

Couple Sues Hospital Over Lost Remains

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — An Iowa couple mourning the death of a twin in the womb has sued an Omaha women's hospital and a doctor for not heeding their wishes to preserve the fetus for baptism, cremation and a memorial service.

Jill and Victor McCall, of Castana, Iowa, sued Dr. Andrew Robertson and Methodist Women's Hospital in west Omaha in Douglas County District Court, the *Omaha World-Herald* reported Sunday.

The lawsuit says the hospital and its staff violated a 2003 state law that requires every hospital to maintain a written policy for the disposition of remains of a stillborn. The law also says a parent has the right to direct the disposition of a stillborn's remains within 14 days of delivery.

The McCalls say that did not happen with their stillborn, who had died in utero and whom they named Robert Thomas.

A spokeswoman for the hospital, Claudia Bohn, said only that "Methodist complies with Nebraska state law and the parents' wishes when disposing of fetal remains."

Robertson's attorney, James Snowden, said the doctor is respectful of parents' wishes, but noted that doctors don't tend to fetal remains any more than another doctor would tend to the body of a deceased adult. Such arrangements are typically made between the hospital and the funeral home, Snowden said.

The lawsuit says the McCalls had been told that Robert Thomas' twin would either also be stillborn or would live only a short time after birth. The McCalls had repeatedly made clear to Robertson and hospital staff that they wanted the twins baptized at the hospital and had made plans with a local funeral home to have both twins cremated, the lawsuit says.

When the second baby, Michael, thrived after birth, the McCalls say they were so consumed with keeping him alive, they did not immediately inquire about the remains of Robert Thomas, assuming that their wishes were being followed, the lawsuit says.

Victor McCall says he saw the fetus briefly in the hospital the day Michael was born — but its whereabouts from that moment on are unclear.

The day after the birth, Victor McCall said, he asked a nurse about the fetus. He said the nurse told him, "We don't keep that stuff."

Other attempts by the McCalls and family member to find out from the hospital what had happened to the remains proved futile.

Michael, now 2, is thriving, although he has had four operations and continues to have problems with his eyes and bladder.

Experts: Iowa Should Act On Flooding

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Experts say Iowa could do more to avoid flooding by limiting how much rain runs into the state's rivers and streams. Stemming that runoff would include moves to tackle climate change and expand grasslands and wetlands to absorb rain where it falls.

The *Des Moines Register* says figures show that Iowa's participation in the federal Conservation Reserve Program — which pays farmers to keep some land in native grasses and out of crop production — has dropped sharply as corn prices have risen.

In 1993, Iowa peaked with 2.2 million acres in the CRP. By 2008, acreage had dipped to 1.8 million. This spring, it stood at just 1.5 million.

Experts predict the threat of flooding will only grow as rainfall increases in the future due to climate change.

Man Drowns In Eastern Nebraska Lake

COLUMBUS, Neb. (AP) — A Madison man has drowned at Lake North near Columbus in eastern Nebraska.

The *Columbus Telegram* reports that family members identified the man as 24-year-old Jorge Manuel.

Law enforcement officials responded to a 911 call around 8 p.m. Saturday.

The Platte County Sheriff's Office had the lake blocked off while the vehicles were on the scene.

Officials have not released any information about the drowning by midday Sunday.

S.D. Teen In Hospital After Shooting

ALEXANDRIA (AP) — A Plankinton teenager has been charged with aggravated assault after shooting and wounding another teenager.

The *Mitchell Daily Republic* reports that the 18-year-old was driving eastbound on Interstate 90 Saturday morning when he pointed a pistol at another teenager in the car. The 18-year-old reportedly did not think the gun was loaded and pulled the trigger.

The victim suffered a gunshot wound to the chest and was airlifted to Sioux Falls. His current condition is not known.

Hanson County Deputy Sheriff Casey Tegethoff declined to release any of the teenagers' names. The 18-year-old was also charged with reckless discharge of a firearm, a misdemeanor.

OBITUARIES

Constance (Connie) Schenkel

Constance "Connie" Schenkel, 47, of Yankton died Thursday, June 13, 2013, at Cedar Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles, due to complications from an artificial heart transplant.

Memorial services are at

11 a.m. Friday, June 28, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Steve Weispennig officiating.

Visitations begin at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 27, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton with a 7 p.m. time of sharing and video tribute. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

South Dakota

Town Commemorates Tornado Anniversary

BY DIRK LAMMERS

Associated Press

MANCHESTER — One day after Loretta Yost vividly wrote about the wild phlox blooms in her small South Dakota prairie village of Manchester, a tornado ripped through the once-bustling railroad community, destroying her family's farm and everything around it.

The twister that hit Manchester on June 24, 2003, was the worst of 67 tornadoes that developed in eastern South Dakota on what became known across the state as "Tornado Tuesday." No one was killed, but three of the town's six residents at the time were injured.

Although the town was small then, it was booming in the 1800s, and decades later, Manchester gained fame for hosting a centennial event that attracted some 150,000 people, including celebrities. The small town is the birthplace of pioneer

painter Harvey Dunn and sits just 8 miles west of De Smet, the childhood home of "Little House" novelist Laura Ingalls Wilder.

"The beautiful purple dazzles the eyes," Yost wrote in a June 23, 2003, short story. "You see the blossoms under ancient trees, around the shadowed remains of weathered buildings, near the street as it passes the old town pump, and along the fence rows."

