

Nettleman Named Dean Of U Medical School

SIoux FALLS (AP) — The new dean of the University of South Dakota's medical school is the first woman to hold the job, and the highest-paid state employee in South Dakota.

Dr. Mary Nettleman was chosen from among four finalists. USD President Jim Abbott says she'll begin the job April 2. The 55-year-old Nettleman succeeds Dr. Rodney Parry, who is retiring.

She will be paid \$500,000 a year, and the *Sioux Falls Argus-Leader* reports her salary will be the highest among South Dakota state employees.

Abbott says deans in other states are paid more, and Nettleman will be holding two jobs.

She will be the medical school dean and a university vice president in charge of overseeing programs to train other health professionals.

Nettleman is moving to South Dakota from Michigan State University.

Money Sought For Pony Express Monument

GOTHENBURG, Neb. (AP) — Money is being raised to erect a Pony Express monument in Gothenburg.

KNOP-TV reports that the Nebraska division of the National Pony Express Association is spear-heading the project. President Lyle Gronewold says the completed statue will go in Gothenburg's Ehmen Park, which is home to a preserved Pony Express station.

The life-size statue of a horse and rider will be created by Cambridge artist Gary Ginther.

The cost of the project is expected to be \$145,000. About a third of that is needed before Ginther can start work. Gronewold says he expects to raise that much in about six months.

Hypothermia May Have Killed Missing Driver

FULLERTON, Neb. (AP) — The death of a driver who wandered from his vehicle may have been caused by hypothermia.

NTV reports the Nance County sheriff's office is investigating the death. The name of the man, who was found Saturday morning by a local farmer, has not been released.

The man was driving from Silver Creek to Genoa when he went missing Friday night. A friend called authorities when the man didn't show up to meet him. Rescuers searched for the man for several hours but stopped because of low visibility and a vast search area.

Authorities say the driver wandered away from his truck on a minimum-maintenance road and is believed to have died overnight of hypothermia.

6-Year-Old Buys Gifts For S.D. Youngsters

BRYANT (AP) — A 6-year-old boy used a \$1,000 prize to provide early Christmas gifts to other youngsters.

Aiden Moe of Bryant delivered "Pillow Pet" toys on Saturday to families at the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux Falls. The house is used by families who have children in local hospitals.

The toys are pillows shaped like animals. Aiden received one recently when he was a patient at a Brookings hospital, and he liked it so much he wanted other youngsters to have one. He bought more than 100 toys.

Aiden's mother, JaMae Moe, tells KSFY-TV that she's happy her son wants to give back to others. She says: "It makes me feel like I raised him well."

NEBRASKA

Terms Limits Raise Experience Concerns

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Term limits will force more than one-third of the Legislature's committee heads, including the leaders of the main budget panels, to quit after this year, leading some to note a big drawback to a system they still support.

Of the 14 standing committees, five will lose their chairmen or chairwomen, including the leaders of the budget-focused and highly complex Appropriations and Revenue committees. This also will be the last year for Speaker of the Legislature Mike Flood, who helped forge unlikely compromises on the Keystone XL pipeline and other issues.

The departing committee chairs said they support term limits, but several described a struggle to learn all the public policy nuances that accumulate with years of experience.

"You have an incredibly steep learning curve," said Sen. Abbie Cornett, who has chaired the Revenue Committee for four years. "I'm not saying we don't have capable people, and I'm not saying we should get rid of term limits. But maybe Nebraska should think about extending them another term."

Standing committees examine bills, hold hearings, and edit legislation before they advance to the full Legislature for debate. The Legislature has other kinds of committees that handle procedural matters and investigate specific problems, but they work less often with legislation.

Unlike other states with term limits, Nebraska lawmakers can't run for office in another legisla-

tive chamber. Since 1937 it has been the nation's only one-chamber Legislature, a move intended to make the body more efficient, transparent and responsive to citizen concerns.

Nebraska voters enacted term limits in 2000, and they went into effect in 2006. It was the fourth time the issue appeared on the ballot, but past efforts were struck down in court. Advocates for term limits said they prevent lawmakers from becoming career politicians and guarantee a steady supply of fresh faces with new ideas.

