# the region

NEWS DEPARTMENT: news@yankton.net

# Press & Dakotan

### THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER

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# Fossil

From Page 1

shale with a bentonite layer in it.'

Last week's find wasn't the first fossil unearthed on the Santee Sioux Nation, Barta said.

'The last time they found a fossil in Knox County (in 2003), it was a pleisosaur in the state road's right of way near Center," he said.

However, this week's visit was unique for the Santee students, Plumbtree said.

"For them to see it firsthand was a new experience," she said. "When they found the (fossil) by Center, it was already gone by the time any of us had the opportunity to go over there.

The Mesozoic plesiosaur fossil excavated in 2003 has been determined to be about 70 million years old, near the end of the Cretaceous Period of the Mesozoic Era.

The current site differs from the find of nearly a decade ago, Plumbtree said. "(Santee) wasn't like the one found in Center, where there were lots of fossils around it," she said.

The recent find near Santee contained a measure of luck, Plumbtree said.

'They were re-doing that back road, and it really was just a fluke that a maintainer went over it, and a paleontologist from the University of Nebraska was checking the site," she said. "As they moved the dirt, he checked for anything that might be there, and there was a tooth. One more swipe of the maintainer and the (fossil) would

have been gone." Tucker's find was fortunate,

#### never would have been exposed if they weren't doing any road construction."

Tucker's search process can be painstaking but fruitful, Barta said.

"It's like finding a needle in the haystack, but what they find is amazing," the highway superintendent said.

Last week's find currently remains in Santee, Barta said. He isn't sure of the long-term plans for the fossil, but the 2003 find at Center has been housed at the nearby Ashfall Fossil Beds Historical Park in northern Antelope County.

As Nebraska's newest state park, Ashfall Fossil Beds opened its gates June 1, 1991. Located six miles north of U.S. Highway 20 between Royal and Orchard, the park is a joint project of the University of Nebraska State Museum and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

The Santee students and staff shot video and pictures of the site and the group's visit, Plumbtree said.

'We want to put some of it in our school yearbook," she said.

The Santee faculty also plan to make the fossil find more than a one-day field trip, Plumbtree said.

"We are planning to incorporate the event into our classrooms. We have the English, math and science teachers and myself planning a whole section based on it," she said. "We will cover things like how old (the fossil) was. We will do some math things and some science things, and I will talk about the history and geography part of

And no, unlike the T. Rex unearthed in South Dakota that was named "Sue," the Santee fossil hasn't been given a name right now, Plumbtree said. But 's not ruling it out in the

## LARRY'S CELEBRATES 30TH



On Friday afternoon, Larry's Heating & Cooling celebrated 30 years of

### City To Finalize Budget At Meeting

The Yankton City Commission will hold a second reading and public hearing for its 2013 budget Monday night. The light agenda also includes a public hearing for a dangerous build-

ing appeal, rezoning downtown Yankton property, awarding a bid for the annual supply of de-icing salt and a plan for getting rid of surplus property.

Additionally, the commission will hold an executive session to consult with legal counsel regarding pending litigation. The meeting gets under way at 7 p.m. in the City of Yankton Meeting

Room, located at the Technical Education Center, 1200 W. 21st St.

### Area Man To Be Inducted Into S.D. Hall Of Fame

A Yankton man is among those inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame this weekend during ceremonies in Chamberlain and Oacoma.

Larry Ness is one of 10 people being honored. The official induction was held Friday night in Chamberlain, with a banquet and celebration set for today (Saturday) at Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma.

Other 2012 honorees include James Abourezk, Sioux Falls; Dr Richard Gowen, Rapid City; Gene Lebrun, Rapid City; Don Meyer, Aberdeen; Mary Lynn Myers, Sioux Falls; Stephen Myers, Sioux Falls; Mary Olinger, Sioux alls; Carveth Thompson, Faith; and BG Myrna Williamson, Gregory. The South Dakota Hall of Fame is the only resource in the state dedi-

JACKIE WILLIAMS/P&D

southern Colorado

and New Mexico

and began college

at Mt. St. Scholas-

KS. She entered Sa-

tica in Atchison,

cred Heart

business in Yankton. Food, music, and inflatables where a big hit. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net.

cated exclusively to the preservation and extension of the people's heritage. More than 600 South Dakotans have been selected for recognition by the hall of fame.

Pedro Carcha, Guatemala.

On her return, S. Consuelo began her academic study of Spanish, finishing a Masters from the University of New York, Madrid, Spain campus in 1977. From 1973 to 1993 she taught Spanish at Mount Marty College. In 1993 she responded to a call asking for someone who knew Spanish to assist the Yankton Police. Thus began her ministry as interpreter for the Hispanic people of Yankton — assisting in schools, medical clinics, and legal settings and endearing herself to

those she assisted. S. Consuelo was a lively, decisive person who liked to be active. Her motherly spirit was extended to her students, to the sisters in her community, and to the Hispanic community in Yank-

ton. She was loved by all. Her optimism was grounded in her faith, and she accepted her terminal diagnosis with grace.

She is survived by her Benedictine community, her sister Clara Burchart of Edmond, Oklahoma, numerous nieces and nephews, and friends in the Hispanic community in Yankton. She was preceded in death by her parents and nine siblings.

Yankton Press & Dakotan September 8, 2012



Online condolences at: www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Center in Armour on August 22,

and teach, S. Consuelo taught in

ington, York and Lincoln (St.

