

### Nebraska Flags To Be Lowered For 9/11 Victims

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The governor has ordered U.S. and Nebraska flags to be lowered at all state facilities and buildings in observance of Patriot Day.  
The observance this Sunday marks the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.  
Flags will be flown at half-staff in honor of the victims.  
Gov. Dave Heineman's office says in a release that all Nebraskans are encouraged to join the remembrance by lowering their flags.

### Bomb Squad Called After Fatal S.D. Crash

BROOKINGS (AP) — The Sioux Falls bomb squad was dispatched to Brookings where a suspicious box was discovered after a fatal crash.  
Brookings police tell KJJQ radio that two pickups collided, killing the driver of one of the vehicles.  
Police Chief Jeff Miller says a box in one pickup had markings that led authorities to believe it could be explosive. The driver of that pickup was arrested and taken by ambulance to a local hospital.

### Food Shortages Threatening Food Banks

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Food banks serving eastern Nebraska and western Iowa are in danger of closing their doors as ever-increasing demand leaves their shelves bare.  
Omaha television station KETV (<http://bit.ly/qABUkd>) reports that the Food Bank for the Heartland, which serves 93 counties in the region, has been hurt by high demand, a sour economy and federal budget cuts. TV station KMTV (<http://bit.ly/qkALwa>) in Omaha reports that another program, Angel Food Ministries which sells food at a slashed prices, has suspended orders for the rest of September.  
Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle says there is a plan in place to increase donations and financial help.  
City libraries and ministry groups are accepting food donations to help stock the shelves, and food banks are also accepting money.  
Donations can be made online at [www.togetheromaha.org](http://www.togetheromaha.org) and [www.foodbankheartland.org](http://www.foodbankheartland.org).

### Fifth Arson Fire Reported In Sioux Falls

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Authorities in Sioux Falls are investigating a fifth case of arson this week.  
Police spokesman Sam Clemens tells the *Argus Leader* (<http://bit.ly/okGTB8>) that a fire inside an unattached garage Wednesday afternoon was deliberately set.  
Clemens says authorities don't yet know if the fire is connected to four others late Monday and early Tuesday. Those fires damaged a garage, a shed, a Dumpster and a utility trailer.  
Police have no suspects in any of the fires.

### Arrest Made In Sioux Falls Casino Robbery

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Sioux Falls police have made an arrest in a casino robbery this week.  
Officers arrested the 35-year-old man Thursday after locating a vehicle suspected to be involved in the early morning robbery of the Crown II Casino and then executing search warrants at two residences.  
Police say in a statement that the man was jailed on a second-degree robbery count and an outstanding warrant.  
The *Argus Leader* newspaper reports that there have been 35 commercial robberies in Sioux Falls so far this year, close to a record. Police in the past two weeks have arrested three other suspects thought to be responsible for at least eight of the holdups.

### S.D. Guard Soldiers Heading To Afghanistan

STURGIS (AP) — A seven-person South Dakota National Guard firefighting team is being activated this weekend for a year of duty in Afghanistan.  
The *Rapid City Journal* reports (<http://bit.ly/r3Kfw3>) that the activation ceremony for members of the 451st Engineer Detachment is set for Saturday afternoon at the armory in Sturgis.

### Romney To Speak At S.D. Chamber Meeting

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Republic presidential hopeful and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney will be the featured speaker at the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce annual meeting Oct. 19.  
A reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. with the dinner and program starting at 7 p.m. at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. Tickets are \$75 for Chamber members and \$150 for people who are not members.  
During the meeting, the Chamber will share priorities for the 2011-2012 year and distribute the annual report.

### Planned Burn Set For Badlands National Park

BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK (AP) — Fire crews are planning to burn more than 2,000 acres in the Badlands National Park on Friday in an effort to reduce the buildup of dead and dried fuels.  
Crews from Badlands National Park and the Northern Great Plains Fire Office will conduct the 2,237-acre prescribed burn south of Highway 240 from approximately the White River Valley Overlook to the Prairie Winds Overlook.  
Firefighters closely monitor weather conditions when conducting prescribed burns.

### Wounded Rapid City Police Officer To Get 2 Medals

RAPID CITY (AP) — A Rapid City policeman wounded in a shooting that killed two of his fellow officers will be presented with two medals next week.  
The ceremony for Officer Tim Doyle is planned Wednesday night in the Central High School gymnasium. Police Chief Steve Allender will present the Distinguished Service Cross, which is given to officers who demonstrate exceptional bravery. Doyle also will get the Purple Heart, a medal given to officers injured in the line of duty.  
"We have faced tragedy together, we have grieved together, and now it's time to celebrate together," Allender said Friday. "It's the best ending we have to this terrible story, and we want to share it with the public."  
Doyle was wounded in an Aug. 2 shooting that killed Officers J. Ryan McCandless and Nick Armstrong. Doyle returned to work late last month.  
The suspect in the shooting, Daniel Tiger, was shot by officers and died the next day. Authorities say the three officers had approached Tiger and some of his acquaintances on a city street after receiving complaints about the group and determining a minor alcohol violation had been committed. They say Tiger pulled a gun and began firing.

# Mt. Rushmore Offers Chance To Reflect

BY CHET BROKAW  
Associated Press

PIERRE — Mount Rushmore will remain lit overnight Sunday, providing what one official said will be a good place for people to remember the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks of a decade ago.  
The carving of four presidents in the Black Hills will remain illuminated after the regular lighting ceremony at about 8:45 p.m. MDT Sunday until the sun rises Monday.  
"Mount Rushmore is the Shrine of Democracy. Honestly, in this region there is no better place to remember that time frame and remember the founding of our country and what it stands for," said Blaine Kortemeyer, deputy director of interpretation and education at the memorial.  
The Sunday evening lighting ceremony will follow the normal routine, with a talk by a park ranger, a showing of a video and visitors singing the National Anthem as the lights are turned on, Kortemeyer said.  
"It's just as patriotic as usual," he said.

