

# FEMA Claim Deadline Is Oct. 24

PIERRE — There is just one week left for South Dakotans to file claims for disaster aid with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), disaster officials announced.

The last day to file for aid with FEMA is Monday, Oct. 24.

"The window is closing soon," said Federal Coordinating Officer Gary Stanley of FEMA. "Please check your furnace and everything else for flood damage, and register with us now if there is any chance you were affected. After next Monday, it's too late."

Homeowners, renters and businesses in Charles Mix, Hughes, Stanley, Union and Yankton counties may be eligible for this assistance. They can register for it by calling 800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 800-462-7585 from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT, by going online at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov), or through a Web-enabled mobile device or Smartphone by going to [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov).

A toll-free legal services hotline is also available for South Dakota residents affected by flooding. The hotline allows callers to request pro bono assistance from a lawyer on issues they may be facing because of the flood, such as replacing legal documents, filing insurance claims, or counseling on foreclosure or tenant issues. Affected residents may call 1-888-870-3176 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. CDT Monday through Friday. Messages can be left at any time. Callers should identify that they are seeking flood-related legal assistance. Resources are also available online at the State Bar of South Dakota's Web site, [www.sdbar.org](http://www.sdbar.org).

"I encourage everyone impacted by the flooding to take advantage of every resource available to help with their recovery," said Kristi Turman, State Coordinating Officer and Director of the South Dakota Office of Emergency Management.

Oct. 24 is also the deadline to submit disaster loan applications for property damage to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). SBA has approved more than \$5 million in federal disaster loans to date to help South Dakota residents and businesses recover from disaster losses.

SBA offers low-interest federal disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, nonprofit organizations to help pay for repair or replacement of disaster-damaged property. Loan amounts may be up to \$200,000 for a primary residence, \$40,000 for personal property and \$2 million for business assets. Interest rates may be as low as 2.563 percent for homeowners and renters, 4 percent for businesses, and 3 percent for nonprofit organizations.

Small businesses and most private, nonprofit organizations may apply for SBA loans of up to \$2 million to help meet disaster caused working capital needs. These working capital loans are available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Homeowners and renters should submit their SBA disaster loan application, even if they are not sure if they will need or want a loan. There are no fees or costs to apply. Approved applicants will have the time they need to decide if they want the loan. If SBA cannot approve their application, in most cases they refer the applicant to FEMA's Other Needs Assistance (ONA) program for possible additional assistance. Applicants may apply online via SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. SBA information and assistance is also available by calling SBA at (800) 659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or on SBA's Web site [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339.



Erik Bendl and his dog, Nice, take a break from their cross-country walk outside the Meridian Corner south of Freeman. Bendl has been traveling with his 6-foot high globe across the Midwest to promote diabetes awareness and plans on passing through Yankton on Wednesday.

## Globe

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After a couple of months playing with his son in the park, he was asked if he would walk with the globe for charity, to which he agreed.

"My uncle is diabetic, my mother was diabetic, and my grandmother was diabetic," he said. "So I decided to do it for diabetics."

Bendl started with smaller walks, including parades around Kentucky and a 160-mile walk around the state to promote the American Diabetes Association.

After his son grew up, he decided to make his journeys longer. In 2007, Bendl began his first long walk — a 430-mile trip from Louisville to Pittsburgh.

"I'm a carpenter, and I hurt my back and couldn't work very much," he said. "So I decided to walk to Pittsburgh where my uncle lives."

Since then, Bendl has walked in 28 states and covered more than 3,300 miles, earning the nickname "WorldGuy."

"I've walked from Louisville to Pittsburgh, Kentucky to Kansas, to the top of Pike's Peak, from Washington, D.C., to Maine through 10 states in the north-east, and from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.,

"I know how it is to have aches and pains, not wanting to get up. Some times you just don't want to go. But diabetics keep going, so I do to."

ERIK BENDL

to North Carolina," he said.

To make his cross-country walks, Bendl said he has learned to depend on the kindness of strangers.

"I leave my van in the morning and walk away from it with enough supplies," he said. "Throughout the day, I'll meet someone or get the number for someone who will take me back to my van, and then I leapfrog it up."

