

Neb. Bill Would Expand Foster Care Benefits

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Children who age out of Nebraska's foster care system could qualify for medical benefits, financial aid for school and caseworker help until they turn 21, under a measure in the Legislature.

Advocates said the measure would help young adults in foster care adjust to adulthood when they have no other support. But the bill will likely face strong resistance from budget-conscious lawmakers as they sort through a priority list that includes the governor's tax cut plan, funding for higher education and other child welfare reforms.

The measure would cost the state \$4.4 million between January and June 2013, and another \$7.8 million over the fiscal year that starts in July 2013.

The bill's sponsor, Sen. Amanda McGill of Lincoln, said the proposal seeks to reduce the number of children without family support, who might otherwise end up in prison, homeless or with an unplanned pregnancy.

"The negative outcomes are so high, that it really saves money in the long run to make sure these kids have the support they need to

make sure their lives go in a good, positive, productive direction," she said.

Those who have been wards of the state and advocates for foster care children have long said that children who grow up in group homes often leave with a poor sense of how to handle common tasks — paying bills, finding insurance or holding a regular job.

"They never get a family," McGill said. "A lot of kids, as they age out, do have foster parents that have adopted them or cared about them, who are a part of their lives once they turn 19 and 20. But for these kids who have been in group homes, they don't have that family network. They're literally on their own."

About 70 percent of the youths who enter Nebraska care after age 14 eventually age out of the system, according to the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, a nonprofit that helps children in the system. Others leave the system, either through adoption or by returning to their parents.

The number of children aging out of the system has increased in recent years, from 183 in fiscal 2006 to 200 during the fiscal year that ended in June, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. The number peaked in at 224 in fiscal year 2010.

The bill comes on the heels of a measure approved last year that requires the state to develop case-by-case plans to help teens transition into adulthood, if they are in foster care or enter the system after they turn 16.

Oscar Delgado first entered the foster care system when he was 11. The Omaha college student bounced between youth shelters and foster homes while his mother struggled with drug addictions. He lost state help when he turned 19 last year.

"If I would have stayed until I was 21, my whole living situation probably would have been better financially," he said. "Being in foster care was a good thing for me. My lifestyle before foster care wasn't really the greatest. We were border line in poverty."

The bill would give former state wards between 19 and 21 the option to continue state services, including Medicaid coverage, foster home placement, financial aid for college or job training, and case management services. Recipients would have to be enrolled in college, high school or a job training program, working at least 80 hours a month, or incapacitated by a medical condition.

The state estimates 585 former state wards would apply for the program.

Nebraskan Pays Fine For Gun In Carry-On

KEARNEY, Neb. (AP) — A 37-year-old rural Kearney man has paid a \$300 fine and been placed on probation for trying to take a loaded handgun onto a plane at Kearney Regional Airport.

The *Kearney Hub* reports that Randy Black recently pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of violating his concealed-weapon permit for having a loaded .40-caliber semi-automatic handgun in his carry-on luggage at the airport on Sept. 25. Black also was placed on six months' probation.

Authorities say the gun was detected by a security X-ray machine at the airport.

Federal authorities say firearms must be placed in locked, hard-sided containers in checked baggage and be unloaded, and owners must declare the presence of the weapons.

Black wasn't considered a terror threat and his case was not forwarded to federal prosecutors.

Deputy, Woman Injured When Truck Hits Them

GREENWOOD, Neb. (AP) — A Cass County Sheriff's deputy and a woman he had stopped to help were injured when a truck slid into them during a winter storm.

Sheriff William Brueggemann says the accident happened Saturday afternoon near Greenwood on Interstate 80. The sheriff said Deputy Randy Wilkins had stopped to help 20-year-old Cara Delp of Elkhorn, whose car had slid off the interstate.

Soon after Wilkins stopped, a pickup lost control on the interstate, hitting both Wilkins and Delp.

Delp was taken to an Omaha hospital in serious condition. Wilkins was taken to a Lincoln hospital, where he was held overnight. A release from the sheriff's office says Wilkins did not appear to have any serious injuries.

The Nebraska State Patrol is investigating.

Food Illnesses Starting To Wane In Pierre

PIERRE (AP) — After dozens of people reported being sick last week because of food served at Pierre Riggs High School, the illness is starting to wane.

