

Czech

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over as the older generation gets too tired to do it anymore. That's the change we're most concerned about."

Wallem's mother, Marge, said when her kids were young, she tried to keep them involved with the dancing and food. It's the traditions that keep people coming back.

"We're losing them — they're moving away so we're just trying to keep the family involved doing the kolaches and bread and dancing. All the food my mom made, I made for them this weekend," she said. "The local people keep coming back, but once the parents die out, it's harder for families to stay involved."

Loretta Kortan, who served as this year's grand marshal along with her husband Bob, said Czech Days allows people to get away from everyday life.

"There has been a lot of rain and the farmers haven't been able to get into the fields, so they come to Czech Days," she said. "You'd be surprised as to how many people come year to year. We have people that come every year — they plan their vacations around us. It's a wonderful thing because without them, all that work would be for nothing. I think it's a nice escape for people that are dealing with the flooding. I'm sure the people that are directly affected by it don't feel like celebrating, but it puts a little joy into the drudgery."

She also noted that the celebration attracts many people who aren't of Czech heritage.

"The music, food, dancing brings everyone together. You'd be surprised how many come back for Beseda dancing," she said. "They have families that have already gone, but they come back to Beseda dance, just like riding a bike. They've got no obligation to be here, it's just dedication and pride in their Czech heritage."

Czech Days is run mainly by volunteers, and most of those volunteers have been doing it for decades. Carol Kloucek married into the Czech life and has helped at the American Legion during Czech Days for 30 years. She said the reason she continues to help is the fact that people expect it, and there's not really

anyone else stepping up to do it.

"It's a fun celebration and there's a lot of work to do. People really appreciate what we do and they come here to get away for a little bit," she said. "They've come to expect what we do. A lot of people that aren't actually Czech, but marry into it or what not, recognize the need and help volunteer."

Bonnie Vavruska is half-Czech and was raised in Tabor. While she has been participating in Czech Days since she was a child, she now plays a bigger role as she helps organize the sale of kolaches in the Beseda.

Kolaches are a big part of the festival. Each year, volunteers make more than 2,000 dozen to sell. Vavruska said she has noticed that the younger generations aren't willing to take over for the older generations.

"That's what we're having a problem with — the older generations have been making (the kolaches), so we need the younger generation to start making more," she said. "We offer a number of ways for the younger people to learn how to make them. We have the baking demonstration here at Czech Days and the older ladies are always willing to teach them."

Vavruska said she tries to lead by example as she is teaching her daughter how to carry on the Czech traditions.

"My daughter is starting to learn — she's only 5 but she already helps me make kolaches and she's my dough sampler. Our heritage is going to die out if the younger generation doesn't prepare or teach their kids about our Czech heritage," she said.

"It's very important that people help out with Czech Days to keep it going. I love Czech Days and I love the heritage. I love making kolaches and I love helping — it's part of being in Tabor and what we do."

Wallem said Czech Days is a great way to keep his family bond strong, even as they move away from Tabor. Although his mother still carries on many of the traditions, he said it is important to him to start learning more about the Hruska family so he can pass it on to his children.

People keep coming to Czech Days, and it seems to stay the same. Leonard Cimprl has been the event's chairmen for 23 years, and at 86 years old, he doesn't seem to want to stop. But as wife Mildred pushes him to retire soon, there's going to need to be a successor, he said.

"My age group needs to start getting involved to keep it going," Wallem said. "That's what we're worried about — who's going to take over for Leonard. We know he's been waiting to pass it off to someone. Someone just needs to step up and grab it."

Whether or not he's ready to retire, Cimprl said that as younger generations stopped being informed about their Czech ancestors, it's more of a reason to keep it alive.

"We're trying to keep the tradition going. It's a lot of work and we need everyone to work together to put it on," he said. "Less and less people know the Czech language and about our heritage. It's sad that we're losing touch, but it's a big job — we need a lot of help to do it."

Dad (dăd), *n.* Stronger than the closet monster; bigger than the boogie man; ATM; maker of fun; present; child wrangler; hand holder; involved; wise; sacrificer; king of the grill; interested; impromptu horsey; generous; magician; available; awesome pancake maker; master of logic; master of illogic; driving instructor; forgiving; provider; kite builder; tough on the outside, marshmallowy on the inside; supportive; santa claus; predictable; patient; improvident; during;

No matter how you define it, "dad" means love.

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- face fear, pray and be humble
- be compassionate and considerate
- use respectful words, thoughts and actions
- help other men do the right thing
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If you're a Survivor of abuse, know that **NOBODY** chooses to be a victim and you can heal.

Being an abuser is a **CHOICE** and a crime!

For help contact a local domestic or sexual violence program, mental health agency or the SD Coalition Ending Domestic & Sexual Violence **1-800-572-9196** or www.sdcedsv.org

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SENIOR NIGHT MEATLOAF
\$4.00 (Age 60+)

TUESDAY NIGHT
2-PIECE CHICKEN DINNER
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WEDNESDAY NIGHT
HOT TURKEY SANDWICH
\$3.00

THURSDAY NIGHT
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\$5.00

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SUNDAY NIGHT
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\$3.00

Hy-Vee EMPLOYEE OWNED 2100 Broadway
Yankton, SD 665-3412

Closes

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the mouth of the Big Sioux River near Sioux City, Iowa. The U.S. Coast Guard has closed this section of the river to all boat traffic due to high flows from Gavins Point.

Game and Parks will return permit fees to all 275 successful applicants who were awarded a permit via a drawing held May 9. All preference points for the applicants will be restored to where they were following the end of the 2010 season.

Refunds will likely begin Monday, Bonertz stated.

"If you paid by credit card, you will see that credit on your account," he said. "If you paid by check, you'll get (a check)."

Unemployment Falls In Fewer Than Half Of U.S. States

BY CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Unemployment rates fell in fewer than half of U.S. states, a sign that job growth has slowed in many parts of the country.

The unemployment rates dropped in 24 states, the Labor Department said Friday. Rates rose in 13 states and Washington, D.C., and were flat in 13. That's a significant decline from April, when 39 states reported falling unemployment rates.

The changing trend in state unemployment rates reflect a weaker economy that has been hampered by high gas prices and lower factory output. Nationally, employers added a net gain of only 54,000 jobs in May, compared to an average of 220,000 per month in the previous three months. The U.S. unemployment rate ticked up to 9.1 percent.

Only 22 states reported a net gain in jobs in May, while 27 states lost jobs. That's much worse than April, when 42 states gained jobs.

California, New York and Pennsylvania reported large job losses, partly reversing gains earlier this year. California said employers cut 29,200 jobs last month, with big losses in professional and business services, which includes accounting, engineering, and temporary services. The construction sector also lost jobs.