

Girls

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was in Sioux Falls when this program first began and she was instrumental in getting it here. She and other community mentors will be leading the programs for the 16 girls at each school."

Struck said the program worked for Beadle and Lincoln because of the new Boys and Girls Club Academy at Stewart Elementary School.

"Because we no longer have after-school programs here at Lincoln, it freed up our gym to be able to offer an after-school program like this," he said. "It just was a very good fit. We were able to schedule the program directly after school on Tuesday and Thursday, working around our band and orchestra rehearsals so, if the girls were in that, they were still able to participate."

He noted that because fifth grade basketball is no longer offered in the district, this program provided another way to be active.

While the program is limited to 16 girls each session, Struck said he felt that the goals of the program are such that he sees offering it again in the future.

"The lessons include topics that are important for girls to learn to cope with," he said.

The lessons include: standing up for yourself, making good decisions, being a good friend, how to deal with gossiping and bullying issues, healthy eating, media influences on girls, community service, positive thinking and attitude, setting goals, team building and many more.

"I see on the playground every day where girls are dealing with these issues," he said. "Take for example gossiping – I tell my students, even if what you are saying is true, if it isn't something you would want repeated or it hurts someone, don't repeat it."

Another key to the program's success according to Struck is the fact that it is instructed by volunteer female mentors.

"At Lincoln, our mentors include Mrs. Reyes, Jennifer Powell, Susan Bies, Cilla Fitzsimmons and there will be a Mount Marty student as well," he said. "They each bring different talents and experiences to the program that will benefit the students."

Struck said the conclusion of the program will be capped off with the participants completing a 5k event.

"That doesn't mean they have to run it," he said. "It just means they need to be able to complete it, if that means walking, running, jogging, whatever they need to do. This program is about teaching the girls about being healthy and learning life-long skills."

Because the program only meets two times per week, the girls and their parents had to make commitments to be at every meeting. If they do miss, they are required to make it up.

Struck said that it took only two weeks to fill the class, which had a small fee.

"We would not turn anyone away who was interested," he said. "There were scholarships available if someone was interested and not able to pay the fee. We just felt it was very important to offer the program."

He noted that healthy snacks will be served at each meeting and each participant will receive a T-shirt and a water bottle.

Struck said he foresees the program expanding to all YSD elementary buildings.

"This program just fits very well into our new wellness plan," he said. "It helps meet the goals of teaching our students about nutrition and exercise."

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Permits

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The House must decide whether to agree with the Senate amendment or send the bill to a House-Senate conference committee for negotiation.

"Everything in this bill is an option," Sen. Gary Cammack, R-Union Center, said. "We want everything in this thing to be permissive."

A "shall" was found that needed to be changed to "may," according to Cammack.

Churches and cemeteries, heavy industry, veterinary businesses, gravel mining and concentrated livestock facilities are examples of projects that could require a conditional-use permit, he said.

"We need to encourage value-added enterprise any way we can," Cammack said.

Sen. Art Rusch, R-Vermilion, said he went through the legislation to ensure it would be completely a local control decision whether to change from two-thirds to a majority present.

Rusch said the remaining "shall" was found during his search.

Sen. Bernie Hunhoff, D-Yankton, said "the whole discussion was a good refresher" of the attempt 20 years ago to increase livestock production in South Dakota.

Hunhoff said more livestock production didn't result. "I don't think you blame that on zoning laws," he said.

He attended the Senate committee hearing Tuesday. He said there weren't any young people who came forward to say they were blocked.

"Some of them had to go through a few hoops but they're on the farm today," Hunhoff said.

He said the proposed change wouldn't help family farms as they decrease in numbers.

"It might even accelerate the trend," Hunhoff said.

Sen. Bob Ewing, R-Spearfish, said a simple majority vote offers an opportunity to make a change if the county commissioners choose to do so.

"It's very permissive," Ewing said. "This tool being there might be an option to consider."

Senate Democratic leader Billie Sutton of Burke said, "I don't believe the current system is broken. I really don't."

Sutton said the debate truly is about concentrated animal feeding operations known as CAFOs.

"I don't believe they're sustainable ag," he said. "Everybody loves CAFOs until they're three-quarters of a mile from your house."

Sen. Mike Vehle, R-Mitchell, stressed it's voluntary and the decision can be referred to a local vote. "That's value added agriculture and that's what's

important to our state," Vehle said.

Senate Republican leader Tim Rave of Baltic said he lives one mile north of one of the largest dairy farms in South Dakota. He said the regulations are stiffer than for the farmers on the other sides.

"I have experience with it. It's not a problem," Rave said.

Sen. Troy Heinert, D-Mission, said a large corporation built 45 big farm buildings on the Rosebud Sioux reservation and went bankrupt after eight years. "We never saw one single dime as a tribe," he said.

