

Large Number of Absentee Ballots are Not a Problem

6-17-14

Minnesota is on the doorstep of its biggest statewide election changes in years by providing more latitude for absentee voting and giving political parties, campaigns and others the ability to track who has sent ballots in for counting.

Starting June 27th, voters can obtain an absentee ballot to vote early in the August 12th primary either in person or by mail without having to cite a legally recognized excuse, as was required before a 2013 law change.

Officials intimately involved in election planning anticipate a greater percentage of voters than ever will cast a ballot ahead of election day.

Absentee votes have ranged from 5 to 10 percent of the overall ballots cast in the last four elections. The head of elections in Minnesota's second-largest county said he believes as many as 20 percent of county voters could submit an absentee ballot this year.

Otter Tail County Auditor, Wayne Stein, says a larger number of absentee ballots will not be a problem. They can run them through the machine a week ahead of time, however, the information stays on a computer card and they cannot read the vote totals or give the information out until 8 pm on election night. The results from absentee and regular votes are on separate computer cards that are merged before sending the information out to the state.

Officials in Wisconsin, Montana, Illinois, North Dakota, Idaho and Washington state have refused to sign, citing open record laws and the need for public awareness.

EERC DIRECTOR-FIRED

UND's energy, environmental center director fired

(Information in the following story is from: WDAY-TV, <http://wday.com>)

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) - The University of North Dakota has fired the director of the school's Energy and Environmental Research Center.

WDAY-TV reports the university confirmed the move Thursday.

Gerald Groenewold had been placed on paid administrative leave in early May. He declined a request from the station to comment Thursday.

The EERC is UND's primary research facility and employs about 300 people, including scientists and engineers.

Groenewold pleaded guilty in 2008 to a misdemeanor assault charge for an incident involving his wife, state Sen. Connie Triplett. He was sentenced to one year of probation and ordered to complete 30 hours of community service.

Thomas Erickson is the center's associate director for business, operations and intellectual property. A university spokesman says Erickson will oversee the day-to-day operations of the lab.

CONTROVERSIAL CAMPAIGN SIGN

Commission candidate won't face charges for sign

(Information in the following story is from: KFGO-AM, <http://www.kfgo.com>)

★ FARGO, N.D. (AP) - Electioneering charges will not be filed against a Fargo city commission candidate over a controversial campaign sign.

Fargo police had opened a criminal investigation after someone complained that John Strand had violated state election laws with a message that had been projected on a city water tower.

Cass County State's Attorney Birch Burdick says his decision applies

contd...

BC-MN--Minnesota Governor-Primary,128

Johnson says he won't go negative on GOP rivals

Eds: APNewsNow. Will be updated

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Endorsed Republican gubernatorial candidate Jeff Johnson says he doesn't intend to wage a negative campaign against three fellow GOP hopefuls who are challenging him in an August primary.

Johnson is a Hennepin County commissioner who won the party's backing at a weekend state convention. He hopes to emerge from a four-way primary as the nominee to face Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton.

Johnson appeared Monday with state Republican leaders at the Capitol before a fly-around. He says he thinks he'll need to raise and spend \$1 million to be successful against businessman Scott Honour, former House Speaker Kurt Zellers and former Rep. Marty Seifert.

It's the first competitive primary for Republicans in a statewide race since 1994, when incumbent Gov. Arne Carlson dispatched with a challenger from his right.

AP-WF-06-02-14 1501GMT

Printed: ellers--Lt-Governor - page 1 of 1 - 5/22/2014

Zeller--Lt.Governor

5-22-14

Kill: 11:00 am Friday

Smelser

Local News

(St. Paul) — Kurt Zellers, one of the GOP candidates for governor, said today (Thursday) that his Lt. Governor running mate will be Dean Simpson, a former legislator from Otter Tail County.

Simpson was in the state House from 2003 to 2008. Simpson and his family own grocery stores in New York Mills and Perham.

According to MinnPost, Zellers, a former state House Speaker, is one of several Republicans vying to challenge Gov. Mark Dayton in November.

Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Johnson announced Wednesday that Bill Kuisle (KWEEZ'-lee) of Rochester will be his running mate. Other candidates are businessman Scott Honour, state Sen. Dave Thompson and former legislator Marty Seifert (SEYE'-fert), who named retiring State Rep. Pam Myhra of Burnsville as his running mate.

