Heineman: Neb. Swayed State Dept. Decision

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Gov. Dave Heineman says the U.S. State Department decision to reassess the route of the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline was due largely to pressure from Nebraskans. Heineman told the Associated Press Thursday that he met with a

U.S. State Department official on Oct. 18, and was given "a clear indication that they were paying attention to what we were doing in Nebraska.'

Heineman said he called a special session less than a week later to try to address pipeline concerns at the state level and to pressure federal officials to act.

The Republican governor called it "an exceptional moment for Nebraskans," and a sign that their voices have been heard.

Jury Convicts S.D. Man Of Sex Trafficking

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A federal jury has convicted a Sioux Falls man of commercial sex trafficking after he answered an online advertisement posted by undercover police officers.

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson says the jury found 53-year-old Ron Bonestroo guilty of the charge after a one-day trial.

Johnson says Bonestroo answered an ad and arranged to pay for sex with what he believed would be two 14-year-old girls in Sioux Falls. The advertisement was posted by undercover officers as part of "Operation Crossing Guard." Officers were conducting the sting operation to identify people who attempt to purchase sex acts with children

Johnson says officers arrested Bonestroo when he arrived at the undercover location.

Bonestroo, who has been remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal, faces a maximum sentence of life in prison.

S.D. Man Sentenced For Meat Cleaver Attack

ABERDEEN (AP) — A South Dakota man who authorities say attacked another man with a meat cleaver has been sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Nineteen-year-old Konacin Blackelk of Aberdeen initially faced an attempted murder charge. The American News reports that he pleaded guilty to aggravated assault and also aggravated assault of a law officer.

Authorities say Blackelk used the meat cleaver during a fight on Sept. 2. sending a man to the hospital to be treated for injuries that included a cut on the head. The deputy who was assaulted was not injured.

Sturgis Receiving \$625,000 Drug Grant

STURGIS (AP) — Sturgis is one of just 87 communities across the country to receive a grant from a nationwide drug and alcohol abuse prevention program.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports that Sturgis' Action for the Betterment of the Community received the \$625,000 grant based on its performance in the field. The Drug Free Communities Support Program grant is divided into \$125,000 a year allotments for five consecutive years

Project director Kara Graveman says the new funding will allow the group to mobilize and organize their community to prevent and reduce youth substance use. The group is focusing its efforts on alcohol and marijuana, the two most consistently popular substances among Sturgis youth.

May Execution Set For Inmate Who Killed Guard

BY KRISTI EATON

Associated Press

BY CHET BROKAW

PIERRE - South Dakota's

Supreme Court upheld on Thursday

a Sioux Falls man's conviction for

The high court ruled unani-

mously that Christopher Fisher's

sented to the jury that convicted him

last year of first-degree manslaughter

in the death of 16-month-old Preston

Vensand on Thanksgiving Day 2008.

Fisher, 29, is serving a 60-year

his girlfriend when he called for an

ambulance about 5 a.m. on Nov. 27,

2008. The toddler was pronounced

later. Fisher initially told law officers

the boy had fallen while playing and

getting a bath the day before, but he

eventually confessed he had shaken

the boy because he would not stop

recording of Fisher shaking a doll to

crying. Police also made a video

dead at a hospital about an hour

He was taking care of the child for

Associated Press

friend's infant son.

prison sentence.

SIOUX FALLS — A South Dakota inmate who fatally beat a prison guard during an escape attempt and told a judge that he would kill again will be executed in May, prosecutors said Thursday.

Press&Dakotan

South Dakota High Court Upholds

Man's Conviction In Toddler Death

Eric Robert, 49, will face lethal injection the week of May 13 under an order issued by Second Circuit Judge Bradley Zell. The exact date will be set by the warden, Attorney General Marty Jackley said.

