

Second Nebraska Farm Quarantined

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The bird flu outbreak that reached Nebraska earlier this week has spread to a second farm in the northeast corner of the state.

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture said Thursday that a second flock of 1.8 million chickens in Dixon County is infected.

The original farm where the disease was found earlier this week had 1.7 million chickens. All the chickens on both farms, which are owned by the same producer, will be killed to help limit the spread of the disease.

State Agriculture Director Greg Ibach says officials have established a perimeter around both farms.

Ibach says the spread of the disease is unfortunate, but not unexpected. The disease has been difficult to contain in other states.

Officials say the bird flu doesn't represent a significant human health risk.

Senators Avoid Banning LGBT Discrim.

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska senators have halted debate on a bill banning discrimination against gay and lesbian employees after a test vote showed wavering support.

After more than four hours of debate Thursday, bill sponsor Sen. Adam Morfeld of Lincoln asked that the measure be put off until next year.

The bill would require 25 votes to advance. Senators voted 20-12 on the test vote. Sixteen senators were present but not voting.

Morfeld says holding the bill will give him time to gain more support.

Both Lincoln and Omaha Chambers of Commerce backed the bill. Twenty other states have similar laws.

Nebraska Has Ordered New Death Drugs

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts says state officials have bought all three drugs required to carry out executions.

Ricketts and Department of Correctional Services Director Scott Frakes announced Thursday that the state now possesses one of the three drugs and will receive the other two in the near future.

The department bought two of the drugs, sodium thiopental and pancuronium bromide, from a company called HarrisPharma.

Ricketts says three of Nebraska's 11 death-row inmates have exhausted all of their appeals.

The announcement comes one day before lawmakers are scheduled to debate a death penalty repeal measure. The bill won first-round approval with a veto-proof majority in April, but two more votes are required.

Some opponents have argued that Nebraska should abolish capital punishment because the state hasn't executed anyone since 1997.

State High Court Sides With Jackley In Records Disclosure

BY JAMES NORD
Associated Press

PIERRE — Attorney General Marty Jackley used appropriate discretion and followed state law when he declined to release to a journalist the death records of a former state official who was involved in South Dakota's investment-for-visa scandal, the state Supreme Court said in an opinion released Thursday.

The high court also affirmed an administrative law judge's conclusion that the records are exempt from disclosure under state public records law. Reporter Bob Mercer argued before the court in March that the death records of former state economic development official Richard Benda should be released with some sensitive information redacted.

Mercer, who writes for several daily newspapers, had appealed a circuit judge's ruling from September, which said Jackley was justified in not releasing investigation records into Benda's Octo-

ber 2013 suicide out of privacy concerns for his immediate family members. The Supreme Court said Jackley has discretion over the release of the records as their custodian.

"I am pleased that the (Supreme) Court has applied the rule of law, and recognized the balancing of open transparency with the privacy interests of the family members faced with a tragic situation," Jackley said in a statement after the ruling.

Mercer's appeal to the Supreme Court requested it establish a review methodology for future requests of death-investigation records that are of significant public interest. But the court said in its decision that the judicial officials aren't required to establish "an alternative manner of release" because the law enforcement files are exempt from disclosure.

"I wouldn't have asked if I didn't think there was a chance that the court would find in favor of release of the record, or at least partial release of the record, and the questions about Richard Benda's death now remain unresolved for the

most part in the public mind." Mercer told The Associated Press. "He was at the center of one of the largest scandals in state government in recent decades, and there are many things we still don't know about that entire episode."

At the time of Benda's death, Jackley was preparing to file felony theft charges against Benda amid allegations of financial misconduct at the Governor's Office of Economic Development surrounding the EB-5 visa program. The program recruits wealthy immigrant investors for projects in exchange for green cards.

Jackley had agreed to release more information about Benda's death to Mercer but only under certain conditions, chiefly that Benda's family had to consent. After Benda's family declined to authorize the release and Jackley wouldn't provide access to the records, Mercer sought the intervention of an administrative law judge and later the circuit judge.

The Supreme Court said Mercer's case should be made before the Legislature to change South Dakota law.

Jackley Wanted Justice Dept. Review Of EB-5 Probe

BY JAMES NORD
Associated Press

PIERRE — South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley released letters Thursday showing that twice during the past year he urged the U.S. attorney general to review the Department of Justice's conduct in its investigation of the state's investment-for-visa program.

