

HERE'S A TOAST!



Submitted photo
The operating specialists for the City of Yankton's water treatment system have been honored by the state for the city's compliance with drinking water standards.

City Of Yankton Honored By DENR For Drinking Water Compliance

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) announced that the City of Yankton public water system and the system's operation specialists have been awarded a Drinking Water Certificate of Achievement Award.

"Many people turn on the tap in their home or office and take the clean, safe water that flows out for granted," said DENR Secretary Steve Pirner, "but it takes highly trained, certified system operation specialists to make it happen every day for a whole year."

The award is for outstanding water system operations and environmental compliance with state drinking water standards for the past year.

To qualify for the Drinking Water Certificate of Achievement Award, public water systems and their system operations specialists had to meet all of the following requirements for 2012:

The system's operation specialists are Randy Jorgensen, Ray Tweedy, Frank Vellek, Alan Peterson, Dave Kuehler, Daniel Mason, Kyle Goodmanson, Donnie Robinson, Dwayne Schantz, Jason Tramp and Les Kirchner.

- compliance monitoring and reporting,
- drinking water standards, and
- certification requirements.

MMC To Award Honorary Degree To Carroll Krause

During spring commencement exercises on May 11, Mount Marty College will award an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters to Dr. Carrol Krause. Commencement is being held in the Laddie E. Cimpr Arena at 2 p.m.



Krause

Employment" and "State Licensure." He helped steer the increase in professional and graduate studies by overseeing the implementation of the Masters in Nursing program and planning of the Masters in Education program. He helped finalize the renovation of the new site in Sioux Falls for the Nurse Anesthesia program and began the planning and fund raising for the Marian Auditorium renovation and the new science center.

In a distinguished career in higher education, Dr. Krause served as the Executive Director of the Nebraska College System, the Commissioner of Higher Education for the State of Montana, the Associate Commissioner for Higher Education in the State of South Dakota, provost of the University of South Dakota, USD Springfield and Dakota State University, and as Interim President at the University of Great Falls in Great Falls, Montana. Dr. Krause also served as Interim President at Mount Marty College from 2001-2002 and from 2010-2011.

Dr. Krause has an MS and BA from Wayne State College and an Ed.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He and his wife, Jo, currently reside in Rapid City. They are the parents of six grown children and grandparents to 18 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

In June 2001, Dr. Krause graciously came to Mount Marty College from retirement and a new home in the mountains near Big Foot, Montana, to serve as Interim President. During his time at Mount Marty, Dr. Krause oversaw construction of the Scholastica Learning Resource Center (SLRC) building project including the Cyber Café, the renovation of Whitby Hall, and the preparation of the North Central Association Accreditation Self-Study. He served for seventeen months until re-retiring in October 2002.

In considering candidates for Mount Marty College honorary degrees, the Honorary Degree Committee gives prime consideration to those who have made significant contributions over an extended period of time in one or more of the following areas: Education, Government or Public Service, Ministry or Missions, Arts and Sciences, Professions consistent with the Mission of Mount Marty College, or Service to Mount Marty College of a particularly meritorious nature.

Dr. Krause again answered a call to return to Mount Marty College and serve as Interim President from April 2010 through June 2011. He was an impetus for preparation of the Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Self-Study and also spent a great deal of time working through certifications and new federal regulations, such as "Gainful

OBITUARIES

Curtis Fisher

Curtis Arthur Fisher, died on May 3, 2013 at his home in Yankton, SD, surrounded by loved ones. He was 81 years old.



Fisher

Mass of Christian Burial will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton with Rev. Ken Lulf officiating. Cremation will follow the Mass.

