

Man Killed In Bridgewater Crash ID'd

BRIDGEWATER (AP) — Authorities have identified a 28-year-old man who died after the pickup he was driving collided with a semitrailer near Bridgewater.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Benjamin Tollefson of Parkston was driving along state Highway 42 on Friday afternoon when his pickup crossed the center line and hit the truck, which was carrying a harvesting combine on its trailer.

The 26-year-old driver of the semi wasn't injured. The two drivers were the only people involved in the crash. Both drivers were wearing seatbelts.

Neb. Crash Victim Was From Colorado

BEATRICE, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska authorities say the woman killed in a second accident after her car struck a deer has been identified as a Colorado resident.

Gage County authorities identified the woman as 59-year-old Bonnie Goings, of Colorado Springs. The accident was reported around 6:45 a.m. Sunday on U.S. Highway 136, about six miles east of Beatrice.

The Sheriff's Office says Goings was driving east when her vehicle struck the deer. The release says Goings had left her vehicle but was standing near it when it was struck by a westbound car. The impact knocked Goings' vehicle into a roadside ditch, trapping her beneath it.

Goings was pronounced dead at the scene. Five people traveling with her were treated at a hospital. The other driver was not injured.

Jackley Leads AG Delegation To Taiwan

PIERRE (AP) — A delegation of attorneys general from across the U.S. led by South Dakota's top prosecutor recently traveled to Taiwan to discuss various criminal justice issues.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley is the president of the National Association of Attorneys General. He says the U.S. and Taiwan face similar challenges in protecting "communities from the same addictions and violent crimes such as human trafficking."

The delegation visited Taiwan Oct. 12-17. The topics that the American prosecutors discussed with Taiwanese officials included addiction, human trafficking and the economic partnerships between the U.S. and the island in east Asia.

The delegation included the attorneys general of Florida, New Hampshire, Montana and Georgia.

Jackley's office says the trip takes place every two years and is paid for by the Taiwanese government.

Change To GEAR UP Grant Approved

PIERRE (AP) — A state official says the federal government has approved South Dakota's request to have the Board of Regents manage a college-readiness grant under scrutiny after an apparent murder-suicide.

Tony Venhuizen is chief of staff to Gov. Dennis Daugaard. Venhuizen says the U.S. Department of Education has notified the state of the approved change.

The GEAR UP grant aims to improve Native American college readiness in South Dakota. Its future had been uncertain since the state declined to renew its contract with Mid-Central Educational Cooperative for program administration.

Authorities believe Mid-Central employee Scott Westhuis shot his wife and four children last month before shooting himself. That was just hours after the state informed Mid-Central it was losing its most recent contract.

A federal Education Department spokesman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

More SD Counties May Operate Satellite Voting Centers In '16

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — South Dakota's top elections official accepted recommendations Monday for helping counties offer more locations for absentee in-person voting in 2016.

The state's Help America Vote Act grant board unanimously supported the parameters that Secretary of State Shantel Krebs said she would use.

Todd and Oglala Lakota counties hosted absentee voting centers in the weeks leading to the 2014 general elections.

The purpose of the satellite centers is to offer early-voting access similar to what is at county courthouses.

Todd and Oglala Lakota counties don't have courthouses and rely on neighboring counties to conduct county, state and federal elections.

The Four Directions organizations has been working to expand the satellite-centers approach to other counties where there are significant populations of American Indians who live some distance from courthouses in their counties.

They include Buffalo County, home to the Crow Creek Indian Reservation in the center of South Dakota, and Jackson County between Oglala Lakota and Todd counties amid the Pine Ridge and Rosebud reservations.

South Dakota has nine official reservations within its borders.

Nebraska

Keystone XL Foes Push To Overturn Law

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska landowners who oppose the Keystone XL pipeline are still trying to overturn a state law that allowed the governor to approve the project route, even though pipeline developer TransCanada is no longer relying on it.

Pipeline opponents said Monday they're concerned that companies could use the law in the future to avoid a five-member state commission that regulates pipelines, opting instead for a governor's review and blessing.

Their comments came after a court hearing in O'Neill over a lawsuit filed by landowners, seeking to dismantle the law. A judge could rule

on the case as early as next month.

Attorneys for TransCanada are trying to get the lawsuit dismissed after the company announced that it was withdrawing its eminent domain claims against landowners and reapplying to the regulatory Nebraska Public Service Commission.

"Our focus is entirely on moving forward with the (commission) process and building the Keystone XL route in Nebraska in the most timely way possible," TransCanada spokesman Mark Cooper said in an email after the hearing.

Former Gov. Dave Heineman approved a Nebraska route for the Keystone XL in 2013 after a review by the state Department of Environ-

Krebs' office has funding from the federal Help America Vote Act program that can be used for a variety of election purposes including helping pay for satellite centers.

The new parameters that Krebs would use limit counties to HAVA funding for one satellite



Krebs

center apiece.

Counties can operate additional centers with other sources of revenue.

Use of U.S. mail for requesting, receiving and sending absentee ballots remains available to all South Dakota registered voters.

The new parameters are broader with two sets of criteria that can be used.

One set says the area in consideration for a satellite center must have 50 percent more individual below the poverty line than the rest of the county and must live 50 percent farther from the courthouse or other satellite location than the rest of the county.

The other set says the satellite center can be located at a specific jurisdiction such as an incorporated municipality, unincorporated town or U.S. Census-designated place that doesn't have "affordable, regular, convenient public transportation" from the place to the county seat.

Those locations must have popula-

mental Quality.

But the 2012 law that gave him the power to do so has been mired in court, preventing the project from moving forward and contributing to delays from Washington. The pipeline plan also requires presidential as well as state approval because it crosses an international border.

In January, the Nebraska Supreme Court allowed the pipeline-siting law to stand by default. Four judges on the seven-member court ruled in favor of landowners who challenged the law, but a supermajority of five was needed.

The remaining three judges refused to rule on the law, arguing that they couldn't because the plaintiffs in the lawsuit didn't have legal standing. Opponents responded by filing a nearly identical

tions of at least 75 percent who belong to a "suspect class" based on race, national origin, alienage or religious affiliation.

Buffalo, Jackson and Dewey counties meet the criteria, Krebs said.

Mellette County Auditor Jerry Schwarting, a member of the HAVA grant board, said his county might offer a satellite center if it doesn't have to be open for the full 45 days of absentee voting prior to an election.

"You can establish the time frame," Krebs told him.

Bret Healy, a consultant for Four Directions, said he holds Krebs, her staff and the HAVA board in "admiration." He said the two sets of parameters would help counties.

"This looks to be a very workable solution," Healy said.

Officially the application deadline for HAVA grants for the 2016 elections passed on July 1 this year and the next deadline would be July 1, 2017, for the 2018 elections.

With the new parameters in hand, Krebs said she might ask the HAVA board to reopen the application process for 2016, so HAVA funds can be available for satellite centers for the primary elections next spring and the general elections next autumn.

One additional requirement is counties must submit cost estimates for their satellite centers three months prior to the primary and general elections.

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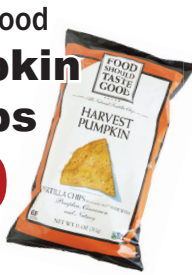
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