

Audit Finds Deficiencies In Neb. Supreme Court

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A new state audit has found problems with travel expenses, deficit spending and accounting practices within the Nebraska Supreme Court, state auditor Mike Foley said Thursday.

Foley released a report Thursday that said the court incurred expenses roughly \$220,000 above the amount appropriated by state officials in fiscal 2012. Foley said the court covered those excess expenditures with funds from fiscal 2013, contrary to state law. State agencies must operate within the budget set by lawmakers and the governor.

Auditors also identified more than \$3,800 in improper travel expenses, mostly due to hotel expenses for court employees that the audit team considered unnecessary.

The report said court officials continued the longstanding practice of not providing vacation or sick leave to law clerks, despite clear wording in the law that the benefits are required for all full-time state employees. After the issue was raised again in the audit, court officials agreed to extend the benefits to its law clerks.

The court operated contrary to state law by not processing and documenting all contracts for services through the state's accounting system, the audit report found. The court also awarded a computer services contract in excess of \$665,000 without using competitive bidding.

Auditors said the court charged the federal government more than \$271,000 for court employees' work on federally funded grant projects, but failed to document properly the hours that were actually worked, a federal requirement.

Mom Accused Of Misusing Disability Payments

MADISON, Neb. (AP) — A 59-year-old northeast Nebraska woman has been accused of misusing nearly \$11,600 of her son's Social Security disability payments.

The *Norfolk Daily News* reports that Margaret Hunt, of Battle Creek, is charged with felony theft by deception and intentional abuse of a vulnerable adult.

The Office of the Inspector General for Social Security says Hunt was not living in Nebraska for several months while her disabled son, 30-year-old Leroy Tomes, was living alone in a trailer in Battle Creek. The office's report says Tomes was in poor health, had little heat during the winter, and not much food or medicine.

A public phone listing for Hunt couldn't be found. An attorney for Hunt, Brad Ewalt of Norfolk, declined to comment on Thursday.

Rapid City Could Lose Federal Housing Funds

RAPID CITY (AP) — Rapid City learned this week that it could lose nearly \$500,000 in federal low-income housing and service funds as early as next year.

The *Rapid City Journal* reports that Community Development Division Manager Barbara Garcia told the city's Legal and Finance Committee that the city received \$466,188 from Housing and Urban Development in 2013.

But Garcia says the allocation might be eliminated next year because of federal sequestration cuts and an increasingly limited HUD budget.

The block grant money is used to assist low-income residents with housing issues, help fund public programs such as Head Start and provide other services.

Garcia says Rapid City would lose out because its allocation would be under the minimum allowed level of funding under proposed cuts.

Rapid City Couple Claims \$2M Powerball Prize

RAPID CITY (AP) — A Rapid City couple has claimed a \$2 million Powerball prize and plans to use the money to pay bills.

Barb and Jim Powers said they are still in shock about winning the money in the June 5 drawing. The odds of winning \$2 million playing Powerball are one in about 5.2 million.

Barb Powers bought the winning ticket at Big D Oil on June 1. She also purchased an option for \$1 that doubled the \$1 million prize she won when the ticket matched all five white ball numbers but missed the Powerball.

"I was running behind schedule and was too late to buy tickets for that night's drawing," she said. "The clerk said she could sell me tickets for Wednesday's drawing, so that's what I did."

After the drawing, "I checked my tickets on the Internet, confirmed the numbers with my sons who were visiting, then called my husband," Powers said. "He didn't believe me at first."

Big D Oil will receive a \$20,000 bonus for selling the winning ticket. Powerball is played in 43 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The jackpot was at \$70 million for the Wednesday night drawing.

Ceremony To Honor Airmen Killed Fighting Fire

RAPID CITY (AP) — A memorial ceremony will honor four North Carolina airmen killed last summer when their plane crashed while fighting a wildfire in South Dakota's Black Hills.

The July 1 ceremony on the one-year anniversary of the crash will dedicate an interpretive site seven miles north of Edgemont. Four members of the six-person air crew died there when strong winds out of a thunderstorm caused the air tanker to crash into a ridge top.

Officials with the South Dakota National Guard and the Black Hills National Forest have been building a parking area and making room for interpretive signs to tell the story.

