

Authorities Release Name Of Man Killed

WOLSEY (AP) — Authorities have identified a 38-year-old man killed when the pickup truck he was driving collided with a semi-truck eight miles west of Wolsey. The South Dakota Highway Patrol says TB Botha, of South Africa, was headed east on U.S. Highway 14 in a pickup truck just before 2 a.m. Thursday when it crossed the center line and struck a westbound semi-truck. Botha, who the patrol says was not wearing a seat belt, died at the scene. The semi-truck driver, 57-year-old Randy Block, of Fort Pierre, was taken to a Huron hospital with serious, non-life threatening injuries. The Highway Patrol continues to investigate.

Man Gets 20 Years For Sex With Teen Girl

MITCHELL (AP) — A 42-year-old Mitchell man has been sentenced to 20 years in prison for having sex with a teenage girl. The *Daily Republic* reports that Larry Unruh was ordered to serve five years in prison for each of two counts of sexual contact with a child under 16 and two counts of fourth-degree rape. Authorities say Unruh had sex with a 13- or 14-year-old girl in Plankinton in 2010. A Plankinton man charged in the case, 42-year-old Christian Thomas, has pleaded not guilty to similar charges. He's scheduled to stand trial in January.

Rancher Offers Reward For Killed Cow

GLENHAM (AP) — A Glenham man wants whoever shot and killed one of his cows brought to justice. Casey Perman tells the *American News* that he's offering a \$2,000 reward for information leading to an arrest. Perman says he discovered the dead cow earlier this month in a pasture along state Highway 1804. He says it died of a gunshot through its lungs, leading him to believe it was a deliberate act. The bullet is being tested in a lab. Perman says he thinks that if his case is solved, it might also resolve other animal-shooting cases in Campbell and Walworth counties. At least one other cow and a horse have been recently shot.

Body Discovered Near Busy Intersection

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say they have discovered a body near a busy intersection in Omaha. Omaha police say the body was found Friday morning near the southwest corner of 72nd and Blondo streets. Additional information was not released. The *Omaha World-Herald* reports an officer at the scene said the death did not appear to be suspicious. The body was found when temperatures in the area were in the mid-20s.

Village Leader Arrested For Enticement

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The chairman of the Amherst Village Board has resigned following his arrest in Lancaster County on a charge of child enticement. The Kearney Hub reports that 56-year-old Steven Klingelhoef is accused of trying to arrange a sexual encounter with a 15-year-old girl in Lincoln, where he was arrested on Nov. 20. Authorities say the person he was exchanging emails and text messages with was actually an undercover officer working for the Nebraska attorney general's office. Klingelhoef could not be reached Friday at two phone numbers listed for him. Online court records don't list the name of an attorney who could be contacted to comment on his behalf. Amherst village clerk Janice Taubenheim says Klingelhoef turned in his resignation on Tuesday. He'd held the post for about four years.

Volunteers Sending Turkey Worldwide

HENDERSON, Neb. (AP) — More than 100 volunteers in the eastern Nebraska community of Henderson have filled 15,000 tins with cooked ground turkey to help feed the hungry around world. Members of both Mennonite churches in Henderson stationed themselves at the Mennonite Central Committee's canner-on-wheels over Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The assembly line included members ranging in age from a first-grader to a man in his 90s. They worked in shifts over the 17-hour production days. Brent Swartzendruber, who ran the operation, told the *York News-Times* that the total cost, including transportation to the food's end destination, will be underwritten by around \$60,000 from the two Henderson congregations. In regions of the world where little protein is available, Swartzendruber said, it's not uncommon for a family of four to stretch a single can of meat over a month's time. He also said the food goes "wherever it's needed to whoever needs it." During the year ending March 31, Mennonite Central Committee canned meat shipments went to Canada, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, North Korea, Serbia, Ukraine and Zambia, in addition to the U.S. Ten percent of the canned turkey produced by the Henderson crew will be shared with Grace Children's Home in Henderson, Living Water Rescue Mission in York and the Lincoln Food Bank.

The idea for a mobile canner was born during World War II, when Mennonites answered a cry for help from hungry, homeless people both at home and abroad. This year the canner will be hauled some 12,000 miles and be operated by more than 10,000 volunteers who will produce 500,000-plus cans of meat.

DSU Fieldhouse Closed Due To Lead Dust

MADISON (AP) — The Dakota State University Fieldhouse has been closed to all activities due to lead dust. President José-Marie Griffiths says the National Guard informed the school on Wednesday about the results of a health study done this summer. Guard activities in the fieldhouse over the years have included an indoor firing range. The *Daily Leader* reports that the university has hired an environmental assessment company to do an independent review. DSU basketball practice has been moved out of the fieldhouse for now, as has part of the Greater Madison Area Chamber of Commerce Show and Sell event planned for Saturday.

