

Legislators Calling For Special Session

RAPID CITY (AP) — A group of South Dakota legislators are calling for a special legislative session to address the state's teacher shortage.

State Rep. Elizabeth May joined five fellow legislators Thursday in Rapid City to officially call for a session on August 17. May tells KCCR-AM the teacher shortage is a "crisis" that needs to be addressed.

The Rapid City policymaker says they're sending letters to all state legislators asking if they support a special session.

May says they will allow 15 days for the letters to be returned. If they're not returned in that time, she says they'll be counted as a "no" vote.

The governor can order a special session but May says if two-thirds of legislators agree they can approve one themselves.

Man's Sentence Reinstated By Court

PIERRE (AP) — A federal appeals court has reinstated a prison sentence for a Moberly man convicted of raping two of his friends' young daughters.

Forty-five-year-old Richard Litschewski was convicted in 1997 of first-degree rape, third-degree rape and sexual contact with a minor. He was ordered to serve three consecutive terms for a total of 27 1/2 years.

In 2011, the state Supreme Court reversed the order of Litschewski's sentences because they were not in the chronological order they occurred.

Litschewski filed a petition in 2013 claiming his rearranged sentence violated the double jeopardy clause. A federal district court agreed, lessening his sentence by 7 1/2 years.

The 8th Circuit Court of Appeals on Thursday reinstated Litschewski's 27 1/2-year sentence, saying the state court's rearrangement did not exceed the punishment authorized by law.

Zoo Officials Euthanize 15-Year-Old Lion

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Zoo officials in Nebraska say a 15-year-old lion was euthanized because the animal's health had deteriorated from a years-long battle with cancer.

The *Omaha World-Herald* reports Mr. Big, a male African lion at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, died Thursday.

The zoo says Mr. Big was diagnosed with cancer five years ago and his condition had been closely monitored since then. In June, staff noticed he was lethargic and had lost weight. They later determined the cancer had spread to both his lungs and liver.

Mr. Big had fathered two litters of cubs since 2012.

Gov. Asks FEMA To Assess Storm Damage

PIERRE (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard is asking federal officials to join state and local teams as they assess the extent of the damage caused by severe storms last month.

Daugaard has requested that the Federal Emergency Management Agency join in the state's Preliminary Damage Assessment of storm damage in 14 affected. Officials are looking at damage caused by storms from June 17 and June 24.

The governor says the assessment will give the state a more accurate picture of the extent of the damage. He says with more information, they can better determine whether to request federal assistance.

The assessments will begin Monday and are expected to continue throughout the week.

State, county and local governments can apply to be assessed in addition to other entities like private non-profit organization.

Annual Chicken Show To Still Be Held

WAYNE, Neb. (AP) — Organizers of an annual Nebraska family festival with a chicken theme say it'll go on this weekend, despite continuing concerns about avian flu.

The virus has infected poultry farms across the country, including some in Nebraska. Millions of chickens and turkeys nationwide have either died or were euthanized to prevent the virus from spreading.

The *Sioux City (Iowa) Journal* reports that the 35th Annual Wayne Chicken Show will continue, though live bird shows are banned this year. The Chicken Show will be missing the rooster crowing contest, chicken flying contest and exotic chicken show.

South Dakota Tells Polygamists To Bring Details For Water

BY JAMES NORD

Associated Press

PIERRE — A secretive polygamist group will have to provide South Dakota regulators with more information before they will decide whether to allow the sect to draw water more quickly at a compound in the Black Hills.

The South Dakota Water Management Board voted Thursday that the group needs to come back with more details after Seth Jeffs, the brother of imprisoned sect leader Warren Jeffs, didn't provide clear answers to questions about the group and its compound.

Seth Jeffs and members of the United Order of South Dakota, a religious trust run by the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, or FLDS, has asked to double the rate of water it can draw on the compound.

The group says the water is for houses, gardens and orchards at its 140-acre property, but nearby landowners are concerned the request means an influx of members is looming.

The FLDS is headquar-

tered in a community along the Arizona-Utah border. Members believe polygamy brings exaltation in heaven. Warren Jeffs, considered by the group to be a prophet who speaks for God, is serving a life sentence for assaulting two of his child brides, and other leaders have been convicted of similar crimes.

A lawyer for the sect had asked that evidence about its faith, information about the trust and personal details of members be barred from the water hearing, saying those issues weren't relevant to the water application.

Although the board disagreed, Seth Jeffs seemed reluctant to answer questions, drawing the board's ire and skepticism.

Jeffs repeatedly said he doesn't how many people live at the compound, though he spends almost all of his time there. He said he would need the authorization of the trust's leaders to conduct a census at the compound and that he doesn't "walk into people's houses and intrude on their privacy."

Board member Rodney Freeman, who supported the water application, told him, "I don't want anybody to think for a minute that I believe your testimony that you don't know how many people are up there, or at least a good ballpark estimate."

