

### Human Remains Found Along I29

NORTH SIOUX CITY (AP) — State archeologists are investigating some human remains that were found buried along Interstate 29 in Union County. The South Dakota Attorney General's office says the remains were unearthed by a utility company crew digging in the right of way near Exit 2. Spokeswoman Sara Rabern on Tuesday said the scene discovered Thursday appeared to be an "old, old grave." Rabern says the Division of Criminal Investigation secured the area over the weekend, and investigators did not deem the remains to be evidence of a crime. The scene has been turned over to the South Dakota State Historical Society.

### Jury Examines Death At Neb. Prison

TECUMSEH, Neb. (AP) — A grand jury will investigate the death in prison of a Nebraska inmate who attacked a state caseworker in 2011. A Nebraska Department of Correctional Services news release posted on the prison website says a prison worker found 42-year-old Patrick Howley unresponsive in his cell at Tecumseh state prison just before 7 a.m. on July 27. Howley was pronounced dead less than an hour later at Johnson County Hospital in Tecumseh. The release says officials suspect Howley killed himself. Johnson County Attorney Julie Smith on Tuesday told The Associated Press that autopsy results have not yet been returned. Smith will have to have autopsy results and a death certificate in hand before taking the case to the grand jury, she said. That likely won't happen until late September, she said. In 2013, Howley was sentenced to more than 100 years after being convicted of second-degree attempted murder and related crimes for his April 10, 2011, attack on the caseworker at the Lincoln Correctional Center, where Howley was serving a 16- to 22-year sentence for robbery and driving offenses. Howley said the caseworker had singled him out for harassment.

### Man Sentenced For Drugs, Bomb In Car

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A Lincoln man has been sentenced to prison for keeping drugs and a homemade bomb in his car. The Lincoln Journal Star reports 24-year-old Cash Ryba was sentenced Tuesday to eight to 16 years in prison on drug charges stemming from an October 2013 traffic stop. A search of the vehicle turned up cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy, brass knuckles and a homemade bomb. Ryba agreed to plead guilty to cocaine and methamphetamine possession charges as part of a plea deal. The newspaper reports Ryba also was sentenced to a concurrent six-month sentence on a separate misdemeanor conviction.

### Court Upholds Forest Management Plan

PIERRE — South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says a federal appeals court has upheld a management plan for the Black Hills National Forest. Jackley says the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver has affirmed federal court decisions in Colorado and Wyoming denying challenges to the plan. The plan was developed in 1990 and amended in 2005, taking into account a mountain pine beetle epidemic and providing for logging, prescribed burning and other control methods. Critics who sued worry about damage to plants and wildlife habitat in the 8,125-square-mile forest in northeastern Wyoming and western South Dakota. The environmental groups' challenge has been litigated in federal courts in South Dakota, Wyoming and Colorado. Jackley says the state has intervened in all litigations because of the importance placed in protecting the forest.

### Man Charged In Fatal Golf Cart Fall

GRETNA, Neb. (AP) — The driver in a fatal golf cart fall in Gretna will face charges in the case. Omaha television station KETV reports 24-year-old Cody L. Dembinski, of Gretna, has been charged with misdemeanor motor vehicle homicide and careless driving. Thirty-one-year-old Patrick Jurgensen, also of Gretna, was one of five people in the two-seat golf cart in July. Dembinski was making a turn on a city street when Jurgensen was tossed into the intersection and suffered a head injury. Jurgensen later died from his injuries. Court records do not list an attorney for Dembinski. He is expected in court on Aug. 20.

### SF Police Start Patrolling Crosswalks

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The Sioux Falls Police Department has announced a new initiative to make travel safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. The Argus Leader reports that citywide patrolling of crosswalks will begin to increase Wednesday. Police will focus on areas with heavy foot and bike traffic, including the mall and downtown. Some officers will wear pedestrian attire as they watch for drivers who fail to yield to pedestrians and for walkers who cross when they're not supposed to. Lt. Trent Lubbers says the department's goal is to educate people. He says officers won't issue tickets right away, but failure to yield will eventually cost \$120. Lubbers says the effort is a result of a fatal bike accident that happened last month.

### Motorcyclist Dies After Lincoln Collision

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A motorcyclist has died after a collision with a car in central Lincoln. Police Capt. David Beggs says the motorcycle was eastbound on O. Street a little before 7 p.m. Monday when it struck the westbound car as the car turned left onto 52nd Street. The motorcyclist was pronounced dead later at a Lincoln hospital. The motorcyclist was identified on Tuesday as 24-year-old Jaclyn Kehling, of Lincoln.

