

Residents Work To Clean Up Railroad

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Four Sioux Falls neighborhoods have banded together to clean up 2 1/2 miles of railroad track in South Dakota's largest city.

About 40 volunteers turned out Saturday morning to clean up garbage along the tracks that run through the heart of the city. The group found several mattresses, old car tires and chunks of wood resting along the walls of the trenches.

One of the organizers, Katrina Lehr-McKinney, told KELO-TV that the cleanup has been in the works for several months.

"What we've been doing is working with the city and the railroad since May, to work on a date, work on scheduling of the railroads. Because obviously we can't do this if they have trains coming through," she said.

Robin Maturan tells the Sioux Falls *Argus-Leader* that she didn't realize how much trash was in the area until she started cleaning up. She said it was a team effort.

"The people who are out here are fantastic," she said. "I'm meeting a lot of new people and it's a lot of fun."

Foes Build Barn In Path Of Pipeline

YORK, Neb. (AP) — Opponents of the Keystone XL pipeline are celebrating the completion of a barn built in the project's expected path.

Organizers planned several events Sunday to thank volunteers and mark the completion of the solar- and wind-powered barn.

Billionaire investor and philanthropist Tom Steyer is scheduled to speak at the Sunday afternoon dedication ceremony. Steyer has spent more than \$2 million fighting the pipeline that's designed to carry Canadian crude oil to the Gulf Coast.

The barn has been constructed about 15 miles northwest of York.

The groups behind the barn project say pipeline firm TransCanada will have to either destroy the barn or tweak the pipeline route if it gets permission to build the project.

Spearfish Sees Dramatic Student Rise

SPEARFISH (AP) — A school district in the Black Hills of South Dakota is experiencing triple-digit growth in the number of students, partly because of new families who came because of jobs in the North Dakota oil patch.

The Spearfish district is up 120 students over a year ago, putting its total enrollment at more than 2,200 students.

School district officials tell the *Black Hills Pioneer* that parents of some of the students are choosing to live in Spearfish rather than western North Dakota, where many of them are working oil jobs.

Dave Peters, superintendent of Spearfish schools, says the district is managing the growth, but could be in trouble if 120 new students sign up next year.

Legislative Tax Hearings Set To Begin

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The first public-input hearings of the Legislature's Tax Modernization Committee are set to begin in western Nebraska.

Lawmakers will convene the first hearing on Monday at 4 p.m., at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff. The committee will hold a public hearing on Tuesday starting at 1:30 p.m. at North Platte Community College in North Platte. Its final hearing for the week will take place at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Northeast Community College in Norfolk.

The committee has been assigned to review Nebraska's tax system for fairness, simplicity and stability, while helping to compete with other states. The panel is expected to release a report by mid-December.

Hearings in Lincoln and Omaha are scheduled in October.

Neb. State Sen. Dubas Joins 2014 Governor's Race

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska state Sen. Annette Dubas launched her campaign for governor on Sunday, promising a common-ground focus on economic development, renewable energy and property taxes.

The Democratic lawmaker announced her bid at her family farm near Fullerton, in a rural district that she has represented for nearly seven years. Her decision to run gives Democrats a rare competitive primary, with the potential to energize the party after several lopsided defeats.

Dubas will begin a 12-city campaign kickoff tour Monday to introduce herself to voters. The 57-year-old grew up in Omaha but moved to her father's hometown of Fullerton when she was 16. She met and married her high school sweetheart, Ron, and had four children and 10 grandchildren.

Winning statewide office as a Democrat "might be perceived as a challenge, but I think I've already proven that I can overcome it," Dubas said in an interview. "I'm a Democrat who represents a very Republican district. I went out, I worked hard, and I gave the voters of that district an opportunity to get to know who I am as a person. The issues that are important to those voters are the same issues that are important to me."

She will face fellow Democrat Chuck Hassebrook, a former University of



Dubas

Nebraska regent who also led the Center for Rural Affairs, an advocacy group for small towns. Hassebrook announced his candidacy in June and has traveled the state with a promise to visit all 93 counties. The two are divided on abortion, with Dubas describing herself as "pro-life," and Hassebrook supporting abortion rights.

The Republican gubernatorial race has drawn five candidates: state Sens. Charlie Janssen, Beau McCoy and Tom Carlson, State Auditor Mike Foley, and Omaha businessman Pete Ricketts.

Democrats have struggled in recent years to win statewide office. Republican Gov. Dave Heineman, who is term-limited, carried his last two elections with more than 70 percent support. Last year, Republican state Sen. Deb Fischer cruised to a statewide victory over Democrat Bob Kerrey, who returned to Nebraska to campaign for his old U.S. Senate seat.

