

**S.D. Lawmakers Look At Tax Exemptions**

PIERRE (AP) — A South Dakota legislative committee has begun its study into sales tax exemptions that cost state government an estimated \$500 million or more a year in lost revenue.

The Sales Tax Review Committee is looking at sales tax exemptions, why they were put into place and whether they are still needed.

At its first meeting, the panel is taking informal votes to determine which exemptions will get closer looks at future meetings. Lawmakers have decided to leave intact most agricultural exemptions, but will look in more detail at exemptions for parts or repairs on farm machinery.

**Officials: Smoking Ban Has Been Self-Enforcing**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Officials in the Black Hills say not a single ticket has been issued in the region to a smoker for blowing off a ban that applies to bars and casinos.

Critics of South Dakota's voter-approved smoking ban anticipated enforcement issues before the law was enacted in November. But perhaps the only two \$25 citations written in the state law's history were issued in December in Sioux Falls.

Rapid City Police Cpt. Karl Jegeris tells the Rapid City Journal that the law has been self-enforcing. He says businesses have addressed any issues themselves and there's been no need for police intervention.

**Authorities: Old West Re-Enactor Had Felony Record**

BY DIRK LAMMERS  
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — Authorities say a mock Old West gun battle participant in South Dakota who wounded three tourists by firing live ammunition instead of blanks has served more than five years in Minnesota prisons on multiple felony convictions.

Three tourists were hit during the June 17 reenactment staged by the Dakota Wild Bunch, who use blanks when they perform several times a week on a street in Hill City, a tourist town in the Black Hills.

Investigators found that one of the re-enactors, a 49-year-old Summerset man, had live bullets in his gun. His criminal record in Minnesota was first reported by the Rapid City Journal on Tuesday.

The sheriff's office has submitted its investigative reports to the Pennington County state's attorney's office and the U.S. Attorney's office, said chief deputy state's attorney Lara Roetzel. "We're going to let the U.S. Attorney's office

review it first," Roetzel said. "It's our suspicion that they will have better charges with better potential sentences than would be available in state court."

South Dakota law says that a person convicted of a felony in South Dakota or another state cannot possess or have control of a firearm for 15 years.

Federal law prevents felons convicted of crimes punishable by more than one year in prison from possessing any firearm or ammunition unless the person has had their civil rights restored by the state where they were convicted.

The re-enactor alleged to have fired live bullets was imprisoned from April 1982 to January 1984 on two first-degree assault charges, said Sarah Berg, a spokeswoman for the Minnesota Department of Corrections.

He returned to prison on Dec. 14, 1990 to serve time for second-degree burglary but was convicted of escape less than two months later, which extended his stay. He was released in May 1992. In October 2001, he began serving another sentence for escape, which was extended by a

Dec. 2001 escape conviction. He got out in May 2004, Berg said.

No phone listing could be found for the man, and a message left to his Facebook account was not immediately returned.

The Associated Press was not naming the man because he hadn't been charged.

The shootouts sponsored by the Hill City Chamber of Commerce have since been suspended.

The bullets that evening shattered a leg bone of Carrol Knutson, 65, of Birchwood, Minn.; hit the forearm and elbow of John Ellis, 48, an optometrist from South Connellsville, Penn.; and caused minor injuries to Jose Pruneda, 53, of Alliance, Neb.

Investigators have not made any comments on why the incident happened or said whether they think the shootings were accidental.

Knutson said Tuesday that she hadn't begun physical therapy and was using crutches to get around. She said she doesn't feel the incident was handled appropriately and she hopes either federal or state charges are filed.

**OBITUARIES**

**John Waltner**

SIoux FALLS — John Randolph Waltner, age 72, died unexpectedly, but peacefully, on July 8, 2011, at his home in Sioux Falls. Services will be held on Friday, July 15, at 11:00 a.m., at Pioneer Hall in Freeman.



Waltner

John led a rich and full life. He was born in San Diego, CA, on December 11, 1938, to his loving parents, Glenn and Pauline Waltner. John always said that his love of the ocean stemmed from those early days in San Diego. John's brother Jeffrey joined the family 21 months later. When John was about four years-old, the young family of four moved to Spokane, WA. Glenn had been transferred there from his job in the credit department at Montgomery Ward.

