

### 30th SD County Added To Disaster Declaration

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Union County has been added to a federal disaster declaration for South Dakota. Thirty counties now are eligible for federal aid to help cover the cost of repairing spring flooding damage to public infrastructure. Clay and Yankton counties are eligible for help with emergency protective measures. Gov. Dennis Daugaard says Union County already had been declared eligible for federal assistance for emergency measures. He says federal resources now will be available for more types of expenditures in the county.

### Neb. Farmers Urged To Report Flooding Losses

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska farmers affected by flooding are urged to contact their local Farm Service Agency office to report losses. Nebraska agriculture director Greg Ibach says reports can include failure to plant acres or loss of livestock pasture due to flooding. He says the FSA will use the information to pursue agricultural disaster declarations and for assistance programs. Dan Steinkruger, executive director of the State FSA Office in Nebraska, says farmers have until July 15 to report planting problems. Failure to do so could make them ineligible for assistance. Both the Missouri and the Platte rivers in Nebraska are expected to reach record levels later in June and remain high into fall. The FSA estimates that the Missouri could flood at least 90,000 agricultural acres. A total for the Platte wasn't available.

### SD Redistricting Committee Begins Work

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A panel of state lawmakers that will draw new boundaries for South Dakota's legislative districts has begun its summer work. The 15-member Legislative Redistricting Committee eventually will recommend a plan to a special session of the Legislature in late October. The Argus Leader newspaper in Sioux Falls reports that Wednesday's meeting focused on not being sued. The last time the Legislature redrew the boundaries, in 2001, three lawsuits followed that cost state taxpayers more than \$800,000. The most expensive dealt with the issue of American Indian voters. The state lost and a federal court redrew three districts. This summer the redistricting committee plans meetings on the seven reservations in the state. South Dakota's 35 legislative districts are redrawn every 10 years to reflect population shifts reported by the U.S. Census.

### Hot Lotto \$30,000 Winner Sold In Sioux Falls

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota Lottery officials say a winning ticket worth \$30,000 in the Wednesday Hot Lotto drawing was sold in Sioux Falls. The ticket matched all five white balls but not the Hot Ball to win the game's \$10,000 second prize, which was tripled because of an option bought by the winner. The odds of winning the prize are one in about 608,000. The winning numbers were 4, 5, 16, 22 and 26. The Hot Ball was 9. Hot Lotto is played in 14 states and the District of Columbia. The jackpot sits at \$2 million for the Saturday drawing.

### OBITUARIES

#### Marvin Ackerman

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



Ackerman

Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m. Saturday, June 11, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church rural Irene with Rev. Dana Steinwand Officiating. Burial will follow in Spring Valley Cemetery rural Viborg with Military Grave-side rites by Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post #791 & South Dakota Military Honor Guard. Visitation will begin at 5:00 p.m. Friday, June 10, 2011 with a prayer service beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Hansen Funeral Home in Irene. Family will be present from 6 to 8pm.

Marvin was born May 28th, 1933 in Yankton County to Walter & Ina (Mikkelson) Ackerman. He joined the Army in 1954 where he traveled thru Europe. He married Adel Marie Sorensen on May 28th, 1957 at Spring Valley Lutheran Church rural Viborg, SD. They resided in rural Irene, where they raised their family, farmed and lived until his passing. Marvin was an active member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. He enjoyed many activities including; fishing, playing pool, playing ball, camping, traveling & he loved to dance. He was

a lifetime member of the VFW and a member of the Moose Lodge. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Adel, four children; Marvin W. Ackerman Jr. (Caroline) of Viborg, Walter R. Ackerman (Linda) of Mission Hill, SD, Tina M. Craig (James) of Marion, Ohio, Jodie A. Ackerman of Irene, 10 grandchildren, 6 step-grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, 5 step-great-great-grandchildren, 2 brothers, Kenneth Ackerman (Marlene), Jerald Ackerman (Janet), 2 sisters Charlotte McManus, Arlene Kreeger, brothers-in-law, Carroll Sorensen (Bev), Glenmore Sorensen (Ethel), sisters-in-law, Lilac Knox, Virginia Whitchen, Rozella Olsen. He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 infant children, 5 brothers-in-law; Jim McManus, Willie Kreeger, Lowell Sorensen, Lorell Sorensen, Jack Knox. For obituary and online condolences visit hansenfuneralhome.com  
Yankton Press and Dakotan  
June 10, 2011

#### Naomi Scott

CENTER, Neb. — Naomi Scott, age 72 of Center, Neb., died on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 at her residence. Funeral Services will be on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington, Neb. Visitation will be one hour prior to services on Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Sheridan Municipal Cemetery in Sheridan, Wyoming.

