

Survey:

Midwest Economy Should Keep Growing

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The economy should continue growing during the rest of 2013 in nine Midwest and Plains states but at a much slower pace than earlier this year, according to a monthly survey of business leaders that was released Tuesday.

The survey's overall economic index remained in positive territory and rose to 53.8 in August from July's 53.5.

"Our results point to positive growth for the final quarter of this year but at approximately half the rate of the first quarter. Both exports and farm income growth are down from earlier in the year," said Ernie Goss, the Creighton University economist who oversees the survey.

Job growth is also likely to remain weak because manufacturers with ties to agriculture and international markets

were cutting employment in August, Goss said. The jobs index declined to 52.8 in August from July's 55.3.

The indexes in the survey report all range from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth, while a score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Goss said the business leaders surveyed are less optimistic about the next few months because they're worried about international tensions and have questions about the implementation of health care reform.

The confidence index slipped to 53.9 in August from July's 56.9.

The survey also suggests more infla-

tion in the months ahead because the prices-paid index, which tracks the cost of raw materials and supplies, rose to 61.8 in August from 58 in July.

For the first time in eight months, the survey suggested businesses were cutting back on inventory because that index dipped to 49.4 in August from 52.7 in July.

The other components of the August overall index were:

— The export index grew to 56.2 from July's 50.

— The import index fell to 49.3 in August from 53.6.

— New orders increased to 56.8 from July's 52.2.

— The production or sales index soared to 60.1 in August from 54.2.

— And the delivery lead time index slid to 50 from July's 53.3.

Deadwood Flag Size Rule Upsets Businessman

DEADWOOD (AP) — A business owner in Deadwood is upset about a city rule that classifies American flags as signs and requires special permission for flags larger than 24 square feet.

Hotel and casino owner Mike Gustafson applied in July for a permit to hang a 375-square-foot flag on his building in the western South Dakota city during the annual motorcycle rally in nearby Sturgis. The City Commission approved the request but required that the large flag be removed after the conclusion of the weeklong rally, the *Black Hills Pioneer* reported.

"The sign ordinance defines signage and what signs are," said Deadwood Building Inspector Keith Umenthum. "Flags are considered signs, but there are exceptions for signs that don't require a permit."

However, Gustafson, who wanted to display the 15-by-25-foot flag for 90 days, needed a permit to hang the flag for a longer period, and city officials denied that request. Planning and zoning commission members cited a part of the ordinance that says American flags shouldn't be used "to call attention to, decorate, mark or distinguish the building on which it is placed." Another part of the sign ordinance also limits flags to 150 square feet.

"At 375 square feet, this is by far, the largest sign in Deadwood," a city report said.

Gustafson said he thinks the city's ordinance is "outdated and unpatriotic" and should be changed.

"It is a desecration of the flag of the United States of America to be classified as a 'sign' by the Deadwood ordinance because it is larger than 4 feet by 6 feet, especially when Deadwood is considered an 'All American City,'" he said.

"We had nothing but praise and positive comments from visitors and Deadwood residents during the few days it was on display," Gustafson said of his large flag.

Westboro Member Files Amended Nebraska Lawsuit

BY MARGERY A. BECK

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — A member of a Kansas anti-gay church has filed an amended complaint in federal court adding more than a half dozen examples of how the church says a Nebraska funeral picketing law discriminates against it.

The amended free-speech lawsuit, filed Monday in Lincoln's U.S. District Court, challenges a Nebraska law that requires protesters to stand 500 feet away from a funeral service. The amended filing comes after a federal appeals court in April reinstated the lawsuit, reversing a lower court's dismissal of the case.

The amended complaint includes at least 16 examples in which the church says its members were kept hundreds of feet from funeral services, while counter-protesters were allowed to congregate immediately outside services. Seven of the examples, from 2010 through 2012, occurred after the lower court dismissed the lawsuit and are being included in the suit for the first time.

"We've had more events than those listed, but what I've done is included the most egregious," said Margie Phelps, a Westboro member and attorney for the church in the lawsuit.

The case stems from a lawsuit filed in 2009 by members of Topeka, Kan.-based Westboro Baptist Church that challenged Nebraska's funeral picketing law and several other constitutional issues surrounding the church's funeral protests. The other issues have since been resolved, but the free-speech challenge to Nebraska's picketing law remains.

