

Mitchell Woman Named Miss S. Dakota

HOT SPRINGS (AP) — A 22-year-old Mitchell woman has been named Miss South Dakota 2013. Tessa Dee was crowned Miss South Dakota on Saturday night in Hot Springs. Dee, who performed a gymnastics routine for her talent, is a graduate of the University of South Dakota. She won the preliminary swimsuit competition earlier in the week. She will represent South Dakota at the Miss American pageant in Atlantic City, N.J., in September. First runner-up was Morgan Black of Rapid City, while Autumn Simunek of Hot Springs was named second runner-up.



Dee

Neb. Child Welfare System Stabilizing

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's efforts to reform its child welfare system are stabilizing, but the state continues to handle most cases and challenges remain. The Lincoln Journal Star reports the Department of Health and Human Services recently agreed to a new contract with the Nebraska Families Collaborative in Omaha. Under the new deal, Nebraska Families Collaborative will receive \$350,000 more. That should help it break even while handling 40 percent of the child welfare cases in the state. After the state began transferring control of child and family services to private contractors in 2009, it lost most of the contractors after some complained the state wasn't paying enough.

Law Retools SD Criminal Justice System

PIERRE (AP) — A new law taking effect Monday seeks to cut South Dakota's prison costs by treating more nonviolent offenders through intensive probation, parole and other programs outside prison walls. Officials say that without the sweeping changes, the state would have to build a new men's prison and a new women's prison within the next decade or so. Most of the new law takes effect Monday, but some provisions will be phased in over the next year. The measure will feature intensive probation and parole, along with expanded special courts and other programs that treat drug and alcohol offenders. Those programs are intended to divert offenders from prison and prevent them from committing future crimes. Attorney General Marty Jackley says the law will continue to provide severe punishment to dangerous criminals.

S.F. Man Faces Second Rape Charge

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A Sioux Falls man is now facing a second rape charge. The Argus Leader reports that 21-year-old Zachary Allen Krueger had already been charged with rape after allegedly attacking a woman in a parking lot in the spring. He now faces another second-degree rape charge. He has also been charged with eight counts of simple assault and two counts of aggravated assault by choking. He is being held on a \$100,000 bond. If convicted, Krueger could face up to life in prison. Krueger, who has two simple assault convictions in Minnehaha County as an adult, could also be deemed a habitual offender. A lawyer for Krueger could not immediately be located.

Teen Dies In Crash South Of Winnebago

WINNEBAGO, Neb. (AP) — A Winnebago teen has died in a one-vehicle rollover crash. Norfolk radio station KZEN-AM reports that the crash happened early Saturday morning just south of the Winnebago Indian Reservation. The Nebraska State Patrol says 17-year-old Mary Miller was traveling at a high rate of speed on U.S. Highway 75 around 2 a.m. when her vehicle blew a tire. Investigators say the vehicle went out of control, collided with a grove of trees, rolled and came to rest on its top in a ditch. Patrol officials say Miller was not wearing a seat belt when the crash occurred.

Man Sentenced For Child Enticement

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — A Grand Island man who sent nude photos of himself to a Canadian teenage has been sentenced to seven months in the Hall County Jail. The Grand Island Independent reports that 26-year-old Shaun Broxterman was sentenced Friday in Hall County District Court after earlier pleading no contest to misdemeanor attempted enticement by electronic communication device. Prosecutors say Broxterman exchanged messages and nude photos with the 15-year-old girl between Nov. 12, 2011, and Aug. 22, 2012. In addition to his jail sentence, Broxterman must register as a sex offender.

South Dakota

Economic Development Plan Aims To Boost Local Efforts

BY DIRK LAMMERS
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota economic development officials say two programs aimed at attracting large projects to the state are ready to help local governments and non-profit development corporations. The Economic Development Partnership Program offers grants to pay for new staff, elevate part-time staff, start or replenish local revolving loan funds, buy equipment or train employees to expand local economic development. The Local Infrastructure Improvement Grant Program provides grants to build or rebuild infrastructure to serve economic development projects. The programs begin accepting applications on Monday, said Sen. Corey Brown, R-Gettysburg.

