

Bracket Busters

SDSU-Murray State game to be televised on ESPN2

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Excited families

Relatives of Brookview Manor residents are eagerly anticipating having new space for visits

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Weather

Partly sunny today, temp falling to around 24, breezy, with gusts as high as 25 mph, tonight mostly cloudy, low around 13; Wednesday mostly cloudy, high near 36

MORE WEATHER A2



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ARLINGTON ASTORIA AURORA BROOKINGS BRUCE BUSHNELL COLMAN EGAN ELKTON ESTELLINE FLANDREAU NUNDA RUTLAND SINAI TORONTO VOLGA WHITE



Local C-store fails police alcohol check

BROOKINGS – A single Brookings business, the Zip Trip convenience store at Sixth Street and Medary Avenue, failed the latest alcohol compliance check by Brookings Police Department.

The business was one of 15 checked in a citywide sweep that took place last Thursday, Jan. 31. All the others turned down the underage, would-be purchaser, said Lt. Derrick Powers of the Brookings Police Department.

In the Zip Trip purchase, the clerk faces charges of furnishing alcohol to a minor.

As in previous compliance checks, the police used an underage individual who, under their direct supervision, attempted to buy beer or other alcoholic beverages at various city locations.

Last week's test indicated only a 6 percent noncompliance rate, which compares favorably with other recent checks.

Store clerks making illegal sales can be cited for furnishing alcohol to a minor, and businesses involved in sales to underage persons may face fines, suspensions or loss of their alcoholic beverage licenses.

Powers said the store violating alcohol sales regulations was notified immediately, but all others tested last week will be notified by police.

– From staff reports

Welcome

The Brookings Register welcomes the following new and renewing subscribers:

Jeff Newman, Maggie Owens, Patricia Sterud, Helen Town, Joel Town, Sherwood Berg, Myrna Brown, Nick Herrick, Marilyn Clifford, Billie Bach, Richard Canaday, Terri Telkamp, Judy Chaulsett, Debra Moss, Dale Miskimins, Joanne Schmidt, Garry Prussman, Ramona Holzkamp, Lyle Olson, Darlene Robinson, Lyle Arndt, Tom Manzer, SD Public Radio, Steven Johnson, Donna Arter, Delvin Benz, Kent White, Noreen McAdaragh, Richard Wahlstrom, Donald Haroldson, Carol Bender, Chad Landmark, Jeff Hartman, J.H. Grommersch, James Steen, Tim Andera, Dakota State University, Aberdeen Public Library, Tim Steele, Mary Johnson, Rich Wolkow, Carla Steffensen, ITC, Arlington Inn, Bill Runge, Leonard Henneman, Karen Weber, Katherine Algood, Marlys Kelsey, and Edward Langin.



Project SEARCH participants from other U.S. locations are seen here working at their internships. This fall, Brookings School District and South Dakota State University will welcome their first class of interns to the new SDSU-Brookings Project SEARCH.

Project SEARCH photos



New possibilities

■ Internship program to provide training, employment options for 'niche' group of students

By CHARIS PRUNTY  
The Brookings Register

BROOKINGS – There's school and then there's life after school. Hardly anyone would call it an easy transition, but certain young people need some strategic help to get started in the workforce.

"You come every day and you're here, we're just here," said Michelle Powers, Brookings School District's special education director, speaking of the school day.

"Versus, you're moving on into adulthood and well, 'Am I living at home? Am I

living in an apartment? Can I live on my own? Can I manage my own checkbook? What kind of things do I need to get through day to day and achieve the goals that I have?'"

Powers is speaking of a niche group of students. These students are 18-21 years old, have a disability that qualifies them for special education and vocational rehabilitation services, and have already completed four years of high school. The team of people that creates their individual education plan believes they need instruction beyond the four years of high school.

But, these are not students needing the support level of an independent living center such as Advance, Powers noted. They're just not ready to navigate the world on their own.

See SEARCH, page A2

SD lawmakers endorse teen driving changes

■ No more phones behind the wheel for youngest motorists, panel recommends

By CHET BROKAW  
Associated Press

PIERRE (AP) – South Dakota lawmakers sought to protect young drivers Monday with a package of recommendations that would ban beginning drivers from using cellphones behind the wheel and make other changes aimed at reducing teen traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

The Senate Transportation Committee voted 7-1 to approve a measure that would prohibit all beginning drivers from using cellphones or other electronic devices until they can get an unrestricted driver's license at age 16. At least 30 states and the District of Columbia have already banned the use of all cellphones by novice drivers.



Chet Brokaw/AP

Courtney Denett, a Rapid City high school student, urges the Senate Transportation Committee on Monday in Pierre to pass a bill banning the use of cellphones by beginning drivers.

In 10 states and the District of Columbia, all drivers are prohibited from using handheld cellphones while driving. The South Dakota Legislature has repeatedly rejected measures to ban cellphone use or texting by all drivers, but mem-

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Frosted window, flight attempt land local driver in snowbank

BROOKINGS – An attempt to flee from a police traffic stop ended badly for a 28-year-old Brookings driver when his car missed a turn, jumped a curb and plowed through a snowbank, narrowly missing a commercial building.

The incident began about 2:12 a.m. Sunday when a Brookings patrol officer noticed a moving vehicle whose windows were frosted over. He attempted to stop the driver at Third Avenue and Front Street

The policeman turned on his

lights and siren, but the object of his chase continued south on Main where the driver finally stopped. The officer got out of his car, and as he approached the 1996 Chevy Lumina on foot, the driver took off, fleeing the scene.

The officer pursued, but because the roads were slick, it wasn't a high-speed chase, said Lt. Derrick Powers of the Brookings Police Department.

As the driver made his escape, he tried to navigate a

See CHASE, page A2

SDSU researchers to evaluate Brookings Health's doula program

BROOKINGS – A program that provides free support for women during labor and after delivery has been successful for the New Beginnings Birth Center, but a new partnership between Brookings Health System and South Dakota State University researchers may make it even better.

When a mother-to-be arrives at the birth center, she is asked whether she would like a doula, a trained volunteer who will provide her nonmedical support during labor and delivery, explained Julia Yoder, director of marketing and public relations at Brookings Health System.

Thanks to the volunteer doula program, Brookings Health

System's hospital is the first in the state to offer the services of a doula for labor and delivery and the first one in the nation to offer postpartum support to expectant parents free of charge.

Jennifer Anderson, assistant professor in the communication studies and theatre department, learned about the doula program through Facebook and asked about doing research on this unique service, Yoder said. Anderson, whose specialty is health communication, will serve as principal investigator.

"We see this as an opportunity to learn about our program and better serve the needs of area women," Yoder said.

Anderson and her team

received funding for two one-year projects. The first study will examine the experiences of mothers and the hospital staff who have worked with doulas and will also evaluate materials used to market the program. It is supported by the Rural Health Research Center at SDSU.

The second grant from the Women and Giving Foundation at SDSU will look at the impact the experience has on the women who serve as doulas.

The grants will pay for gift cards for the mothers, mothers-to-be and doulas who participate in focus groups and will support the collaboration with Brookings

See DOULA, page A2



Courtesy photo

SDSU nursing student Taylor Mertz helps expectant mom Katy VanderWal of rural Brookings use a birthing ball during labor. Mertz, who completed her nursing degree in December, served as a volunteer doula at the New Beginnings Birth Center in Brookings. VanderWal gave birth to a baby girl, Callie, in December 2011.



Be sure to watch for information on our upcoming Home Parade in this week's Register! Best Choice REAL ESTATE 611 Sixth Street Brookings 605-692-9200 BrookingsHomes.com