Curtis Arthur Stirling Fisher was born in Bismarck, ND on December 17, 1931, son of Art and Lila (Stirling) Fisher. He was raised on a farm at Hazelton, ND. Curtis Fisher married Lorraine Keller on November 15, 1952 in Linton, ND and they just celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary. Together they lived in North and South Dakota, Iowa and Southeast Alaska. Curtis was a member of many groups and organizations and had served as

Visitations will begin at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 7, 2013 with the family present at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton. There will be a rosary at 7:00 p.m. followed by a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

church chairperson. He loved farming, was a meat cutter, a miner at Homestake Gold Mine, and loved the outdoors and bear hunting in Alaska. Curtis was a proud Democrat and an avid Minnesota Twins and Vikings fan.

Above all, his biggest love was his family whom he enjoyed spending time with and telling stories.

Grateful for sharing his life is his wife, Lorraine of Yankton, SD; his son, Steve Fisher of Yankton, SD; daughter, Linda (Donn) Larson of Hudson, SD; daughter, Sherry Fisher of Yankton, SD; daughter, Elaine (Roger) Gordon of Davenport, IA; son, Kevin

(Cindy) Fisher of Mt. Pleasant, IA, and son, Duane Fisher of Kearney, MO., 18 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, 9 step grandchildren, a great great granddaughter and sister, Bessie Merkel of Moberg, SD.

He was preceded in death by his parents, son, John Fisher, grandson, Drake Gordon, granddaughter, Stephanie Fisher, and sister, Nadine Moszer.

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May 6, 2013

PSAHL-KOSTEL
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Vernon Smith

BRANDON — Vernon L. Smith, 76, lost his nine year battle with cancer on May 3, 2013 after six weeks of home hospice care.



Smith

His memorial service will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 8 at Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church, 705 S. Sioux Blvd., Brandon. The committal of the urn will be at Avon First Baptist Cemetery in Avon, SD at a later date.

Memorial visitation begins at 12 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 at George Boom Funeral Chapel in Brandon, where the family will greet friends from 5-7 p.m.

Vernon Lloyd Smith was born at home in Avon, to Walter and Sadie (Van Gerpen) Smith on October 5, 1936, his parents' ninth anniversary. He was ten years old when his brother, Bob, was born in 1947. Their father, a rural mail carrier, passed away of a heart attack in 1950 when Vern was thirteen and Bob was three. Vern made a two wheeled cart, attached it to his bike, and was soon taking Bob with him wherever he went.

was stationed at Ft. Lee, VA. He served on the traveling pistol team and played the bugle for the Burial Squad.

On the day of his honorable discharge, 8 Jun 62, they left for SD, pulling their trailer house to Avon and spent the summer in Sadie's backyard. He worked for the local telephone company. Tad Randal Smith was born August 20, 1962 in Tyndall.

They moved to Winner where Vern taught another five years of high school English and shop. Vern, Dick Shoemaker, and Bill Pistulka formed a partnership and built ten houses. He also built a home for his family and refereed basketball games. Julie Linee Smith was born January 28, 1966 in Winner.

Vern began his full-time career with Modern Woodmen in 1967. He moved his family to Casper, WY in 1968. They moved to Rapid City, SD in 1969 where he became a supervisor for MWA. Jenifer Lea Smith was born February 22, 1970 in Rapid City.

In 1972 Vern was named Agency Manager of West Central Illinois and the family moved to Macomb, IL. After five years of building the agency and their second house, Vern decided he wanted to return to his beloved South Dakota. In 1977 he became a supervisor in the Eastern SD agency and they moved to Brandon, SD where they built their third and final home.

Vern was named Agency Manager of Eastern SD in January 1980 where he built a leading agency for MWA. When he retired in March 2003, his agency covered all of SD and parts of ND, MN, and NE.

He received MWA's Agency Builder Award in 1983, the T.W. Cheney award in 1995 and 1997. Vern was elected to Modern Woodmen's Board of Directors in 1998 and served until his retirement. He also served on the Board of Directors of Security Bank of Sioux Falls.

After retirement, Vern used his woodworking talent to build cabinets, furniture, cradles, and boat bookshelves. He loved to fish and

hunt and collected animals from all over the world. He loved horses and raised AQHA cutting and roping horses from 1985-2012.

