

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Obama: Democratic-Only Option Open

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House signaled Thursday that an aggressive, all-Democratic strategy for overhauling the nation's health care system remains a serious option, even as President Barack Obama invites Republicans to next week's televised summit to seek possible compromises.

The administration's stance could set the stage for a political showdown, with Democrats struggling to enact the president's top domestic priority and Republicans trying to block what many conservatives see as government over-reach.

A senior administration official said Democratic congressional leaders have nearly finished efforts to reconcile two health bills, which the House and Senate passed separately last year with practically no Republican help. Obama will use their legislation to expand coverage to some 30 million and require most Americans to carry insurance as the basis for a proposal that the White House will post online by Monday, three days before the Feb. 25 summit, said the official.

He spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private negotiations.

Obama says he is open to Republican ideas

for changing the health care system. But many Democrats seriously doubt GOP leaders will support compromises that could draw enough lawmakers from both parties to create a bipartisan majority.

If next week's meeting does not break the logjam, congressional Democrats will face a tough choice. They can pass a highly diluted health care bill or nothing at all, which would send them into the November elections with a high-profile failure despite their control of Congress and the White House.

Or they can use an assertive and contentious tactic, known as reconciliation, to pass a far-reaching health care bill in the Senate without having to face GOP delaying tactics. Democrats lost their ability to block filibusters when Massachusetts Republican Scott Brown won a Senate seat last month.

Both parties have used reconciliation rules in the past. But Republicans have practically dared Democrats to do so on health care, citing polls showing significant opposition to the legislation.

It's unclear whether the House or Senate can muster the necessary votes. Democrats, who now hold 255 of the House's 435 seats, drew

only one GOP ally when the House passed its health care bill, 220-215, last November. Since then, one Democrat who voted for the bill has resigned, one has died and a third plans to leave office Feb. 28. Moreover, changes meant to meet Senate demands could peel away enough liberals on one end, and party centrists on the other, to cause the revised bill to fail.

In the Senate, Democrats control 59 seats, and reconciliation rules require only a simple majority. But several Democratic senators have expressed discomfort or outright opposition to using the rules to thwart filibusters on health care.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said Thursday that Obama plans to have a health care proposal that "will take some of the best ideas and put them into a framework" ahead of the Feb. 25 summit. The White House has invited Republicans to bring their own proposals, but GOP leaders have treated the event warily at best.

House Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio said Thursday, "a productive, bipartisan conversation on health care starts with a clean sheet of paper." His office labeled next week's meeting the "summit of all fears."

Fed Bumps Up Rate Banks Pay For Emergency Loans

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve decided Thursday to boost the rate banks pay for emergency loans. The action is part of a broader move to pull back the extraordinary aid it provided to fight the worst financial and economic crisis since the 1930s.

The move won't directly affect borrowing costs for millions of Americans. But with the worst of the financial crisis over, it brings the Fed's main crisis lending program closer to normal. The Fed decided to bump up the so-called "discount" lending rate by one-quarter point to 0.75 percent. The increase takes effect Friday.

The central bank said the action should not be viewed as a signal that it will soon boost interest rates for consumers and businesses. Record-low borrow-

ing costs near zero are still needed to foster the recovery, it said. The Fed repeated its pledge to keep interest rates at "exceptionally low" levels for an "extended period."

The economy is growing again, and financial conditions have improved. But unemployment is still near double digits, and demand for loans remains weak. Many ordinary Americans and small businesses have found it difficult to borrow.

When credit virtually shut down starting in 2008, banks had nowhere to go except the Fed to borrow. Banks can now more easily tap private lending sources than they could then. As a result, the Fed now feels more comfortable about boosting the rate banks pay on emergency loans.

OBITUARIES

Dr. Robert Thompson

Robert F. Thompson, MD, age 86, of Yankton, died peacefully, Monday, February 15, 2010 at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, February 20, 2010 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Rev. Bob Lacey officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Visitations will be 5-9 p.m. Friday, February 19, 2010 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton with a 7 p.m. rosary followed by a 7:30 p.m. Scripture service.

