

Senate Votes To Curb Merchant Debit Card Fees

WASHINGTON (AP) — Merchants triumphed over bankers in a battle for billions Wednesday as the Senate voted to let the Federal Reserve curb the fees that stores pay financial institutions when a customer swipes a debit card. It was murkier, however, whether the nation's consumers were winners or losers.

As a result of the roll call, the Fed will be allowed to issue final rules on July 21 trimming the average 44 cents that banks charge for each debit card transaction. That fee, typically 1 to 2 percent of each purchase, produces \$16 billion in annual revenue for banks and credit card companies, the Fed estimates.

The central bank has proposed capping the so-called interchange fee at 12 cents, though the final plan could change slightly.

Victorious merchants said the lowered fees should let them drop prices, banks said they could be forced to boost charges for things like checking accounts to make up for lost earnings and each side challenged the other's claims. Consumer groups were not a united front, either: While the consumer group U.S. PIRG said consumers would benefit, the Consumer Federation of America took no formal stance but said it was concerned about what both industries might do.

Record-Breaking Heat Grips Eastern Half Of U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The mercury climbed into the 90s across half the country Wednesday in a record-breaking blast of August-like heat, forcing schools with no air conditioning to let kids go home early and cities to open cooling centers. And scientists say we had better get used to it.

A new study from Stanford University predicts that global climate change will lead permanently to unusually hot summers by the middle of the century.

Temperatures in the 90s were recorded across much of the South, the East and the Midwest. Baltimore and Washington hit 99 degrees, breaking high-temperature records for the date that were set in 1999, according to the National Weather Service. The normal high for the date is about 82.

Philadelphia hit 97 degrees, breaking a 2008 record of 95, and Atlantic City, N.J., tied a record of 98 set in 1999. Chicago reached 94 by midafternoon.

Delta Charges Army Unit Extra For Bags

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. soldiers returning from Afghanistan posted a YouTube video complaining that they had to pay Delta Air Lines \$2,800 out of pocket to check extra bags, prompting an onslaught of online comments critical of Delta and at least one boycott effort.

The video went online late Tuesday. By Wednesday afternoon — nearly 200,000 views later — Delta had posted a blog message saying it had revised its bag fee policy for troops. The airline had been allowing troops traveling coach class three free bags, but was imposing a \$200 fee on a fourth bag. Now the Delta — in a statement attributed to an anonymous customer representative — says fourth bags will be free.

Ariz. Wildfire Threatens Transmission Lines

BY SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN AND BOB CHRISTIE
Associated Press

SPRINGERVILLE, Ariz. — A raging forest fire in eastern Arizona that has forced thousands from their homes headed Wednesday for a pair of transmission lines that supply electricity to hundreds of thousands of people as far east as Texas.

The 607-square-mile blaze is expected to reach the power lines as early as Friday. If the lines are damaged, parts of New Mexico and Texas could face rolling blackouts.

For now, firefighters who have helped keep the flames away from several towns in eastern Arizona are concerned that high winds expected later Wednesday could carry embers that can cause new, smaller spot fires.

"We have a lot of people out there who are going to be doing nothing but looking for spots and putting those things out if they see them," fire information officer Jim Whittington said.

The blaze has blackened about 389,000 acres and destroyed 11 buildings, primarily in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. No serious injuries have been reported.

Fire crews had furiously worked to protect the town of Eagar and Springerville on Tuesday, and it appeared to pay off. They created barriers between the towns and the fire and burned out combustible material, such as brush and trees.

