

**Foster Care Meeting Today At 3:30 P.M.**

Yankton County's three lawmakers will hold a public meeting on foster parenting at 3:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, at the Yankton Community Library.

The lawmakers say the meeting is a response to discuss concerns regarding foster parents and the state. In several states, legislators have created a Foster Parents Bill of Rights to clearly specify the responsibilities of the state in regards to foster parents. Such legislation generally encourages greater transparency and understanding between all parties.

Anyone interested in the issue is welcome to attend, including lawyers who practice family law, past or current foster parents and all others who want to learn from or contribute to the discussion.

The lawmakers said it's possible that a foster parents bill of rights could be considered in the 2015 legislative session, which begins on Jan. 13 in Pierre.

**Outdoor Recreation Projects Funded**

PIERRE — Several South Dakota communities will be a better place to live, work and play thanks to Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) money. Gov. Dennis Daugaard has awarded a total of \$368,779 to fund projects in eleven locations.

"These cities have taken the initiative to improve the quality of life for their communities," Daugaard said. "I commend project sponsors for their commitment. Future generations of South Dakotans will benefit because of their efforts."

The following area sponsors were awarded LWCF grants for outdoor recreation projects:

- Parkston — East Park playground equipment replacement, \$27,750.
- Tyndall — tennis/basketball court surface replacement, \$20,000.
- Wagner — Chapman Park playground equipment, \$40,000.
- Yankton — Riverside Park playground replacement, \$40,000.

Land and Water Conservation Funds come from the National Park Service and are administered in South Dakota by the state Department of Game, Fish and Parks. The federal assistance program provides up to 50 percent reimbursement for outdoor recreation projects.

For more information on the LWCF program, contact grants coordinator Randy Kittle at 605-773-5490 or [randy.kittle@state.sd.us](mailto:randy.kittle@state.sd.us).

**YSD Classes Resume Monday, Jan. 5**

Classes for Yankton Public School students will resume again on Monday, Jan. 5. They were dismissed after Dec. 23 for Christmas vacation.

**Parks Advisory Board To Meet**

The City of Yankton Parks Advisory Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, at the Technical Education Center, 1200 West 21st St. This is an open meeting.

**Fires Top Disaster Threat In Dakotas Region**

SIoux FALLS — In 2014, the Red Cross in South Dakota helped more people affected by home fires than all other disasters combined. Local volunteers responded at all hours of the day with food, blankets and comfort to help more than 620 people with nowhere else to turn after home fires from Jan. 1 to Dec. 1, 2014. The Red Cross also responded to disaster in 78 different cities and towns throughout the state.



clears, every day local volunteers are helping people to recover and get better prepared."

**CURBING DEATHS AND INJURIES FROM HOME FIRES**

Because of the high number of home fires in this country, the Red Cross launched a campaign this year to reduce the number of home fire deaths and injuries by 25 percent over the next five years. The organization is asking every household in America to take two simple steps: check their existing smoke alarms and practice fire drills at home.

The Red Cross provided financial support to 198 households after home fires to help replace lost belongings and begin the long road to recovery. Nationally, the Red Cross responds to a disaster in the community every 8 minutes and the vast majority of these are home fires.

"While tornadoes, floods and hurricanes tend to dominate the headlines, people often underestimate the frequency and devastation caused by home fires, and that's where the Red Cross comes in," said Red Cross Disaster Program Manager, Ray Sorensen. "Our work doesn't end after the smoke

Since the campaign launched in October, the Red Cross — in partnership with fire departments and community groups nationwide — has already reached more than 29,000 people by installing 17,000 smoke alarms. These efforts have already saved five lives nationwide. In eastern South Dakota, the Red Cross reached 472 people by installing 435 smoke alarms. There are plans to expand the campaign throughout the state in 2015.

**OTHER NOTABLE DISASTER RESPONSES**

In addition to home fires, the Red Cross in South Dakota responded to numerous other disasters this year, including:

- A tornado in Wessington Springs that destroyed or damaged nearly 50 homes.
- Flooding in various parts of eastern South Dakota including Canton where dozens of homes were affected.
- A large hotel fire in Pierre, displacing close to 40 people.

