

Neb. Lawmakers Inch Toward Key Budget Vote

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Lawmakers are inching toward a key vote on Nebraska's main two-year budget bill.

Debate on the bill slowed to a crawl Wednesday as senators took aim at relatively small items in the proposed \$7.8 billion spending plan.

Some lawmakers tried unsuccessfully to cut \$300,000 that was set aside for Nebraska weather-data collection. They also questioned a \$500,000 budget increase for a nurse home-visitation program designed for children who are at risk of child abuse.

The Legislature has already given first-round approval to two salary bills, one for state lawmakers and another for elected officials who are listed in the state constitution.

Once approved, the new state budget will go into effect on July 1.

Trial Set For Woman Accused In Boy's Death

CHAMBERLAIN (AP) — A South Dakota woman accused of beating a 4-year-old boy to death because he wet his pants will stand trial next February.

The *Daily Republic* newspaper reports that the trial for 22-year-old Donika Gonzalez, of Gann Valley, was scheduled during a motions hearing Tuesday at the Brule County Courthouse in Chamberlain.

Gonzalez is accused of slapping, kicking, shoving and stomping Mason Naser to death in her home last Feb. 21. Authorities say the boy was the son of the man she was living with.

She has pleaded not guilty to murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault and child abuse charges. She could face life in prison if convicted of murder.

Weiland To Seek Nomination For Senate Seat

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A former staffer for former U.S. Sen. Tom Daschle has announced that he'll seek the Democratic nomination for the seat being vacated by Sen. Tim Johnson.

Rick Weiland tells the *Argus Leader* that he's running for things in which he strongly believes. He says there's a hunger for political leadership in the country willing to stand up, regardless of the political consequences or the big money.

Johnson has announced that he is not seeking re-election.

The 54-year-old Weiland is the first Democrat to officially enter the race. Former Gov. Mike Rounds is the only Republican running so far.

Weiland was an appointee in President Bill Clinton's administration.

Former S.D. Surgeon Sentenced For Tax Evasion

RAPID CITY (AP) — A former Rapid City surgeon convicted of trying to cheat the government out of more than \$1 million in taxes has been sentenced to five years in federal prison.

Edward Picardi, 56, of Sturgis, was accused of sending millions of dollars of income out of the country and filtering the money through offshore accounts to avoid paying taxes.

Picardi said he put his trust in a Maryland attorney and financial adviser.

"In general, I am a trusting person," he said during the Tuesday hearing. His attorney, Robert Van Norman, asked for probation, saying his client was a "very naive and sometimes very smart" man.

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson said in a statement that Picardi's attempt to hide assets was not tax planning but criminal activity. During the hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin Koliner said the case was one of the largest of its kind in federal court in South Dakota and that Picardi should be imprisoned for 10 years, according to the *Rapid City Journal*.

"The jury heard the evidence and they didn't buy it," he said of Picardi's claims that his financial adviser was to blame.

A jury last October convicted Picardi on 13 felony counts — five counts of tax evasion from 1999-2003; five counts of making false statements on each of his tax returns from 2004-2008; and three counts of failing to file

required reports with the U.S. Treasury Department from 2007-2009 disclosing his interest in foreign accounts.

His medical license was revoked a few months after his conviction. The Internal Revenue Service has filed a civil case against Picardi for \$3.7 million in back taxes and penalties.

Several people testified in support of Picardi on Tuesday, describing the surgeon as a straightforward, caring man who often wrote off his fees. U.S. Chief District Judge Jeffrey Viken said he received more than 70 letters of support for Picardi.

However, "He didn't pay while the rest of us were paying our taxes," Viken told the courtroom filled with Picardi supporters as he handed down the five-year sentence.

Chambers: Law Not Needed For Nebraska Tax Study

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Sen. Ernie Chambers has argued for months that lawmakers don't need a law to study Nebraska's tax climate, and on Wednesday he offered an alternative.

The state's longest-serving senator presented a resolution that he said would accomplish the same goal as a tax-study bill now pending in the Legislature.

Chambers, of Omaha, argued that his approach would give lawmakers more flexibility than a state law, because resolutions

are easier to change and extend. Chambers pointed to special committees that lawmakers have created without passing laws, including one to investigate abuses at the Beatrice State Developmental Center.

"It's cheaper, it's cleaner, and it's the way the Legislature ought to conduct hearings and studies that it intends to do," Chambers told the Legislature's Executive Board. Lawmakers who sit on the board voted Wednesday to advance the resolution to the full Legislature.

Lawmakers have given first-round approval to the tax-study bill, which would create a Tax Modernization Commission. The idea gained some prominence after Gov. Dave Heineman's proposal to eliminate or reduce Nebraska's income tax was scrapped. Lawmakers acknowledged that the state tax system was outdated, but argued that lawmakers should first identify which changes are needed to make the system more equitable.

Resolutions are used to authorize studies of an issue, which

could lead future legislation, while bills that are passed become part of state law.

