#### S.D. Confirms First Flu Death Of Season

RAPID CITY (AP) — South Dakota has its first confirmed death as a result of the flu this season.

The Health Department says the case involves a Brookings County resident above age 90.

State Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger tells the *Rapid City Journal* that the state reported 175 confirmed flu cases through Feb. 25, far fewer than the 569 reported over the same period last year.

During the 2010-11 flu season, there were 860 confirmed cases in South Dakota. Twenty deaths were linked to the flu.

### **Boy Dies After Being Hurt By Falling Motel TV**

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A 3-month-old boy who was hurt by a falling television in a Lincoln motel room has died.

The boy was injured early Friday at the Economy Lodge and then flown to an Omaha hospital for treatment.

KOLN television reports the boy died later at the hospital. Lincoln police are trying to determine why the television fell on the boy, who was staying at the motel with his mother and two siblings.

lings. The television was an older 27-inch model that was sitting on a dresser.

### Man Who Stabbed Another Man Sentenced

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — An Eagle man found guilty of stabbing another man in a fight over a woman has been sentenced to six to eight years in prison.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports that 30-year-old Bradly Peters was sentenced Friday in Lancaster County District Court for convictions of second-degree assault and a weapons count.

Police say both Peters and the man he stabbed had dated the same woman. Police say Peters had been drinking Sept. 17 when he went to the Lincoln home of the other man, and a fight ensued.

Police say Peters first threatened the man with an unloaded gun, then grabbed a knife and stabbed the man six times in his abdomen. The man has since recovered.

### **Voting Centers To Be Unveiled In Sioux Falls**

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — More than a month before Sioux Falls' city election, officials are setting up the voting centers that will replace its former precincts.

The election is April 10. The city is the first to try out the shift from precincts to voting centers. Gov. Dennis Daugaard signed a bill last month making the statewide change, which took effect immediately. The goal is to save money and be more convenient for voters.

There will be 12 voting centers, and residents can cast ballots at any of the 12 locations. KELO-TV reports that the city is including an insert with residents' utility bills listing the locations.

Vote centers will keep a digital database of registered voters called electronic poll books. People are no longer limited to specific polling places near their homes.

### Man Involved In Crash Suspected Of 5th DUI

BEATRICE, Neb. (AP) — A man involved in a car crash last week has been arrested on suspicion of a fifth drunken driving offense.

The *Beatrice Daily Sun* reports that 49-year-old Richard Jacobs, of Lincoln, was arrested after the crash Thursday near Beatrice. Investigators say Jacobs failed to yield to another driver on

state Highway 41, causing a crash that injured the other driver. Officials say a preliminary test indicated that Jacobs' blood alcohol level was more than twice the legal driving limit.

He was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving and of driving even though his license had been suspended for 15 years.

Jacobs remained in the Gage County Jail on Sunday and could not be reached for comment.

### **Fire Damages Central Nebraska Church**

SPALDING, Neb. (AP) — Fire has heavily damaged a nearly century-old Catholic church in central Nebraska.

Lincoln television station KOLN reports the fire was spotted around 1 p.m. Friday by the priest of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Spalding.

The Rev. Don Buhrman says he went to the main body of the church and opened the door to thick, black smoke.

Buhrman says the fire started in the altar servers' sacristy. Firefighters put it out before it spread to other parts of the church, but

# Lawmakers Push For Ag Education

BY MICHAEL AVOK Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — A Nebraska lawmaker who proposed creating an Agriculture Literacy Task Force acknowledges passage of her bill is unlikely this session, but she now hopes the Legislature will support a new effort aimed at ensuring children gain a better understanding of the state's largest industry.

Sen. Kate Sullivan of Cedar Rapids initially wanted to create a task force to study just how much kids learn about farms and agriculture in the classroom. But that measure was opposed by state education officials, who said they already had launched a similar effort, and probably won't be approved as the Legislature moves toward adjournment next month.

Sullivan said she now is seeking support from the Legislature's agriculture and education committees to study the issue this summer and hold public hearings.

"I don't want it to be a mandate for the schools, but I think there are some ways to incorporate it that I hope would be brought out in the public hearing," she said.

Sullivan said she's heard about nonprofit groups formed to encourage economic literacy efforts in schools, and he's like to try something similar.

"That's the sort of thing that could be done with agriculture," she said.

Sullivan said she will introduce a resolution calling for the agriculture and education committees to put the issue on their summer schedules. Resolutions usually pass the Legislature easily, especially proposals such as Sullivan's idea that don't carry any cost.