Chamberlain and Hoven, SD; Hart-

Patrick's), NE; Richardton, ND and Pueblo, CO. She also managed the

office at St. Joseph Indian School

in Chamberlain. From 1965 to

Wes was a member of the As-Dante; Rollie Buchulz VFW Post #7319; Dante Lake Club, and Farmers Union. Besides farming, Wes also was a Cargill Seed dealer for nearly 30 years.

his enjoyment of fishing and

Thankful for having shared his life are his wife, Lila of Armour; children: James of Wagner; Larry and wife Danielle of Astor, FL; Jane Blaha and husband, John of Dante; Nancy Hermanson and husband Steven of Yankton; Mary Lou Snyder and husband Larry of Lake Andes; Angela Blaha and husband Roger of Wagner; and David and wife Deborah of Long Pine, NE; 24 grandchildren; two step grandchildren; 52 great grandchildren; three step grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; sister, Angeline Minnehan

### **Peter Hansen**

Peter Hansen, age 87, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at Avera Sis-ter James Care Center in Yankton, South Dakota.

No local services are planned. Peter Hansen was born on March 13, 1925 in Frederick, South Dakota to Peter T. and Eva "Emily" (Bender) Hansen. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from the University of South Dakota. He married Kathryn Mor-gan in 1964 and lived the majority of his life in Yankton where he worked as a manager for the S.D. Employment Securities Division.

Peter was a lifelong Republican and was a member of the Young Republicans Club at USD. Katy was Irish, Catholic, and a proud Democrat. Peter was Norwegian, Lutheran, and as noted, Republican. Most family's rules included no religion or politics at the dinner table, but that was the usual, very spirited, topic at most dinners in the Hansen household.

#### Peter enjoyed traveling including for many years trips to New Orleans, Louisiana, with Katy, where they originally honeymooned. He also took a trip to Norway where he met some of his old relatives.

Survivors include his son, Tom (Lori) Hansen of Gig Harbor, Washington; one grandson; and two great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Kathryn who also died on September 4th, in 1983.

To post an online sympathy message to visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan September 8, 2012



Online condolences at: www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

held 10:30 a.m. Monday, Septem-

Assumption Catholic Church in Dante. Burial will be in St. John Catholic Cemetery, rural Wagner, with military

OBITUARIES

S. Consuelo Chavez, OSB, 90,

died of pancreatic cancer on

neral Home is in charge of

Maria Ruben Chavez was born

on July 31, 1922 in La Jara, Col-

orado to Manuel and Celestina

(Valdez) Chavez. Proud of her

Spanish heritage, she was the

fourth child in a family of nine

children. She attended schools in

arrangements.

Thursday, September 6, 2012 at

**Sister Consuelo** 

Chavez

honors. Visitation will be 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Septem-

ber 10, 2012 at the

ber 9th at the Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner, followed by a 7 p.m. rosary/wake at the church.

Wesley Joseph Zacharias, son of Frank and Agnes (Novak) Zacharias, was born September 10, 1924 on the family farm south of Wagner. He died Friday, September 7, 2012 at St. Benedict Health Center in Parkston. Wes

Wesley Zacharias 2011.WAGNER - Mass for Wesley J. Zacharias, 87 of Wagner will be

Zacharias

hunting.

sumption Catholic Church in

Wes will be remembered for

1972 she was part of Sacred Heart Monastery's mission team in San

A wake service will be held on Sunday, September 9, 2012 at Sacred Heart Monastery. A wake service will be held on Sunday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m., and the Funeral Mass will be cele-brated on Monday, September 10 at 11:00 a.m. in Bishop Marty Me-morial Chapel Wintz & Bay Fu-Monastery in 1941 and made first profession in 1943. Chavez She is a graduate of Mount Marty College. A person who loved to learn morial Chapel. Wintz & Ray Fu-

but his presence was planned, Barta said.

"Shane works for the University of Nebraska Museum as a highway salvage paleontologist. His job is to go around construction and try to find fossils if they are uncovered and to save them," Barta said.

"Shane was walking the project and found something shiny. It was a little black tooth from that jaw bone, and they dug deeper. It's a shame that the scrapers and backhoe cut into (the fossil) a little bit, but it

future.

Regardless of whether the mosasaur gains a moniker, Plumbtree believes the newfound prehistoric pal will remain a personal experience that will stay with her young students for the rest of their lives.

"How many people can say they got to see one of these (fossils)?" she asked.

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

attained the age of 87 years, 11 months and 29 days.

Wes attended Ree County School #62 through the eighth grade. He served in the U.S. Army from April 13, 1945 to October 11, 1946.

Wes married Lila Weber on February 13, 1945 at the Assumption Catholic Church in Dante. They farmed south of Wagner from 1945 to 1995. Upon their retirement, they moved into Wagner. Wes and Lila became residents of the Golden Living

**Glen Olson** 

10:30 AM, Saturday

Gayville

/INTZ & RAY

nd Cremation Service, Inc

05-665-3644

of Aurora, CO; his in-laws: John and wife Elaine of Parkston; Elaine Anderson of Mitchell; Dale and wife Shirley of Salem; Dean and wife Karen of Wagner; and Pearl Weber of Wagner; and many nieces and nephews.

Wes was preceded in death by an infant daughter Anne Marie; his parents; daughter-in-law, Mary; and four brothers-in-law: Robert Minnehan, Lester and Eddie Weber and Bill Anderson. Yankton Press & Dakotan September 8, 2012

### Verlin 'Tab' Woods

Verlin "Tab" Woods, 74, of Yankton died Friday, Sept. 7, 2012, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Arrangements are pending with Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Yankton.

www.yankton.net

Thank You ... to family, friends, staff at Yankton Transit, and members of Trinity Lutheran Church, who made our 50th wedding anniversary a truly special event. Your thoughtfulness will long be remembered. -Jim and Linda Balfany



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