

OBITUARIES

Harriet Sternquist

Harriet Eleanor Berg Sternquist was born in Clay County, South Dakota on Sept. 7, 1921 to parents Victor and Augusta (Norder) Berg. She passed away Feb. 3, 2012 in Beresford. She left behind the love of her life Orland Leonard Sternquist, whom she married in 1943.



STERNQUIST

She was born on the Clay County farm her grandfather homesteaded in 1869. She was proud the farm remained in the family for over 140 years and continues to be cared for by her son and grandson. She was the youngest of five and took great glee in reminding her sisters that she thought she was her father's favorite.

Harriet attended Dalesburg Grade School. Her grandfather donated the school's site because it was "necessary for the education of the children." She was baptized and confirmed at Dalesburg Lutheran Church. She attended University High School and received a teaching certificate from the University of South Dakota. She then returned to Dalesburg Grade School to teach. She also taught at the Newdale School. She went on sabbatical to marry and raise four children on the family farm. Her children's education was always important to her.

One of her frequently recalled memories was a trip to the East coast to perform for the King of Sweden with her brother Harlan and the Dalesburg Band. She continued to play her oboe and years later resurrected the Dalesburg Band at the annual Midsommer picnic.

She remained active in all aspects of Dalesburg Lutheran Church teaching Sunday school, working with the Couples Club and served as chairwoman of the WELCA. She and Orland loved the Midsommer picnic and would dress in their Swedish costumes for the event. They were active in the Friends of Midsommer organization and enjoyed socials and birthday parties with all the neighbors. She returned to USD and was the first in her family to earn a bachelor's degree. She taught grade school in the Beresford School District for 18 years. She loved her students and that love was reciprocated. Former students frequently approached the family at the Bethesda Nursing Home cafeteria

and informed her family that she was a wonderful teacher.

After retirement, Harriet and Orland spent 28 winters in Texas. Along with their friends from the Dalesburg community, they found new friends from other parts of the Midwest. With many friends in the same place it was more like the Dalesburg community had moved to Texas to evade the cold. Harriet would play the piano and Orland would sing.

They enjoyed camping. They were outgoing and made many friends at those campgrounds near and far. They taught their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren various card games and many life lessons on their camping forays.

Anyone who came to their house was offered a cup of coffee. In later years as Alzheimer's stole her from her family, old habits remained. On one occasion when she was still living in their Beresford home she needed to go to the hospital in the early morning hours. Ambulance personnel were called to their home and with them came police and firemen who congregated in the living area. As they brought her from the bedroom to the living room, she saw the men and turned on the gurney and said "Orland, put the coffee on. We've got company."

She is survived by the love of her life, Orland Sternquist. Her four loving children are Sheridan (Phyllis), Centerville, Alan (Elaine), Pleasanton, CA, John (Nancy), Yankton, and Brenda, Haslett MI. Her six grandchildren are Jeff (Karen) Sternquist, David (Michelle) Sternquist, Jodi (Rob) O'Keefe, Jill Sternquist (Jason Nelson), Corrie Sternquist and Gavin Witter. Her six grandchildren are Megan Sternquist, Mallary Sternquist, Brianna Sternquist, Mason Sternquist, Easton and Xavier Nelson. She has one great-great granddaughter Natalie Sternquist. Her two sisters-in-law are Wilma Holmstrom of Robbinsdale MN, and Arla Roduner of Alcester, she also has many nephews, cousins and a host of friends.

Harriet is preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Doris Bangs and Hazel Imbrecht; and two brothers, Ben and Harlan Berg; and one sister-in-law, Marion Sternquist.

Funeral services were held 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012 at Dalesburg Lutheran Church, rural Vermillion, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. Visitation was Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. with family present from 6 to 8 p.m. and a prayer service at 7 p.m. at Wass Funeral Home in Beresford.

Marjorie Lennon

Marge Lennon passed away in Scottsdale, AZ on Feb 8, 2012, just a few months before her 100th birthday. Marge attended the



LENNON

University of South Dakota and graduated with honors in 1934. She was a Chi Omega and was active in her sorority throughout her life. After graduation Marge taught and was the principal at the School for the Blind in Gary, SD.

In 1937, she married Martin Abell. After Marty returned from WWII, they moved to California where their two children, Susan and Roger, were born. Marge once again taught visually impaired children. Sadly, Marge lost Marty after his early death in 1960.

Marge later married Dan Lennon, and she and her children moved back to Vermillion in 1961 where Dan was the head track coach for the University of South Dakota. She continued teaching in the Vermillion public schools and was active with PEO and other community service organization until her retirement in 1975.

After their retirement, Dan and Marge began spending the winter months in Mesa, AZ and eventually made Arizona their permanent home. After her husband Dan passed away in 2002, Marge continued to live in her Mesa home independently until the moment she had a stroke after baking brownies on a Monday afternoon.