During the night, Bendl will either stay in his van or, if he can't find a ride back to his vehicle, a small tent that he carries with him.

People will also offer him food or a place to shower, he said.

"It always tends to work out," he said. "It's sort of like a GPS — a Good People Support system."

Bendl, who is accompanied on his cross-country walks by his dog "Nice," said he averages 10 miles a day, although some days he will walk up to 14.

"Some days are better than others. These days take a toll on the body," he said, referring to Monday's cool, windy conditions.

While the wind can also cause problems with the globe, it isn't as much trouble as one would think, Bendl said.

"The world doesn't get away from me too often, but if it does, it's pretty easy to get it back," he said. "Only once did I have to run after it, and that was when it blew across a field in North Dakota."

Although many days can be trying, Bendl said the responses he has received have made his struggles worth the effort.

"People email me and say, 'Because of what you're doing, my daughter makes me walk with her. Thanks to you, I now get to do something with my daughter and also help my diabetes,'" he said. "I also talked to a woman a couple weeks ago who had lost 20 pounds, and she said after three days of walking, she could feel her feet again. Things like that make it worth it."

Bendl said he keeps those people in mind when he has doubts about the day in front of him.

"I know how it is to have aches and pains, not wanting to get up," he said. "Some times you just don't want to go. But diabetics keep going, so I do to."

For more information about Bendl or to donate to his cause, visit [www.worldguy.org](http://www.worldguy.org).

## OBITUARIES

### Cletus Koch

FORDYCE, Neb. — Cletus Koch, 88, of Fordyce, Neb., died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Fordyce, with the Rev. David Fulton officiating. Burial will be in St. John the Baptist Cemetery in Fordyce with military graveside rites by the Hartington VFW Post No. 5283.

Visitation is 1-5 p.m. Wednesday, with a rosary at 2 p.m., at Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington. There will be a Vigil Service at the church Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Visitation will continue on Thursday at church one hour prior to services.

### Zachary Bartunek

Zachary Robert Bartunek, 23, of Yankton died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011, at Avera McKennan Hospital, Sioux Falls, of a gunshot wound.

Funeral services are at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. John's Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the Rev. David Gunderson officiating. Burial of the cremated remains will take place at a later date.

Visitations begin at 5 p.m. Wednesday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

### Avon Haas

CROFTON, Neb. — Avon A. Haas, 88, of Crofton, Neb., died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Services are at 2 p.m. Thursday at the United Church of Christ Congregational, in Crofton, with the Rev. Les Parmenter officiating. Burial will be in the Crofton Cemetery, Crofton.

Visitation with the family present is 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at Wintz Funeral Home, Crofton. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the funeral at the church on Thursday.

To send an online sympathy message, visit [wintzfuneralhome.com](http://wintzfuneralhome.com).

**"70" is not that bad!**

Thanks so much for making my "surprise" party so special. When you have wonderful family and friends & good food (thanks, Jack) what else would you want? Tammy, Kim & Kari— thanks for putting so much time into making my day so perfect. I love you.

*Linda Kappel*

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## Outlaw Trail Scenic Byway Meeting Moved

The October meeting of the Outlaw Trail Scenic Byway will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 25, in Newcastle instead of today (Tuesday) due to the Nebraska Travel Conference.

The meeting will be held at location to be announced later.

## MMC Forum To Discuss Nutrition Guidelines

"Choose MYPLATE," presented by Rachel Pinos, will be the topic of Mount Marty College's Noon Forum at 12:05 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20, in the Roncalli Center.

Pinos is a dietician at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital who will talk about new nutrition guidelines.

This presentation is open to students, faculty, staff and community members. Noon Forums are free presentations held each Thursday from 12:05-12:50 p.m. in the South Dining Room of the Roncalli Center. Guests are welcome to buy a cafeteria lunch or bring their own.

## 'Free Fridays' Offered At Music Museum

VERMILLION — The National Music Museum (NMM) at the University of South Dakota is pleased to recognize Vermillion Area Visitor/Tourism, as the museum's "Free Fridays" admission sponsor for the month of October.