# Many Fleeing Flood Won't Return Soon

BY GRANT SCHULTE  
Associated Press

HAMBURG, Iowa — Cliff and Donna Ferguson had already hauled out chairs, a bed, their television — nearly everything that would be ruined if the Missouri River spills over its banks as expected and floods their home in the small southwest Iowa town of Hamburg.

With their Chevy pickup already packed, Cliff Ferguson looked up at the dozen deer heads hanging on walls above him. "I was planning on leaving some of this stuff here, but I may end up taking some of these," he said, nodding to the heads. "This flood's going to be different. It's going to be worse."

The rising Missouri River is set to reach peak flows within days and won't return to normal until September as the Army Corps of Engineers manages a series of swollen reservoirs in Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota and faces the prospect of huge snowpack melting in the Rockies. That means people leaving their homes and businesses in early June may not be able to come back before late summer.

The timeline has even veteran river-town residents resigned. "It's already worse because we've got more junk now, and we're older," said the 73-year-old Ferguson, who, like thousands of living near the Missouri, endured historic flooding in 1993.

The question in Hamburg is whether a levee along the river that already has sprung

a leak will completely give way, leaving only a temporary barrier to protect the town of 1,100. Officials skeptical the levees will survive have ordered half the town to evacuate and warned that up to 10 feet of water could surge into Hamburg and then remain for weeks, or months.

Julee Smith said her home should be high enough to remain dry, but worries about her 84-year-old mother, whose home would be swamped. And if the town floods, Smith wouldn't be able to get to her job at a Walmart across the river in Nebraska City, Neb. "I really don't have a good plan. I really don't," she said.

Terry Holliman has already closed his Napa Auto Parts store south of downtown Hamburg and removed much of the merchandise. He expects to lose \$35,000 in sales in one month, even if the store remains dry. If the levees fail and the store is inundated, costs would climb to about \$150,000. "It's serious money, no doubt about it," Holliman said.

About 60 miles upriver, Kelli Shaner said the river has crept closer and closer to her farmhouse near Fort Calhoun, Neb. She's sure the house and much of their property will flood.

Her family spent the past week moving farm equipment to fields the family rents farther from the river, emptying their grain bin and finding temporary homes for their four horses, cow, chickens, dog and cat. She told her three sons, ages 5, 7 and 10, to pack up their favorite toys and be prepared to stay with relatives until the fall.

## Meade County Commission Objects To Bear Butte Decision

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — The Meade County Commission has decided to ask a state board to reconsider its decision restricting oil drilling near Bear Butte, a mountain in western South Dakota that is considered sacred to many Indian tribes.

The state Board of Minerals and Environment in November approved an order allowing Nakota Energy LLC to drill up to 24 wells in a 960-acre field within 1.5 miles of Bear Butte.

The board reopened the case and in May voted to revoke the original order and instead allow only five wells to be drilled, none

of which can be located within the boundary of an area designated a national historic landmark around Bear Butte.

In a letter to the state board, the county commission says it is unaware of any "engineering, geological or other scientific reason" for the board's restriction of drilling.

"If the restrictions apply to an area deemed sacred to American Indians, that would include the entire Black Hills," the letter states.

"If the restrictions apply to the area, that is thousands of square miles, and includes large

portions of Meade, Lawrence and Butte counties."

The board had considered suing to overturn the state board's decision, but Deputy State's Attorney Ken Chleborad told the board Wednesday it had little legal ground to stand on.

Chleborad said a key to filing a lawsuit is determining the exact boundaries of the Bear Butte National Landmark.

After searching through the office of equalization, officials were not able to locate a document outlining the boundaries, he said.

The county commission can expect a battle if it files a lawsuit, said James Swan, president of a group called the United Urban Warrior Society.

"We're going to fight this if it takes 5 years, 10 years, 100 years. We'll never give this up," Swan said.

Members of several Indian tribes fast and hold religious ceremonies on Bear Butte, which rises 1,300 feet above the surrounding plain on the north edge of the Black Hills and is so named because it resembles a sleeping bear lying on its side.

## Homes

From Page 1A

loan is getting smaller.

