

REGION DIGEST

Prison Camp Inmate Reported Missing

From P&D Staff Reports

The Yankton Federal Prison Camp reported Thursday that an inmate had walked away from the facility. According to a media release from the YFPC, it was discovered at 8:40 p.m. Wednesday that Joseph Figliolo had left the minimum-security prison. The 49-year-old was serving a 120-month sentence for attempting to manufacture five grams or more of methamphetamine and possession of pseudoephedrine with the intent to manufacture methamphetamine. Figliolo is 5 feet, 11 inches tall, weighs 150 pounds and has brown hair with hazel eyes. He was projected for release April 13, 2014, and he has a residence in St. Louis.

Fiedler, Van Osdel Enter Commission Race

From P&D Staff Reports

A race for three Yankton County Commission seats in November is now assured. Republicans Tom Fiedler and James Van Osdel have submitted petitions to enter the race. They join two incumbents — Bruce Jensen, a Republican, and Allen Sinclair, a Democrat — in seeking three open commission seats. Commissioner Bill Tamisiea has said he will not run again. Garry Moore recently announced that he was collecting signatures to join the County Commission race as an independent candidate. Unless four Republican or four Democratic candidates file, a June primary will not be necessary. Candidates affiliated with a political party have until March 30 to file petitions for the June 8 primary election. Independent candidates have until June 8 to file petitions.

Area Diabetes Group To Meet Monday

The Yankton Area Diabetes Support Group will meet at 1 p.m. Monday, March 8 in the Benedictine Center Cafeteria on the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital campus, Benedictine Center Building (old hospital) on first floor. Topic is "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People with Diabetes" developed by Steven Covey and presented by Susan Barnes BSN RN CDE CPT. Everyone that attends will receive the "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People with Diabetes" workbook and weekly planner. When diagnosed and/or living with diabetes, you may feel unsettled, confused, discouraged and even ask "Why me?" The seven habits are actions to help you manage your diabetes. Habits change the way you think and act to help you feel confident and empowered. Everyone is welcome and a snack is provided.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

OBITUARIES

Virginia Williamson

LAKE ANDES — Virginia Marie Williamson, 91, died at Lake Andes Health Care Center in Lake Andes on March 3, 2010.

Funeral service will be Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Lake Andes with burial following in Lakeview Cemetery in Lake Andes.



Williamson

Visitation will be Friday, March 5, 2010 from 5-7 p.m. at Koehn Bros. Funeral Home in Lake Andes.

Virginia Marie Williamson was born on July 8, 1918 in Avon, SD at home to Emanuel and Margaret "Grace" (Walkes) Kiehlbauch. She attended grade school in Avon from 1924 to 1932, then graduated from Avon High School in 1936. She attended SDSC in Brookings, SD from 1936 to 1940 graduating with a major in Home Economics. While attending SDSC, she became president of the Women's Athletic Association during her junior year (only girl to receive this honor before her senior year). After graduating from SDSC, she taught H.E. at Wagner High School from 1940 to 1941, then from 1941 to 1942 she taught H.E. at Tyndall High School, then returned to Wagner High School and taught from 1942 to 1943. On July 15, 1942, she married Alex Williamson in Avon and settled in Lake Andes. The next 20 years Virginia was homemaker raising 5 children. In the mid 60's and early 70's she again taught H.E. at Wagner High School. In the early 70's she was a tutor in the Reading Improvement Program at Andes Central School. Virginia Taught piano for many years and was a church organist at the Presbyterian Church in Lake Andes for over 50 years and was involved in many church activities. She and Alex often sang duets or solos at several occasions throughout the community. She was a 69 year member of the Order of the Eastern Star, 65 year member of P.E.O., and mem-

ber of Phi Epsilon Amicron (Fraternity of H. E. students), and was a girl scout leader. She enjoyed bowling, golfing, sewing, gardening, stargazing, traveling, hosting many bridge parties and listening to classical music. For the past four and a half years, she was a resident of the Lake Andes Health Care Center in Lake Andes where she died on March 3, 2010 at the age of 91.

She is survived by 5 children: Alice Jones and husband, Richard of Bay St. Louis, MS; Margaret Williams and husband, Norman of Kimball, NE; James Williamson of Riverside, CA; Barbara Streemke and husband, Bob of Sioux Falls, SD; and Andy Williamson of Lake Andes, SD; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and several cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, 2 sisters, Marjorie Simantel and Barbara Needham.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
March 5, 2010

Joseph Hansen

Joseph F. Hansen, 81, of Yankton died Wednesday (March 3, 2010) at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Tim Lange officiating. Inurnment will be at the St. Rose of Lima Cemetery in Crofton, Neb.