On July 1, the NMM's Board of Trustees instituted a new, paid admission schedule to help support the museum's ongoing operational expenses. On all days, with the exception of "Free Fridays" and special evening events, admission is charged for adults, with reduced rates for senior citizens, adult tour groups, and active military. Children and youth up to age eighteen are always admitted at no charge. All current NMM members, as well as all USD students, faculty, and staff, are welcome to visit the NMM at any time, free of charge.

The Vermillion Area Chamber's participation in the NMM's new sponsorship program enables all visitors free and full access to the NMM's world-class collections and programming every Friday throughout the month. "The NMM's Board of Trustees and professional staff are pleased to partner with the Chamber in its continuing efforts to attract visitors to Vermillion, a city that is 'Close to Everything, but Far From Ordinary,'" according to Margaret Downie Banks, Interim Executive Director.

## Clothing Closet Offers Free Voucher Day

A free voucher day will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22, running from 9 a.m.-noon at the Clothing Closet for those in need of free, good, used clothing.

The Clothing Closet is located on the South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC) South Campus in the basement of the Kyle Building. Use the driveway entrance closet to the Yankton intersection of Highways 81 and 50 and follow the signs to the Clothing Closet.

The Clothing Closet opened in 2004, with support from HSC, United Way, and other community agencies. Throughout the year, vouchers are available at local non-profit agencies to pre-authorize those in need to obtain free clothing at the Clothing Closet. No vouchers are needed on Oct. 22.

This event is being held in conjunction with Make A Difference Day which is a national day of helping others. It is held annually on the fourth Saturday of October, and the Clothing Closet joins millions of Americans on this day of action to help improve the world.

To learn more, visit: <http://www.usaweekend.com/section/MDDAY/Make-A-Difference-Day>. Contact Leah Brandt at the Clothing Closet at 605-668-3248 for more information.

## Yankton Jr. Achievement Bowl-a-Thon Oct. 22

The seventh Annual Junior Achievement Bowl-a-Thon will be held on Oct. 20 at Yankton Family Bowling Center in Yankton. The goal for 2011 is to raise more than \$5,200 with 80 bowlers participating in the event.

Each bowl team consists of five bowlers who each raise a minimum of \$65. Each bowler will bowl two-hours and receive food and beverages, along with the chance to win numerous door prizes. The statewide top individual fundraiser in this year's Bowl-a-Thon will win a seven night stay in Mazatlan, Mexico (restrictions apply).

The Bowl-a-Thon proceeds will help fund Junior Achievement programming in Yankton during the 2012-13 school year.

Junior Achievement partners business and community volunteers with teachers to inspire and prepare more than 1,030 Yankton students to succeed in a global economy by focusing on the three pillars of success: work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Students learn about financial literacy through interactive, hands-on activities that supplement standard classroom curricula.

For more information or to become involved in Junior Achievement, call 1-800-871-7007 or visit [www.jasd.org](http://www.jasd.org).

## Reminder: Second-Half Taxes Due By Oct. 31

The Yankton County Treasurers Office reminds the public that the second half of the 2010 (payable in 2011) Real Estate Taxes and the second half of the 2011 Mobile Home Taxes are due and payable on Oct. 31, 2011.

You can use the Silver Drop Box on the North Side of the Government Center for payments or bring them in to the office. If you mail the payments, they must have an October postmark.

Interest will be charged beginning Nov. 1.

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**First United Methodist Church** 11th & Cedar

**Soup Kitchen & Country Store**

**Wednesday, October 19th**  
**11:00am-7:00pm**

Serving: Homemade Taverns, Soups & Pies  
Home baked goods, canned goods, crafts, fresh vegetables, jam, jellies & home sewn items.

**Monthly Evening Senior Meal**

October 19, 2011 • 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Payment same as noon lunch program.  
Reservations required by 2 p.m. \$3.25 suggested contribution.  
Meals on Wheels will be delivered at 4:45 p.m.

SERVING:  
BBQ Ribs • Boiled Potato w/Gravy  
Scandinavian Vegetables  
Peach Kuchen Bars • W/W Dinner Roll

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