Westboro members contend U.S.

soldiers and others are being struck down by God for defending a nation that tolerates homosexuality. The group routinely protests at funerals around the country — including more than 40 funerals in Nebraska — and use chants and signs that include anti-gay slurs.

The lawsuit's new examples include a protest in June 2012 at a funeral in York in which the church says members were kept five blocks — about 1,000 feet — from the funeral while counter-protesters were allowed right outside the doors of the church and inside the cemetery.

"They have signs and flags, just like us. There's no difference, other than content," Phelps said. "(The law) is being applied discriminatorily."

The lawsuit also attacks a 2011 revision of Nebraska's anti-picketing law that requires protesters to stand 500 feet away from a funeral service — 200 feet more than the previous 300 feet listed in Nebraska's original 2006 law. The lawsuit notes that Westboro members consistently abided by the 300-foot law after it was passed, so there was no legitimate government interest for pushing protesters farther back.

In reinstating the lawsuit, the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals cited court records seeming to show that Nebraska lawmakers targeted Westboro members in creating the 500-foot requirement, noting that one lawmaker said Westboro picketers should be pushed back "perhaps 1,000 feet, or to another state."

A spokeswoman for the Nebraska Attorney General's office did not immediately return a message left Tuesday.

Online court documents show that the state has 14 days to file a reply to the amended complaint.

Dry Weather Hurts Some Neb. Crops

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The recent warm and dry conditions are taking a toll on Nebraska's crops, but irrigated crops are still doing well.

The U.S. Agriculture Department says in its latest crop update that only about 36 percent of the state's topsoil and 26 percent of the subsoil had adequate or surplus moisture.

The USDA estimates that 82 percent of the irrigated corn is in good or excellent shape. That's better than the average of 75 percent good or excellent at this time of year.

Only about 39 percent of the dryland corn is in good or excellent condition. That's significantly worse than the average of 58 percent.

About 66 percent of the soybean crop is in good or excellent condition.

Prints Could Help ID Black Hills Body

RAPID CITY (AP) — Investigators are using partial fingerprints taken from a badly decomposed body found in the Black Hills over the weekend to try to figure out her identity.

Someone taking photos Saturday near Iron Mountain Road discovered the female body. An autopsy will also be done to try to determine the cause of death.

Authorities are reviewing missing persons cases, but the first priority is to identify the body using the three partial fingerprints that hopefully match up to prints on file, said Pennington County Sheriff's Capt. Corey Brubakken.

Then the investigation, done in conjunction with the Rapid City Police Department, will shift to what might have happened to her: "Once we know who this individual is, how they came to be where we found them," he said.

There was no visible trauma to the remains, Brubakken said. "That's very difficult to tell."

The body was clothed, but a search of the area yielded nothing else that could help with identification, he said.

Diesel Ends Up In Some Neb. Gas Tanks

NORFOLK, Neb. (AP) — Diesel fuel has ended up in some vehicle gasoline tanks in northeast Nebraska.

Six gas stations in Norfolk, O'Neill and Columbus mistakenly received diesel in their gasoline tanks after an error at the NuStar Energy pipeline terminal.

NuStar spokeswoman Joanna Weidman says the company is removing the contaminated fuel from the gas stations and replacing it with gasoline.

NuStar also plans to cover the cost of any repairs to vehicles affected by the mix-up.

Brian Johnson of Casey's General Store told the *Norfolk Daily News* that NuStar contacted Casey's after it realized the problem, but some customers had already pumped contaminated gas into their vehicles. Two Casey's locations in Norfolk and one in O'Neill were affected.

Weidman says NuStar is investigating what happened to prevent a recurrence.

Woman Pleads Guilty To Child Abuse

RAPID CITY (AP) — A Rapid City woman accused of leaving her young child in an apartment that caught fire has pleaded guilty to aggravated child abuse.

KOTA-TV reports 38-year-old Angelita Elk Boy told a judge Tuesday that she was drunk when she left her 16-month-old child alone in their apartment in March.

The stove was turned on and the apartment caught fire, but fire crews rescued the toddler.

Her attorney says Elk Boy was too drunk at the time to remember all of the details. She also pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and felony drunken driving charge.

Elk Boy faces up to 20 years in prison when she's sentenced next month.

Man Donates Day's Labor To Fix Street

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A western Omaha man spent his Labor Day working for free, repairing a street near his home.

Frank Basilico told Omaha television station KETV that the cracks, ruts and potholes in the Elkhorn neighborhood roadway posed a danger to his son, who likes to skateboard.

