

Authorities Investigate Elevator Blaze

GORDON, Neb. (AP) — Authorities are still trying to figure out the cause of a grain elevator fire over the weekend in northwest Nebraska. The fire that started Saturday at the Farmer's Co-Op in Gordon is still smoldering Monday and firefighters are working on putting out hot spots. Gordon Fire Chief Rich Haller says firefighters kept busy Saturday trying to control the fire that started in the wooden elevator. Haller says there is no price tag on damages yet. General Manager Dale Anderson says the fire happened in a storage facility that houses bulk feed ingredients. Power to a small area of town was temporarily shut off after the fire started. No injuries were reported.

Police: Teen Jumped To Her Death

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Authorities suspect a 17-year-old girl leaped to her death from the top of a building in downtown Lincoln. Police spokeswoman Katie Flood says the girl was spotted by someone who called 911 about 7:15 p.m. Sunday. Officers say the girl was dead by the time paramedics arrived. Investigators say they think she jumped off the roof of a bank building at 13th and O streets.

Settlement Reached In Natural Gas Case

PIERRE (AP) — A proposed settlement would allow Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. to raise rates for natural gas to its customers in the Black Hills area while decreasing charges in eastern South Dakota. The state Public Utilities Commission meets Tuesday to decide whether to accept the settlement reached between its staff and Bismarck, N.D.-based MDU. The settlement consolidates MDU's customers in the Black Hills and eastern South Dakota into one rate jurisdiction. The agreement would mean MDU's customers overall would pay about 2 percent more. Residential customers in the Black Hills area would pay about 4.3 percent more, while those in eastern South Dakota would pay about 4.1 percent less. MDU originally wanted to boost residential rates by 6.3 percent in the Black Hills and cut rates by 2.8 percent in eastern South Dakota.

Proposal Would Trim Immigrant Law

FREMONT, Neb. (AP) — The Fremont City Council is scheduled to consider amending an ordinance that would remove provisions of the city's ban on renting to people who aren't in the U.S. legally. The *Fremont Tribune* says the proposal would remove sections requiring occupancy permits and enforcement of other housing provisions. The proposal is scheduled for a first reading on the council's agenda for Tuesday. City Attorney Paul Payne says council member Todd Hoppe asked him to prepare the proposal. Fremont voters approved a measure in 2010 that bans hiring or renting to people who can't prove they are in the country legally. In June the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a previous ruling against the measure.

Hearing Begins On SD Uranium Mine

RAPID CITY (AP) — The second of two state permit hearings on a proposed uranium mine in western South Dakota is this week in Rapid City. The state Water Management Board is deciding whether to approve permits for Powertech Uranium Corp.'s proposed Dewey-Burdock mine near Edgemont. The hearing was to be held earlier this month but was postponed because of a snowstorm. The state Board of Minerals and Environment held a week-long permit hearing on the project late last month. That board's decision is pending. The *Rapid City Journal* reports that more than 200 people have signed up to speak at this week's hearing. Supporters of the proposed mine say it would create jobs and tax revenue. Opponents fear it will harm the environment.

Officials Approve High Number Of Loans

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Officials say Nebraska has recorded the fourth-highest number of loans in the state's history. The U.S. Small Business Administration says the agency approved more than 400 loans for \$122.6 million in loan guarantees through nearly 80 banks, credit unions and certified development companies. The numbers account for the fiscal year that ended at the end of September. The loans ranged from \$7,700 to \$5 million. The average amount was about \$305,000, and more than half were for \$150,000 or less.

SF Police Seeking Soda Machine Thief

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Sioux Falls police are looking for a soda machine thief. Authorities say numerous machines have been pried open and stolen from over the past couple of months. The total losses from damage and theft is around \$20,000. The most recent crime happened Saturday when a man pried the bill acceptor from a soda machine outside Fast Car Wash. Police released a surveillance image of the suspect.

South Dakota

Body In Ditch Slain In Iowa

BY DIRK LAMMERS
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — Police in Iowa have one man in custody and are searching for another in the shooting death of a man whose body was found in a roadside ditch in southeastern South Dakota, authorities said Monday. Sioux City Police Department Lt. Mark Kirkpatrick identified the victim Monday afternoon as Adrian Rojas Hernandez, 20, of Sioux City. Hernandez had a single gunshot wound to his head, Kirkpatrick said. The body was discovered by a driver about noon Sunday off a gravel road five miles east of Interstate 29's Exit 64 between Canton and Sioux Falls,

said Lincoln County Sheriff Dennis Johnson. "There had been an attempt to set the body on fire," Johnson said. The sheriff said the body was not badly burned but authorities were unable to find any identification on the man. The link to the Iowa case was made on Sunday night, Johnson said. "We contacted Sioux Falls, Sioux City, Omaha and Worthington asking if they had some missing persons that fit the description," he said. Johnson said an autopsy was completed Monday. The man is believed to have been killed early Sunday at a Sioux City home across the street from a children's park, Kirkpatrick said.

