

2010 Legal and Public Notices

Inc., (Ben Hanten, Owner) dba Bens Brewing, 4-H Grounds, Yankton, S.D.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a Public Hearing upon the application will be held on Monday, June 29th, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Yankton Community Meeting Room at the Technical Education Center, 1200 West 21st Street, Yankton, South Dakota, where any person or persons interested in the approval or rejection of the above application may appear and be heard.

Dated at Yankton, South Dakota, this 22nd day of June, 2015.

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Changes At Omaha Middle School Planned

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — An Omaha school plans to make changes this fall in an effort to make it a friendlier environment for students.

Westside Middle School officials said grading previously was based entirely on work that summed up what students knew, which generally were tests and final projects, the Omaha World-Herald reported. Grading now will be tweaked to focus more on day-to-day work showing what students are learning along the way.

The number of students on each "team" assigned to a group of teachers also will be smaller. Teams are intended to make the school feel smaller and more like a family for students.

They help build relationships not only between teachers and students, but also among teachers themselves, said Mark Weichel, an assistant superintendent for teaching and learning. If a student is struggling in one class, a teacher can check whether if that student is having the same problem in others and dig deeper for answers.

Teams had grown to around 160 students each with the school's enrollment expanding. The school plans to add two more teams, bring the total to eight, with around 120 in each team.

"There's going to be some real, tangible changes, and more the following year," Weichel said.

The school already has increased extracurricular opportunities to help boost student engagement, adding options such as a Doctor Who Club.

Voters in May approved a \$79.9 million bond issue for the school district. Nearly \$17 million will go toward renovations and additions at the middle school.

Legislators Like Auditing Experience Of New Investment Council Member

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Her professional experience as an auditor and an accountant weighed strongly in favor of Laura McNally receiving a seat on the South Dakota Investment Council.

McNally, a certified public accountant who lives and works in Belle Fourche, starts July 1 on the panel.

I like new things so I'm excited, she said. The council oversees the state Investment Office that manages billions of dollars for the South Dakota Retirement System, state trusts and other government funds.

The Legislature's Executive Board selects a new council member each summer. There are five legislative-appointed members and each serves a single five-year term.

McNally, 55, succeeds Jon Hunter, the Madison newspaper publisher.

She earned a bachelor degree in accounting at the University of Hawaii and then worked for the KPMG accounting firm there in the 1980s, including duties as an audits manager.

A decade later she received a master degree in business administration at the University of South Dakota and her CPA designation.

I do have a lot of auditing experience, she said.

McNally was one of three applicants considered for the Investment Council by the legislative board, according to Rep. Brian Gosch, R-Rapid City.

Gosch chaired the appointments subcommittee that recommended her to the full board. He said he didn't previously know her.

(We) chose Laura because she's a CPA and one of two committees on Investment Council is the audit committee, Gosch said by text message.

She was seen as someone who could be an asset to the Investment Council in that capacity, he said.

Hunter said McNally's accounting and audit experience would be valuable for the Investment Council and its professional staff. He is wrapping up his year as chairman.

We have five CPAs on staff, but I believe it's been more than 20 years since we've had a CPA on the council, Hunter said.

From the audit perspective, we are always looking for new angles for the (state) Department of Legislative Audit to review. We increased our audit frequency with DLA from annual to quarterly about two years ago, he said.

McNally said a former state senator, Ryan Maher of Isabel, contacted her about applying.

She said Maher was a student at Black Hills State University in Spearfish while she was a faculty member there.

Maher was chairman of the Executive Board during the 2013-2014 term of the Legislature.

He didn't seek re-election last year because he had served four consecutive terms in the Senate, the maximum allowed under the state Constitution, and didn't want to run for the House.

He said I'd be good at it, McNally said. It's good that an ex-student would refer you.

She said her husband, Phil, encouraged her to try for the post. A local high school teacher and a former city council member, he died May 11 while on an exercise run.

They met — her family name was Erickson — while at the University of Hawaii, married in 1982 and moved back to her hometown of Belle Fourche in 1992.

We have always tried to be active in our community and this seemed to be an interesting endeavor, she said about the Investment Council appointment.

My background is numbers and making sense of them, she continued. I have a strong background in auditing and analyzing financial statements. I understand how economic events impact a business.

School Staff Claim District Violated Neb. State Law

By The Associated Press

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. — A teacher and a guidance counselor claim the North Platte school district violated state law in directing them to contact parents before reporting future cases of suspected child abuse.

Nebraska law requires doctors, nurses, school employees and social workers to report suspected abuse and neglect, and failure to do so could result in a jail sentence and a \$500 fine.

Middle school special education teacher Christie Copper and school counselor Stephen Spiehs filed a complaint Monday in Lincoln County District Court, asking it to rule that the district can't set conditions on mak-

ing the reports.

"The school district's directive ... is contrary to Nebraska law and potentially places children in danger," said Scott Norby, their attorney.

The dispute stems from a student who arrived at school in late March with a scratch on one side of his face, a black, soot-like substance on the other side of his face and unkempt hair. The student also appeared thirsty and hungry.

