

Viborg Asking Residents To Conserve Water

VIBORG (AP) — Officials in Viborg are asking residents to conserve water after the town used an usually high amount in a 24-hour period.

A city official tells KSFY that 123,000 gallons of water have been used in the last 24 hours. That's double the amount typically used in a normal day in the town of less than 800 people.

City officials say they are ruling out a leak causing the high water usage.

Wagner Voters Choose School Board Members

WAGNER — Voters in the Wagner school district re-elected all three incumbents and added a newcomer during Tuesday's school board election.

In the first race, newcomer Richard Sully topped the field with 308 votes, followed by incumbents Dennis Merkwand and Gene Niehus with a respective 291 and 244 votes. They won three-year terms.

The rest of the field included challengers Todd Doom with 197 votes, Janice Coleman with 151 and Jodi Lyn Zepher with 136.

In the other race, incumbent Mike Denker defeated challenger George Langdeaux 261-147 for a one-year term. Denker, who is currently serving on the board, chose to run for the one-year term instead of a three-year term, according to Wagner school business manager Lory DuFrain.

Bruce McCoy originally held the seat, then left the school district for work reasons, DuFrain said. Wayne Scherr was appointed to the school board last January, she said. Denker will now complete the final remaining year on the term.

Tuesday's school board election saw 19 percent voter turnout, according to DuFrain.

AIJI Features Students From Across Nation

VERMILLION — Thirteen college students and recent graduates from across the United States are participating in the 12th annual American Indian Journalism Institute (AIJI), which runs through June 22 at the University of South Dakota.

AIJI, a joint program of the Freedom Forum and USD, is a premier journalism training, scholarship and internship program for aspiring journalists from diverse backgrounds. Throughout the 10-day institute, students attend classes, learn basic journalism practices, participate in educational field trips, report, write and produce multimedia projects.

Student journalists are assigned to chronicle events in southeast South Dakota during AIJI, including Czech Days at Tabor and Tour de Kota 2012. Event coverage will include stories, social media, photography and video projects.

Jack Marsh, AIJI founding director, and president of the Freedom Forum Diversity Institute and the Al Neuharth Media Center, said graduates of AIJI will earn three hours of college credit from USD. "The intent of AIJI is to recruit, train, mentor and retain diverse journalists for media careers."

Chuck Baldwin, instructor and journalist-in-residence at the Al Neuharth Media Center, said AIJI opens doors for students who have a passion and potential to succeed as professional journalists. Students accepted to AIJI submit applications, work samples and complete a phone interview.

Guest speakers include Al Neuharth, a 1950 USD alumnus and founder of the Freedom Forum and USA TODAY; John Seigenthaler, a distinguished journalist and founder of the First Amendment Center, Nashville, Tenn.; and J.R. LaPlante, a 2009 graduate of the USD School of Law and South Dakota Secretary of Tribal Relations.

Students attending AIJI 2012 are: Heidi Bounphithack, Sioux Falls (South Dakota State University); Cade Cross, Missoula, Mont. (Dartmouth College); Dylan Geuther, Vermillion (University of South Dakota); Mike Huberman, Missoula, Mont. (University of Montana); Dacia Idom, Ruston, La. (Louisiana Tech University); Shannen Jack, Monterey Park, Calif. (East Los Angeles College); Cynthia Lee, Gallup, N.M. (University of New Mexico); Alex Maxwell, Shawnee, Okla. (Oklahoma Christian University); Demetria Mosley, Orangeburg, S.C. (South Carolina State University); Natalia Rawls, Fort Valley, Ga. (Fort Valley State University); Aaron Saunders, Durham, N.C. (North Carolina Central University); Stacy Thacker, Missoula, Mont. (University of Montana); and Mark Walker, Fort Valley, Ga. (Fort Valley State University).

Jones' Food Center Closing Vermillion Store

BY DAVID LIAS

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VERMILLION — In what Operations Manager Bob Starr terms as an effort to "refocus," Gregg and Nikki Peters have decided to close Jones' Food Center in Vermillion.

