



WEDNESDAY

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75 CENTS

Sidney Herald

SERVING RICHLAND COUNTY AND THE SURROUNDING AREA FOR 105 YEARS



Bulletin Board

Harpist

World-class harpist Greg Buchanan will perform at the Sidney Middle School at 7 p.m. July 3. The event is sponsored by the Richland County Evangelical Ministerium. The concert is free of charge. There will be a free-will offering.

Correction

Chancy William Pierce has filed for the position of mayor in Fairview's election not for a town council position.

Car show

A car show is being planned during Fairview's Old Timers Festival from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 20. For more information, call Gene Trudell, 480-1202.

Church celebration

The Cherry Creek Church will celebrate its centennial Sunday with a church service at 10 a.m. and a pot-luck at noon. Meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring salads, desserts, etc.

First Lutheran

The First Lutheran Church of Savage will have its centennial celebration Sunday. Church service will start at 11 a.m. After the service, there will be a free meal at the Savage Community Hall to celebrate the centennial. Four or five of First Lutheran's previous pastors are anticipated to be in attendance.

Happy birthdays

The Sidney Herald wishes happy birthday this week to friends Whitney Becker, Lakayla Nentwig, Sandra Goulette, Britnee Gullikson, Debbie Romero, Kyle Erickson, Anna Schneider, Jennifer Moore, Ashley Pender, Malorie Kast, Kendra Stepler, Tom Dockweiler, LeRoy Martinson, Cody Mavity, Jeffery Vance, Dustin Leitheiser, Phyllis Iverson, Julie Terry, Darby Frey, Matt Trzinski, Steve Harris, Peggy Sorensen, Zach Johnson, Steven Larsen, Kayla Buckalew, Hailey Getchell, Sandy Wirth, Sara Langley, Skeeter Bennett, Tiffany Bright, Logan Kjos, Dustin Schulz, Marla Murray, Bobbi Jo Propp-McMurray, Kimberlee Vaira, Kris Ashcraft, Don Anderson, Carlotta Hill, Danny Raprager, Christopher Hartsoch, Brant Pewonka, Monica Cayko, Nancy Ross and June Petrik.

Deaths

Vernon Caldwell, 82
Nicholas "Nick" Jones, 64
Craig Messer, 49
Joseph "Joe" Sticka, 94
Elvina Vig, 79

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BILL VANDER WEELE | SIDNEY HERALD

Here from the hills

The entry being driven by Rick Tiezen was one of the highlights during the Town and Country Festival's parade held in Sidney Saturday morning.

Building permit fees on rise

BY LOUISA BARBER
SIDNEY HERALD

Surveyor fees are on the rise and so are impact fees, so why not building permits?

On July 17, the city of Sidney's building permit fees will raise for only the second time in about five years after the Sidney City Council approved it last week. There isn't any one across-the-board increase because of the formula, but the more expensive the building, naturally, the higher the fee.

Building inspector Alton Hillesland says the increase, a "necessity," was at the urging of state officials.

"The state has told us that we have been very, very low in the past. The state has urged us to come up with a higher rate," he said, though was quick to say that "even with this rate we are still much lower than what the state recommends."

Under the new fee schedule, a person who builds, say, a \$200,000 house would pay a \$949 permit fee plus a \$175 review fee. Those are up from \$455 and \$150 respectively. On the other hand, if someone wants to erect a \$1,000 fence, the permit fee would go from \$18 to \$23 with a \$90 review fee. Manufactured homes require a \$150 building permit,



LOUISA BARBER | SIDNEY HERALD

At the state's urging, building permit fees are rising to cover the costs of inspections.

up from \$40.

The new permit fees were determined by adding the city's and state's current rates and dividing them in half. These pay for the inspections that Hillesland conducts, which also happens to be on the rise, such as the footings before concrete pouring, the building frames and drywalls, making at least four to six inspections on each building before it's completed. The fees also pay for staff who look at the plans.

Hillesland, though officially working

only part-time, is increasingly busy. His official business hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m., but during summers or other busy times, he's in and out of his office at City Hall every day.

