

12 Injured After Gas Leak At Lincoln Jail

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Officials are monitoring carbon monoxide levels at the Lancaster County jail after paramedics took 12 people to a hospital.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports that paramedics were called to the jail in downtown Lincoln Sunday afternoon after some people at the jail reported vomiting or feeling light-headed.

Some of the victims were inmates, but they were all escorted to the hospital. Lincoln Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Leo Benes said none of the injuries appear to be life-threatening.

Benes says malfunctioning equipment caused the jail's cafeteria to be flooded with carbon monoxide.

Neb. Cattle On Feed Grows 5 Percent

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The number of cattle in Nebraska feedlots grew 5 percent in October to set another new monthly record.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says the 2.33 million cattle in Nebraska feedlots on Oct. 1 was the highest figure since the count began in 1994.

Nationwide, the number of cattle and calves on feed was 11.0 million. That's 3 percent below last October.

The figures are from feedlots with capacities of greater than 1,000 cattle.

No Texting-While-Driving Tickets In Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Almost a month after a Sioux Falls city ban on texting while driving took effect, police haven't written a ticket yet.

Motorists say they're not surprised, because they say it would be difficult for police to spot someone texting while they are driving.

Sioux Falls is the only South Dakota city with a ban on texting while driving. Violations can cost up to \$260.

Disabled Man Couldn't Escape Cluttered Home Fire

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Federal prosecutors say a South Dakota woman caused the death of her disabled son by keeping her home cluttered with trash and junk.

They say because of the clutter, Kathleen Kuzior's 29-year-old son, Richard Kuzior, died after a March house fire in McLaughlin.

Kathleen Kuzior was indicted last week on charges of involuntary manslaughter and abuse and neglect of a disabled adult.

The Sioux Falls *Argus Leader* says Kuzior hasn't made a plea on the charges and hasn't appeared in court.

The indictment says Kuzior kept her home so cluttered with garbage, junk and material she was hoarding that her son couldn't escape the fire, and others couldn't get in to save him.

Robert Wanted To Die If Escape Failed

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A man executed for killing a South Dakota prison guard wanted to commit suicide and saw the death penalty law as an incentive, the man's attorney says.

Eric Robert was put to death last week for killing the guard, Ronald "R.J." Johnson, when he and fellow inmate Rodney Berget tried to break out of the prison in April 2011.

Robert pleaded guilty in September 2011 to killing Johnson, asked for a death sentence and objected to a South Dakota Supreme Court review of his case.

Robert was serving an 80-year prison term for kidnapping at the time of his attempted escape. His lawyer, Mark Kadi, said Robert wanted to end his own life rather than languish in prison, and planned his escape so that he would be eligible for a death sentence if unsuccessful.

"The availability of the death penalty encouraged Robert to commit this crime," Kadi wrote in a letter to the Sioux Falls *Argus Leader* newspaper. "I know this because Eric told me so."

Robert was familiar with South Dakota's death penalty law, and knew that killing a corrections officer while trying to escape would make it more likely he would be sentenced to death, Kadi wrote.

South Dakota Attorney Gen-

eral Marty Jackley disputed Kadi's version of events, saying that evidence in the case "points to this being a poorly planned, poorly executed escape attempt."

Jackley pointed out that Robert had said he would kill again if he were not executed.

"I can't say if the death penalty will deter others from committing crimes in the future, but it deterred Eric Robert from committing any other crimes," Jackley said.

Kadi said his client felt "hopeless" in prison, and that he tried unsuccessfully to kill himself with a drug overdose.

"Robert viewed a life sentence as being identical to a death sen-

tence with the exception that the latter had a set date," Kadi said.

"Robert believed he needed to get out, one way or the other."

Richard Dieter, director of the Death Penalty Information Center, said Robert's statements about his wish to die and the speed at which his execution was carried out made his case unusual.

It usually takes more than a decade for a death sentence to be carried out, center statistics say. Of the 32 executions that have taken place in the United States this year, Robert's is the only one that happened within a year of the sentence. The second shortest delay was six years.

Lincoln Police Begin Installing High Tech Cameras

BY JONATHAN EDWARDS
Lincoln Journal Star

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — "Pics, or it didn't happen" is Internet speak for "prove it," which is the idea behind new cameras Lincoln police are putting in their cruisers.

"There's an expectation from our society with technology that cameras are everywhere," Lincoln Police Chief Jim Peschong said, citing the rise of smartphones. "It's not only an officer's word. Juries wind up expecting to see things, as well."

Unlike the department's old VHS system, the new cameras record footage to a hard drive and then, when a cruiser is close enough to a hot spot at, let's say, a police garage, the footage is beamed wirelessly to a server.

