

Climate Assessment Resp. Committee To Meet

Bobbie Kriz-Wickham, assistant director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, has scheduled a meeting of the Climate Assessment Response Committee (CARC) for Thursday, December 15, 2011. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. in room 901 of Hardin Hall on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus, 3310 Hol-drege Street.

Climate officials will brief CARC members on existing and predicted weather conditions. For more details, call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at (402) 471-2341.

L&C Women Of Today Bake Sale This Saturday

Lewis and Clark Women of Today will be having a bake sale from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 17, at Riverview Reformed Church, 1700 Burleigh, Yankton.

Contact Mary Wright at 664-8475 or Shellee Heinemeyer at 664-3257 with questions.

Kloucek Hosting Public Listening Meetings

SCOTLAND — District 18 Rep. Frank Kloucek, D-Scotland, has announced that he will be holding a series of public listening meetings this week. The public is welcome to participate.

"This is an excellent opportunity for constituents to give their input in preparation for the upcoming 2012 Legislative session," said Rep Kloucek

This week's schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, Dec. 15: 8 a.m. — Corral Cafe, Tyndall; 10 a.m. — Main Stop C Store, Scotland; 2 p.m. — Open Door Cafe, Menno
- Friday, Dec. 16: 2 p.m. — Sally's Steakhouse, Salem
- Saturday, Dec. 17: 8 a.m. — Avon A1 Get and Go; 10 a.m. — Players Sports Grill, Springfield.

New Years Eve Fun Week Activities Planned

In the past, the Coalition for a Drug Free Yankton has hosted an event known as New Years Eve Fun Night. This year, the activities will be spread across a week so many families can go to more than one activity.

Fun Week activities start Tuesday, Dec. 27, and go through Saturday, Dec. 31.

Below are the times and locations of the activities for New Years Eve Fun Week:

- Starting Nov. 14 and ending Dec. 16 for groups K-2 and 3-5, there will be a poster contest. An award ceremony and kid-friendly community event will be held by the South Dakota National Guard CounterDrug Program Tuesday, Dec. 27, from 6-9 p.m. at the Yankton-area Boys and Girls Club. Refreshments will be provided.
- A free swim and gym event will be held from 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, at the Summit Center.
- Free family games (board games, Twister, cards, etc.) will be held from 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, at the Summit Center. Refreshments and prizes will be provided.
- A family-oriented event with activities from the South Dakota National Guard CounterDrug Program will held from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at the National Guard Armory in Yankton. Refreshments will be provided.
- A family movie night will be held from 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, at the Yankton Middle School. Refreshments and door prizes will be provided.
- A middle school dance will be held from 7-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30. There will be a \$2 admission fee and concessions will be provided. It will be chaperoned by the Parents for a Safe Prom.
- Free ice skating will be held from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, at the Alcoa Arena.

Lutheran Social Service Seminars Tonight

Two seminars — titled "Make the Most of Your Dollars" and "Make the Most of your Credit" — will be offered by Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Lutheran Social Services on Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Marne Creek Professional Building, 610 W 23rd St. Suite 4, Yankton.

"Make the Most of Your Dollars" will start at 6 p.m., while "Make the Most of your Credit" will begin at 7 p.m.

"Make the Most of Your Dollars" will help participants prepare a monthly spending plan and set goals for spending, saving and the wise use of credit to help you meet your financial needs and wants. By tracking your expenses, you will determine your financial values. You will receive the tools and strategies to live within your current means and build toward a more stable future.

"Make the Most of your Credit" can teach you to save on optional fees like interest, explain the difference between compounding and simple interest and teach you how to use the least costly type of credit to make your purchases.

Preregistration is preferred. Both classes have great information on managing your money and credit in today's economy. There is a small cost for both sessions and you will receive a financial book to take with you.

To register, call Sylvia at Lutheran Social Services at 665-2106.

L&C Women Of Today Gift Wrapping Offered

Lewis and Clark Women of Today will be wrapping gifts at the Yankton Mall on Saturday and Sunday, 17-18, for a donation. As a national, non-profit service organization, the group supports anti-Domestic Violence programs, Make-A-Wish, South Dakota Children's Cosmetic Surgery Foundation, and other local priorities.

Contact Shellee Heinemeyer at 665-3257 or Mary Wright 664-8475.