Basilico says his calls to the city didn't induce any repairs, so he decided to wait no longer. He cleaned out the problem areas in the asphalt pavement, especially along the curb. He'd bought 18 bags of concrete mix, which he moistened and turned over in a wheelbarrow, and worked his way down the street.

The station says it was told it would cost millions to repair all of Omaha's asphalt-covered roadways. They don't last as long as roadways paved with concrete.

Kid Scoop

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IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE! IT'S ...

SUPEROYOU!

Wow! What a ride!

To escape the clutches of evil Dr. Duh's demonic dog, Hex, climb completely around the perimeter (the outside edge) of the Heroic Hotel and measure it along the way. Then you must ZIP your way through today's newspaper to find a photograph with a larger perimeter and complete the information below.

The perimeter of Heroic Hotel is _____ inches.

I found a picture on page _____ that has a perimeter of _____ inches. This is _____ inches larger than the perimeter of the Heroic Hotel.

FASTER THAN A ROCKET

ZIP through the newspaper to find the missing letters that spell each of the following spelling demons:

BE__TIFUL LIB_A_Y

H__GHT CAL_ND_R SEP_R_TE

ORIGINAL HEADLINE: _____

OPPOSITE HEADLINE: _____

STRONGER THAN AN ELEPHANT!

Look through the newspaper for numbers to put on each box on the barbells. Complete the equation. Be sure the numbers add up to show that Super Reader is the strongest!

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums.

READING

Dr. Duh is on the loose again and the people of Anytown need your help to avoid the clutches of the man who would have **no one read!**

Complete the activities on this page to help the townspeople thwart Dr. Duh's rotten plans!

My stun ray has zapped the humor out of this joke! The only way to stop me is put the squares back in order!

Extra! Extra!

Strong, Stronger, Strongest

Look through the newspaper for three pictures that each show an adjective such as "strong," "stronger," "strongest," "Or," "happy," "happier," "happiest," "Or," "good," "better," "best."

Standards Link: Grammar: Recognize comparative adjectives.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Each of the super hero symbols below is a different shape. Each symbol has a matching symbol that has the same fraction of the area in red. Figure out the fractions and then find the symbols that match.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Understand that fractions refer to parts of a whole.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

READERS	S E N I L D A E H R
SUPER	T E R E A R L D R E
ELEPHANT	R L S E Z E G Z O P
NEWSPAPER	O E I L N K T P M A
HOTEL	N P A I O H O I U P
THWART	G H Z D W B H J H S
HEADLINES	E A D A E R M N G W
JOKE	S N R Z A R P Y Z E
STRONGEST	T T E C A P S O S N
READ	
HUMOR	
SYMBOLS	
SPACE	
ZING	
ZIP	

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

Super Celebration

Imagine you have \$1,000 to spend on a celebration. Look through the newspaper and make a list of all of the things you would buy to celebrate and their cost. Be sure the items add up to exactly \$1,000.

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Calculate sums to \$1,000 using dollar amounts.

Write On!

Mad Scientist Fun

If you were a scientist and could invent something extraordinary, what would it be? Write about it!

Send your story to: Press & Dakotan c/o Noelle Schlechter 319 Walnut Street Yankton, SD 57078 605-665-7811, ext 112

Deadline: September 29 Published: Week of Oct. 27 Please include your school and grade.

Weekly Writing Corner

If I Were A Teacher

What rules would you have? How would you set your classroom up? What would you teach?

If I were a teacher, I would have fun rules but they would be safe. I would love to teach math and spelling. I would set up my classroom with books on the shelves and an art table in the back of the classroom. I would also like to have a fresh apple on my desk.

Willow, 4th grade

If I were a teacher, I would want to teach a fun class like drama. That way I wouldn't get bored and my students would all have a good time.

Alyse, 2nd grade

I wouldn't mind being a teacher. One of my rules would be that homework would only be given as a punishment. Students would be able to eat in class. I wish all teachers had these rules.

Zoe, 4th grade

If I were a teacher, there would only be one rule: Treat each other with respect. I would teach science and all about plants. I would work with the younger kids.

Tessa, 3rd grade

If I were a teacher I would be strict but fair. I would teach math because I like math a lot. There would be pictures by kids all around the room. My rules would be stay quiet and listen when the teacher is talking.

Elena, 4th grade

If I were a teacher, I would teach PE. My rule would be if you want to be here and you put effort into trying new things, then you'll get an A.

Tiffany, 8th grade