Even at 99 years of age, Marge continued to entertain her friends and family with her great

cooking and baking. She was an avid bridge and domino player, read several books a week, continued her many crafts, and was an enthusiastic sports fan. She was very comfortable with computer technology, and emailed and logged into Facebook every day to check on the latest family news. Marge will be greatly missed by all her friends in Mesa who were always there for her and helped her enjoy life to almost 100 years old.

Born in Merrill, IA, on April 7, 1912 to Albert and Maurene Moser, Marge grew up with two brothers, Les and Russ Moser and a sister, Blanch. All have preceded her in death.

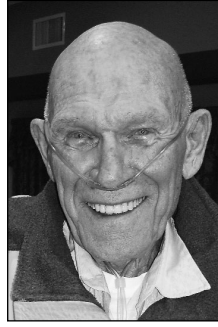
Marge is survived by her son, Roger Abell of Tempe, AZ; daughter, Susan René Hutchinson (Bill) of Seattle, WA; stepson Dick Lennon (Bev) of Rapid City; and stepdaughter Patsy Lennon Manton (Greg) of Scottsdale, AZ. She is also survived by her four grandchildren, Cory Manton (Jenny), Jenny Manton Talbot (Brian), Christy Lennon Larson (John), and Dan Lennon; three great-grandchildren and her very dear friend, Reidella Engman.

Marge will be laid to rest in California with her first husband Marty.

Please send any memorial donations to the Marge and Dan Lennon Scholarship Fund USD in care of Dick Lennon, 1417 Panorama Circle, Rapid City, SD 57701

Joseph Ronge, Jr.

Joseph B. Ronge, Jr., 92, Sioux Falls and formerly of Rapid City, died Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012 at his residence in Sioux Falls, under hospice care.



RONGE

Joseph Bernhardt Ronge, Jr. was born Dec. 5, 1919 at Brooklyn, New York to Joseph Bernhardt and Alice Mae [Cooper] Ronge, SR. He spent most of his early years in The Bronx, New York where he graduated from high school.

He then entered the United States Army Air Corps on December 23, 1941 and served until October 31, 1971. Joe was a 30 year retiree from the United States Air Force as a Senior Master Sergeant. While in the US Military he served in positions of Food Service Superintendent, Military Policeman, Officer's Club Steward, First Sergeant, and Base Sergeant Major, the position he held at the time of his retirement from Ellsworth Air Force Base, Rapid City, SD. His overseas assignments included Okinawa Shima, Sondrestrom Greenland, Chambley France, and Alconbury England.

His personal involvement included as Assistant Chairman of Post 28 and 128 of Ellsworth Air Force Base Cub Scout Troops, President of the Douglas PTA, Father of the Year of Rapid City, and in conjunction with his wife, Margie, spent considerable time in involvement with school proms, dances, fundraising activities, church activities of varied nature, and special considerations concerning family disasters within the military community. He had commutative

closeness with many Rapid City business persons and organizations.

Surviving relatives of Joseph include: Eileen Gundrum, Hannihan, SC (daughter), Joseph & Ruth Ronge, Hot Springs, SD (son), Chuck & Peggy Swick, Vermillion, SD (daughter), Tony & Joy Ann Tibke Radcliff, KY (daughter), Art & Yvonne Jimenez, Schererville, IN (daughter), Ronald & Linda Ronge, Buckeye, AZ (son).

Grandchildren: Jack Gundrum, Michelle King, Carrie Heater, Mollie Ronge, Jessica Beier, Stephanie Kreie, Anthony Tibke, Lena Ramangkoune, Rae Casto, Allison Arredoneda, Christopher Ronge, Bradley Ronge, Jennifer Ronge.

Great Grandchildren: Kristin Thornton, Lindsey Gundrum, Julie Gundrum, Amanda Gundrum, Sergei Gundrum, Wyatt King, Garrison King, Lucy Heater, Clara Heater, Evan Beier, Mareth Beier, CJ Beier, Carson Kreie, Avery Kreie, Theo Tibke, Monique Ramangkoune, Toni Ramangkoune, Katie Hamlin, Johathan Casto, Gillian Casto, Kira Arredoneda, Nicholas Arredoneda, Zoe Ronge.

Great Great Grandchildren: Austin Thornton

He was preceded in death by wife: Margie D Ronge and his three siblings: Walter Ronge, Charles Ronge, and Viola Vitale.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service on Monday.

Services have been scheduled for 9:30 am Monday, February 13, 2012 at Osheim & Schmidt Funeral Home, 2700 Jackson Boulevard, Rapid City, with Joe's granddaughter Rev. Molly Ronge officiating.

Burial will follow at 11:30 am at Black Hills National Cemetery near Sturgis with full formal Military Honors by the Ellsworth Air Force Base Honor Guard.