Vern's most precious treasure was his grandchildren and great-grandsons and his collection of friends, new and lifelong. His family and friends treasured his loyalty, friendship and quick wit.

Vern was confirmed in the Lutheran faith in 1969. Vern and Martha were members of Zion Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, until they became charter members of Blessed Redeemer Lutheran, Brandon, in 1990 where he served on the building committee and as an elder. He also served as chairman of the Board of Directors of Main Street Living.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Martha; three children, Tad, Los Angeles, Julie and husband Scott Van Gerpen, Avon; daughter Jenny and husband Dwight Williams, Brandon; grandchildren: Whitney and husband Kenny Podzimek; Nicholas Qualantone, Zachary, Ellie, & Ryan Williams, Hannah Van Gerpen, and two great-grandsons, Parker & Palmer Podzimek; his brother: Robert Smith and wife Linda, Brandon; mother-in-law Lorraine Haley; brothers-in-law: Roger (Marilyn) Haley, Mike (Jean) Haley, and Jim Brunz. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, cousins, aunts & uncles, and countless friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Wilma; father-in-law Don Haley; and sister-in-law Linda Brunz.

Vern's family would also like to add the following memorials information to the end of his obit. I am hopeful that this will be the last thing they need to add. Thank you again!

Vern's family requests that memorials be directed to Main Street Living, 1400 S. Duluth Ave., Sioux Falls, SD or Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church, 301 N. Splitrock Blvd., Brandon, SD 57005. Visit www.georgeboom.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
May 6, 2013

Sohler

From Page 1

pany 51 years — he and Sohler started on the same day. Gene Guenther, the yard foreman, has been employed 48 years, followed by incoming manager Duane Haberman at 47 years. Then comes Glenn Loecker (40 years), Bernie Hacecky (35) and assistant general manager Jerry Stoebner (20).

Going over the list in his office, Sohler said, "That's quite a feat."

"We're doing something right, for the people to respect us and want to be with us for so long," he added.

It's all part of his philosophy that "any businessman that takes all the credit for being successful is really a foolish person."

"You should surround yourself with people smarter than you," Sohler said. "And I've been fortunate to accomplish that."

As he looks into his crystal ball, Sohler predicts some tough times ahead for the livestock market industry. Aside from fewer markets, he envisions that

"survivors in this business will be well-financed and will run clean, well-kept facilities with more government controls."

Customers will also dictate that all cattle, hog and poultry be drug-free, Sohler said.

His advice would be, "Don't lose the competitive livestock auction for cattle, which is what happened to the hog industry."

As the issue of "what's next?" comes up, Sohler — who plans to spend more time at his home in Scottsdale, Ariz. — smiles and compares it to professional athletes who frequently retire and unretire.

"They miss it so much that they all try for a comeback," he said. "Well, I'm going to guarantee you that I won't even think of a comeback until I am 85. The guys all laugh at that one."

Yes, Sohler plans to still be around Yankton and will still poke his head into the office. What he won't do, he said, is risk frustrating his long-time employees by needling.

"I don't want to be the former guy who has to be around, looking over their shoulder," he said. "That won't be me."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

Karen Guthmiller

Karen Guthmiller, 76, of Yankton died at her residence under hospice care Sunday, May 5, 2013.

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

John 'Jack' Brandl

John A. "Jack" Brandl, 85, of Coleridge, Neb., died Friday, May 3, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center, Sioux City, Iowa.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 8, at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Coleridge, Neb., with the Rev. Jeffery Loseke officiating. Burial will be in the St. Michael's Cemetery in Coleridge.

Visitation is 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Coleridge, with a vigil service at 7 p.m. Visitation resumes one hour prior to the funeral at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz Funeral Home, Coleridge.

To send an online sympathy message, visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

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:
Lavonne Gorsett
who passed away on
May 8, 2012
Marcella A. Kortan
who passed away on
May 10, 2012
Alvin T. Merkwan
who passed away on
May 12, 2012
Lawrence Walloch
who passed away on
May 2, 2002
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