

### NSF To Continue Interim Sanford Lab Funding

LEAD (AP) — The National Science Foundation says it will fund operations at the Sanford Lab until Congress approves a 2012 Department of Energy budget.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports (<http://bit.ly/vXXkxy>) that the Energy Department's budget includes \$15 million to fund basic operations, but the continuing resolution prevents the agency from funding what is considered to be a new project until the budget is approved.

The Energy Department manages all national laboratories.

The National Science Foundation in 2007 picked the abandoned mine as the preferred site for a Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory that will be 7,400 feet below the surface.

The foundation threw the future of the underground laboratory into doubt in December when its oversight board pulled out the \$29 million it had been expected to spend on the lab.

### S.D. Teacher Receives National Award

RAPID CITY (AP) — A seventh-grade science and social studies teacher in Rapid City has received a prestigious national award, and the \$25,000 prize that goes with it.

Dakota Middle School teacher Nicole Keegan was presented with the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award during a school assembly on Monday.

Keegan said she was shocked after getting the award from State Education Secretary Melody Schopp and Milken foundation senior vice president Jane Foley.

Every year the Milken Family Foundation honors about 1 percent of teachers around the country.

### S.D. Woman Sentenced In Hammer Case

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A South Dakota woman has been sentenced for making up a story to cover the fact that another woman hit her infant daughter in the head with a hammer.

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson says 27-year-old Elizabeth Red Owl of Pine Ridge was sentenced to three years of probation and 20 hours of community service.

Authorities say Red Owl concocted a story about men dressed in black hitting her 5-month-old daughter in the head to cover for a woman who threw a hammer at Red Owl last October and hit the infant instead. Court documents don't indicate how badly the girl was hurt.

Red Owl pleaded guilty in July to lying to authorities. The woman who allegedly threw the hammer, Jamie Eagle Bull, pleaded not guilty to child abuse.

### Farmers Make Progress On Row Crop Harvest

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Another week of favorable weather has helped South Dakota farmers with their row crop harvest.

The Agriculture Department says in its latest crop and weather report that 97 percent of the soybeans are in the bin, along with 67 percent of the corn crop and 56 percent of sunflowers. All are well ahead of the average pace.

Eighty-six percent of South Dakota's winter wheat crop has emerged, about average. The report says more rainfall would be helpful to the crop.

Many cattle pastures remain dry, though the report says recent rains have helped reduce the wildfire hazard in some areas. Range and pasture land is reported at 59 percent in good to excellent condition, slightly better than the average.

# S.D. Man's Death Captured By Home Cameras

BY AMBER HUNT  
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — Video cameras set up to keep watch over a Sioux Falls man's home captured much of the dispute that ended with his shooting death, city police said.

Bruce Walters, 51, died on his porch Sunday after police say a neighbor repeatedly shot him. The two men were embroiled in a longstanding dispute that led to police being called to their addresses more than a dozen times this year.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens said Walters' video surveillance system captured most of his fight with Peter Deng Mayen, 29, who is charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death.

"They didn't catch all of it," Clemens said

of the cameras. "But they caught most of it — enough that when detectives reviewed it, they could see a lot of what happened."

Walters apparently installed the cameras, at least in part, because of the ongoing dispute with his neighbor, Clemens said. He had several cameras outside that fed footage to a recorder inside. The fatal encounter was captured by one camera, he said.

Mayen's wife told reporters after a Monday court hearing that Walters had harassed her whole family — including her four children — for months. Neighbors, however, said the Mayens egged on the dispute.

Police are still piecing together the feud that led to Walters' death. Officers responded this year to 17 calls to either Mayen or Walters' addresses. Those calls could have been placed by the men and their families, or they

could have been called in by neighbors directing officers to the men's homes, Clemens said.

Most of the complaints appeared typical of squabbles between neighbors. Just one resulted in a citation — against Mayen for playing music too loudly past midnight in his home. Police who responded said they could hear the music a half-block away.

Otherwise, nothing happened that required police intervention, Clemens said.

"We tell people having problems with their neighbors to just avoid them, don't have anything to do with them," Clemens said. "We can't force people to move."

Mayen is jailed on \$1 million cash bond. Walters' death was the city's fifth homicide this year.