The Executive Board also approved a suggestion by Sen. Bob Krist to include two at-large members on the state tax commission, in addition to legislative committee heads. Krist argued that it would allow less senior lawmakers to participate, and decrease the odds that the Legislature would lose knowledge about the tax study because of term limits.

OBITUARIES

Helen Kollars

Helen M. Kollars, 80, of Yankton passed away Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, SD from complications of Diabetes.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, May 10, 2013 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with Rev. Ken Lulf officiating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations will begin at 5 p.m., Thursday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor, with a wake service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the chapel.

Pallbearers are Jason Kollars,



Kollars

Chris Kollars, Dustin Kollars, Moses Waggoner, Keannan Simpson, Jared Zach, and Howard Waggoner.

Helen was born August 21, 1932 to Charles & Francis (Brinda) Estes. She grew up on the ranches near Valentine, NE. After graduating high school, she went to business school in Lincoln, NE where she worked in a government office. She was at a New Year's Eve dance where she met the man she was to marry. On December 1, 1951 she married Noel Kollars at Sacred Heart Church in Yankton. They

moved to California in 1955, then back to South Dakota in 1958. She helped on the farm until she went to work at Gurney's in the mid 1970's and worked there until she retired. After retirement she and Noel enjoyed spending time with their children and grandchildren. Helen will be remembered for her wonderful meals, her love of cards, and her gentle humor. She loved to collect cookbooks, the color blue, and cooking and baking for her family.

Grateful to have shared her life are her children: Mike (Kathy) Kollars of McCook Lake, SD, Greg Kollars of Williston, ND, Mary Jo (Rockey) Waggoner of Yankton, SD, and John (Linda) Kollars of Bronson, IA; ten grandchildren; and eight

great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Noel Kollars, her parents, four brothers, and one infant daughter.

The family requests memorials be directed to American Diabetes Association, Omaha Office, 14216 Dayton Circle, Suite 6, Omaha, NE 68137.

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Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Donald Rossiter

Donald W. Rossiter, 73, of Hartington, Neb. died due to complications of Lymphoma on Thursday, May 2, 2013 at the Hospice House in Omaha, NE.

Memorial Services are being planned for Saturday, May 25, 2013 at 12 p.m. at the VFW Club in Hartington.

The family will receive friends from 11 a.m. until noon at the VFW.

Arrangements are being conducted by the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington.

Donald W. Rossiter was born on October 10, 1939 to Vincent Emmett and Margaret Rhea



Rossiter

(Schmiedeskamp) Rossiter Sr. He lived in Hartington and graduated from Holy Trinity High School in Hartington. Don then attended college at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and at UNO.

After service in the Navy from 1957-1960 and college attendance, Don worked for and then retired from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. He then worked for the Bank of Hartington and lived in Hartington until his death. He loved fishing, fireworks,

trains, Nebraska football, roller coasters, science fiction, long drives, sunsets, movies, a good joke, a good meal, and all babies. He was much valued for his ability to quiet fussy babies. He claimed that he was a baby whisperer and we agree. He will be missed by the many who love him.

Survivors include daughter, Christine Marie Rossiter; sisters Mary Beth and Carol Rossiter; brothers Vincent E. Jr. and Max Rossiter; two aunts, 12 nieces and nephews, many grand nieces and nephews, dozens of cousins and many long time and very dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vincent E., Sr. on 9/25/1990 and Rhea Rossiter on 11/14/2008; his sisters Greta Frantz and Phyllis Schrempf.

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Hartington * Coleridge * Crofton
 203 W. Franklin, PO Box 505
 Hartington, Nebraska 68739

Bruce Kabella

Graveside Services for Bruce Kabella, 63, of Paducah, Kentucky, formerly of O'Neill, will be at 1 p.m., Monday, May 13, 2013, at Mount Hope Cemetery in Wood Lake, NE.

Visitation will be Sunday, May 12, 2013, from 4-7 p.m. at Biglin's Mortuary in O'Neill. He passed away Monday, May 6, 2013, at the Lourdes Hospital in Paducah, Kentucky.

Bruce Jerel Kabella, son of Bill and Eloise Mitchell, was born November 15, 1949 in Ainsworth, NE. He grew up in Johnstown, NE where he participated in boxing and wrestling. He handed his ability and interest in wrestling down to his boys and grandsons, as well as his love for Nebraska Cornhuskers football.



Kabella

Bruce married Helen Sparks on March 27, 1968. The couple was blessed with three sons David, Troy and Lonnie.

After high school Bruce worked for Ainsworth Feed Yards for many years. Later he attended Northeast Community College where he received a perfect grade point average. After College he was hired by Northwestern Bell which later became Qwest in O'Neill, Nebraska where he worked for 28 years before retiring.

He married Audrey Weismantel on July 20, 1990, in O'Neill, NE. Audrey later passed away from cancer.

Bruce was a lifetime member of the Elks Lodge and member of the Sons of the American Legion.

Bruce married Jean Lay and together they enjoyed hours of quilt-

ing. Bruce had an amazing eye for color and quilting kept him very busy, proudly purchasing a large scale quilting machine. Bruce made special quilts unique to each of his family member's interests. Each quilt is a treasure that will be cherished by his children and grandchildren.