The Republican State Endorsing Convention will be held in Rochester next week.....



Nornes & Ingebrigtsen Hold Town Halls

5-22-14

Rep Bud Nornes and Sen Bill Ingebrigtsen have town hall meetings planned. Nornes explains that it is a legislative session wrapup:

:29 "Its not really formatted really, it's a give and take. We are there to not only tell people what took place, that's kinda why we do it now after the session is over. When it is half over it's hard to tell people what's going to happen, so we're there to tell people what happened and hear from them, disappointments or ideas for another year reactions to what we did this year."

They start out in Perham at Lakes Café at 8:30 Rep Mary Franson will join in Perham and Battle Lake. They will be at the Muddy Moose in Pelican Rapids at 10:45 , Fergus Falls at the LB Homes Offices on Channing. Then Battle Lake at the Good Samaritan at 3:45.

May 23 Town Hall Meetings with Rep Bud Nornes and Sen Bill Ingebrigtsen

Perham: 8:30 Lakes Café (136 W Main St)

Pelican Rapids: 10:45 Muddy Moose (30 N Broadway)

Fergus Falls: 1:30 LB Homes Offices (805 E Channing, former Eisenhower school)

Battle Lake: 3:45 Good Samaritan (105 Glenhaven Dr)

Free, open to the public. They will listen to concerns & ideas from constituents & provide a session wrap up.

A CANDIDATE FOR MINNESOTA GOVERNOR HAS ANNOUNCED HIS RUNNING MATE. KURT ZELLERS PICKED FORMER STATE LAWMAKER DEAN SIMPSON, OF PERHAM, TO RUN FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. SIMPSON WAS MAYOR OF NEW YORK MILLS FOR 25 YEARS AND SERVED 3 TERMS AS A STATE REPRESENTATIVE. HE SAYS ONE OF HIS MAIN GOALS IS FOR THE STATE GOVERNMENT TO FOCUS MORE ON THE RURAL COMMUNITIES OF MINNESOTA.....

>Media : DEAN SIMPSON

Length: 00:00:10.8 OutCue: "DAILY BASIS" .<PSI_END_OBJECT>

PRIMARY ELECTIONS FOR MINNESOTA GOVERNOR WILL BE AUGUST 12TH.

THE GENERAL ELECTION IS ON NOVEMBER 4TH.

*Simpson & his family own the
grocery stores in
New York Mills & Bemidji*

BA 5/23/14 4:10AM

Simpson Announced as Lt Gov Candidate

5-22-14

Kurt Zellers, one of the GOP candidates for governor announced that his Lt Governor running mate is Dean Simpson, a former legislator from Otter Tail County.

Simpson and his family own grocery stores in New York Mills and Perham.

Zellers is on the Republicans looking to challenge Gov. Mark Dayton in November.

Hennepin Co Commissioner Jeff Johnson, businessman Scott Honour, state Sen. Dave Thompson and former legislator Marty Seifert are also looking for the nomination.

The Republican State Endorsing Convention will be held in Rochester next week.

AP-MN--3rd NewsMinute,284

Here is the latest Minnesota news from The Associated Press

(Information in the following story is from: Post-Bulletin,

<http://www.postbulletin.com>)

★ ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP) - Police say a man has been arrested after leading law enforcement on a chase through two counties before breaking into a Rochester home and fighting with the owner. Officers pursued a suspect in Dodge and Olmsted counties before he bailed out of his car and fled on foot in Rochester yesterday. While officers were checking a neighborhood, the suspect began to struggle with a homeowner. Officers used a stun gun on the suspect and arrested him.

(Information in the following story is from: St. Paul Pioneer Press, <http://www.twincities.com>)

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - A chiropractor is charged with sexually assaulting a female patient at his office in St. Paul. A criminal complaint says 54-year-old Paul Thompson assaulted the 27-year-old woman during an appointment on May 8th. The complaint says a Ramsey County sheriff's investigator set up a call between the woman and Thompson during which Thompson apologized for the assault.

★ ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Portraits and busts of noted Minnesota politicians as well as some framed paintings are being systematically removed from the state Capitol. It's being done to protect them during a ramp-up in construction during the ongoing renovation. The Minnesota Historical Society says artwork will remain in spaces open to public access during construction.