They lived in Spokane for a couple of years until Glenn was drafted to serve in Europe during World War II. While Glenn was away, Pauline, John, and Jeff, lived with Pauline's parents in Niles, OH. John attended the first grade there at Roosevelt Elementary School, and this is where his love of theater began — with his first leading role as "Little Black Sambo" in the school play.

After the War, the family moved to Glenn's hometown of Freeman, where John finished elementary school and later graduated from Freeman High School (FHS). Brother James joined the family when John was about nine years-old. John shared a special bond with his two brothers, and he loved them both very much.

After high school, John enrolled at the Rapid City School of Mines and Technology, where he studied electrical engineering. Though his love of electronics continued throughout his life, after two years at the School of Mines, he transferred to the University of South Dakota (USD) to study math and business.

Shortly after graduating from USD, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served as a Chaplain's assistant. While stationed at Camp Roberts in California, he met Janice Lee McNamara, a very kind, gentle soul, who was working at the base as the Service Club Director. John was immediately smitten with Janice, and could often be found in the Service Club listening to her play the piano. He so loved to hear her play. He shared her love of books and music. She taught him to play Scrabble, and he in turn, did her taxes. They were made for each other.

They married on November 23, 1963, at a Catholic mission in San Miguel, CA. They were blessed with two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Ann Louise.

Upon his discharge from the Army, John and Janice moved to Monterey, CA. They treasured their time in Monterey, where they lived in a tiny house that overlooked the Bay. John took a job as a cashier at Wells Fargo Bank in nearby Salinas, before deciding to move back to South Dakota in the late 1960s to work alongside his father in the family-run First National Bank of Freeman. He worked for nearly 40 years at First National, serving as president of the bank from 1988 until his retirement in 2000. John's job as a banker was not his life. Rather, it was his love. He enjoyed immensely and cared greatly about each and every one of his employees and customers.

John was an extremely active

man, who served his community in innumerable ways. He accomplished many things and enjoyed many successes. John took much pleasure in his work and leadership roles on a variety of local and statewide boards and commissions, including, among others, the Freeman Public School Board; the South Dakota Bankers Association; the South Dakota Bankers Association, for which, like his father, he served as president; the Government Relations Council of the American Bankers Association, the National Music Museum; the South Dakota Symphony; the USD Foundation; the South Dakota Lottery Commission; and Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of South Dakota and Iowa.

"John R.," as he was known in the Freeman community, had a wide array of interests, which he pursued with gusto! He was a true renaissance man — a brilliant, knowledgeable man, who loved — and never stopped — learning. He earned his MBA from the USD School of Business when he was nearly 54 years-old, and completed some course work toward a PhD in economics education. And, at the age of 42, he took up the cello, an instrument he had wanted to learn to play since his childhood.

John loved music, especially Mozart and other classical masters. Not long after John started playing the cello, the "Waltner Family Players" emerged, with John on the cello, Janice on the piano, Mary on the flute, and Ann on the recorder and later the clarinet. The group enjoyed touring — mainly to Glenn and Pauline's house and later to the Freeman nursing home.

John loved acting and theater, having played many lead and supporting roles in Schmeckfest productions and at the Lewis & Clark Playhouse in Yankton.

He loved to sing, and spent many wonderful years singing with the South Dakota Symphony Choir, Swiss Choral Society, the small group Prairie Song, and most recently in the church choir at First Presbyterian in Sioux Falls. John, along with his mother, was an ardent supporter, as well, of the Freeman Area Children's Choir.

He loved antique radios and collected and restored many, particularly Zenith Transoceanic models. He was an avid ham operator practically his whole life. He built many of his ham radios from "Heathkits," and spent many satisfying hours building other electronics, including television sets and remote-controlled airplanes. In fact, John had already made plans to build a first radio together with his seven-year-old grandson Robert.

He loved astronomy and built his own telescope from scratch.

He loved to play chess and was a masterful player.

He loved to work crossword puzzles and excelled at the especially difficult Sunday New York Times puzzle, which, when completed, he often mailed with pride to daughter Mary. Mary and John had a very special bond and shared many things together. He loved to go on four-mile walks with her and for years they enjoyed traveling together from Freeman to Sioux Falls for her flute lessons and his cello lessons.

He loved to speak publicly and to motivate audiences. He was a captivating speaker and would memorize entire pages of current issues of Time Magazine, which he would recite to the amazement of his audience.

