

S.D. Panel Urges Change In Farm Property Tax

PIERRE (AP) — A legislative task force has recommended a change in South Dakota's new system for determining the value of agricultural land for property tax purposes.

The panel will ask the South Dakota Legislature to relax a cap on annual increases in taxable values. That would speed up increases in the taxable value of some land.

Property taxes used to be based on the selling prices of comparable farm land, but that system was scrapped because there were not enough sales to set a valid market price.

Under the system put in place two years ago, the taxable value of pasture land is based on average cash rent over an eight-year period. The taxable value of cropland is calculated according to income based on an eight-year average of yield and crop prices.

Neb. Lawmakers Revive Alcohol Serving Debate

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Employees who sell or serve alcohol in Nebraska would face mandatory training under a proposal lawmakers will likely tackle next year to fight underage drinking and drunken driving.

Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop said Tuesday he will press for a bill that would require state-certified training for workers who sell at bars, restaurants, grocery stores and other businesses.

South Dakota May Change Lethal Injection Method

BY KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — South Dakota is considering changing its lethal injection procedure after the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration said it could not use its supply of a key ingredient in executions, South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley said Tuesday.

The DEA notified the South Dakota Department of Corrections last month that it had concerns over the importation and use of sodium thiopental from a company based in Mumbai, India, Jackley said. The drug is part of a three-drug protocol used by South Dakota in its executions.

The DEA has been investigating whether several states properly registered with federal regulators before importing the sedative, which is no longer manufactured in the United States and is in scarce supply worldwide.

Stockpiles of sodium thiopental were confiscated from a handful of states that use it in executions, including Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Jackley said Tuesday that the concerns were misplaced because all the proper customs paperwork was in order and the drug had been independently tested for safety and efficacy.

He declined to confirm whether the state was finalizing a plan for a new one-drug protocol.

A lawyer for Donald Moeller, a South Dakota death-row inmate appealing his sentence, wrote in a motion filed Friday that lawyers for the state told her the plan for a new drug protocol will be approved by Saturday.

"The state is taking further measures, which include additional lethal injection protocol options. It may be a one or two or three-drug protocol," Jackley said.

He said he hopes to resolve the issue before Moeller's execution, which is likely the next one to be scheduled in the state.

Moeller was sentenced to death for the rape and murder of a 9-year-old Sioux Falls girl in 1990.

Deborah Czuba, Moeller's attorney, questioned the quality of the sodium thiopental supply in her motion, saying it was ordered "from a ramshackle basement office in Mumbai, India."

She said the state did not research the background of the drug manufacturer and did not obtain instructions on how to use or store the drug.

Jackley said he is open to the DEA independently testing the drug supply, but said the state will not forfeit the supply without a hearing and appeal, if necessary.

A spokeswoman for the DEA did not respond to a message seeking comment.

OBITUARIES

Chance Orr

Chance Orr, infant son of Johnny Orr II and Shanae Castellaw was born and died Saturday, October 8, 2011 at Avera McKennan Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD.

Funeral services will be 4:00 p.m. Thursday, October 13, 2011 at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, SD. Burial will be at Yankton Cemetery, Yankton, SD.

Chance is survived by his mother, Shanae Marie Castellaw and father, Johnny Orr II, both of Yankton, SD; brothers, Jaiden Sidney Michael Castellaw of Mitchell, NE and Johnny Orr III of Dubuque, IA; sisters, Kiana Victoria Castellaw of Mitchell, NE, Erica Harbour of Milwaukee, WI,



Orr

Dajoneaa Orr of Chicago, IL; grandparents, Starlene Castellaw of Yankton, SD and Carol Louise Durrah of Moline, IL.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Castellaw and 1 aunt, Kaylynn Johnson.

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October 12, 2011

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Ida Liska

VERDIGRE, Neb. — Funeral services for Ida W. Liska, age 82 (February 6, 1929-October 5, 2011), of Verdigre will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, October 15, 2011 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Verdigre, Nebraska. Reverends Doug Scheinost and Rod Kneiff will be the concelebrants with burial in the Hillcrest Cemetery, rural Verdigre.



