

**South Dakota
Statewide
Classifieds**

AUCTION

HARRIET AND TIP SISK ESTATE AUCTION, 10:00 a.m. Oct. 12, Miller, SD. Antiques, collectibles, glass. See sale bill at www.sdauctions.com. Midwestern Auction Service, 605-870-1082.

HILL CITY, SD, ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION. Friday, October 18. 24 prime development acres within city limits. Complete seclusion amongst the pines! Marv Matkins, owner. Details at www.bradeenauction.com. 605-673-2629.

LAND AUCTION: 428+/- acres, Walworth County, Cropland, Recreational, Investment, 6 miles west of Bowdle, SD at the junction of Hwy 12 and Hwy 47, October 30th, 2013. Call Dakota Properties, Todd Schuetzle, Auctioneer, 605-280-3115, www.DakotaProperties.com.

EMPLOYMENT

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Rural Neb. Nonprofits Ready For Health Marketplace

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nonprofit groups in rural Nebraska say they're ready to start enrolling residents in the new health-insurance marketplace, despite the vast areas they have to cover.

The groups have turned to churches, libraries, community colleges and food banks to address one of their biggest challenges: Spreading word that the marketplaces will open Tuesday for a six-month enrollment period as part of the Affordable Care Act.

The largest nonprofit, Community Action of Nebraska, plans to have 62 insurance "navigators" hired and trained to help with enrollment at its local offices throughout the state. The agency's goal is to bring some 42,000 uninsured residents into the marketplaces, which allow consumers to comparison shop for health insurance and see whether they qualify for federal subsidies. Some of the group's nine chapters are pushing to meet in-person with clients as much as possible, to ensure that they understand their options when signing up online.

"It does pose additional barriers for us, in terms of having to travel long distances and reach very sparsely populated areas," said Jennifer Rogers, program director for Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska in Scottsbluff. "We'll probably be spending more time in a car than our counterparts in Lincoln and Omaha."

Even as Congress fights over efforts to defund the care act at the risk of shutting down the federal government, Rogers said many residents in her area are still unaware that the marketplace is about to open. However, the organization has scheduled presentations throughout the area to raise awareness. Traveling staff members received laptops and portable scanners to help collect information from clients in homes or other private settings. Some clients have learned through word-of-mouth or from their regular encounters with the group, which serves low-income residents.

Rogers said the navigators are focused mostly on publicizing the marketplaces, but local hospitals are also training staff to become community assistance counselors who can sign up patients.

Hearings On Proposed S.D. Uranium Mine To Continue In November

RAPID CITY (AP) — A decision on a proposed uranium mine in southwestern South Dakota won't be made for at least a couple more months.

Powertech Uranium Corp. wants to build a mine near Edgemont, which would use a method known as in-situ recovery — pumping water fortified with oxygen and carbon dioxide into underground ore deposits to dissolve the uranium, *The Rapid City Journal* reported. The water is then pumped back to the surface, and the uranium is extracted and sold to nuclear power plants.

Powertech officials say the method will not pollute groundwater, but the company's testimony did little to ease the concerns of 77-year-old Rodney Knudson, a retired teacher and librarian.

"There are too many examples, unfortunately of (in situ) operations that have gone awry," he said at a contested hearing last week.

The state Board of Minerals and Environment held the hearing to determine whether it should issue a permit for the proposed mine about 15 miles northwest of Edgemont. The contested hearing, which is similar to a jury trial, will continue in Rapid City during the week of Nov. 11-15.

Supporters say the mine, initially proposed years ago, would bring jobs to the Edgemont area and tax revenue to the region and state, while opponents worry about possible harm to the environment.

The state's review is limited, due to a law

passed by the Legislature in 2011 that prevents the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources from duplicating federal regulation of underground injection wells and in-situ mining. A Powertech lobbyist wrote the bill.

Powertech plans to inject wastewater underground, rather than spraying it across surface land.

Company hydrologist Hal Demuth said that elevation levels taper off around the project, groundwater will flow southwest, away from population centers. He said it's difficult for water to move between aquifers, because of shale beds that separate them.