Black Hills National Forest supervisor Craig Bobzien says the memorial site will allow people to visit, pause, honor and reflect on the selfless service of the brave airmen.

ABC News To Seek Dismissal Of 'Slime' Lawsuit

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — ABC News says it intends to ask a circuit court to dismiss a South Dakota beef processing company's defamation lawsuit now that it has been moved from federal court.

Beef Products Inc. sued for defamation over ABC's coverage of a meat product that critics dub "pink slime."

ABC wanted the case considered by the U.S. District Court in Sioux Falls, but Judge Karen Schreier on Wednesday ordered it back to circuit court.

In a statement sent Thursday, ABC News said the federal court was clear that in sending the case to state court it was not expressing any opinion on the merits of the case.

BPI claims the network damaged the company by misleading consumers into believing the product is unhealthy and unsafe. It is seeking \$1.2 billion in damages.

Strong Storm System Moves To Mid-Atlantic

BY ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A massive storm system that started in the Upper Midwest brought soaking rains and heavy winds to the Mid-Atlantic Thursday, causing widespread power outages, flash flooding and extensive flight delays, but still largely failing to live up to its fierce billing.

The storm came and went in the Washington, D.C., area ahead of the evening rush hour, bringing winds and thunder that knocked trees onto houses, cut power to thousands of homes and traffic signals and led to the brief closure of a bridge that leads to the beaches on Maryland's Eastern shore.

The storms were blamed for two deaths.

Three tornadoes were reported in Maryland, though there were no immediate reports of damage.

"The wind was pretty bad. It was just a squall that came through really fast," said Jim Estes, director of instruction at Olney Golf Park driving range, referring to a tornado reported in the Washington suburb of Olney.

Dire predictions from forecasters, including warnings throughout the region of tornadoes and thunderstorms, led to precautions throughout several states.

Maryland transit officials briefly closed in both directions the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, a critical artery connecting the Baltimore-Washington area with Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. Customers and employees of the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport were directed to seek shelter, in a bathroom or in the lowest level of the terminal.

Still, overall, the storms appear to have caused less wind damage than was feared through early Thursday, said Bill Bunting of the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction

Center in Norman, Okla. Whether they were as bad as anticipated "depends on where you live," he said.

He said thunderstorms took longer than expected to merge into a large line that could cause widespread damage. The merger also happened farther east than expected, which limited the potential for widespread damage in Illinois and Indiana, though those states still had pockets of severe weather.

Even before merging, the individual storms remained powerful, Bunting said.

Besides reports of damaging winds and preliminary tornado sightings, the weather service has received reports of hail at least an inch in diameter in locations stretching from southeast Minnesota to Virginia, he said.

In Ohio, storms with swift, straight-line winds soaked parts of the state, knocking down trees and barns and leaving many without power Thursday as commuters dodged fallen branches on roads and faced backups at intersections where traffic lights were out.

Straight-line winds topping 70 mph were reported and more than two dozen tornado warnings were issued as two rounds of storms pummeled the state, but no twisters have been confirmed, said Phillip Johnson, who was part of the team monitoring developments for the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

Play was suspended at the U.S. Open at Merion Golf Club outside Philadelphia less than two hours after the start of the first round and resumed about three hours later before another brief delay in the evening.

In New Jersey, officials opened the soaked state's Emergency Operations Center on Thursday morning to monitor the storm's progress. The weather service issued a flood watch for most of the state. Forecasters predicted 1 to 2 inches of rain will fall on swollen rivers and

streams. As thunderstorms rumbled across the southern and central parts of the state, thousands of residents were left without power.

In northern New York, rain sent rivers and streams over their banks, leading to evacuations and road closures.

Overnight, thunderstorms that pummeled through northern Illinois caused significant wind damage, mainly in rural areas west and south of Chicago. The city was largely spared. The weather service said intense winds estimated to have reached 70-80 mph in some areas snapped large trees at their trunks or uprooted them entirely.

Whether the storms were a derecho will take time to determine, forecasters said. A derecho is a storm of strong straight-line winds spanning at least 240 miles. The systems are distinctive and take on a comma or bow shape, and usually have a large area of very cold cloud tops not typically seen in an ordinary thunderstorm.