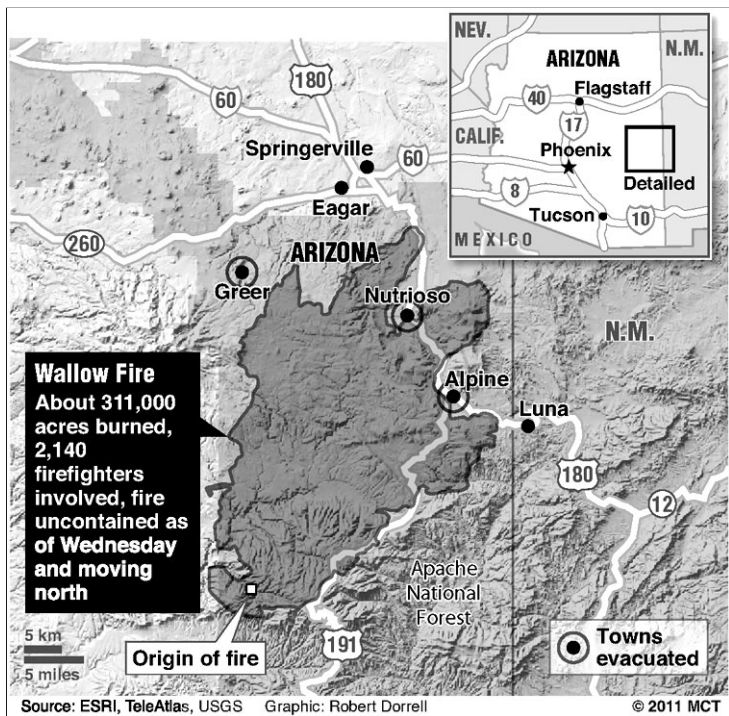
"It's looking good to us. It did what the team said it would do when it came over the hill toward town," Apache County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Brannon Eagar said. He added: "It worked out perfectly."

The fire prompted Texas-based El Paso Electric to issue warnings of possible power interruptions for its customers in southern New Mexico and West Texas.

The company uses two high voltage lines to bring electricity from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station west of Phoenix to the two states. Losing the lines would cut off about 40 percent of the utility's supply, possibly triggering the rolling blackouts among its 372,000 customers.

Winds in the area were expected to gust up to 35 mph on Wednesday. Officials in Catron County, N.M., told residents of Luna to be prepared to leave if winds push the blaze into western New Mexico.

About half of the 4,000 residents who call Eagar home were forced to leave Tuesday as the



fire licked the ridges surrounding the area. Those in neighboring Springerville worried as they awaited word of whether they too will have to flee.

On Wednesday afternoon, authorities ordered more evacuations as the wildfire pushed closer Eagar and Springerville. The evacuation area did not contain a lot of homes, but the airport and a grocery store are located there.

About half of Eagar was ordered evacuated on Tuesday, but this is the first order that affects nearby Springerville. Most of that town's residents are not affected.

The blaze, burning in mainly ponderosa pine forest, was sparked May 29 by what authorities believe was an unattended campfire. It became the second-largest in Arizona history on Tuesday.

Yankton County Emergency Management Director Paul Scherschligt said he received a call Wednesday morning that extra manpower was needed elsewhere right away.

"Because we are part of a larger cooperative operation, resources being used here can be re-positioned in the region, and right now, there is an emergency need for those soldiers downstream," he said. "We expect to have the soldiers back in Yankton in a couple days to continue building our strategic sandbag reserve."

Local residents who need more sandbags can still pick them up at the Yankton County highway shop, where South Dakota Department of Corrections inmates are still working, or at 12th and Pine Street, where Federal Bureau of Prisons inmates are filling and distributing sandbags.

OBITUARIES

Lucille Zeigler

Lucille H. Zeigler, age 95 of Yankton passed away on Monday, June 6, 2011 at the Avera Yankton Care Center, Yankton, SD.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton with Rev. Ron Johnson officiating. Burial will be in the Greenlawn Cemetery in Redfield, SD at approximately 2:00 p.m. Thursday afternoon.

Visitations will begin at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

Lucille was born on July 2, 1915 to Benjamin W. & Emma (Polchow) Miller near Tulare,



Zeigler

SD. She graduated from Redfield High School in 1933 where she took part in most musical affairs. She married on September 1, 1934 to J. Ralph Zeigler in Clark, SD. His employment took them to South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Crystal, MN and Moorhead, MN. She worked several years at the Mary Elizabeth Dress Shop in Fargo, ND. Her husband died on July 9, 1986. She moved to Lombard, IL in 1988 where she was active in the Methodist Church. She moved to Yankton, SD in 1995. She was a member of the 1st

United Methodist Church, Yankton, SD.

Survivors include: two sisters, Lorraine Clark of Excelsior, MN; Bonny Mae (Vern) Matson of Lombard, IL and one brother, Carroll (Grace) Miller of St. Louis Park, MN and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her infant son, Gary, her husband, parents, two brothers, Ben Jr. Miller and Wayne Miller, and one sister, Beulah Krueger.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 9, 2011

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FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Joseph Hirocke Jr.