Prosecutors then can tap into

the system and watch video instead of going down to the evidence room and checking out a VHS tape.

"Anybody can tell a story, and 12 people can wind up listening to the same story, but they may all have a different impression of what that story is," Peschong said. "Here, we're all seeing that same thing as the event unfolds."

"We have a much better idea of what really did happen," he said.

But video records cut both ways.

In January, Lancaster County Sheriff's Deputy Jose Rodriguez pulled over Craig Lebsock after manually running a computer check on the license of the car he was driving and identifying Lebsock, whose driver's license had been suspended, as a known associate of the car's owner.

The deputy said he pulled up alongside the car to make sure the driver matched Lebsock's photo ID.

But the camera inside his car showed he did not pull alongside, and the case was thrown out.

"They're an impartial witness," Seattle Police Det. Mark Jamieson said. "They capture whatever happens in front of them."

Seattle police plan to spend about \$5 million to equip their nearly 300 cruisers with a system similar to Lincoln's.

In Lincoln, about 20 officers have been trained and are using the new cameras. Peschong said he expects to more than double that number by the end of the month, and then get cameras inside more than 80 of the department's 143 cruisers during the next year or so.

LPD is paying for the system through a \$130,000 Congressional earmark and a \$100,000 grant from the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance, he said.

"We're working on it pretty hot and heavy."

Lincoln police haven't had cameras in their patrol cars for several years after the old VHS-based system went kaput.

In the mid-1990s, the department put cameras in 20 to 25 cruisers, said Public Safety Director Tom Casady, who was police chief from 1994 to 2011.

By the end of the '90s, he said, LPD sat at a crossroads: Put more cameras in more cruisers, maintain the ones it already had or scrap the entire project.

OBITUARIES

Helen (Zitka) Kaiser

Helen (Zitka) Kaiser, age 89, of Yankton, South Dakota and formerly of Tabor, South Dakota, died Thursday, October 18, 2012, at Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Tabor, South Dakota with Reverend Joe Forcelle presiding and Monsignor Carlton Hermann concelebrating. Burial will be in St. Wenceslaus Cemetery in Tabor.

Visitation is from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, October 22, 2012, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton, South Dakota, with a rosary at 4:00 p.m. and a vigil service/rosary at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the Mass at church on Tuesday.

Pallbearers are Helen's grandsons: James Schwarz, John Schwarz, Daniel Nesheim, Jeffrey Nesheim, Jerome Nesheim, Michael Lange, Terry Lange, and Doug Lange. Honorary pallbearers are Helen's granddaughters: Paula Pospichal, Jackie Lanning, Julie Eickhoff, Crystal Johnson, Karen Lange, and Lisa Olnes.

Helen was born November 26, 1922, in Utica, South Dakota to John and O'Tillia (Hladky) Scherschligt. Helen grew up in the Utica/Lesterville area and attended school in Utica, graduating from Lesterville High School. During World War II, she moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where she worked in a rubber plant.



Kaiser

She moved back to Lesterville and married Bernard Zitka on November 16, 1943. They lived on the Zitka family farm for over 40 years until they moved into Tabor.

Bernard died on May 30, 1987. Helen later married Henry Kaiser and she moved to the Yankton area. Henry died on November 14, 1999. Helen then moved back to Tabor and in 2009 became a resident of the Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton.

Helen was a member of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Tabor where she was active in the Altar and Rosary Society. She was also a member of the Catholic Sokol Social Club and Czech Heritage Club in Tabor. She was a Farmers Union Youth Leader for over 25 years and also a 4-H leader. She volunteered at the Nutrition Center in Tabor and managed the Beseda Hall with her husband, Bernard for many years. Helen and Bernard were also very active in the Czech Days celebration in Tabor.

Helen enjoyed sewing, making all of the bridesmaid dresses for her daughters' weddings, and baking kolaches, cinnamon rolls, and potato dumplings for her family reunions. Helen never forgot a birthday for any of her children and grandchildren, and you could always count on a card. At the nursing home she enjoyed playing Bingo, Wii Bowling, attending Mass and praying the rosary.

She is survived by her four

daughters: Mary (Richard) Potts of Monroe, NE; Rose Ann Schwarz of Yankton; Bernadette Nesheim of Viborg, SD; and Evelyn (Marvin) Lange of Fordyce, NE; three step-children: Jerry (Connie) Kaiser, Gloria Kaiser, and Gaye Kaiser; 14 grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; 25 great grandchildren; seven step-great grandchildren three brothers: Raymond (Mary Jane) Scherschligt of Alpena, SD; Lester Scherschligt of Lesterville; and Arthur (Erla) Scherschligt of Olathe, KS; two sisters-in-law: Margie Scherschligt of Lesterville and Viola Scherschligt of Wessington Springs, SD. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands: Bernard Zitka and Henry Kaiser; son, Daniel Zitka; two sons-in-law: Donald Schwarz and Dennis Nesheim; two brothers: John and Fred Scherschligt; and two sisters-in-law: JoAnn Scherschligt and Agnes (Zitka) Crandall.