Copper and Spiehs said they contacted a school resource officer and then the state's child welfare agency. The school's principal later emailed the two employees, saying that the child's father was "extremely displeased" about getting a phone call

from police without notification.

They said the principal told them that in future cases of suspected abuse or neglect that they should contact the child's parents unless the child was in immediate danger.

Larry Ramaekers, a leader with the school district, told the Lincoln Journal Star that legal counsel advised him not to comment except to say that the district doesn't have a policy requiring teachers to call parents before reporting abuse or neglect.

He noted though that district policy does require a supervisor or administrator be notified before a report is made.

Crews Restore Power After Storms

Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — Electric companies and cooperatives say they're making progress in restoring electricity to customers in the wake of early Monday storms in central and eastern South Dakota.

Xcel Energy said Tuesday

morning that it had restored power to more than 6,000 of the 8,000 customers who lost it in eastern South Dakota and southwestern Minnesota. The utility sent crews from North Dakota and Minnesota to help out.

Numerous electric co-ops

also were working to restore power, with many customers already having the lights back on.

The South Dakota Rural Electric Association says co-ops reported hundreds of downed power poles from the storm.

VA Names New Director Of Health Care

HOT SPRINGS (AP) — The Department of Veterans Affairs has named a new director for its health care system in western South Dakota.

The VA says Sandra Horsman is expected to start leading the VA Black Hills Health Care System next month. Horsman will replace Jo-Ann Ginsberg, who became acting director in March.

The VA says Horsman has served more than 30 years in leadership positions with both the VA and the Air Force. She mostly recently served as chief human resources officer for the VA Midwest Health Care Network in Minnesota.

Horsman is taking the reins at a tumultuous time for the Black Hills system. Many of the region's veterans are pushing back against a VA proposal to restructure its system, which would include shuttering its Hot Springs campus.

Nebraska Activities Director Resigns

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The executive director of the Nebraska School Activities Association has resigned a month after the association's board of directors voted not to extend her contract.

Rhonda Blanford-Green, a former All-America track athlete at Nebraska, took over as executive director in July 2012. She'd spent 16 years as an administrator with the Colorado High School Athletic Association.

She said Monday that her decision to resign "is in the best interests of the association."

In May the board decided not to lengthen her contract beyond June 2016. Board chairman Brian Maher, who voted to extend the contract, cited personnel privacy in declining to say why the board's majority voted against the extension. A year ago the board voted unanimously to extend Blanford-Green's contract for a year.

Corn, Soybeans Appear In Good Shape

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Storms across South Dakota have been good news for soil moisture, but the precipitation has slowed the first cutting of alfalfa.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that thunderstorms late last week brought heavy rain, strong wind and hail to parts of central and eastern South Dakota. The report is through Sunday, so it does not factor in the early Monday storms that wreaked havoc in those regions.

The report says nearly all of the state's corn and soybean crops have emerged. The corn crop was rated 72 percent good to excellent and the soybean crop 70 percent in those categories.

Pasture and range conditions statewide were rated 60 percent good to excellent. Stock water supplies were 80 percent adequate to surplus.

Deputy Shot Man Who Fired First

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a man who pulled a gun and shot at a sheriff's deputy has been shot by another deputy on the northwest side of Omaha.

The shooting occurred at a convenience store about 7:30 a.m. Tuesday. Authorities say a clerk told a deputy who'd walked in that a customer seemed drunk. The deputy called for backup and confronted the man when he went outside.

Douglas County Sheriff Tim Dunning told the Omaha World-Herald the man pulled a gun and fired at the deputy once and then his gun jammed. Dunning says another deputy who'd arrived then shot the man.

The man was taken to a hospital. The deputies weren't injured.

The man's name hasn't been released, but Dunning says the man was driving a vehicle with Texas license plates.

Culture Group To Meet In Black Hills

RAPID CITY (AP) — A counterculture group that annually brings together thousands of people for peace gatherings will convene in the Black Hills next month.

Members of the Rainbow Family of Living Light traveled to the region last week to debate whether the gathering should be held there after some American Indians raised concerns. Native Americans view the Black Hills as sacred.

The Rapid City Journal reports (<http://bit.ly/1LrmGT5>) that the group has decided to go ahead with the gathering that could draw more than 5,000 people.

The gathering will be July 1-7 about five miles southwest of Deerfield Lake.

The creed of the Rainbow Family revolves around non-violence, inclusiveness and praying for peace. The group has held its national gathering every year since 1972. Last year it was in a national forest in Utah.

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- Dirt being blown into the air
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- A peculiar odor or dying shrubs or grass, perhaps near healthy plantings

If you observe any of these signs:

- Extinguish smoking materials and other small flames
- Do not attempt to extinguish a burning gas leak
- Turn off and abandon equipment; do not attempt to move any machinery
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- Leave the immediate area
- From a safe distance, call MidAmerican Energy at 800-595-5325 and/or call 911. (MidAmerican Energy will investigate the gas leak at no charge to the caller.)

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- Vapor may travel to ignition source and flashback

Health

- Leaking natural gas is a health hazard; it can cause loss of coordination, dizziness, and headache

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