ORLANDO, Fla. — Joseph C. Hirocke Jr., 49, formerly of Vermillion passed away on September 7, 2010 in Orlando, FL.

Memorial service will be on Saturday, June 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at Kober Funeral Home in Vermillion. Burial of ashes will follow the service on Saturday in Bluff View Cemetery in Vermillion.

Joseph was born on December 29, 1960 in Vermillion, SD. Growing up, Joe attended school in Burbank, SD and Elk Point, SD. He graduated from Vermillion High School in 1979 and set many records in track and cross country.

After graduation, Joe joined the Marine Corps where he was stationed at Camp Pendleton in California. He was privileged to serve at our American embassies in several countries as a guard.

After serving his country, Joe returned to Vermillion and stayed until the passing of his mother in



Hirocke

1998. He then traveled to Florida, where he lived until his untimely passing.

Joseph is survived by his sisters Nadine Burow of Yankton, SD, JoAnn Mentzer of Ponca, NE, Rose Hirocke of Vermillion, SD and Ella Hirocke of Gayville, SD; brothers Raymond and Michael Hirocke, both of Massachusetts; and three generations of nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents Joseph C. Hirocke Sr. and Helen (Oakie) Hirocke; brothers Clifford and Les Hirocke, Gorden Horn Eagle; sisters Debi Buschelman, Delores "Tiny" Drappeau; and nephew Mark.

Condolences may be posted online at www.koberfuneralhome.com.

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Marvin Ackerman

IRENE — Marvin Ackerman, 78, of Irene died Tuesday, June 7, 2011, at Royal C. Johnson Veterans Medical Center, Sioux Falls.

Arrangements are pending with Hansen Funeral Home, Irene.

Peter Lohman

VERMILLION — Peter Lee Lohman, 67, of Vermillion died Tuesday, June 7, 2011, at Sanford Vermillion Care Center, Vermillion.

Funeral services are pending with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

Flooding

From Page 1

said the county has not had to request assistance from the state.

However, he added that, with the historic flows at Gavins Point Dam and the likelihood they will be at 150,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) through at least August, the county is monitoring developments as best it can and responding.

"Who knows what problems (the river flows) will cause," Pinkelman said.

The Parsons have moved items out of their basement, as have other residents in the development. At least one resident has moved out entirely. Barb said there are probably 25 permanent residents in the neighborhood and others who stay in their homes on a regular basis.

Steve hopes the berm is enough to protect the development from flooding.

"If the releases stay at 150,000 cfs, that should give us a foot or two of leeway," he said. "Of course, (the Corps is) not promising they'll stay at 150,000, so we've got a little extra in there, just in case."

Barb said the residents appreciate the help of the county and volunteers.

"Everyone is giving it their best effort," she stated. "I feel that

we're all working together to save these homes."

In other flood developments Wednesday:

- Jody Farhat, chief of the Corps' Missouri River Basin Water Management Division in Omaha, Neb., said rumors that releases are scheduled to go above 150,000 cfs at any of the dams are not true. While weather events could change the forecast, she said releases will peak at 150,000 cfs and stay at that level until at least August. The recent announcement that releases at Fort Peck will be higher than anticipated should have no effect on downstream dams, she said.
- Releases at Gavins Point hit 140,000 cfs Wednesday. They will be increased to 145,000 cfs Friday, and then 150,000 cfs Tuesday.
- Corps officials also said the mainstem dams along the Missouri River are working as they should.
- Sandbagging in Yankton has been reduced, as the South Dakota National Guard soldiers who have been filling roughly 20,000 sandbags a day for the last week have been temporarily re-deployed within southeast South Dakota.

25th
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
STEPHANIE LOWERY!
We Love You, Mom, Keaton & Family

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MORNING COFFEE
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MONDAY-FRIDAY

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7:40 Lisa Scheve
8:15 Carmen Schramm

Friday
7:40 SD Magazine
8:15 Yankton Area
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It has been 2 months since Brianna was senselessly torn away from us. Always remember her, talk about her, tell everyone what a beautiful, wonderful person Brianna was. Keep her alive in our hearts and minds.

Visit Facebook:
In Memory of Brianna Marie Knoll

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