

# Wind

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Beethoven wind project. NorthWestern purchased the wind farm from BayWa r.e. Wind LLC for \$143 million.

The Prevailing Winds project would be located in Bon Homme and Charles Mix counties. The wind farm could generate a maximum capacity of 200 megawatts.

## FACING CONTROVERSY

In terms of the wind farms, Bon Homme County differs from its neighbors, said Brian McGinnis with the District III Planning and Development office in Yankton. “Charles Mix County has no zoning, and Hutchinson County has no problem with (the wind farms),” said McGinnis, who has worked with Bon Homme County on Article 17.

The Bon Homme County controversy was seen in the Oct. 20 commissioners’ meeting, which gave the first reading to Article 17.

The meeting was moved to the Bon Homme County courtroom to accommodate the nearly 100 persons who packed the room. The commissioners heard 100 minutes of testimony.

The commissioners pointed out that wind farm promoters can currently seek construction with only a conditional-use permit. The wind energy measure would allow the county to put some regulations in place, the commissioners added.

The main point of the Oct. 20 meeting dealt with setbacks for wind farms. Article 17 calls for setbacks of 1,000 feet near residences and 550 feet near property lines.

Opponents indicated they wanted stricter regulations, including longer setbacks, if not an outright ban on wind farms.

In the end, the commissioners voted to approve the ordinance as recommended by the county zoning board.

## GIVING FINAL APPROVAL

In contrast, Tuesday’s commission meeting attracted only about a half-dozen people for the second reading and final approval. No one spoke against the proposed measure.

However, Hauck asked the Prevailing Winds developers to make concessions on certain items as a peace offering to opponents. He cited the desire to calm some of the rift created by

the wind farm controversy. “Would it be hard on you (developers) to look at a setback one mile from residences?” Hauck asked.

“That would create a huge problem,” responded Prevailing Winds project manager Roland Jurgens.

He explained the challenges such a restriction would place on the project.

“If you have a mile setback, they will be very limited in where they can set the wind turbines,” he said.

Prevailing Winds — and wind farms in general — require flexibility, Jurgens said.

“The (fewer) restrictions you place on the project, the more places we can put the turbines and supporting light systems,” he said.

More regulations mean more expenses, which drives down the profitability and attractiveness of wind projects, Jurgens said.

“You need to build it, finance it, pay the local people, pay taxes and hope there’s a little left for the investors,” he said. “Every time you add new regulations and expenses, these (developers) get squeezed and the investors get a little less.”

The developers are just looking for a decent return on their investment, Jurgens

said. “We’re not trying to get rich,” he said.

Hauck spoke of the concerns, particularly by neighbors, about wind turbines’ possible impact on health, the environment, and the surrounding landscape and quality of life.

In response, Jurgens noted technology has reduced the impact of lights, shadow flickers and sound.

In addition, the wind farms are subject to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, he said. “We have safety before anything,” he added.

The Prevailing Winds developers will adhere to any conditions placed by county officials in the zoning ordinance or conditional-use permit, Jurgens said.

However, he doesn’t look for it to satisfy opponents.

“They have a problem with Beethoven. If they can see (turbines) anywhere they look, they don’t like it,” he said. “That (setback) can be one mile or five miles.”

Prevailing Winds president Ronnie Hornstra of Avon, who also worked with the Beethoven project, agreed.

“With Beethoven, we did everything we could to be friendly,” he said.

Hauck acknowledged the

opposition. “Some want a 2-1/2 mile setback,” he said.

## SETTING THE RULES

McGinnis informed the commissioners they can pass the wind energy ordinance and still make changes down the line.

“The ordinance sets the base. You can control a project with a conditional-use permit,” he said. “The ordinance will be the general rule. With the conditional-use permit, you can be project specific.”

However, he warned against becoming too restrictive. That’s especially true if tailoring regulations to satisfy particular neighbors who don’t want nearby wind farms.

“You can set individual setbacks for the project owner,” he said. “If you do it for the property owners — that gets tricky.”

The commissioners also need to realize the primary purpose of setbacks, McGinnis said. “The setback is a safety issue. You don’t do it for sight and sound. It’s there for safety, if the turbine falls down,” he said.

Unlike the 80-megawatt Beethoven project, the 200-megawatt Prevailing Winds project would require Public Utilities Commission

(PUC) approval, McGinnis said. The PUC oversight applies to wind farms generating more than 100 megawatts.

“The PUC may change things after its hearing,” McGinnis said.

The three-member PUC would hold public hearings before acting on a proposed wind farm, he added. If the PUC gives its approval, the wind farm would come back to the county level for final action.

The Prevailing Wind promoters have been open about their plans and intentions, McGinnis said. “As far as these developers, they’ve been pretty straightforward,” he added.

The Bon Homme County commissioners talked about the growing number of wind farms not only in South Dakota but in surrounding states.

Hauck added his hope that the current rift among Bon Homme County residents surrounding wind farms will eventually subside.

