

AG: Sioux Falls Man Faces Robo-Call Charges

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says a complaint filed in Lake County accuses a Sioux Falls man of four counts of election law violations related to robo-calls made in September.

The state is alleging that 31-year-old Daniel Willard made calls identifying Sen. Russell Olson and Reps. David Lust and Brian Gosch within 60 days of the election without including the required disclaimers. All three lawmakers are Republicans.

Calls made to Olson formed the basis for the allegations. Willard referred questions to attorney Shawn Tornow, who says he hadn't yet seen the complaint but would likely have a response later.

The misdemeanor charges each carry a maximum penalty of one year in jail and a \$2,000 fine. An initial court appearance is scheduled for Dec. 20 in Madison.

Jury Finds Man Guilty Of Sex Abuse Charges

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A jury has found a South Dakota man guilty of two sex-related crimes but not guilty of kidnapping in two incidents near Dupree.

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson announced Tuesday that 31-year-old Patrick Brown Thunder, of Eagle Butte, was convicted last week of sex with a minor and sexual abuse of a person incapable of consenting. Brown Thunder was found not guilty of one count of sexual abuse and a kidnapping charge.

The charges stem from two incidents that occurred in April 2006 and March 2008.

Brown Thunder faces up to life in prison and a \$250,000 fine for the sex abuse charge and 15 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for the sex with a minor charge.

Brown Thunder's lawyer, Dana Hanna, says his client plans to appeal.

Woman Who Served Crash Victim Charged

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Prosecutors have charged a woman with serving alcohol to an 18-year-old man who later died in a rollover crash in west Omaha.

Douglas County Attorney Don Kleine said Tuesday that he charged Amanda Heiman with providing alcohol to Jacob Dickmeyer, of Valley.

Dickmeyer died Dec. 3 when the car he was driving rolled, and his passenger was injured.

Investigators learned that Dickmeyer had been drinking before the accident at the Fire Barn Bar and Grill in Waterloo.

Kleine says the 20-year-old Heiman knew Dickmeyer personally and continued serving him alcohol even though she knew he was too young.

Kleine says the charge against Heiman is a felony because providing alcohol allegedly resulted in a death in the case. The charge was recently upgraded to a felony by Nebraska lawmakers.

Neb. To Lose \$44M In Medicaid Money

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska will see an estimated \$44 million cut in federal Medicaid funding in its next two-year budget, a loss that will force lawmakers to make up the difference with state dollars when they convene next year.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has requested an additional \$18.9 million in state aid for fiscal 2014 and \$24.8 million in fiscal 2015 to offset the projected loss in federal matching dollars, according to budget documents obtained by The Associated Press.

Like other states, Nebraska splits costs for the federal-state Medicaid program for the poor and disabled with the U.S. government. Federal officials pay a minimum of 50 percent, but their matching contribution to Nebraska has dropped in recent years. Aid is distributed based on each state's per-capita income and population as well as other factors.

"As far as I know, it's never been cut to the extreme that we're talking about now," said North Platte Sen. Tom Hansen, a member of the budget-writing Appropriations Committee who is running for chairman next year. "We

usually make up the difference, so we harm as few people as possible. That's the idea. But it's all a big question right now, where the new money will come from. It's a new ball game."

Hansen said he expects Medicaid funding will one of the top issues when lawmakers set a new budget, along with school funding and possible reforms under the federal health care law.

Nebraska's economy remains strong compared to other states. Tax revenues are expected to increase to nearly \$4.1 billion during the next fiscal year, which starts July 1. The state's unemployment rate declined to 3.8 percent in October — one of the nation's lowest and less than half the national rate of 7.9 percent.

Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist said the decrease in funding demonstrates the formula's purpose: to help states when they're struggling and pull back when their economies are running strong.

"It ebbs and flows," Nordquist said. "We've absorbed this in the past. It is an increased cost to our general fund, and our state will have to come up with a bigger share. But it's something we deal with on a constant basis. It'll be part of the total budget package as we look to balance all of the state's needs."

Nordquist said the state is generally required to provide services to Medicaid recipients, but lawmakers may have wiggle room with the amount "overage" given to the department each year. Lawmakers deliberately project more than they think the department will spend to provide a cushion, he said. Lawmakers are also expected to see revenues increase this year as the economy recovers.

Nebraska is among a handful of Midwestern states losing federal aid. Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota are all seeing their federal contributions drop by at least a percentage point, according to the Federal Funds Information for States, which tracks the effects of federal policy decisions on states.

Nebraska State Budget Administrator Gerry Oligmueller said the amount requested by the Department of Health and Human Services will likely change as lawmakers work with each agency to set funding levels. The federal contribution to Nebraska Medicaid is expected to fall by 1.02 percentage points in fiscal year 2014.

"That's not small," Oligmueller said. "A percentage change in what the federal government expects to pay for Medicaid is not a small number."

