

H1N1 Flu Virus Showing Up In Dakotas

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Health officials in the Dakotas say they're seeing cases of H1N1 flu — the same strain that caused a pandemic four years ago.

The virus has caused two deaths in South Dakota. In the 2009-10 flu season it killed 24 people in the state.

State Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger tells the *Argus Leader* the virus is back and circulating around the country. He says the best protection is a flu shot. This year's influenza vaccine protects against the H1N1 strain, and supplies are good.

There have been no H1N1 deaths reported in North Dakota, where about half of the 23 cases are in Ward County.

Man Arrested In Fatal Sioux Falls Crash

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — A 20-year-old Sioux Falls man has been arrested on drunken driving and vehicular homicide charges after allegedly causing a fatal crash early on New Year's Day.

Police allege that the man was driving drunk and caused a crash that killed a woman who was riding in another vehicle. Authorities did not immediately identify her.

The crash happened at a city intersection shortly after 1:30 a.m. Wednesday. Authorities say a Jeep driven by the suspect went through a flashing red stop light and collided with a van, killing the woman. Two other people in the van were treated for minor injuries.

Police say the man who was arrested was not hurt.

3 In Custody In SD Double-Homicide

ST. FRANCIS (AP) — Rosebud Sioux Tribe police say they have three suspects in custody in a double homicide on the south-central South Dakota reservation.

Police Chief Iver Crow Eagle tells the *Rapid City Journal* that the bodies of two men were found in a field south of St. Francis about 2 a.m. Monday. He says two men and a woman have been arrested and no suspects remain at large.

Crow Eagle declined to identify any of the people, or provide further details on the killings.

The FBI is helping the tribe with the investigation.

Vehicle Linked To Nebraska Fire Sought

KEARNEY, Neb. (AP) — Police in Kearney are looking for a vehicle involved in an explosion or a fire that left a Kansas woman with significant burns.

Kearney police say they received a report on Tuesday evening that burning items had been dumped in an alley. Around the same time, authorities learned that a woman had been burned at the same location.

Sgt. Tony Cordova tells the *Kearney Hub* that witnesses described a fire or explosion, and that a red 1998 Ford Taurus with Kansas license plates 206FUF left the scene.

The Kansas woman was transferred to the burn unit at St. Elizabeth's Regional Medical Center in Lincoln. She's in critical but stable condition.

Cordova says two others may have also been injured, and officers are looking for them.

South Dakota

Malfunction Cited In B-1B Crash

RAPID CITY (AP) — An Air Force report says a mechanical malfunction that started in a fuel leak caused the crash of an Ellsworth Air Force Base B-1B bomber during a training exercise in August over southeastern Montana.

The report, released this week by the Air Combat Command Accident Investigation Board, concluded that about 7,000 pounds of fuel leaked into the aircraft and was ignited by hot ductwork, leading to a series of detonations in the plane. People on the ground who

witnessed the incident said the plane broke apart in midair, scattering debris over several miles of ranchland.

The four crew members safely ejected and escaped serious injury. No one on the ground was hurt.

The report determined there was no evidence that human error contributed to the crash, which destroyed the \$318 million aircraft.

The plane crashed Aug. 19 near Broadus, Mont., about 170 miles south-east of Billings, Mont.

The plane and crew were assigned to the 34th Bomb Squadron, 28th Bomb Wing, at Ellsworth. The base in southwestern South Dakota near Rapid City is one of only two bases in the U.S. with B-1B crews. The base shut down flights for three days in the wake of the crash.

The crash was the first time a B-1B was destroyed in a crash since Dec. 12, 2001, when a bomber involved in the war in Afghanistan slammed into the Indian Ocean near the island of Diego Garcia.

Lawmaker Urges Utility Sale To Cover Omaha Bills

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The sale of the customer-owned Metropolitan Utilities District could raise \$3 billion to help Omaha pay some of its big bills, according to a Nebraska lawmaker who intends to push the idea in the Legislature.

Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh said he plans to introduce legislation that would allow the sale. The 60-day session begins Jan. 8 in Lincoln.

Omaha faces steep pension obligations, along with a \$2 billion bill and mandate to separate city sanitary and storm sewers. The money also could help Omaha schools with technology and security upgrades, Lautenbaugh said.

"Somewhere, something is going to go up to pay for these obligations we have. It's just a question of how we do it," Lautenbaugh told Omaha television station KETV.

Lautenbaugh estimated the district could fetch \$3 billion. The district's interim president, Mark Doyle, disagreed, saying he didn't think the district is worth that much.

Doyle also said changing the district from public to private could increase rates — a concern shared by

another Omaha-area senator, Heath Mello.

"History has shown that when a public utility has been deregulated, privatized, that sewer, water and gas rates skyrocket," Mello told the *Omaha World-Herald*. "My first concern is that privatizing MUD for a for-profit business is simply a long-term cost shift to ratepayers and businesses."

The 200-square-mile district provides water and natural gas to 420,000 customers in Omaha and other cities and rural areas of Douglas and adjacent counties. It remains to be worked out how any sale proceeds would be divided if the district were sold.

Asked for her reaction to Lautenbaugh's proposal, Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert wouldn't say whether she supported or opposed it, but she backed Lautenbaugh's quest for more financial resources to help the city meet its obligations.