The illness reports began to surface after a Tuesday night basketball game between Pierre and Mitchell. The Department of Health has asked people who attended the game to answer an electronic questionnaire.

KCCR-AM reports that about 100 surveys have been completed; about half of the people responding said they were ill after eating at the game.

State Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger says no one has been hospitalized. The illness lasted about 24 hours in most people.

Kightlinger says that occasional outbreaks are common, but this one was different because people at the same site got sick in just a few hours' time.

York-Based District Studies Fertilizer Limits

YORK, Neb. (AP) — A York-based natural resources district is studying another way to control fertilizer contamination of drinking water.

The Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District is notifying its 56,000 residents about a March 1 public hearing on a containment proposal.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* says the district already requires farmers to wait until after Nov. 1 to apply anhydrous ammonia and other nitrogen sources that are important to their corn crops.

The district has been studying even more stringent measures, including requiring use of nitrogen inhibitors, which are chemicals that slow the rate at which anhydrous ammonia is broken down into nitrates.

Experts say nitrates pose health hazards when they leach through fields into groundwater supplies.

OBITUARIES

Adeline Pesek

The funeral Mass for Adeline R. Pesek, 93, of Tyndall will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, February 6 at St. Leo Catholic Church in Tyndall with Fr. Joe Forcelle as Celebrant. Organist is Marcene Kniffen and soloist is Kathy Tegethoff. Lector is Samuel Jaeger, altar servers are Jackson, Hayden and Hanna Powers and giftbearers are Jackie Thomson and Luke Eppel. Interment will follow in St. Leo Catholic Cemetery, Tyndall.

Casketbearers are Andrew Powers, Stacey Powers, Matt DePauw, Steve Thomson, Gerald Eppel and Samuel Jaeger.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Goglin Funeral Home of Tyndall, and on-line condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Adeline Rose Pesek was born on Monday, August 19, 1918 in the Lakeport area near Yankton. She was the second of four children born to Fred and Rose (Nedved) Hejl. After attending



Adeline Pesek

Wilson School District #54 through the 8th grade, she spent some time working away from home doing domestic work. On February 12, 1947, she was united in marriage to Edward Joseph Pesek at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Lesterville. They began their farming career on a rented farm near her in-laws. Three daughters were born during this time. In 1961, they purchased a farm near Tyndall and continued farming there until they retired and purchased a home in Tyndall in 1981. During their

retirement, they did a lot of traveling until they were no longer able to due to health issues.

Adeline will be remembered as a devoted wife and mother. She worked side by side with Edward in their livestock and crop operation. She also raised poultry, vegetables and canned. This is how she will be remembered by everyone who knew her. She was especially proud of her two sets of twin great-grandchildren.

Adeline passed away on Friday, February 3, 2012 at the Good Samaritan Society of Tyndall at the age of 93 years, 5 months and 15 days.

Thankful for having shared her life are her husband of 64 years, Edward, of Tyndall; three daughters: Florence and husband Kenneth Powers of Avon, Elaine and husband Thomas Jaeger of Platte, and Joyce and husband Kenneth Diediker of Dixon, Nebraska; six grandchildren: Stacey Powers and Julie of Avon, Melissa (Powers) and Matt DePauw of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jackie (Jaeger) and Steve Thomson of Sioux Falls,

Carla (Jaeger) and Gerald Eppel of Mitchell, Samuel Jaeger of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Denise (Diediker) and Joe Dangberg of Omaha, Nebraska; nine great-grandchildren: Andrew, Jackson and twins Hayden and Hanna Powers, Max and twins Vanessa and Felicity Thomson, and Luke and Emma Eppel; two brothers: Wesley Hejl of Sioux Falls and Joseph and wife Dorothy Hejl of Lesterville; and many other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Rose Hejl, a brother, Fred, and his wife, Evelyn.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
February 6, 2012

Goglin
Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Gladys Rechnagel

Gladys Margaret Rechnagel was born August 5, 1920 on the family farm five miles south of Freeman, South Dakota, in Valley Township. Her parents were Steffen and Maggie Jensen, and Gladys joined two older brothers, Harvey P. and Ervin. Gladys attended elementary school in a one-room school house (Valley #7) in rural Hutchinson County and graduated from Viborg High School in 1938. For many years during the 1940s, Gladys worked as a switchboard operator at the Viborg telephone office.