In its place will be a much larger Jones' Ace Hardware.

"It is a refocusing," Starr said. "The first three years competing against a Wal-Mart, we did very well. In a town the size of Vermillion, to be able to sustain and grow the first three years against a formidable player such as Wal-Mart, and having another big store with Hy-Vee in town is certainly admirable, but the last three years, once the economy turned (downward), it became increasingly difficult."

For a good portion of the time Jones' Food Center was open in Vermillion, its only competitor in town was Hy-Vee. The addition of Wal-Mart to the city in 2006 with its food store gave local people a third option for grocery shopping.

For most of its 17 years in Vermillion, Starr said, Jones' Food Center was able to fill a unique niche.

"Ultimately, when the economy really turned here about three years ago ... we started to lose some of those customers (to Hy-Vee and WalMart)," he said, "even though we believe we have the finest meat in South Dakota, we have a great selection of natural and organic foods — things they don't carry. We would put up our quality against anybody's on any given day."

Starr said the decision to close the food store did not come easily to Gregg and Nikki.

"When Ace Hardware came to us and approached us with this idea, it was something we looked long and hard at," he said. "It's been



DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

Gregg and Nikki Peters, owners of Jones' Food Center, announced Tuesday that after 17 years, they will close their grocery store early next month. The couple plans to expand Jones' Ace Hardware in the building currently housing the food market.

over a year now that we've really contemplated it, and it's an offer that we can't refuse and it brings something to Vermillion that is sorely lacking right now. It really is a win-win deal for everybody, as difficult as it is to lose the grocery side of the business."

An inventory reduction sale begins at Jones' Food Center today (Wednesday) and is expected to last three weeks.

The lot that houses Jones' Food Center has been a place of growth for most of the time that the Peterses' store has occupied the main building in the past 17 years. That building houses a branch of Wells Fargo Bank on its south side. On its north side is Mister Smith's Bakery, Café and Catering.

The Peterses added a new wing to the building in 2000 that currently houses Jones' Ace Hardware and Vermillion's municipal liquor store, which the couple manages.

Wells Fargo will remain at its current location, and Mister Smith's also is not going away - it will, in fact, be renovated, and the dining area may be even be expanded.

Once the grocery business closes next month, the portion of the building where it is currently housed will be partitioned off from the other existing businesses in that structure.

It is hoped that the new, larger Jones' Ace Hardware will be open by mid-September or early October.

Starr will continue to oversee the operations of the several retail businesses operated by the Peterses in several southeast South Dakota communities. After the remodeling is complete in Vermillion, Gregg and Nikki will operate hardware stores in Vermillion and Madison, and grocery stores in Elk Point, Parker and Viborg.

For more details, visit www.plaintalk.net.

County

From Page 1

In particular, the commission is focused on Deer Boulevard south of Highway 52. Problems in that area led to a law passed by the County Commission in 2007 that gives the county the authority to prohibit off-road vehicles in highway ditches under its jurisdiction.

However, the commission nor county staff could recall the specifics of the 2007 ordinance. It hasn't been utilized since it was passed.

"(The Southeast South Dakota ATV Association) said, 'Please don't post (Deer Boulevard). We will take care of the problem,' and they did," Commissioner Allen Sinclair said. "My memory says we passed an ordinance that allowed us to (ban ATVs in county ditches), and we never used it because the problem

was taken care of."

Under the ordinance, a public hearing to prohibit ATV use in a county ditch can be initiated in two ways. A petition can be brought forward by owners of 55 percent or more of the frontage along a ditch, or a motion can be made by the County Commission.

The commission was supportive Tuesday of utilizing the ordinance if it existed as its members thought it did, or creating one if needed.

"The problem goes away, but it re-surfaces," Commissioner Garry Moore said.