Crazy Horse Journalism Workshop Set For April

VERMILLION — Native American high school students planning to attend college and interested in careers in the news media will learn firsthand about higher education opportunities and journalism during a week-long workshop next April at Crazy Horse Memorial in South Dakota's Black Hills.

Journalists and educators from around the country will teach a condensed course about the fundamentals of journalism at the Crazy Horse Journalism Workshop, April 15-19. Students will attend for free and will be selected through a competitive application process. High school juniors and seniors, regardless of where they live, will be given preference over younger applicants.

Students, under the guidance of experienced mentors, will report and write articles, take photographs and produce multimedia projects that will be published online and printed in a newspaper. They also will learn about preparing for success in college and opportunities in journalism.

The conference was created by the South Dakota Newspaper Association and is funded primarily by the Freedom Forum Diversity Institute. Co-sponsors include Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation and journalism programs at South Dakota State University and the University of South Dakota.

The April 2012 workshop will be the 13th annual journalism program held at Crazy Horse Memorial. Nearly 1,700 high school and college students have completed the program, which is designed to inspire Native American students to dream about the future and consider journalism as a career.

"We are very excited about the workshop and the opportunity these students will have to work one-on-one with journalism professionals," said Randell Beck, president and publisher of Argus Leader Media in Sioux Falls, and chair of SDNA's Minority Affairs Committee. "Media organizations are adapting to new challenges in journalism — and so are we."

Prevent Spread Of Food-Borne Disease During Holidays

PIERRE — As you entertain family and friends at holiday gatherings, be sure to keep food safety in mind to prevent food-borne illness, says a state health official.

"Bacterial food-borne illness, more commonly called food poisoning, can turn holiday merriment to misery," said Dr. Lon Kightlinger, State Epidemiologist for the Department of Health. "You can prevent food-borne illness by thorough hand washing, cooking and storing foods at the proper temperatures, and avoiding food preparation when you're sick."

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 48 million people, or one out of six Americans, gets sick with a food borne illness each year, 128,000 are hospitalized and 3,000 die. In South Dakota, as of the end of November, more than 400 cases of the food-borne illnesses Salmonella



(151), Campylobacter (286), and E. coli (37) had been reported for the year. There have also been cases of another food borne illness, Norovirus, which is not reportable.

"It's not uncommon in South Dakota to have food-borne outbreaks caused by holiday pot-lucks at schools, churches, offices or other gatherings,"

noted Dr. Kightlinger. He recommended the following precautions for holiday food preparations:

- Clean — Wash hands, cutting boards, utensils, and countertops.
- Separate — Keep raw meat, poultry, and seafood separate from ready-to-eat foods.
- Cook — Use a food

thermometer to ensure that foods are cooked to a safe internal temperature — 145°F for whole meats (let meat rest for 3 minutes before carving or consuming), 160°F for ground meats, and 165°F for all poultry and stuffing.

• Chill — Keep your refrigerator below 40°F, and refrigerate food that will spoil.

• Be especially careful when preparing food for children, pregnant women, those in poor health, and older adults.

• Don't prepare food for others if you have diarrhea or have been vomiting.

Learn more at <http://tiny.cc/SDFoodSafety> or <http://tiny.cc/SDFoodSafety2>.

Signs and symptoms of food-borne illness can include mild or severe diarrhea, fever, vomiting and abdominal pain. Most people will recover on their own without medication or may require fluids to prevent dehydration.

Year-End Holiday Travel Volume Will Hit 5-Year High, AAA Predicts

SIoux FALLS — AAA forecasts 91.9 million Americans will travel 50 miles or more from home over the upcoming Christmas / New Year's holiday period, a 1.4 percent increase over year-ago figures. This year's travel volume is the highest since 2006. AAA defines the travel season as Dec. 23 to Jan. 2.

Today, the auto club released its annual year-end travel forecast, which revealed growth both state and nationwide, but only for auto travel, not air. Nationally, 83.6 million will be getting there by motor vehicle, a 2.1 percent boost over one year ago, and 5.4 million will fly, a dip of 9.7 percent.

In South Dakota, overall travel is predicted to increase 0.8 percent over last year, with 260,015 South Dakotans traveling by motor vehicle over the holidays, a 1.2 percent jump compared to 2010 figures, and 8,211 flying, a 10.1 percent decline from last year.

