

# VIRUS

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cases go away." However, the recent death of the northeast Nebraska woman shows the need for continued precautions against West Nile, Schaefer said.

"At dusk and dawn, people tend to be more active (when mosquito numbers are higher). Folks need to take the time for extra protection, particularly in rural areas," she said. "They need to wear those long sleeves, pants and socks. They do help."

Nebraska's peak year for West Nile came in 2003, with 1,994 cases and 27 deaths. That marked one of the first years following the arrival of WNV in the state.

However, those numbers have dropped dramatically in recent years. Nebraska recorded 47 cases and one death in 2008, 51 cases and no deaths in 2009, and 19 cases and one death so far in 2010.

"I would like to think it's good

public health, that people are good about both pest control and standing water," Schaefer said. "I hope that those things are what is making the difference."

In South Dakota, 17 human cases of West Nile Virus disease have been reported so far this year to the state Department of Health. The number of cases peaked in August.

Douglas, Turner, Clay and Lincoln counties have recorded human or blood donor cases in 2010.

Like Nebraska, South Dakota saw its peak of WNV cases in 2003 with 1,039 cases. The figure dropped to 39 cases in 2008 and 21 in 2009.

Since its first human WNV case in 2002, South Dakota has reported more than 1,700 cases and 26 deaths.

"This will be the ninth year of West Nile in South Dakota and, while people might be used to hearing about it, they shouldn't be complacent about prevention," said Dr. Lon Kightlinger, state epidemiologist, in a news release. "We all need to protect ourselves and our families from

this virus." While the number of West Nile cases has declined greatly over the years, the new Nebraska death reinforces the fact that the virus is here to stay in the region, Schaefer said.

"We don't know what this virus holds for us in the future. We do know it's part of our landscape every year," she said. "A lot of folks are still not immune, and we get a new crop of birds every few years and new mosquitoes every year."

For that reason, Schaefer expects a spike in West Nile numbers at some point in the future.

"We don't understand why a second or third wave hasn't come through every few years," she said. "We were very thankful it wasn't this year."

State officials will continue monitoring West Nile, Schaefer said.

"We have surveillance every year," she said. "We keep out the mosquito trappings and count the cases. We are very vigilant." Hopefully, those measures will prevent a return to the high numbers when the disease first entered the state, Schaefer said.

"We never want to see another year like 2003," she said.



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**Friday, September 17 • 10:00am**  
for a Ribbon Cutting and Open House Celebration to honor the new owners Steve & Carol VanDeKop. Coffee & Cookies will be served.

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Each person to receive Play \$25, get \$25 FREE PLAY on your rewards card each day. Plus, \$5 off meal coupon, ride and room.

All for \$50 each (double occupancy)  
Bus will leave from Fry'n Pan Restaurant on Sept. 27 at 1 p.m. (pick-up also available in Vermillion)

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**Thursday**  
5-7pm - Hamburger/Pizzaburger & Fries \$5.00  
6-7pm - Domestic Beers \$1.00

**Friday**  
Ribs or Menu  
Serving 5:30-8:00

**Saturday**  
No Dance  
Serving from Menu 5:30-8:00

Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm  
Sunday at 6:30pm  
Happy Hour M-F 4:30-6:00  
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Now Booking Holiday Parties

**St. Leo's HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
St. Leo Parish Center  
100 E., 20th Ave., Tyndall, SD

**Sunday, September 19, 2010**  
3:30-7:00pm

Dinner "Buffet Style" Roast Pork Loin, Broasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Salads, Kolaches & Rollocks, Pies and Beverages  
Meal deliveries from 4-6pm. Call 589-3392 after 3:30pm

**Raffle and Games, Cake Walk, Bingo, Fish Pond and More!**

38th Annual **SD & OPEN FIDDLE CONTEST & JAMBOREE**  
Sept. 17, 18 & 19, 2010

4-H Grounds - Old Hwy. 50, Yankton, SD  
(Across from the Senior Citizens Building)

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Friday, September 17	7:00pm.....	Jamboree
Saturday, September 18	9:30am.....	Contest
Saturday, September 18	1:30pm.....	Contest
Saturday, September 18	7:00pm.....	Contest
Sunday, September 19	10:00am.....	Gospel Sing*
Sunday, September 19	1:30pm.....	National Invitational Final <small>*Free Will Offering</small>

Recordion & Harmonica Contest  
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ADMISSION: \$4.00 Each Session  
Camping on Grounds Available  
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CONTACT INFORMATION: S.D. Old Time Fiddlers, George W. Mallory  
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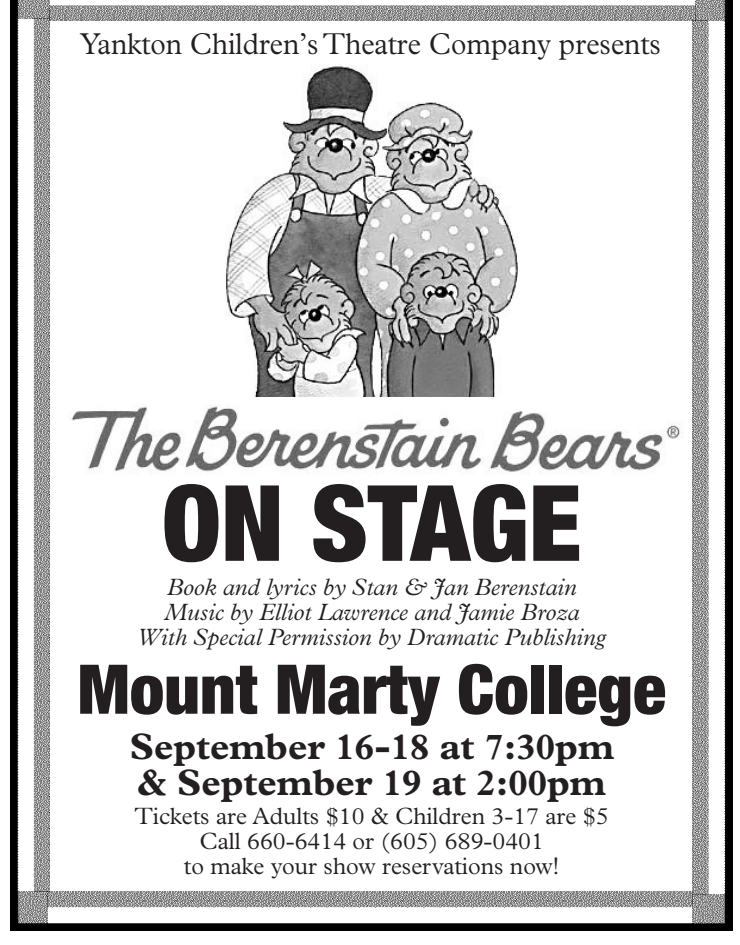
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