

OBITUARIES

Joel 'Chops' Berg

SIoux FALLS — Joel "Chops" Berg, 43, died Sunday, February 7, 2010, at the Sanford USD Medical Center.

Funeral service will begin 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at Friedens Reformed Church in Tripp, SD with burial to follow in the Friedens Reformed Church Cemetery.

The family will be present to greet friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9 at George Boom Funeral Home in Sioux Falls. A prayer service will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home.

Joel William Berg, son of William and Gladys (Brandt) Berg, was born January 13, 1967 in Parkston, SD. Joel graduated from Tripp, SD in 1985. He attended South Dakota State University where he graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Ag Business in 1990 and was the Noble Ruler of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. Following his graduation from SDSU he began working for Legend



Berg

Seeds in DeSmet, SD as a District Sales Manager while he lived in Geddes and Montrose. He then moved back to Tripp while he continued to work until ill health forced him to step down. Chops had been a resident of Sioux Falls for the last ten years.

In his free time, Joel enjoyed visiting, antiquing and auctioneering. He won the 2009 Turner County Fair Auctioneering Contest. He was a beloved son, brother, uncle and friend who will be greatly missed by all those who shared his life.

Grateful for having shared his life are his father, William Berg, Leeds, ND; brothers, Mark (Robin) Berg, Sioux Falls, and Michael Berg, Tripp, SD; and niece Rena Berg, Mitchell, SD. He was preceded in death by his mother, Gladys Berg.

Joel's family requests that memorials be directed to the Avera McKennan Foundation DaVita Dialysis.

A complete obituary and online registry is available at www.georgeboom.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan

February 9, 2010

Calvin 'Charlie' Pelton

AVON — Calvin "Charlie" Pelton, 73 of Avon, died Sunday

Mary Grimme

TYNDALL — Funeral services for Mary J. Grimme, 78, of Tyndall will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10 at the United Methodist Church in Tyndall with Pastor Gordon Higgins officiating. Interment will follow in the Tyndall Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m., with family present to greet visitors from 4-5 p.m., at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tyndall.

Mary passed away on Sunday (Feb. 7, 2010) at Avera

St. Michael's Hospital in Tyndall.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Goglin Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp

www.goglinfh.com



www.goglinfh.com

(Feb. 7, 2010) at St. Michael's Hospital, Tyndall.

Funeral services are at 10 a.m. Thursday at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Avon, with burial in the Trinity Presbyterian Cemetery, rural Avon.

Visitation is 3-7 p.m. Wednesday at the church, followed by a 7 p.m. prayer service.

Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home, Avon, is in charge of arrangements.

Beverly DeLozier

Beverly Ann DeLozier, 67, of

Yankton died Saturday (Feb. 6, 2010) after a courageous two year battle with cancer.

Services are at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Dave Wildermuth officiating. A lunch will follow the service at the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791, Yankton.

Visitations with family present is 4-8 p.m. today (Tuesday) at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

REGION DIGEST

Yankton Library Offering After-School Movie

The Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut, is sponsoring an After-School Movie at 3:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11 for people of all ages. "Alvin and the Chipmunks: A Chipmunk Valentine" is a new release that will have you laughing and singing along.

In this musical adventure, Alvin develops an alter ego after Brittany rejects his invitation to the Valentine Ball. In a dream state, he becomes the Valentine heartbreaker Captain Chipmunk who quickly wins over Brittany's heart. Hilarious consequences follow when Alvin wakes up at the dance and realizes he's not the dashing Captain Chipmunk!

This movie is not rated. For more information, call the library at 668-5275.

HHS Hosting Monthly Meet And Greet Feb. 13

Heartland Humane Society will host its February "Meet and Greet" at the shelter office, 601 1/2 Burleigh, at 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 13. Animals will be available for adoption and the dogs from foster care will be available to meet as well.

Contact Anderson at 605-664-4244 or e-mail hhs@midconetwork.com for more information.

Walk MS: Yankton Walk Set For May 8

The first Walk MS: Yankton Walk will be held Saturday, May 8, beginning at the Technical Education Center on 1200 W. 21st St. There will be a three-mile route for participants to walk.