**Winter Poses Increased Risk Of CO Poisoning**

DES MOINES, Iowa — Carbon monoxide — known by the chemical abbreviation CO — is a colorless, odorless, toxic gas created any time carbon-based fuels are burned. Because you can't see it, smell it or taste it, you may be overcome by carbon monoxide before you even realize you've been exposed to it.

Winter is the peak season for carbon monoxide poisoning, since people spend more of their time indoors in buildings heated by natural gas, propane, wood stoves or fireplaces. According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 400 Americans die each year from unintentional CO poisoning, and more than 20,000 end up in the emergency room due to exposure to carbon monoxide.

MidAmerican Energy Company wants customers to learn to recognize the warning signs of carbon

monoxide poisoning and take steps to protect themselves and their families from this silent killer. Here are some tips for reducing your risk of carbon monoxide poisoning this heating season:

- Be alert to signs of CO exposure. The initial symptoms of low to moderate CO poisoning are similar to those of the flu: headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. As the concentration of carbon monoxide in the bloodstream increases, the victim may vomit and exhibit drowsiness, mental confusion and loss of muscular coordination. Exposure to high levels of carbon monoxide may lead to loss of consciousness, convulsions, cardiac or respiratory failure and, ultimately, death. If you suspect CO poisoning, get outside into fresh air immediately and then call 911.
- Install CO detectors in

your home. Have at least one detector certified by Underwriters Laboratories installed on each level of your home. These devices sound an alarm before a dangerous level of carbon monoxide is reached. If you have a plug-in model, be sure it has a battery backup so that it keeps working in the event of a power outage. Change the batteries once a year.

- Have your heating system and other fuel-burning appliances checked annually. Properly installed and maintained equipment decreases your chance of being exposed to carbon monoxide. A qualified professional will run through a checklist to make sure your furnace and appliances are operating safely and efficiently. Periodically check vents, flues and chimneys to make sure they aren't blocked, which can cause exhaust gases to back up into the house.
- Never operate portable

generators inside homes or garages. Generators give off carbon monoxide that can quickly reach toxic levels, even if doors and windows are left open. If you must use a portable generator as a power source, locate it far away from the house.

- Beware of home heating shortcuts. If the power goes out, or your furnace malfunctions, don't bring outdoor equipment like charcoal grills or camp stoves indoors, and don't use your gas range or oven as a space heater. Before lighting a fire in your wood-burning fireplace, open the damper and keep it open until the ashes are cool.
- Never leave your car running inside an attached garage, even if the overhead door is open. Fumes can still build up inside the garage and seep into the house.

For more home safety tips, visit MidAmerican Energy's website: [www.midamericanenergy.com/safety/](http://www.midamericanenergy.com/safety/).

**DAILY RECORD**

**POUND COUNT**

Several animals are available at the Yankton Animal Shelter. For more information call the Yankton Police Department's Animal Control Officer, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday at 661-9494, or 668-5210.

**DAILY RECORD POLICY**

The Press & Dakotan publishes police and sheriff reports as a public service to its readers. It is important to remember that an arrest should not imply guilt and that every person is presumed innocent until proven otherwise. When juveniles are released from jail, it is in the care of a parent or guardian. It is the policy of the Press & Dakotan to publish all names made available in the police and court reports. There are no exceptions.

**ARRESTS**

• Brady Wenzlaff, 19, Yankton was arrested Tuesday on a bench warrant for failure to pay; a Yankton

County warrant for failure to pay a fine; a Turner County warrant for failure to pay a fine; and a Yankton County warrant for failure to appear.

- Terry Hackett, 52, Yankton, was arrested Tuesday on a probation hold for court services, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Daniel Highland, 48, Yankton, was arrested Tuesday for violation of a protection order.

**INCIDENTS**

- A report was received at 8:14 a.m. Tuesday of an assault on Main St. in Lesterville.
- A report was received at 6:06 p.m. Tuesday of a theft on Jackson Ave. in Lesterville.

