

State's Mental Illness Task Force Appointed

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — More than 20 people will make up a task force proposed by the state's top judge to study how mental illness is affecting the court system.

The members of the Task Force on Community Justice and Mental Illness Early Intervention were announced Tuesday. The group includes sheriffs, prosecutors, mental health professionals and others.

Chief Justice David Gilbertson will co-chair the group, which he proposed after *The Argus Leader* newspaper in Sioux Falls reported that a backlog of mental competency evaluations of criminal suspects is taxing county budgets and raising concerns about the rights of defendants. There were 147 requests in state court for mental competency exams in fiscal 2015.

The group will analyze why and how individuals with mental illness come into contact with the criminal justice system. It will also examine the detention of those individuals in county jails.

Iowa Trio Arrested In Prostitution Sting

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Three people from Sioux City, Iowa, have been arrested in a prostitution sting in Sioux Falls.

The man and two women were arrested Monday at a hotel after police responded to an online ad.

Sioux Falls Police spokesman Sam Clemens says officers arranged a meeting, discussed prices and arrested the women when they agreed to a deal.

Clemens says 23-year-old Brittany Leners and 28-year-old Amanda Meyer are each facing one count of prostitution.

Clemens says 26-year-old Rashad Lee was arrested on one count of pimping after police found out he had driven the women to Sioux Falls.

It wasn't immediately clear Tuesday whether the individuals have attorneys.

This is the second set of prostitution-related arrests in Sioux Falls since Sunday, when a pair also from Iowa was arrested after police found an online ad and arranged to meet a woman.

4 Accused Of Vandalizing Building

PAPILLION, Neb. (AP) — Bail has been set for four people accused of vandalism at a U.S. defense contractor's building in Bellevue, not far from Offutt Air Force Base.

They were arrested Sunday at the Northrop Grumman building. Bail was set Tuesday. All are charged with burglary and criminal mischief.

One of them, Jessica Reznicek, of Des Moines, Iowa, told Omaha station KETV that they are peace workers. She says they wanted "to bring public awareness to the fact that we really don't know what our billions of taxpayers' dollars are really going toward when we're handing them over to Northrop Grumman."

Northrop Grumman has a contract for military weather products and works with Air Force personnel at Offutt. In October the company was selected to develop the Air Force's next long-range bomber.

Regents Search For New SDSU President

PIERRE (AP) — The Board of Regents has named campus and community representatives to help search for the next president of South Dakota State University.

The board voted Tuesday for the representatives. The members include Tony Venhuizen (VEHN'-hy-zuhn), chief of staff to Gov. Dennis Daugaard, and School of Mines President Heather Wilson.

Regent Kathryn Johnson is leading the search process, which involves an executive search company. Johnson says a new president should be appointed in May.

Current President David Chicoine (SHEEK'-wihn) is set to leave the post around July 2016 or sooner if a replacement is found. He has been president since 2007.

Chicoine oversaw the completion of the school's transition to Division I athletics. The board has said the largest fundraising campaign for education in state history was completed during his tenure.

Wild Fans



ELIZABETH FLORES/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE/TNS
Minnesota Wild fans become excited as Wild center Charlie Coyle makes his way to them to toss them a puck after a short outdoor practice at the Backyard outdoor ice rink at Braemar Arena Tuesday in Edina, Minn.

Man Accused Of Helping Another Attack Good Samaritan

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A Lincoln resident has been accused of helping another man attack a good Samaritan who fought back and chased the two in rural Lancaster County.

Jail records said Bryan Reiber, 30, remained in custody Tuesday. Online court records don't list the name of an attorney who could be contacted to comment on behalf of Reiber, who is charged with attempted robbery.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* reported Tuesday that a

second suspect was arrested Monday, but court records don't show that he's been charged yet.

The good Samaritan, Joel Schrader, told the *Journal Star* that he was working on his car in his shop on Christmas Eve when two men came in and asked for help with their truck, saying it had overheated and that their cellphone had died. Schrader had them drive the truck into his shop and plug the phone into a charging unit.

They soon attacked him

and threatened to shoot him. A court document said the small handgun one of them wielded was a BB gun.

"I told them to shoot me and he didn't, so I knew he wasn't going to," said Schrader, 44. He fought back, got away and ran to his house, telling his mother to call 911.

The men jumped into their truck and fled, leaving the cellphone behind. Schrader got into his own pickup and chased them, eventually ramming the driver's side door, Chief

Lancaster County Sheriff's Deputy Jeff Bliemeister said. They got away. Deputies said the truck, which had been stolen, was found in Lincoln.

The court document said investigators traced the cellphone to Reiber, who already had been picked up on a warrant stemming from an unrelated traffic offense. The document said Reiber acknowledged his role in the attack.