Liska

Visitation will be Friday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Brockhaus Funeral Home in Verdigre with a Wake Service at 6:30 p.m.

Ida died Wednesday, October 5, 2011, at Alpine Village in Verdigre.

Ida Wilma (King) Liska, daughter of Carl and Ida (Dedlow) King, was born February 6, 1929 on a farm near Creighton, Nebraska. She attended St. Ludger's Catholic School at Creighton, graduating in 1946. On October 28, 1947, she was married to Robert Dean Liska at Creighton. The couple was blessed with five children, Roger, Marcia, Phyllis, Patricia, and Duane. Ida and Robert farmed four miles north of Verdigre, Nebraska.

Ida taught school for one year prior to marriage, and then worked from 1972 to 2002 as a nursing assistant and medication aide at Alpine Village in Verdigre.

Ida was a member of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church of Verdigre and also a member of the Catholic Daughters. She was involved with many church activities, and enjoyed traveling and spending time with family.

She is survived by her husband, Robert Liska; children, Roger (Liz) Liska of Republic, Missouri, Marcia (Dick) Potter of Valparaiso, Nebraska, Phyllis (Kenny) Meier of Hartington, Nebraska, Patricia Liska of Bloomfield, Nebraska, and Duane (Peggy) Liska of Verdigre, Nebraska; 15 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Ida was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Ida King; brother, James King and wife Anna; sisters, Mary Agnes Neyens and husband Joseph, and Doris Hoferer and husband Bruce; brothers-in-law, Lawrence Liska, Danny Liska, and Adolph "Junior" Liska.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 12, 2011

Wesley Sorensen

FAIRFIELD, Neb. — Fairfield resident Wesley W. Sorensen, 88, died Monday, October 10, 2011, at Perkins Pavilion Good Samaritan Society-Hastings Village, Hastings, Nebraska.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel in Clay Center, NE with Rev. Joel Stark officiating. Graveside services will be 2:00 p.m. Thursday, October 13, 2011, at Yankton City Cemetery in Yankton, SD.

Visitation will be Tuesday, from 1 p.m.-8 p.m., with the family present from 6 p.m.-8 p.m., at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel in Clay Center, NE. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Fairfield, NE Fire and Rescue Unit. Condolences may be given at www.mclaughlinchapel.com.

Wesley was born October 8, 1923, near Fairfield, NE to Willard Ward and Josephine (Barta) Sorensen. He received his education in Fairfield, NE. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served during WWII until he was honorably discharged. On January 15, 1947, he married Velma Marie Fuks and they made their home in Yankton, SD from 1947 until 1953. In 1953, they moved to Fairfield, NE and Wesley began Sorensen Blacksmith. After his father's death, he began farming in the Fairfield and Edgar area.

He enjoyed working with his hands building and fixing things. He is survived by his children, Marilyn and husband Wayne Ernst of Hastings, NE; Jean and husband Steve Arens of Randolph, NE; Don and wife Sherry Sorensen of Fairfield, NE; Leesa Sorensen of Lincoln, NE; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; sisters, Elsie and husband Ray McReynolds of Gladstone, MO; Kathryn Glass of Lincoln, NE; and brother-in-law, Connie McCartney of Grand Island, NE.

He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, an infant daughter, and sisters, Leona Palmer and Mary McCartney.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 12, 2011

Mary Callahan

VERMILLION — Mary Frances Callahan, 69, of Vermillion died Monday, Oct. 10, 2011, at Wakonda Heritage Manor.

Private services will be held with the family.

Gloria Brandon

Gloria Brandon, age 67 of Yankton, SD passed away unexpectedly Sunday, October 9, 2011 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, SD.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, October 14, 2011 at Vangen Lutheran Church, Mission Hill, SD with Rev. Lance Lindgren officiating. Burial of the cremated remains will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 15, 2011 at the Salem Cemetery, rural Irene, SD.

Visitations will be 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a Scripture service at 7:00 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Pallbearers will be Billy Ridge-way, Larry N. Blodgett, Russel Brandon, Randy Brandon, Dustin Dangel, Travis Dangel, Mark Zimmerman and Brandon Dangel. Honorary pallbearers will be the nieces and nephews, and Sweet Adelines.