"It's a positive sign for the travel industry that so many South Dakotans are planning to travel this holiday season, despite the drop in expected air travel," said Mark Madeja, spokesman for AAA South Dakota. "Gasoline prices have come down off their late summer/early fall highs and some economic indicators, such as the real gross domestic product, are showing signs of life."

While the current South Dakota statewide average of \$3.286 is 29 cents more than last year at this time, South Dakota's fuel average is currently 65 cents

less than this year's peak price of \$3.938 recorded on May 13.

Fifty-nine percent of intending travelers state that the economy has either no impact on their travel plans, or that things have improved for them since last year. The remaining 41 percent state an intention to scale back due to economic concerns.

According to AAA's Leisure Travel Index, airfares are projected to be 21 percent higher over peak travel periods this year than last year. Hotel rates at AAA Three Diamond-rated lodgings are expected to increase a modest one percent from last year. Daily car rental rates are predicted to decline 21 percent this year to \$40, the lowest rate in five years.

American travelers will venture an average of 726 miles from home this year, down from 1,052 miles last year, thanks in large part to the decline in air travel. Median spending is projected to be \$718, which is three percent more than last year.

AAA's projections are based on research by IHS Global Insight, a Boston-based economic research and consulting firm. AAA has been reporting on holiday travel trends for more than two decades.

Stay connected with AAA South Dakota on the web via:

www.AAA.com — for gas price information, safety advice, maps and more.

www.TeenDriving.AAA.com — for state teen licensing laws and great tips.

Summit Center Holiday Hours Announced

The Summit Activities Center extended swim and holiday hours are as follows:

- Thursday, Dec. 22 — no-school special from 1-4 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 23 — no-school special from 1-4 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 24 — 8 a.m.-2 p.m., no fitness classes
- Monday, Dec. 26 — 8 a.m.-10 p.m., no fitness classes, no school special from 1-4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 27 — no-school special from 1-4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 28 — no-school special from 1-4 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 29 — Coalition for Drug Free 1-4 p.m., Yankton Free Swim
- Friday, Dec. 30 — no-school special from 1-4 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 31 — 8 a.m.-5 p.m., no fitness classes
- Sunday, Jan. 1 — noon-9 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 2 — 8 a.m.-10 p.m., no school special from 1-4 p.m., No Fitness Classes

In addition to the No School Special Swim and Gyms during Christmas break, regular open swim times will continue during normal business hours. A complete listing of holiday hours through Jan. 2, 2012, can be found at the Summit Activities Center or the City of Yankton website at cityofyankton.org.

For further information, please call 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street. Don't forget to follow the Yankton Parks and Recreation Department on our Facebook page.

OBITUARIES

Wanita Janssen

COLERIDGE, Neb. — Wanita Janssen, 77, of Coleridge, Neb., died Tuesday, Dec 13, 2011, at Parkview Haven Nursing Home, Coleridge.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Coleridge, with the Rev. Katherine Russell officiating. Burial will be in the Lawn Ridge Cemetery, Coleridge.

Visitation is 4-8 p.m. today (Thursday), with a prayer service at 7 p.m., at the church. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Friday at the church.

Wintz Funeral Home, Coleridge, is in charge of arrangements. To view the video tribute or to send

condolences on line, visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Gladys Merkwan

Gladys Merkwan, 89, of Yankton, died at her residence Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011.

Funeral services are at 10:30

a.m. Saturday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, with the Rev. Paul Opsahl officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories, Yankton.

Visitations are 5-8 p.m. Friday, at the funeral home, then one hour prior to the service at the funeral chapel.



AT THE ELKS

New Years Eve Dinner & Dance

504 W. 27th Street, Yankton

- **Prime Rib Dinner** Served 7:00-8:30
- **Dance Only** (8:30-12:30) - \$10.00

Music by Outback Band, Party Favors - \$25.00

Reservations Required, Call 665-3333 • Open to the Public

IN REMEMBRANCE

Sister Kathleen Hickenbotham, OSB

10:30 AM, Thursday
Bishop Marty Memorial Chapel
Yankton

Charles W. Barron, Jr.
10:30 AM, Friday
Wintz & Ray Funeral Home
Yankton

Wanita M. Janssen
10:30 AM, Friday
Immanuel Lutheran Church
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