Nicole Rosen's home in tiny Spanaway, Wash., just outside the military base where her husband works, has lost \$150,000 in value since she paid \$275,000 for it in 2006. She has battled mortgage lenders in court for two years to stay out of foreclosure. In the meantime, the couple are paying off credit cards, figuring it's the only "positive thing we could do."

"We're paying off all our debt. We only have \$200 left on our credit cards. But we're stuck in our house," Rosen said.

Home equity is important for the economy because it has a lot to do with how wealthy people

feel. If they feel swamped by a mortgage loan, they're less likely to spend freely on other things. Home equity also serves as collateral for some loans.

There are 74.5 million homeowners in the United States. An estimated 60 percent have a mortgage. The rest have either paid off the loan or bought with cash.

Of the people who have mortgages, 23 percent are "under water," meaning they owe more on the mortgage than their home is worth, according to the private real estate research firm CoreLogic. An additional 5 percent are nearing that point.

The outlook for the housing market remains dim.

Fixed mortgage rates average 4.49 percent, extremely low by historical standards, and have fallen for eight straight weeks. But most people can't meet tougher lending requirements.

Falling rates make it easier to re-finance, too, but many of the people who can afford to do that already have.

And foreclosures keep hammering the housing market. On Thursday, the Obama administration said the three largest U.S. lenders — Wells Fargo, Bank of America and JPMorgan Chase — haven't helped enough people lower their mortgage payments to stay in their homes.

The government said it has started withholding the cash incentives it established for lenders under its 2-year-old foreclosure prevention program. The administration had hoped the program would prevent as many as 4 million foreclosures, but it has helped fewer than 700,000 people.

Foreclosures have economic ripples: Homes in foreclosure sell at a 20 percent discount on average, and those discounts erode

prices throughout a neighborhood.

Many foreclosure sales have been delayed while federal regulators, state attorneys general and banks review how those foreclosures were carried out over the past two years. When those foreclosures go through, prices may fall even further.

Home prices are expected to keep falling until the number of foreclosures for sale is reduced, companies start hiring in greater force, banks ease lending rules and more people think it makes financial sense again to buy a house. In some areas of the country, that could take years.

The Federal Reserve report found that Americans' overall net worth grew 1.65 percent in the January-to-March period, to \$58.06 trillion, mostly because of stock market gains. Most of those gains have been erased since March, though.

## Rise

From Page 1A

the water, you should probably be hesitant," Larson added.

As far as large events planned for Riverside Park like the Fourth of July fireworks or Riverboat Days, Larson said there are no plans to provide special accommodations because of conditions along the river.

"Obviously, the two improved areas along the waterway where people sat in during the past July 4 shows are under water now," he said. "But we wouldn't do anything more or less than we've done in the past when we have Riverboat Days or the Fourth of July."

City Manager Doug Russell said the Fourth of July show will go on as planned, although an eye is being kept on the Nebraska side of the Missouri River where fireworks have been launched in the

past. "Premier Pyrotechnics is monitoring the staging area for potential safety concerns and will have a better evaluation of the situation once peak flows have been reached," he said.

City officials are also keeping a watchful eye on Marne Creek, which empties into the Missouri River on the east side of Riverside Park.

The mouth of the Marne Creek is backed up to the bridge crossing at Highway 50.

"There is quite a deep channel in that area, so that water doesn't really affect anything as far as coming up and getting out of its bank," Larson said.

However, if there is an extreme rain event, that back-up could create problems upstream.

"If we get large rain events here, the concern becomes the fact that we'll have high water in the Marne and have to close our low-water crossings (along the Auld-Brokaw Trail) until we can clean them up," Larson said.

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**YANKTON AREA AgGala**  
Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce Agri-Business Committee  
**Tuesday, June 21, 2011**  
Riverfront Event Center  
121 W. 3rd, Yankton  
Catered by Hy-Vee  
**\$40.00 per person**  
**Schedule of Events**  
5:00 p.m. Doors Open  
5:30 p.m. Social Hour  
Wine Tasting  
Variety of Exhibitors  
6:45 p.m. Dinner, Pork Program  
7:30 p.m. Keynote Address by Troy & Stacy Hadricks  
Master of Ceremonies: Jim Wooster  
Tickets and more information is available by calling the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce at 665-3636 or online at www.yanktonsd.com/aggala. Deadline for tickets - June 14  
Proceeds from the auction will go to benefit the P.A.Y. scholarship fund.

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