To post an online sympathy message, please visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 22, 2012



Online condolences at:
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Rita Bourret

Funeral services for Rita Bourret of Tyndall will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23 at St. John Lutheran Church in Tyndall with Rev. Dean Schroeder officiating.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tyndall, with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Inurnment will take place at a later date in the Tyndall Cemetery. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Rita Kay Bourret was born Friday, September 29, 1944 to Emil and Ruby (Beard) Bartikowsky. She attended school in Tyndall. Rita married Don Bourret in 1962. From this marriage, she had two sons: Darwyn and Shawn. Rita moved to California with her two sons in 1977. She began working at NASA in February of 1987. She processed data on the tests of future astronauts. She worked directly with the astronauts and modeled space gear. While working, she attended DeAnza Community College in Cupertino, California where she received her degree in purchasing. She also worked as a senior counselor in a girl's



Rita Bourret

group home. Rita moved back to Yankton in 1997 to be close to her family. Her enjoyments in life included dancing, music (especially by Little Richard), playing cards, embroidery, being with family and reading her devotions and Bible. After a courageous battle with a long illness, Rita passed away on Thursday, October 18, 2012 at the Good Samaritan Society of Tyndall at the age of 68 years and 20 days. She will be greatly missed in our hearts forever.

Grateful for sharing Rita's life are her two sons: Darwyn (Michelle) Bourret of Aurora,

Colorado and Shawn (Tammy) Bourret of Lakewood, Colorado; two cherished granddaughters: Tyanna and Tayria Bourret; four sisters: Arline (Robert) Sedlacek of Tyndall, Ruth Langley of Tyndall, Carol Reining of Denver, Colorado and Dorothy (John) Honomichi of Yankton; one brother, Ron (Norma) Bartikowsky of Yankton; and a very special friend, Ron (Fritz) Wyatt, who supported her throughout her long illness and was always a part of her family.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Emil and Ruby Bartikowsky; her paternal and maternal grandparents; one nephew, Jerry Langley; a cousin, and many aunts and uncles.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 22, 2012

Goglin Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



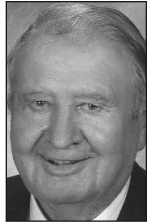
www.goglinfh.com

Dale Severson

GAYVILLE — Dale Severson, 90, of Gayville, SD passed away peacefully in his home on Friday, October 19th, 2012.

Dale was born July 29, 1922 in Vermillion, SD to Charles and Goldie (South) Severson. He attended school at Prairie Belle Country School through eighth grade and graduated from Vermillion High School in 1940.

Dale married Evelyn Erickson in October of 1944 and they farmed in the Vermillion area and



Severson

he was a security Guard at the University of South Dakota until moving to Gayville in 1993. He was an avid bingo player, loved farming, fishing and cooking as well as gardening and Music. He especially loved spending time with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion and held numerous offices within the Eagles Club including Trustee and President.

Thankful for having shared his life are his children: Peggy (Kent)

Wathier of Yankton, SD, Doug Severson of Volin, SD, Tammy (Shad) Bratberg of Gayville, seven grandchildren: Melisa (Seth) Veitzer, Jason Nichols, Nick, Adam (Stephanie) and Natalie Severson, Amber and Katie Bratberg and two great grandchildren: Noah and Chloe Veitzer. He is also survived by two sisters: Twila Benson and Maxine (Junior) Iverson.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife.

A celebration of life service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 24, at the Hansen Fu-

neral Home in Vermillion with visitation one hour prior to the service. A private burial will take place on Thursday.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to the American Diabetes Association. hansenfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 22, 2012

Ralph Heikes

OBERT, Neb. — Ralph Heikes, 98 of Obert, Neb., died on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012, at Careage of Wayne, Wayne, Neb.

His services are pending at Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington, Neb.

For More
Midwest
News, See
Page 5

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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:

Mable Reining
who passed away on
October 24, 2011

Arlene Lewis
who passed away on
October 26, 2011

Clarence Fennet Swanson
who passed away on
October 28, 2011

Lesa List Nicholls
who passed away on
October 22, 2007

James Parker
who passed away on
October 24, 2010

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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