Bruce had a bright, friendly smile and had a true love of animals, the outdoors, hunting and fishing. One of his great joys was traveling for camping trips with his boys to Merritt Reservoir near Valentine, NE which he did for over 40 years; a tradition that has and will continue to grow to include grandchildren and many friends.

We will remember him in the beautiful sunsets on the Snake River where he spent many hours fishing.

Bruce was preceded in death by his mother Eloise Mitchell, brother Skip Kabella, Audrey Kabella and beloved pet Abby Lee Kabella.

He is survived by wife Jean Kabella, of Paducah, KY, Father Bill Mitchell of Wood Lake, NE, son David Kabella of Wasilla Alaska, son Troy Kabella of Yankton, son Lonnie & wife Dawn Kabella of Yankton, Grandsons Dakota Sawyer, Levi Davis, Dominic Kabella, Antani Kabella, Granddaughter Alexa Davis, Nephews Todd and Mike Kabella.

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Talitha Kirschenman

Talitha Kirschenman, 92, of Menno died Tuesday at the Menno Olivet Care Center.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 11, 2013, at the Zion Reformed Church, Menno.

Visitation begins at 5 p.m. Friday, with the family present from 7-8 p.m., at the Walter Funeral Home, Freeman.

JoAnna Mulder

JoAnn C. Mulder, 80, of Yankton, died Tuesday, May 7, 2013, at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.

Funeral services are at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 11, 2013, at Riverview Reformed Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Rodney Veldhuizen officiating. Burial will be in Vangen Lutheran Cemetery, Mission Hill.

Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Friday, May 10, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home with a prayer service at 7 p.m. officiated by the Rev. Lance Lindgren.

Memorials may be directed to the Parkinson's Research Foundation or to a charity of your choice.

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

Thank You

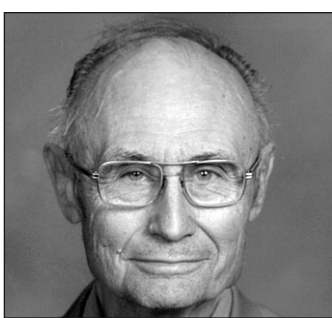
The family of **Dureen Buchanan** would like to say thank you to all for their kindness during her passing. The support given through your words, visits and food will always be remembered. A special thank you to the Wakonda Heritage Manor for your excellent care. Thanks to Pastor Dana Steinwand for his spiritual support and Denise Barkley for sharing her music. Thanks to Wintz & Ray Funeral Home for not only the superior professionalism but also the gentle guidance from truly caring people.

Russell, Susan, Dillon, Tessa, and William Buchanan

Orville 'OB' Buechler

Funeral services for Orville "OB" Buechler of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 9 at United Church of Christ in Scotland with Rev. Ron Shifley officiating. Organist is Sharon Orth and soloist is Lois Suess. Interment will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland. Casketbearers will be Charlie Deutscher, Paul Weidenbach, Marvin Thum, Todd Cotton, Richard Buechler, and Jake Moorman. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Orville "OB" Edmond Buechler was born on Monday, July 18, 1927 near Lesterville to Edmond and Johanna (Deutscher) Buechler. He was baptized August 21, 1927. He graduated Scotland High School in May, 1946. Orville was united in marriage to Gladys Stoenber in June of 1948 in the Reformed Church in Tripp. After attending Southern State College in Springfield, South Dakota where he learned the art of woodworking, they farmed together south of Scotland. He was later united in marriage to Betty Zinck in June of 1972 at the Little Brown Church in Vale, Iowa. For a time, he sold fertilizer for Symmer's out of Sioux Falls. Orville was an avid square dancer, and this passion gave them the opportunity to travel. They wintered in Arizona for many years and went on Hawaiian and Caribbean cruises. Orville was a natural leader and took part in many organizations: the Scotland School Board from 1980 to 1983, Scotland Community Choir for 25 years, charter member of the National Cattle-men's Association, and Scotland EMT for 10 years. He was also a member of the Scotland Sportsmen's Club and organized his own bowling team. Orville not only loved farming,



Orville Buechler

woodworking, and square dancing, but also entertaining. He took pride in preparing a good meal and enjoyed sharing food and conversation with friends and family. Orville died on Monday, May 6, 2013 at the Good Samaritan Society of Scotland at the age of 85 years, 9 months and 18 days.

Grateful for having shared Orville's life are his son, Lynn Buechler of Scotland; two grandchildren: Toni (Chad) Haberman of Fordice, Nebraska and Casey Sommer Buechler of Yankton; six great-grandchildren: Kaylee, Dylan, Ethane, and Seth; and his sister, Florence Hauck of Menno. In addition to his parents, Edmond and Johanna Buechler, Orville was preceded in death by his wife, Betty in 2001, a daughter-in-law, Charlotte in 2012, and a brother-in-law, Raymond Hauck in 1995.

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