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## 2 Bodies Found In Nebraska Mobile Home Fire

EWING, Neb. (AP) — Two bodies have been found in a northern Nebraska mobile home fire, and authorities have arrested a man on suspicion of murder.

A news release from the Nebraska State Patrol says a 911 call just after midnight Saturday reported a domestic dispute near Ewing in rural Antelope County, near the Holt County border. Another call reported a fire at a mobile home in the same area. Sheriff's deputies from both counties, state troopers and firefighters arrived to find a trailer home in flames.

Authorities later found two bodies in a bedroom.

The patrol says a man who escaped the fire was released after questioning, but a 33-year-old man who lived nearby was arrested in connection with the fire and two deaths.

The names of those killed have not been released.

## Heineman, Others Discuss Drought Fears During NFU Summit

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — The possibility of another year of drought in the state worries Gov. Dave Heineman and others who shared their concerns during the annual convention of the Nebraska Farmers Union.

Nebraska is the most irrigated state in the nation for crop production, and that helped the state manage the drought, Heineman said Friday at the convention in Grand Island. But soil moisture throughout much of the state has been drastically depleted, raising concerns about what will happen to Nebraska's crops and pastures if drought continues over the winter into next summer, *The Grand Island Independent* reported.

"What I really worry about is what is going to happen next year," Heineman said. "I think there is going to be a great deal of tension if we don't get enough moisture, between agriculture users of water resources, businesses and cities."

John Pollack, a retired meteorologist for the National Weather Service, also spoke and predicted that the weather extremes Nebraska has seen during the last two years — which included severe flooding in 2011, followed by record drought this year — are going to become more common.

"I am expecting that the Corn Belt will not be in Nebraska in 50 years," Pollack said. "That is because we will have enough global warming that it is going to push the area that is favorable for corn farther north, because it is going to be too susceptible to early season heat and drought to allow the growing of corn — and quite possibly soybeans."

# Nebraska Confronting Rural Doctor Shortage

BY GRANT SCHULTE  
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Dr. Michelle Seller starts her mornings with inpatient rounds at the local hospital in Central City, then visits a health clinic, followed by emergency room duty and a bevy of meetings with other doctors. She checks in with a nursing home on her days off.

"There's a lot going on," said Seller, 33, who returned to her rural roots after finishing medical school in Omaha. "But that's why we like it. I think that's what drives people into family practice. They like variety, and they like a little unpredictability."

Seller is among a declining number of Nebraska doctors who work full-time in rural areas, a key point of debate for Nebraska lawmakers when they address the federal health care law next year.

Lawmakers will decide whether to extend Medicaid coverage to more residents, an idea that Gov. Dave Heineman staunchly opposes. But amid all the debate, Nebraska faces a more immediate problem with no easy answers: The state doesn't have enough doctors to treat all the new patients who will become insured when new pieces of the law take effect in 2014.

"My concern is that the system will be so flooded that it could bring it to some degree of collapse," said Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, a retired hospital administrator who has worked extensively on Nebraska health care issues.

Doctors and health care researchers said insured patients are much more likely to seek care, which helps catch health problems earlier and can potentially lower the overall cost of care. But it also means a surge of patients who wouldn't otherwise seek care, at a time when the number of rural primary-care physicians has dwindled.

For rural patients, the doctor shortage means longer for an appointment and longer drives to clinics or doctor offices.

Data released by the University of Nebraska Medical Center shows that the state lacks primary care physicians, and the shortage is worse in rural areas.

Nebraska has 1,410 primary care doctors, but the study projects that the state will need at least 1,685 to meet the increased demand when new provisions of the federal health care law take effect in 2014.

At the same time, rural doctors and their patients are both aging. The number of physicians older than 65 has grown by 78 percent over the last five years. As those doctors retire, the statewide shortage is expected to grow.

## Late Man's Gun Auction Draws Hundreds

DELL RAPIDS (AP) — One man's gun collection drew hundreds of people and their thousands of dollars to Dell Rapids this weekend.