Gloria was born on July 25, 1944 to Irving and Antona (Erickson) Brandon at Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton, SD. She was baptized at Salem Lutheran Church, Rural Irene, SD and confirmed at Vangen Lutheran Church, Mission Hill, SD. She worked at Dale Electronic, M Tron Manufacturing and Baldwin Filter in Yankton, retiring in 2008.



Brandon

Gloria joined Sweet Adelines in 1985 where she was lead in interchangeable quartet. Gloria loved baking, cooking and making cakes for different occasions. She loved decorating for the holidays, especially Christmas. She was a collector of teddy bears.

She is survived by her son, Timothy Brandon of Yankton, SD; brothers, Neil (Donna) Brandon of Yankton, SD and Dennis (Barbara) Brandon of Yankton, SD; sisters, Beverly Binder of Sioux Falls, SD, Marlys Novak of Brandon, SD, Neoma (Philip) Dangel of Volin, SD, Pearl (Larry) Blodgett of Volin, SD and Lorraine (Steve) Zimmerman of Yankton, SD.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

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Everett Pearson

SIoux FALLS — Everett "Ed" Ernest Pearson, 78, died peacefully Monday, Oct. 10, 2011, at the Primrose Retirement Community Center, Sioux Falls, surrounded by his family.

Memorial services are at 1:30 p.m. Friday at Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Yankton, with the Rev. Dave Gunderson officiating.

Visitation will begin at noon Friday at the funeral home with the family present.

Michael Kohn

Michael Kohn, 57 of Yankton died Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011, at his residence.

Funeral services are at 11 a.m. Monday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, with Branch President Randy Campbell officiating. Burial will be at the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Yankton.

Visitations are 6-8:30 p.m. Sunday, with Scripture service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Duane Wilcox

PLATTE — Duane H. Wilcox, 79, of Platte, SD, formerly of Lead, SD passed away Friday, October 7, 2011 at the Platte Care Center.

Funeral Services will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Platte. A Committal Service will follow at the Platte City Cemetery with military honors by Campbell-Timmerman American Legion Post #115 of Platte.

Visitation will be held at the church from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 11, 2011 with a 7:00 p.m. Prayer Service.

Memorials in Duane's honor may be directed to: Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 427, Platte, SD 57369 or Platte City Cemetery Association, 37416 272nd St., Platte, SD 57369.

Mount Funeral Home in Platte is assisting with arrangements. Expressions of sympathy may be extended to the family through www.mountfuneralhome.com.



Wilcox

Edward Metter

Edward Metter, age 65 of Yankton died Sunday afternoon, October 9, 2011 from injuries sustained in an automobile/pedestrian accident.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday, October 13, 2011 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton with Rev. Dave Gunderson officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Yankton.

Visitations will begin at 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory with a Scripture service at 7:00 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Ed was born on September 9, 1946 in Huron, SD to William & Amy (King) Metter. He lived for some time in California where he did construction work and in 1980 moved to Huron, SD. While attending the state fair in Huron, Ed met his future wife Mary Ann Gaukel. They married August 12, 1992 and resided in Yankton, SD. Ed was a welder by trade and worked at Morgan Manufacturing until it closed. He then went to work at Gehl's until present. Ed loved fishing, yard work and gardening. Ed was passionate about Harley's and rode his motorcycle proudly. There wasn't a day that passed where Ed didn't talk with a friend, neighbor



Metter

or even a stranger walking down the street who quickly would become a new friend or even a cold & hungry cat during a cold bitter winter day which became the household pet, Tom. Ed was very devoted to and loved his family.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; children, Brenda (David) Erickson of Lincoln, NE, Dana (Heidi) Gaukel of Yankton, SD, Julie Johnson of Yankton, SD, Earl Cressman of Honolulu, HI, 9 grandchildren: Justin Erickson, Brooke Erickson-Holz, Jennifer Noble, Cody Sage, Brittany Sage-Boelter, Victoria Sage, Jade Gaukel, Lucas Gaukel and Grace Gaukel and 3 great grandchildren: Taylor Erickson, Blake Erickson, and Olivia Noble.

He was preceded in death by his parents, 1 granddaughter, Paige Gaukel, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

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