

### Springs Superintendent Back At Work

WESSINGTON SPRINGS (AP) — A superintendent of a central South Dakota school district has been allowed to return to work following two drunken driving arrests.

The *Mitchell Daily Republic* reports Lance Witte posted a statement on the Wessington Springs district website Wednesday saying he has been reinstated as superintendent and secondary principal.

The Wessington Springs School Board had placed Witte on administrative leave last month following an arrest for driving under the influence in Hanson County in August.

The arrest came three days after he pleaded guilty to driving with a license that was revoked following a DUI conviction in December.

In the statement, Witte thanked the Board and said he spoke with students last week about his absence from a legal perspective and related to the disease of alcoholism.

### Some Lincoln Residents To Change Mailboxes

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Some Lincoln residents who get door delivery are being asked to install curbside mailboxes to help the U.S. Postal Service save money.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* says Wednesday that the Postal Service sent postcards to an unknown number of residents recently asking them to make the change, which could help the agency save as much as \$100 per house in delivery costs each year.

Last week, the Postal Service announced plans to consider closing 252 mail processing centers nationwide, which would eliminate 35,000 jobs, as it struggles with losses to the Internet and the economy.

The postcard is from Lincoln Postmaster Kerry Kowalski. He asks residents to install curbside mailboxes within 30 days.

### Federal Enforcer To Speak To N.D. Oilmen

MEDORA, N.D. (AP) — The U.S. Justice Department's top environmental lawyer says it's good business to have strong enforcement of federal environmental laws.

Ignacia Moreno spoke Wednesday to the North Dakota Petroleum Council at its annual meeting in Medora.

She says tough environmental enforcement is needed to protect public health and safety.

Moreno says most energy companies follow the law, and those that cut corners put people at risk and earn unfair, illegal profits. She says the companies themselves play an important role in enforcement.

The Justice Department is currently prosecuting seven oil companies in federal court in North Dakota for harming migratory birds. Prosecutors say the companies didn't keep some oil waste pits covered, and birds landed in them. The companies are being arraigned in federal court in Bismarck on Thursday.

# Crews Rush To Repair Flood-Damaged Roads

BY MICHAEL J. CRUMB  
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Crews expect to finish removing debris and sludge this week from Iowa highways that were swamped for months by a surging Missouri River, but officials said there's no telling when the roads will be completely repaired.

Sections of the Interstates 29 and 680 are largely rubble, leaving workers with a daunting number of repairs and little time as winter approaches. Officials said they'll rush to open as many roads as possible and hope to have single lanes opened on damaged stretches of interstate by December, but some work will have to wait until next year.

Dena Gray-Fisher, a spokeswoman for the Iowa Department of Transportation, noted that in some spots, "there isn't any road left."

You've got to start from scratch." Some of the worst damage was to Interstate 680, which loops north from Interstate 80 and connects Iowa to largely suburban areas of north Omaha.

"Interstate 680 is obliterated and there's not a lot you can do," Gray-Fisher said.

A contract for bids will go out Friday to rebuild a badly damaged three-mile stretch of I-680, heading east from the Mormon Bridge over the Missouri River.

Gray-Fisher said the contract will include incentives to get at least one lane open in each direction by Dec. 23.

The damage resulted from flooding of the Missouri that began in June and continued until early September, when the river finally dropped to more normal levels. The high water was due to huge releases from upstream reservoirs that were filled to capacity by a

staggering Rocky Mountain snowpack and heavy spring rains.

Apart from I-680, there's plenty of damage elsewhere, with I-29 closed north of Council Bluffs and to the south, from near Pacific Junction to the Missouri border. The Iowa Highway 175 bridge west of Onaway also remained closed, and highways 2 and 333 in southwest Iowa haven't reopened.

Now that the river has finally receded, Gray-Fisher said crews have been inspecting roads to determine if they can carry traffic and the scope of repairs needed. Gray-Fisher said ground-penetrating radar will be used to scan highway surfaces and detect any sinkholes or areas where the ground beneath the surface has been washed away.

Some of the greatest concern is around intake pipes, culverts and bridge approaches.