Nearly 200 guns belonging to Dean Stoner, a rural Wentworth resident who died in October, were put up for sale Saturday. And the line of potential bidders stretched outside of the building when the auction started.

Stoner's wife, Mary, told the *Sioux Falls Argus Leader* she was overwhelmed by the turnout.

"Dean would be so pleased to think of all the years he spent col-

lecting, this is what it comes to," she said. "I hope whoever ends up with the guns enjoys them as much as he did."

The collection of 194 guns included rifles, handguns and shotguns, as well as gun cabinets, ammunition and other outdoor gear and equipment. Many of the guns were in pristine condition and some of the commemorative guns had never been fired.

"It's one of the most awesome collections I've seen from one party," said Lee Burggraaf of Land-Mark Realty and Auction, which handled the sale.

Burggraaf, whose favorite

firearm was an original 1851 Navy Colt revolver, expects proceeds from the sale to reach \$100,000.

Mary Stoner said her husband had no need to justify to her the money he spent on his hobby, but he always made a practical case about the investment.

"I like to think he's smiling down, saying 'I told you so. It's better than money in the bank,'" she said.

She also acknowledged it was a day of mixed emotions.

"It was kind of sad walking in," Mary said. "It's like losing him all over again."

Eleven Nebraska counties — Arthur, Banner, Blayne, Grant, Hayes, Keya Paha, Logan, Loup, McPherson, Sioux and Wheeler — have no primary care physicians, said Jim Stimpson, director of the Center for Health Policy at the university's College of Public Health. Stimpson was one of the report's authors.

Stimpson said the number of counties designated as federal "health profession shortage areas" has grown to 65 this year, compared to 51 in 2009. And many rural counties that do have doctors only see them part-time, he said.

"The deeper problem is the distribution," Stimpson said. "There is a shortage, and that's certainly a concern. But this isn't necessarily a problem in cities. This is a problem in rural areas, where they aren't able to attract physicians."

Nebraska health care providers have taken steps to try to attract more rural doctors, with loan forgiveness programs and doctor residencies in smaller Nebraska cities. But such programs add only a handful of primary care physicians each year, not enough to address the shortage.

Stimpson said many rural counties rely on physician assistants and nurse practitioners to help fill the void, but Nebraska is one of 36 states that require a doctor's supervision to prescribe drugs, and the state imposes other limits on the medical care they can provide.

Roughly 237,000 Nebraska residents — about 13 percent of the population — are uninsured, according to 2011 U.S. census estimates. Nationally, 49.9 million Americans, or 16 percent of the country, are not covered.

Another study by the University of Nebraska found that the number of residents with employer-based health insurance fell 9.3 percent between 2000 and 2010. Meanwhile, the number who bought insurance directly — usually at a much higher cost — increased by 16 percent.

In Grand Island, Dr. Richard Fruehling has spent his 40-year career in medicine watching uninsured patients lose their homes and their farms. Doctors would indeed face a surge of patients if Medicaid was expanded, he said, but the strain on physicians would likely ease as more doctors begin to practices. He pointed to rising medical school enrollments nationwide.

"My bottom line is, it's going to be difficult in the next five years," Fruehling said. "But my hope is that five years from now, 10 years from now, everybody has coverage and everybody has access."

## Omaha Police Investigate Shooting Death

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police are investigating the shooting death of an 18-year-old woman.

Police said the shooting happened around 3:45 a.m. Sunday, but few details were released about the incident.

Officers responding to a shooting in northeast Omaha near 42nd and Browne streets found the woman with a gunshot wound.

The woman was taken to Creighton University Medical Center where she later died.

Police ask anyone with information about the shooting to call investigators at (402) 444-5652 or leave a tip anonymously at (402) 444-STOP.

## Township Group Won't Push Policy On Fines

SIoux FALLS (AP) — The South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships would like to see a change in the how money from fines and petty offenses is spent, but the group is not going to push it.

