

Agriculture United Annual Luncheon Set For SF

SIoux FALLS — Agriculture United for South Dakota will host its annual luncheon to recognize the state's farm and ranch families on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 11:30 a.m. at the Sioux Falls Convention Center, 1201 Northwest Ave., Sioux Falls. Registration will begin at 11 a.m., with the meal at 11:30 a.m.

Charlie Arnot, CEO of the Center for Food Integrity, a national non-profit dedicated to building consumer trust in the food system, will deliver the keynote address. He will share the results of the 2015 Consumer Trust Research that highlighted what consumers expect food companies to be transparent about, from labeling to production practices.

"Today's consumers are looking for more information about how the food they eat is grown and produced, from how an animal is raised to what the impact on the environment might be," said Steve Dick, executive director of Ag United. "Charlie Arnot will provide insights on what role farmers and food companies can play in building confidence among consumers. South Dakota's farm and ranch families are committed to doing the right thing on their farms and are proud to share their stories with friends, neighbors and consumers across the state."

The luncheon will also include the announcement of the second annual AgU-

nited AgVocate of the Year. The award will recognize an individual or family in South Dakota who has gone above and beyond in sharing their story with the public.

Ag United will mark the start of its second decade at the event, celebrating 11 years of supporting South Dakota farm and ranch families and rural communities. Ag United has worked with farm families to host tens of thousands of visitors to their farms, reach out to thousands of students and share information through social media. Programs like Farms After Five, Moms' Day Out on the Farm, Restaurant Crawls and Adopt-A-Farmer videos have helped introduce the stories of modern agriculture to South Dakota consumers. Ag United has also helped the state's livestock producers start or expand their operations during the planning and permitting processes.

Sponsors of the annual luncheon include Farm Credit Services of America, Sanford Health, Wheat Growers, Eide Bailly, Paulsen Marketing, Maximum Promotions, United Tent and Convention, and Farm Bureau Financial agent Darrel Spielman.

Visit www.agunited.com, South Dakota Farm Families on Facebook, or @SDFarmFamilies on Twitter for more information on the annual luncheon or Ag United's activities.

Construction Paves Way For Parking



ALISSA WOOCKMAN/P&D

The building at 311 W. Third Street was demolished Wednesday to make way for a gravel parking lot for First Dakota National Bank. The building was previously the law office of James Goetz. In August, kids painted their own aquarium themed canvas as a part of a community art project, featuring a giant shark and a school of fish, to stand until demolition was to occur. A deadline for construction has not been set but staff expect to have most of the site cleared within the week.

OBITUARIES

Lila Rayburn

Lila Rayburn, 71, of Hurley, SD went to be with her creator on December 4, 2015 after she was the victim of a tragic car accident.

A prayer service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9th at Grace Lutheran Church in Parker, SD with family visitation from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Funeral services will be held on December 10, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran, with burial preceding at 10:00 a.m. at the Hurley Cemetery.

Lila Mae Nickolauson was born May 17, 1944 in Sisseton, S.D. She was the youngest of six children of Albert and Tolly (Tober) Nickolauson. She graduated from Sisseton High School. She went on to Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD where she obtained undergraduate and masters degrees in Mathematics Education. While at college, she met Donald Rayburn. They were married in Sisseton on September 12, 1969.

Lila and Don lived on the family farm in Hurley where they farmed with Don's father Max and brother Steve. Lila substitute taught at local schools and taught various college level math classes in Sioux Falls, SD. Lila then worked at the Pfeifer Law Office in Parker. She went back to school and obtained her Certified Public Account (CPA) accreditation from the University of South Dakota. In September 1990, she started working for Connie Buskohl, CPA in Sioux Falls where she "retired" in 2014. She especially enjoyed preparing farmers' taxes. She also managed the Mitchell CPA office from 2004 to 2014.

Lila and Don had 2 children, Paul and Carmen. They raised their kids on the family farm in Hurley. Lila was involved with the Windmills and Watertowers Extension Club, Porkettes, and was a long time board member for Horse Power (Handi-Riders). She was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church.

Lila loved spending time with her 5 very busy grandchildren. Her other interests included stained glass creations, gardening, painting, cooking and sewing. She had a laugh that lit up the room.