"It works to try to tie the state's efforts a little more closely to the local efforts," said Brown, who sponsored the legislation. "I certainly think that's going to be a positive move forward." The local partnership programs are part of Building South Dakota, a comprehensive plan that focuses on education, housing and infrastructure to attract large and small projects to the state. The Legislature kicked off the plan this year with \$7 million. After that, it will be funded by a portion of the contractors' excise tax collected on large projects and some of the unclaimed property that the state receives from abandoned bank accounts. The plan technically took effect when it was signed by Gov. Dennis Daugaard in March, but a panel has been busy writing

rules for the programs so the Board of Economic Development could begin accepting applications, said Pat Costello, commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Development. "In the next couple months we're going to see a lot of activity with that as it kicks off," Costello said. "Certainly it will

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SEN. COREY BROWN

take a while for that to gel. But we're very fortunate and thankful to have that new economic development tool." South Dakota was without an incentive plan for the first three months of 2013 because a previous program that refunded construction taxes for large industrial projects was allowed to expire Dec. 31. In November, voters rejected a replacement plan from Daugaard. Republicans and Democrats worked for two months to find a compromise to help South Dakota better compete with other states in recruiting large projects and to help lure smaller projects to the state. South Dakota charges a 4 percent sales tax on construction projects, as well as a 2 percent contractors' excise tax upon the gross receipts of construction. Few other states have a contractors' excise tax, so construction is cheaper elsewhere. The contractors' excise tax collected on those projects will be placed in the

Building South Dakota Fund so the state can reinvest in future projects. The new fund would also get a portion of unclaimed property that the state receives from abandoned bank accounts. The Reinvestment Payment Program within Building South Dakota allows the Board of Economic Development to

waive all or part of the sales tax that would be paid by projects worth \$20 million or more. As those projects advance, the program aims to support smaller projects by setting aside money from a 2 percent tax imposed upon the gross receipts of construction into a fund for housing, workforce training and other programs to support a growing workforce. Brown said housing is an important piece of the economic development puzzle. "You go to any of these rural towns and housing is a pretty big concern," he said. "It's pretty tough to look at creating jobs if you don't have any place to put the employees at the end of the day." A fourth element, the South Dakota Jobs Grant Program, will provide grants to projects less than \$20 million or with equipment upgrades of less than \$2 million. Brown said the Legislature will revisit the program next January and is ready to make necessary adjustments and changes. He said that outside the initial \$7 million investment, Building South Dakota funds itself so there's little risk. "The bottom line is if it doesn't work, it doesn't work," he said. "But it doesn't really cost us anything."

Nebraska

Credit, Debit Holds To Be Studied

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Companies that temporarily inflate charges to credit and debit cards for purchases at gasoline stations, restaurants and other businesses will face scrutiny from Nebraska lawmakers later this year. The Legislature's Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee will conduct a study this summer of the regulations in place for the temporary extra charges that can be applied to credit and debit card purchases when the total bill isn't immediately known. The practice is intended to protect merchants from fraud and loss. The committee's findings and recommendations are due before Dec. 31. The temporary extra charges often apply to customers who use credit or debit cards at gas stations, hotels, restaurants or other businesses where the total bill isn't immediately known. The extra charges are later removed at no cost to card owners, but

the higher bills can remain for two to three days. The hold renders that money inaccessible to a cardholder until the charge clears. For buyers who are close to their credit or debit limit, the additional charge could lead to overdraft fees, a bounced check or a purchase getting declined. Sen. John Harms of Scottsbluff said he introduced the legislative study after talking with a constituent who worked at a local grocery store. A young couple tried to buy diapers and baby food with a credit card, but was denied because a gas station had placed a \$75 hold which pushed their credit to its limit. Without the hold, Harms said the couple could have afforded the items. "I think it's wrong," Harms said. "We just need to have a public discussion about this. A lot of people have no idea about what's happening to them, and the people who get hurt in this are the middle- and lower-income families." Harms said he plans to introduce a bill in some form