### Aberdeen Weighing Deer Management

ABERDEEN (AP) — Aberdeen City Manager Lynn Lander is drafting an ordinance that would allow for controlled deer hunting within city limits to deal with problem animals. The American News reports that Lander will present the ordinance to the City Council later for consideration. Residents in parts of Aberdeen say deer are causing hundreds of dollars in property damage. Bill Bowen appeared before the City Council on Monday and asked the group to consider limited hunting. Other South Dakota cities including Pierre, Sioux Falls and Rapid City have limited hunts to manage urban deer populations.

### SD Harvest Passes Halfway Point

SIOUX FALLS, (AP) — The winter wheat harvest in South Dakota has surpassed the halfway point. The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that 55 percent of the crop is in the bin. That's ahead of 48 percent at the same time last year but well behind the long-term average of 76 percent. The report says three-fourths of the state's winter wheat crop is rated good to excellent.

# Sturgis Rally Generates Hundreds Of Tons Of Garbage

BY TOM GRIFFITH  
Rapid City Journal

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Not long after the big ball drops in New York City's Times Square each New Year's Eve, an army of sanitation workers descends on the plaza to clean up the mess left by late-night revelers in an effort that this year required more than 200 workers who removed about 50 tons of trash. That annual event, it turns out, has nothing on the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally when it comes to garbage creation and removal. At the rally, a half-dozen Sturgis Public Works employees pick up an average of 55 tons of garbage, and they do it every day for 10 consecutive days, far exceeding the effort in the Big Apple. In all, the waste that hits the landfill from the rally will exceed 4 million pounds, according to the Rapid City Journal. With just three full-time drivers and a recycling operator in the Sturgis sanitation department, Public Works Director Rick Bush supplements his trash collectors with staffers from streets, buildings and wastewater treatment departments during rally week just to get the job done. Last year, that meant carting off nearly 556 tons of garbage, and that doesn't even include the hundreds of tons collected from major privately run camps and other rally venues around the region. "We work a lot of hours," Bush said. "It's quite the spectacle. It's the untold story of the rally. People just wake up and everything is clean. But we're out at night blowing off the sidewalks, washing the streets and picking up the garbage so that everything's ready for the next day. By the end of the rally, sometimes it really

does feel like Groundhog Day." The majority of trash collection gets done in the dark of night, with crews emptying totes and loading trucks beginning at 2 a.m. Most are still at it when the first light rises over the eastern horizon. "It's a tremendous amount of garbage each and every night," Bush said. "Kudos to my guys who are able to do a good job. We get a lot of compliments related to how clean it is relative to other rallies people attend. We strive to keep a safe and clean environment for our attendees during the rally." Other major concert venues and campgrounds outside city limits such as the Full Throttle, Buffalo Chip Campground, Glencoe Camp Resort and the Broken Spoke Campground rely on private contractors like Rapid City's Kieffer Sanitation to clean up the mess. "We have a staff of about 20 people working the rally," said Kieffer District Manager Fred Folsom. "I bring people in from all across the country to help out." Kieffer operates a dozen trucks during the rally, some costing upwards of \$300,000, hauling trash and pumping RV tanks and porta-potties, Folsom said. While the weather can sometimes present challenges, from his perspective, Folsom said, the crowds attracted to the rally are not his primary concern. "The populace that attends the event isn't the issue," he said. "It's what they produce. We don't have work to do until somebody consumes something and wants to get rid of it. And the waste just keeps on coming." In the six years he has worked the rally, Folsom said there have been few surprises. "We haven't found a body," he

laughed. "Usually it's something like what was somebody thinking when they did this. We've thrown away some pretty fine camping gear that someone didn't want to take home, and we're always amazed by the number of mattresses and box springs that people throw away." Rally hot spots such as the Full Throttle and the Buffalo Chip require constant attention, and Kieffer crews empty Dumpsters and massive roll-off containers multiple times per day, Folsom said. A spokesman for the Buffalo Chip noted that the camping and concert venue generated 104 tons of refuse during last year's rally. The site where hundreds of tons of trash generated by the rally end up is the Belle Fourche landfill, where a parade of garbage trucks hauls their sticky, smelly loads. The haulers also pay tipping fees topping \$100,000 for the town, according to Belle Fourche Public Works Director Dirk Hoffman. "It's a good thing for the city of Belle Fourche," he said. "Obviously, it brings us more revenues." City Services Clerk Rebel VanLoh, a self-described "nerd with numbers," said she closely tracks tonnage and tipping fees at the Belle Fourche landfill. "Finally someone asks about these numbers," VanLoh said last week. "It just seems crazy to me, the amount of garbage that's generated by the rally." Last year, private contractors and the city of Sturgis hauled an impressive 2,082.81 tons of refuse to the landfill, which is exactly 608.95 tons more than a normal two-week period, VanLoh said.