## Police: Two Nebraska Boys Kept In Wire Dog Kennel

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (AP) — Four children were removed from what authorities described as a filthy Nebraska trailer home where a 3-year-old boy and his 5-year-old brother were kept in a wire dog kennel, police said Tuesday.

North Platte officers went to the home late Monday after receiving a call from someone asking that police check on the welfare of the children living there, police Lt. Rich Hoaglund said.

When officers went inside, they were met with the stench of urine and found trash and animal feces throughout the home, Hoaglund said.

An officer soon found two boys, ages 3 and 5, in a 30-by-42-inch wire dog kennel.

those children were not kept in the kennel.

Hoaglund said that while the children were living in filthy conditions, there was no evidence to suggest they had been physically abused or were malnourished.

Clark, the Eytens and 20-year-old Lacy Beyer, who police said also lived in the trailer, were arrested Monday night and charged Tuesday with two counts of first-degree false imprisonment, two counts of felony child abuse and misdemeanor child abuse, based on the condition of the house. The children have been placed with state authorities.

"All of the adults were aware of the situation and were aware of the kids were being housed in the animal kennel and did nothing to stop it or report it," he said.

All four made initial appearances in court Tuesday afternoon, and bail was set at \$50,000 for each.

Lincoln County Attorney Rebecca Harling said each of the four asked for a public defender during the court hearing Tuesday.

"They were ordered to have no contact with the four children taken into custody," Harling said.

## Sioux Falls Equipment Maker Shutting Down

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A longstanding manufacturing company in Sioux Falls said it will close by early next year, putting nearly 80 people out of work.

Texas-based Alamo Group Inc. said in a statement Friday that it will close the SMC plant in Sioux Falls and consolidate operations with the company's facility in Gibson City, Ill. SMC makes agricultural equipment such as front-end loaders and backhoes.

"We've lost business that we've not been able to recapture," Cleary told the *Argus Leader* newspaper in a story published Tuesday. "The economic downturn of 2008 was really the start of our issues."

The SMC plant has operated in Sioux Falls under various owners since 1972, according to Mary Medema, director of workforce development for the Sioux Falls Development Foundation. It became SMC in 1989, and the Alamo Group bought the plant in 2001. Employment peaked a year later at about 200 employees.

The company said it will provide job skills training and severance packages for the workers losing their jobs, and will work with local and state agencies to get help for the workers.

South Dakota Department of Labor statistics show there were 2,641 job openings in the Sioux Falls region in mid-October.

"As the job listings that we have across the state continue to slowly increase month after month, we're looking forward to skilled workers having more opportunity," said Greg Johnson, manager of the Labor Department office in Sioux Falls.

### OBITUARIES

#### Anne Wipf

Anne Wipf, age 93, of Yankton and formerly of Huron, died Friday, October 21, 2011, at the Majestic Bluffs Care Center in Yankton.

Her funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 26th, at the Bethesda Church with Rev. Roy Burkett officiating. Burial will be in the Restlawn Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 25th, at the Kuhler Funeral Home, with her family present from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday evening.

Visit [www.kuhlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.kuhlerfuneralhome.com).

Anne Rose Decker Wipf was born near Hitchcock, South Dakota, on April 9, 1918, to Katie (Pullman) and John M. Decker. Anne passed away on October 21, 2011 in the Majestic Bluffs Care Center in Yankton, S.D. She was 93 1/2 years old.

She graduated from Hitchcock High in 1938; being the first in her family to graduate from high school. Anne married Ernest Wipf on July 20, 1939. They resided in Huron where they raised three sons, Jerry, Don, and Rod. She was employed by Armour's Packing Plant for 20 years.

Mom enjoyed spending time with her sons and their families. A favorite gathering spot was "the lake house" which will forever be a special place in everyone's heart. She was a wonderful cook and her kitchen always smelled delicious. She loved to read, sit in the sun, and keep up with current events. Each grandchild will cherish memories of Grandma's laugh, playing table games, and a fridge always

stocked with pop and other treats.

Anne's husband, Ernie, died in February 2008, after which Anne moved to Yankton to be near family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 10 siblings, and her husband.

Survivors include: her sons; Jerry (Mary) Wipf of Ft. Myers Florida, Don (Peggy) Wipf of Seattle, Washington, and Rod (Shirley) Wipf of Yankton, South Dakota; seven grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren; and siblings; Harry Decker of Washington, Rubeen Decker of Washington, Albert Decker of Huron, Gladys Wedel of Huron, and Alberta Walter of Huron.

