Corps Awards \$8M For Channel Project

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded \$8.3 million in contracts to restore the navigation channel along a nearly 120-mile stretch of the Missouri River in Iowa and Nebraska affected by last summer's historic flooding.

The corps says the project is to repair a 300-foot-wide by 9-footdeep channel between Sioux City, Iowa, and Rulo, Neb.

Dikes and other rock foundations are used to create the channel and prevent erosion along the bank. Many were damaged by the high water.

The repairs will take about 250,000 tons of rock and will involve cranes operating from barges. The project is in two sections — from Sioux City to Fort Calhoun, Neb., and from Fort Calhoun to Rulo.

Work is to begin within the week and be completed by September 2014.

Investigation Into Drugstore Standoff Ongoing

ALLIANCE, Neb. (AP) — Western Nebraska authorities continue investigating last week's fatal standoff when a gunman wounded three officers and his pharmacist hostage before dying in a shootout with police.

Court documents say 27-year-old Andres Gonzalez told negotiators he killed 38-year-old Josh Bullock last December and told his girlfriend, 19-year-old Rose Siefke, he killed his father, 62-year-old Larry Gonzalez, before the June 12 standoff began.

Siefke is charged with helping conceal Bullock's body. She appeared in court Tuesday, and is being held on \$50,000 bond. Her attorney didn't immediately respond to a message.

Box Butte County Attorney K.J. Hutchinson says autopsy results on Gonzalez and his father weren't available Wednesday.

A grand jury will review Gonzalez' death because police were trying to arrest him, but Hutchinson isn't sure when that will happen.

Mountain Lion Killed In Rapid City

RAPID CITY (AP) — A mountain lion has been put down after taking a stroll through Rapid City.

Police spokeswoman Tarah Heupel tells KOTA-TV that a driver spotted the lion crossing a street early Friday morning. Heupel says officers called the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks and were instructed to put the lion down. Workers with Game, Fish & Parks later came to dispose of the body.

The female lion weighed 84 pounds. It's estimated it was 2 years old.

S.D. Native Honored During Title IX Anniversary

BY KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — Sports have always played a big part of Jodi Gillette's life.

Her first memories are of watching her mother play shortstop in fast-pitch softball. As a child, she would watch her dad as he coached a high school basketball team and cross country.

Gillette, an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota and South Dakota, said her parents pushed her to excel in both academics and sports. The same drive that led Gillette to play basketball at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire has led her to the White House, where she advises President Obama on policy issues affecting Native Americans.

"I found that the work ethic and discipline involved in developing athletic talents translate very well into academic and workplace settings," Gillette said in an email.

On Thursday, Gillette will be recognized in Washington with 39 other women who have been named to the Women's Sports Foundation's 40 For 40 list. The list honors women who have made a significant impact on society after playing sports in high school or college during the 40 years Title IX has been enacted. Title IX is a law known mainly for mandating gender equity in high school and collegiate sports.

Other honorees include soccer player Mia Hamm, figure skater Michelle Kwan, comedian Ellen DeGeneres and astronaut Sally Ride. "We are proud to recognize these women and the positive role that the passage of Title IX has played in the lives of countless women and girls," Kathryn Olson, chief executive officer of the Women's Sports Foundation, said in a statement. "Each has used participation in sports as a step toward making a very significant contribution to society in a wide variety of fields."

Gillette said she hopes the award will provide greater understanding and visibility for Native American women athletes and professionals, as well as inspire Native youth.

"I would like youth to see that consistent hard work pays off not only on the court, but can also build character and confidence to achieve in other areas," she said.

Nebraska Immigration Ordinance Still Mired In Court

BY GRANT SCHULTE Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Two years after voters in Fremont approved a controversial immigration ordinance, the rule remains mired in court and residents are still split about whether it addresses a serious problem or needlessly tarnishes the city's image.

Voters in the eastern Nebraska city of 26,000 easily approved the measure, which banned hiring or renting to illegal immigrants and required businesses to use federal E-Verify software to confirm that potential employees were not illegal immigrants.

But court challenges have lim-

ited its implementation and opponents haven't softened their views on the measure.

Luis Canahui, a native of Guatemala who's lived in Fremont for more than a decade, said he was surprised the "racist and disoriminatory" heren't promoted

criminatory" law hasn't prompted l more Hispanic families to leave town. Canahui, the founder of the group Un Fremont Con Dignidad (One Fremont with Dignity), said he fears that many will move if the rental requirements are upheld in

court. "The ordinance election two years ago demonstrated that we are a town divided, and that continues to be true," Canahui said. "The demographic impact — families leaving because of the ordinance — has not been as widespread as we thought that it might be."

Supporters of the ordinance gathered petition signatures and placed the measure on the June 21, 2010, ballot, saying they feared local jobs were going to illegal immigrants and that local action was needed due to what they saw as lax federal enforcement of immigration policies.

The proposal came after years of rapid growth in Fremont's Hispanic population, which climbed from 165 in 1990 to 3,149 in 2010, largely due to the availability of jobs at two nearby meatpacking plants. It's unclear how many of those residents are illegal immigrants. The ACLU Nebraska Foundation, along with several U.S.-born Latino home renters and a Fremont landlord, challenged the ordinance in federal court. In February, the judge approved the requirement that businesses use the E-verify software to screen job applicants but rejected the one that would deny city-issued housing permits to illegal immigrants, saying it was discriminatory and interfered with federal law.

The ACLU and the city are both appealing the decision, with the city pushing to have the entire ordinance upheld and the civil liberties group seeking to have the rest of the law dismissed.

