

## Omaha Police Investigate Shooting Death

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police are investigating a fatal shooting, but few details were initially released about the incident. Police said Sunday that the shooting happened in northeast Omaha around 10 p.m. Saturday. Officers that responded to the shooting near Florence Boulevard and Sprague Street found an adult with a gunshot wound. The shooting victim was taken to Creighton University Medical Center in critical condition, and then later died at the hospital.

## Mom Who Married At 14 Tries To Get Custody

FALLS CITY, Neb. (AP) — A Nebraska mom whose marriage at age 14 generated headlines is trying along with her husband to regain custody of their children. The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports that 21-year-old Crystal Koso and 29-year-old Matthew Koso were in court last week. The couple's three children and one child fathered by another man while Koso was in prison for impregnating Crystal Koso at age 13 have been in state custody since 2010. The couple drew national attention in 2005 after Crystal Koso became pregnant and they married in Hiawatha, Kan. with her mother's permission. At the time, such a marriage was allowed with parental consent. The case led Kansas lawmakers to set a minimum marriage age of 15. Nebraska allows people as young as 17 to marry with parental consent.

## Victim Of Fatal S.D. Go-Kart Crash Identified

ABERDEEN (AP) — Authorities have identified a 24-year-old man who was killed in a collision with a car on a South Dakota county road. The Highway Patrol says Perry Peterson died in the crash on Friday south of Hecla. The patrol says the driver of the go-kart attempted to make a U-turn in the middle of the road and was struck by the car, which had been travelling behind the go-kart. A passenger in the go-kart, a 5-year-old girl, was taken by helicopter to an Aberdeen hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries. The patrol says a passenger in the car suffered minor injuries.

## Man Sentenced For Crashing Car Into House

RAPID CITY (AP) — A 25-year-old Rapid City man whose car struck a house has been sentenced to four years in prison. The Rapid City Journal reports that Richard Zimmerman was the driver of a car that hit two parked vehicles before crashing into a house in April. Authorities say Zimmerman fled the scene, leaving his injured girlfriend behind. Circuit Judge Robert Mandel sentenced Zimmerman to two concurrent four-year prison terms for hit-and-run with injury and simple assault domestic violence. Zimmerman was on parole for a burglary conviction at the time of the crash.

## S.D. Copes With N.D. Oil Boom Traffic Woes

RAPID CITY (AP) — State officials are stepping in to help northwestern South Dakota solve problems caused by increased people and traffic headed to the North Dakota oil patch. The Rapid City Journal reports that South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley sent two Rapid City-based Department of Criminal Investigation agents to help law enforcement in Butte, Harding and Perkins counties manage the increase in criminal cases. But moving the agents north has put a strain on the Rapid City office, so Jackley is looking elsewhere in the state for agents to pull in from other offices. The South Dakota Highway Patrol has also discussed putting troops from other parts of the state in northwestern South Dakota and adding another.

## S.D.'s Drought Task Force To Meet Today

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota's drought task force has scheduled its first meeting. Representatives from several government agencies have been named to the group, which will exchange and coordinate information about drought conditions. The first meeting is set for 2 p.m. Monday in Pierre. Gov. Dennis Daugaard, who activated the task force, is expected to speak to the group.

## Strong Winds Cause Problems At Pine Ridge

OGLALA (AP) — Strong winds that tore through the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation Saturday night damaged several homes in the Oglala community and sent residents to a local hospital for monitoring. Oglala Sioux Tribe spokeswoman Donna Salomon says the winds blew a number of trailers away. She says several people suffered injuries when the homes were blown away and were sent to the Pine Ridge Indian Health Services Hospital for injuries. The extent of the injuries is unclear. Wayne Weston, the tribe's emergency manager, is surveying the damage. He did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Displaced families are staying with other family members or at the tribe's Prairie Wind Casino hotel. The tribe will be working with the Red Cross to provide the displaced families clothing, food and personal items.

## OBITUARIES

### Dolores Wilson

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Funeral services for Dolores L. (Branstiter) Wilson, 82, of Scottsdale, Ariz., are at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at the Niobrara Evangelical Lutheran Church, Niobrara, Neb. The Rev. Nathan Metzger will officiate, with burial in the L'Eau Qui Court Cemetery, Niobrara. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the services at the church. Dolores died Thursday, July 19, 2012. Brockhaus Funeral Home, Niobrara, is in charge of arrangements.

