

Spreading The Joy



SUBMITTED PHOTO

During the holiday season, the Lincoln Elementary Student Council performed a Readers' Theater during lunchtime. Thanks to our librarian, Mrs. Bergesen, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas was read while the students dined. It was a great presentation by these Lincoln Leaders!

MVCA 'Sneak Peek' Jan. 14

All are welcome to the Missouri Valley Christian Academy's Kindergarten "Sneak Peek" at 7 p.m. Jan. 14 at Christ the King

Lutheran Church. Come see about the kindergarten everyone is talking about and why it's the best choice for your child.

Session

From Page 1

District 18 Sen. Jean Hunhoff (R-Yankton) supports Daugaard's plans to use the unclaimed property to pay off debt and free up funds for future years. She doesn't want to see the influx of dollars committed to ongoing needs.

"These are one-time dollars, not for new programming," she said.

When it comes to generating more revenue, District 18 Rep. Bernie Hunhoff (D-Yankton) wants to improve the state's economy and workforce.

"Even though South Dakota's economy has been booming, a great number of South Dakotans are struggling due to low wages and a lack of opportunities," he said. "Ironically, there are better jobs unfilled in some of our cities, but we've failed to make strategic investments in our youth and our workforce — both in regards to education and health care.

"Consequently, we have people in poverty who aren't qualified for the jobs we've created. That's a travesty, a moral and economic failure."

Bernie Hunhoff wants to expand access to health care for low-income households and to strengthen education at all levels. He also wants continued reform of the state's economic development efforts "from the trickle-down policies of the past to more grass-roots efforts that focus on building job skills of our youth, entrepreneurship, housing and expansion of existing companies."

In that respect, Bernie Hunhoff is drafting bills to provide health care coverage to the poorest South Dakotans. The bill would cover working adults who can't afford coverage as well as pre-natal and infant care for all children born to very poor families.

"It's not only morally right to do so, but it's the smartest investment the state can make with your tax dollar," he said.

Bernie Hunhoff also wants to continue the 2013 session's reforms of

economic development that included education, job training and housing.

"We also created more transparency in the state programs that deal with economic development, but we need to protect the strides we made last year and also try to clear up the mess and confusion over the Northern Plains Beef plant project and all the related controversies," he said. "The public needs complete confidence when state resources are devoted to private companies and individuals."

District 16 Sen. Dan Lederman (R-Dakota Dunes) supports Daugaard's plans to use the unclaimed property funds to pay debts and free up the state's cash flow.

"In my opinion, it makes financial sense to pay off credit cards and loans early when you can. Using one-time money to pay off long-term debt equals more ongoing revenue that helps fund priorities like education and medical services," he said.

"Part of that increased cash-flow will go to give education a greater-than-expected increase of 3 percent, as well as equal increases to Medicaid providers and state employees. Tuition will be frozen at state supported universities this year as well."

District 16 State Rep. Jim Bolin (R-Canton) will receive a close-up view of the state budget process.

"As a member of the Appropriations committee I will work a lot on the budget," he said. "I am generally supportive of the proposal the governor outlined in his budget address."

District 21 Rep. Lee Qualm (R-Platte) also supports Daugaard's plans for the one-time funds. "I like what the Governor wants to do, but I am sure there will be several conversations before the budget is finally passed," he said.

When it comes to budget priorities, Qualm expressed concern about the state's transportation infrastructure.

"Much discussion has taken place about how we fund the upkeep of our county and township roads as well as our state highways," he said. "Without good roads, it is very diffi-

Extended Engine Idling Unnecessary

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Tom and Ray:

I manage an RV park but know nothing about diesel engines. Why does everyone who has a diesel start and idle it for 30 minutes before leaving? Even people towing nothing but a small trailer do that every morning before they leave. Why? — John

TOM: Because they're inconsiderate knuckleheads, John.

RAY: There's no reason to idle a diesel engine in an RV for 30 minutes before hitting the road.

TOM: In all weather but extreme cold, most diesel-engine manufacturers recommend idling the engine for 10 to 15 seconds before driving away gently. That's SECONDS!

RAY: Now, some RVs have air brakes and need to build up pressure in the braking system before driving away. But that also takes no more than about five minutes. Not half an hour.

TOM: And lots of those RVs have (or should have) what's called an "auxiliary air compressor" on board, which instantly gives the brake system enough pressure and eliminates the need for



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

idling.