He loved timing track meets at FHS and USD, serving as a team host for the South Dakota High School

Football Playoffs, attending USD football and basketball games, and watching his beloved New York Yankees and Green Bay Packers.

He loved math and would work calculus problems just for the fun of it in his leisure time.

He loved teaching and was a beloved teacher, spending hours, night after night, ever-so-patiently helping daughter Ann master Algebra. Upon his retirement from First National Bank, he especially enjoyed teaching economics and finance courses at the USD Business School.

He loved his church, Bethany Mennonite in Freeman, of which he was a life-long member. He served as an elder and deacon and taught Sunday school for many years. John was a man of deep religious conviction and faith in God. He lived that faith throughout his life.

He loved people and touched countless lives in countless ways, leaving an indelible, unforgettable impact on all who crossed his path. He was a friend to all.

But, of all John Waltner's loves, none was greater than his love for his family. He was a devoted husband to Janice for over 42 years. He took care of her. He took care of his family — always. He was an amazing, adoring, attentive, caring, compassionate, understanding man, who loved his children and his grandchildren more than words can express. Though John had many, many talents, his greatest was being a husband, father, and grandfather.

John died five years to the day after his wife Janice. Shortly after her death, however, John was blessed to find love again and married Loretta Berg on November 3, 2007. He adored Loretta, her daughters Sara and Virginia, and their family. John and Loretta spent four beautiful, all-too-short years together, traveling, riding horses, and simply enjoying each other's company. John loved her dearly.

John's parents, Glenn and Pauline, raised — by their own fine example — a wonderful son, for whom they were very proud. At his core, John was an eternal optimist — a very gentle, yet dynamic, positive, personable, kind, out-going man of exceptional generosity and integrity. John was an extraordinary man. And, he was a happy man, who loved life and never took his time on this earth for granted.

John is preceded in death by his first wife Janice, his father Glenn, and his brother James. Grateful to honor and continue his undying spirit are his wife Loretta and her daughters Sara and Virginia Berg; his mother Pauline; daughters Mary (Brian) Law and Ann O'Donnell; grandchildren Robert and Kathryn Law; brother Jeffrey (Twila); parents-in-law Gerald and Shirley Blevins; Janice's sister and brother-in-law, Ann and Lyle Gray; nieces and nephews Susan Williamson, Kelly Stephenson, Karl Waltner, Debbie Cobb, Melissa Pederson, and John Gray; and many cousins — most especially Jan Weier, Jane Betts, and Sue Hewitt.

John generously supported many

philanthropic organizations throughout his life. Should you wish to make a donation in his honor, John would be grateful for your support of the National Music Museum at USD, the Freeman Area Children's Choir, or the Food Pantry at Bethany Mennonite Church in Freeman.

Yankton Press and Dakotan  
July 13, 2011

**Dr. Glenn Lee**

AUSTIN, Texas — Dr. Glenn A. Lee was born August 10, 1921 to Arthur J. and Gina D. Lee on his grandparent's homestead farm in Volin, Yankton County, South Dakota and passed away peacefully in his sleep Sunday July 10, 2011 in Austin. Although he was raised in the Lutheran faith, he was a longtime member of Tenth Street United Methodist Church in Taylor and was a retired Chiropractor with over 57 years of practice and service.



Lee

Glenn was preceded in death thirty-one years ago by his loving wife Fran. Glenn was a devoted father to his daughter Ann E. Lee of Conroe and his son Randy M. Lee and wife Sherry of Austin and proud grandfather to Dallas A. Lee of Austin. He is also survived by his loving sister Doris Goodell and husband Chuck of Omaha, Nebraska and numerous nieces and nephews.

Glenn learned the life-long virtues of hard work, love of family and an unwavering faith in the Lord from his Norwegian immigrant family. Norwegian was his first language; he only began learning English in first grade. He served his country with honor, bravery and distinction as a member of the US Army Air Corp, 5th Air force, 317th Troop Carrier Group, 40th Squadron during World War II. As a flight commander and pilot in command of a C-47 troop transport in the Pacific Theatre he fought in the battles of Leyte Gulf, Luzon, and Corregidor, earning various air medals and commendations. After he was honorably discharged in 1946, he continued to serve his country in the Air Force Reserves as a Lt. Colonel until 1968.