There will be a gathering of family and friends from 6-8 p.m. Sunday at Wintz & Ray Funeral Home, Yankton, with a vigil service and video tribute at 7 p.m.

Memorials may be directed to the Crofton Volunteer Fire Department or St. Rose of Lima Elementary School in Crofton.

To post an online sympathy message, visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who remembered my 80th birthday. To all who attended my open house. Also, thank you for all the cards. Thanks also to my family for planning and hosting my party. I will always remember the great time.
Luree Boersma

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YSD Jr. K., Kindergarten Registration Still Possible

Junior Kindergarten (Jr. K.) and Kindergarten registration for the 2010-2011 school year was held on Feb. 3. Parents who were unable to register their children at that time should contact their respective attendance centers as soon as possible.

Parents who are interested in Jr. K. should register at Webster School. Parents who live within the city limits are to register their Kindergarten children at the school that serves their area. Parents who live outside Yankton city limits or in an unassigned area are to register their Kindergarten children at Webster School or at the attendance center that

presently serves their school aged children. A map indicating attendance center boundaries can be found at the school district Web site, www.ykd12.sd.us, under "About Us."

Any child who will be five years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2010, is eligible to attend Jr. K. or Kindergarten next fall. State law requires that a certified birth certificate be presented to verify the child's age. The hospital certificate cannot be used as the birth certificate for school registration. The birth certificate will be photocopied and filed in the child's school record. Children who were born in South Dakota may obtain certified birth cer-

tificates at the Yankton County Register of Deeds' office. The person requesting the birth certificate must provide state-issued photo identification.

A screening for 5-year-olds will be held at 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, and on at 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, at the Yankton Community Library. Make an appointment to have your child screened by calling the office in your designated elementary school building or as outlined above. Beadle School, 665-2282; Lincoln School, 665-7392; Stewart School, 665-5765; Webster School, 665-2484.

RABIES

From Page 1A

18 were domestic. The wild rabid animals included 31 skunks and four bats; the domestic animals included seven dogs, four cats, four cattle, two horses and one goat.

"The skunk population is the main reservoir of rabies in South Dakota, so the disease is always a possibility," Kightlinger said. "The increase in cases last year, and the number of those cases that were domestic animals, are good reminders of just how important it is to make sure pets are vaccinated for rabies."

Infected wild animals can pass rabies to pets or livestock, which can in turn expose humans, according to state officials. Even wild animals that appear docile can be rabid, so it's important that people don't attempt to catch or handle wildlife.

Pets spending a great deal of time outdoors may come in contact with rabid wildlife, Oedekeven said.

"People need to be aware of where their pets are. If they live in areas where wildlife is known to exist, don't let them roam," he said.

"Unfortunately, when there is an event between a pet and wild animals, we may end up with the recommendation of euthanizing the pet. It's not worth it to anybody's families. The bottom line is, vaccinate your pets." Spring usually signals the start of increased rabies numbers, Kightlinger said.

"In fact, April, May and June are our top months for rabies, going back many years," he said. "The animals are out, breeding and having babies and getting into new territories. They are hungry and more likely to have contact with people."

Oedekeven has also seen increased activity among animals during springtime.

"Animals tend to be out and about a little bit more, and the weather has certainly caused a change of activity among wildlife," he said. "Possibly, there is a change in activity for pets, too. If they have been kenneled or held indoors for winter, then with the warmer weather there is more activity. There is an increased chance of exposure (to rabies)."

The current record-breaking cold, snowy winter could influence spring rabies in one of two directions, Teachout said.

"If we go into a hard, hard winter, and a lot of those sickly

animals die in the winter, theoretically there could be less rabies the next year," he said. "On the other side, if they do den up, there could be more exposure in that way."

In the Yankton area, skunks are the largest carriers of rabies, followed by bats, Teachout said.

More rabies could be seen among skunks this spring, he warned.

"Skunks den up in the winter, and rabies is passed between them. There are also the little ones who are born to mothers who may have the rabies virus and transmit it," he said. "When springtime comes, they disperse out of the dens and there is more frequency (of rabies)."

Skunks present a particularly dangerous situation, Kightlinger said.

