

## S.D. Retirement System Has Good Return

PIERRE (AP) — Officials say the South Dakota Retirement System is in good financial shape after earning 12.4 percent on investments through the first seven months of the financial year.

State Investment Officer Matt Clark says the system now holds assets of more than \$8.5 billion, up from \$7.8 billion at the start of the financial year last July.

Rob Wylie, executive director of the Retirement System, says the system is about 98 percent funded, in much better shape than most other public pension plans in the nation. That means its assets are about 98 percent of the value of all potential future benefits to be paid to retirees in state and local agencies.

## USDA Predicts Demand For Crops To Grow

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The U.S. Agriculture Department predicts that demand for crops and livestock will continue to grow as global population increases over the next decade, and producers should be able to meet the demand.

The USDA said Monday American farmers will have to find ways to boost what they harvest out of each acre, and farmers overseas will have to expand production.

# S.D. Leaders Watch As Earth Satellite Launches

BY KRISTI EATON  
Associated Press

GARRETSON — Local dignitaries joined space enthusiasts Monday to watch the launch of an Earth-observing satellite whose images will be bounced back to a South Dakota laboratory where scientists study the planet's changing landscape.

City mayors, scientists and others gathered at the Earth Resources Observation Systems in Garretson to watch the televised launch of the rocket carrying the Landsat 8. EROS, part of the U.S. Geological Survey, is the main repository for images from Landsat satellites, which have been continuously snapping photos of the globe for 40 years.

But this newest satellite is more powerful — able to spin around the planet 14 times a day,

snapping hundreds of pictures — than its predecessors, which makes scientists like Roger Auch especially giddy.

"I'm excited to look at the imagery because it's going to be sharper than we dealt with before. I tend to look at things visually, so it should be looking like Hi-Def TV," said Auch, of Sioux Falls.

Auch said Landsat 7, which went into orbit in 1999, has some data gaps, making his job more difficult at times. He expects to be able to start working with Landsat 8 images in about 100 days.

"The continuation of Landsat allows me to keep telling stories of all the major land types of changes," he said. "From answering some basic questions — what happened, where did it happen and when did it happen — I try to find out why did it happen, because that's one thing you

can't tell from just looking at the satellites. You have to do additional research," he said.

The rocket carrying the Landsat 8 launched from the Vandenberg Air Force Base along California's central coast. But officials at EROS thought it fitting to have a watch party where the satellites images are studied.

Three screens were set up inside a theater so scientists, their family and local leaders could watch the launch from California.

"There are people in this room that have spent a better part of a decade to watch this launch," EROS director Frank Kelly said moments before the official launch that took place at 12:02 p.m. local time. Kelly also was joined by Sioux Falls Mayor Mike Huether, as well as mayors of nearby Harrisburg and Dell Rapids, and representatives from the offices of U.S. Sens. Tim Johnson and John Thune.

## OBITUARIES

### Lugene Theel

Lugene Fae Theel, age 53, of rural Lesterville, SD passed away Saturday, February 9, 2013 at the Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls, SD surrounded by her family and friends.

Memorial services will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at the Zion American Lutheran Church, Scotland, SD with Pastor Jonathan Vehar officiating. Burial of her cremated remains will be approximately 1 p.m. Wednesday afternoon at the Menno Cemetery, Menno, SD.

Visitations will begin at 5



Theel

p.m. Tuesday, at the Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno, SD with a prayer service and memory sharing at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Lugene was born February 15, 1959 in Sioux Falls, SD the daughter of the late Avis and Flavain Wayne Theel. She was one of six siblings. She graduated from Southeast Technical Institute and worked as a Surgi-

cal Technician. She worked for Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls for a number of years, and then in Freeman, Scotland, and Yankton, SD. For the last several years, she has enjoyed her role as a mother and homemaker. One of her greatest joys was volunteering for school and band activities and events.

