

MIDWEST DIGEST

Rounds Seeks Storm Disaster Declarations

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Gov. Mike Rounds has asked President Barack Obama to declare federal disasters to help South Dakota recover from a Christmas blizzard and a January ice storm that left thousands without power for days.

A presidential disaster declaration would pave the way for federal aid.

The state estimates the late December blizzard caused more than \$1 million in damage. Rounds is seeking public disaster aid for 12 counties and two reservations that were hardest hit.

Last month's ice storm, which brought down miles of power lines, is estimated to have caused \$22.5 million in damages. Rounds is seeking public disaster aid for 29 counties and three reservations, and private aid for seven counties and two reservations.

S.D. To Seek Death Penalty For Johns

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Prosecutors say they will seek the death penalty in the case of a man accused of murdering a law officer.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley and Turner County State's Attorney Tiffani Hoeke made the announcement Wednesday. Defense attorneys for Ethan Johns, who has not yet gone to trial, did not immediately return telephone calls seeking comment.

Johns is charged in Turner County with alternate counts of first-degree murder and second-degree murder in the shooting death of Deputy Sheriff Chad Mechels at a farm west of Marion last March.

Authorities say Mechels went to Johns' rented farmhouse to check on him after he reportedly threatened to kill himself during a fight with his girlfriend. Johns and Mechels shot at each other, and Mechels was struck in the right arm and throat by bullets from a high-powered rifle. Johns says the shooting was self-defense.

Lawmakers OK Pine Ridge Nursing Home

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers have given final approval to a plan to allow construction of a nursing home on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

South Dakota has had a ban on new nursing homes for more than 20 years. The bill would grant an exception to allow construction of a nursing home on the reservation in southwestern South Dakota.

Supporters say the reservation needs a nursing home so elderly residents can be near their families. Many now go to nursing homes in Rapid City or other towns far from the reservation.

The House voted 60-10 to pass the bill, which was approved earlier by the Senate. It will become law if signed by Gov. Mike Rounds.

S.D. Bill Closes Gambling Void Loophole

PIERRE (AP) — A loophole that allowed a South Dakota man to avoid repaying a \$33,000 debt because he once lost \$1,500 to the lender in a card game would close under a bill headed to the governor's desk.

Current state law says that if a debt stems from illegal gambling, either in part or in whole, then the whole debt is void.

The state Legislature on Wednesday gave final approval to a rewrite saying that only the illegal portion of such debt would be invalid.

The change would not affect the court case that spurred the legislation.

In November, the state Supreme Court ruled that the Sioux Falls man's testimony was enough for the jury to find the loan involved a gambling debt and voided the loan.

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

COMMUNITY NOTEBOOK

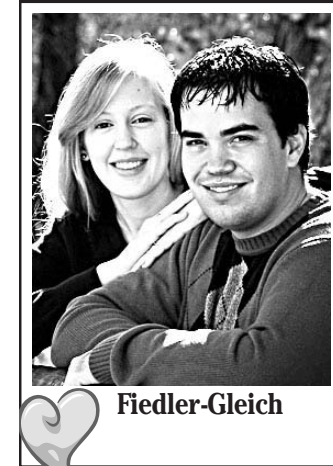
The Community Notebook appears each Monday and Thursday. Contributions to this list of upcoming events are welcome and should be submitted two weeks before the event. Submissions must be typewritten or legibly printed and include the name and phone number of a contact person. Send items to P&L Calendar, PO Box 36, Yankton, SD 57103, or e-mail to newsroom@yankton.net.

Thursday
Youth Alive, 7:45 a.m., YHS Library.
Table tennis/darts, 8:30 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Wii bowling, 9 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Ladies Billiards, 10 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Sertoma, noon, Waterfront.
Alcoholics Anonymous Daily Reprieve Group, noon, 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
Toastmasters Club No. 6217, noon, Sacred Heart Hospital, (605)668-8326.
Thursday cards, 12:45 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Dominos, 1 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Cribbage, 1 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Senior Bowling, 1:30 p.m., Centennial Lanes, Crofton, Neb. (402) 388-4640.
Weight Watchers, 5:30 p.m., 23rd St. Suites, 904 W. 23rd, 1-800-651-6000.
TOPS No. SD 45, 5:30-6:30 p.m. weigh-in; 6:30 p.m. meeting, RTEC, Room 134, (605)665-3738 or (605)667-9274.
Yankton Area Banquet, 6 p.m., United Church of Christ, Fifth and Walnut.
Celebrate Recovery, 7 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church, 2407 Broadway, (605)665-5594.
Alcoholics Anonymous ALANON, 8:30 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th.
Overeaters Anonymous, Thursday Evening, (605)665-0443.
FOURTH THURSDAY ONLY
Connecting Artists, 7 p.m., GAR Hall, 508 Douglas, Yankton. (605)286-3957.

