

OBITUARIES

**Esther Mehlhaff**

Esther Mehlhaff, age 101, of Yankton, SD, passed away early Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at the Menno-Olivet Care Center, Menno, SD.



Mehlhaff

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 13, 2011 at the Calvary Baptist Church, Yankton, with Rev. Jon Cooke officiating. Burial will be in the Tripp City Cemetery at approximately 1:30 p.m. Friday afternoon.

Visitations will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Pallbearers are Dennis Frey, David Rempfer, Michael Mehlhaff, Jeff Johnson, Brian Garvis and Charles Leonard.

The Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, is handling the arrangements.

Esther was born September 16, 1909 to Andrew and Magelena (Pietz) Stoeber, Sr. at the family farm north of Tripp, SD. She attended country school north of Tripp and married August Mehlhaff on January 21, 1932 in Tripp, SD. They farmed by Kaylor, SD until 1957, then moved to Kaylor and had one son, Marvin. She went to a congregational church and later joined St. John Lutheran Church, Kaylor, SD. She was a housewife who enjoyed gardening, flowers and hand work. After the death of her husband August, in January 1994, she moved to the Yankton area and joined the Calvary Baptist Church.

She is survived by one son, Marvin (Hildegard) of Yankton, SD; six grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren and ten great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, August.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
May 12, 2011



Online condolences at:  
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

**Chelsea Williams**

Chelsea Lynn Williams, 79, of Yankton died Monday, May 9, 2011 at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton, SD.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at United Church of Christ, Yankton, with the Revs. Paul Opsahl and Rev. Joe Schulte officiating.

Visitation is 6-8 p.m. Friday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

**Joseph Heirigs**

MENNO — Joseph Heirigs, 85, died Tuesday (May 10, 2011) at his home in Menno.

Services are at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Boniface/Idylewild Catholic Church, rural Freeman.

Visitation starts at 4 p.m. Friday at the church with a Scripture/Rosary Service at 7 p.m. at the church.

**Third Annual Nolympics To Be Held**

The third annual Nolympic Games of Yankton, like the Olympics ... but not really are being held as a community-wide youth event at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25 at Riverside Park. Offered by the Yankton Youth

www.yankton.net

**James Fitzgerald**

James Fitzgerald, age 79, of Yankton, SD and formerly of Lesterville, died Tuesday morning, May 10, 2011, at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 13, 2011 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, with Rev. Mark Lichter officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Yankton, SD with Military Grave-side Rites by the American Legion Post #12.

Visitations will begin at 5:00 p.m. Thursday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m.

Pallbearers include: Jim Koenig, Russ Weller, Mike Fitzgerald, Matt Fitzgerald, Dave Danilson and Andrey Danilson. Honorary Pallbearers include: Pam Tetzlaff, McKenzie Fitzgerald, Trevor Fitzgerald, Taryn Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Danilson, Sarah Danilson and Jeni Palmer.

Jim was born September 6, 1931 in Yankton, South Dakota to J. Claire and Verna (Huber) Fitzgerald. He graduated from Yankton High School and the University of South Dakota with a bachelor's degree in accounting. Following college he served two years in the United States Army.

He married Jean Pekas on January 19, 1957 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Lesterville, SD. Jim and Jean



Fitzgerald

retired shortly thereafter.

Jim's lifelong interest was sports, and in particular baseball, of which he was a player, a manager, an umpire, a league president, a commissioner, an honoree, a scorekeeper, and an announcer.

Jim's baseball recognitions and awards included: Played for the 1950 Lesterville Broncs State Championship Team; South Dakota Amateur Baseball "Hall of Fame", 1987; South Dakota Umpires Association "Hall of Fame", 1995; the Ralph Macy Baseball "Man of the Year", 1997; Lesterville Athletic Association Distinguished Service Award, 2000; and the Lesterville Athletic Association dedicated the new scoreboard in his honor in 2006.

He was a life-long New York Yankees fan and was able to see his beloved Yankees at Yankee Stadium with his family in 2000.