Robert F. Thompson, MD, 86, passed away Monday, February 15, 2010, at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton, South Dakota. He was born February 12, 1924, in Saginaw, Michigan, to parents Katherine and Francis Thompson. Graduated high school, Saginaw, 1942, and University of Michigan Medical School, 1948. Interned at Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, New York. Board certified in internal medicine 1955. Received graduate education and completed residencies at St.

Joseph's Mercy Hospital and University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in Internal Medicine, Rheumatic Disease, A.M.E., Neurology, Physiology and Medicine. Member of International Society of Hematology and International Society of Oncology. Served in the US Army and as a medical officer in the USAF; Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of South Dakota; Coordinator of Medicine for National Defense; Clinical Associate and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Nebraska-Omaha; Chairman of Board of Directors and Chief of Staff Yankton Clinic; Yankton Medical Clinic Internal Medicine staff; President and Secretary-Treasurer of Medical Staff of Sacred Heart Hospital; Consultant in Internal Medicine at Yankton State Hospital and St. Michael's Hospital, Tyndall; Editorial Board, South Dakota



Thompson

Journal of Medicine; Yankton City Health Officer; Governor and Fellow, American College of Physicians; Director, Sacred Heart Convent Community Health Program; Chairman, Cancer Committee, Sacred Heart Hospital. Computerized Medical Hematology/Oncology Section, Yankton Medical Clinic. Received 1989 South Dakota Chapter Laureate Award of American College of Physicians. After retiring, served as Medical Director Long Term Care, Avera Sacred Heart Sr. James Care Center and Medical Director of Hospice Care.

Enjoyed golfing, traveling and camping.

Preceded in death by mother Katherine, father Francis, brothers Bill and Don, daughter Colleen, and grandson Nicholas Vollbrecht. Survived by wife of 61 years, Mary Ellen, sister Joan and brother Richard, daughter Maureen Sachleben (Wayne) and children Lisa Marie and Jaclyn of Richmond, VA; son Robert (Lana) and children Kelsey, Jessica, Makayla and Erik of Omaha, NE; son Brian (Sharon) and children Jennifer Brownlee (Bob) with daughter Brennan

and son David and Ashley Skirvin (Eric) with son Gabriel of Nashville, TN; son Gavin (Paul Kinsey) of Phoenix, AZ; daughter Maria (Herb Munsterman) and children Shelby and Jared of Chicago, IL; daughter Mara (Thomas Vollbrecht) and children Colleen and Cara of Minneapolis, MN; daughter Miriam (Claus Jeppesen) and son Jacob of Odense, Denmark.

Memorials requested in the deceased's name to: National Parkinson Foundation Center of Excellence, Vanderbilt Neurology Parkinson's Research Fund, A-0118 MCN, Nashville, TN, 37232-255, c/o Kelly Arney, MSSW and website: <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/neurology/NPF.pdf>; or, Benedictine Health Foundation, 1000 West 4th St, Suite 14, Yankton, SD 57078.

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Wayne Walter

SCOTLAND — Funeral services for Wayne Walter of Scotland will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 20 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Scotland, with Rev. David Ellis officiating. Organist will be Harriet Schaeffer, with special music by the choir. Interment will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland.