Zell sentenced Robert last month after he pleaded guilty in the killing of Ronald Johnson on April 12 — Johnson's 63rd birthday. Investigators said Robert attacked the guard with a pipe and covered his mouth with plastic wrap, then took his uniform. Robert, who had been serving an 80-year sentence for kidnapping, was stopped as he tried to exit the

grounds at the South Dakota State Penitentiary wearing Johnson's uniform. Robert waived his right to a trial and

asked the judge to sentence him to death, saying his one regret was that he did not kill the officer who stopped him. He told Zell that he would kill again.

"Brad Zell, if you stood between me and the door of freedom, I would kill you," Robert told the judge during pre-sentencing.

Zell ruled last month that the death penalty was warranted because Robert's attack went beyond trying to incapacitate Johnson and that Robert showed "extreme anger to the point of hatred.'

Robert's attorney, Mark Kadi, said his client would not take steps to delay the execution, but the state Supreme Court will look over the sentence as part of a mandatory process

Gov. Dennis Daugaard have the authority to suspend the execution until they finish reviewing the case.

Two other inmates are also charged in the killing. Rodney Berget, 49, who has pleaded not guilty, also faces the death penalty. Prosecutors allege he tried to escape with Robert. His trial is scheduled to start Jan. 30.

A third inmate, Michael J. Nordman, 47, was charged with supplying some of the items used in the killing. Prosecutors have not said whether they will seek the death penalty for Nordman.

Robert's sentencing will not affect the other two cases, Jackley said.

Prison officials said they have implemented several changes at the prison since the killing, including adding officers to three areas and installing additional security cameras

Jackley said the state Supreme Court and

Ex-Postal Worker Says He Didn't Know About Theft Charge

BY RYAN J. FOLEY

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — A former Iowa postal worker acknowledged Thursday that he was caught stealing customer rebate checks from the mail but said federal authorities never notified him that he had been indicted for doing so. The man's defense attorney said notice of the criminal charge may have been lost in the mail.

Glenn A. Reisinger of Norwalk told The Associated Press in a phone interview he was caught on tape taking customer rebate checks issued by retailer Menard Inc. that were being returned to the company after they were mailed to bad customer addresses.

He said he saw no harm in doing so at the time because the customers could not be located, but now realizes it was "a mistake, of course.'

Reisinger, 62, said he was a clerk at a postal station in West Des Moines and he retired under pressure in June after he was caught. He had worked for the postal service for 29 years.

A federal grand jury returned an indictment Oct. 26 charging Reisinger with one count of theft by a postal employee, which carries maximum penalties of up to 5 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. It alleges he stole five checks totaling \$577 — ranging in size from \$14 to \$330 — between March and June.

Reisinger said Thursday morning he didn't know about the indictment or that his arraignment and initial appearance were scheduled for hours later at the federal courthouse in Des Moines. He said he learned about the indictment when the AP called to ask for comment about the case. "Nobody has said anything to me about it," he said.

OBITUARIES

Ellen Kessler

Ellen (Adams) Kessler, age 83, of Yankton, formerly of Vermillion, passed away Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, November 12, 2011 at St. Agnes Catholic Church, Vermillion, SD with Rev. John Fischer officiating. Burial will be in the Calvary Cemetery, Vermillion, SD. Visitations will be one hour prior to

the Mass at the church. The Opsahl-Kostel Funeral

Ellen Kessler was born on May 30, 1928 in Gedesby, Denmark. She married Sigmund Adamczewski on September 10. 1950. In 1959 they

immigrated to the United States, set-

Ellen spent her time at home on the farm. She loved her flowers and garden. Sigmund died in their time traveling to all parts of the US. Al died in May 2008.

children: Helena (Tom) Rezac of Omaha, NE, Steve (Rose) Adams of Elk Point, SD, and Gloria Larson of Tucson, AZ; 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands, 1 sis-

Yankton Press & Dakotan



Eugenia 'Jean' Brokaw

LAGUNA HILLS, Calif. - Eugenia "Jean" Conley Brokaw died peacefully and in the company of family members and care-givers at her home in Laguna Hills. California, Wednesday evening, November 9, just four days short of what would have been her 94th birthday.