He served the Lesterville Athletic Association and was a key organizer for the association's events and fundraising from the 1970's to 2005. He was active in the South Central League, serving as Vice President and President. He also served the South

resided in Lesterville where he owned and operated an insurance agency, did tax preparation and was a real estate broker for 40 plus years. They moved to Yankton in 1999 and Jim

Dakota Amateur Baseball Association as a District 6 Commissioner.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the American Legion. He's been recognized as a 51-year member of the Knights of Columbus. He served on the Scotland School Board, the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Board, and the Benedictine Foundation Board.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Jean, of Yankton; his children, John and Jean Fitzgerald, Yankton; Jane Fitzgerald and her husband, Dave Danilson, Boone, Iowa; Drs. Jim and Sheila Fitzgerald, Dr. Jay and Kathy Fitzgerald of Yankton; 11 grandchildren, Pam (Andy) Tetzlaff, Mike (Carrie) Fitzgerald, Kristine Fitzgerald; Andrey and Aelita Danilson; McKenzie, Kelsey, Matthew Fitzgerald; Tanner, Trevor and Taryn Fitzgerald; three step-granddaughters, Elizabeth and Sarah Danilson and Jeni (Cody) Palmer; three great-grandchildren, Lily and Caleb Tetzlaff and Kinsley Fitzgerald.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother-in-law, several aunts, uncles and cousins.

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

**First Discovery Preschool Graduation Planned**

First Discovery Preschool will hold its program and preschool graduation at 7 p.m. Friday, May 13, at 801 W. 25th St. at the First Assembly of God, Yankton.

This event is open to the public. There will be refreshments following program.

Free tickets are available by calling 665-6362.

**Open-Class Horse Show Set For May 14**

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — An Open-Class Horse Show will be held at the indoor arena in Bloomfield, Neb., at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 14.

This is the first of four Open Class Horse Shows to be held in Bloomfield in 2011.

For more information, call Jolene Greckel at 402-373-4421 or 402-640-0445.

**James River Water Dev. Meeting May 17**

MITCHELL — The James River Water Development District Board of Directors will be holding their regular meeting at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, at City Hall in Mitchell.

Items on the agenda include:

- Funding request from the City of Hitchcock for their sanitary sewer system;
- Funding request from the City of Letcher for engineering fees for their drinking water system;
- Funding request from the City of Mt. Vernon for construction of a new sewer system and waste water collection system;
- Phase one of the finalization of the strategic plan, project assistance application and the ranking criteria;
- Update on the TMDL assessment and implementation activities on the James River;
- Any other business that may come before the board.

**Donate Used Cell Phones To Women's Shelter**

The Yankton Women's and Children's Center is asking the public to donate its used cell phones.

The donated cell phones will be recycled, and the money earned from each recycled phone will be used to help the victims of domestic violence.

The center will accept all cell phones, working and non-functioning. If possible, you are asked to place a functioning cell phone in a small bag with a charger and/or other accessories. These phones will be given to victims to use as emergency 911 phones.

You can drop off your old cell phone(s) at Hy-Vee, the Yankton Community Library or the First Dakota Bank drive-thru.

For more information, call 665-4811.

**Vehicle Registration Renewal Can Be Done Conveniently**

PIERRE — The state Department of Revenue, Division of Motor Vehicles, wants to remind South Dakotans how convenient it is to renew their vehicle registrations at any time of day or night.

In addition to the regular options of renewing in person at the county Treasurer's Office or by mail through the county, the Division of Motor Vehicles also offers online Internet renewal.

Division Director Deb Hillmer says multiple options in the motor vehicle registration process provide the convenience of 24/7 accessibility.

The online Internet renewal system can be accessed at www.SDcars.org and is available from 90 days until 10 days prior to a vehicle's registration expiration date. Online renewals will not be accepted less than 10 days before the expiration date in order to allow time for processing.

Under this schedule, vehicle owners with May renewals have until midnight on May 21 to renew using the online process. An individual wanting to renew online must enter an identification number along with their date of birth. In the case of a company, they are mailed a sealed renewal form containing instructions and a password that must be used in the online renewal process. Because the transactions are completed electronically, Hillmer says a \$1 convenience fee per vehicle is assessed to cover bank processing fees, in addition to the registration and mailing fees.