Woman Dies In 2-Vehicle Crash

CRETE, Neb. (AP) — A 37-year-old woman has died from injuries sustained in a two-vehicle crash near Crete. Crete Police Officer Brian Stork says Jenna Bales, of Dorchester, was driving westbound Thursday on Highway 33. She was crossing an icy bridge when her pickup collided with an eastbound pickup. Stork says icy road conditions played a role in the crash. The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports the driver of the east-bound pickup was not seriously injured in the crash, but additional information was not released.

Economy, Oil Slowdown Might Dampen Dakotas Holiday Sales

BY BLAKE NICHOLSON
Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — Holiday shoppers in the Dakotas this season are expected to spend more than they did last year, though a slumping oil economy in North Dakota has retailers there nervous. If the prediction of North Dakota Retail Association President Mike Rud holds true, it could be the first time in many years that the holiday sales increase in North Dakota falls below the national mark. "People are leaving the state because they don't have jobs," Rud said of the oil slowdown. "You take 30,000, 40,000 shoppers out of the equation that have been here the past few years, that's concerning." The holiday sales increase in North Dakota over the past four years has been in the range of 6-8 percent above the previous year due to the oil boom and good years in agriculture, which also saw a slump this year. Rud is forecasting an increase in holiday sales this year in the 1½ to 2½ percent range over 2014. That would be less than the 3.7 percent increase that the National Retail Federation expects nationally. "We have been kind of an island," Rud said of North Dakota surpassing the national mark in recent years. "Hopefully we can continue to hold

our own. Sooner or later, you knew it had to level out, and I think that's what we're seeing now. It might be just a 'normal' Christmas." South Dakota Retailers Association Executive Director Shawn Lyons didn't project a holiday sales increase for that state but said about three-fourths of businesses that responded to a survey expect spending to be the same as last year or slightly up. "Based on what we are hearing around the state, there is reason to expect a successful holiday shopping season for our state's retailers," Lyons said. It was a chilly start to the holiday shopping season in the Dakotas on Black Friday, with temperatures in the teens, single digits and even below zero in some spots. The temperature was in the single digits when Carolina Andrade left about 5 a.m. from Sisseton, South Dakota, with her family to shop in Fargo, North Dakota. "I usually don't go shopping on Black Friday but there were a lot of good deals. A lot of 50 percent discounts," she said. Valerie Bartsh traveled to Bismarck from Watford City with her two adult daughters early Friday. Shortly after dawn they were pushing three full shopping carts through a crowded Target parking lot.

"It's mother-daughter time, and it's savings time," she said. Lisa Kneifl at the Twist of Pine gift shop in Yankton, South Dakota, said she's hoping for an improvement in the economy in coming months, but still expects good holiday sales. "I believe people are hesitant to invest in large items but like shopping locally and will hopefully find the regional shopping good for them during these questionable times," she said. Creighton University economist Ernie Goss said this month that low crop prices and manufacturing slowdowns are weighing down the regional economy. North Dakota's taxable sales and purchases dropped 16 percent during April, May and June when compared to the second quarter a year ago, according to the most recent Tax Department figures. Tax Commissioner Ryan Rauschenberger attributed the drop to the decline in oil activity resulting from lower crude prices. "You look at the taxable sales dollars, the direction they've taken, that's a major cause for concern," Rud said. "Anxiously optimistic" is the way everybody is going to view it. "We'll see how it goes," he said. "We're going to hang in there and hope."

Attacking Dogs Still Roaming Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

