

Community Rallies Behind Wounded Vet

MITCHELL (AP) — The community of Mitchell is working to improve the home of a 28-year-old Iraq War veteran who may have to start using a wheelchair because of injuries he sustained during his service.

Jerry Stravia, who retired from the Army in 2007 for medical reasons, has spent time in and out of hospitals for brain trauma, herniated discs, nerve damage, hearing problems and vertigo, *The Daily Republic* reported. He suffered a brain injury after his armored vehicle was hit by an explosive device.

More than a dozen people, including Stravia's relatives, friends and builders, have volunteered to help construct an addition on his home. With his neighbor-turned-friend Stacy Nettinga at the helm, the team plans to build several rooms at his residence on one level for easy wheelchair access.

"I think that our vets should be treated with the utmost respect, especially those that have gotten wounded, so if there's something I can do to help, then absolutely I will," said Nettinga, who served in the Air Force.

Nettinga works full time as a project manager with a local contracting company, and Stravia is a full-time student at Dakota Wesleyan University, so they've only been able to work on the house a few hours each day. But Nettinga hopes to have the addition weathertight by November to then begin working on the interior.

"It'll be a long process, but it'll be worth it," Nettinga said.

Other experienced volunteers, including a plumber, electrician and heating and cooling specialist, have offered to provide their services for free.

Officer Cleared In Fatal Dog Shooting

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Lincoln police said the officer who fatally shot a dog charging at him in March didn't violate the department's rules.

Lincoln Police Chief Jim Peschong told *The Lincoln Journal Star* an internal investigation determined that Officer Jason Papke didn't use excessive force in the March 21 incident.

Papke was looking for a teen involved in a disturbance when he encountered the 9-year-old pit bull named Opie. The dog was on a leash, but Peschong says the officer couldn't see the leash in the dark when the dog charged.

"He had no way of knowing the dog wouldn't be able to physically attack him or whether the leash would have been able to prevent that," he said.

Peschong said Papke had not had department training on handling aggressive dogs because he was hired after the most recent session.

Two Lincoln police officers have shot and killed dogs this year.

Lincoln police only track dog bites when officers report an injury. There were four last year.

The National Canine Research Council worked with the Justice Department to develop an online training to help police deal with aggressive dogs. Learning about canine body language is helpful, said the council's Janis Bradley.

"A relaxed, open mouth means you have a relaxed, unthreatened dog," Bradley said.

Peschong said he has made the online training part of the police recruit academy.

Nebraska

Minimum Wage Cut? Teens Say They Need The Money

BY ANNA GRONEWOLD
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — When Nebraska lawmakers debate whether to allow student workers to be paid a lower minimum wage, much of the talk is about how learning a work ethic is more important for teenagers than the actual money they're paid.

Sawsan Elias, a high school senior in Lincoln, is all for learning the value of work, but with both of her parents disabled, she's also keenly aware of the importance of money as she saves for college.

"When my parents were working, I didn't have to work," said Elias, who until recently worked five hours each weeknight night as a janitor. "But there's nobody to give you money."

So far, that argument hasn't persuaded legislators, who have twice voted by wide margins for a bill proposed by Sen. Laura Ebke, of Crete. If approved a final time, the bill would set a minimum wage at \$8 an hour for high school students younger than 18, even after Nebraska's minimum increases to \$9 in 2016 thanks to a voter-approved initiative.

If Congress increased the federal minimum wage, Nebraska students would be paid 85 percent of that amount if doing so would result in a raise.

The first two votes have shown a di-

vide between lawmakers, including many from rural districts who view part-time jobs as career starters and others representing low-income urban districts who see young residents forced to provide food for their families.

Elias quit working to focus on graduation in her final weeks of high school, but after getting a diploma she'll find another job. Choose education over money, she said, is a short-term luxury.