Casketbearers are Michael Golter, Roger Stock, Jim Maruska, Larry Hebbert, Jeff Hebbert and Jeff Herrboldt.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 2-8 p.m., with family present to greet visitors from 6-8 p.m., at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland. Visitation will resume on Saturday one hour prior to the services at the church. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Wayne Melvin Walter was born at 2:45 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 1916 at Chambers, Nebraska. His parents were Otto and Nora (Reifer) Walter. He was baptized on October 22, 1916 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Chambers. Wayne was united in marriage to Leontina Bentz of Norfolk, Nebraska on December 19, 1936 in Yankton. On October 8, 1942, their only child, Carol Kay (Walter) Halva was born. They lived in Scotland where Tina worked as a waitress and Wayne was a mechanic. In 1943, they bought a farm west of Scotland and Wayne became engaged in farming. Wayne loved and enjoyed farming for many years and did not retire until 2004, at 87 years old. In 1952, Wayne and Tina took in Tina's niece, Judy Hebbert, and she lived with them for several years. He enjoyed going out and dancing with his special friend, Olive Gran. He also enjoyed working on antique cars and going to car shows. He took special pride in driving his 1942 Chevy pickup and 1928 Ford Roadster in the annual Czech Days parade in Tabor. Wayne will be especially missed by his best buddy, Michael Golter of Tea,



Wayne Walter

with whom he chatted on the phone several times throughout each day. Wayne passed away on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at the Good Samaritan Society of Scotland, having attained the age of 93 years, 5 months and 5 days.

Wayne's memory will be cherished by his three granddaughters: Debra (Mike) Golter of Tea, Tammy (Roger) Stock of Yankton, and Kim (Chris) Jones of Sioux Falls; three great-grandchildren: Amy Adams of Las Vegas, Nevada, Stacey Grimme of Yankton and Jordan Dunham of Sioux Falls; five great-great-grandchildren: Alex, Jason Wayne and Evan of Las Vegas, and Rylan and Rayce of Yankton; and his special friend, Olive Gran of Scotland.

Wayne was preceded in death by his wife Tina on February 28, 2002, his daughter, Carol Halva in November of 1979, his parents, and seven brothers and sisters: Vernon, Leroy, Don, Kenny, Ruthie, Dora and Thelma.

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Goglin
Funeral Home
Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



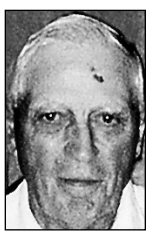
Wilfred H. Zavadil

FORDYCE, Neb. — Wilfred H. Zavadil, age 84, of Fordyce, NE, died on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at the Veterans Memorial Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, February 20, 2010 at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Menominee. Burial will be in the parish cemetery with military graveside rites by Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post #791 of Yankton.

Visitation will start at 6:00 p.m. Friday, February 19, 2010 at the church with a 7:00 p.m. wake service. Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton is in charge of the arrangements.

Pallbearers are Scott Zavadil, Matt Zavadil, Robert Zavadil, Bill Arens, and Danny Schaeffer. Honorary pallbearers are Norbert Bollich, Wilfred Schurman, Val Dean Schieffer, Lawrence Peitz, Haberman, Ron Kast, Larry Kast, and Ed Arens.



Zavadil

Wilfred entered the United States Army on Feb. 20, 1946 as a Surgical Technician and ended his term in 1947.

Wilfred married Rita Schaefer Sept. 2, 1952 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Menominee. They lived and farmed near Menominee. Wilfred enjoyed working in the shop, building and fixing and he especially enjoyed combining.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Rita, Fordyce, NE., sons Terry and (Mary Jean), Fordyce; Dennis, Bancroft, NE; Steve and (Jeani), Pat and (Patty) both of Fordyce; and a daughter Karla and (Bill) McDonald of Yankton, SD, fourteen grandchildren; one

brother Donald (Helen) Zavadil, and one sister, Lucille Arens; sister in law Fern Schaefer all of Yankton; sister in law Mildred Schroeder of Crofton, NE; and one brother in law Harold (Helen) Schaefer of Yankton and many nieces and nephews.

Wilfred was preceded in death by his parents, and son, Kenneth.

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Alvin Cap

LESTERVILLE — Alvin Cap, age 87, of rural Lesterville, SD passed away Monday, February 15, 2010 at his residence. Funeral services will be at 10:30 AM, Monday, February 22, 2010 at Calvary Baptist Church, Yankton, with Rev. Jon Cooke officiating. Burial will be in the Tyndall Presbyterian Cemetery, rural Tyndall, SD.