**CRIME STOPPERS**

Anyone wishing to report anonymous information on unlawful activity in the City of Yankton or in Yankton County is encouraged to contact the Crime Stoppers tip line at 665-4440.

**KNOX COUNTY SHERIFF**

• On Dec. 24, 2014, at 7 p.m., a white 2001 Chevrolet Venture, driven by Steven Classen of Plainview struck a cow, owned by Milt Ober, on Highway 13, 1 1/2 miles

north of Creighton. The Knox County Sheriff's Office, Creighton Fire and Creighton Ambulance Service responded to the accident. There were no injuries.

**DVSVSP Endorses 'Voice Of Hope' Legislation**

VERMILLION — The University South Dakota School of Law's Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence & Stalking Project (DVSVP), a law school student organization, formally endorsed Professor Roger Baron's effort to change South Dakota law through the establishment of a "unilateral no fault ground for divorce."

The president of DVSVP, Deb Morris, made the announcement today, observing that Baron has been advocating for a true no-fault divorce law since 1990. "The time to come forward with this endorsement is now," said Morris. She stated that the adoption of the type of law encompassed by Baron's proposal has been proven as an effective tool toward the reduction of domestic violence in other states. Reliable data indicates that the overall incidence of domestic violence was reduced by one-third in other

states after they adopted unilateral no-fault divorce. This data further establishes a significant decline in female suicide and homicide rates.

"This is another example of our outstanding faculty and active student body at USD Law. The School of Law and the University do not take positions on legislation but our students have an amazing opportunity to witness legislation and participate in the preparatory process first-hand," said Tom Geu, dean of the law school. "Our student organizations provide a valuable vehicle for students to participate in real-life activities which directly affect our state, the legal profession and which enrich their educational experience as a whole."

The current push for action stems from increased public awareness and outcry for change as a result of the op-ed piece written by Baron and his daughter,

Shawna Baron (a clinical psychologist). "Domestic violence victims hindered by fault-based divorce law," published in the Sioux Falls Argus Leader on Oct. 9, 2014.

The current draft of the proposed law has been titled "Voice of Hope." This title was recommended by Roger Buechler whose sister Tania Aesoph was slain by her husband in 1999. Tania Aesoph's story inspired Roger Baron to propose changes, once again, to the current South Dakota divorce statute. Tania Aesoph endured years of mental and emotional abuse. She ultimately lost her life at the hand of her husband in 1999 after inquiring into a divorce and learning that the law was not favorable to her. Tania's siblings are supporting Baron's efforts and they wish to emphasize that the new legislation, if enacted, will provide "Hope" to South Dakota's domestic violence victims in the future.

**Ullrich**

From Page 1A

the Yankton Science Olympiad as the last awardee of the program. In the end, the trust helped numerous programs, groups and organizations, and the trustees hope it will help make sure that the good works of Ullrich are never forgotten.

"Otto in his will made sure that his special friend and his dog were taken care of as long as they needed care, so we didn't actually start donating any money out of the trust until after she had passed and the dog, Tippy, was found a permanent home," Kulbel said. "Once all the other obligations per his will were taken care of, the estate was finalized and we knew how much money we would have to work with. We started giving the money back to the community following Otto's requests that it be used for charitable, educational or civic purposes here in

Yankton and the surrounding area."

The list includes Mount Marty College, University of South Dakota, USD scholarships for Yankton High School graduates, the Yankton Elks Lodge, the Mead Building restoration project, Sacred Heart Middle School, The Center, the Boys and Girls Club of Yankton, the Regional Technical Education Center, RiverWalk, the United Way, the Women and Children's Shelter, the Yankton Swim Team, Keep Yankton Beautiful, YES, The Yankton Area Foundation, Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health, Southeast CASA, Yankton Area Art Association, Yankton Ice, the Yankton Library, Homeward Bound, the Sertoma Club, Yankton Children's Theatre Company, the Yankton Drug Court and Dogs-R-Us.