Joslyn Schiebur, a high school junior in Adams, isn't working to support her family, but she spends at least 10 hours a week working at Adams Super Foods on Main Street. Besides swimming, running track and holding a 3.7 GPA, Schiebur said she needs to work to save for college, where she wants to study physical therapy.

"I think our minimum wage should be raised, just because high school students are saving up money for college," she said. "I'll need it in the future."

In debate about the bill, lawmakers have discussed the difficulty that small businesses will face in paying a higher minimum wage. Those arguments arose repeatedly in previous years when the Legislature rejected minimum wage increases, and they remain after voters overwhelmingly approved the higher pay.

Mike Brown, who owns Adams Super Foods, said the lower pay for students makes sense for small business owners

who can only afford to hire a few employees. If the minimum wage is \$9, Brown said he'll hire workers who "can do it all," including tasks like selling alcohol and tobacco that are off-limits to minor employees.

"It is tough out there. It is absolutely tough," Brown said. "But it's an awful lot of money to pay a 15 year old that can't do everything a 19 or 20 year old or middle-aged person could do."

Sen. Merv Riepe, of Omaha, supports the lower student wage but acknowledged views on the issue are shaped by personal experiences. Riepe notes he had the financial ability to encourage his son to take lower-paying internships, which paid off in valuable career experience.

"I wanted it to be an opportunity for kids to get jobs," he said. "I'm not trying to blow apart the minimum wage increase."

Sen. Adam Morfeld, of Lincoln, has spoken out strongly against the bill and thinks there could be enough opposition to mount a filibuster that would kill the proposal. He calls it a one-size-fits-all approach that caters to the needs in rural Nebraska but that would unfairly create age inequalities unrelated to job performance.

"If we're concerned about the vitality of rural Nebraska, we shouldn't be paying people less," Morfeld said.

2 Sisseton Men Killed In Pickup Rollover

VEBLEN (AP) — Two men from Sisseton are dead and a third seriously injured after their pickup rolled in northeastern South Dakota.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says the crash was reported around 5:30 p.m. Saturday near Veblen in Marshall County.

Killed were the driver, 46-year-old Waylon Horne, and a passenger, 53-year-old Keith DuMarce. Both died at the scene.

Another passenger, a 40-year-old man, also from Sisseton, suffered life-threatening injuries and was hospitalized in serious condition in Sioux Falls.

Authorities say the driver lost control, and the pickup sent into the ditch and rolled about six times. Both passengers were not wearing seatbelts and were thrown from the vehicle.

The Highway Patrol says alcohol and speed appear to be factors in the crash.

OBITUARIES

Julia Lambert

Julia Barbara Lambert, age 86, of Watertown, SD, passed away on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at a care center in Watertown. She was the widow of Rev. M. Robert "Bob" Lambert.



Lambert

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at the Crawford-Osthus Funeral Chapel in Watertown. Rev. Steven Bailey will officiate. Music will be provided by Bruce Reinhardt as pianist with congregational singing. Visitation will take place prior to services at the chapel on Wednesday. The family is requested to meet at the chapel on Wednesday by 10:00 a.m. for a prayer service.

Burial will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Watertown. Pallbearers will be: Jon and Mindy Burt, Bryan and Brittney Burt, Russ Berndt and Bob Hoffman.

Julia was born on October 4, 1928, at West Patterson, NJ, to John Frederick and Margaret (Fuchs) Westerholt.

On June 18, 1949, Julia married Rev. M. Robert "Bob" Lambert at Christ Episcopal Church in Totowa, NJ. She and her husband ministered several congregations including: Unionville, NY, Valatie, NY, Albany, NY, and Binghamton, NY. Bob became Executive Presbyterian at Minnesota Valley Presbytery in Willmar, MN, and Julia was employed as the bookkeeper. The couple retired to Watertown in 1991. They traveled in their motorhome until Bob's death in 1998.

