

Postal Service Changes Some Neb. Pickup Times

HASTINGS, Neb. (AP) — The U.S. Postal Service is now changing some mail pickup times across Nebraska as part of its plan to save more than \$2 billion a year.

But the change could mean delays if your letter doesn't reach the mailbox on time. The *Hastings Tribune* reported that the deadline for mailing a letter in Hastings is being moved up two hours.

The agency is dealing with a sharp downturn in mail as more people use e-mail and other electronic messaging services, and last year it recorded \$15.9 billion in losses.

Postal Service spokesman Brian Sperry says the self-supported agency is working to become as efficient as it can with these changes.

Most of the Postal Service's shortfall is related to payments for future retiree benefits it is required to make.

Jackley Intends On Seeking Another AG Term

MITCHELL (AP) — South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says he intends on seeking another term in the office.

Although he hasn't made an official announcement, Jackley tells the *Daily Republic* that he's enjoyed the position and it will be his intent to seek it again.

Jackley says he's proud of the team he's assembled at the office and his active role in the Legislature, with multiple bills coming out of his office since he took over in 2010.

The Republican says the election process has made him a better attorney general by getting him out among the general public.

Jackley says he's had two former governors tell him that he has the best job in state government.

Neb. Woman Killed In Rollover Crash On I-80

WACO, Neb. (AP) — A Nebraska woman was killed in a rollover accident on Interstate 80 this weekend that also injured four other people.

The York County Sheriff's office says 26-year-old Daniela Testa of Omaha died in the one-vehicle crash Saturday morning. The crash happened near the Waco exit on I-80.

Officials say the rear tire of the vehicle blew out, and the vehicle hit a culvert before rolling.

Four other people besides Testa were in the vehicle. One was flown to an area hospital for treatment and the others were taken by ambulance. Their conditions weren't immediately available Sunday.

Company To Move Into Brandon Wind Tower Plant

BRANDON (AP) — A 150,000 square-foot plant in Brandon originally built by a wind tower manufacturing firm that never ended up using it is getting a new company.

The *Argus Leader* reports that Canada-based wind tower manufacturer Marmen Inc. plans to hire 200 people at the plant.

The company says it will be its first U.S. facility, and it hopes to use the plant to increase market share in the wind industry. It praised the South Dakota site for its location and transportation costs.

The Brandon building sits on 41 acres in the Corson Development Park on the north side of Interstate 90.

It was built in 2010 for Tower Tech Systems, a division of Broadwind Energy, but operations were put on hold because the company could not secure enough contracts.

Nebraska

Medicaid Funding Cut Now \$52M

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska is seeing yet another federal funding cut to Medicaid this year, forcing lawmakers to reduce services or make up the difference with state dollars before they approve a new budget.

The state is expected to lose another \$8 million in Medicaid funding, on top of a \$44 million reduction that state officials anticipated last year, state budget administrator Gerry Oligmueller told The Associated Press. The money was expected to go into the state's upcoming two-year budget, which runs from July 2013 until June 2015.

Oligmueller said the federal payments will drop by about one-half of a percentage point, from 54.74 percent to 54.28 percent.

"While that may seem relatively small, it translates to a large dollar amount," Oligmueller said.

The decline is a good-news, bad-news situation for Nebraska: Federal aid is distributed based on each state's per-capita income and population, relative to other states. For states like Nebraska, which are faring better than others, the federal government reduces its payments.

Sen. Heath Mello, chairman of the state's budget-writing Appropriations Committee, said the reduction came as a surprise. Mello said the committee will propose a series of cuts to different programs within Medicaid, spreading them out to reduce their impact. States are generally required to provide services to Medicaid recipients.

"It caught us by surprise," Mello said. "It was something we didn't plan on. This is one

of those issues that come up during the legislative process that we have to deal with."

A state revenue-board meeting on Thursday could also influence how much wiggle room lawmakers have in their budget for Medicaid and other priorities. Mello said his budget-writing committee is keeping close tabs on the meeting, in which board members update their projections for how much tax revenue the state will collect.

"If there's a significant change, it could throw a wrench into the budget that we're finalizing now," Mello said.

Like other states, Nebraska splits costs for the federal-state Medicaid program for the poor and disabled with the U.S. government. The federal government pays at least 50 percent, but its matching contribution to Nebraska has dropped in recent years.

The federal contribution to Nebraska Medicaid has bounced from a low of about 54 percent to a high of nearly 65 percent since the program began in 1963, according to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The federal contribution has gradually trended downward since the 1990s.

"It's funding to allow the program to remain whole," said department spokeswoman Kathie Osterman. "It may be an increase in federal funding and decrease in state, or a decrease in federal and an increase in state. Both have happened."

"It's funding to allow the program to remain whole. It may be an increase in federal funding and decrease in state, or a decrease in federal and an increase in state. Both have happened."