Jackley, a Republican, sent letters to former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder in October 2014 and February 2015 relaying "deep" and "serious" concerns about a DOJ section's conduct and the appearance of political motivations

in the "handling and timing" of the investigation ahead of the 2014 election.

"I'll let people in South Dakota make that judgment call," Jackley told The Associated Press on Thursday. "There were ads about the federal investigation running in the U.S. Senate race."

Jackley said he still hasn't heard back from the department and stressed that his concerns rely with conduct from "main Justice" in Washington, not local federal law enforcement officials.

A DOJ spokesman declined to comment. An FBI spokesman said an investigation into the program is still pending.

Jackley released the letters on Thursday after the South Dakota Supreme Court ruled that he had used appropriate discretion and followed state law when he declined to release to a journalist the death records of a former state official who was involved in the EB-5 scandal. He said he wanted to read the Supreme Court decision before disclosing the letters he wrote about the DOJ Public Integrity Section's conduct during the investigation into the EB-5 program.

The program recruits wealthy immigrant investors for projects in exchange for green cards. South Dakota was one of the pioneers in EB-5

financing under former Republican Gov. Mike Rounds, who easily won a South Dakota seat in the U.S. Senate in 2014 despite harsh criticism from his opponents of his oversight of the program during his two terms as governor from 2003 to 2010.

A staff member for Rounds didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Jackley said in his first letter in October 2014 that federal authorities received notification of violations regarding the visa program from South Dakota attorney Steven Sandven in 2010. Sandven didn't return a request for comment.

OBITUARIES

Richard 'Dick' Henry Branaugh

Richard "Dick" Henry Branaugh, age 76, of Mission Hill, SD, passed away Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 AM on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Yankton with Reverend Mark Lichter officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton.

Visitation is from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on Monday, May 18, 2015, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a Rosary at 7:00 PM and a Vigil Service at 7:30 PM. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the Mass



Branaugh

on Tuesday at the church.

Pallbearers are Lynn Schoenfelder, Dean Permann, Tim Schroeder,

Micah Schoenfelder, Tom Stirling and Doug Moon. Honorary pallbearers are his grandchildren: Mason Schoenfelder, Lexi and Alli Permann, Mikayla, McKenzie and Madison Schroeder.

Dick was born on October 10, 1938 to Benjamin and Marie (Schuldt) Branaugh at home on a farm near Yankton. He attended Grove School and Yankton High School. After high school, he began working for his uncle doing con-

struction and later worked as a plumber. He then began his career at Gurney Seed and Nursery, which he continued for 28 years, retiring in 1987 as the field supervisor. He was best known for the vegetable and gladiola gardens. As we found out over the years, if you worked at Gurney's, you probably worked for Dick.

He met and married the love of his life, Darlene Muntefering, on June 2, 1962 at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Dimock, SD. They shared almost 53 loving years together, raising and nurturing their four beautiful children.

Dick was a strong, hardworking man who loved being outdoors. He enjoyed activities such as, attending auction sales, where he collected antiques and

collectibles. He also loved duck hunting, fishing, bird watching, spending countless hours at the stockyards and going for rides to the lake. Dick was also known to be a great gardener and for growing the best tomatoes ever! He also made ever Christmas special by bringing home the most beautiful "flocked" Christmas tree he could find. Most of all he loved his family. He got a "twinkle" in his eye when he could spoil his grandchildren with treats like Hostess Zingers, candy bars, and \$2.00 bills, and left his "weiner dog signature" on every card he signed.

He attended many of their school and sporting events, enjoying soccer, softball, baseball and football games, as well as, school plays and dance recitals. He was a

member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, SD, a former member of the Moose Lodge, and former Mayor of Mission Hill, SD.

Survivors include his loving and caring wife, Darlene Branaugh of Mission Hill, SD; four children: Tammy (Lynn) Schoenfelder of Tripp, SD; Ricky Branaugh of Placerville, CA; Lori (Dean) Permann of Menifee, CA; and Brenda (Tim) Schroeder of Yankton, SD; seven grandchildren: Micah and Mason Schoenfelder, Lexi and Alli Permann, and Mikayla, McKenzie, and Madison Schroeder; a sister, Helen Nash of Stockton, MO; brother-in-law, Richard Sowell of Beaverton, OR; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ben

and Marie Branaugh; his father and mother-in-law, Irvin and Leona Muntefering; grandson, Christian Schoenfelder; sister, Ethel Sowell; and two brothers-in-law, Claude Nash and Bill Muntefering; as well as many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

To send an online message to the family, please visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
May 15, 2015



WINTZ & RAY
FUNERAL HOME and CREMATION SERVICE
Online condolences at: www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Elsie Daum Vollbrecht

Funeral services for Elsie M. Vollbrecht, age 94 of Norfolk, Nebraska, will be held Monday, May 18, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Norfolk with Pastor Leon Rosenthal officiating. Graveside services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at Pleasantview Cemetery in Winside, Nebraska.