"I think he's doing a great job showing how this process does work, and why it does work safely," Dewey-Burdock Project Manager Mark Hollenbeck said of Demuth.

Michael Hickey, attorney for the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary, said the board must reject the permit because Powertech omitted details in its applications.

Until the hearing, Hickey said, Powertech hadn't told of its desire to dispose wastewater in deep underground wells that reach into the Deadwood and Minnelusa aquifers. The company also revealed during the hearings that it plans to also mine for vanadium, a mineral used to make car and jet parts, he said.

Nebraskans Cleaning Up After Flooding

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. (AP) — Western Nebraska residents are cleaning up after record flooding on the South Platte River now that the water is slowly receding.

The river overflowed earlier this month after the rainwater that inundated parts of Colorado flowed into Nebraska. Communities all along the South Platte and Platte rivers prepared for flooding before the rise began.

The rivers reached record heights in Roscoe, North Platte and Brady, but fortunately the flood caused little major damage because of the defenses and because much of the land close to the rivers is rural.

Hershey residents built sandbag walls all along the river to protect the town from flooding. Volunteers came out Saturday to help remove the sandbags now that the threat is gone.

Village Clerk LeAnn Ellis said Saturday's cleanup will be a big help for Hershey.

"It's finally coming to some closure for us and everything," Ellis said. "We're looking through the bills, trying to get those paid, get the town back in order. It's going to take a while."

The volunteers were joined by inmates from the Lincoln County Detention Center who have been helping throughout the flood fight over the past two weeks.

Besides tearing down sandbag walls and repairing flood damage, residents of western Nebraska are also dealing with water quality concerns and worsening allergies.

Race For Cancer Cure Draws Thousands

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Thousands of runners wearing pink gathered in Sioux Falls on Sunday for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

The South Dakota race relocated last year to Sioux Falls from Vermillion.

Runner Nicki Loucks, a 49-year-old Crosby, N.D., woman diagnosed with breast cancer in 2007, told the *Argus Leader* that she considers herself "very fortunate" despite having a few bumps in the road to recovery.

"It's very humbling because I know there's people who've had it a lot worse than I did and obviously some people haven't even survived," said Loucks, who's been cancer-free since 2008.

The organization's state executive director Mary Kolrud said last year's race raised \$74,000 for the foundation. This year's goal was \$100,000.

"We were about halfway to there before race, it's so exciting," Kolrud said.

More than 140 teams signed up for the race, which started under an arch of pink balloons in Falls Park. Participants ran through downtown streets before looping around back to the park.

Auction

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general manager of a dealership in Oklahoma.

To help document the auction, a number of regional and national media outlets were represented in Pierce, including a crew from CBS News. The History Channel was also broadcasting on-site for a program entitled "History Made Now: Wheels of Fortune."

With rumors swirling of celebrities in the crowds, De Geyter and Lord said they were more interested in the list of cars they zeroed in on during their pre-auction planning.

"It surprises you how complete some of these are," De Geyter said, pointing particularly to the rubber sealing that remains intact on one of the old cars.

"It's a shame they didn't have this 20 years earlier." The fact that the auction was essentially a one-time thing brought in high-end, serious bidders, De Geyter added.

"We have in our head what we want to bid on," he said, looking over his checklist. "If you use their (auctioneers) model, you can get caught up."

Saying that it can be hard

to stop bidding once a "bidding war" begins, De Geyter said he prefers to make one bid.

"I've bought several of my cars that way," he said. The auction attracted more than car enthusiasts — as evidenced by the food vendors and other activities.

Among those was Gene Alexander, a resident of Superior, Neb. Taking in the scene Saturday from his motorized wheelchair, Alexander was quick in his assessment of the crowds.

"I think it's a zoo," he said. "It's amazing what a little internet publicity can do."

Did Alexander plan to bid on anything?

"We have enough car projects already," he said. "Nobody wants to tackle that work load."

Even Yankton and area residents ventured south on Highway 81 to take in the auction, said Terry Hagen of Hartington, Neb.

He later joked that Piece had to be the second-largest town in the state of Nebraska over the weekend.