She is survived by three sons: Tom and his wife Meredith of New York City, Bill of Denver and Mike and his wife Beth of Dana Point, California. She was Grandma Jean, a powerful and wise influence on five grandchildren and a niece, Gretchen Moore of Warsaw, Indiana. During the Christmas 2010 holidays her family celebrated Grandma Jean's life in Newport Beach, California, with a festive gathering that included her grandchildren - Pat and Kristen of Orange County, Dr. Jennifer Brokaw of San Francisco, Andrea Brokaw of New York City, Sarah Brokaw of Santa Monica, her nephew Dick Brokaw and seven great-grandchilden. Jean had been living in Orange County since the death of her husband, Anthony "Red" Brokaw, in March 1982. They had been married since 1938 and lived in several communities in their home state of South Dakota and the Midwest during Red's career as a skilled operator of heavy construction equipment.

struction of camping sites and recreation areas for the Corps of Engineers and Jean managed a shoe store in downtown Yankton.

They were a popular and active couple at the congregational church and the Elks Club and participated in a number of civic organizations.

Her New York City and Southern California granddaughters cherished their trips to Yankton and summer stays with Jean and Red, the late Merritt and Vivian Auld, their maternal grandparents. (They particularly liked Grandma Jean's peach pie and homemade dill pickles)

the joys and virtues of being selfreliant from an early age when she helped with the harvest and daily chores.

Following her elementary and junior high education in a oneroom rural school house, her family lost the farm during the Great Depression and moved to Andover, S.D. where Jean graduated from high school at the age of sixteen.

She hoped to become a journalist but the cost of college was prohibitive, so instead she became a lively family commentator and informal historian on the seismic changes she had witnessed, from the Great Depression to World War II, from the Cold War to Vietnam, from kerosene lamps to the Internet, from the Model T to space travel. Through it all, she was a mother lode of civility, wise counsel and good humor for her immediate family and the many surrogate family members who over the years were attracted to her warm and generous personality.

tling in rural Vermillion, SD. In 1967 they became US Citizens. changing their name to Adams.

ried Al Kessler and moved to Yankton. They spent most of

Kessler

1987. On June 22, 1991 she mar-

Andes in 1990 to take care of Don's

parents. In 1991, he opened Dakota

Hearing Instruments in Lake

Andes, SD, where they built and

sold their own hearing aids. Don

helped many people with hearing

loss to have better lives with their

hearing aids. When members of

their family joined the business,

Don and Jan retired in Rosarito,

Baja California, Mexico. Don still

teaching people Bible truths.

sold hearing aids and they enjoyed

When Don became ill, they moved

back to Lakes Andes, where Don

the Good Samaritan Society in

Wagner.

Trummer.

grandchildren.

Andes, SD 57356.

you again!'

passed away November 9, 2011 at

Don was preceded in death by

Thankful for having shared his

his parents and a brother, Robert

life are his wife, Janice of Lake

Andes, SD; four daughters: Rose

Leibhan of Sioux Falls, SD; Donna

Ehrisman of Hutchinson, MN; Debra Johnson of Plymouth, MN;

and Monica Strait of Lake Andes,

SD; son, David Trummer of Califor-

nia; 16 grandchildren; and 34 great-

Don was a firm believer in the

Condolences can be mailed to

Yankton Press & Dakotan

November 11, 2011

Bible's Resurrection Hope. He

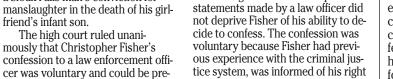
would always say, "I'll be seeing

Janice Trummer; PO Box 8; Lake

Ellen is survived by her 3

ter and an infant daughter.

