

Grants Awarded To Combat S.D. Crime

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The Department of Justice has awarded more than \$5 million in grants to several South Dakota organizations to improve efforts to combat violence against women and children. U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson announced Friday that the organizations will receive more \$5.4 million in grants. The money will be used to combat domestic violence, sexual assaults against women and children, and to help other victims of crime. The organizations awarded the grants include the South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault, Native American Community Board, White Buffalo Calf Woman Society, Inc., and the South Dakota Coalition Ending Domestic and Sexual Violence. Also, the Native Women's Society of the Great Plains and the South Dakota Department of Social Services were named as grant recipients.

Daugaard: Safety Measures Taken With Threat

PIERRE (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard says he doesn't believe anything will happen to him or his family following threats made by a Minnesota man as long as precautions are taken. Daugaard's statements came a day after authorities announced they were seeking 53-year-old William Becker, of Monticello, Minn., on an arrest warrant. Becker is accused of threatening Daugaard and his family by phone on Sept. 20. Since then, state officials have been implementing safety measures. Daugaard tells KCCR radio that the threats were more specific than usual. He says the incident has been a "good reminder that it is better to be prepared and safe than sorry."

Neb. Board Approves Methane Plant

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Power Review Board has approved an application for a proposed methane power plant north-east of Lincoln. The *Lincoln Journal Star* says board members voted 4-0 Thursday in favor of the proposal during a meeting in Omaha. The vote paves the way for Lincoln Electric System to start construction on the \$12.9 million project. The plant will burn gas produced by decomposing garbage at the Bluff Road Landfill. A network of wells will capture the gas and transport it to the new plant through a 16-inch-wide underground pipeline. The 4-megawatt plant is expected to generate enough electricity for about 4,000 homes per year. It's expected to begin running in 2013.

Inmate Breaks Window At Rapid City Court

RAPID CITY (AP) — Authorities in Rapid City say a 21-year-old inmate in full restraints broke a window and resisted a sheriff's deputy Friday after his sentencing. The Pennington County Sheriff's Office says John Shaw Jr. was transported to a Rapid City hospital for injuries sustained from breaking the window. A deputy was transporting Shaw from a court hearing on the first floor of the courthouse Friday morning when he broke a window in the corridor as he departed the courtroom. Police say that several other people became involved in the disturbance and two others were arrested. No other injuries were reported. Shaw was being sentenced on charges of aggravated assault, discharge of a firearm at a structure or vehicle, reckless discharge of a firearm while intoxicated and grand theft.

USAF To Pay \$12,800 For Neb. Tank Violations

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The U.S. Air Force has agreed to pay a \$12,800 fine for an apparent leak in an underground diesel tank in western Nebraska, as well as other environmental violations. An Environmental Protection Agency spokesman said Friday that the violations occurred at Air Force facilities in Banner, Cheyenne and Kimball counties in western Nebraska. The agency says the agreement requires the Air Force to conduct a "tank tightness" test to determine if one of its tanks is leaking. The Air Force is unable to account for nearly 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel that was in that tank. Regulators say other violations included a failure to provide overfill protection for an existing tank, failure to conduct annual inspections, and failure to report a suspected leak.

Court To Hear Appeal Of Former Tribal Chairman

MITCHELL (AP) — A federal appeals court will hear arguments next month in a former Crow Creek Sioux Tribe chairman's appeal of his convictions for bribery and conspiracy. A federal jury convicted Duane Big Eagle in August 2011 of two counts of conspiracy to bribe a tribal official and one count of aiding and abetting the bribery of a tribal official. Big Eagle was sentenced to three years in prison for a scheme in which tribal officials were rewarded for giving contracts to construction companies for buildings at the tribe's central South Dakota school. The *Daily Republic* of Mitchell reports that the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of appeals will hear Big Eagle's appeal in St. Paul, Minn.

Lincoln Man Pleads Not Guilty To Fatal Stabbing

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A 27-year-old man has pleaded not guilty to charges that he fatally stabbed another Lincoln man. The *Lincoln Journal Star* says a trial date hasn't been set yet for Joshua Albright, who entered his plea earlier this week. Albright is charged with second-degree murder, accused of stabbing 30-year-old Benjamin Miller on Aug. 10 in front of Miller's home. Miller was pronounced dead later at a Lincoln hospital. Prosecutors suspect the confrontation was over a woman both men had dated.

S.D. Man Pleads Not Guilty To Child Porn

RAPID CITY (AP) — A Rapid City man has pleaded not guilty to charges that he possessed child pornography. KOTA-TV reports that 34-year-old Abraham Davila is charged with six counts of possessing, distributing or manufacturing child pornography. He could face up to 90 years in prison if convicted of the charges.