"It's insane," said Hagen, who planned to make small bids on various cars.

With Hagen on Saturday was Jim Harts and Jerry Hagen of Yankton, both of whom said they were anxious to travel to Pierce.

Calling the auction "quite

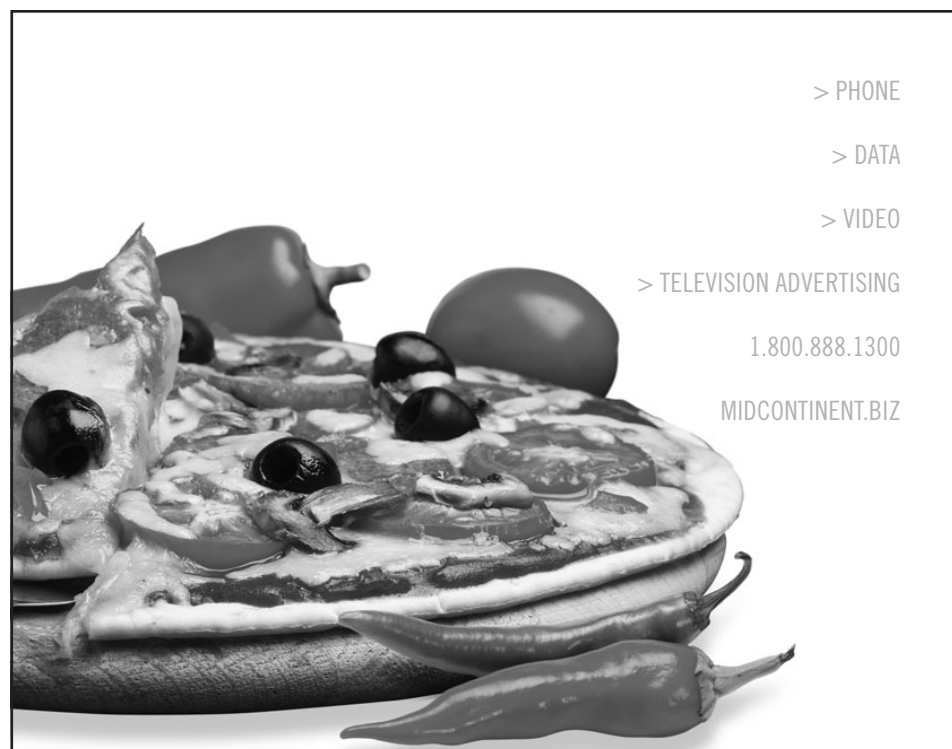
the experience," Harts of Yankton questioned paying five — or sometimes six — figures for a beat-up car.

"You still have to fix them up, and that's not cheap," he said.

Jerry Hagen has experienced such car projects, saying he now regrets scrapping or "junking" some of his previous cars.

"I wish I would have kept all those old Chevys I used to have," he said. "I could have made some nice money."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.



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Exchange

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the number of uninsured people.

Officials don't know how many people will visit the site Tuesday, when people can begin signing up for coverage that would start Jan. 1. About 105,000 South Dakotans, or 13 percent of the state's population, are uninsured, according to recent surveys.

In South Dakota, the state Division of Insurance has certified Avera Health Plans, Sanford

Health Plan and Dakotacare to offer plans, said Melissa Klemann, the division's assistant director of life and health insurance.

Klemann said the state is not putting any resources into marketing the health exchange, leaving that to private and nonprofit health organizations. She said she's not sure whether residents will flock to the site Tuesday or whether traffic will build over time.

"I think we're all anxious to see what that Oct. 1 date will do," Klemann said.

The Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board last month received a \$264,000 grant to help spread the word to Na-

tive American residents of the Dakotas.

Native Americans are exempt from the Affordable Care Act's requirement that people carry health insurance or pay a fine because they get free health care through the Indian Health Service, a branch of the Department of Health and Human Services.

But "navigators," whose job is to help residents choose coverage, will be encouraging tribes and tribal members to enroll because the resources available through IHS are so limited, said Jerilyn Church, the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board's executive director.

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