Friday
Exercise & Current Events, 8:30 a.m., Pine Lane Estates, 2905 Douglas Ave.
Line Dancing, 9:30-11 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Foster Rehabilitation Support Group, 10-11 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, Room 105, (605)260-1980.
Exercise & Current Events, 10:15 a.m., Pine Lane Estates West, 2903 Douglas Ave.
Instructed cardio class, 11-11:45 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Alcoholics Anonymous Daily Reprieve, noon, 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th.
Contract bridge, 1 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Parent's Night Out, 5:30 p.m., Calvary Baptist, By Reservation Only (605)665-5594.
Bingo, 7-9 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Billiards/Snooker, 7-9 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Porchlight Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., United Church of Christ, 210 W. 5th St.
Alcoholics Anonymous Alano Group, 8:30 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th

Saturday
Speakers Voice Toastmasters, 7 a.m., Fry's Pan Restaurant.
Yankton Toastmasters, 7:30, Fry's Pan Restaurant.
Weight Watchers, 9 a.m. (weigh-ins 30 minutes before meeting time), 904 W. 23rd, 1-800-651-6000.
Alcoholics Anonymous Daily Reprieve Group, noon, 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth. Non-smoking meeting.
Games of Choice & Socializing, 2 p.m., 2905 and 2903 Douglas Ave.
Alcoholics Anonymous Daily Reprieve Group, 6:45 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.

Sunday
Alcoholics Anonymous Daily Reprieve Group, 8 a.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
Alcoholics Anonymous Alano Group, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
Marian Prayer Group, 1 p.m., Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chapel of St. Joseph, House of Many Shrines, Lewis and Clark Lake. 665-1119
Coffee Time and Visiting, 2 p.m., 2905 and 2903 Douglas Ave.
VFW Auxiliary Bingo, 6:30 p.m., VFW Club.
One Hour Experience, 6:30 p.m., MUC building USD. 712-251-8860.



Donald and Mary Fiedler of Yankton, SD, announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Rae Fiedler to Jeremy Joseph Gleich, son of Connie and James Mors and Edward Gleich, all of Yankton, SD. Stephanie is a 2003 graduate of Yankton High School and a 2007 graduate of Macalester College. She is currently a chemistry graduate student at Colorado State University. Jeremy is a 2003 graduate of Yankton High School. He is currently employed at Dellenbach Subaru. The couple is planning a September 25, 2010, wedding.

NEB. LEGISLATURE

Fetal Pain Abortion Bill Discussed

BY **TIMBERLY ROSS**
 Associated Press Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — A group of lawmakers is pushing to make Nebraska the first state to outlaw most abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy based on the argument that the fetus might feel pain during the procedure.

Emboldened by the Supreme Court's 2007 decision upholding a ban on so-called partial-birth abortions, in which a fetus is partially removed from the woman's womb and then destroyed, the Nebraska legislators are seeking to ban all late-term abortions except when the mother's life is threatened.

If the bill were to pass — and it's unclear that it would — it would surely face a court challenge and could end up in front of the Supreme Court. Medical experts and others were expected to testify for and against the bill on Thursday before the Legislature's Judiciary Committee.

No other state has attempted to restrict abortions based on the pain a fetus might feel, said Mary Spaulding Balch, the legislative director for National Right to Life, which helped arrange for the experts testifying on behalf of the bill.

Six states — Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Oklahoma and Utah — require that pregnant women be told an abortion could cause pain for the fetus, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The bill, which was introduced by Speaker of the Legislature Mike Flood, bases its assertion that fetuses feel pain on the testimony of doctors, some of it given during a 2005 Congressional hearing on the subject. It contends there is substantial evidence that by 20 weeks, fetuses seek to evade stimuli in a way that indicates they are experiencing pain.

But testimony from that hearing also suggests the medical community has not reached a consensus on fetal pain.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists says it knows of no legitimate evidence that shows a fetus can experience pain. It says a fetus' brain begins its final stage of development between the 20th and 40th weeks of pregnancy, and that certain hormones that develop in the final trimester must also be present for it to feel pain. It's not known exactly when those hormones are formed.

"I would hope Nebraska wouldn't become the new ground zero for this, but there appears to

be a number of people in the Legislature that are pushing this issue," said Janet Crepps of the Center for Reproductive Rights, which opposes the legislation.