Drought Blamed For Nebraska Deer Disease Deaths

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's continuing drought is being blamed for a big jump in the number of deer killed by a disease.

Almost 6,000 carcasses of deer believed killed by epizootic hemorrhagic disease have been reported to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission so far this year, according to the *Lincoln Journal Star*. Last year's reports numbered 10 or fewer.

The 2012 toll represents the most severe outbreak of the disease since the 1970s, said state officials.

"I think throughout the Midwest, there are states dealing with it," said Scott Taylor, who is wildlife division manager for Game and Parks. "But I think Nebraska is dealing with it to a greater degree than any other state, because the drought conditions are worse than any other state."

Last week's U.S. Drought Monitor report said more than 90 percent of Nebraska remained gripped by extreme or exceptional drought.

Taylor said that as water recedes in various pools and de-

pressions, the standing water leaves a mud line habitat for midges — the tiny insects that spread the disease.

As water sources shrivel away, more and more deer congregate at the remaining drinking spots in their area, which Taylor described as a "sort of a recipe for a large outbreak."

The disease causes hemorrhaging within a deer's body. Deer suffering from the virus may develop a high fever and seek water, which is why many deer killed by the disease are found in or near water.

The disease outbreaks usually stop when the midges die in the first hard freeze of fall or winter.

People are not endangered by handling or eating infected deer, experts say, because the disease poses no risk to humans.

The loss of deer has raised questions about whether the state should put new limits on deer hunting next year.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is discussing the issue at a series of public meetings across the state this month.

Lunch

From Page 1

"Like many schools, we were struggling with the rules for school lunch handed out by the USDA. Thus, we are pleased to hear the USDA had relaxed the rules on school lunch," he said.

"While it is certainly our goal to serve a healthy school lunch, we were not convinced the 'one size fits all' approach was appropriate. Children have different needs. We believe the latest action by the Agriculture Department will better help us to meet those individual needs."

Parkston school officials have received some complaints about not enough food served at meals, but not a great deal of dissatisfaction, McIntosh said.

In contrast to Parkston and Tripp-Delmont, the Freeman Public Schools contract for food service.

Freeman superintendent Don Hotchkiss said he didn't have any comments at this point about the USDA changes.

"We contracted with CBM (Managed Services of Sioux Falls) to provide lunch service for us this year, and I am not sure at this point how this announcement will affect them and the menu patterns they have established," he said. "Hopefully, they will go ahead and offer more for the students as, generally speaking, the students have

left the lunchroom hungrier than in the past."

Shane Sejnoha, the CBM vice president of operations, sees the relaxed requirements as a good thing.

"I think it will have a positive impact and shows USDA is listening to feedback on the new meal patterns," he said. "As always, change is difficult, especially when it has to do with our everyday routine."

Sejnoha sees new possibilities with the recent USDA changes.

"The new relaxed standards will allow for more variety in entrée choices. Also, it allows for more nutrient-dense foods to fulfill the calorie requirements," he said.

"I feel the USDA is doing a fine job of focusing on healthier and

better foods for the body. It's good to give students more healthier options in the lunch room."

CBM has worked well with USDA in fulfilling the new nutrition regulations, Sejnoha said.

"It is our job to keep the client in compliance with the requirements," he said. "We understand that the second important aspect is to keep the kids happy, and these new relaxed standards will hopefully give us the flexibility to do that."

A response was not received from Menno superintendent Chris Christensen by the deadline for this story.

As for the current meals, the Menno school website contains the nutritional values for its

lunches. The weekly nutrient averages for lunch include a listing for calories, sodium (in milligrams) and the percent of total calories from saturated fat.

The Menno lunch figures are broken down for grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. The district also offers a breakfast program.

Freeman Academy, the fifth school system in Hutchinson County, is a private, Mennonite-affiliated school and doesn't participate in the federal hot lunch program.

Freeman Academy superintendent Pam Tieszen said the school offers balanced meals without falling under federal requirements.

"Our school lunch is a home-made meal, balanced with meat

and veggies. Salad is available, and (so is) homemade bread," she said. "We no longer serve any pre-formed patties of any variety."

The Freeman Academy meals meet students' nutritional needs, Tieszen said.

"Jill Hofer is our food services person and does a great job planning and preparing meals," the superintendent said. "Does it follow all the federal guidelines? Probably not all the time, but (it's) probably healthier than most cafeterias where everything is pre-made and packaged."