November 11, 2011



show how he had shaken the toddler.

his confession should not be pre-

erced him into it.

sented to the jury because police co-

The high court said deceptive

In his appeal, Fisher argued that

tice system, was informed of his right to remain silent and get an attorney, and he never asked to end the interrogation, the justices said. The Supreme Court also said the

trial judge was correct to let the jury watch the video of Fisher using a doll to demonstrate how he had shaken the child, which the court referred to by his initials, P.V.

"Because Fisher was recreating events based on his own personal knowledge, any dissimilarity between the motion Fisher used to shake the doll compared to the motion used to shake P.V. would have been slight and insufficient to mislead the jury or unfairly prejudice Fisher," Justice Glen A. Severson wrote for the high court.

Friday, 11.11.11 ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net

NEWS DEPARTMENT: news@yankton.net

Home & Crematory, Yankton, is in charge of arrangements.

Donald Trummer

LAKE ANDES — Donald Dale Trummer, 79 of Lake Andes, son of Dwight and Marjorie (Clay) Trummer, was born November 26, 1931 at Osakis, MN. He died Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at the Good Samaritan Society in Wagner, SD. No services are being held.

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

Donald graduated from high school in Osakis, MN. He married Janice M. Engfer on September 3, 1950 at Lake Andes, SD. After marrying the love of his life, Don worked at the Fort Randall Dam and then drove a dairy delivery truck for Had's Dairy. Two daughters were blessed to their union: Rose and Donna, who were both born in Pickstown, SD. In 1953, the family moved to Minneapolis, MN where Don became a Journeyman Tile Setter. The family was blessed with two more daughters: Debra and Monica. In 1959, the family moved to Moorhead. MN where Don started his own floor covering store and added another family member, a son David. The Trummer family eventually moved to Minneapolis where Don owned a Real Estate Company. Don and Janice moved to San Diego and Santa Barbara and another new business was started, the hearing aid business. They moved back to Lake

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Gwen Steckler

RN. BSN. CHTP

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Online condolences at: www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Alvin Schaeffer

Alvin Schaeffer, 79, of Yankton died Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Monday at United Church of Christ (Congregational), Yankton, with the Rev. Paul M. Opsahl and Matt Green officiating, with military graveside rites by the Ernest-Bowver VFW Post #791. Burial will be in the Westlawn-Hillcrest Cemetery, Omaha, Neb., at approximately 3 p.m. Monday afternoon.

Visitations begin at 5 p.m Sunday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a time of memory sharing at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

David C. Sandstedt

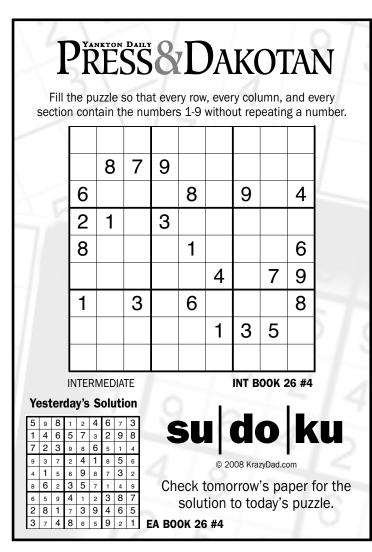
Jean and Red were longtime residents of Yankton, having moved there in 1955 from Pickstown. Red supervised the con-

Roman T. Potts

During her California vears. Jean continued her association with P.E.O. and became an enthusiastic fan of the Los Angeles Lakers and the California Angels. She was a regular at weekly bridge games in the retirement community of Laguna Woods and traveled widely, taking trips to Europe, through the Panama Canal, Hawaii and along the Alaska coast line.

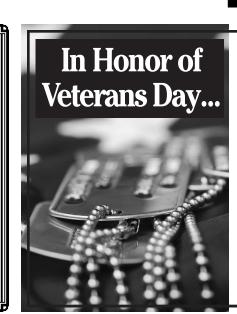
Jean began life on her father's small farm in northern South Dakota where she lived the 20th century version of Little House on the Prairie. She often recalled

Yankton Press & Dakotan November 11, 2011





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