In other business, the commission:

- appointed nine members to the Yankton County Drainage Commission, which will have its first meeting next week. Those serving on the board will be Chris Nelsen, Frank Kralicek Jr., Paul Dummer, Craig Hanson, John Gunderson, Kevin Kirschenman, David Healy, Garry Moore and Steven Aune. A total of 11 people expressed an interest in being on the commission;
- was told by Johnson Engineer-

ing that it will cost \$1.9 million to replace the bridge and spillway along 302nd Street at State Lake, which is also called Beaver Lake. The bridge was built in 1930, and the spillway below it has been replaced once since that time. The structure is in "terrible" condition, according to Pete Johnson of Johnson Engineering. The South Dakota Department of Transportation and the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks are cost-sharing partners in the reconstruction project, which is expected to get under way next spring or summer. The commission unanimously agreed to move ahead with the long-delayed project;

- was told by Johnson Engineering that the county share in improvements along Stone Church Road to prevent recurrent flood damage will be \$176,750. The commission expressed hope that the final plans will be approved by the South Dakota Department of Transportation soon so that work can begin this fall. The concern is that if nothing is done until next year, more flood issues will occur next

spring. The commission unanimously agreed to move ahead with the project; and

- approved a property tax refund and abatement for Dan Kortan, who was over-taxed after mistakenly being listed as not owner-occupying his condo. Kortan said he had his mailing address changed to his nearby mother's residence with the county Treasurer's Office because she is always home, and he leaves her a checkbook to pay for items while he is gone. This led the county Department of Equalization to believe that he was not living in the condo. For the last several years, Kortan noticed his property taxes going up, but assumed they were rising for his neighbors in the condo community, too. However, he recently learned he was paying considerably more than them, and that is when he inquired with the county. The commission agreed Tuesday to give Kortan a refund of \$804.48 in overpaid taxes, as well as abate the excess amount included in his more recent taxes.

OBITUARIES

Elsie (Jerke) Gutgesell

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa — Elsie A. Gutgesell, 94, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, formerly of Watertown, died Sunday, June 17, 2012 at Windsor Nursing and Rehab Center in Cedar Falls.

She was born July 22, 1917 in Delmont, South Dakota, daughter of Friedrich Heinrich Wilhelm and Paulina (Grosz) Reinfeld. She married Leon B. Jerke on October 20, 1935 in Delmont and he died January 22, 1962. She married Elmer G. Gutgesell on August 18, 1972 in Yankton, South Dakota and he died March 26, 1985.

Mrs. Gutgesell was employed with Cimpr's Meat Processing for 10 years, retiring in 1972.

Survived by: two sons, Marlyn (Lois) Jerke of Cedar Falls and Robert (Marilyn) Jerke of Mossyrock, WA; a daughter, Ellen (Darwyn) Maas of Brandon, SD; eight grandchildren; and fourteen great-grandchildren.



Gutgesell

Preceded in death by: one brother, Theodore "Ted" Reinfeld and a sister, Alma Bogenhagen.

Services will be held 1:00 p.m. Monday at Saint Martin's Lutheran Church with burial in Mount Hope Cemetery, both in Watertown, South Dakota. Visitation will be for one hour prior to services Monday. Richardson Funeral Service, Cedar Falls, is assisting the family.

Memorials may be directed to St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Cedar Valley Hospice (PO Box 2880, Waterloo, IA 50704) or Christian Crusaders (7401 University Ave, Cedar Falls, IA 50613).

Condolences may be left at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 20, 2012

Evone Petersen

CENTERVILLE — Evone Mae (Flynn) Petersen, 90, of Centerville died Tuesday, June 19, 2012, at Avera Sunset Manor, Irene.

Arrangements are pending with Hansen Funeral Home, Irene.

Peter Del Favero

Peter R. Del Favero, 65, of Cape Coral, Florida passed away on Friday, June 15, 2012 at Cape Coral Hospital in Cape Coral, Florida.