Investigators think Reiber and the other man thought they'd find cash and drugs at the shop. No drugs or cash were found, Bliemeister said.

Omaha Parents Getting Early Warning About School Bus Cuts

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha families are getting an early warning about school bus cutbacks scheduled to begin in fall 2017.

Letters were mailed last week to parents of students in pre-kindergarten through sixth grade who could be affected under the new student assignment plan.

Over the next several weeks, families whose eligibility for busing could change in 2017 — an estimated 1,800 students — will receive notices from the district that bus service will stop at those addresses, the *Omaha World-Herald* reported.

The board approved in June the overhauled student assignment plan, which affects only elementary and middle school students. Those who support the change have said it should simplify the district's complex and expensive busing

system by slashing the number of schools that students can apply for and be able to ride the bus.

Parents and taxpayers have complained about long bus rides and half-empty buses. The district spends upward of \$40 million to transport about 18,000 students, and its per-student transportation costs are high compared with other urban Midwestern school districts.

School officials say they want families to have plenty of time to absorb any busing shifts, particularly with the January deadline for the 2016-17 school selection process coming up.

"The goal is really to communicate as much as we can during this year and during the selection process time so folks can make those choices and not be surprised," school board President

Lou Ann Goding said.

Students can still apply for any school with openings under the new assignment plan. But families may be responsible for transportation depending on the school.

"I think fewer choices is a challenge, but it's the only way we can make things more efficient and probably more easily understood by everyone," Goding said. "Today there's so many choices and it's so complex, whether you get busing or not."

Cost estimates for the new plan range from a drop of \$4.7 million to an increase of \$3.8 million, depending on how bus patterns shift. Officials said efficiencies in the new plan should cause per-student costs to fall, even if more students end up getting rides.

YOUR NEWS! THE PRESS AND DAKOTAN

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Cecil Snoopston, Junior Detective in

The Gumshoe Mystery

My brother Timmy and I discovered a broken lawn gnome in our yard.

Obviously, it was your pet monkey. That's the culprit! He's always monkeying around!

No way! Mondo was with me all day!

Just then, Timmy noticed an important clue—a shoeprint in a blob of gum. He thought the tread looked like our dad's sneakers!

Timmy used this observation to keep investigating. Little brothers can be so stubborn!

FUN WITH STEM: GUM INVESTIGATION

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:

- bubble gum
- a ruler
- your mouth
- wax paper
- clean hands

- Measure the length of gum before you start chewing it.
- Blow a bubble and measure the diameter. Can you figure out the circumference?
- Stretch a piece of gum and stick it on the wax paper. Make it as long as you can, then measure it.
- Chew a piece of gum for 2 minutes. Then chew a new piece of gum for 10 minutes. Was it easier to blow bubbles after a longer time? Write your observations here:

Chewy Clues

Timmy and Mondo interviewed mom and dad. They left clues in the gumballs below for Cecil. Write down every other letter to discover who broke the gnome.

Walter Diemer developed bubble gum in 1928. It was pink because that was the only food color he had available. His product was called **Dubble Bubble** and it became a top seller.

What's in bubble gum?

Originally gum was a kind of tree sap called **chide** extracted from tapping trees the same way latex is comes from rubber trees. The natural ingredients have now been replaced by man-made plastics and flavors are added. 60 to 70% of most bubble gum is sugar.

Biggest Bubble

According to the *Guinness Book of World Records*, the biggest bubble gum bubble ever blown measured

13 + 4 + 3 =

inches across.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

7 + 5 =

6 + 6 =

10 + 2 =

5 + 9 =

8 + 6 =

8 + 8 =

7 + 8 =

3 + 11 =

Chewers Welcome!

Bubble Gum Alley in San Luis Obispo, California invites you to chew your gum and stick your chewed wad on the wall!

Which wads of gum add up to the same amount?

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

DIAMETER	H O M O N Y M S S
SNEAKERS	O E M O N G S R T D
STUBBORN	L Y B R O K E N U I
HOMONYMS	B G R V E K U E B A
MYSTERY	L U K E A Y L L B M
BUBBLE	O M B E T C C L O E
BROKEN	W S N B I S O A R T
CHICLE	N S A H L B Y W N E
CLUES	S T C P E E R M Y R
GNOME	
BLOWN	
BLOB	
WALL	
GUM	
SAP	

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Chews or Choose?

Chews and choose are homonyms—words that sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings. Find five words in the newspaper that are homonyms. Write the matching word that is pronounced the same but means something different, next to each word.

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Identify and use homonyms.

Write On!

Science in My Life

How has science made your life better?

How to Blow a Bodacious Bubble!