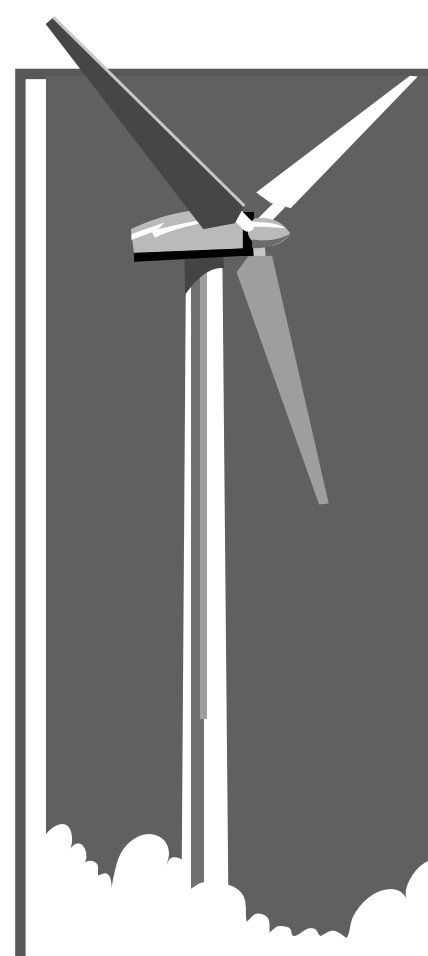
BY JIM STASIEWSKI
Rapid City Journal

PINE RIDGE — In the year since the death of 8-year-old Jayla Rodriguez on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, little has been accomplished to keep community members safe from the kind of wild dogs that killed her. Meanwhile, at least two children were recently attacked and bitten by dogs that still roam in packs on the reservation. One year ago, the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council convened a lengthy Saturday meeting to start the process of trying to prevent the death of another child by dog attack. The sense of urgency was palpable that day in the meeting room at the Prairie Wind Casino near Oglala. Like many of her colleagues, Council Member Jackie Siers spoke emotionally, saying then, "We pass laws, but there's no follow through. We need to hold people accountable. I hold us (council members) accountable, too." Her words now seem prophetic. "I'm not satisfied," Siers recently told the *Rapid City Journal*. "We're still hearing stories of people being attacked by wild dogs." Council Member Ellen Fills The Pipe, who chairs the tribe's Law and Order Committee, said there have been no deaths due to

dog attack on the reservation since Jayla was killed while sledding. Still, she said, about three months ago, a 4-year-old child was attacked in Pine Ridge and suffered wounds to her face, neck and shoulders. About five months ago, Fills The Pipe said, a 5-year-old boy was attacked, and it is likely the backpack he was wearing saved him. The dogs "were on top of him, biting at his backpack," she said. Earlier this month, a pack of dogs was ripping apart another animal, too mauled to identify, in the heart of the community of Pine Ridge. The tribe's goal is to create "a good animal control department," Fills The Pipe said. If that sounds familiar, it is because one year ago, at the council meeting, council members informally agreed to set aside \$200,000 to immediately improve the animal-control efforts. The plan was to take the money from a settlement of about \$4.5 million with the Indian Health Services. That never happened. Now, Fills The Pipe said, there is a proposal to take \$250,000 from the tribe's budget to start the animal control department. The Law and Order Committee is forwarding to the full council an amendment that would combine the so-called Braedon's Law with the existing animal-control law, Fills The Pipe said.

Braedon's Law bans several dog breeds. Named for young Braedon Rodriguez because of the brutal attack he suffered in 2006, the law bans pit bulls, Rottweilers and Dobermans. Braedon, now 17, is Fills The Pipe's son. She said he still struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder. Combining the two laws, she said, would put more responsibility on the tribal police department to crack down on dog violations. She also hopes the tribe will be able to convert the old jail into an animal shelter. Fear of dog attacks grips the reservation. Many people won't walk on the reservation unless they're carrying some protection, she said, such as sharp objects or sticks. One of the misconceptions, Fills The Pipe said, is that people tend to think that stray dogs are the ones attacking. "I'm not so concerned with strays," Fills The Pipe said. "It's the feral packs at night. We need to see how we can get to those animals." Jean Parker, who has spent nearly three decades working on the reservation, trying to rescue dogs and find homes for them, agrees with Fills The Pipe. Last year, in the wake of Jayla's death, the reservation was rounding up strays and killing them in large numbers. Parker and others

were able to save some and find homes for them off the reservation. The single strays "weren't the dogs that were causing the troubles," she said. "You still have the problem of the feral dogs." Still, owned dogs that are running loose cause their own set of problems, such as pregnancies that result in unwanted puppies. "It's not an animal problem," Tatewin Means, the tribe's attorney general, said. "It's an adult owner problem." Fills The Pipe said the tribe is working on holding residents accountable for their pets and having pets spayed or neutered. The anniversary of Jayla's death was "really hard" for Jayla's mom, Danielle Griffith. "It still doesn't seem possible, real," she said. "Jayla was so gorgeous, so full of life, so funny." Jayla's family has been working to transform her death into something practical and meaningful: an animal shelter they call Jayla's Dream. Jayla loved animals and wanted to help them on the reservation, Griffith said. Camille Griffith, Jayla's aunt, said the family has raised about \$12,000 and has "a couple of acres" donated as the shelter site. "We're working on getting grants, too," she said.



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PREVAILING WINDS is hosting informational investment meetings for South Dakota residents to learn more about a community owned wind development near Avon, SD. The meetings will provide information regarding the scope of the project as well as the investment opportunity for local citizens to participate in wind ownership.

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- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1:**
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 - Yankton 7:00 p.m. Minerva's Conf. Center (1607 SD Hwy 50)
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3:**
- Watertown 2:00 p.m. Event Center (1901 9th Ave SW)
 - Brookings 7:00 p.m. Days Inn (2500 E. 6th St., Exit 132)
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8:**
- Platte 2:00 p.m. Comm. Bldg. Mtg. Room (310 S. Main)
 - Tripp 7:00 p.m. Fire Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10:

- Sioux Falls 7:00 p.m. Best Western Ramkota (3200 W. Maple)

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