### Dorothy Brown

Dorothy E. Brown, 96, formerly of the Yankton area, died Sunday, July 15, 2012, in Mesa, Ariz. She was the beloved wife of Milo G. Brown for 76 years. Dear mother of Bob (Sandy) Brown. Our dear sister-in-law, aunt and friend. Funeral services are at noon Tuesday, July 24, at Green Acres Mortuary, 401 N. Hayden Rd. Scottsdale, Ariz. Private entombment to follow. Visit [www.greenacresmortuary.net](http://www.greenacresmortuary.net).

# Progress Made With Western S.D. Wildfires

ROSEBUD (AP) — Firefighters in western South Dakota have made some progress with wildfires in the region, but Sunday's low humidity and gusty winds were increasing the fires' intensity, authorities said. "We are seeing some extreme fire behavior," said Joe Lowe, commander of fire crews battling a series of wildfires Sunday, referred to as the Longhorn Complex on the Rosebud reservation. The wildfire began as four separate fires caused by lightning Thursday night, then merged into two fires Saturday and broke into three on Sunday. Together, the fires covered 18,002 acres, and authorities said the fires were about 25 percent contained.

Jeni Lawver, an information officer for the fire operations, said Sunday that 50 homes have been evacuated. Most of those are in the community of Spring Creek, which is being threatened by a wildfire that is about a quarter-mile away. Lawver said the combination of gusty, erratic winds, above-average temperatures and low humidity was affecting firefighters' ability to contain the fire. "That isn't very fire-friendly weather," she said. South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard toured the affected area Sunday and met with firefighters.

## Repairs Go On A Year After Mo. River Flood

BY KEVIN WOSTER  
Rapid City Journal

FORT PIERRE — Linda Dykstra is learning to trust the river again. She has a ways to go, however, to trust the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A year after Dykstra and her husband, Brent, were among hundreds of people displaced by a Missouri River flood that came in pre-announced stages, they are back in their home fixing what was damaged by water. That includes their sense of security and belief in a system of Missouri River dams and the federal agency that manages them. Dykstra said she is trying hard to give federal officials the benefit of the doubt.

"I'm feeling a little bit more comfortable that maybe the corps is going to listen to our concerns and hopefully manage the water a little better," Dykstra said. "I guess I feel more comfortable that they're going to try harder to keep something like this from happening again." What happened last year along the river was a flood that shattered presumptions about the flood control capabilities of the Missouri River dams. It also caused most of the more than \$81 million in flood-related damages statewide last year, a tiny-but-meaningful portion of which belonged to the Dykstras. When the Missouri River system was swamped by inflows that set records dating back to the late 1800s, corps managers had to crank up releases at the massive main-stem dams to unprecedented levels. Corps officials said the magnitude of the inflows into a system that already had plenty of water left them no options for preventing flooding. The realities of winter flows and downstream flooding for months prior to the deluge of the upper basin offered little opportunity for the corps to move more water from the reservoirs, although it did increase flows. Critics, however, argue that the agency should have and could have

done more. Few critics were more vocal than former Gov. Mike Rounds, who was one of the evacuees from his home not far downstream from the Dykstras. "It's the only flood in history that literally started on the day a government agency decided to have it start," Rounds said, referring to the Corps predictions on when water releases from the swollen reservoirs would reach flood stages below the dams. Soon, the residents in low-lying areas of Fort Pierre, Pierre and the Dakota Dunes area down at the state's southeast tip were sandbagging their property and carting out personal belongings as they evacuated. By this time last year, the Dykstras were out of their home on the shore of the river downstream from Oahe Dam, and wouldn't return for four months. Like the other flood-damaged communities, Fort Pierre will get federal reimbursement for much of the damage. The Federal Emergency management Agency covers 75 percent of the cost of qualifying repairs, with the town paying 15 percent and the state 10 percent. In Pierre, Mayor Laurie Gill estimates damages at about \$16.5 million. So far the city has spent \$5.5 million out of cash reserves and received about \$3 million from FEMA in reimbursements. Flood repairs are being blended in with construction already planned for the summer season in a recovery process that will go on for years. But Gill likes the progress so far. "All told, we're doing better than I expected a year ago," she said. "But if it hadn't been for the levees, I'd be telling a whole different story. Or if we'd had a levee breach, we'd have had inundation all the way up to Sioux Avenue, including the downtown area."

Evacuation orders were posted Friday for 242 homes, following an earlier alert to 33 residents. Those were the most recent numbers available. About 570 personnel, with the help of several helicopters, were fighting the Myrtle fire. Some of the helicopters also were being shared at the Longhorn Complex, Barth said. The Myrtle fire has shut down several roads and forced the closure of Wind Cave National Park.