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf

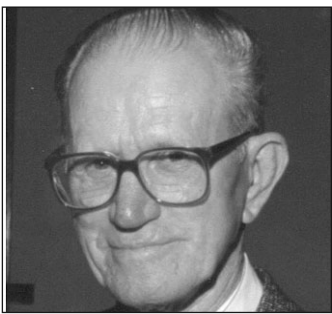
OBITUARIES

Frank Vesely

Funeral services for Frank A. Vesely of Scotland will be held on Thursday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. in the First Presbyterian Church in Scotland with Pastor Mark Werner officiating. Burial will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland, with military rites by Kortan-Hatwan American Legion Post #183 of Tabor.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., with family present to greet visitors from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Frank Anton Vesely was born November 15, 1917 on the family homestead near Pischelville, Knox County, Nebraska to Matej (Mike) and Katie (Lanc) Vesely who had come to the area from Czechoslovakia in 1878 and 1911 respectively. Frank was the third of five sons. He attended elementary school in Knox County District #7. After his school days he hired out as a farmhand on various farms in Nebraska and South Dakota. In 1941, prior to declaration of World War II, he enlisted in the Army for a one-year tour of duty and was assigned to the 27th and later to the 91st Field Artillery. He was also, briefly, in the Infantry. Three months prior to the end of his enlistment, his discharge was cancelled and he served until October 24, 1945. He served stateside as well as two tours of duty overseas in Scotland, Ireland, England, Italy, Algiers and Austria. He had sailed from New York with 16,000 other servicemen on the



Frank Vesely

Queen Mary. On December 4, 1944 while home on furlough he married Barbara Ann (Betty) Suchy at O'Neill, Nebraska. To the union was born one daughter, Cynthia Ann. They made their home in Tabor, South Dakota. Betty died after an extended illness on February 6, 1958. After his discharge from the Army as a PFC in 1945 he worked at the South Dakota State Hospital Farm near Yankton, then for Koranda Well Drilling Co. of Tabor, and finally, for the Bon Homme County Highway Department for 30 years as a truck driver and patrol operator. On September 1, 1962 he married Hazel (Beecher) Hirsch at the Little Brown Church near Nashua, Iowa. He thus gained two step-daughters, Sharon Kaye and Judith Ann. They made their home in Scotland, South Dakota. He retired in 1982. He then took a serious interest in garden and yard work and in recycling metals. He also enjoyed bowling, fishing and traveling. He was baptized and became a member of the Scotland Presbyterian Church in 1964 where he served briefly on the Board of Trustees. He

was a member of American Legion Post #183 of Tabor, SD since 1945 and a member of a bowling team from 1965 until 2000. Frank passed away on Sunday, December 9, 2012 at the Good Samaritan Society of Scotland at the age of 95 years and 25 days.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel, of Scotland; three daughters: Cindy (Craig) Dempsey of Omaha, Nebraska, Sharon (Darrell) Orth of Lesterville, and Judy (Tony) Rokusek of Olivet; five grandchildren: Chris (Justin) Mayfield and Cara Dempsey of Omaha, Danielle (Wesley) Schaeffer of Utica, Rochelle (Kevin) Adam Olson of Yankton and Jim (Darcy) Rokusek of Sioux Falls; 10 great-grandchildren and 2 step-great-grandchildren. He is also survived by three sisters-in-law: Florence Vesely, Lena Vesely and Leona Vesely and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his first wife, parents, brothers and a great-grandson.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
December 12, 2012

Goglin
Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Howard Wheeler

Howard "Tag" Wheeler, age 83, of Yankton, SD, passed away early Monday, December 10, 2012 at his residence.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, December 14, 2012 at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton, with Rev. Ken Lulf officiating. Burial will be in the Bloomfield Cemetery, Bloomfield, NE at approximately 1:30 p.m. Friday afternoon.

Visitations will begin at 5:00 p.m. Thursday, December 13, 2012 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Tag was born July 28, 1929 in Yankton, South Dakota to Wealthy Mae Wheeler. He at-



Wheeler

tended Northview Country School and High School in Bloomfield and Niobrara, Nebraska. He served in the US Navy; returning home from the service to help his uncle farm. He married Veda Broders and lived the joys and sorrows of life together for 63 years. They lived and worked in California for 2 years before returning to the Bloomfield/Crofton area to farm. They lived in rural Crofton until retiring to Yankton. Tag enjoyed his family, friends and great neighbors as well as his hobbies of baseball and gardening.

He is survived by his wife, Veda of Yankton, SD; children:

Kathy(Bob) Bozied of Denver, CO, Bo (Patty) Wheeler of Crofton, NE, Mary Beth (Dale) Schenkel of Yankton, SD, Dan Wheeler of Sioux Falls, SD, Faith Ann Wheeler and fiancée Rafael Perez of Rapid City, SD; and also 17 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his 5 year old son, Douglas in 1964, and his mother, Wealthy Mae Wheeler. He will be missed by a host of family and friends.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
December 12, 2012

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7:40 am The Observer
(Kristy & Dave Wyland)
8:20 am Hy-Vee Foods
(Chef Staci)
Thursday, December 13
7:40 am Yankton Chamber
(Carmen Schramm)
8:20 am Yankton Conv/Vis
Bureau (Lisa Scheve)

Season's
Greetings

Please join us for some
holiday cheer at our
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Friday, December 14
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