The law bars senators from serving more than two consecutive four-year terms, but they can return after sitting out one term. No lawmakers are moving to repeal term limits but even staunch advocates note a cost that comes with the system.

Cornett, of Bellevue, said she is still digesting the ins-and-outs of state tax policy in her final year in office: The retired Omaha police officer reads farmland valuation reports in bed, spends her summers in policy conferences and hearings, and crams sales tax law into her hour-long drives to Lincoln.

Sen. Lavon Heidemann, who was chosen to head the Appropriations Committee in 2007 during his third year in office, said he relied heavily on legislative and fiscal-office staff. Still, he said he struggled in his earlier years and rarely left the Capitol before 10 p.m.

"It was a huge learning curve for me," said Heidemann, of Elk Creek. "To be on Appropriations is one thing. To be the chair, you have to learn a lot about every agency. It's broadened my horizons, without a doubt."

Heidemann, a Republican in the officially non-partisan Legislature, said he became more mod-

erate as he learned the intricacies of the state budget. He said the experience he gained over time made him more attentive to colleagues on the nine-member panel, which includes three Democrats.

"I'm a very, very conservative person," he said. "I'm still very conservative. But I think it moved me more toward the center."

State Sen. Rich Pahls, who has been chairman of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee for six years, said he relied heavily on staff and attorneys who specialize in issues before his committee. Pahls started serving on the committee when he took office in 2005. He became chairman two years later.

"All of us at that time were relatively new to the system," he said. "But I think the Legislature has survived. The world's not going to stop (with new committee chairs). There may be some hiccups but I don't envision anything major."

Before term limits, committee chairs usually served several years on a panel before taking the top role, said Charlyne Berens, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln journalism associate dean who has written two books about Nebraska's Legislature. But Berens said term limits are prompting more junior lawmakers to apply for chairmanships earlier.

"Many citizens think that, the longer someone stays in a legislative position, the more entrenched their thinking becomes," she said. "But it's a trade-off. You lose institutional memory with term limits, but also depth of knowledge about the issues. You lose people who have found techniques for forming coalitions."

Neb. Cities Move Ahead On Energy Grant Program

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's two largest cities are moving ahead on a joint program to promote energy efficiency.

Lincoln Mayor Chris Beutler and his Omaha counterpart, Jim Suttle, signed an agreement Friday to start the next phase of the reEnergize Program, which provides money for some property owners to make energy-efficient upgrades.

The cities announced last year that their collaborative effort was among 25 pilot projects to be awarded a \$10 million grant from

the U.S. Department of Energy. The funding is being used in Omaha and Lincoln to help homeowners and businesses obtain incentives topping \$1,000 to cover the costs of insulation, more efficient heating and cooling, improved lighting and other energy-efficient upgrades.

Omaha first started offering energy-efficiency grants in January, and about 500 residents have signed up so far. The signing of Friday's agreement opens the program to Lincoln property owners.

"We want to remind homeowners, businesses and residents in our two cities that now is the time to sign up to take advantage of what the reEnergize program offers for saving energy, putting money in people's pockets, creating local jobs and reducing our long-term energy needs," Beutler said in a statement. "A particularly exciting part of this program is how Lincoln and Omaha are working together to help build the local market for energy efficiency upgrades."

The program aims to provide

grants to about 2,100 households and 180 businesses and nonprofits. It's available first to property owners in so-called "Start Zones," which the cities say were selected because of their range of income levels, mix of ownership and rentals, concentration of older buildings and level of community engagement.

Information about the program is available online at www.reEnergizeProgram.org or by calling 877-402-5111.

OBITUARIES

June Lulf

June Marie (Drees) Lulf, 84, of Jefferson, South Dakota, passed away Thursday, December 15, 2011 in Sioux City.

Services will be held 10:30 a.m. Monday, December 19 at St. Peter Catholic Church in Jefferson, with Rev. Ken Lulf and Rev. David Roehrich officiating.