The last Democrat to serve as governor was Ben Nelson, who held the seat from 1991 to 1999. Nelson, however, benefited from a vigorous Democratic primary in 1990, when he entered the seven-way race as a virtual unknown, said Vince Powers, chairman of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

Powers said the ongoing Republican leadership has led to problems within the state Department of Correctional Services and the Beatrice State

Developmental Center, where former employees were convicted of abusing disabled residents.

"We're confident that the voters want a change," Powers said. "We don't have bridges collapsing, but the state's entire social structure is beginning to collapse. After this many years, regardless of what party is in power, it's time for some fresh air."

Dubas said she would work to promote renewable energy in Nebraska, which has trailed other states in wind-energy development. She also vowed to continue her work on economic development, pointing to laws she introduced that have allowed historic and local community buildings to qualify for state renovation grants.

She also said she would work with local governments to look for ways to reduce property taxes.

In 2011, Dubas introduced new state pipeline regulations in response to a public outcry over the Keystone XL oil pipeline.

Dubas also guided a bill through the Legislature in 2011 that extended legal protection to women who breastfeed in public. Before the law passed, Nebraska had seen numerous cases of women who were kicked out of public places or told to go to public restrooms, their cars or closets to feed their babies.

"I have the background and experience with what I've worked on in the Legislature," she said. "I see that experience rolling right into an executive position. It gives me a real opportunity to hit the ground running."

Officials Say South Dakota County Could Be Facing Bankruptcy

RAPID CITY (AP) — Officials in Bennett County say the county might go broke if residents vote down a measure to raise property taxes.

Voters will go to the polls Tuesday to decide whether to opt out of a state-imposed tax limitation that caps a property tax increase at 2.1 percent next year. If the vote is approved, it would allow the county commission to keep the \$350,000 it has built into its \$1.8 million budget for 2014.

County commission chairman Rolf Kraft told the *Rapid City Journal* that the county will face almost certain bankruptcy if voters reject the measure.

"We won't be able to make enough cuts to survive," he said.

Passage of the amendment

would give the county time to seek solutions for its financial crisis, which could include help from the federal government, Kraft said.

Bennett County is surrounded on three sides by Indian reservations and Nebraska to the south. Approximately 45 percent of the county's 3,400 residents live on tax-exempt Indian trust lands. Approximately one-fourth of the county is tax-exempt trust land.

Auditor Susan Williams, who has managed county finances for more than 20 years, said this is the worst budget crisis the county has faced in her time.

Williams said a bad economy, low inflation and increased crime created the "perfect storm" that is sapping county resources.

Flooding Persists In Western, Central Neb.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (AP) — Several flooding records floated away along the South Platte River this weekend, and forecasters warn that the water that inundated Colorado will now cause problems in central Nebraska this week.

Despite the records set in North Platte, Brady, Roscoe and other towns in the past few days, few major problems were reported because communities were able to prepare before the water arrived.

And now that the floodwaters are flowing into the Platte River channel, the National Weather Service is predicting only minor flooding this week in Kearney, Grand Island and the surrounding communities. "There's a lot of water still to come through the channel," Weather Service meteorologist Shawn Jacobs said.

Some of the worst flooding problems in Nebraska so far have come in Lincoln County, which is where the South and North Platte rivers merge to form the Platte River. But the few flooded streets there and handful of evacuations there has still been relatively minor compared to the destruction in Colorado.

The torrential rain and flooding in Colorado earlier this month killed seven people and destroyed more than 7,000 homes and businesses.

In North Platte, the South Platte River crested at 14.32 feet Sunday to set a record. The previous record level of 14 feet was set in June 1935.

Lincoln County emergency manager Dan Guenther said the flood damage could have

been a lot worse.

"It's great that we were prepared for what was coming and great that the community has taken heed and taken the precautions they felt they needed to take," Guenther said. "The precautions we took as a community to protect our citizens worked."

The river also set a record in Brady at 10.2 feet Sunday — eclipsing the previous mark of 9.6 feet.

Records were also set upstream in Roscoe, Neb., and Julesburg, Colo., late last week.

Jacobs said the river tends to remain high for several days after it crests in an area, so residents should continue to be careful. And everyone is being urged to avoid contact with the floodwaters which are contaminated and may carry dangerous debris.

"There's a lot of nasty things in the river," Jacobs said.

The Weather Service is warning people who live near the Platte River in Cozad, Kearney, Grand Island and other communities downstream to prepare for what's likely to be minor flooding this week.