Grateful for having shared her life are her significant other, DuWayne Herrboldt and son Austin Herrboldt of Lesterville, SD; sisters and brother, Donna (Chuck) Kappenman of Canton, SD, Marge (Larry) Dreesman of Sioux Falls, SD, Janet Lovaas of

Sioux Falls, SD, Rhonda (Denny) Gallop of Jasper, MN, and Wayne (Julie) Theel of Platte, SD; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Lugene was preceded in death by her parents and daughter, Ashley Julian.

**Yankton Press & Dakotan**  
February 13, 2013

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

### Brigitte Fisher

Brigitte Maree Fisher, 27, passed away February 9th, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, Iowa, after suffering a massive heart attack.

A visitation will be held from 5-6 p.m. with a prayer service beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion, South Dakota.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, February 14, 2013, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion, South Dakota, with Rev. William Johnson officiating.

Brigitte's memory will live on long after her passing as she chose to give the ultimate gift of organ donation to people in need.

Brigitte was born to Kevin Fisher and Cindy (Larson) Carrington. She went to her Savior on February 9, 2013. Brigitte attended Vermillion High School. She was involved in dance classes and especially loved to tap dance. Once of her other passions was as a soccer player in her younger years. She always had a smile on her face and a good-natured attitude, which helped as she sold girl-scout cookies. It also helped her later in life as she worked as an operator for Ansir-4U.

Brigitte lived for her three beautiful girls. They were her rock in life. She did a wonderful job with her girls. She will be dearly missed by her entire family.

Brigitte is survived by her children, Destiny, Arianna, and Navaya; her mother, Cynthia (Larson) Carrington; her step-father, John Wayne Carrington; her father, Kevin Fisher; her step-mother, Julie Berry; her brother, Justin Fisher; her sister, Alicia Fisher; her nieces and nephews, Arabella, Alena, Shelby, Layne, and Ryker; her fiancé, Brian Kimball and his children; her special grandparents, Darrel and Barb Larson; her aunts, Joan Downey, and Gail Feidler; her uncle, Tim (Marie) Larson; and her first cousins, Mandy, Meggan, Shelly, Elisa, and Shannon.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Henrietta and Joe Fisher; and her aunt, Linda Buckner. Services have been entrusted to Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion, South Dakota.

Condolences may be posted on-

line at [www.koberfuneralhome.com](http://www.koberfuneralhome.com).  
**Yankton Press & Dakotan**  
**February 12, 2013**

### Daryl Bernard

Daryl C. Bernard, 89, of Yankton died Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013, at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 2, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Mark Lichter officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery with military graveside rites by the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post #791 and the SDARNG Honor Guard.

Visitations begin at 4 p.m. Friday March 1, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7 p.m. followed by a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

### Palmer Foss

Palmer Ordell Foss age 90, of Menno and formerly of Lesterville, SD passed away Saturday, February 9, 2013 at the Menno-Olivet Care Center, Menno, SD.

Memorial services will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at the Salem Reformed Church, Menno, with Rev. Michael Hecht officiating and the SDARNG Honor Guard presenting the colors. Visitations will begin at 5 p.m. Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at the Salem Reformed Church, Menno, with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

The Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno, is assisting with the service details.

Palmer Foss was born January 27, 1923 in Freeman, SD to Inga (Jorstad) and Jarle Foss. In 1926 their family moved to the farm near the Jim River east of Scotland, SD where he made his home for 86 years. Palmer was raised in a Christian home, was baptized and confirmed his faith in Christ as his Savior as a young man. He was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, rural Menno and later years at Zion Lutheran Church in Scotland, SD.

He attended Oslo District's one room school house for 8 years and then Menno High School where he graduated in 1941. In 1945 he entered the Navy and served in the South Pacific until discharged at the end of World War II in 1946. On May 4, 1948, he married Eirleen Johnson of Viborg, SD, which Palmer referred to often as the "best thing that ever happened to me". Their love and dedication have been obvious to this day. Palmer claimed having two children (Karen and Jerry), as their biggest accomplishment and greatly enjoyed spending time with his 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. He always made it a point to tell them how blessed he was to have them and referred to them as precious cargo when instructing their parents to drive them home safely.