KATHIE OSTERMAN

A bill that would have expanded Medicaid to cover more low-income adults in Nebraska stalled this week, after lawmakers fell short of the 33 votes they needed to force an end to debate. Republican opponents in the officially nonpartisan Legislature spent hours questioning the measure and assailing it as unaffordable.

The measure, an optional piece of the federal health care law, promised a minimum 90 percent match rate from the federal government and full funding for the first three years. The 90 percent match would only have applied to residents who qualified for coverage under the expansion.

Nebraska is among a handful of Midwestern states losing federal aid. Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota are all seeing their federal contributions drop by at least a percentage point, according to the Federal Funds Information for States, a service used by state governments to study the impact of federal budget decisions.

Compared with other states, Nebraska's economy has fared well in recent years. Tax revenues are expected to increase to nearly \$4 billion during the next fiscal year, which starts July 1. The state's preliminary unemployment rate in March was 3.8 percent — one of the nation's lowest, and half the U.S. rate of 7.6 percent.

Aberdeen Students Bring Prom To Hospital For Teen

ABERDEEN (AP) — An Aberdeen Central High School senior forced to miss his senior prom because of emergency surgery received a surprise this weekend when the party came to him.

Dozens of students in tuxes and dresses dropped by Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center ahead of the Saturday night event to bring the prom to Patrick Dawn, the Aberdeen *American News* reported.

Patrick needed emergency stomach surgery after he fell ill Tuesday. On Friday night, he was

lying in a hospital bed, feeding tubes up his nose, feeling miserable, he said.

But Patrick dressed up Saturday in a black tuxedo, gray tie and a corsage and socialized with friends in the hospital's lobby.

He said the visit was awesome and was glad so many people could stop by.

"I felt like a human being for the first time all week," Patrick said. "Before, I felt like a vague type of slime."

Patrick's father, David Dawn, said he's overwhelmed by the

kindness shown by teachers, classmates and the hospital staff. He said he couldn't believe how quickly the event was pulled together.

"I've never seen people work together to do something like this on the spur of the moment. None of this was happening 24 hours ago," he said.

David Dawn said the idea for hosting a prom at the hospital came from an offhand suggestion from Tammy Gottman, the child life specialist for Sanford Aberdeen.

Gottman, whose job is to nor-

malize the environment for young people who have serious illnesses or surgery, said the original idea was to decorate Patrick's room and have a small get-together. But as word of the idea spread, the small gathering became a full-fledged prom-style party.

Luke Malsom, one of Patrick's closest friends, said it was awesome to see Patrick back to his usual self.

"Yesterday, he could barely walk around. He was completely out of it," Malsom said.

Office Manager, Secretary, Receptionist, Administrative Assistant.....
No matter what their title,
Show your appreciation for all their hard work!

Administrative Professionals Week
April 21-27

5 Days a Week \$25.00
 Lime vase with a flower for each day of the work week.

Simple Thanks \$10.00
 Colored vintage glass vase with a gerbera daisy.

Many Thanks \$20.00
 16" Vase with a hydrangea bloom.

Great Job \$26.97
 Mixed arrangement in a colored ceramic pot.

Desk Topper \$30.00
 5" Phalaenopsis and tillandsia garden.

Break Time \$17.50
 Assorted candy bars along with microwave caramel corn - Perfect for any break!

Time Clock \$10.00
 Small petal vase with a carnation.

In Appreciation \$9.97
 4.5 gerbera daisy plant.

Delivery Available
Call 665-0662
and we'll take care of the details!

HyVee Floral Shop
 Designers on Duty Mon-Sat 7am-7pm, Sun 9am-6pm
 2100 Broadway, Yankton • 665-3412 • Floral Dept. 665-0662

Our lab passes the test.

Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. is proud to salute our laboratory staff during National Medical Laboratory Week, April 21 - 27.

Our fully accredited lab maintains the highest standards for all laboratory staff, from technologists to reception, to assure patients and physicians accurate and dependable results.

YANKTON MEDICAL CLINIC, P.C.
 1104 West 8th Street • Yankton, SD 57078
www.YanktonMedicalClinic.com

celebrate women 2013
Six Words of Survival
 attitude • determination • confidence • desire • faith • perseverance

presented by... **her-voice** YANKTON MEDICAL CLINIC, P.C.

RESCHEDULED TO: Tuesday, April 30, 2013

TICKET SALES EXTENDED!!
Advance Tickets Only: \$20

Available at Hy-Vee and the Press & Dakotan until April 25

Riverfront Event Center, Historic Downtown Yankton

Doors Open 4:30pm

Booths Open 4:30-7:00pm

Dinner Served 5:00-7:00pm

Speaker 7:30pm at Dakota Theatre

come enjoy this year's speaker...

Holly Hoffman



Experience... the Difference!
1st FIRST DAKOTA NATIONAL BANK

HyVee
 EMPLOYEE OWNED