

ACLU Says Neb. District Planning Religious Talk

LYONS, Neb. (AP) — A small northeast Nebraska school district appears to be ignoring warnings from the ACLU that it would take legal action if the district hosted a religious speaker.

ACLU Nebraska legal director Amy Miller said the Lyons-Decatur Northeast schools is moving forward with plans for a speech from Keith Becker this Wednesday despite the civil rights group's concerns.

Earlier this month, ACLU Nebraska sent letters to state school districts warning them not to require students to listen to speakers like Becker who proselytize to students while delivering anti-drug and alcohol messages.

The Lyons-Decatur school district plans to make Becker's speech optional. School officials did not immediately respond to a message Monday.

Miller said making the talk optional doesn't do enough because of the peer pressure students face to attend. She said the ACLU has received complaints from Lyons-Decatur school community about the district's plans to let Becker speak.

"The U.S. Supreme Court has been absolutely clear on this point: religious proselytizing or religious activities have no place in the school, whether or not it's voluntary," Miller said.

Becker's Kearney-based Todd Becker Foundation is a Christian organization, and Becker said after the ACLU's initial warning that he had no plans to change his message about the choices his teenage brother made before dying in a drunken-driving crash.

MIDWEST FLOODING

Water Levels At Renner Dropping

BY DIRK LAMMERS
Associated Press Writer

RENNER — The worst of the flooding along the Big Sioux River in Renner appeared to be over Monday, as forecasters predicted water levels would hold for up to 24 hours before starting to drop.

Renner Fire Chief Mike Schmitz said about two dozen homes in the town of fewer than 100 residents were affected by the unusual autumn flood, though the water has mostly crept into basements and crawl spaces.

He knew of only one resident dealing with water on the main floor.

"Over the years as we've had more floods, the people of Renner are slowly getting their basements filled in and just having a crawl space and moving all electrical and furnaces up above," Schmitz said.

Three to four inches of rain last

"Over the years as we've had more floods, the people of Renner are slowly getting their basements filled in and just having a crawl space and moving all electrical and furnaces up above."

MIKE SCHMITZ

week pushed the Big Sioux River — running high all summer — over its banks from Brookings south to Sioux Falls.

Penitentiary inmates from Sioux Falls headed north to Renner on Sunday to fill thousands of sandbags to hold back the rising river.

The Big Sioux between Dell Rapids and Baltic on Monday experienced a secondary crest of 15.5 feet, which a little less than a foot lower than Saturday's peak, said Mike Gillispie, a hydrologist with the National Weather Service.

"The Renner area is probably the worst right now, and the only one I know of that has actually had any impact in the town," Gillispie said.

Downstream near 60th Street in Sioux Falls, where flooding would be limited to greenways and city parks, the Big Sioux was expected to crest at 15.5 feet overnight. That's just a couple of inches higher than Monday morning's level.

Gillispie said the whole area across Minnehaha County should see water levels that are fairly flat for the next 12 to 24 hours.

"Anything that hasn't started dropping now will start dropping by this time tomorrow," he said.

Fire officials in Renner continued working out of a command center at a church on high ground just east of town as the town's main road remained impassable on Monday.

Schmitz said crews will conduct a more formal damage assessment once the water drops.

"The only thing we can see is what might be happening on the outside of the houses," Schmitz said. "We're trying to stay out of the water and keep people out of the water because obviously that just makes waves and causes more damage."

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Out On The Town

Kozy Shopping Spree!
Sunday, Oct. 3 • 2-5pm
Kozy Inn on Hwy. 50

Join us for a fun filled casual shopping event at Kozy Inn!

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Buy products from a number of vendors, PLUS door prizes, drink specials, samples, watch sports on TV at the bar and more!

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SERVING 2:30-7:30PM
BESEDA HALL (Air Conditioned)

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Fish Pond • Cake Walk • Sweet Shop • Many More!

Avera
Yankton Care Center

Soup Kitchen

Moose Lodge
Wed., October 6th • 11am-7pm

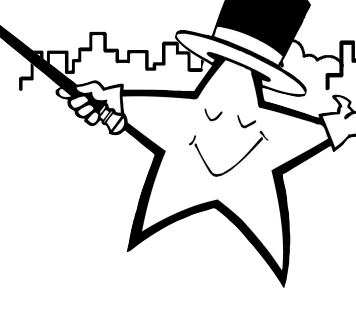
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Proceeds will go towards decorating the neighborhood for the residents.

Matching funds provided through America Insurance Company

Avera Yankton Care Center
50/50 Raffle
1 for \$1.00 6 for \$5.00

Tickets on sale October 7th - Drawing November 6th
Tickets may be purchased from any Care Center staff member



OCT. 1, 2, 3

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Students \$2.00 Adults \$4.00

Idle Hour Theatre
Tripp, SD

VFW Post 791
209 Cedar

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

Friday
Apple Glazed Pork Chop
or Menu
Serving 5:30-8:00

Saturday
Veryl Hahn
Serving from Menu 5:30-8:00

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

Chislic Served Last
Wednesday of Each Month

Pancake Breakfast
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\$5.00 All You Can Eat
Children 6-10 \$2.50 • Under 5 free

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Warm-Ups 6:00PM
Regular Session 6:30PM

BEGINNING
OCTOBER 1
Every Friday \$50 Cash Drawing
Every Hour at 9:00 & 10:00PM

Widows Weekend
October 16th

Halloween Party
October 30th

NEW HOURS:
Wednesday-Thursday 5pm-9pm
Friday 5pm-10pm
Saturday 11am-10pm
Sunday 11am-Close

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Twice Adopted
in Concert

The Koenig Family Singers

Sunday, October 3 • 6:30pm
Riverview Reformed Church, 1700 Burleigh, Yankton

This family of 10 adopted children have been performing in Branson, Missouri since 2009 and have blessed many with their songs of praise to the Lord. Randy and Linda Koenig of Troy, Missouri adopted 2 children from Peru, 7 from Guatemala and one from Missouri. The Koenig children have been singing as a group since 2000. Admission is free. A love offering taken after the concert.