Fines collected by the courts currently go to the counties and is sent on to public schools. The association had considered asking the Legislature for some of that money to help support construction and maintenance of township roads.

Diane Worrall, the association's executive director, tells the *Argus Leader* that the group voted Saturday to pass the idea "as ongoing policy," but the members do not plan on taking it to Pierre.

Fines in Minnehaha County, the state's most populous county, have averaged \$1.3 million a year. Most of that is from fines for overweight trucks.

## Women Charged After Fake Pot Found At PO

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Two South Dakota women have been charged in connection with synthetic marijuana found at a post office.

Sioux Falls police spokesman Sam Clemens says dog alerted a postal inspector to the package. Authorities found two bags of white powder that weighed a total of 44 grams.

The package was then delivered to a post office box where the two 33-year-old women picked it up.

Charity Cook and Brandy Gardner, both of Sioux Falls, were charged with misdemeanor possession of a substance for the purpose of intoxication.

The *Sioux Falls Argus Leader* reports that a search of a Sioux Falls resident resulted in more drug charges against the women.

## New Harrisburg Schools To Keep Old Moniker

HARRISBURG (AP) — Two schools, one mascot. That's the plan when a bedroom community of Sioux Falls opens its second middle school next year.

Harrisburg School District Superintendent Jim Holbeck says a survey of parents showed support for keeping the school's Tigers nickname and the maroon and gold colors.

The old school in Harrisburg will be called South. The new school, which is in the Sioux Falls city limits, will be called North.

Holbeck tells the *Sioux Falls Argus Leader* that the elementary students have bought into the mascot and "they want to keep the old Tiger pride going."

## Presentation Building Dorm, Wellness Center

ABERDEEN (AP) — Crews have started construction on Presentation College's new student residence hall and wellness center as part of a \$10.5 million campus upgrade.

The *Aberdeen American News* reports that the new East Suites residence hall will be able to house 150 students.

Officials say the first wing will be completed by the beginning of the fall semester and the second will be completed soon after. An extra parking lot will be added to accommodate students who will live in the new residence hall.

The athletic training and wellness center will be added to the Strode Center. It's expected to be completed by the beginning of the fall semester.

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**  
1 Barely adequate  
6 Not quite closed  
10 Bart's dad  
11 Highway sections  
13 Cream of society  
14 Humble  
15 Use a spade  
16 Dad's mate  
18 Egg layer  
19 Winter driveway clearers  
22 Pub pints  
23 Bee's home  
24 Nearby  
27 Like the Capitol Building  
28 Plucked instrument  
29 Earth: Prefix  
30 Winter windshield clearers  
35 Collie or cockapoo  
36 Online address  
37 Dyeing place  
38 Make law  
40 "My Fair Lady" lady  
42 Mideast peninsula  
43 Copter part

**44** Make do  
**45** Flint output

**DOWN**  
1 Storage sites  
2 Former secretary of state  
3 Baja buddy  
4 Trawling need  
5 Quake triumph  
6 Texas landmark  
7 Quick punch  
8 Home of hockey's Ducks  
9 Set aside  
12 Felt  
17 Bullfight cry  
20 Stinging insects  
21 Cry of triumph  
24 Berates  
25 Terse  
26 Pizza herb  
27 Casino workers  
29 Watchdog sound  
31 Adorable one  
32 Musical set in Argentina  
33 Barber-shop tool  
34 Unadorned  
39 Beanie or beret  
41 Cut off

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12-10

A X Y D L B A A X R  
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

G Z U L N A O N K A M G S E U K K U V

G M Y U T N V V U O , Y X G S T N C U

G M Y U J N A O V U O . — Q V X G S C B Z  
**Saturday's Cryptoquote:** IT'S HARD TO ARGUE AGAINST CYNICS — THEY ALWAYS SOUND SMARTER THAN OPTIMISTS BECAUSE THEY HAVE SO MUCH EVIDENCE ON THEIR SIDE. — MOLLY IVINS

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