Judge Set To Hear Arguments On S.D. Execution Protocol

BY DIRK LAMMERS  
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — A federal judge will hear arguments next week on whether South Dakota's one-drug capital punishment procedure is constitutional. Attorneys who represent convicted killer Donald Moeller, who is scheduled to be executed in late October or early November, contend that the method that will likely use pentobarbital violates the constitutional ban on cruel and unusual punishment. Moeller has said in state court that he's ready to accept death as the consequence of the 1990 killing of 9-year-old Becky O'Connell. And U.S. District Court Judge Lawrence Piersol has upheld the constitutionality of Moeller's conviction and sentence, but he has yet to rule in the 2004 case on South Dakota's execution protocol. Piersol is scheduled to view the South Dakota State Penitentiary's execution chamber Thursday morning before a 1:30 p.m. hearing in U.S. District Court in Sioux Falls. South Dakota has two execution drugs in its inventory, sodium thiopental and pentobarbital, but its supply of sodium thiopental expires in



Moeller

September, said Attorney General Marty Jackley. "If you fast-forward to October, the relevant issue is pentobarbital," Jackley said. Faced with a dwindling of supplies of sodium thiopental, most states have turned to pentobarbital, a barbiturate used to treat anxiety and convulsive disorders such as epilepsy. Pentobarbital supplies also have shrunk after its manufacturer said it would try to prevent its use in executions. Moeller's attorneys, in a July filing, said they were seeking information on how the state is obtaining its supply of pentobarbital, whether it's from an FDA-approved company, how the drug is stored and how it's delivered. Nearly all recent filings in the case have been sealed. Elijah Page was executed by lethal injection in 2007, South Dakota's first execution in 60 years. The state now has four inmates on death row. Piersol's upcoming ruling on the method could affect both Moeller and Eric Robert, who is scheduled to be put to death in mid-October

for the 2011 killing of prison guard Ronald "R.J." Johnson. Jackley said Piersol has given attorneys a road map on how he would like the arguments to be tailored. The judge in his order said he will consider the method's degree of risk, magnitude of pain and the availability of other essential protocols. Piersol said he will also listen to arguments on what alterations would be necessary to make the protocol constitutional if it's found to be unconstitutional. Deborah Czuba, a Little Rock, Ark.-based federal public defender representing Moeller, said she could not comment on the pending litigation. Robert's co-defendant, Rodney Berget, was also sentenced to death, but an order for stay of execution was issued in August pending an appeal. The state Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments in Berget's case Monday. The fourth man on death row is Charles Russell Rhines, who was convicted in the 1992 fatal stabbing of 22-year-old Donnivan Schaeffer during the burglary of a Rapid City doughnut shop. His conviction and death sentence was upheld in September, but no execution date has been set.

Beef Plant May Conduct Test Slaughter Soon

ABERDEEN (AP) — A long-delayed South Dakota beef-processing plant is ready for a test run, an indication it is making progress toward opening. Aberdeen city officials have issued Northern Beef Packers a temporary certificate of occupancy, which will allow the plant to slaughter up to five cattle to test its equipment, the *Aberdeen American News* reported. Brett Bill, Aberdeen planning and zoning director, said the plant would need a permanent certificate of occupancy and some other permits before it can begin full processing. Land for the \$109 million plant was secured in 2006, but numerous problems — financial issues, lawsuits, local opposition, delinquent property taxes, liens, flooding, an economic downturn — have repeatedly pushed back the opening date. The plant on Aberdeen's south side will initially process about 200 cattle a day, eventually ramping up to 1,500 head a day from the Dakotas, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota. Bill said Aberdeen building inspectors have been at the plant daily for the past month to assist crews with questions about building code requirements. The plant has made substantial progress in construction and equipment installation, which was required to receive the temporary certificate of occupancy, Bill said. The plant has met the necessary health and safety requirements, he said. Robin Bobzien, Aberdeen's public works director, said Northern Beef has all the water hookups in place. The plant has not yet completed all the necessary testing for wastewater or received its wastewater permit, but the processing of a few head of cattle does not require that permit, he said. "As long as they are not discharging anything into the city wastewater system, we don't have an issue," Bobzien said. The newspaper reported that a check of the Brown County Register of Deeds office Thursday showed that the beef plant has satisfied 16 liens totaling \$1.85 million. In the past, Northern Beef has not paid all its contractors. The liens that have been released were all from this year. The plant still has other liens against it, of which at least one is in the court system. At a job fair Sept. 18, a beef plant official reported that 258 employees are on the payroll. Officials have said the plant will need 250 employees to open, but it eventually will employ 650.



Rev. Dr. Paul M. Opsahl  
After Care Counselor

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October 8th	October 29th
October 15th	November 5th

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- The Normal Experience & Features of Grief
- Constructive Ways of Handling Grief
- The Need To Reach Out and Set Goals
- Coping with Special Days
- Grief, the Latter Stages
- What does the Future Hold?

Paul Opsahl attended Yankton College and the School of Theology where he earned the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Theology. He earned a Master of Divinity Degree from Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Conn. His doctoral studies were with McCormick Seminary, Chicago, Ill. He was awarded an honorary degree from Yankton College, where he has served on the Board of Trustees for over 20 years. Rev. Opsahl has over 40 years of pastoral experience, which reflects his concern and compassion for people.

Anyone who has suffered a loss is welcome to join in this program, which will meet on Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory in Yankton.

Refreshments will be served.



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