Jeffs' attorney Jeffrey Connolly argued that municipalities or rural water organizations wouldn't have to disclose the exact number of people using their water.

"We'll just take it as it comes," Jeffs said, shaking his head when a reporter asked if he knew who would come with him to answer the board's remaining questions.

The group's fenced-in compound, complete with a guard tower, sits on hilly, rugged land it bought about a decade ago. Several buildings dot the complex, including seven large residences, a chapel and school, greenhouse and farm buildings.

A state Department of Environment and Natural Resources staff recommendation said the water application should be approved.

Jeffs said in a document filed ahead of Thursday's

hearing that the number of people at the compound is within the limits of wastewater permits. The system has a 126-person capacity.

Sam Brower, a private investigator who has researched the FLDS, has said Jeffs is considered royalty among devout members.

But Jeffs said he doesn't know much about the leadership, or even where his brother Isaac Jeffs, a trustee, lives.

Michael Hickey, an attorney for nearby landowner Linda Van Dyke Kilcoin, who opposes the water application, said Jeffs is a felon and that granting the request wasn't in the public interest. Jeffs pleaded guilty in 2006 to harboring Warren Jeffs as a fugitive.

"You've got a convicted felon over there who takes orders from the prophet, and if you think that if the prophet says something and tells you to do something different than South Dakota law, that he's going to follow South Dakota law? He's not," Hickey said.

First Lady Addresses Inaugural Native American Youth Summit

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE AND SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Michelle Obama on Thursday told hundreds of Native American youths that they are all precious and sacred and that "each of you was put on this earth for a reason."

"Each of you has something that you're destined to do, whether that's raising a beautiful family, whether that's succeeding in a profession or leading your community into a better future," the first lady said in a sometimes emotional address at a first-time summit called by the White House. "You all have a role to play and we need you."

The event was part of Generation Indigenous, or Gen-I, a White House initiative that grew from President Barack Obama and Mrs. Obama's visit last year to the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, which straddles the border between North Dakota and South Dakota. Meetings followed, Cabinet members held listening tours, tribal youth were chosen as ambassadors and a national network was formed.

The goal is to remove barriers that

keep young people from reaching their potential.

Teenagers at the summit represented 230 tribes and 42 states. Discussions focused on economic opportunity, education and cultural and other issues.

From New Mexico's pueblos to Midwest reservations, nearly one-third of American Indian youths live in poverty, according to federal statistics. They have the highest suicide rates of any ethnicity in the U.S., as well as the lowest high school graduation rates.

Mrs. Obama recalled hearing "heart-wrenching stories" of substance abuse and other crises during last year's visit but said the storytellers were looking to the future, not giving up.

She urged the young people to "draw strength" from knowing that their customs, values and discoveries are "at the heart of the American story" and have shaped U.S. history for centuries.

"Everyone in this room has your back," she said. "Everyone who is speaking at this summit, all those Cabinet secretaries, all those powerful people who have come here for you, they have your back," Mrs. Obama said. "And you definitely have a president and first lady who have your back."

She also counseled the young people to connect with and "be inspired by each other," and to find out what issues others are working on and to take ideas home with them.

"Run for office. Local office, state office, even president of the United States," Mrs. Obama said. "I know you all have it in you."

Participants came up with ideas to address problems in their communities. Miguel Wambli, 16, of Rapid City, South Dakota, and a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, created a newspaper to feature writing by Native American students.

Seven suicides by teenagers in recent months have shaken the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, and close to 1,000 suicide attempts were recorded on the reservation over nearly 10 years. Some students have projects aimed at raising awareness, while Wambli believes a newspaper would give teenagers an outlet.

"I want to try just to help them find their voice and be able to express themselves and be knowledgeable about what's going on in their community," he said.

Omaha Couple Doesn't Want To Lose Home To School District

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A retired couple in Omaha is resisting efforts by the school district to buy their home and the house they own next door.

The district wants Pam and Ernie Jackson's land, along with 10 other properties, as part of its plans for a new high school, the *Omaha World-Herald* reported.

The Jacksons, who have lived in their home for 20 years, have retained an attorney and posted, "OPS, Hands Off Our Home," signs in their front lawn. They want the district to conduct a feasibility or traffic study to determine if buying their land is really necessary.

"We're not against progress, but we just think this isn't progress, when you have to uproot our families and our homes," Pam Jackson told the school

board on Monday night.

The couple's home is right in front of a traffic light, and they were told that the district wants to use that traffic signal and their property to create a driveway for a future high school.

District officials met with nearby homeowners last month to discuss the project, land negotiations and the possibility of eminent domain. The 10 other properties are a mix of residential and commercial sites, and district officials have said that no one else has raised objections.

The district said it would buy the properties at fair market value and would pay for some relocation expenses.

The school board on Monday appeared reluctant to use the threat of seiz-

ing property through eminent domain. Board members held off on giving district attorneys and appraisers the authority to pursue eminent domain without coming to the board for permission first.

