (Dufek-Carda) Fuks in Yankton, SD. John graduated from Tabor High School in 1965 and served in the US Army from 1966 until his honorable discharge in 1968; serving in Germany during the Vietnam Era. He married Pat Vitek on April 18, 1970 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Tabor, SD.

John enjoyed fishing,



Fuks

NASCAR, Czech Days and being with his family and grandchildren. He liked going to livestock sales and raised livestock and sheep (which he loved).

Survivors include his wife, Pat of Tabor, SD; children, Lisa (Kevin) Hynes of Murdock, NE, Michelle (Jim) Wriedt of Norfolk, NE, Bryan (Christy) Fuks of Scotland, SD, Jeffrey (Mindy) Fuks of Volga, SD and Jessica (Daniel) Guthmiller of Menno, SD; sisters, Dolores (Don) Kotab of Dante, SD, Dorothy (Donald) Caba of Mills River, NC and Lea (Len) Hejl of Austin, MN; grandchildren, Patrick Hynes, Thomas Hynes, Michael Hynes, Courtney Fuks, Tyler Wriedt, Josiah Wriedt, Bailee Fuks, Chesney Fuks, Gabriel Turpin, Lane and Eric Guthmiller; father-in-law, Ivan Vitek; sister-in-law, Joanne Fuks, and mother-in-law, Albina Vitek.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
December 3, 2011

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Shoppers Cautioned On ID Theft

SIOUX FALLS — Shoppers are often overwhelmed by the pressures of holiday shopping and all the festivities of the season. As a result, they are even more vulnerable to what the Social Security Administration calls one of the nation's fastest growing crimes — identity theft.

According to the National Retail Fund, holiday spending increased this year as more than 226 million U.S. consumers took advantage of crazy-good discounts and 12 a.m. (or earlier) start times on Black Friday.

To safeguard your personal information as you shop this season, AAA Financial Services offers these tips:

- Use cash or credit only. Compromised debit information puts your money at risk because the card is directly linked to your bank account. Credit cards offer greater consumer protection and less liability than your bank card.
- Clean out your wallet. Don't carry excess credit cards or your Social Security card with you. For the cards you do carry, keep all account numbers and phone numbers at home.

Search before you swipe. Tech-savvy thieves use inconspicuous tools such as skimming devices to steal your card information at ATMs, gas pumps and other pay terminals. Don't use swipe devices that look out of place. Be sure to shield your PIN number as you punch it in or ask the cashier to run your card through the register.

Shoppers searching for deals online are also urged to exercise cyber safety:

- Shop sites you trust. Stick with online retailers you recognize and make sure you are at their correct site. Misspelled domain names or sites ending with unknown domain names can be dummy sites used to capture your personal information.
- Shop secure. Before submitting credit card information, make sure the website is secure by looking for "https://" instead of "http://" in front of the web address.
- Stay off public Wi-Fi. Never use public wireless hotspots to do online shopping, banking or any activity that requires passwords or personal information.

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A Prayer of Thanks
The family of Barry Huitema would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, and memorial gifts. We would like to especially thank those of you who attended the funeral, Wintz Funeral Home, Vangen WELCA, and Pastor Lindgren. God's love and peace to you all.
Erna Huitema & family

View Our Video Tributes on-line at...
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com
WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644
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YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

Fill the puzzle so that every row, every column, and every section contain the numbers 1-9 without repeating a number.

	9			7	4	
	3	2				
		1		8	5	2
			4	2		
	6					4
			9	5		
8	9	3			2	
					1	5
		3	5			7

CHALLENGING CH BOOK 27 #2

Yesterday's Solution

3	6	4	8	9	5	7	2	1
8	2	9	3	7	1	4	6	5
5	1	7	4	6	2	9	8	3
1	5	6	7	2	3	8	4	9
2	4	3	9	5	8	1	7	6
7	9	8	6	1	4	3	5	2
9	3	2	5	8	7	6	1	4
4	7	5	1	3	6	2	9	8
6	8	1	2	4	9	5	3	7

su|do|ku
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Check tomorrow's paper for the solution to today's puzzle.
INT BOOK 27 #2

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