The money raised from this event will be used to support programs, services and research for individuals in South Dakota living with MS.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk starts at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Amy Koch at 605-336-7017 (opt 2) or amy.koch@mss.org, or visit www.MSwalk.org.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

CITY

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City Attorney David Hosmer said that, while case law gives politicians leeway to follow their instincts on whether or not to vote on such matters, commissioners should at least mention if they are members of a church whose affairs are being considered.

"There seems to be some unanimity that if a church requests specific action, and you're a member of that particular church, abstention might be prudent," Hosmer said. "If a church is objecting to requested

relief by somebody else, and you're a member of the church that's objecting, it might be prudent to abstain at that time, too."

After a 40-minute discussion of the matter, Mayor Specht and commissioners Carda, Knoff and Wenande opted to abstain from consideration of a special assessment for reconstructing Douglas Avenue from Anna Street to 31st Street this year.

The item proved to be unpopular with the nine landowners along that stretch of roadway who would be assessed \$453,000 as part of the estimated \$1,175,000 project.

The landowners are responsible for the costs associated with reconstructing the road from the

current 24-foot width to the city's minimum 36-foot requirement. The overall project would include a storm sewer system, pavement where there currently is none, grading, engineering, curb and gutter, and other items. The city would cover the costs associated with oversizing the street from the 36 feet in width to 41 feet.

Expansion of the roadway has been planned for at least two decades, according to City Manager Doug Russell. During that time, several developers have been asked to sign waivers agreeing to not protest against an assessment project if it was proposed. Russell said he is unsure if the frontage owned by those developers represents

more than the 55 percent needed to move forward with the project.

Those who spoke out against the assessment project argued that the improvements are not needed by the local landowners.

"It is our opinion that Douglas is, without question, a major arterial street dividing east and west and is used extensively by (Yankton's) citizens," said Bill Bobzin, who represents Northwind Builders and Willow Ridge South, which owns approximately six acres of bare ground adjoining Douglas. "The proposed improvement to Douglas does not develop the neighborhood and is of absolutely no benefit to our

property. This assessment will add over \$20,000 per acre cost to our land. This, coupled with approximately \$12,000 acquisition and holding costs, and we're faced with \$32,000 per acre ground. This will make a future development financially impossible."

Property owner Craig Kennedy said the city has been waiting to collect enough protest waivers to force the project to occur.

"I challenge anyone to demonstrate how our property is benefited at all by this project," he said. "We do not need new drainage. We do not need curb and gutter. We do not need sidewalks. We don't want any of those things. They are burdens. They are maintenance expense.

It's not something we've asked for."

Ultimately, the City Commission approved the resolution declaring the necessity of constructing the improvements in a 3-2 vote. Commissioners Charlie Gross, Paul Lowrie and Judy VanDerhule voted in favor of the project, while commissioners Pauline Aklund and Bill Ellingson voted against it.

In other business Monday, the commission:

- agreed to allocate \$6,000 from its bed, booze and board tax fund for a roof repair project at the Lewis and Clark Theatre; and
- accepted by-laws for a new Disability Education and Awareness Committee.

STUDY

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"We found that parents couldn't rely much on (industry) safeguards," he said. "The challenge is how to keep children and teenagers away from inappropriate information."

The USD findings become even more disturbing in light of a recent Kaiser Family Foundation study, Spurlin said. The Kaiser study found the average young American spends practically every waking minute, except for time in school, using or interacting with electronic media.

"The Kaiser Foundation said students are so hooked that they spend 50 hours a week watching media. That's more than a work week," she said.

"A friend of mine had a daughter who sent 10,000 texts in a month. ... Some students want to be with their friends all the time, so this is how they communicate."

Many young people text to the person next to them rather than hold a conversation, Spurlin said.

"It's their way of excluding you (as an adult in the room)," she said. "It's not healthy communication for kids."

For their study, the USD researchers drew up three surveys labeled "Music CDs," "Movies" and "Video and Computer Games." Television and Internet were not included in the study because those media can be accessed at home.

Garry and Spurlin looked for communities with a good cross-section of students. As a matter of policy, public school administrators did not allow a survey in the Sioux Falls and Sioux City districts.

