

South Dakota

Small Business Has Big Impact

BY JUSTIN JOINER
Capital Journal

PIERRE (AP) — If believing there's a niche for a business that adds zing to something familiar makes you an entrepreneur, Sonja Boe is one. Just a few weeks ago, she opened the Spiceleaf, a bistro at 113 S. Pierre St.

The added zing comes from the freshness. She uses spices, meats and vegetables so fresh she doesn't even keep a freezer on hand.

Boe said finding a niche is part of the excitement of doing business.

"I guess I've always enjoyed being a business person," she said. "I like to create jobs for other people."

But Boe's passion for business isn't unique. While the South Dakota Business Tax Division doesn't keep specific numbers on new businesses, its records suggest there is a steady increase in the number of people such as Boe willing to take the risk of launching a business.

The records show the number of businesses at work in the state has increased by about 20,000 in the past decade.

The number of businesses that paid sales, use and contractors' excise tax on their products and services was listed as more than 59,000 back in 2000. By 2011, that number had jumped to more than 78,399.

Though most of those businesses are in-state, those figures also include companies

doing business in South Dakota that are based in other states.

New business 7(a) loans from the Small Business Administration have also held consistent for a few years and last year actually exceeded the number of similar loans given to existing businesses, said John L. Brown II, the district director U.S. Small Business Administration.

"The rest of the country's startups are way down," Brown said. "So South Dakota is doing fairly well. We have stabilized, as manifested in the startup numbers."

The Small Business Administration also set a record last year in total loan amount, indicating some growth.

"We for the first time went over \$90 million issued in the state," he said. "That is a record. It blew past the record we set two years ago that was \$77 million. It just smashed it."

But the growth is not surprising, despite the nation's economic challenges, Brown said.

"During the recession that started in 2007 up to this point, our business drop-out rate, the number of business failures relative to the rest of the country, has been much lower because of the nature of our business-friendly environment here," he said.

He said the ease of starting a new business and maintaining an existing one is easier in South Dakota than many other states.

"We don't have a lot of additional, what I would call overhead," he said. "We don't have a lot of additional, ongoing taxes. You don't have a heavy

burden of regulation."

Jeff Eckhoff, state director of the South Dakota Small Business Development Centers, said South Dakota has been ranked in business magazines as the best place to start a small business.

Two Pierre business owners agreed the business climate was good.

Peggy Kelly, who owns the Mostly Chocolates store, which opened in July, said the state's laws were not difficult to deal with.

"I had to have a sales tax license first," she said. "Then because we make the chocolates in the store and have a full espresso bar we had to have a license from the Department of Health. We started with almost all new construction so meeting the health department requirements was not difficult."

Kelly said Christmas is the biggest holiday for her business and she is looking forward to Mostly Chocolates being one of the Pierre Christmas shopping opportunities.

Justin Crosby, who owns The Garage Door Guy, spends his days fixing an invention that has become a necessity for many people. Created in 1926, the electric overhead garage door opener is now an ordinary fixture of life for a great many Americans - but a hassle to fix or install. Crosby said he got into the business because he saw the demand for a service he knew he could provide and he knew he had the skills to do it well. South Dakota's minimal paperwork made it easy to launch his idea for a small business.

Flood Ready To Announce Bid For Governor?

NORFOLK, Neb. (AP) — Outgoing Speaker of the Legislature Mike Flood appears ready to announce his candidacy for Nebraska governor.

The *Omaha World-Herald* reports Flood is planning to make a "special announcement" Monday evening at a convention center in his hometown of Norfolk.

Since June, Flood has toured the state and talked with Ne-braskans as he considered a possible run for governor. During the tour, Flood has been saying the state needs to invest in infrastructure, schools and the state's farmers.

Flood is a respected Republican lawmaker who helped broker compromises on difficult issues while leading the Legislature. But term limits are forcing him to leave office.

Besides Flood, Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy has expressed interest in running for Gov. Dave Heineman's job in 2014. Heineman cannot run again because of term limits.

Woman Seeking New Trial In Hammer Death

MASON CITY, Iowa (AP) — A woman convicted of first-degree murder for beating to death an elderly man with a hammer in 2001 is again seeking a new trial.