"If you are bitten by a skunk, and the skunk gets away, there is an absolute recommendation that you get tested (for rabies)," he said. "We have found that 64 percent of those tested for skunk bites have been positive. It's a good bet that if you are bitten by a skunk, you may have rabies."

No one particular reason exists for a rise or decline in skunk numbers, Kightlinger said. Game, Fish and Parks provides some anecdotal evidence when it collects data on skunk pelts, he said.

Bats can also easily transmit rabies, Teachout said.

"I don't know a house in Yankton that a bat can't get into," he said. "The thing with the bat, many times you don't know if they have transmitted (rabies). But you can test the bat and see if it's positive."

Bats may carry rabies without suffering from it, Teachout said.

"In Kentucky, you go down into these big caves and all the bats test positive for rabies, but they don't die," he said.

Unlike rabies carriers with more activity in the spring, bats do most of their fledging and flying in August, Kightlinger said.

"Bats are mostly outdoors, but they are also likely to raise in caves, barns and attics," he said. "They can be found in people's homes, older buildings and big churches."

Do not handle bats, Kightlinger said. If bats are found in a room with small children or sleeping people, call the Department of Health, your physician or your local animal control officer.

"If you are bitten by a bat, we tell people to knock it down and capture it in a container like an ice cream bucket," he said. "If you capture the bat, take it to your vet or send it to the Animal Diagnostic and Research Laboratory in Brookings or the

State Officials Offer Advice In Dealing With Possible Rabies Cases

If you suspect rabies in a wild animal, pet or livestock, contact your veterinarian immediately for advice on how to proceed.

If you have a potential exposure to rabies, immediately wash the affected area with soap and water, and call your doctor or the Department of Health. Your veterinarian will instruct you as to handling of animals involved.

If the animal is dead, save the carcass for laboratory examination, being careful not to damage the head. If the animal is alive, try to capture it for examination or observation but be sure to avoid further exposure.

If the animal escapes, note its description for later identification. If people are bitten or scratched by a rabid animal, human disease can be prevented by getting the rabies vaccination.

To reduce the risk of rabies, they recommend taking the following precautions:

- Vaccinate pet dogs and cats for rabies.
- Do not handle, adopt or attempt to feed wild animals. Teach children to avoid wildlife, strays or animals they don't know, and to tell you immediately if they are bitten or scratched by any animal.
- Avoid any animal, wild or domestic, that behaves strangely and immediately

report it to your local veterinarian, animal control, conservation or law enforcement office.

Skunks and bats, rabies reservoir species, should not be used in school or petting zoo displays where direct contact with the public is possible.

Do not handle dead, sick or injured animals. If you must, use heavy gloves, sticks or other tools to avoid direct contact. Farmers and ranchers should wear gloves and protective eyewear when treating sick animals to prevent exposure to saliva.

Close outdoor trash containers tightly to avoid attracting skunks and raccoons.

Clear wood or junk piles away from houses to discourage wild animals from moving in.

For information about human rabies control, call the Department of Health (DOH) at (800) 592-1861 or visit online at <http://doh.sd.gov/DiseaseFacts/Rabies.aspx>.

The complete DOH rabies surveillance report for 2009 can be found at <http://doh.sd.gov/documents/Rabies2009.pdf>.

For information on animal rabies control, call the Animal Industry Board at (605) 773-3321 or visit online at <http://www.state.sd.us/aib/disease%20control.htm>.

South Dakota Public Health Lab in Pierre.

Teachout offered signs that a pet could have rabies.

"The biggest thing in animals is a change in personality," he said. "So if you have a quiet dog that becomes aggressive or an aggressive dog that becomes very quiet, it can happen in either direction."

Rabid livestock also act differently, Teachout said.

"A bovine will put off a real different type of bellow. If you have ever heard it, you know what it is," he said. "The biggest thing with livestock, if sick animals are showing any central nervous system signs, don't put your hands in the mouth."

For one group of area residents, the advice came too late, Teachout said. He detected a case

of rabies in a bull last year and advised the owners not to put their hands in its mouth.

"The bull died a couple of days later, and the people 'fessed up that they did put their hand in it four days (earlier), so they had to take rabies shots," he said.

While animal rabies numbers are up, South Dakota has gone since 1970 without human rabies, Kightlinger said.

South Dakota's lower rabies numbers in recent years may lull people into a false sense of security, Oedekeven said.

"It's fortunate that we live in a pretty low-risk area," he said. "People get used to being busy and more often than not get complacent. It's very important to protect your family and get your pets vaccinated."

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