"I'm personally not comfortable with putting out there that we will go with eminent domain without having a step of returning back to the board," board member Lacey Merica said.

The district budgeted in a voter-approved \$421 million bond program to purchase land and design two new high schools. To build them, at an estimated cost of \$60.4 million each, voters would have to approve a second bond issue. The newspaper says that vote could happen in May 2017.

OBITUARIES

Mary Auch

Mary J. Auch, age 62, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Tuesday, July 7, 2015, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 11, 2015, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with Pastor Kwen Sanderson officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the funeral on Saturday at the funeral home.

Pallbearers are James Bender, Mike Bender, Bob Christensen, Ken Hauck, Jacob Button and Dale Auch.

Mary J. Auch was born December 16, 1952 in Yankton, South Dakota to Raymond and Albina (Hauck) Klasi. She grew up in Yankton and graduated from Yankton High School in 1971. She then began working at the Human Services Center in Yankton. She married Michael M. Auch on June 19, 1976 in Scotland, South Dakota. After her marriage, she ran a daycare out of her home for a few years but her main focus was on raising her family and being a dedicated wife.

Mary loved God, animals, listening to music, working in her flower bed and collecting knick-knacks. She was the most



Auch

caring, selfless, kindest person you would ever meet and was always worrying about everyone but herself. She loved her family above all else and enjoyed spoiling her husband.

Survivors include her husband, Michael M. Auch of Yankton; three children: Missy (James) Bender, Matthew (Jodie) Auch and Marcus Auch all of Yankton; two grandchildren: Mike and Emma Bender; sister, Barb (Bob) Christensen of Yankton; father and mother-in-law, Harold and Irene Auch of Scotland, South Dakota; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

To send an online message to the family, please visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan

July 10, 2015

WINTZ & RAY
FUNERAL HOME and
CREMATION SERVICE
Online condolences at:
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Patricia Teran

Patricia Ann (Uhing) Teran, 78, formerly of the Hartington/Bow Valley area, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, June 10, 2015, at her home in Corning, California.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Old Friends Cafe, Corning, today (Friday, July 10, 2015). A memorial mass will be celebrated by Father Sherwin Colaste at Immaculate Conception Church at



Teran

10 a.m. today, immediately followed by a burial service at Corning Cemetery. Donations may be made in lieu of flowers to St. Jude Hospital at

stjude.org/. Memorials and messages may be left at www.redbluff-dailynews.com under the "Obituaries" link.

Michels Honored By National Association

WASHINGTON — Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education, and the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) present South Dakota Lt. Gov. Matt Michels with the Arts Award for State Arts Leadership, which honors a public official who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the advancement of the arts at the state level. Michels received his award Wednesday at the NLGA's Annual Conference in Indianapolis.

"The arts play an integral role in the social, educational and economic development of a state," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "We appreciate leaders like Lt. Gov. Michels who are actively promoting and advocating for the arts on the state level."

Michels' exposure to and appreciation of the arts began at an early age. His grandmother was a painter, and a student and close friend of Native American artist Oscar Howe, one of South Dakota's most valued



Michels

and influential artists. Before entering politics, Michels obtained degrees in nursing and then law. As a nurse, Michels

experienced first-hand the healing power of the arts, and remains an advocate for integrating the arts into healthcare programs.

Michels represented his legislative district as a member of the South Dakota House of Representatives for eight years from 1999 to 2006. While in the legislature, he served for two years as Speaker Pro Tempore and as Speaker of the House for four years. He was the first person to serve two terms as Speaker since the 1950s. As a legislator, Michels was a supporter of the Art for State Buildings program and often points to the art in the Capitol Complex as examples of the importance of public art to the lives of the state's citizens.

Michels also served four years as Lieutenant Governor in Gov. Dennis

Daugaard's administration. The duo was re-elected to another four-year term in the fall of 2014. The Daugaard/Michels administration was proactive in promoting a permanently dedicated revenue source for the South Dakota Arts Council by advocating that a share of South Dakota's tourism promotion tax be used to support the activities of the state arts agency. Due to their efforts, the State Arts Council is financially secure for the foreseeable future.

"This is a humbling honor and I accept the award with gratitude for all the impactful tireless work of the South Dakota Arts Council and cooperating organizations

in our great state," said Michels. "The arts have and continue to enrich my life and I am very appreciative for those artists who continue to give of their blessed gifts to our citizens."

"Matt Michels has been a strong voice for public support of the arts throughout his political career," said Michael Pangburn, director of the South Dakota Arts Council. "We at the South Dakota Arts Council appreciate his leadership — sometimes in front leading the way, but more often quietly advocating for public policy that promotes the arts across the state. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor."

IN REMEMBRANCE

Mary Auch
10:00 AM, Saturday
Wintz & Ray Funeral Home
Yankton

WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and CREMATION SERVICE
Yankton
605-665-3644 www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com 402-254-6547