She was preceded in death by her parents and



Rayburn

two brothers, Delvin "Tiny" Nickolauson and Marvin "Nickel" Nickolauson, and her only sister, Betty Jean Herrin.

Survivors include her husband Don; her children, Paul (Jennifer) Rayburn of Bennett, CO., and Carmen (Luke) Pulscher of Hot Springs, SD. Five grandchildren: Alexis and Connor (Paul) and Wyatt, Taylor and Senay (Carmen). Two brothers, Donald Albert Nickolauson of Frederic, WI and Lavern Eugene Nickolauson of Grand Forks, ND.

Visit www.hofmeister-jones.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
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Sandra Johnson

Sandra Kaye Johnson, 68, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, friend and teacher, passed away on December 4, 2015 in a car accident. She was surrounded by two close friends, who also lost their lives, and her husband, Dennis Johnson, who survived the collision north of Yankton, SD.

Funeral services will begin at 2:00 on Saturday, December 12th at Grace Lutheran Church in Parker, South Dakota. Visitation will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 11th at Grace Lutheran Church in Parker, SD with the family present to greet friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Prayer service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Please direct memorials to Helping Hands for Haiti or The Great Kindness Challenge.

Sandra Kaye Guthmiller was born on May 21, 1947 to Arnold and Delores (Mees) Guthmiller in Huron, SD. She grew up on a farm in rural Wolsey, attended country school and graduated from Wolsey High School in 1965. She attended South Dakota State University where she earned a degree in child development. While attending SDSU, she met her future husband Dennis Johnson. After they were united in marriage on February 14, 1970, the couple soon moved to Ft. Carson, CO where Dennis was stationed in the Army, and Sandra taught preschool for two years. The couple returned to South Dakota to begin farming southwest



Johnson

of Parker, SD. They were blessed with three children, Kerri, Kent and Kaylyn. While staying home to raise her children and help Dennis farm, Sandra became a faithful servant in the community and church.

Sandra returned to USD to earn her elementary teaching endorsement and began teaching at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Freeman, SD. She began working in the Parker School District in 1992 where she taught until retiring in 2009.

Sandra was gifted at caring, encouraging and supporting others. She wholeheartedly sought to be the hands and feet of Jesus by comforting the sick and grieving, generously donating her time, talents and money, and offering warm hospitality to everyone visiting her home. She was a pianist, vocal soloist and a lover of music. Sandy delighted in spending time reading, playing and making crafts with her grandchildren as well as attending their music and sporting activities. She is most remembered by hundreds of students as a compassionate and dedicated teacher who loved learning and sharing with children. One former student described with a picture and words that "Mrs. Johnson's smile was as bright and friendly as sunshine."

Sandra was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church in Parker, SD where she directed the youth choir, was a WELCA member, sang in the Grace Lutheran Adult Choir for 42 years and was treasured by many life-long friends. She recently spent a week in Haiti on a service trip with friends and members of Grace Lutheran Church.

Grateful for having shared her life are her husband of 45 years Dennis; their three children, Kerri (Ryan) Cox, Kent Johnson and Kaylyn Robertson; seven grandchildren, Alexander, Madeline and Benjamin Cox, Avery and Sam Johnson and Carter and Colin Robertson; sister Colleen Johnson; a brother Dale (Candy) Guthmiller, brother-in-law Terry (Annette) Johnson. She also leaves behind several cousins, nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents as well as several aunts and uncles.

Visit www.hofmeister-jones.com.

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Karol Aeschlimann

Karol Aeschlimann, 68, passed away on Friday, December 4, 2015.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 11 at Grace Lutheran Church in Parker, South Dakota.

Visitation with the family will be on Thursday, December 10 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church with a Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.

Arrangements are by Hofmeister Jones Funeral Home.

Karol Nan Brue was born in Sioux Falls, SD to Lester and Alice (Skalland) Brue on January 9, 1947. Karol grew up on a farm near Parker with her sisters Peg, Corrine and Jan. Karol graduated from Parker High School in 1965, and from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa in 1969. While in college, she met her best friend and husband, Bill, at Sky Ranch in Colorado where they were both camp counselors during the summer. Karol and Bill were married on June 21, 1969. After a time living in Germany for military service, they returned to the rural Hurley/Parker area and began their family. Karol spent many years teaching at Hurley and then Parker High Schools.