One other vehicle registration option is available in Rapid City: A Self Service Terminal (SST) at the Public Safety Building on Kansas City Street.

The 24-hour SST is a fully automated motor vehicle registration renewal station and dispenses license renewal tags

on the spot. A vehicle owner can navigate through the easy touch screen (voice assistance available) with a valid South Dakota driver's license, South Dakota identification card, or if a company, the information provided on its renewal notice.

Once the payment has been submitted and the transaction is completed, the license renewal tags and vehicle registration are dispensed directly from the machine.

The SST allows vehicle owners to register up to 90 days prior and 30 days after the expiration of their current license tags. A \$2 convenience fee per vehicle is assessed. "During the transaction, the customer is asked to scan the bar code on their South Dakota driver's license or South Dakota identification card," said Hillmer. "This action retrieves all the vehicle owner's registrations and allows them to select only the registrations they want to renew."

While the only SST operating in South Dakota at this time is located in Pennington County, vehicle owners from any county can use the terminal with the proper identification. Hillmer indicates the Division of Motor Vehicles would like to install additional terminals throughout South Dakota and is currently reviewing other possible locations.

For both the online Internet renewal and the Self Service Terminal, acceptable forms of payment include electronic check, credit cards (MasterCard or Discover only), or ATM/debit cards supported by Pulse, Star, NYCE and Accel.

For more information on vehicle registration renewals, contact the South Dakota Division of Motor Vehicles at 605-773-3541 or visit its website at www.state.sd.us/drr2/motorvehicle or www.SDcars.org.

**Edward Allen**

Edward R. Allen, age 70, of Yankton, South Dakota died on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at Avera Sister James Care Center in Yankton.

Funeral services are 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 13, 2011 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with Pastor Kwen Sanderson officiating. Burial with military honors will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton.

Visitation is from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home, with a Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Tribute Service by the Yankton Moose Lodge. Visitation resumes one hour prior to the funeral at the funeral home.

Pallbearers are Alan Kaiser, Don Simonsen, Mike Steinberg, Kelly Jensen, Chad Kaiser, Joe Simonsen, Brandon Steinberg and Tim Jensen. Honorary pallbearers are his fellow members of the Yankton Moose Lodge.

Edward Robert Allen was born October 2, 1940 in Clarkdale, Arizona to Chester and Dorothy (Mulholland) Allen. Growing up Ed lived in many different states as his parents were



Allen

He lived in Sioux Falls working construction before moving to Yankton. Ed worked for the City of Yankton in the waste water treatment plant for over 20 years, retiring in 2003. In 1986, Ed became a member of the Yankton Moose Lodge. It was at the lodge where he met his best friend, Donna Kaiser, and they were able to share 21 years together. Ed also held numerous officer positions at the Moose Lodge including governor from 1991 to 1992. He enjoyed the RC Flyers and golfing, but his biggest love was his computers. He loved surfing the web, playing games and was tech support for many of his friends.

Ed is survived by his soul mate, Donna Kaiser of Yankton and her family: her son, Chad Kaiser (Becky Heier) of Mission Hill, SD; her grandson, Alex

Kaiser; her mother, Bertha Kaiser of Yankton; Donna's brothers and sisters: Lynette (Donald) Simonsen of Rapid City, SD, Alan Kaiser of Yankton, Barb (Mike) Steinberg of Yankton and Kathy (Kelly) Jensen of Yankton; Donna's sister-in-law, Nancy (Dan) Fredrick of Worland, WY. Ed is also survived by his brother, Don Allen and his family of Washington and a sister-in-law, Penni Allen and her family of Washington; and many nieces and nephews.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Dale and Norman Allen; and Donna's brother, Greg Kaiser and father, Elmer Kaiser.

To send an online sympathy message or to view the video tribute, please visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

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Online condolences at:  
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Arrangements are by the Viborg Funeral Home. Register online at www.viborgfuneralhome.com.

**Lucy Bearing**

SANTEE, Neb. — Lucy Bearing, 66, of Santee, Neb., died Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at Sanford Hospital, Sioux Falls.

Funeral services are pending with Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

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