Hilary Maricle, an agriculture instructor at Northeast Community College in Norfolk, said people know little about modern agriculture, even in a state like Nebraska that remains dependent on farming and livestock.

"People don't ask questions about farming," Maricle said. "Why would they? Their tummies are full."

Maricle, who also taught high school for five years in Albion and Spalding, said she supports Sullivan's effort to ensure agriculture has a part in school curriculums.

Sullivan's original plan would create a ninemember panel made up of the chairmen of the Legislature's education and agricultural committees, the commissioner of education, the director of agriculture, two representatives of educational interests, two representatives of agricultural interests and one representative from a private agriculture literacy group.

Monday, 3.5.12

Although the state Department of Education opposed the bill because officials said they were already studying the issue, Assistant Commissioner Brian Halstead told lawmakers the department agreed with the need for agricultural education. The department plans to complete a report on possible changes to the social studies curriculum in October, he said.

Maricle said students in high school and even the college level don't understand the modern agriculture industry.

"Agriculture has embraced technology, but most people think farms are three chickens, a pig, and two cows," she said.

Maricle said studies have shown that one in three jobs in Nebraska is tied to agriculture, but that statistic is lost on many people whose families haven't lived on farms for generations.

"We work to help our students to understand and share the story of agriculture," Maricle said. "We tell them to listen to the questions that people have and say, 'You be the source.' These students can help teach the general population every day."

### **Time-Lapse Videos Showcase S. D. Landscape**

BY KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota spends millions each year to promote the state to tourists, but it may be the work of a Kennebec farmer showcasing the state's natural beauty through time-lapse photography that helps draw new visitors to the area.

Randy Halverson has created several timelapse videos showcasing stunning images of South Dakota's night sky. Using still photographs pieced together, Halverson creates videos showcasing the stars and moon set against breathtaking views of the sky that encompass every color of the rainbow.

It's a reminder, he said, of what South Dakota's landscape can offer.

"I've seen people from South Dakota originally who say they miss seeing the sky like that because they live in the city," said Halverson, 44, who sells the videos and still photography as part of his business, DakotaLapse. After first viewing time-lapse video about two years ago, Halverson said he knew immediately that South Dakota — with its rural, flat landscape — would make for a good backdrop. He likes to focus on grass, trees or an object in the foreground to contrast with the night sky.

What most people don't realize, he said, is that the videos are made up of still photographs with long exposures that bring out phenomena not visible to the naked eye.

"It brings out stuff you can't normally see. The time lapse and the long exposure combined, it's just something that is unique," he said.

Halverson begins the process by setting up a rotating dolly with his camera set to take photos for three to four hours. He then pieces the still photos together using computer software and adds music.

One of his videos, "Temporal Distortion," has gained national attention.

The 5-minute video features the Milky Way, Aurora and other phenomena filmed in Lyman County in South Dakota, Arches National Park in Utah and Canyon of the Ancients in Colorado. Music by composer Bear McCreary adds to the visual wonder of the video.

McCreary, a Los Angeles-based composer who has created scores for TV shows like "Battlestar Galactica" and "The Walking Dead," said he was taken aback by the images when Halversen emailed him and asked if he would be interested in creating the music.

He quickly got to work and composed the piece in a few days.

McCreary, who grew up outside of Seattle before moving to Los Angeles 15 years ago, said it had been years since he last saw a night sky like the ones in the video.

"You don't see those kinds of stars anymore," he said.

Online: http://www.youtube.com/da	akota-
lapse	

http://www.dakotalapse.com

## Nursing Facility Uses iPads For Teaching

#### BY BRETT ELLIS

Fremont Tribune

FREMONT, Neb. — Nursing faculty at Midland University have new technology to help instruction thanks to a local business.

Nye Senior Services recently donated 13 iPads — one for each faculty member in the university's nursing department. "It doesn't only enable our

"It doesn't only enable our students to learn and our faculty to teach in more effective ways, but it also enables our students to see what they're going to use in practice when they're out in the world and hopefully become more useful to you as employers and caregivers when they arrive," Midland president Ben Sasse said during a Wednesday afternoon reception to thank Nye Senior Services for the donation.

Midland nursing department chairwoman Linda Quinn said the faculty members received the iPads in late January, and they already have been utilized in the classroom.

Quinn said the tablet computers enable faculty members to provide more visual instruction to students and also allow for realtime feedback in clinical settings.

"In health care education today, we need to keep pace with what's happening in our environment, and the use of technology continues to grow in the health care environment," Quinn said. Services to Midland in recent years.