Karol was an avid reader and lifelong learner, and loved teaching. Over the years, she impacted the lives of many of her students. She obtained her Doctorate in Education from USD in 2001. Karol concluded her teaching career at Southeast Technical Institute, retiring in 2013.

Since retirement, Karol enjoyed traveling with Bill on "Road Scholar" and sheep convention trips, vacationing with her mother and sisters-the Brue girls, birding with her husband and friends, spending time with her grandkids, having coffee with her friends, and being active in her church, where she often served as an organist.

Grateful for having shared her life are her husband Bill; their three children, Kristin, Eric (Melissa) and Chad (Laura); five grandchildren, Dash Clouse, Sydney, Tyler, and Isabel Aeschlimann and Tanner Aeschlimann; her mother Alice Brue; three sisters, Peg (Brent) Brown, Corrine Brue (Greg White), and Jan (Glen) Enright; mother-in-law Hildegarde; brother-in-law Rodney (Vickie); and many cousins, nieces and nephews.



Aeschlimann

She was preceded in death by her father Lester Brue and her father-in-law Orvel Aeschlimann.

In celebration of her giving spirit, memorials may be directed to the Turner County Food Pantry.

Visit www.hofmeister-jones.com.

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Mary Rezac

Mary E. Rezac, 97 of Dante, died Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at the Good Samaritan Society in Tyndall. Mary attained the age of 97 years, nine months and three days.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, December 12 at Assumption Catholic Church in Dante, with burial in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, rural Dante.

Visitation will be at the Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner Friday from 1 to 5 p.m., followed by a 7 p.m. rosary/wake service at the church.

Mary Emma Rezac, daughter of Joseph and Emma (Rados) Slaba, was born March 7, 1918 at Geddes, SD. Mary received her eighth grade education at Geddes. She married Louis E. Rezac on September 10, 1940 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Geddes. Louis bought a farm south of Dante where she was a "farmer's wife" for 60 years. Their union was blessed with eight children. Louis died January 4, 2002. Due to failing health, Mary became a resident of the Good Samaritan Society in Tyndall on January 13, 2014.

Mary was a member of the Assumption Catholic Church in Dante, Catholic Daughters, K. D. Workmen and Altar Society.

Mary will be remembered for her enjoyment of her hobbies which include gardening, baking (especially kolaches), playing cards (especially pinochle) and bringing up eight children.

Thankful for having shared her life are her children: Darlene (Robert) Kolda of Yankton; Stephen (Arlene) of Wagner; Lavern (Marcella "Sally") of Dante; Dorothy



Rezac

Fink of Delmont; Daniel of Dante; Romaine (Ruby) of Harrisburg; Juliann (Paul) Tolsma of Avon; and Michael of Renner; 26 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and a sister-in-law, Helen Rezac of Springfield.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband Louis; parents; three brothers: Charlie, Oscar and Alvin; two sisters: Maggie Slaba and Alvina Soukup; three grandsons: Justin Tolsma, Benjamin and Ryan Rezac; son-in-law, Robert Fink; and daughter-in-law, Laurie Rezac.

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Mary Gredys

Mary V. Gredys was born April 16, 1925, and died Dec. 5, 2015.

She was preceded in death by husband Joseph F. Gredys; parents Anthony E. and Agnes (Long) Mills; infant sister and infant brother John Thomas

She is survived by cousins Jim V. Long, Hemet, Ca., Marjorie Leibel, Wagner, S.D., Jean (Flaherty) Burchett, Draper, Ut; many nieces, nephews and loving family and friends

Visitation is Saturday 8:30-9:30 a.m. and Funeral Mass is Saturday at 9:30 a.m., all at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 2110 S. 32nd Avenue.

There will be a Private inurnment at a later date.

Memorials may be directed to the Mary Knoll sisters - In memory of their sister (Mary's aunt) Mary Bridgettine Mills, St. Anne's Church, Dixon, N.E. or Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Services are under the care of Roeder Mortuary, Inc. - 108th Street Chapel, Omaha, Neb. Visit www.RoederMortuary.com.

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Bonnie Hoelsing

Bonnie L. Hoelsing, 87, of Coleridge, Nebraska, died Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2015, at the Park View Haven Nursing Home in Coleridge.

Memorial services are pending at the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington, Nebraska.

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