Vollbrecht

Visitation will be Sunday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Brockhaus-Howser-Fillmer Funeral Home in Norfolk.

She died Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at St. Joseph's Rehabilitation and Care Center in Norfolk.

Maurice Conn Sr.

Maurice Conn Sr. age 75 of Madison, formerly of Wentworth, passed away Wednesday May 6, 2015 at St. Mary's Hospital at Rochester, MN.

A Celebration of Maurice's life will begin at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, May 16, 2015, at the Randall Funeral Home Madison.

Maurice was born February 23, 1940 in southern Iowa, to Ivan and Opal (Glazebrook) Conn. He grew up and attended school at Afton, Iowa; where he graduated from High School in 1959. Maurice was united in marriage to Linda Foss, at Howard, South Dakota on November 4, 1961. They moved to Wentworth where Maurice was employed at Sioux Valley Electric at Colman as a heavy equipment operator. He retired from Sioux Valley in 1996. In his younger years Maurice also worked doing construction and farm work. He was an avid

outdoorsman and a member the Lake Herman Development Association, and a former of the Izaak Walton League of America.

He is survived by his wife: Linda, Madison, two sons: Peter (Nancy) Conn, Colony, Wyoming; Maurice Conn, Madison, a daughter Dawn (Ray) Sparks, Yankton, two grandchildren and a great granddaughter, a brother: Dale (Diane) Conn of Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his parents three brothers and four sisters.

BLESSED BE HIS MEMORY.
Yankton Press & Dakotan
May 15, 2015

Jack Arnold

Jack Lorne Arnold passed away suddenly on May 1, 2015 at his home in Bradenton, FL. at the age of 71.

Jack grew up in Yankton and was the son of Coach Lorne S. Arnold and Eva Arnold. He graduated from Yankton High School in 1962 and entered the University of South Dakota that same fall. In the fall of 1967 Jack went to Viet Nam, where he was critically wounded in December of that same year. Following months of recovery

at Fitzsimmons Hospital in Denver, he came back to South Dakota and lived with his sister, Judi, in her home in Vermillion. Eventually he found his way to Florida where he resided for the remainder of his life. Jack was always proud of his military service in the United States Army, and was awarded the Purple Heart as well as other commendations.

He was laid to rest at the Sarasota Veterans' Cemetery on May 6, 2015.

Jack is survived by one sister, Judi Arnold Steege of Nevada, Missouri, two daughters, Jennifer and Lauren, one son Jeffrey, and one grandson, Jianni, all of Miami, Florida. In addition he had 3 nieces, Molly, CariAnna and Eva, and 4 great-nieces as well as one nephew, Jay, and one great-nephew, all from Minnesota, who loved him deeply.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
May 15, 2015

Edith Selwyn

Edith Selwyn, 104, of Lake Andes died Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at the Golden Living Center in Armour.

Funeral services are 1 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at the White Swan Community Center in

Lake Andes. Burial is in St. Philip's Episcopal Cemetery in Lake Andes.

Wake services will begin Friday at the White Swan Community Center.

Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner is in charge of arrangements.

Ralph Morman

Ralph Joseph Morman, 90, of Yankton, South Dakota passed quietly away Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospice in Yankton.

Arrangements are pending with the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.

Gary Thaler

Gary Thaler, 67, of Bristol, Wisconsin, formerly of Wagner, died May 5, 2015, surrounded by family and friends in Wisconsin.

Graveside memorial services will be 10 a.m. Saturday, May 16, at the ZCJB Cemetery, rural Wagner, with military honors.

Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner is in charge of arrangements.

Becky Elsberry

Funeral Mass for Becky Elsberry, 56, of Tyndall, South Dakota will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 18, 2015 at St. Leo Catholic Church in Tyndall. Burial with military graveside honors will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19 in St. Leo Catholic Cemetery, Tyndall.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, May 17 at Goglin Funeral Home in Tyndall from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. wake service later that evening at the church.

Becky passed away on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at her residence.

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

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Richard "Dick" H. Branaugh
10:30 AM, Tuesday
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
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