Heinert said the smell remains atrocious and the buildings stand empty now. "We're stuck with it," he said.

"I can't support this bill, not at this time," Heinert said.

The bill's prime sponsor is Rep. Mark Mickelson, R-Sioux Falls. Cammack is the lead sponsor in the Senate.

Only Republican senators voted for the bill Wednesday. A handful of Republicans joined all of the Democratic senators in opposing it.

Cammack's closing remarks focused on "a tool box" that county commissioners can use. He said an enterprise could cash flow more quickly if a site can be prepared in advance and farm and ranch families form corporations for business purposes.

"I don't think, just because someone says corporate farm, it's an evil empire," Cammack said.

Puppies

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"She is a little cautious, but overall good with people," Kaddatz said. "But she is kind of nervous around men. She was ok with the guy who found her, but she also got to spend some time with him. She warms right up to women."

Kaddatz said that Asia, who is a mixed breed, is very good with her surviving puppies, who are doing well.

"She is a great mama," Kaddatz said. "She is pretty protective of the puppies, naturally, because they are only six days old."

The puppies will not be available for adoption for eight weeks.

Until adoption, HHS will need help providing food for the animals.

"We are going to need a

lot of good quality puppy food," Kaddatz said. "Iams puppy food is good."

HHS will also be having a Baby Naming Contest on its Facebook page for the six puppies. The people who came up with the chosen names will get a prize from HHS.

Kaddatz said she wants everyone to know that dumping an unwanted animal is never the answer.

"Had that man not been there at that time, every single one of those puppies could have frozen to death, and Asia too," Kaddatz said. "When a dog has a puppy, they lose a lot of that body weight."

Other than people abandoning unwanted pets, HHS encourages individuals to call them at (605) 664-4244 for help. HHS is a limited admissions facility — meaning that it only takes animals by appointment and only when appropriate space and

resources are available to care for them.

Though HHS has a no drop-off policy, there is many times people do drop their unwanted animals off at the shelter.

"Since we have moved out here (on E. Highway 50), there have been two instances where people have dropped off cats," Kaddatz said. "In fact, one was just this morning (March 4). Someone dropped a cat in a live-trap here."

Kaddatz said that the person left a note that said they have been taking care of it, but they trapped it to bring it to HHS.

"It would be better if they call us first," Kaddatz said. "I don't know if people just want to remain anonymous or what. Sometimes we ask for a surrender donation, but it's not mandatory. If you can, you can and if you can't we are not going to refuse the animal."

The surrender donation that HHS asks for goes towards providing care for the animals in the shelter.

Because HHS is a private nonprofit corporation, it relies 100 percent on private donations.

"Just call us," Kaddatz said. "If we can't help, we will see if there is another way that we can — whether it's providing another option

or directing you to another place that can take the animal in."

For those who don't want to deal with puppies, spayed and neutering is always the best option.

"I always hear that it is so expensive to get it done," Kaddatz said. "Maybe the upfront cost might be for some. But if you look at the costs of what it takes to raise puppies, it is way cheaper to get

them spayed or neutered and just get it over with."

For more information on ways to donate to the Heartland Humane Society, go to heartlandhumanesociety.net.

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- Tuesday 3/10 5:30 pm:** Healthy Eating Store Tours with Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietitian
- Tuesday 3/10 6:30 pm:** Cooking Class with Chef Scott, 4 course meal Cost: \$20. Register with Chef Scott in the Deli or email 1899CheeseSpecDept@hy-vee.com
- Wednesday 3/11 7:00 pm:** Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits Wine Tasting Featuring Spanish Wines at Ben's Copper Room. 222 W. 3rd Street. Cost \$15 Register at Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits or email 1899winespiritsdept@hy-vee.com
- Thursday, 3/12 6 pm:** Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Class with Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietitian
Cost: \$5 Register at Customer Service or email ktomek@hy-vee.com
- Saturday, 3/14 10:00 am:** Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Class with Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietitian
- Saturday, 3/14 1:30 pm:** Healthy Eating Store Tours with Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietitian
- Tuesday 3/17 7:00 pm:** Floral Arranging with Designer Jan Byrkeland. Register at Hy-Vee Floral Cost \$15
- Tuesday 3/17 5:30 pm:** Healthy Eating Store Tours with Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietitian
- Wednesday, 3/18 6:00 pm:** Starbucks Coffee Club with Coffee Master Linda Nickel Cost \$10. Register at Starbucks
- Thursday, 3/19 6:00 pm:** Cooking Class with Chef Staci. Brunch recipes. Cost \$20. Register with Chef Staci or email 1899chef@hy-vee.com
- Saturday, 3/21 10:00 am:** Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Class with Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietitian Cost: \$5
- Sunday, 3/22 1:30pm:** Cooking Class with Chef Staci. Brunch recipes. Cost \$20
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