She was a member of Castlewood First Presbyterian Church and was also a very active member of the First Congregational Church in Watertown. She was active in several church circles and women's groups throughout the years. Following retirement, Julia was an active volunteer at Jenkins, Prairie Lakes Hospital and the Senior Center. She loved to dance at

Esther Sorenson

Funeral services for Esther Sorenson, 104, of Yankton, South Dakota will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2015 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in rural Irene with visitation beginning one hour prior to the service. Burial will follow in Spring Valley Lutheran Church in rural Irene.

Esther passed away on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at Sister James Care Center in Yankton.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Legacy Burial & Cremation Solutions of Yankton, a branch of Goglin Funeral Homes. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com/.

Esther A. Sorenson was born on Friday, October 7,



Esther Sorenson

1910 to Emil and Caroline (Mehner) Wenzel in Dallas, South Dakota. She attended Southern State Teacher's College in Springfield and earned her teacher's degree. Upon graduating, Esther taught at Oswald Country School. On March 27, 1932, she was united in marriage to Melvin Sorenson in Dallas and together

they made their home on a farm near Irene. Esther loved playing the piano and did so for most of her life, accompanying many weddings and funerals as well as teaching numerous children the joy of being a pianist. Her Christian faith was very important to her and lived her life church-oriented. She was very active in Ladies' Aid and as the pianist for the Bethlehem Lutheran Church girls choir which she enjoyed so greatly. Upon the merge of three local Lutheran church congregations, she became a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. They moved into the Canyon Ridge Apartments in Yankton. After Melvin's passing, Esther moved into Pine Lane Assisted Living Center and later to Sister James Care Center. Esther

was a very kind-hearted, loving mother and grandmother who encouraged and enjoyed her family.

Esther passed away on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at Sister James Care Center in Yankton having attained the age of 104 years, 6 months, and 25 days.

She is survived and remembered by her daughter Naomi Bierle of Yankton; daughter-in-law Cecile Sorenson of Yankton; grandchildren: Randy (Janelle) Bierle, Cheryl (Roger) Gregg, Lori (Grant) Nakamura, Lisa (Larry) Skorepa, Sandi (Glenn) Fejfar, Curtis (Vicki) Sorenson, Sheila (Dennis Bever) Beaner, Sarah (Randy) Waring; step-grandchildren: David (Kem) Drotzmann and Chris (Jane) Drotzmann; 27 great-grandchildren; and 7

great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Melvin, parents Emil and Caroline Wenzel, son Duane in infancy, son Wayne, great-grandson Dustin, sister Alma Rose, brothers Harold and Arthur, daughter-in-law Alice, son-in-law Arnold, many brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
May 4, 2015



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Adeline Fridrich

Funeral mass for Adeline Fridrich, 79, of Tyndall, South Dakota will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at St. Leo Catholic Church in Tyndall. Burial will follow in St. Leo Catholic Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, May 5 from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tyndall. A rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m. later that evening at the church.

Adeline passed away on Friday, May 1, 2015 at the Good Samaritan Society of Tyndall.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Goglin Funeral Home of Tyndall. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com/.



the Senior Center and solving "word search" puzzles.

Julia is survived by her two children: Robert "Bob" (Michelle) Lambert of Yankton, SD, and David Lambert of Milwaukee, WI; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one sister, Marge Johnson, of Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

She was preceded in death

by her husband; her parents; two brothers; and one sister.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
May 4, 2015

Bernard Raff

Funeral services for Bernard L. Raff, 92, of Creighton, Nebraska, are pending at

Brockhaus Funeral Home in Creighton.

Bernard died Friday, May 1, 2015, at Avera Creighton Care Centre.

Brian Carroll

Brian Michael Carroll, 59 of Crofton, Nebraska, died Sunday, May 3, 2015, at his residence.

Funeral services are pending at the Wintz Funeral Home in Crofton.

Larry Saylor

Larry Saylor, 58, of Utica died Sunday, May 3, 2015, at his home.



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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:

Ann Souhrada
who passed away
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This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory.

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