The *Mason City Globe Gazette* reports that 53-year-old Bennie Mae Harrington is appealing a judge's denial last month of her request for a new trial. The appeal is now before the Iowa Court of Appeals.

Harrington says the attorney who handled her previous appeal failed to raise issues with the performance of her trial attorney and that she should have been found incompetent to stand trial.

Prosecutors in her trial said Harrington used a hammer to kill 81-year-old Robert Crawford, who paid her \$50 a week for sex because she wanted money for cocaine.

Harrington has been denied four previous requests for new trials.

Man Sues Beatrice Over Motel Closing

BEATRICE, Neb. (AP) — The former owner of a motel Beatrice officials condemned in 2010 is suing the city for nearly \$217,000 in damages.

The *Beatrice Daily Sun* reports that Ray Scott, of Endicott, filed his lawsuit on Wednesday.

Scott used to own the Villa motel. He says city officials acted improperly when they inspected his business and then evacuated residents.

Scott says the city inspector looked inside two buildings without his knowledge but didn't look at the building where most of the Villa's 45 residents lived.

Scott says he wasn't given much chance to challenge the findings or make repairs.

The city hasn't responded to the lawsuit, but officials defended their actions when the Villa closed. The city attorney at the time said the Villa had mold and numerous fire hazards.

Wind Cave Park Urges Caution By Drivers

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK (AP) — The superintendent of Wind Cave National Park is urging drivers to slow down and use caution to avoid hitting animals while driving through the park in South Dakota's Black Hills.

Superintendent Vidal Davila says people driving at night or in poor winter weather conditions often have trouble seeing bison or elk on the road.

Davila says five bison, three deer and one pronghorn antelope have been killed in the park so far this year after being hit by vehicles.

The park superintendent says bison sometimes gather on highways in the park to lick salt. That salt is used on roads outside the park, but clings to vehicles and then drops off when those vehicles are traveling through the park.

Davila says the park has around 450 bison.

Man Dies After Truck Hits Golf Course Tree

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Police say an Omaha man died after his truck veered off the road and collided with a tree on a golf course. The accident happened shortly after 7 a.m. on Sunday.

Police say Edward Murphy was driving north on 108th Street in northwest Omaha when his Ford F-250 left the road.

The 33-year-old's truck hit a light pole and went down an embankment to the Knolls Golf Course. Murphy's truck went through a fence and hit a tree.

Police say Murphy died at the scene of the accident.

Christmas Trees To Decorate S.D. State Capitol

PIERRE (AP) — The hallways of the South Dakota Capitol will soon be filled with Christmas trees as part of the annual Christmas at the Capitol holiday display.

More than 90 Christmas trees will be decorated Nov. 17-18 by members of schools, churches, communities and civic groups as part of the "Joyous Sounds of Christmas" display.

The tradition draws thousands to the Capitol each year.

The tree to be featured in the Capitol rotunda is a 35-foot blue spruce that will be decorated by Girls Scouts-Dakota Horizons, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

The display opens with a grand lighting ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 20, and will continue through Dec. 26. Display hours are 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. CST each day.

OBITUARIES

Clara Rye

Clara A. Rye, age 93, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Friday, November 9, 2012 at Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton.

Funeral services are 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with Reverend David Lund officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton. Visitation is from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 12, 2012 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with the family present from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Visitation resumes one hour prior to the funeral.

Pallbearers are grandsons: James Rye, Todd Buehlmann, Terry Rye, Jason Rye, Alan Rye and Ryan Permann. Honorary pallbearers are all of her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Clara was born March 29, 1919 in Meckling, South Dakota to Alfred and Ingaborg (Rietan) Hanson. She grew up in the Gayville area where she at-



Rye

tended school. On April 30, 1944, Clara married Wilmer Rye in Gayville, South Dakota. After their marriage, they farmed near Gayville until February of 1948. Then they farmed in the Midway area before moving to Yankton in 1975. Clara managed Fensel's Greenhouse for over five years. She was very active in Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church in Yankton. She enjoyed teaching Sunday School for many years, belonging to the quilting groups at both churches and helping at any church activity. Clara also enjoyed serving at the Community Banquet. She loved going on walks and was a caring neighbor who always made time to visit those in the nursing home.