Ricardo Jaime Vital, 22, of Sioux City, Iowa, has been arrested and charged as an accessory after the fact. He was booked at the jail and was expected to make an initial court appearance on Monday afternoon. Officers are continuing to look for a 20-year-old man also believed to be involved in the homicide. "All three were acquaintances and were together earlier in the evening," Kirkpatrick said. Police were working to pull an arrest warrant on the second suspect Monday afternoon. He may be driving a silver 2003 Audi A4, police said. "We haven't located him yet," Kirkpatrick said.

Most Wildlife Survive Autumn Blizzard; Pheasants Hit Hard

BY CARSON WALKER
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — An early autumn storm that devastated cattle and sheep herds in western South Dakota spared most wildlife, except for pheasants, experts said Monday. The storm hit over the first weekend of October and started with a cold, heavy rain that soaked any creature, wild or domestic, that was not under some sort of shelter. Then the weather system turned into a blizzard that dumped several feet of snow on some areas. Ranchers are still counting their losses. Though most reports are anecdotal, overall wildlife deaths seem to be minimal, said John Kanta, regional wildlife manager for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks in Rapid City. The buffalo that roam

Custer State Park all survived, as did most deer, antelope, grouse and turkeys across West River, he said. "We haven't seen any big losses. We found a deer here, an antelope there, but no mass losses," Kanta said. "The wildlife have those built-in instincts to do the things they need to do to get through the storm." But the state bird didn't fare as well. "We were already down and this storm really hit the pheasants hard. We're finding a lot of dead pheasants that were covered with snow and were buried in snow banks," Kanta said. Mike Stephenson, of Mitchell, a regional representative of the wildlife group Pheasants Forever, said because of the wet spring, many hens nested again. But that second hatch of birds was still quite young and undeveloped when the storm hit, so a lot of them didn't

make it, he said. "It's a key time where birds have to develop and get enough protein and insects in them that they can survive and be healthy. The later in the year the hatch comes, the harder it is for them to survive," Stephenson said. The state already expected pheasant numbers to be down, so it's not clear if the larger loss from the storm will keep any hunters away, Stephenson said. "It is a major part of our economy, which is pheasant season," he said. "It doesn't help." Because of the focus on livestock deaths, the full tally of wildlife losses is just starting to take shape, said Chuck Schlueter, spokesman for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks.

Ricketts Gets Nods From 2 Former Govs

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Republican Pete Ricketts has won the endorsements of former Nebraska Govs. Kay Orr and Charles Thone. The endorsements were announced Monday at the Capitol. Orr says she chose to back Ricketts in his campaign for governor because of his experience as an Omaha businessman and a fiscal conservative. In a statement, Thone says Ricketts would bring his private-sector experience to state government if elected. The announcement comes in the midst of a five-way Republican primary to replace Gov. Dave Heineman, who cannot seek reelection in 2014 because of term limits. Orr served as governor from 1987 to 1991. Thone was governor from 1979 to 1983.

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It may also be the featured photo in Friday's printed edition.

Group Honors Confederate Veteran In Eastern Neb.

FREMONT, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska has a new link to the Confederacy now that the service of a Civil War veteran who died in Fremont has been recognized. The *Fremont Tribune* reports that the national Sons of Confederate Veterans organization has recognized a new chapter in Fremont. And a ceremony held Sunday at Thomas C. Sexton's grave to recognize his service was likely the first of its kind in the state. Nebraska was still a territory during the Civil War, and it did not allow slavery. Sexton served in a famous Confederate unit led by Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. He was a private in Company D, 4th Virginia Infantry of the Confederate Army. After the war, Sexton earned a medical degree and moved to Dodge County, in eastern Nebraska, where he lived until his death at age 100 in 1943. The ceremony that the Civil War re-enactors performed Sunday in Ridge Cemetery was likely the first one in Nebraska involving the Sons of Confederate Veterans group, which honors Civil War veterans who fought for the South. Membership in that group is limited to descendants of Confederate Army veterans.



Micah M. Likness, M.D.
Otolaryngologist



David J. Abbott, M.D.
Board Certified Otolaryngologist



Catherine A. Wright, M.D.
Board Certified Otolaryngologist



Beth J. Boeman, Au.D., CCC-A



Todd A. Farnham, Au.D., CCC-A

Please Help Us Welcome Micah M. Likness, MD To Our Community

Dr. Likness completed his bachelors degree at the University of South Dakota and his medical degree from the Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota. He completed his residency with the State University of New York. As an Otolaryngologist, Dr. Likness is seeing patients in the Ear, Nose, & Throat Associates, P.C. office. Along with Dr. David Abbott and Dr. Catherine A. Wright, Board Certified Otolaryngologists, and Audiologists Dr. Beth Beeman and Dr. Todd Farnham, Dr. Likness joins our health care team to provide Yankton area residents with the highest quality of health care for the head and neck region.

Dr. Likness and his wife, Tabitha and son Grady, are eager to meet the people of our area. With the addition of Dr. Likness, patients of Ear, Nose & Throat Associates, P.C. will experience shorter wait times for appointments with a Doctor of Otolaryngology in the Yankton office Monday through Friday.

If you suffer from sinus problems, balance disorders, hearing difficulties, sleep apnea, snoring, or any other ailment in the ear, nose or throat area, please call **605-665-0062** to make an appointment with Dr. Likness.



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