Visitations will be from 3-5 PM, Sunday, February 21, 2010 at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church. Pallbearers will be Daniel Cap, Kenny Fridrich, Mike Manas, Keith Sayler, Donald Rinehart,

Harvey Fridrich, and Dennis Hanson. Alvin was born to Joseph and Mary (Hlavac) Cap on November 18, 1922 in Yankton, SD. He attended country school. On April 17, 1944, he was united in marriage Evelyn Fridrich at Tyndall Presbyterian Church in Tyndall, SD and last year they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They farmed their entire life. Alvin was employed at Gurney's Nursery and Seed Company for 15 years. He was a loving, kind husband and father and lived and died the way he wanted to.



Cap

His memory will be cherished by his wife, Evelyn Cap, Lesterville, SD; son, Daniel (Kimberly) Cap of Arlington, TX; daughter, Sharon (Phil) Rinehart of Aurora, SD; six grandchildren; a brother, Benjamin Cap of Yankton and his nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and Ed, Joe, Katherine, Rose, Leo and Emil.

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Dale Bures

WAGNER — Funeral services for Dale Bures are 11 a.m. Saturday, February 20, 2010 at the Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner. Burial is in the ZCJB Cemetery, rural Wagner, with military honors.

Visitation will be Friday from noon until 6 PM at the Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner.

Dale L. Bures was born August 14, 1926 at Wagner, South Dakota, the son of Frank and Julia (Kucera) Bures. He passed away at his home on February 16, 2010 at the age of 83 years, five months and 28 days.

Dale attended rural school and Wagner High School. He served in the US Army during WW II and received an honorable discharge. Dale farmed in the Wagner area and after several years moved to the farm where

he was born. Dale was a member of the VFW and American Legion.

Dale will be remembered for his mechanic work, especially tractor repair and welding.

Thankful for having shared his life are his brother Vernon and wife Lucille Bures of Pickstown, sister Norma Hamilton of Wagner, and several nieces and nephews.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents and brother William.

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Lorraine Wudel

LAMAR, Colo. — Lorraine Ann Wudel, 91, of Lamar, Colo., and formerly of Yankton, died Thursday, (Feb. 18, 2010) at Juniper Village Nursing Home, Lamar, Colo.

Funeral services are pending under the care and direction of the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

Daniel Merkwan Sr

Daniel L. Merkwan Sr., 91, of

Yankton died Wednesday (Feb. 17, 2010) at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Funeral service are at 10 a.m. Monday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, with the Rev. Paul Opsahl officiating. Burial will be in Garden of Memories Cemetery, Yankton with military graveside rites by Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791, Yankton.

Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home and will resume one hour prior to the service at the funeral chapel.

Send an on-line sympathy card at www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644 www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

WINTZ FUNERAL HOME INC. Harrington, Coleridge, Crofton 402-254-6547

the WWII Victory Medal before being injured on a mine sweeper during the service. DeLos was honorably discharged on August 18, 1949.

He was united in marriage with Bonnie Taylor on February 8, 1948 in Mitchell, SD. The couple made their home on a farm near Loomis, SD. In 1961 they purchased a farm 1/2-mile west of Loomis where DeLos farmed his entire life.

He was a member of the Loomis Congregational Church and the American Legion in Letcher. DeLos enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling, shooting pool, playing cards and camping.

Grateful for having shared his life are his two sons, Denny (Jan) Everson, Yankton, SD, Darwin Everson, Mitchell, SD; three grandchildren, Kim (Ben) Holst, Ames, IA, Shanda (Matt) Wordelman, Rochester, MN, Angie (Ryan) Brodersen, Randolph, NE; six great grandchildren, Isaiah, Dominic, Lincoln, Emma, Abby and Tate; a brother, Paul (Margaret) Everson, Mitchell, SD; a sister-in-law, Margaret Pueppke, Mitchell, SD.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bonnie; a brother, Carle Everson; and his parents.

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