Clara is survived by six children: Wesley (Arlis) Rye of Yankton, David (Sherry) Rye of

Irene, Verlyn (Lora Lea) Rye of Irene, Diane Buehlmann of Yankton, Roger (Karen) Rye of Adrian, MN and Joyce (Steve) Permann of Tripp, SD; ten grandsons; five granddaughters; eight great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Virginia Rye of Pierre, SD; and several nieces and cousins.

Clara was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Wilmer on August 2, 1999; granddaughter, Ana Rye; son-in-law, Tony Buehlmann; and three brothers: Leonard, Ernest and Clifford Hanson.

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

Yankton Press & Dakotan

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Online condolences at: www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Ronald Schroeder

Ronald J. Schroeder, age 71, of Crofton, Nebraska, died Saturday, November 10, 2012 at the Osmond General Hospital in Osmond, Nebraska.

A graveside service will be 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at Ss. Philip and James Cemetery in St. James, Nebraska with Reverend Eric Olsen officiating.

Ronald J. Schroeder was born May 24, 1941, in Newcasttle, Nebraska, to Clarence and Mary Ann (Dietsch) Schroeder. Ron grew up in the Wynot area and attended elementary school in St. James and graduated from Wynot High School. He attended college in Milford, Nebraska, and graduated with a degree in

auto body. He married Judith Wiebelhaus on May 2, 1967 and together they had three children: Tim, Sue, and Leslie. They moved to Wynot and later moved to Crofton where Ron started Schroeder Body Shop which he continued until the mid 80's. After that he started farming, driving truck, and working in construction until he retired recently due to health reasons.

He is survived by his three children: Tim (Brenda) Schroeder of Yankton; Sue (Chris) Kilpatrick of Rapid City, South Dakota; and Leslie (Eric Wieseler) Bliskey of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; 8 grandchildren; one sister Dolores (Craig) Hansen of Irene, South Dakota;

and one niece. He was preceded in death by his parents and infant brother, Maurice.

Condolences can be sent to the Schroeder family at 705 West 9th Street in Yankton, South Dakota 57078.

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

Yankton Press & Dakotan

November 12, 2012



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

Richard 'Dick' Rezac

SIoux FALLS — Richard "Dick" Rezac, 61, died Sunday, Nov. 11, 2012, at the Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls.

A funeral service is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, at St. Mary Catholic Church with burial to follow in Woodlawn Cemetery.

A visitation begins at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Miller Funeral Home, 507 S. Main Ave., Sioux Falls, with the family present from 5-7 p.m. and a Liturgical Wake Service at 7 p.m.

Albert Kiefer

Albert Kiefer, 71 of Wynot, Neb., died Friday, Nov. 9, 2012, at the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Memorial services are at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Holy Family (Sacred Heart) Catholic

Church, Wynot, with the Rev. Eric Olsen officiating.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to services on Tuesday at the church.

Inurnment will occur at Sacred Heart Cemetery at a later date under the direction of Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington, Neb.

Larry Highland

Larry L. Highland, 69, of Yankton died unexpectedly Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, at Mercy Hospital, Sioux City, Iowa.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, at Trinity Lutheran Church with the

Rev. Dave Lund officiating. Burial will be in the Zion Cemetery, rural Volin.

Visitations are 2-8 p.m. Tuesday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Richard Teske

Richard E. Teske, 68, of Yankton died Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, at the VA Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minn.

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

Her love for you was special.

Her memorial should be too.

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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:

Della Kostel
who passed away on
November 13, 2011

Verlin Larsen
who passed away on
November 17, 2011

Robert Hora
who passed away on
November 18, 2004

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. Guiding and serving families with compassion and trust.

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Please Join Us!

Solitaires

A social group of widows/widowers of all ages that meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Hospitality Center on the grounds of Wintz & Ray Funeral Home.

Wednesday, November 14th

Holiday Party

Meet at Minerva's at 6pm
For more information call
605-665-3644

Last Solitaires gathering for the year. Our first meeting in 2013 will be April 17th

2901 Douglas Ave.
Yankton, 605-665-3644
[wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com)
Garden of Memories Cemetery

AM 1450
MORNING COFFEE
WEEKDAYS
7:40 AM
MONDAY
THRU FRIDAY
Yankton's Home Team!