"A derecho is based more on research," said Evan Bentley, a meteorologist at the weather service office for northern Indiana. "How much damage, how widespread it was." It could take days to determine whether the storms met the criteria, he said.

Even if the storm wasn't a derecho, it still brought several tornadoes, large hail and flooding that did some damage Wednesday.

In the small town of Belmond, Iowa, about 90 miles north of Des Moines, Duwayne Abel, owner of Cattleman's Steaks & Provisions restaurant, said a tornado demolished part of the building. No one was in the restaurant at the time.

"I was, oh, eight miles west of town and I looked toward town and I could see a funnel cloud, having no idea it was exactly where our restaurant was," Abel said. His wife and an employee were able to get out of the restaurant and sought shelter in a basement.

Cartoonist From South Dakota Tackles Native American Issues

BY KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — Cartoonist Marty Two Bulls never shies away from the hot-button issues facing Native Americans, even if it makes people angry.

Two Bulls, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe who grew up in Rapid City but now lives in Santa Fe, N.M., has been using his talent to illustrate issues facing American Indians since he was a child. He currently produces a weekly cartoon for Indian Country Today Media Network with reprints appearing in other Native American publications.

Two Bulls said he enjoys pointing out the obvious on some of the controversial issues.

He frequently satirizes the Keystone Pipeline, which tribes have opposed because of its environmental impact, and the small Nebraska town of Whiteclay, where a handful of stores sell millions of cans of beer each year to members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe on the neighboring Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The tribe for years fought the store owners, going so far as to sue the country's largest beer distributors last year.

In one cartoon satirizing the Whiteclay issue, Two Bulls draws four adults huddled around a picket line with signs denouncing the town. Two young children stand nearby holding their own sign: "Just quit drinking," it says.

Another drawing shows a Native American man, dressed in jeans, cowboy boots, a bandanna and with a long braid down his back, talking on his cellphone, a gas container by his side. The man asks, "Hau Bra ... Can you give me a ride to the Keystone pipeline protest?"

Both illustrations show the sometimes hypocritical nature of tribal members, Two Bulls said.

"If everyone quit drinking, then Whiteclay would go away. If everyone stopped driving their cars, Keystone would go away," he said. "It's simplistic. It's the way a child would look at the problem, but you know a lot of times the most simplest answers are the hardest to face be-

"If you don't get people mad you're not doing your job."

MARTY TWO BULLS

cause of that person in the mirror."

But Two Bulls has faced criticism from fellow Native Americans for his approach. After one particularly controversial cartoon, someone drew a cartoon of him as a colonizer, he said.

While the 51-year-old tackles a wide variety of issues, he said he has a particular soft spot for those affecting Oglala Sioux tribal members.

"That's kind of why I started — for my people," he said. "When topics come up that affect them, I like to really do it with them in mind."

Rob Capriccioso, the Washington bureau chief for Indian Country Today Media Network, calls Two Bulls one of the "sharpest political cartoonists working today." Capriccioso said mainstream audiences might not always understand the Native American-centric topics he lampoons, but he piques curiosity.

One topic that always stirs debate, Capriccioso said, is when Two Bulls tackles the use of Native American imagery in team names or mascots.

"Several of his cartoons plainly ask readers to think about how odd it would be if a team name were called 'Whites,' or if stereotypical imagery were widely accepted that is racist and offensive toward minority groups other than Indians," he said. "To fans of the teams and names he highlights, his work is controversial. To an Indian reader, his work is less shocking, yet more appreciated."

Two Bulls' work always has a point to it, said Anthony Janis, an Oglala Sioux tribal member living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

"Whether I agree with it or not, it still comes across," said Janis, 50. "There are a lot of issues here and some are sensitive, and he is addressing them in his way. Some will not like it but others will. That is just

the way of the world."

Two Bulls grew up in Rapid City but said he has a strong connection to the Red Shirt community on Pine Ridge. The Two Bulls clan comes from that area and his father still lives there. From a young age Two Bulls was surrounded by artists — one uncle was a gallery painter and another was a graphic designer.

It was at Central High School in Rapid City that Two Bulls started drawing editorial cartoons for the school newspaper. He went on to attend the Art Institute of Colorado before returning to South Dakota and working for television stations and newspapers across the state as a graphic designer and cartoonist. He began his freelance cartoon career while going back to school at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe.