RAY: Even if someone left his or her lights on, or otherwise drained the battery, it's still better for the engine to drive the vehicle for an hour than to let it idle for an hour.

TOM: Cummins, for instance (one of the major diesel engine manufacturers), warns in its owner's manuals that excessive idling of the engine can cause carbon to build up on the pistons, piston rings, injector tips, valves and more. Which leads to expensive repairs and shortens the life of the engine.

RAY: So, not only is it not necessary,

it's actually harmful!

TOM: So if early risers at the RV park don't care that they're throwing away \$4-a-gallon diesel fuel, polluting the pristine nature they've driven a long way to enjoy and annoying their formerly sleeping neighbors, perhaps they'll be motivated to stop this dumb practice by being alerted to the fact that they're actually harming their engines, not helping them. Pass the word, John.

Bumps and potholes do more than merely annoy drivers. Find out what, and how you can ease the pain, by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or email them by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

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cult to get our products to market, (to attract) the tourists to travel our great state, and (to transport) the stuff we need for everyday life to our local towns and businesses. It will take an effort on all our parts to keep our roads in great shape."

EDUCATION

School funding will apparently again loom as a major issue, with Daugaard proposing a 3 percent increase in state aid to education.

The District 18 delegation met with school administrators about the governor's proposal, Stevens said. Some educators want an increase of more than the 3 percent to offset previous cuts in state aid, he said.

The District 18 lawmakers have also heard administrators' concerns about red tape, which has used a great deal of the schools' time and resources.

District 19 Rep. Kyle Schoenfish (R-Scotland) pointed to funding bills that came out of a summer study on education.

"A couple (bills) that stand out to me are one that would increase the per student allocation to what it was before the budget cuts in 2011, and one that would require a minimum two percent increase in funding every year," he said.

"One bill I have concerns with would reduce the current flexibility of the use of capital outlay fund for schools. There will likely be at least several bills relating to the Common Core standards."

Bolin, a retired educator, said he holds serious concerns about Common Core.

"I will bring some bills related to Common Core, which is the beginning of an effort to federalize schools in our state and nation," he said. "Some (bills) will seek to limit its expansion, and others will seek to phase out these national standards over a period of two to three years."

Common Core will draw large arguments during the legislative session, Lederman predicted.

"Everyone wants their children to have a world class education," he said. "It's the semantics of how that's provided which is going to be debated between policy planners, educators and elected officials."

Qualm dislikes what he sees as Common Core's "one size fits all" approach.

"I don't like the cookie cutter approach to education, with the federal government telling each district how to run its schools," he said. "The idea that the federal government gets information on each and every student is very disturbing to me. There is much concern about the English and math standards that are in place with Common Core. I'm sure much discussion will take place before any action is taken."

MEDICAID EXPANSION

Qualm supports the governor's decision against Medicaid expansion in South Dakota at this time. The legislator pointed to his concerns about federal health care reform known as the Affordable Care Act and commonly referred to as "Obamacare."

"Regardless of how you feel about Obamacare, it has had an extremely rocky start, and the least of this is the website problems," Qualm said. "Medicaid currently takes roughly 43 percent of the state's budget. I had the opportunity to visit with a legislator from Ohio about Medicaid expansion in that state. He stated that it had gone from 6 percent of the budget to 26 percent of the budget and still going up. We need to be fiscally responsible in our decision."

Lederman also pointed to what he sees as unreliable federal funding.

"That hasn't worked out so well in other areas of joint funding such as health care, special education reimbursement and various other projects," he said. "It's irresponsible to spend money we don't have (on Medicaid expansion) if we can't trust the (federal) funding will be there."

Jean Hunhoff supports the governor's wait-and-see approach, learning how Medicaid expansion plays out in other states.

Hunhoff, a registered nurse and health administrator, said more federal funding doesn't necessarily mean better public health. She emphasized the best use of health care funding and finding the right level of services for an individual, including wellness programs.

"We need to have some

metrics, so we can evaluate if those (federal) dollars are serving the purpose for which they are meant to be," she said. "Are we getting the biggest bang for our buck?"

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Stevens, an attorney, served on a summer study committee that has drafted six bills on domestic violence.

One bill allows keeping the same judge on a case regardless of where the child custody or protection order originated, he said.

"Sometimes, especially in our larger communities, one judge is handling the case for domestic abuse, and in the same courthouse, a different judge is handling the custody deal with the same individuals," he said.