In November 2011 Palmer left the farm and moved into the



Foss

Menno-Olivet Care Center where he resided until the time of his death, February 9, 2013.

Palmer is perhaps best known for his sense of humor and love of animals; traits which are recognized to have been passed on to his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Going to visit Palmer's farm was much like visiting an exotic animal park, where he had his favorites...

dogs, horses and miniature donkeys, but also had yak, buffalo, peacocks, coyotes, raccoons and just about any animal willing to hang around for a free meal. Similarly Palmer is recognized by those who knew him as a kind person who never chose to take advantage of anyone and often went the extra mile to make sure the other person was treated fairly.

Palmer is survived by Eirleen, his wife of nearly 65 years; daughter, Karen Baker of Yankton, SD; son, Jerry (Carol) of Victoria, MN; grandchildren: Krista (Travis) Becker of Yankton, SD; Tim Baker of Yankton, SD; Jason (Catherine) Foss of Forest Lake, MN; Jonathan Foss of Shakopee, MN; and his fiancée Jenna Kotlarz of Shakopee, MN; Kimberly (Tyler) Hansen of Jordan, MN; Kyle Foss of Melbourne, Australia; great-grandchildren: Ashli, Chloe, Tori, and Zachary Becker, all of Yankton, SD; Cristian and Mykaela Foss of Forest Lake, MN; Paxton, Maddex and Elyza Hansen all of Jordan, MN; and brother, Wilbur (Elizabeth) Foss of Scotland, SD.

He was preceded in death by his parents Inga and Jarle Foss.

Memorials can be directed to Menno-Olivet Care Center, P. O. Box 487, Menno, South Dakota 57045.

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### Norman Guenther

Norman A. Guenther, age 78 of Crofton, Nebraska, died on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at the Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Thursday, February 14, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Crofton, NE with the Rev. Michael Schmitz. Burial will be at the St. Rose cemetery in Crofton with military rites by the Crofton American Legion Post #128.

Visitation will be on Wednesday from 4-9 p.m. with a Vigil Service at 7 p.m. all at the Wintz Funeral Home in Crofton. Visitation will continue on Thursday at church one hour prior to services.

Pallbearers will be Jerry Guenther, Brian Guenther, Kelly Guenther, Laverne Guenther, Mike Nelson, Jodi Nelson, and Casper Guenther.

Honorary pallbearers will be Norbert and Karen Guenther, Jerry and Georgie Thunker, Joe and Geri Schumacher, Jake and Norma Van Heek, Marlene Boecker, Knights of Columbus, and the Crofton American Legion Post 128.

Norman Albert Guenther was born on February 4, 1935 in Crofton, NE to Casper and Anna (Hendricks) Guenther. He attended St. Rose Catholic School in Crofton. He served in the U.S. Army from 1954-1956. He returned home after being discharged and began farming. He married Donna Rae Langferman on August 18, 1959 in Hartington, NE. They lived joys and sorrows of life together for 53 years. Norman enjoyed his family, friends and neighbors. Over the years he was a dairy farmer for 40 years. His hobbies were golfing and



Guenther

playing cards. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters, Crofton American Legion Post 128 and past commander, Ernest Bowyer VFW #791 of Yankton, SD. He was Past officer of the Nebraska Dairy Board, Cattleman Beef Board of Knox County, ADA/DC Board, Crofton Public School Board, and past officer of the Production Credit Board.

Norman is survived by his wife, Donna of Crofton; four children and spouses Carleen and Russ Dendinger of Crofton; Kevin Guenther of Raleigh, NC, Dale Guenther of Crofton, Gary Guenther of Crofton; nine grandchildren; twin brother Norbert and wife Karen Guenther of Crofton; three sisters and spouses Eileen and Danny Crespo of Stockton, CA, Betty Lou Helms of Portland, OR, Carol and Ken Prebay of Bridgeport, MI; sister-in-law Hedwig Guenther of Reesville, WI.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two infant children; brothers Elmer, Art, Earl, Lawrence, infant brother Richard Guenther; two sisters Mildred Schmid and JoAnn Nelson.

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February 12, 2013

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