After graduating from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and attending the University of Texas at Austin, Glenn graduated also from Texas Chiropractic College in San Antonio in 1950. He opened his first practice of chiropractic in McAllen, Texas. He relocated in 1953 to Austin to help his ailing father-in-law operate a home construction company. Ten years later in 1963 the family moved to Taylor in order for Glenn to follow his passion and open Lee Chiropractic Clinic.

"Doc" as he was affectionately called by his close friends served as the Williamson County Veterans' Service Officer for over 31 years, helping veterans receive their service benefits. He was a member of the Taylor Optimist Club, a life member

of the VFW Post No. 4476, the American Legion Post No. 39, Taylor Masonic Lodge No. 484, and a long time local board member of the Boy Scouts of America.

For many years he was one-half of the bass section of the Tenth Street United Methodist Sanctuary Choir. His passion was taping Sunday services to share with persons in the community who were unable to attend their Sunday worship. In addition, Glenn was a daily regular at the "McDonald's coffee klatch and crossword puzzle club."

Visitation will be Wednesday, July 13, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Providence Funeral Home, 807 Carlos Parker Blvd, in Taylor. Celebration of Life Services are set for Thursday, July 14, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. at Providence with the Reverend Dr. Travis Summerlin officiating. A reception will follow at Tenth Street United Methodist Church, 401 West Tenth St. in Taylor. Interment will be held at 1:30 p.m. at Cook-Walden Capital Park, 14501 North I-35, Pflugerville.

Glenn's family would like to extend their most sincere appreciation to the outstanding staff of Westminster Healthcare Center in Austin and especially to the nurses and CNAs of the 700 hall for their dedicated service and friendship. They also thank the complete attention and care provided by the staff of Hospice Austin. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Tenth Street United Methodist Church Agape Fund, P.O. Box 851, Taylor, Texas, 76754.

Yankton Press and Dakotan  
July 13, 2011

**Mitchell Whaley**

CALLAWAY, Neb. — Mitchell Lynn Whaley was born on Sept. 14, 1951 to Lynn Arthur and Betty Jo (Liner) Whaley in Arnold, Neb. Mitchell died July 1, 2011 at Callaway, Neb.

He is survived by his mother Betty Jo (Gerry) Wicks; children Fontaine Crouch, Enid, OK; Dustin Whaley, Chandler, AZ; Samantha Whaley, Omaha, Neb.; and, Austin Whaley, Sioux Falls, SD; granddaughters Cierra Cofer, Kaylyn Madison and Melia Crouch; sister Sonya Jones, Sandy, UT; brother Chuck Whaley, Alliance, Neb.; step-brother John (Shauna) Pursley, Aurora, Neb.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is also survived by the love of his life, Melody Stobbe, her children Brian (Sara) Stobbe and Stephanie (Brian) Kottich and grandchildren

Kale, Autumn, Conner, Brady and Kierra Stobbe and Cody, Kristen, Thad, Brooklynn and Jorjie Kottich.

He was preceded in death by his father Lynn Arthur and step mother Lou.

He graduated from Grand Island High School in 1969.

Mitch could always be found working on a project outside or around the house. He particularly loved working on the family farm in Callaway where he was working to restore his father's childhood home.

Memorial services will be held today (Wednesday) at Iverson Memorial Chapel at 10 a.m. in Broken Bow, Neb. An inurnment will follow at 11:30 a.m. at the Callaway Cemetery.

Iverson Memorial Chapel of Broken Bow, Neb. is in charge of the arrangements.

Yankton Press and Dakotan  
July 13, 2011

**Edward Lanctot**

PORTLAND, Ore. — Edward John Lanctot of Portland, Ore., formerly of Yankton, a veteran of World War II and the Korean War, died Friday, July 8, 2011. He was born on July 30, 1921.

A Mass of Christian Burial is at 10 a.m. today (Wednesday) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Portland.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Church, 3910 S.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, OR, or an organization of your choice.

**June Perry**

WAGNER — June Elizabeth Perry, 78, of Wagner died at her home Sunday, July 10, 2011.

Memorial services are at 2 p.m. Friday at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Wagner, with the Rev. Danelle McKinney of Plandreau and the Rev. Patricia Whitehouse officiating. There will be no committal service.

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

**Jeffrey Swedeon**

Jeffrey Swedeon, 41, of Yankton died unexpectedly of natural causes Tuesday, July 12, 2011, at his home.

Arrangements are pending with Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Yankton.

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