Lulf

A visitation will be held Sunday evening from 5:00-8:00, family present from 6-8, with a vigil service at 7 pm at the church.

June was born January 7, 1927 to John and Mary (Kleespies) Drees in Gregory, South Dakota. She married Don Lulf on April 5, 1948 in Gregory. The couple made their home in rural Iona, South Dakota, where they farmed. They moved to Jefferson, South Dakota in 1966.

June worked in the computer department at Bomgaars in Sioux City for over 20 years. She was a member of St. Peter Parish and served several years as Parish Sacristan (preparing the altar for daily bread and weekly Masses as well as for funerals, weddings, and baptisms). She had a great love of music; playing the piano, singing, or whistling a tune. June was always ready for a game of Skip-Bo, Gin Rummy, Dominos, or Scrabble (where she claimed many a triple word score using the letters Z or Q). She did the

Myrtle Neumann

Myrtle B. Neumann, age 95, of Yankton and formerly of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, died Friday, December 16, 2011, at Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton, South Dakota.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.

Myrtle was born March 6, 1916 in Friberg Township, Minnesota to Otto and Bertha (Buchholz) Richter. She grew up and attended school in Friberg Township. On June 17, 1934, Myrtle married Claude Neumann. After their marriage, they lived in Gary, Indiana where Claude worked as a machinist.

Sunday crossword and cryptiquip puzzles in ink. She was an avid reader and note taker, always recording daily events and family news items.

Of the many gifts that June gave her family, she created a Dress family history book with pictures and great detail. She also composed a collection of the childhood memories from years on the farm and presented it to her children as a treasured Christmas gift. June and Don were both practical jokers. June's best was when she wired a plump juicy red tomato to a vine in Don's garden. June watched from the kitchen window as Don went through the garden, checking on all the green tomatoes, and you can imagine

his excitement to see the first luscious tomato of the season and his shock to find out it was plastic.

Survivors include her children John of Jefferson, Donna Wattenbarger (Larry) of Brookfield, Missouri, Jim (Marisa) of Elk Point, Bill (Betsy) of Des Moines, Connie Scott of Jefferson, Marcia Deirup of Sioux City, and Reverend Ken Lulf of St. Benedict's Parish in Yankton, seven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, sister-in-law Eileen Drees of Gregory, South Dakota, and Jeannie Wilhemsen, of Burke, South Dakota, brother-in-law Jim Heying of Mitchell, South Dakota.

June was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Don Lulf, Sr. (passed away May 3,

1998), sons Don Lulf, Jr. and Michael Girard, daughter Alice Marie, daughters-in-law Sue Lulf and Deb Lulf, her parents John and Mary, siblings Floyd, Roy, John Jr., Marvin, Lawrence, Jerome, Viola, and baby sisters Mary Rose and Rose Mary.

The family would like to thank Dr. Noreen O'Shea for her compassion and skilled medical knowledge, the staff of Westwood

Retirement Home, where June was a resident for six weeks, and Hospice of Siouxland.

June's favorite joke: How do you make Holy Water? You boil the hell out of it.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
December 19, 2011

WINTZ & RAY
FUNERAL HOME
and Cremation Service, Inc.

Online condolences at:
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

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Yankton Press & Dakotan
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Ruth Johnson

VIBORG — Ruth Johnson, 92, died Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011, at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home, Viborg.

Services are at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Bethany Lutheran Church, Viborg.

Register online at www.viborgfuneralhome.com.

Ruth Mart

VERMILLION — Ruth E. Mart, 93, of Vermillion died Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011, at Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Arrangements are pending with Hansen Funeral Home, Vermillion.

Ulysses St. Pierre

WAGNER — Ulysses St. Pierre, 80, of Wagner died Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Funeral services are at 1 p.m.

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Even a princess occasionally chooses to get dirty.



There's a good reason why you didn't always play 'dress up' with your friends on Saturdays. His name was Dad. With him, even fishing was fun. And while you've idolized Dad your entire life, you'll want to celebrate these times after his death.

A meaningful funeral allows you to grieve and say goodbye, as well as remember and laugh. It's a significant celebration that honors Dad. One that in many ways, is also for you.

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