



FREMONT TRIBUNE

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Regents tackle stem cell issue today

Debate unlikely to fade after vote

By Margery A. Beck
The Associated Press

OMAHA — The University of Nebraska's governing board was expected to vote today on a resolution that would limit stem-cell research at the university system's facilities to rules approved

under former President George W. Bush.

The vote by the Board of Regents would come eight months after President Barack Obama removed government funding restrictions on new stem-cell lines.

Supporters of stem-cell research hope it will lead to cures for diseases such as diabetes, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Opponents believe embryos, which are destroyed during the research, are

the starting point of human life and destroying them is immoral.

"Overall, the debate still deeply divides, because any concession on the morality of embryo research is still seen by pro-life people as a concession that the embryo is not a person," said Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania. "Limits on research are still seen by pro-research patient advocacy groups

and scientists as putting the interests of a possible person ahead of real people, here and now, with real diseases. Those are tough gaps to bridge."

The resolution comes 20 months after a state law was enacted prohibiting the use of state resources for creating or destroying embryos for research. That law had been a compromise between abortion opponents and University of Nebraska re-

searchers in which abortion foes agreed not to push for further legislation if certain conditions were met.

Some supporters of the researchers have said that agreement extends to the regents. But abortion opponents say the compromise was never meant to keep them from lobbying the regents for policy changes.

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Sharing thanks

Community dinner brings together volunteers, diners



Tribune files

For 25 years, the Fremont Community Thanksgiving Dinner has been a place family and friends — such as Kailynne Jorgensen, her mother, Taron Jorgensen, and

grandmother, Sharon Taylor, can gather to enjoy a traditional meal. The free dinner will be held Thanksgiving Day at Midland Lutheran College.

Event is free for all who attend

By Tammy Real-McKeighan
Fremont Tribune

Years ago, Del and Norma Hartung started a tradition.

They began working at the Fremont Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

"When our kids were first married, we had trouble getting together on Thanksgiving Day, so we went and worked there," the Fremont man said. "We enjoyed it so much and felt so good about it when we were done that we continued."

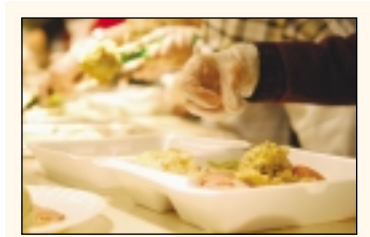
The Hartungs began making deliveries. Now, they're in charge of them. Reservations come into a call center. Hartung gets the callers' names and arranges deliveries by location. That way, meals can be delivered promptly.

"Last year, I think we delivered 500 meals," he said.

Again this year, Fremont area residents have the option of attending the meal or having a meal delivered.

The 25th annual dinner is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Day in the Midland Lutheran College Dining Hall. The public is invited to the

IF YOU GO



What: Fremont Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

When: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Day.

Where: Midland Lutheran College dining hall.

Cost: Free.

Details: Meals can be delivered by calling 753-3978 until 11 a.m. Thanksgiving Day. Rides to and from the dinner also are available by calling 753-3978.

free event. The menu includes the traditional dinner of turkey and stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, candied sweet potatoes, a vegetable, salad items and desserts.

More than 2,000 dinners were served last year, said Joann Thietje, who with her husband, Leo,

has coordinated the event since 2001.

Those who are unable to come to the dinner, but who would like a meal delivered must call 753-3978 with their name, address, phone number and number of meals needed. Meal delivery may be requested until 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

People who would like transportation to and from the dinner need to call the same phone number. Transportation pickup begins at 11 a.m. Transportation is provided only in Fremont.

The dinner is open to anyone.

"This is one thing that has made the Fremont community dinner unique. It's for everybody," Thietje said.

About 300 volunteers assist with the event; many come year after year to help.

"Pretty much everybody who works in the kitchen has been there several years. Those (working) in the dining room, getting boxes ready, have been coming for several years," Thietje said.

Of the volunteers, about 100 or more are drivers, who come to the event to deliver meals —

Please see **Dinner**, A2

Only the name has changed

Chito's offers same fare as former Yoli's

By Brett Ellis
Fremont Tribune

The food and decor are the same at a Mexican restaurant set to re-open Saturday. In fact, about the only major change is the name.

Chito's will open Saturday at 35 W. Sixth St. The restaurant is in the spot of the former Yoli's.

Chito's manager Michelle Padilla said Yoli's was in the name of a brother-in-law who decided that he did not want to be in the restaurant business any longer. Yoli's closed its doors in early October.

"We kind of had to make



Chris Bristol, Fremont Tribune

Michelle Padilla, manager of Chito's Mexican restaurant, does some touch-up painting Thursday prior to Saturday's opening.

the decision if we wanted to stop or keep on going, and we just didn't feel like we wanted to surrender yet," Padilla said. "We're going to try again."

While the restaurant was

Please see **Chito's**, A2

New job plays right into Russell's passion

She'll lead Big Brothers

By Brett Ellis
Fremont Tribune

Karen Russell jumped at the chance to work for another volunteer-based organization.

Russell became the executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters in Fremont earlier this month.

Russell had been the public educator at the Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault. She also worked at Keene Memorial Library and was a volunteer coordinator at

Fremont Area Medical Center.

"This position works with youth and volunteers, and I've done that for the past 25 years," Russell said. "That's something I'm passionate about."

Russell takes over as executive director for Kathy Casper, who had been in the position for a number of years.

"I know it has stability here in Fremont," Russell said.

Big Brothers Big Sisters matches school-age children up to age 15 with an adult mentor.

See **Big Brothers**, A2



Chris Bristol, Fremont Tribune

Karen Russell has been named executive director for Fremont's Big Brothers Big Sisters chapter.

Area deaths

Joan Badura, 76
Catherine Kern, 74
Charles Roost, 86
DeLores Todd, 92

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Weather

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Tomorrow

Turkey time
Helpful tips and fun facts about that bird.