For the past 11 years, Two Bulls, who is married with three grown children, has been completing 52 cartoons a year, which can be a challenge, he said. The Society of Professional Journalists last year honored Two Bulls with a Sigma Delta Chi award.

The most time-consuming part of each cartoon is researching an idea. Luckily, Two Bulls said, he was bitten by the news bug at an early age and reads everything from *The New York Times* to local newspapers for inspiration.

"I'm constantly checking articles and looking — whatever strikes me as funny," he said. "I like to do ironic stuff. And I do it from my perspective. I'm Native American, so I do it from my point of view and my humor."

It's that humor that helps Native people get through some of their troubles, he said.

"We're the poorest in the nation but we can still joke about it," he said.

As for offending people, Two Bulls figures that's just part of the profession.

"If you don't get people mad you're not doing your job," he said, laughing.

S.D. Supreme Court Upholds Law Making Bigamy A Crime

PIERRE (AP) — The South Dakota Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a state law that makes bigamy a crime, a decision that will allow South Dakota prosecutors to pursue a charge against a North Dakota man.

Michael Clements was living in Ashley, N.D., when he was charged with bigamy for marrying a woman in Aberdeen, S.D., in June 2011 before his divorce was final in a 2009 North Dakota marriage, according to court records.

However, Circuit Judge Scott Myren dismissed the charge, ruling that because Clements' second marriage was never valid, it was impossible for him to have committed bigamy by being married to two women at the same time.

The Supreme Court's unanimous ruling overturned the circuit judge's decision. The justices said dismissing the charge on the basis that bigamy is a legal impossibility would nullify the state law making bigamy a crime.

The high court said it agrees with courts in other states that bigamy is committed when someone enters into a purported marriage contract while still married to someone else.

Brown County State's Attorney Larry Lovrien said his office cannot handle the case, which started before he became state's attorney, because his son, Marshall Lovrien, is the lawyer representing Clements. The state's attorney said he will seek to appoint a special prosecutor from outside the area to decide whether to prosecute Clements based on the facts and merits of the case.

In South Dakota, bigamy is a felony punishable by up to two years in prison and a \$4,000 fine.

OBITUARIES

Rachel Van Duysen

Private family committal services for Rachel Van Duysen, 76, of rural Wagner will be held at the Emmanuel Cemetery, rural Springfield.

Visitation will be Saturday from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at the Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner.

Rachel Van Duysen, daughter of Cornelius "Casey" and Bessie (Boschma) Van Duysen, was born June 25, 1936 at her



Van Duysen

grandmother's home in Avon. As a newborn, her older siblings kept her cool by fanning her with a blanket. Rachel went home to be with the Lord Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, after a long illness. She attained the age of 76 years, 11 months and 19 days.

Rachel grew up in the rural Dante area and received her eighth grade education at country schools near Avon and Dante. She and her sister Jose helped to care for their Mother for many years. Rachel also worked outdoors helping with chores and field work with her brother and his family.

Rachel was a member of the

Friedensberg Bible Church where she served on the service committee for many years. She also provided music on the piano and accordion for many years.

Rachel was an outdoor person. She loved horses, chickens and to garden. She and her sister Jose loved music, especially Country Gospel and Western Cowboy songs. Together they sang and played at many different places and occasions all over the area. Rachel could sit down at a piano and play most anything. She blessed many others through the gifts God gave her ... and her music will live in the hearts of many for years to come.

Thankful for having shared her life are her brother Frances "Fritz" and wife Danelda; nephews: Mark and wife Joanie; Murlen and wife Sandy; Michael (died November 15, 2002) and wife Lori, all of rural Wagner; many great nieces and nephews and several great-great nieces and nephews; special friends: Rita Archambeau and Marlis Eben; and many other relatives and friends.

Rachel was preceded in death by her parents; brother John; sister Josephine; nephew Mike; and great nephew Casey.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 14, 2013

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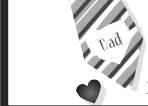
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As a reminder, all Memorial Day decorations in the Garden of Memories Cemetery will be removed three weeks after Memorial Day on June 17 and immediately discarded. Only flowers in a permanent vase and one iron decoration may remain. Vases will then be turned down for the winter on November 1st. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.