“There is a tremendous amount of negativity,” he said. “I want to see people get along.”

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## OBITUARIES

### Hilaria Steffen

Hilaria M. Steffen, age 93 of Constance, Nebraska, died on Saturday, October 31, 2015 at the Golden Living Center in Hartington.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Constance with Rev. Jim Keiter officiating. Burial will



Steffen

be in the St. Joseph Cemetery in Constance.

Visitation will be on Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm with a Vigil Service at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Thursday at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington. Pallbearers will be Ed Sanders, Bob Waibel, Jim Tressell, Brad Steffen, John Van Heek and Dale Van Heek.

Hilaria was born on July 19, 1922 on a farm four miles south of Crofton, Nebraska to John B. and

Mary I. (Arens) Van Heek. She grew up in the Crofton area where she attended Mount Vernon District 130 and St. Rose grade schools and graduated from Crofton High School in 1939. She attended Mount Marty College in Yankton for one year. Hilaria worked as a typist at the Immaculate Conception School in Stephan, South Dakota and in the bookkeeping department at Creighton University in Omaha. She had worked at the Croll Freeman Defense Plant in Yankton during WWII.

Hilaria married Victor J. Steffen on June 13, 1950 in Crofton at St. Rose of Lima

Catholic Church. Together they raised five children on the farm near Constance. Hilaria was a member of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Constance and its Ladies Guild, and the Christian Mothers.

In addition to raising her children, she took pride in tending to her large vegetable garden from which she canned produce from each year’s harvest. She also enjoyed her colorful flowers in the garden and in the front yard of the family home.

Hilaria is survived by her five children and their spouses, Mary and Edward Sanders of Miami, OK,

Rita and Robert Waibel of Minneapolis, MN, Kenneth and Joanne Steffen of Arroyo Grande, CA, Carla and James Tressell of Arvada, CO, Michael and LuAnn Steffen of Laurel, NE; five grandchildren, eight great grandchildren; one brother Gerard (Jake) Van Heek of Crofton; one sister Mary Ann Zavadil and brother-in-law Laurence Zavadil of Crofton, NE and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Victor on February 5, 2014 at the age of 96 years; a sister, Sr. Colette (Sylvia) OSB; and a sister-in-

law, Norma Van Heek.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph’s Catholic Parish in Constance.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
November 4, 2015



**WINTZ**  
FUNERAL HOME

Hartington, Coleridge, Crofton

203 W. Franklin, PO Box 505  
Hartington, Nebraska 68739

### James Rothschadl

James Rothschadl, 74, of Tyndall, South Dakota passed away on Sunday, November 1, 2015 at Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Visitation will be held at St. Leo Catholic Church, Tyndall, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4. Also held at the church that evening will be a rosary at 6:30 p.m. followed by a wake service at 7:00 p.m.

Funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 5 at the church. Burial will follow in the St. Leo Catholic Cemetery in Tyndall. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Good Samaritan Society of Tyndall or the Tyndall Fire Department. Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Goglin Funeral Home of Tyndall.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

James Emil Rothschadl was born on January 24, 1941 to Emil and Leantine (Schneider) Rothschadl in rural Tyndall, South Dakota. He attended Nedved rural school and graduated from Tyndall High School in 1959. On June 28, 1969, James was united in marriage to Mae Pavlish at St. Leo’s Catholic Church in Tyndall. For many years, James farmed with his father and worked at Soukup Implement until 1971. He then worked with the SD Department of Highways until 1993 at which time he and his wife purchased the Bottle Shop in Tyndall. They later retired in 2006.

James was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He loved attending the “boys” activities and watching the Minnesota Vikings. He also enjoyed

the family trips and visiting with his friends in the morning at the Bottle Shop. James would also spend his time caring for his garden and feeding his “livestock,” the many birds and squirrels. He was active in St. Leo’s Catholic in Tyndall, and served as a Eucharistic Minister and member of the Knights of Columbus for many years.

James passed away on Sunday, November 1 at Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls after a long, courageous battle of heart disease. He had attained the age of 74 years, nine months and eight days.

Thankful for having shared his life are wife of 46 years, Mae Rothschadl of Tyndall; son Tim Teabo of Sioux Falls; daughter Paulette (Shannon) Peters of Tyndall; grandsons: Brady Rothschadl and girlfriend Katellynn Fischer

of Rapid City and Connor Peters of Tyndall; sister Arlene Kronaizl of Tyndall; brothers: Ken (Marilyn) Rothschadl of Tyndall and John (Donna) Rothschadl of Yankton; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, parents-in-law Adolph and Mamie Pavlish, brother-in-law Ray and Carol (Schneider) Pavlish and brother-in-law Tom Kronaizl.

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**Goglin**  
Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

hour prior to the service at the church.

Burial of the cremated remains will be 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at the Czech National Cemetery, Tyndall.