"We have a long-term plan to address the pension liability, but it comes with a great cost to the taxpayer," Stothert said. "We are evaluating ways to pay the enormous cost of the (sewer separation) project, without causing excessive hardship to our citizens."

Hanson Says He'll Run For Third Term On PUC

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Gary Hanson said he will seek election to a third term on the state Public Utilities Commission in 2014.

"Darn right I'm running," Hanson said on a New Year's Eve in an email response to a reporter's question about his political plans.

The 63-year-old Republican is the current chairman of the three-member regulatory panel.

He was elected to the commission for the first time in 2002 and was re-elected in 2008. The commissioners hold six-year terms.

Hanson served six years in the state Senate from 1983 through 1988. He then served on the Sioux Falls city commission from 1988 through 1994, where he oversaw utilities, and was twice elected mayor of Sioux Falls, serving in that post from 1994 through 2002.

In his first PUC campaign he defeated Democratic incumbent Pam Nelson of Sioux Falls.

PUC candidates are nominated by their respective political parties rather than in primary elections. The 2014 candidates will be chosen at the summer state-party conventions.

OBITUARIES

Wanetta Madsen

Wanetta Madsen, 98, of Wakonda, SD passed away December 28, 2013 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, SD.

Wanetta was born July 24, 1915, on a farm near Irene to Charles and Cecilia Hansen. She graduated from Irene High School and went to beautician school in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She returned to Irene, SD and set up her own beauty shop. She was married to Leon Madsen for 43 years. They had four children and lived on the farm near Irene until they moved to Wakonda in 1979.

Wanetta was a life member of First Lutheran Church, ladies aid and quilting group. She was a member of Eastern Star for over 50 years, BMJ extension founder and a member of garden club. She enjoyed needlework, quilting, china painting, playing cards, Sudoku puzzles, working in her garden and spending time with her family and friends.

Wanetta is preceded in death by her husband, her parents, her brothers; Clifford Hansen and Vernon Hansen, her sisters; Mae VanDerhule and Thelma Gustad.

Among those who shared her life and cherish her memory are her four children; Larry (Carolyn) Madsen of Gardnerville, Nevada; Mary Jane (Jon) Mathrole of Crofton, Nebraska; Faye Hancock of Amherst, New Hampshire and Daryl (Teri) Madsen of Wakonda, South Dakota, also her ten grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 2, 2014 at the Hansen Funeral Home in Irene, SD. Visitation will begin two hours prior to services.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to Wakonda First Responders or the

Rosie Asche

A memorial service for Rosie Asche of Sioux Falls and formerly of Scotland will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at the Zion Lutheran Church in Scotland with Rev. Jonathan Vehar officiating. Inurnment will take place at a later date in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland.

There will be visitation with family present on Friday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland, and will resume one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Rosie Tonie Asche was born on Thursday, November 26, 1927 near Kaylor, South Dakota, the daughter of Henry and Martha



Rosie Asche

(Semmler) Fuerst. Rosie was confirmed in the Congregational Church near Scotland and graduated from Scotland High School in 1945. She attended Yankton College and Southern State Teacher's College to obtain her teaching degree. Rosie was united in marriage to Donald Asche on March 27, 1947. They farmed north of Scotland for many years and Rosie also taught country school

during that time. After retiring from farming, they owned and operated the "Frosty Shop" in Scotland. She loved teaching, doing crossword puzzles, quilting, bird watching and following the local baseball teams. She was a member of Zion Lutheran Church of Scotland. Rosie died peacefully at Southridge Health Care Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on Friday, December 27, 2013, at the age of 86 years, 1 month, and 1 day.

She is survived by two sons: Chuck Asche and wife Pat of Sioux Falls and Tim Asche and wife Sue of Scotland; one sister Idella Behl of Scotland; one brother: Louis Fuerst and wife Judy of Scotland; eight grandchildren: Becky Palugay and husband Dave, Chris Asche and wife Stephanie, Jason Young and wife Jolene, Jennifer Hay and husband

Travis, Jonathon Young and wife Shannon, Dusti Ferguson, Trevor Ferguson, and Kennedy Asche; and seven great-grandchildren.

Rosie was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Asche, a daughter, Molli Young, her parents, Henry and Martha Fuerst, her brother, Lawrence Fuerst, and three sisters: Violet Pietz, Alma Henderson, and Jeanie Auch.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
January 2, 2014

Goglin
Funeral Home
Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Damien Greger

Damien Greger, 16, of Lake Andes died Monday, Dec. 30, 2013 at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Wake services began Wednesday at the American Legion Hall in Wagner.

Funeral services are at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2014 at the Legion Hall. Burial is in Holy Fellowship Episcopal Cemetery, rural Greenwood.

Sammy Hofer

Funeral services for Sammy D. Hofer, 102, of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, January 3 at the United Methodist Church of Scotland with Rev. Tom Petersen officiating. Interment will follow in Ebenezer Cemetery, rural Scotland.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., with family present to greet visitors from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland.

Sammy passed away on Monday, December 30, 2013 at the Good Samaritan Society of Scotland.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com/.

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Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner is in charge of arrangements.

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