

System

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Clark should not be included in the earmark ban, so we thank the senator for his efforts."

Johnson said he did not know if funding would be affected by the outcome of this year's election.

"We'll wait and see what happens," he said. "I don't know what the position of Mitt Romney is on Lewis & Clark, but the merits I assume will win out."

The senator said overall progress with the project is heartening.

"Ten of the 11 communities in South Dakota (are being served) already," he said. "Madison is the

only underserved community left. The rest are in Iowa and Minnesota."

The Vermillion plant was operational as of July 30 and had its official ribbon-cutting Aug. 21, a ceremony Johnson was unable to attend.

"What's happening today is a belated opportunity for the senator to see everything that has taken place with the funding that we've received," Larson said.

Larson went on to thank Johnson for his efforts to see the project through to completion.

"Sen. Johnson through the years has been a champion of this project to say the least," he said. "He has been involved with it since day one, and advocated for it in every which way he possibly could."

A FOUR ALARM FIRE



TRAVIS GULBRANDSON/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

The bailer building at the Vermillion Landfill stands charred after an early-morning fire Monday. Four fire departments cooperated in extinguishing the blaze.

Building Burns At Vermillion Landfill

BY TRAVIS GULBRANDSON
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VERMILLION — The Vermillion Landfill lost a baler Monday when the building in which it was housed was the site of a fire.

According to landfill manager Bob Iverson, the building was already on fire when employees arrived for work at 6:30 a.m.

"There was fire coming out the vents," he said. "It was already well-started when they got here."

Firefighters were still taking items out of the building and dousing areas of it with water

as late as 11 a.m.

City Manager John Prescott said the state fire marshal is expected this morning (Tuesday) to investigate possible causes, after which point the insurance company will assess damages.

"At this point we're anticipating that the baler as well as a couple of pieces of equipment were lost, and probably the building, but we'll wait and see what the fire marshal says, as well as the insurance company when they have a chance to take a look at it," Prescott said.

Four area fire departments were on the scene Monday morning: Vermillion, Gayville, Volin and Wakonda.

Charges

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— related to the little girl's death — are still pending and are treated as a separate case, Rabern said.

In that incident, Cournoyer faces the following charges:

- one count of abuse or cruelty to a minor as a felony, a Class 3 felony, punishable by up to 15 years imprisonment and/or a \$30,000 fine;

- failure to notify law enforcement of death of child, a Class 5 felony, punishable by up to 5 years and/or \$10,000 fine.

The motions hearing date for this case is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Friday in Lake Andes.

Cournoyer is presumed innocent until such time as proven guilty.

Cournoyer's latest indictments follow guilty pleas by another defendant in RieLee's death.

Wagner resident Taylor Cournoyer, 21, pleaded guilty last week to the following charges:

- one count of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), a Class 4 felony, punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment and/or a \$20,000 fine;

- one count of keeping a place for use or sale of controlled substances, a Class 5 felony, punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment and/or \$10,000.

The charges stem from the

July incident at the Cournoyers' house.

Taylor Cournoyer also admitted to a Part II Information for Habitual Offender, exposing him to an elevated sentence of 25 years incarceration and a \$50,000 fine.

Sentencing for Taylor Cournoyer is scheduled for Nov. 29 in Charles Mix County.

Following RieLee's death at the Cournoyers' house, five other children in the couple's care were taken to the Wagner Police Department.

According to Charles Mix County court records, the Cournoyers faced numerous charges, including five counts of abuse or cruelty to a minor (four counts of a Class 3 felony and one count of a Class 4 felony); three drug-related charges; and one count of keeping a place for the use or sale of controlled substances, a Class 5 felony.

In August, the couple pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The Cournoyers are the first people charged under a South Dakota law that went into effect July 1, just prior to the youngster's death.

The South Dakota says that a parent, guardian or caretaker could face felony charges for knowingly failing to report a child's death within six hours.

The South Dakota law was modeled after Florida legislation passed following the death of Caylee Anthony, which garnered national attention.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/rdockendorf

OBITUARIES

Cleo Lukes

SIoux FALLS — Cleo J. Lukes, 78, died Sunday, October 21, 2012, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls.

A memorial service will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday, October 25, 2012, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church with a 2 p.m. burial in Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton where she will be buried with her husband's previously cremated remains. Leo and Cleo; Together in life, Forever in Eternity.

Cleo Julianne Jensen, the daughter of James and Alma (Quarg) Jensen was born March 27, 1934, in Parker, SD. She attended school in Yankton.

On July 1, 1950, Cleo was united in marriage with Leo Lukes in Yankton, SD. The couple moved to Sioux Falls in 1962. Cleo was primarily a homemaker and loving mother, but she was also employed at the Elks Club and McDonalds. She then worked for Walmart in the fabric department until her retirement in 1994. Cleo also volunteered at the Great Plains Zoo, which she enjoyed greatly, until her death. Leo died June 11, 2002.

Cleo was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. She loved playing cards and bowled for many years. Gardening was her passion and she loved the outdoors, especially watching the cardinals. If Cleo had any free time, she was sewing for her three daughters, herself, and her granddaughter, or babysitting. She had good luck at casinos, and don't forget that Sundays were "Do Not Disturb!" day, due to NASCAR Races.