The next evening, the F4 tornado packing winds between 207 mph and 260 mph cut a 25-mile long swath through the Kingsbury County community just off U.S. Highway 14.

The Yosts were visiting a cousin when the storm hit, but they returned to find their house, barn, shop, chicken house and two grain bins gone. Harold Yost's Chevrolet pickup was dangling against a tree; its transmission and engine sat on the ground.

"I saw it and it was just extremely hard to believe that it actually hit our place and did away with it," Yost recalled. "It was too unreal."

Manchester in its heyday boasted a town hall, grocery stores, a lumber yard, two grain elevators schools and a hotel. In 1961, it hosted the Dakota Territory Centennial Celebration that drew performances from music and television star Lawrence Welk and a young cowboy named Clint Eastwood.

Those who still call Manchester home plan to gather Monday evening at a monument erected at the former town to commemorate the 10th anniversary with an informal potluck. Attendees are asked to bring their own chairs and place settings.

In 2007, the town's former residents dedicated a monument featuring a granite marker, a flag and several plaques telling Manchester's story.

Supermoon Rising



KYLE GREEN/IDAHO STATESMANMCT

A "supermoon" rises over Table Rock and lighted cross in Boise, Idaho, on Saturday. The so-called supermoon appeared up to 14 percent larger than normal as our celestial neighbor swung closer to Earth, reaching its closest distance early Sunday morning. Many viewers across South Dakota and Nebraska were hindered by cloudy skies.

Weiland

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He attempted to win South Dakota's lone House seat in 1996 and 2002.

Weiland said one of his first acts in the Senate would be to support a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission decision. It extended First Amendment rights to corporations, allowing those entities and unions to spend unlimited sums of money on political campaigns so long as they remain independent from candidates and political parties.

Several such pieces of legislation are currently being considered by Congress.

"I think Big Money and all that it represents is the reason the rich are getting richer, the middle class is falling behind and the poor are barely getting by," Weiland said, citing the well-funded corporate agriculture, insurance, oil and pharmaceutical lobbies as part of the Big Money problem. "We have 100,000 people in South Dakota who go hungry every day. One out of nine people you meet in this state are hungry."

Meanwhile, many of the nation's most profitable corporations are sheltering money overseas to avoid America's taxes, he added.

"We're talking hundreds of billions of dollars. If we could close those tax loopholes, we wouldn't be kicking kids off of Head Start," Weiland said. "When CEOs can make 300 times more than the average worker in their factory and we're asking our seniors to

give up some Medicare or Social Security benefits, I just don't think it's right. When we're asking our kids to pay more for the loans they're taking out to go to college to try to get a decent job, I just don't think it's right."

Prior to the 2014 general election, Weiland said he plans to visit 311 South Dakota communities as part of his "Take It Back" tour. During those stops, he aims to visit with residents and talk about how to "get government back" to the people.

"I think that's the kind of campaign that will be embraced by reasonable Republicans, independents and Democrats," Weiland said. "I think so many times, these modern campaigns end up being all about raising as much money as you can, attacking your opponent and having all the TV ads you can buy, as well as radio and news print. It's all about Big Money. You distort your opponent's record, and you don't talk to the voters."

In an effort to limit campaign fundraising, Weiland sent a letter to the Rounds campaign last week asking it to join him in a pledge to limit all contributions to \$100. The Rounds campaign declined such an agreement.

Rounds has said he aims to raise \$9 million for his Senate run.

"I've challenged Mike Rounds to run a campaign based on \$100 contributions, but he turned me down flat," Weiland said. "I'm asking South Dakotans to give me \$9, because I'm running against \$9 million campaigns. They represent everything that is wrong with our political system. They've gotten control of our government, and they're ruining our country. That's why

I'm running, and that's why I'm fired up."

Acknowledging his previous losses for state-wide office and the uphill battle he will face as a Democrat in a Republican-dominated state, Weiland said there are precedents for success.

"Look at who South Dakota has sent to Washington during my lifetime: George McGovern, Jim Abourezk, Tom Daschle and Tim Johnson," he said. "I think the people of South Dakota want someone who is fair, authentic and who will look them in the eye and tell them what is in their heart."

Weiland closed the event by playing "This Land Is Your Land" by Woody Guthrie on guitar and harmonica.

Also during Sunday's event, Yankton County Democrats Chairman Jay Williams announced that Yankton will host the 2014 McGovern Day Dinner.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage

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Legal Costs Soar For Sioux City Casino Nonprofit

SIoux CITY, Iowa (AP) —

Documents show that legal costs for Missouri River Historical Development soared last year as the local nonprofit group and its former casino partner battled in court over their disintegrated contractual relationship.

The *Sioux City Journal* reported that the nonprofit group spent \$324,769 in legal fees in 2012, according to figures the organization released to the Journal last week. That's more than six times the \$50,795 reported in 2011. A year before that, the nonprofit's fees were \$11,641.

The nonprofit and Argosy Sioux City riverboat casino operator Penn National Gaming Co. have been locked in a legal battle over their contract for more than a year.

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:

Flynn J. Heer
who passed away on
June 26, 2012

Lulu Grace Hagge
who passed away on
June 29, 2012

Sylvia Patton
who passed away on
June 29, 2011

Bob Cameron
who passed away on
June 27, 1970

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