Gladys married Armond Rechnagel on November 27, 1950, in Brookings, South Dakota. They raised three children: Donald, Janice and Linda. Gladys, Armond and their family resided on a farm just to the northwest of Turkey Ridge in southern Childstown Township. Gladys' pride and joy were her grandchildren and later her great-grandchildren. The grandchildren have many fond memories of going to the farm and spending time with Grandma and Grandpa. Armond died in June of 1979, and Gladys continued to live on the family farm for a couple of years.

In June of 1981, Gladys sold the farm and moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For the next twenty-five years, Gladys worked at various jobs in the Sioux Falls area. She worked at Lewis Drug Eastgate, employed as a nanny for the Russell Sorensen family, and concluded her working career being employed with Hy-Vee.

Gladys was still working into her mid-eighties, and she was very proud of that fact.

In October 2009, Gladys moved to the Salem Mennonite Home for the Aged in Freeman, where she resided for a year. In December 2010, Gladys became a resident of the Menno-Olivet Care Center until her passing on February 1, 2012. She reached the age of ninety-one and one-half.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers; her husband, Armond; her son, Donald; and her son-in-law, William (Bill) Anderson.

Gladys is survived by her daughter-in-law, Judy Rechnagel of Freeman; her daughter and son-in-law, Janice and LaVerne Graber of Freeman; her daughter, Linda Anderson of Reno, Nevada; her brother-in-law, Lyle Rechnagel of Freeman; her sister-in-law, Ellen Snell of Wayne, Michigan; and her sister-in-law, Deborah Rechnagel of Roseville, Minnesota. Gladys is also survived by her six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren, many nephews and nieces, and countless friends.

Funeral services will be Monday at 2:00 at the Walter Funeral Home.

Visitation with family and friends will be from 2-4 Sunday at the funeral home.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
February 6, 2012

Alice Frasch

MENNO — Alice H. Frasch, 83, of Menno died Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012, at the Menno-Olivet Care Center, Menno.

Arrangements are pending under the care of Aisenbrey-Op-sahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno.

Viola Soukup

WAGNER — Viola L. "Toots" Soukup, 99, of Wagner died Friday, Feb. 3, 2012, at Avera St. Benedict Health Center, Parkston.

Pinochle Tournament
Every Monday Night
in February & March
7pm • \$5pp
6:30pm Registration
Bring Your Partner • 80% Pay Back

VFW Post 791
209 Cedar, Yankton • 665-3562

Everyone Welcome!

www.yankton.net

Schweser's
THANK YOU!
2 Day Event

Thank you for supporting your local store and for your continued patronage! This spring we are featuring new styles, new brands, updated looks, and expanded accessory and gift departments. New styles and accessories have already started to arrive!

70-90% OFF CLEARANCE **50% OFF NEW ARRIVALS**

PLUS EXTRA 25% OFF biggest SENIOR DAYS of the winter
Senior Discount
Tuesday & Wednesday
*55 or better qualifies for senior discount

Schweser's
Fashion for Less
www.schwesersstores.com
Yankton Mall

*Few exclusions apply
*Original prices may not result in sales

HONORING THEIR MEMORY
Our Thoughts And Prayers Are With Them
Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Clara Jilg
who passed away on
February 9, 2011

Laverne Mensch
who passed away on
February 10, 2011

Allen Kokesh Jr.
who passed away on
February 7, 2006

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory.

Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.

OPSAHL-KOSTEL
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton
Memorial Resource Center, Tyndall
Memorial Chapels, Tyndall, Tabor & Menno
665-9679 • 1-800-495-9679
www.opsahlkostelfuneralhome.com

Dad. Hero. Friend.

You were 4 years old and seeing the ocean for the first time. One big wave rolled in and knocked you off your feet and into the surf. Fearing the worst, your dad scooped you up from the water and wiped away the tears. You spent some time walking the beach from the safety of his shoulders until you were brave enough to face the waves again, together.

And while you have idolized your dad throughout life, you'll want to celebrate times like these after his death. A meaningful funeral allows you to grieve and say goodbye with family and friends.

We know the value of creating a meaningful funeral. Call us for more information.

WINTZ & RAY
FUNERAL HOME
Cremation Service, Inc.
Yankton, 605-665-3644
wintzrayfuneralhome.com
Garden of Memories Cemetery