Mount Rushmore will remain open all night, and park rangers will be available to talk with visitors. A slide show will display images of the Sept. 11 attacks and U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, Kortemeyer said.  
About 1,000 people normally show up for the evening lighting ceremony this time of year, but more may attend Sunday, Kortemeyer said.  
The National Park Service buildings and concession facilities will be closed Sunday night, but the parking gates will be left open after the evening program.  
The faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt are carved on the memorial that was finished in 1941.  
South Dakota has no official state ceremony to mark the 9/11 anniversary, but local groups have planned events throughout the state.  
Gov. Dennis Daugaard has asked that all flags in South Dakota be flown at half-staff Sunday from 8 a.m. until sunset to honor those who died in the attacks. He also urged

people to remember the police officers, firefighters and others who rushed to help and the troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan in the past decade.  
"These first responders, soldiers and their families are worthy of eternal gratitude we can express through prayer and kind actions for them and voluntary services for others," the governor said in a written statement.  
Events being held throughout the state include a gathering in Sioux Falls that will feature a talk by Lt. William Dement, a retired New York Police Department officer who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center.  
The Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce has been conducting an evening ceremony throughout the past week at the Center of the Nation Monument and Avenue of State Flags. Names of those killed in the attacks are scrolled on a large screen, and the names of service members killed in action in the past decade are placed in binders attached to the flagpoles of their home states.

# Iowans Ask State For Missouri River Flooding Help

BY JOSH FUNK  
Associated Press

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa — Iowans whose farms, homes and businesses were damaged by this summer's flooding along the Missouri River gathered with top state officials on Friday to vent their frustration with the state's response and to ask for more help in recovering.  
Gov. Terry Branstad was among the state officials who on hand at the Council Bluffs event to hear residents' concerns and try to answer their questions. Many in the packed auditorium voiced frustration with the way the flood was managed and wanted to know more about repair plans.  
Hundreds of thousands of acres of land has been flooded along the Missouri River since June because heavy spring rains and significant mountain snowpack generated massive amounts of water. The floodwa-

ters have started to recede, but the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers predicts the river won't return to normal flows until sometime in October.  
It won't be possible to assess all the damage until after the floodwaters recede.  
"We know there's a lot of work ahead of us," Branstad said. "We want to do all we can to move forward as expeditiously as possible."  
Several representatives of the hard-hit area of southwest Iowa attended the meeting to express their concerns. Fremont County board member Cara Marker-Morgan said the area around Hamburg is not new to flooding, but people have never experienced a flood that lasted as long as this one. People are eager to rebuild.  
"We can't rebuild until our levees are fixed. And we have a sketchy outline of when those levees will be fixed," Marker-Morgan said.  
Officials had to scramble in June

to build a temporary levee to protect Hamburg after floodwaters breached two levees several miles south of town in northwest Missouri. Now Hamburg officials are hoping to keep that temporary levee.  
"We're doing everything that we can to make that permanent," Hamburg mayor Kathy Carin said.  
Several business leaders from AGP and MidAmerican Energy said they hope they won't have to remove expensive levees they built this summer to protect their facilities.  
"I don't want anyone to come along and tell us we have to remove it," said AGP's John Campbell, whose firm spent about \$2 million on one levee.  
Farmers have been hit especially hard by flooding because much of the land that has been underwater all summer is cropland. Iowa Farm Bureau President Craig Lang said his

group estimates that more than 125,000 acres of Iowa farmland was flooded and another 120,000 acres were affected by soggy soil.  
"I've found that farmers are not bitter. They're looking for solutions," Lang said.  
But farmer Rick Archer, who lives near Onawa, questioned why FEMA has approved individual disaster aid for people in Nebraska counties along the river while denying similar aid in Iowa. Branstad has been fighting to get individual disaster aid approved.  
Doug Palmer had to shut down his Big Soo barge and rail terminal business in Sioux City in June, but he has continued paying his employees to maintenance work and other chores.  
"It has been very painful from an economic standpoint," Palmer said.  
Council Bluffs Mayor Tom Hanifan summarized his city's needs succinctly: "Cash and lots of it."

# Neb. Supreme Court Dismisses Omaha Fire Contract Appeals

BY MARGERY A. BECK  
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — The Nebraska Supreme Court dismissed appeals Friday in the long-running labor contract dispute between the city of Omaha and its firefighters, in a move that favors the city.  
Firefighters have been working without a contract since December 2007. The Nebraska Commission of Industrial Relations, the state's public-sector labor court, has made modifications to the previous contract while the two sides work on a new one.  
But the city and the Professional Firefighters Association of Omaha, Local 385, disagree on how those changes are interpreted and took the matter to Douglas County District Court.  
That court ordered the city in 2010 to hire more firefighters to meet staffing requirements. The order, which the judge said was in line with a labor court decision for 2009 wages, required the city to have 657 fire personnel on its payroll — the same number as set by the previous contract. But the number of fire personnel had fallen to 610 by mid-2010.

The city appealed that ruling, and the union cross-appealed, saying the lower court erred in not also requiring the city to employ a minimum of 150 fire captains.  
The state's high court on Friday backed a motion by the city to throw out the appeals, noting that a Commission of Industrial Relations order in February — after the two sides had appealed to the high court — gives the city final say on staffing and made the appeals moot. The union had fought the motion to declare the actions moot, arguing among other things that the matter affects the public interest.  
The state Supreme Court rejected the union's argument, noting that to consider a public interest claim, it must find that there is a likelihood of a recurrence a similar problem.

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