The goal is to get flood-

damaged highways open as quickly as possible so those residents and businesses that have been affected by high water can begin to recover, Gray-Fisher said.

"We needed to really put a fast-track recovery in place and put things back to the way they were," she said.

Federal funds will cover 100 percent of work completed on flood-ravaged roads by Nov. 21 but state officials are worried they won't be able to make that deadline and are seeking an extension to allow for more time to conduct assessments.

"We won't even have the damages fully assessed by Nov. 21," said Senate Majority Leader Michael Gronstal, D-Council Bluffs.

After that date, the federal government will reimburse the state up to 90 percent of the cost for interstate highways and up to 80 percent on other highways.

# Doctor: Personalizing Medicine Is Cost Effective

BY KRISTI EATON  
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — Customizing medicine based on a patient's genes will reduce health care costs because it will improve preventative care and reduce prescription trial and error, the president of Sanford Research USD said Wednesday.

Using genetics to personalize medicine is not a part of daily clinical medicine, but it soon will be, Dr. Eugene Hoyme said.

"The way to think of genomic medicine, or personalized medicine, is to give the right medicine to the right person at the right time," said Hoyme, the keynote speaker at the South Dakota Biotechnology Association meeting.

Physicians always have thought they were personalizing medicine to the patient's needs

based on an evaluation, but in reality, Hoyme said, there was a standard protocol doctors followed.

"Let's say that you come in and have hypertension. There are probably a hundred different reasons for why you could have hypertension, some of which are genetic. In the past, you'd have a protocol. A patient with hypertension you'd start them on this drug. If that didn't work, then you'd move them to drug B. If that didn't work, you'd move to drug C," he said, adding that this prolongs the period of time it takes doctors to get the patient's blood pressure under control.

If doctors know the genes leading to hypertension and what drug will best treat it, then they can prescribe that drug at the start, cutting down on cost and time, he said.

This also will reduce adverse reactions to

new medicines, which could also help with patient compliance in taking the medications, said Hoyme, who is the chief medical officer of Sanford Children's Hospital.

"I think it will in the long run reduce the overall cost of health care because the cost of doing this genome sequencing for whatever you're looking for will be so low, and the savings in terms of improving health will be so great it will really bring down the overall cost of health care," he said.

About 70 researchers and representatives from the health care, agriculture and pharmaceutical industries gathered at the sixth-annual summit in Sioux Falls.

Other topics covered during the daylong event included human health, food and agriculture and renewable energy biotechnology.



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Saturday, September 24th

Nebraska VS Wyoming

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Saturday, September 24

at the DeVent Center in Norfolk, NE

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Kids 10 & under get in free!

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door

Tickets available from any derby girl, Full Throttle Service, The Phoenix Room and Divots DeVent Center

Proceeds from the bout will go to S.M.I.L.E.

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5-7pm — Cooks Choice

**Thursday**

6-7pm — Domestic Beers \$1.50

5-7pm — Hamburger/Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00

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Apple Glazed Pork Chop or Menu Serving 5:30-8:00

**Saturday**

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**Sunday at 6:30pm**  
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Every 1/2 Hour from 6pm to 8pm



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Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>

**Dinner Buffet**

BBQ Ribs, Roast Beef & Chicken

**OHIYA BINGO**

September 24<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bingo

\$5.00 Off Buy-In Purchase, \$20 Pays \$75

Warm-Ups 6pm, Reg. Session 6:30pm

Mgmt. has the right to make changes at any given time.

**Yankton County Historical Society**

**50th Annual Meeting**

will be held on **Sunday, October 9**

Mead Building (1/2 mile west of Hwy. 81 & 31st, turn north, first driveway on Human Services campus)

**2:00-3:00pm Social Hour**

**3:00-3:15pm Business Meeting**

**3:15-4:00pm Live Auction**

**4:00pm An Excerpt from The Pageant of Yankton by Joseph Mills Hanson**

performed by YCHS Board of Directors & Friends

Tickets \$20 for non-members

RSVP by October 1 — Call 665-3898 or stop by the Dakota Territorial Museum, 610 Summit, Yankton



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