Grateful for having shared her life are three daughters, Wendy (Paul) Canfield of Sioux Falls, Jami (friend: James Verdoorn) Lukes of Sioux Falls, Jodi (Roy) Brauer of Harrisburg, SD; a son, Leo (Deb) Lukes Jr. of Grand Island, NE; three grandchildren, Jen, Jill, and Reese; four great-grandchildren, Alexa, Braxton, Isaac, and Clara; two sisters, Bonnie Whatling of Yankton, SD, Jackie (Don) Olson of Yankton; two brothers, David (Leona) Jensen of Black Hawk, SD, Gene Jensen of Yankton; and a host of other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Leo; four brothers, Keith, Jim, Lester, and Dennis; and a sister-in-law, Freida Jensen.

The family has requested that memorials be directed to the American Cancer Society.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 23, 2012

Luverne Selwyn Jr.

WAGNER — Luverne Selwyn Jr., 60, of Wagner died unexpectedly Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012, at the Community Memorial Hospital, Wagner.

Wake services are at 7 p.m. today (Tuesday) and Wednesday at the Boys and Girls Club Gym, Marty. Funeral Services are 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25, at the gym. Burial is in the Holy Fellowship Episcopal Cemetery, rural Greenwood.

Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home, Wagner, is in charge of arrangements.

Robert 'Bob' Stewart

Robert "Bob" Stewart died October 14, 2012 at the age of 74.

He was born November 4, 1937 in Yankton, South Dakota. Bob graduated from Yankton High School in 1956 and attended the University of South Dakota where he had a basketball scholarship. During his college years he was also in the National Guard and the Beta Theta Phi Fraternity. Bob married his wife, Judy Mortensen in 1962 and remained married for 50 years until his death. He owned and operated Yankton Title Company for 35 years, auctioneered for 15 years and owned rental property. He also owned a sodding business for "a little extra beer money" and was a member of the Elks Club and the Yankton Quarterback Club. Bob loved golf, hunting and fishing. Years later when the grandkids arrived, they brought him such special joy!! During his retirement years he loved golfing 4-5 days a week with Herm, Ted and Julio, attending all Arizona State University sporting events and frequent trips to Hawaii. Bob was so loved by his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Chet Stewart and mother, Francis (Jorgensen) Stewart.

He is survived by his wife, Judy of Scottsdale, AZ; daughter, Debbie (Ken) Orkin of Gilbert, AZ; son, Greg of Yankton, SD; sister, Mary (Dale) Hacecky of Yankton, SD and grandchildren, Jacob, Samuel, Emma and James, all of Yankton, SD.

The family asks that you not send flowers however any donations to the American Cancer Society in the name of Bob Stewart are greatly appreciated.

www.cancer.org. Please visit www.hansenmortuary.com to place online condolences.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 23, 2012

Ralph Heikes

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

Funeral Services are at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 26, at Faith Lutheran Church, Maskell, Neb., with Vicar Chad Beckius officiating. Burial will be in the Maskell Cemetery.

Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Thursday, with a prayer service at 7 p.m., at Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Friday at the church.

To send online condolences or to view the video tribute, visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Vivian Kopping

Vivian Carolyn Kopping, 83, of Volin, SD died Sunday, October 21, 2012 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, SD. Arrangements are pending under the care of Hansen Funeral Home in Irene.

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Helen (Zitka) Kaiser 10:30 AM, Tuesday St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church Taber	Ralph C. Heikes 10:30 AM, Friday Faith Lutheran Church Maskell
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WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644 www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com
WINTZ FUNERAL HOME INC. Hartington, Coleridge, Crofton 402-254-6547

Thank You

The family of Wilma Batterman would like to thank all of our family, friends and neighbors who have been so supportive with your expressions of sympathy in the form of cards, e-mails, phone calls, texts, kind words, visits, prayers, flowers, food and memorial gifts during the time of our loss of our mother, mother-in-law, grandmother (great & great great), sister, aunt, cousin, neighbor, and friend. Special thanks to staff at Armour Douglas Memorial Hospital and Avera Parkston Healthcare, Koehn Bros. Funeral Home, the kind staff at Golden Living Center, Armour, and staff at Scotland Good Samaritan for the wonderful care of Wilma. Steve Bamberg, organist, Pallbearers--Delmar & Dennis-Batterman, Clinton & Melvin-Gemmler, Ivan, & Marvin-Lau; Pastor Craig Benson for his prayers, visits, reassuring service, and last rites; Pastor Brian Bucklew and Pastor Jonathan Vehar for their caring concerns and prayers. To Tim and Vern Kraft for the trumpet special music, to the parishioners' graveside preparation. To the ladies and servers at St. Peters Lutheran Church for the wonderful meal. Thank you to all who remembered Wilma in her time of residence at Golden Living Center, Armour and the Good Samaritan Center, Scotland for the comfort and care you gave, and those that remembered Wilma with cards, visits, food and phone calls while a resident. Your selfless compassion and kindness to Wilma will never be forgotten.
God Bless You All.

Arlou and Vernon Lorenzen family
Melody Lindhag (Dave) & family
Craig Lorenzen
Karen Lorenzen & family
Loretta and Vern Kraft family
Tammy Gordon (Bill) & family
Tim Kraft
Tabetha Herr (Chad) & family
Marilyn Kokeah (Dennis-dec.) family
Stephanie Kokeah
Desiree Kokeah & Eli Lukas
Molly Kokeah

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