His online guestbook is available to sign at www.osheimschmidt.com.

Bettejean Sublet

Bettejean Sublet, 73, of Vermillion, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012 at the Sanford Vermillion Hospital.

Bettejean Delaney was born Sept 26, 1938 in a log cabin on the Island in Clay County to John and Eileen (Millage) Delaney. She attended the island school, Bethel country school, and graduated from the Wakonda High School in 1956. She received her teaching certificate from Southern State Teaching College in Springfield in 1958. Upon accepting a teaching position in Clearfield, she met and married Dale Lee Kindt on March 19, 1960 in which four children were born to this union. Dale passed away Sept. 2, 1971. She met and married Kenneth Sublet on Nov. 6, 1975 in which he passed away September 1988.

Bettejean had many jobs including working for a lawn service, paint store, USD Food Service, Gateway and Wal-Mart besides raising her children. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Ladies Bible Study group, Eagles Auxiliary, Bluff View Cemetery board and Red Hat Club. She had many hobbies including reading, crafts, sewing, quilting, knitting, gardening, collecting Dickens Village and traveling. Some of Bettejeans' best qualities were being a great listener and mentor, and her sense of humor.

Marvin Cleland

Marvin H. Cleland, 94, of Bennington, NE, formerly of Vermillion, passed away, Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2012 at Immanuel Hospital in Omaha, NE. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012 at First United Methodist Church in Vermillion with Rev. Brook McBride officiating. Burial will be in Bluff View Cemetery, Vermillion. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church.

Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be posted online to www.koberfuneralhome.com

Stanford Street expansion one step closer

By Travis Gulbrandson
travis.gulbrandson@plaintalk.net

The expansion of a section of Stanford Street is a step closer to completion.

At its regular meeting Monday night, Feb. 6, the Vermillion City Council moved to adopt a resolution of necessity for construction, and approved three construction easements for the project.

The planned reconstruction has been under consideration for the past several years, and will affect the street between West Main to Cherry streets, City Engineer José Domínguez said.

"Hopefully it will look like South Dakota Street from Cherry to Main – a three-lane section with an eight-foot path on the west side and a five-foot sidewalk on the east side," he said.

In addition, the city also will upgrade the sanitary sewer lines and water mains in the area.

Responding to a question from Mayor Jack Powell, Domínguez added that when the project is finished, the street will be between three and five feet lower than it is now, similar to the Cherry Street construction project.

There is no cost associated with the project at this time, Domínguez said.

"However, the project is estimated at \$1.2 million, and that will be paid by the city utilizing either federal funds,

assessments or city funds," he said.

According to a memo provided to council members, the city will assess approximately \$96,000, with federal funds covering approximately \$750,000 of the project cost.

The city will pay for the remaining \$354,000 from second penny funds.

In addition to this money, the city has \$167,000 saved for contingencies, the memo said.

There also will be an 8 percent fiscal fee attached to the assessments, Domínguez said.

"One thing that should be noted is the property owners (on Stanford) will be assessed based on frontage," he said. "The way that the assessment was figured out, there will be a maximum of \$28 per foot to be assessed."

This figure was settled on at a public meeting held last June, he said.

"The reason for setting an actual maximum value to be assessed was due to the fact that the city will be utilizing some of the city's money and some federal funds ... and this allows us to alleviate the effect of the assessments on the property owners," he said.

The council unanimously approved the resolution of necessity for construction, as well as the three temporary construction easements required for the project to proceed to the bidding process.

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NOTICE

THE ANNUAL SPRING LOAD LIMITS will go into effect in the near future on Clay County roads. Limits will be enforced as posted. We ask for your cooperation at this critical time of the year. Studies show that roads lose over 60 % of their strength during the spring thaw. Research by the South Dakota D.O.T. claims road damage by one legally loaded truck causes as much damage as 9,600 cars. One truck with 20% overload causes as much damage as 19,200 cars. You can be assured, we will not have the load restrictions in effect any longer than necessary to protect the large investment you have in your County Highway System.

There will be no over-width or over-weight permits issued during this period.

**CLAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS • CLAY COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
CLAY COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT**

Thank You!

The family of Darrel Christopherson wishes to express our heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness, messages of sympathy and visits during our recent loss.

We are especially grateful for the extraordinary compassion extended by the Rev. Elmer "Sandy" Aakre, the VFW, the Patriot Guard, the Oddfellows, the Vermillion Police Department, Hy-Vee, employees of Sanford Hospital & Dakota Gardens, the outstanding staff of the Kober Funeral Home and all the people who made it possible for him to visit Pearl Harbor in January.

The lowering of community flags to half-mast was an incredibly thoughtful tribute to the man who was a hero not only to his family, but to our country as well.

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