### Margaret Lyons

Margaret Marie Lyons, 78, of Yankton passed away unexpectedly Monday morning Nov. 2, 2015, at her residence at Avera Majestic Bluffs, Yankton.

### Mary Heinrich

Mary Jane Heinrich, age 73, died at Chandler Regional Hospital in Chandler, Arizona on Saturday October 24, 2015.

Mary Jane was born on May 18, 1942 to Henry “Hank” and Lucille (Fees) Sattler. She graduated high school in Avon and earned her bachelor’s degree and teacher’s certificate at Southern State Teachers College in Springfield. Upon her marriage to Charles Heinrich, Mary Jane moved to his family farm near Tripp, South Dakota. Following Charles’ death in 1992, she moved into Tripp. For 34 years, Mary Jane (known as Mrs. H. to many students) taught business courses at Tripp-Delmont High School until retiring in 1997. Mary Jane was an active member of Emmaus Lutheran Church and the American Legion Auxiliary.

She is survived and remembered by her son, Chad Heinrich and sister, Sandra Meiers. She was

preceded in death by her husband and parents.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, November 9 at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Tripp. Burial will be at Grace Hill Cemetery. Family and friends are welcome at Emmaus Lutheran for a light luncheon to follow.

In lieu of flowers or cards, a gift in memory of Mary Jane Heinrich to the National MS Society is welcomed at: www.nationalmssociety.org/Donate.

Gift acknowledgements may be sent to: Chad Heinrich, 3301 South Sunland Drive, Chandler, AZ 85248.

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**Goglin**  
Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

### Marjorie Grass

Marjorie H. Grass, 99, of Vermillion, SD, passed away on Sunday, November 1, 2015 at Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

A visitation will be held from 6:00—7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, November 4 at Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion with a prayer service and Rebekah service at 7 p.m.

A Funeral Service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, November 5 at First Baptist Church in Vermillion with Rev. Elmer “Sandy” Aakre officiating.

Burial will take place immediately following the service at the Bluff View Cemetery of Vermillion.

Marj was born on August 16, 1916 in Glenville, Nebraska to Ralph and Mary (Lawson) Palmer.

She married Harley E. Grass on June 30, 1934 in Onawa, Iowa. They lived in Mapleton, Iowa where Harley worked as a plumber and Marj was a housewife. The couple moved to Vermillion, South Dakota in 1942 where they lived until their passings. Together they raised six children.

Marj was an avid member of the First Baptist Church in Vermillion, Ladies Encampment Auxiliary and Rebekah’s.

Marj did ironing out of her home for people until she went to work in 1969 as a Nurse’s Aide at Dakota Hospital. She also worked in Laundry and Central Supply until she retired in 1990.

She enjoyed flower



Grass

gardening, tending to her rhubarb patch, bowling, sewing dolls and doll clothes, and ballroom dancing at Arthur Murray Dance

Studio. She also enjoyed traveling on bus tours to Canada and other various places. Her favorite trip when she was 85 years old was to the Sturgis Bike Rally with her daughter Barbara by her side.

Marj is survived by a son, Tom (Connie) Grass of Gayville, South Dakota; two daughters, Janet (Ron) Watts of Wentzville, Missouri; and Barbara Grass-Rothschadl of Vermillion, South Dakota; a brother, Elmer (Mary) Palmer of Mapleton, Iowa; sister-in-law, Opal Olson of Mapleton, Iowa; daughter-in-law, Jannette Grass of Yankton; 16 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and eight great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Har-

ley Grass; two sons, Chuck Grass and Don Grass; a daughter, Shirley Anderson; infant granddaughter; two grand-daughters, Roxanne Mackenzie and Bonnie Waleko; a great-granddaughter, Tanna Knobbe; and three brothers.

The Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion has been entrusted with the services.

Condolences may be posted online at www.kober-funeralhome.com.

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### Gladys Pechous

Gladys N. Pechous, 87, of Tyndall passed away Monday, Nov. 2, 2015, at the Good Samaritan Society in Tyndall.

Funeral Services will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 6, at the United Methodist Church in Tyndall, with THE Rev. Laurie Kidd officiating.

Visitations will begin at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, at the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tyndall, with a Scripture service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one

## IN REMEMBRANCE

**Hilaria M. Steffen**  
10:00 AM, Thursday  
St. Joseph Catholic Church  
Constance

**Arlis Rae Peitz**  
10:30 AM, Friday  
St. Rose of Lima  
Catholic Church, Crofton

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605-665-3644 www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com



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Hartington, Coleridge, Crofton

1st Annual  
*Celebrating Caregivers*  
 Information to Inspiration  
**Are you a spouse, adult child, or friend caring for a loved one?**  
**Please join us Nov. 5th from 4PM-7PM @ the Avera Professional Office Pavilion**  
**CAREgivers**  
 by *Active Generations*  
**Avera** Education & Staffing Solutions  
**AHEC** Yankton Rural Area Health Education Center  
**www.caregiversSD.org**  
**Please RSVP by calling 1-800-360-6161**