"Over the last two years, especially, it's increased, I would say, 100 percent in time spent," he said. Before 2011, he worked maybe 10-15 hours a week on average, but he's now at 30.

At present, he spends most of his time on the Augustus Vaux Subdivi-

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New events to highlight Lambert's Fourth

BY BILL VANDER WEELE
SIDNEY HERALD

By the end of Lambert's Fourth of July activities, there will be a Miss Lambert crowned. But determining the winner will have little to do with how the person looks in an evening gown or her interviewing skills.

"It will be more of what a farmer wife does," Christine Mullin, one of the event's organizers, said.

Activities for the Miss Lambert competition might include events such as collecting chicken eggs and throwing hay bales. Mullin notes women don't even need to be a "miss" to participate.

The Miss Lambert competition is one of several new events scheduled at Lambert's Fourth of July celebration this year.

The Farm Hand Olympics will have

teams compete in "daily activities of a farmhand."

Teams are also encouraged to make their own beds and race them as bed races return to Lambert's Fourth.

A wheelbarrow obstacle course will feature one of the contestant's blindfolded as two-man teams try to maneuver through the course.

Another highlight is expected to be a tug-of-war between organized teams. Mullin hopes teams will include Lambert's EMTs and Lambert's firefighters.

Teams interested in any of the afternoon competitions should call Mullin at 406-774-3542. There are sign-up sheets at locations in Lambert.

The day of fun will begin with a parade, including a children's bike parade, starting at 11 a.m. Entries should meet at Nortana beginning at

10 a.m. There will be prizes for the best decorated children's bikes.

After the parade, the Lambert Volunteer Fire Department will serve its traditional barbecue meal for a free-will donation.

Bryan Prevost will then fly his plane over for the "Ball Drop For Pop" at 1:30 p.m.

There will be plenty of entertainment for children during the afternoon including face painting by Afton Ray, a bouncy house and other children games.

There will also be a dunking booth. A three-on-three basketball tournament, for grades 5-12, is also scheduled. At 5 p.m., competitors are needed for a BBQ cook-off.

Fireworks, sponsored in part in the memory of Floyd and Evelyn Williams, begin at dusk.

Sidney post office facing challenges

BY BILL VANDER WEELE
SIDNEY HERALD

When wages for some postal workers are cut across the nation and some of those carriers live in areas impacted by an oil boom, you have a problem.

That's what currently is happening in Sidney. Local Postmaster LaRae Hagel explains there are four routes in the city of Sidney. Only two carriers are attempting to cover all the routes.

That's why mail may be delivered later than normal. Carriers are working 12-hour days, plus Hagel is helping with deliveries even though she technically isn't supposed to.

The problem is hourly pay for "non-career" postal workers was cut earlier this year from \$22 to \$15 with no benefits. Salaries are higher for "career" people, and the theory was that some of them who worked in urban plants that were closed would come work in undermanned areas like Sidney.

Hagel explains that idea isn't working because of the current high cost of living here. "The housing costs are the biggest issue," Hagel said. Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont, is a member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which has oversight of the U.S. Postal Service. Tester explains he is trying again to pass a Postal Reform bill, but the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee is "tied up in partisan knots right now and that is preventing the consideration of a new bill."

Tester added, "The situation in Sidney shows exactly why the Postal Service needs



Tester

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Sidney man likely drowned

BY LARRY GRIFFIN
WILLUSTON HERALD

A 49-year-old man from Sidney has been reported missing and is presumed drowned in the waters of Lake Sakakawea. While boating at the lake Saturday, the man fell into the water and could not be located. His friends alerted the Game and Fish Department.

"When something like this happens," said Watford City Game Warden Brian Updike, "we get the call and respond with boats, meeting personnel from the sheriff's office. We search the area with planes to see if they got onto land and are just walking around. We search the water. Then we send in dive teams if nothing has been found."

The Game and Fish Department is still investigating the case, suspecting that the man drowned. Updike said he cannot release the victim's name until a body has been found and his family is notified.

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DUCT TAPE FASHION SHOW

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REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 8th, 2013. For more information please contact Melissa Dean at 406-433-4097