The USD researchers then used contacts in seeking other schools. They were allowed to

survey 366 students in a Rock Island, Ill., public middle school and 74 in the Sioux Falls Lutheran School.

"We looked at a range of 10-14 years of age, because a lot of the (media) ratings cut off at age 17, so these (younger students) are people who shouldn't have access to it," Garry said.

School officials implemented the anonymous surveys, then returned them without review to the USD researchers. The survey consisted of 210 girls and 230 boys, who were divided into the categories of public male, public female, private male and private female.

As part of the study, the researchers noted the background of the two study cities. Sioux Falls, located on the banks of the Big Sioux River, has 148,000 residents. Rock Island, located on the banks of the Mississippi River, had a population of about 39,000 in 2003 but was part of the Quad Cities totaling about 377,000 residents.

In both cities, about 24 percent of the population was under age 18.

"Rock Island is more blue collar. The income is higher and the amount of professional people is much higher in Sioux Falls," Spurlin said. "There is more industry in Rock Island, and Sioux Falls has more medical and service industries."

The results in both cities were similar in sales of inappropriate material to underage audiences, Garry said. The survey looked at the ease of access to music, video games and movies that were rated by the entertainment industry as for more mature audiences.

"We found out that these ratings did not seem to work very well," he said. "(The students) were having virtually full access to materials they shouldn't have gotten."

The young people said their peers also enjoyed easy access to unsuitable material, Spurlin said.

"My perception is that kids do what they want," she said.

The responses showed 73 percent of all students had attended a PG-13 or R-rated movie without a parent present. In addition, 72 percent listened to music CDs with Parental Advisory Explicit Content warnings affixed to the wrapper.

Moreover, 58 percent of the students responded that they played video games rated "M" (mature) or "AO" (adult-only).

The overall percentage of computer and video game players was smaller than the other two media, apparently because girls don't play video games in great numbers, Spurlin said. However, 81 percent of all males surveyed in the public school said they played games rated inappropriate for their age group.

The approach taken by businesses also varies greatly, Garry said. Some outlets won't sell mature-rated material, while others will have sales associates retrieve it from a locked cabinet. Other times, the young person downloaded entertainment or had an older person buy the item.

Sometimes, the young person just took advantage of the system, Garry said.

"They went into the cineplex to buy tickets at the front counter for a certain movie. But once they got inside the theater, there were 12 different screens and they switched movies," he said. "Who is usually working (at theaters)?

Teenagers, and they are not very good at enforcement of tickets."

However, the study did find that moviegoers were more likely to be asked their age than those buying video games or music CDs. Ninety percent of students said they had not been asked their age when purchasing a video game or music, while only 75 percent of moviegoers were not questioned about their age.

Differences emerged between private and public school students. Only two of 57 private school students said they played M- or AO-rated video game for five or more hours a week. In contrast, the number jumped to 77 percent of 284 public school students.

Private school students said they were less likely to listen to or watch objectionable materials. However, no conclusions could be drawn from the survey because of a large number of variables.

"One of the things we would like to be able to do is go into the larger private schools," Garry said. "We would like to compare private and public schools, to see if the type of media they are accessing is really any different."

The USD study has gained national attention, being cited by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Oklahoma City University Law Review, Spurlin said.

Spurlin wants to continue more research if funding becomes available. She hopes the USD study cre-

ates more awareness around the nation. She noted a new trend with the introduction of "naughty" video games.

"What might be interesting, (to see if) the ratings board really tried to do anything more in terms of self-regulating things," she said. "The industry says it's regulating

themselves, but it doesn't appear to be working."

In the end, parents need to do their job, Garry said.

"The ratings are not something we ought to rely on," he said. "What the study says, the kids are getting access to it. Don't rely on someone else to doing your job for you."



Here's What's Happening at...

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665-7255

Tuesday, February 9

Card Scramble, Off to the Races

Wednesday, February 10

Mass, Dominos

Thursday, February 11

Kings Corner, Valentine's Party,

Cookie Baking

Friday, February 12

Exercise, Current Events, Skip Bo

Saturday, February 13

Games of Your Choice

Sunday, February 14

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and times call 605-665-7255



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