

Mortgage Closing Costs Rise In 2010

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The cost of getting a mortgage increased this year, but closing costs remain relatively affordable in the Great Plains.

A study by Bankrate.com says the origination and title fees on a \$200,000 mortgage averaged \$3,741 nationwide this year. That's up from \$2,732 a year ago largely

because of new regulations.

New York has the highest closing costs of \$5,623, up from \$3,368 last year.

Closing costs in North Dakota rank 21st at \$3,800, up from \$2,904 in 2009.

Nebraska's costs of \$3,608 rank 26th in 2010, up from \$2,453.

South Dakota closing costs rank 42nd at \$3,363 this year, up from \$2,625.

The Bankrate study compared cost estimates on 30-year, fixed-rate mortgages where borrowers with good credit made a down payment of 20 percent of the home's value.

Pig Wrestling Canceled After Porkers Flee

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (AP) — A pig wrestling competition at a county fair in northern Montana has been canceled after the porkers eluded fair officials trying to round them up for the event.

Fair office manager Shirley Embleton says the wild pigs

spend the year on a 10-mile free-range property along the Marias River and about 30 are captured the Friday of the scheduled event.

But this year, fair officials were only able to locate one boar, despite flying the river. The event was postponed until

Saturday, but neither the landowner nor fair officials could locate the absent pigs.

Embleton says next year, organizers will devise a new plan to locate and capture the animals earlier in the week.

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