In 2010, it provided money to create the Nye Senior Services Nursing Technology Center in the university's Fremont Hall. That center features laptop computers and is protected by security measures.

Russ Peterson, president of Nye Senior Services, said there are several reasons to support Midland.

"One, we employ a lot of nurses, so we definitely want to encourage any nursing school to do the best they can to educate students and turn out quality students," Peterson said.

Another reason, he said, is to

"This is the technology kids have grown up with, so to take them back to a learning method that's books and papers and pens I don't think is taking advantage of the skill set they have gained growing up in the technological age," Peterson said. "I think educational institutions also need to rise to meet the skills of the students." Quinn is appreciative of the

continued support Midland's nursing program receives from Nye Senior Services. "What it means to be is that they have faith in what we're

they have faith in what we're doing and they extend that by giving us a tool like this that brings us into where we want to go in the

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much of the church has smoke and water damage.

Buhrman says the state fire marshal's office is investigating the cause of the fire. He did not yet have a damage estimate.

### **Great Bear Closes After Poor Ski Season**

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The winter's record-setting warmth and paltry snowfall has translated to meager attendance and revenues for Great Bear Recreation Park, which had seen an increase in visitors in recent years.

General Manager Dan Grider estimated final attendance tallies will show the park drew about 38,000 visitors — nearly 12,000 fewer than last year. Grider also said the year's revenue likely fell \$80,000 short of the \$1 million budgeted.

Still, he said he's pleased with the results. Even being open 87 days this season was "incredible" given the weather, he said.

The park — which offers winter recreation such as skiing and tubing — announced on its website "with great sadness" that its season ended Sunday.

"We had some days there, in January and December, where I didn't know if we were going to be open the next week," Grider told the Argus Leader for a Sunday story. "It seemed like every time things started getting kind of iffy out here, it would be cold for three or four days, and our guys would make snow, and it was perfect again."

The park's season opened with a sputter. First, the warm weather kept workers from being able to make snow that would stick to the ground. Then, once temperatures dropped, high winds forced another closure.

In January, Grider reported that business was down more than 30 percent over the same time last year. It rebounded, but according to figures compiled by the *Argus Leader*, the season was likely to bring in \$920,000 — about \$280,000 less than last year.

It was the second major technology donation by Nye Senior cater to the tech-savvy students who attend the university.

future," Quinn said.

### River

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matched earthen levees along the river.

"In a time when we need to come together (Tribes, Feds, States and locals) and put aside our differences to repair the Missouri River multipurpose reservoir and levee system so we are in the best possible posture to face what Mother Nature may bring us in the future, some are waging campaigns to tear at this very fabric of cooperation, collaboration, and open, honest and frank discourse," he said in the email.

But the corps' message that environmental projects aren't the problem is a hard sell in heavily damaged states. In Missouri alone, the Missouri River flooded 207,200 acres of cropland last year, and the Mississippi River flooded an additional 130,000 acres of mostly cropland when the Birds Point Floodway was intentionally breached to relieve pressure as floods threatened nearby Cairo, Ill.

The frustration over environmental

spending led to a successful push last year by U.S. Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer of Missouri for an amendment that suspended \$4 million in funding for a Missouri River-focused ecosystem-restoration study.

Waters, of the levee association, favored suspending study funding. He acknowledges fish and birds need protection, but he says Obama's proposed budget includes too much for the environment.

"It's very contentious when folks are really trying to get their levees repaired and road blocks are thrown up, but yet when they talk about the fish and birds, money just flows in," he said.

Donald Tubbs, a farmer whose land in northwest Missouri's Holt County flooded last summer for the third time in five years, has sold 320 of his 1,400 acres to the corps to be used for ecosystem restoration. All but about 20 acres of the land he sold were covered with sand after the flooding.

"We could see the handwriting on the wall," he said of his decision to sell. "They were going to keep with the way they were running that river with the environmentalists ahold of it. I knew it was going to be just one flood after another." **Stanages** 

From Page 1

"Tom does what he does because he loves the people that live here, each and every one of them. And the greater the need, the more the love is issued."

Becker highlighted her mother's many accomplishments as a nurse, artist and parent, also adding that "she's still not done."

"After 30 years of being an LPN, she's decided to go back to get her RN degree," she said. "It really talks about the level of perseverance that she has. It's not an easy thing that she's done."

Press and Dakotan publisher Gary Wood, who presented the award, said the Stanages exemplify the award's criteria.

"These are the type of people that make Yankton a wonderful place to live," he said.

The *Press & Dakotan* is one of the sponsors of the award, which is voted on annually by representatives of several civic organizations.