Pete was born on December 16, 1946 in Meriden, Connecticut to the late Raymond J. Del Favero and Dorothea Steitz Del Favero. Pete lived with his wife and son in Yankton, SD for over 30 years. He had been employed at the Michelson Center for the Neuro Sciences and was also a community liaison for the hospital. Pete was a board member for Big Friend/Little Friend while on the board and for Cramar-Kenyon, a member of the Meridian Bridge Questers and also on the board for Habitat for Humanity. His interests include antiques, politics, and socializing with friends.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 40 years, Marian "Meg" Del Favero of Cape Coral,



Del Favero

Florida; his son, Adam (Amy) Del Favero of Yankton, SD; his grandchildren, Anthony, Makinzie, Amya and Giovanni; his sister, Denise (Gary) Cruser of Violet Hills, Arkansas.

A Memorial Celebration of his life will be held at a later date in Yankton, SD, as well as the funeral proceedings in Meriden, CT.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.fortmyersmemorial.com. The family is being assisted by Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 20, 2012

Sylvia Kirschenman

Sylvia Kirschenman, 87, of Yankton, SD passed away Monday, June 18, at the Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton.

Sylvia Herman was born April 8, 1925 in Hutchinson County to Joseph and Genevieve (Wieger) Herman. She attended Parochial School in Parkston and Country School in Hutchinson County and received her GED later in life. She married Leo Kirschenman on February 26, 1946 in Parkston,

SD. They lived together for 30 years in the house that her father and husband built on the farm east of Menno, SD before moving to Yankton.

Sylvia worked as an Office Manager for the Kmart Company for 13 years, and after her retirement she continued to do book-keeping for various companies in the Yankton area.

She is survived by her husband Leo of Yankton and a daughter Lisa (Daniel) Ven Osdel of Gayville, SD, a sister Margaret Carlson of Sioux Falls, SD and a brother Gerald (Nori) Herman of Parkston. She is also survived by four grandchildren: Carrie (Dan) Mart, Jacob, Joseph and Casey Ven Osdel and two great grandchildren; Carter Mart, Penny Ven Osdel and fuzzy child Fritz.

Funeral Mass will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 25 at the St.

Benedictine Catholic Church in Yankton with burial to follow in the Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery in Yankton.

Visitation will begin at 5:30 p.m. Sunday with a Rosary at 7:00 pm followed by a prayer service all at the church.

Visit hansenfuneralhome.com.
Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 20, 2012

Blossom Mayer

Blossom M. Mayer, 88, of Yankton died Tuesday, June 19, 2012, at the Yankton Care Center, Yankton.

Memorial services are at 1 p.m. Saturday at Wintz Funeral Home, Crofton, Neb., with Pastor Les Parmenter officiating. Inurnment will be at the Bloomfield Cemetery in Bloomfield, Neb.

Visitation was 6-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home in Crofton.

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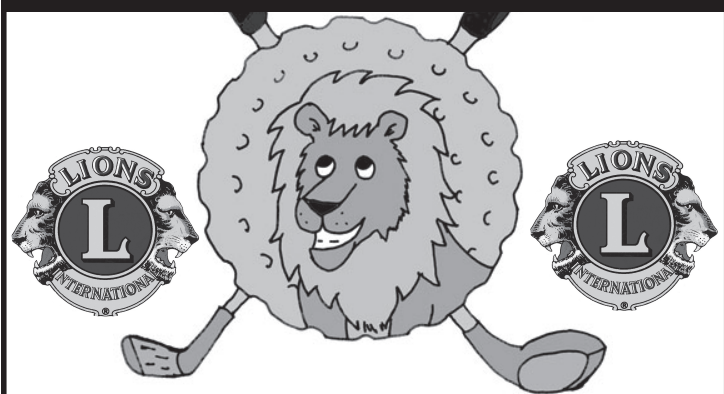
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IN REMEMBRANCE

Tony C. Buehlmann, Sr.

11:00 AM, Wednesday
 Wintz & Ray Funeral Home
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Stacey Myers

2:00 PM, Wednesday
 Trinity Lutheran Church
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Orville Louis Kirchner

10:30 AM, Thursday
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10:30 AM, Friday
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