The floodwaters are expected to reach Kearney Monday evening, and the river will crest there Wednesday at 6.9 feet. The Weather Service says flooding begins at 6 feet there, but the record in Kearney is 7.5 feet.

Buffalo County officials are urging people who live near the river to move personal property and livestock out of the area before Monday as a precaution.

OBITUARIES

Marjorie Triplett

Marjorie Ann Triplett, 75 of Yankton, SD formerly of West Dundee, IL went to be with her Lord and Savior at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton on Friday, September 20, 2013 after a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born May 29, 1938 in Welch, West Virginia. She was the daughter of Pauline and the Reverend Cecle Crull. She worked as a waitress for more than 50 years. Her favorite past time



Triplett

was cooking and baking for her family. She is survived by her brothers, Charles and Tommy (Judy), her children: Jamie Breedlove, Kathy (Steve) King, Bill (Sarah) Duda, David Richmond, Terry (Nanci) Fausett, Tracey Bostic, Joy Williams and Christine Triplett, her grandchildren:

Connie (Chris) Getty, Michelle (Mark) Fischer, Tonya (Aaron) Burks, Steven Fausett, Michael Fausett, Amanda Fausett, Daniel (Sami) Tarlton Jr., CC Williams, Cody Williams, Neil Duda, Jessica Duda, Mckenzie Bostic and 12 great-grandchildren with one due soon and her dearest friend, Christi Hill.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her daughters, Pennie and Dawn, and her son, Steven. Funeral services are at

11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 23, 2013 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, with the Rev. Michael Hecht officiating. Burial will immediately follow in the Yankton Cemetery.

Visitations will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
September 23, 2013

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Eleanor Shane

VIBORG — Eleanor "Ellie" Shane, 81, died September 19, 2013 in Yankton.

Services will be held on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Centerville.

Visitation is Tuesday starting at 5:00 p.m. with a Scripture Service at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

Survivors are her children Nancy (Randy Larson) Severson of Viborg, Lu-Ann (Chris) Pike of Rushville, MO, Karen (Allen) Moon of Dexter, IA, Michael (Lindy) Shane of Los Cruces, NM, Patrick Shane of Bullhead City, AZ and Catherine (LyDell) Peterson of Viborg.

Register online at www.viborgfuneralhome.com/.
Yankton Press & Dakotan
September 23, 2013

Wilfred Joseph

Wilfred Joseph, 57, of Wagner died Friday, Sept. 20, 2013 at Sanford Hospital, Sioux Falls.

Funeral services are at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, at the Bonesteel Community Hall, Bonesteel. Burial is in the UCC Cemetery at Milk's Camp.

Wake services began Sunday at the Bonesteel Community Center.

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

Amelia Rokusek

Amelia A. (Amy) Rokusek, 83, of Tabor died Saturday morning, Sept. 21, 2013, at the Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home, Viborg.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church with Rev. Dan Moris and Msgr. Carlton Herman con-celebrating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations begin at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 24, at the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor, with a Wake service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Betty Faller

A memorial service for Betty K. Faller, 69, of Tripp will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24 at the American Legion Hall in Tripp with Rev. C. Brian Bucklew officiating. Inurnment will follow in Gracehill Cemetery, Tripp.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 3:00 p.m. until a 7:00 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tripp.

Betty died on Thursday, September 19, 2013 at Avera St. Benedict Health Center in Parkston.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com/.

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*Honoring
Their Memory*

**Our Thoughts And
Prayers Are With Them**

Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Roy Blake
who passed away on
September 23, 2012

Janice Marie Roth
who passed away on
September 27, 2012

Chandler Freng
who passed away on
September 28, 2012

**Martha Edith
Anderson**
who passed away on
September 29, 2012

**Denise DeJager
Anderson**
who passed away on
September 28, 2003

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory.

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Enter the Journey

Are you struggling with grief or loss or helping someone through dark times? Learn more about the grief process during this 4 session educational program.

Everyone Welcome!

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Sessions will be held at:

7:00pm

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2901 Douglas Ave.
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Sessions will be held in Hartington in the spring.

Monday Session Topics:

Oct. 7	Expectations on the Journey
Oct. 14	Embracing the Uniqueness of Your Grief
Oct. 21	Exploring the Grief
Oct. 28	Experiencing Life Beyond

Presenter: Sheila Kramer, Aftercare Coordinator
Sheila is the aftercare coordinator for the Wintz Funeral Homes. She received her Master's Degree in School Counseling with an emphasis in Community Counseling and has over 22 years of counseling experience.

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