## SD Man Fights Fire Department Fees

GROTON (AP) — Dwight Lawson woke up to the sound of his phone ringing. He answered. Then, he listened as a neighbor told him his hay shed was on fire. By the time he arrived at his hay shed, located down the road from his home on a farm in rural Groton, firefighters were already there trying to extinguish the blaze, which he described as "a red beam of fire," The Daily Republic reported. It was shortly before 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 10, 2012, and Lawson, 49, watched as his hay shed, along with his winter hay supply, went up in flames. After more than an hour of fighting the fire, the Groton Fire Department called the Aberdeen Rural Fire Department for help. But the combined efforts of the two fire departments couldn't save the building, and it was declared a total loss. Hay inside the building smoldered through the night and into the morning, until Lawson buried it to prevent any other fires from starting in nearby farm fields. "Once that gets going, it's kind of like gasoline," Lawson said of smoldering hay, in an interview with The Daily Republic. No cause for the fire was officially determined. Lawson estimates the value of the

building he lost at \$80,000, and the value of the hay inside at \$150,000. But the cost of the fire didn't end there. A few weeks passed, and then bills started to come, asking Lawson to pay thousands of dollars to the Groton Area Fire Protection and Rescue District, and the Aberdeen Rural Fire Protection District for their response to his fire. Each time a bill arrived, Lawson sent it on to his insurance company. Lawson soon learned his insurance company's limit for fire response was just \$500, far short of the thousands of dollars being sought. That he was billed at all for the response to his fire was troubling because a portion of his property taxes already help fund the fire protection district, Lawson said. "I wasn't happy. Not when I'm already paying taxes," he said. Lawson's property is within the boundaries of the Groton Area Fire Protection and Rescue District, which levies a property tax to pay for fire protection within the district. Lawson and his lawyer, Thomas L. Sannes, of Webster, have asked a judge to dismiss the lawsuit.

## Omaha School Officials Review \$683M In Projects

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha school board members have reviewed a pared-down list that still contains \$683 million in capital projects that are behind a bond measure headed for the November ballot. The board took no action on Monday night as members listened to consultants discuss the projects. The board has until Aug. 29 to place a bond issue on the ballot, the Omaha World-Herald reported. Consultants from Jacobs Program Management Co. said the original list of repairs, renovations and new schools totaled \$1.1 billion. School officials have said the large price tag is driven by enrollment increases and building deficiencies that have become apparent since the \$254 million bond issue 15 years ago. Around \$350 million on the list is aimed at renovations, repairs and additions at aging schools. About \$197 million would be used to buy land and build more schools. Officials have said the remaining \$136 million would be earmarked for fire, security and technology upgrades. A \$683 million bond would raise school taxes by \$165 annually for a property valued at \$150,000. Superintendent Mark Evans said he wants residents to consider the size of the district — 51,000 students — when considering the potential bond measure. Evans cited for comparison the 7,000-student Elkhorn district, where board members are considering a \$63.1 million bond issue. "Sometimes our community doesn't recognize that with 51,000 young people, it's a different scenario than if you have 5,000, 10,000 or even 20,000 students," Evans said. "It's still a big number," board member Matt Scanlan said. "I just want to make sure the public understands that the board understands we need to do our best to make sure we're not asking for too much, but at the same time getting the amount we need to get the facilities we need."

### Woman Convicted For False Liens

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A Nebraska woman who once belonged to a sovereign citizens group was convicted of filing and conspiring to file false liens against federal authorities involved in prosecuting two associates convicted of tax crimes, the U.S. Department of Justice said. A federal jury found Donna Marie Kozak guilty Friday of conspiracy to file and filing false liens against two federal judges, Nebraska's U.S. attorney, an IRS special agent and others, the Justice Department said. She was also convicted of filing a false claim against the U.S. for \$660,000 and obstructing the administration of IRS laws. They said Kozak filed a false lien for \$19 million in Boyd County against the federal judge who presided over the trials at which her associates were convicted of tax crimes in 2012. After a federal grand jury indicted her for filing that lien and federal tax crimes, she filed five \$18 million false liens in Washington County against federal officials, prosecutors said. According to the Justice Department, Kozak had a history of using fraudulent schemes to get around federal tax laws since the late 1990s. Officials said she placed her property in sham trusts, created fake charities, sent harassing messages to IRS employees and filed bogus documents with the IRS.

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