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# Veblen Dairy Improving Local Partnerships

BY SCOTT WALTMAN  
Aberdeen American News

VEBLEN — Ward Youngblom jokes that happy cows come from South Dakota, not California as that state's milk producers advertise, and he says so wearing the smile of a man who enjoys his job. Specifically, Youngblom's job is feed, manure and transportation manager at Marshall Dairy near Veblen. He buys feed for the dairy from local producers and sells manure to those same farmers and ranchers who use it as fertilizer. That being the case, getting along with those folks makes life more pleasant.

And, Youngblom said, relations between the dairy and its neighbors have improved considerably in recent months. A new ownership group for the dairy has helped. Riverview LLC, based in Morris, Minn., bought the Veblen East and Veblen West dairies, which were in bankruptcy, in February 2011. The dairies, along with a third facility just west of the west dairy, are now jointly known as Marshall Dairy. Day-to-day operations haven't changed much, Youngblom said. Most of the 180 workers are the same, he said, and the job — milking about 10,000 cross-bred, Jersey-based cows and caring for another 3,400 head — hasn't changed. But Riverview, Youngblom said, is working to be a good employer, a good neighbor and an involved community member. Among the changes are that the dairy now delivers all of its milk to Valley Queen Cheese Factory in Milbank. Milk from all Riverview dairies — the company oversees about 46,000 milking cows — goes to Valley Queen. Veblen East and Veblen West dairies used to sell most of their milk to AMPI, a cheese producer in Minnesota, Youngblom said. Riverview has also started a dry manure operation, Youngblom said. There's the potential for expansion at Marshall Dairy, but there are no hard plans yet, he said. Before the change in ownership, the Veblen dairies were troubled. There were financial struggles that led to bankruptcy, environmental problems noted by the state, worker-related immigration issues that led to

court proceedings and local ag producers who weren't paid for commodities delivered to the dairy. The affable Youngblom said he doesn't much care to compare the dairy's old and new management groups. But, he said, neighboring farmers and ranchers would be within their rights to refuse to do business with the dairy because of past transgressions. Instead, though, about 20 sell feed to and buy fertilizer from Marshall Dairy. "A lot of it comes to reputation (of Riverview) and just being open with them," Youngblom said. Thankfully, he said, local ag producers gave the new owners a chance.

Last month, the dairy held an open house to show off its facilities to area residents and garner some good will. Roughly 700 people attended, Youngblom said. Construction started on Multi-Community Cooperative Dairy, commonly called MCC Dairy, in 1998. That dairy, just west of Veblen, eventually came to be known as Veblen West. In 2006, Veblen East Dairy was built. In 2007, Veblen-based Prairie Ridge Management took over management of both dairies. It also managed other dairies in the region. MCC Dairy dissolved in late 2007, giving way to Veblen West the next year. In 2009, both dairies were cited for manure-related environmental violations.

In 2010, Prairie Ridge ceased to manage the dairies. Veblen West filed for bankruptcy in April that year, and Veblen East followed in July. The dairies were placed in what's legally called receivership. In receivership, somebody is appointed by a court to manage an entity's or business' operations and finances.

A group called Vista Family Farms attempted to buy the dairies during bankruptcy procedures. But the state would not allow the transaction if Rick Millner was involved, and court paperwork revealed he was. Millner was long involved with both dairies and had ownership stakes in both as well as in Prairie Ridge. As a result of those troubled dealings, he gained a troubled reputation.

Ultimately, Riverview bought both dairies from AgStar Financial Services, their prime financier.

## Mom's Funeral Was Meaningful To Us, Which Was Just What She Wanted.

"From her favorite songs to her special prayers and the clergyman whom she respected, Mom's funeral was an important way for our family to share just how wonderful she was. It was a meaningful tribute that celebrated her life and the things she loved. Arranging many of the details ahead of time with Mom and the Wintz's helped make sure of that. When Mom died, the Wintz family took care of everything, providing us with comfort and peace of mind. Together, we created a meaningful funeral that was just the way Mom wanted it.

*We know the value of creating a meaningful funeral service. Please contact us for more information.*

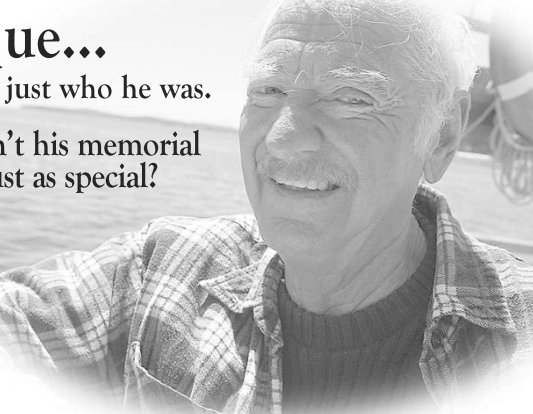
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