Crepps said Nebraska's proposed law would be unconstitutional and is a blatant attempt to get the abortion issue back before the Supreme Court, which established in its 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that a woman has the constitutional right to an abortion.

But supporters of the bill say the Supreme Court's ruling on what they call partial-birth abortion, in which the court for the first time upheld a ban on a specific type of procedure, opened the door to challenge other procedures.

They say the ruling acknowledged that states have an interest in preserving fetal life. And they say the court discarded Roe v. Wade's viability requirement because the so-called partial-birth method could have been used to abort fetuses before they could survive outside the womb.

But the decision also distinguished the procedure from a more common abortion method used after 12 weeks of pregnancy. That was unaffected by the ruling. And ninety percent of all abortions occur in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, and also were not affected.

Neb. Uninsured Rates Highest Among Minorities

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — High percentages of minorities, foreign-born residents and college-aged people in Nebraska lack health insurance, according to new report released Wednesday.

The Center for Public Affairs Research at the University of Nebraska at Omaha compiled the report based on U.S. Census data. It shows nearly 190,000 Nebraskans, or almost 11 percent of the population, had no health insurance coverage in 2008.

Uninsured rates were highest among Hispanic and black resi-

dents, the report said, with 28 percent of Hispanics in Nebraska lacking coverage and 22 percent of blacks lacking coverage. That compared with 8 percent of white residents in Nebraska.

Nationally, nearly 31 percent of Hispanics lacked coverage, while 19 percent of blacks and 14.5 percent of whites were uninsured.

More than a third of Nebraska's foreign-born population, at 35 percent, were uninsured, compared with 9 percent for those born in the United States. Forty-five percent of foreign-born Nebraskans

who are not U.S. citizens — regardless of legal status — were uninsured, the report said.

A high percentage of Nebraska's college-age and early working age residents also were without health care coverage, the report said, with 22 percent of those 18 to 24 and 17 percent of those 25 to 34 being uninsured.

While the report showed those subgroups had higher percentages lacking coverage, the vast majority of Nebraskans without health insurance — about 123,000 — were white.

Nebraskans experiencing economic hardships have higher uninsured rates, the report said. Forty-two percent of the unemployed, 28 percent of those in poverty, and 21 percent of those receiving food stamps did not have health insurance.

The report's numbers came from an analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2008 American Community Survey results. In Nebraska, about 17,500 households provided responses to that questionnaire.

DAVE SAYS:

Don't Get Caught Up In The Glamour

Dear Dave,
 Our son is 21, and he's embarking on a career as a professional soccer player. The beginning money isn't huge. He'll only be making about \$30,000 a year, and we want to know how we can help him manage this money and not get caught up in the idea that he has to live a glamorous lifestyle.

— Karen



come into play. You can't run out and buy a bunch of houses and cars and expect even big money to last for long.

This could be a very cool thing for your son. But it's only going to be cool if it brings blessings to him and doesn't ruin his life!

—Dave

Dear Dave,
 Does a single person with no dependents need life insurance? If so, how much?

— Shirley

Dear Shirley,
 A single person with no

Lots of times you'll find there's a small life insurance policy built into your healthcare coverage. Check that out, or get with your human resources department if you have insurance through an employer. The last thing you want is for mom or dad to have to write a check to the funeral home on the worst day of their lives.

But having no dependents is the key here. If you had a spouse or kids, they would need to be taken care of after you were gone. That would change the whole equation. In that case, I'd recommend you have eight to 10 times your annual income wrapped up in a good, level term life insurance policy!

—Dave
 *For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com.

KYNT
AM 1450
MORNING COFFEE
WEEKDAYS 7:35 AM MONDAY-FRIDAY
Friday, Feb. 26
 7:40 P&D, Nathan Johnson;
 8:15 YAAA, Pam Meylor
Yankton's Home Team!



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Roberta Dickey of Overland Park, KS and Terry Dickey of Overland Park, KS and Kirby and Carol List of Hutchinson, KS (former South Dakota residents), announce the engagement of their children, Kimberly Anne Dickey and Jordan Matthew List.
 Kim is a 2003 graduate of Maize, KS High School and a May 2009 graduate of the University of Kansas with a Master of Occupational Therapy Degree. She is employed as a Pediatric Occupational Therapist at St. Alphonsus Rehabilitation Services in Boise, ID.
 Jordan is a 2003 graduate of Maize, KS High School and a May 2009 graduate of the University of Kansas as a Doctor of Pharmacy. He is a pharmacy resident at the VA Medical Center in Boise, ID.
 The couple plans a July 10, 2010, wedding.

Dickey-List

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