For the most part, the donations ranged from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per organization. However, a few of the bequests were larger.

"We donated \$210,000 to Mount Marty College, a total of \$65,000 for scholarships to USD, \$61,000 to the Elks Club, and \$50,000 to both



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The Otto Ullrich Botanical Laboratory on the campus of Mount Marty College in Yankton was just one of the numerous projects and causes that benefited from the Otto Ullrich Trust Fund, which dispersed, which dispersed more than \$620,000 to local entities.

the Mead Building and Sacred Heart Middle School," Kulbel said. "We wanted to do a couple projects that would bear his name to ensure that his memory was honored and not forgotten. The new science building on Mount Marty College has the Otto Ullrich Memorial

condolences, visit [hansenfuneralhome.com/](http://hansenfuneralhome.com/). Yankton Press and Dakotan January 2, 2015

**Miranda Schunk**

Miranda Schunk, 38, of St. Paul, Minnesota, died Sunday, Dec. 28, 2014, in St. Paul.

Funeral services are 10:30 a.m. today (Friday) at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Marty. Burial is in the church cemetery.

Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner is in charge of arrangements.

Botanical Laboratory."

At the time of the donation to the college Chief Advancement Officer Barb Rezac said the gift would tremendously benefit science education in the area. With a great number of MMC's students coming from the Yankton and surrounding area, the educational opportunities that this laboratory offers are boundless, and fit the ideal of the trust to help local students succeed, she said.

But, Kulbel and Frick added, having Ullrich's name as part of the building permanently is something they believe was necessary to honor the memory of their friend.

"We wanted something physical that would bear his name," Frick said.

In a similar fashion, the donations to the Mead building renovation and a permanent display along the RiverWalk will also carry his name.

"The second story balcony in the Mead building will be called the Otto Ullrich Balcony," Kulbel said. "In addition both Duane and I purchased the windows on

either end personally. We just felt that it was very fitting. The statue at the corner near the Riverfront Event Center was also permanently purchased and carries a plaque with Otto's name on it."

With the closing of the fund this past month, Frick and Kulbel said they hope others in the community will take a page from Ullrich's book and consider leaving bequests in their wills to give back to Yankton.

"Otto was a good friend, generous," Kulbel said. "I don't think he was especially generous when he was living - he was very conservative. But after his death, he was very generous. I for one am going to do something similar in my will to give back to Yankton. I am not going to leave it up to my children to do. I am going to make sure I give back to the community that has been so good to my family, just like Otto did."

To follow Shauna Marlette on Twitter go to [www.twitter.com/shauna.marlette](https://www.twitter.com/shauna.marlette). To comment on this story go to [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

**OBITUARIES**

**Delilah Lien**

Delilah K. Lien, 95, formerly of Irene, died peacefully December 30, 2014 at the Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home in Viborg, SD.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Monday, January 5, 2015 at Trondhjem Lutheran Church rural Irene with Pastor Mark Ostrem officiating. Burial will follow in the Trondhjem Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, January 4, 2015 at the Hansen Funeral Home in Irene.



Lien

Delilah Kathleen Nelson was born December 15, 1919 in Viborg, SD to Silas and Hilda (Skov) Nelson. She married Clifford Lien on February 21, 1947 and moved to California for a short time. They returned to farm in the Volin area until they retired to Irene.

She was active in Trondhjem Lutheran Church,

American Legion Auxiliary and the Red Hat Valley Dolls of Irene.

Delilah is survived by her children, Robert (Diane) Lien of Brandon, SD, Patricia (Jeff) Francis of Rapid City, SD, granddaughters Chloe and Hannah of Rapid City, brother Eudell Nelson of Irene, sisters-in-law Geraldine (Jeri) Jurisson of Sun City, AZ, Gladys Lien of Volin and Dorothy VanBeck of Alexandria, MN, also many nieces, nephews and friends. For obituary and online

Private nonsectarian cemetery offering earth burial plots, mausoleum crypts and niches.

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