**Yankton Press & Dakotan  
October 26, 2011**

#### Ruth 'Joyce' Nelson

VIBORG — Ruth "Joyce" Nelson, 82, died Monday, Oct. 24, 2011 at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home in Viborg.

Services are at 1:30 p.m. Friday at United Methodist Church, Viborg.

Visitation is 4-8 p.m. Thursday, with family present from 7-8 p.m., at the Viborg Funeral Home.

Register online at [www.viborgfuneralhome.com](http://www.viborgfuneralhome.com).

#### Orville Weisz

A graveside memorial service for Orville Weisz will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland, with the Rev. Vehar officiating. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Arrangements are in care of the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tyndall.

#### Edward G. Merchen

(December 23, 1945 - October 23, 2011)

Funeral services for Ed Merchen, age 65, of Creighton will be held Wednesday, October 26, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at Brockhaus Funeral Home in Creighton, Nebraska.



Merchen

Reverend Nora Mendyk will officiate with graveside services at 2:00 p.m. at Beaver View Cemetery in rural Crofton. Military Honors will be conducted by VFW Post 1151 and American Legion Post 74 of Creighton.

Visitation will be Tuesday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Brockhaus Funeral Home in Creighton.

Ed died Sunday, October 23, 2011 at Plainview Area Health System.

Edward G. Merchen, son of Guy and Leone (Douglas) Merchen, was born on December 23, 1945 at Bloomfield, Nebraska. He attended West Blyville Country School through 8th grade. Ed graduated from Crofton High School in 1964 and Yankton Col-

lege in 1968. He was baptized in the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Crofton, Nebraska. Ed was raised on a farm outside of Crofton with his eight sisters and one brother. He served his country in the Army during the Vietnam War. He was stationed in Vietnam from October 21, 1969 through May 24, 1971. When Ed returned from the service he worked as a farm manager in the Crofton area. He moved to Creighton in 1975 where he worked as a mechanic for several businesses. He was employed as a mechanic at Herbert Feed and Grain in Verdigre at the time of his death.

Ed enjoyed hunting, fishing, woodworking and spending time with his family. He also enjoyed going to the Legion Baseball games, following the Crofton track and Cross Country. He liked watching the University of Nebraska volleyball and football games even though at times the games were stressful for him. Ed watched old Westerns on TV and liked to watch the American Pickers.

Ed is survived by his sisters, Marilyn (Don) Birmingham, Dora (Dan) Parnell, Mary (John) Strayer, Ruth (Rich) Ashton, Janis (Jerry) Jensen, Judy

(Roger) Cambier, and Diane (Lance) Brozek; brothers, Larry (Tracey Boone) Merchen; 17 nieces and nephews; 16 great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Carol Jean; and two brother-in-laws, Don Birmingham and Jerry Jensen.

Ed will be missed by family and friends.

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#### Alice List

DENTON, Texas — Alice M. List, age 74, of Denton, Texas and formerly of Yankton, died Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011, at her home in Texas.

Funeral services are at 10 a.m. Friday at St. John's Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the Rev. David Gunderson officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery, Yankton.

Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Thursday at Wintz & Ray Funeral Home,

Yankton, with a prayer service and video tribute at 7 p.m. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the funeral on Friday at the church.

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

#### Mable Reining

SIOUX FALLS — Mable Reining, 96, of Sioux Falls and formerly of Tabor, died Monday, Oct. 24, 2011, at her residence.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 29, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with the Rev. Joe Puthenkulathil and Msgr. Carlton Herman con-celebrating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations are 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Parish Hall, Sioux Falls, with a Wake service at 9 a.m. and continue until service time Saturday at Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor.

**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Alice M. List**  
10:00 AM, Friday  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
Yankton

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Harrington, Coleridge, Crofton  
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**Wed., Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>**  
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*Homemade Soup, (Potato Dumpling & Chili) Taverns,  
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**PIZZA PALOOZA!**

**Saturday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>**  
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**at the Riverfront Event Center**

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**3:00-5:00pm**  
and have your picture taken for **spotted.yankton.net**

*It may also be the featured photo in Tuesday's printed edition.*