Other bills deal with stalking and broader protection for abuse victims regardless of relationship to the perpetrator. Other legislation covers domestic abuse conducted in front of a minor, with the bill intended to break the cycle of violence passed from one generation to the next one.

"As an attorney, I deal with these cases all the time," Stevens said. "People don't hear about them as much, but if you go to the courthouse, there are a lot of those cases filed. There are a huge amount of cases."

OTHER ISSUES

Schoenfish foresees a number of bills related to agriculture issues. Those bills would cover the taxation of ag land based on actual use, drainage issues, animal cruelty laws and raw milk rules.

"I expect there will be a bill on the issue I actually get asked about the most: a bill to ban texting while driving," he added.

District 16 Rep. Dave Anderson (R-Hudson) received

the governor's appointment last May to fill a legislative vacancy.

"I am looking forward to my first legislative session," he said. "I currently have one bill that I will introduce that deals with an enhancement of the investment authority for farm mutual insurance companies."

On another issue, Lederman said the Division of Insurance is going to ask for a firmer hand over insurers, particularly what insurers can and cannot do in handling claims.

The area legislators also foresee bills dealing with repeal of the death penalty, mandating waters and its impact on private property, and the possible expansion of out-of-state waterfowl hunting licenses.

Jean Hunhoff is working on a bill allowing schools to have epinephrine auto injectors on site for administration in emergency situations by school nurses and/or trained individuals.

"The bill is very prescriptive in what would be required to have the injectors in the school and who could administer it in an emergency situation," she said.

"This is really to address an individual's allergic reaction to medications, bee stings (and other situations) which can be deadly if epinephrine is not administered immediately."

Responses were not received for emails seeking comment from legislators Tom Jones, Ray Ring and Nancy Rasmussen of District 17; Bill Van Gerpen and Stacey Nelson of District 19; and Julie Bartling and Billie Sutton of District 21.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

MENUS

Menus listed below are for the week of Jan. 13, 2014. Menus are subject to change without notice. All meals are served with milk.

Yankton Elementary Schools

Monday — Cheese Pizza
Tuesday — Chicken Alfredo
Wednesday — Hamburger
Thursday — Oven Fried Chicken
Friday — Hotdog

Yankton Middle School

Monday — Pizza Dippers
Tuesday — BBQ Rib
Wednesday — Chick. Rice Bowl
Thursday — Lasagna
Friday — French Dip

YHS A Line Menu

Monday — Turkey Tenders
Tuesday — Burrito
Wednesday — Ch. Bls. Chicken
Thursday — Meatball Sub
Friday — Chili

YHS B Line Menu

Monday — Fiesta Pizza
Tuesday — Turkey Noodle Cass.
Wednesday — Baked Potato Bar
Thursday — Chicken Rice Soup
Friday — Turkey Wrap

YHS C Line Menu

Monday — Bacon Cheeseburger
Tuesday — Chicken Littles
Wednesday — Tavern
Thursday — Corndog
Friday — French Bread Pizza

Sacred Heart Schools

Monday — Chicken Nuggets
Tuesday — French Toast Sticks
Wednesday — BBQ Sandwich
Thursday — Roast Beef
Friday — Chicken Leg

Speed Queen.
Laundry
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Jones-Mueller

Jacklyn Jones and Jordan Mueller were united in marriage August 31, 2013, at Emerald Bay on Green Lake in Spicer, MN. Parents of the couple are Herb and Deb Jones of Sioux Falls, SD, and Dan and Kim Mueller of Yankton, SD.

Attendants were Jamie Fisher, Danielle Steven, Brienne Cowan, Grace Lukens, Andrew Willard, Josh Mueller, Marc Gubbels and Eric Aune.

Jacklyn is the granddaughter of Jack and Wilma Jones of Miller, SD, and Jerry and Renata Cowman of Highmore, SD. Jordan is the grandson of Jack and Pam Frick of Yankton, SD.

The couple is residing in Yankton where Jacklyn is a counselor at Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services and Jordan is a nurse at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital. Both are graduates of the University of Sioux Falls.

WINTER
CRAZY DAYS
Fri. 10am-9pm • Sat. 10am-5:30pm • Sun. Noon-5pm

YANKTON MALL

2101 Broadway
Yankton, SD
605-665-5999

January 10th-12th