after lawmakers reconvene in January. The summer study will include a hearing to gather input. Harms said he has also met with business groups, who acknowledged that the holds can create problems but disagreed on the best approach. Legislatures in at least a dozen other states have introduced bills to regulate the credit holds since 2003 but few have passed, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Groups that represent convenience stores and other businesses in other states have argued that the hold amounts are out of their control, because they contract with credit card processing companies that set the terms of how the technology is used. In 2006, Maine approved a law that prohibits merchants from placing holds on credit or debit cards beyond the purchase cost, unless the merchant reduces the hold within one hour of making the sale. A violation carries a \$250 fine for the first offense, and \$1,000 fines for subsequent violations.

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:

Shirley E. Juracek
who passed away on July 2, 2012

Evelyn Blaschke
who passed away on July 4, 2012

Duane A. Hansen
who passed away on July 5, 2012

Elton Bertsch
who passed away on July 4, 2008

James Schurman
who passed away on July 5, 1996

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.

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OBITUARIES

Jane Torkelson

Jane Ellen Jensen Torkelson, 69, of Vermillion, SD passed away suddenly and peacefully at her home in Vermillion on Wednesday, June 26, 2013. Jane Ellen Parker was born October 14, 1943 in Des Moines, IA to Clifford and Iona (Sorensen) Parker. Her name was changed to Jane Jensen when adopted by her step-father Edwin Jensen. Jane attended elementary school in Lake Andes, SD and high school in Weslaco, TX. She returned to South Dakota to attend the University of South Dakota, where she met her husband K. Larry Torkelson, and they were married in Lake Andes in 1963. After graduating with a Music Education degree, she

taught music while Larry earned advanced music degrees in Michigan and Indiana. They enjoyed raising their two children Tracy and Jeff in a home filled with music, laughter and love. Upon returning to South Dakota, she worked as the music teacher at Elk Point High School and eventually worked as the elementary school music teacher in Vermillion and also received her Master's degree from USD. She retired in 1999 after many years of teaching music to the children of Elk Point and Vermillion. Colleagues remember her with a smile on her face, as laughter and music surrounded her. She earned the love and respect of the students and colleagues that she touched. After retiring, she enjoyed traveling to see family

and friends. She was an active member of the Trinity Lutheran Church and enjoyed exercising, visiting and lunching with friends. She will be remembered as a devoted wife, a loving mother, an active grandma and a fun loving friend. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Larry in 2008, and a brother Joel Parker. Jane is survived by her son Jeff (Lisa) Torkelson of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, a daughter Tracy (Dan Leikvold) of Spearfish, SD, her grandchildren; Taylor and Braeden Ferguson, a sister Carolyn

(John) McBride of Seattle, WA, friend Billy Carmean of Austin, TX, a nephew Brian Kelley, cousins and many loving friends who will miss her smile and contagious laugh. Memorial services will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 3 at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion with burial to follow in the Bluffview Cemetery in Vermillion. Visitation will begin at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 2 with a Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m. all at the church. Visit hansenfuneralhome.com. Yankton Press & Dakotan July 1, 2013

Carol Geiger

Funeral services for Carol A. Geiger, 76 of Creighton, Neb., will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 3, 2013, at Zion Lutheran Church, Creighton, Neb. The Rev. Milana Joseph will officiate, with burial in the Eden Valley Cemetery, rural Plainview, Neb. Visitation is 4-7 p.m. Tuesday at Brockhaus Funeral Home, Creighton. Carol died Saturday, June 29, 2013, at Avera Creighton Care Centre.

A Memorial Isn't About a Life Past, it's about a life shared, a life celebrated, a life honored, for generations to come.

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