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) - A California man has been arrested in connection with the killing of a Minnesota woman, whose dismembered remains were scatted in plastic bags along railroad tracks. Police say 28-year-old Christopher Brown was arrested Tuesday on an unrelated felony arrest warrant. Police say investigators searched Brown's apartment for 18 hours and found evidence related to the death of Jamie Lea Harmer.

AP-WF-05-23-14 1308GMT

AP-MN--Right Now,1052

Latest Minnesota news, sports, business and entertainment
ELECTION-CANDIDATE FILING

Being a Minnesota candidate requires signup soon

★ ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Everybody who has ever wanted their name on an election ballot in Minnesota can take that step for the next two weeks.

Candidate filing for the 2014 campaign opens Tuesday and runs for two weeks. It covers anyone running for state and federal office. Some local candidates must file during the window, too, although some municipal offices and school district board seats have a filing period that starts in late July.

This year, the top races are for governor and U.S. Senate. Control of the 134-seat House is also at stake as are the offices of attorney general, secretary of state and auditor. Voters will also fill eight seats in Congress.

People who file and change their minds have until June 5 to pull their name from contention.

STOLEN ASSAULT RIFLES-REWARD

Reward offered in Ill. stolen assault rifle case

★ CHICAGO (AP) - Authorities say a \$10,000 reward is available for information in the theft of 13 semi-automatic assault rifles stolen from a freight train container at a Chicago rail yard.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Chicago police and the National Shooting Sports Foundation announced the reward Tuesday. The money will go for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the thefts. The ATF is offering \$5,000 and the NSSF is offering a \$5,000 match. The NSSF is a trade association for the firearms industry.

Authorities say the Smith & Wesson M&P Sport Rifles were taken from a Norfolk Southern freight container between May 4 and 6. Authorities say the weapons were being shipped to a licensed gun dealer in Minnesota. The train was coming through Chicago.

SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

contd...

REPUBLICAN STATE LAWMAKERS ARE DISAPPOINTED WITH MINNESOTA'S JUST WRAPPED UP LEGISLATIVE SESSION. DURING A STOP IN MOORHEAD, G-O-P LEADERS SAID THE DEMOCRAT-CONTROLLED SESSION INCREASED SPENDING, TAXES, AND LOWERED STANDARDS IN EDUCATION. HOUSE MINORITY LEADER KURT DAUDT.....

>Media : FLYAROUND KURT

Length: 00:00:15.1 OutCue: "JOB OPPORTUNITIES"

.<PSI_END_OBJECT>

SENATE MINORITY LEADER DAVID HANN.....

Media2><PSI_MID_OBJECT>Media : DHANN MHD

Length: 00:00:17.7 OutCue: "GOOD AT" .<PSI_END_OBJECT>

THE LEGISLATORS ALSO CRITICIZED THE MNSURE ROLLOUT AND A PLAN TO BUILD A \$90 MILLION OFFICE BUILDING.

BA 5/20/14 5:30AM

Candidate Seifert Announces His Own Fishing Opener

5-7-14

While Governor Mark Dayton will hold the official Governor's Fishing Opener in the Brainerd area this weekend, Marty Seifert, Republican candidate for governor, announced that is he holding his own "Seifert for Governor 2014 Minnesota Fishing Opener" at Thumper Pond Resort and Rush Lake in Otter Tail County. Seifert invites Republicans, media and supporters statewide to join his campaign for this two-day celebration of a Minnesota tradition.

The Seifert Fishing Opener will begin with a social event and dinner at Thumper Pond on Friday, May 9, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Seifert and others will drop their lines at Rush Lake beginning at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 10. The press release refers to the campaign website for more details:

Visit SeifertforGovernor.com for more details.

*1110 AP-US-Obit-Oberstar,99

URGENT

Longtime Minnesota congressman Oberstar dies at 79

Eds: APNewsNow. Will be updated.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - Former U.S. Rep. Jim Oberstar, who served northeastern Minnesota for 36 years, has died. He was 79.

A statement released by his family says Oberstar died Saturday morning in his sleep. No cause of death was provided.

Oberstar, a Democrat, was elected to Congress in 1974 and served 18 terms before he narrowly lost to GOP challenger Chip Cravaack in 2010.

After his defeat, he said he loved serving northeastern Minnesota. His district included Duluth and the Iron Range.

He was the state's longest-serving member of Congress, and became chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in 2006.

AP-WF-05-03-14 1607GMT

BC-MN-XGR--Online Voter Registration, 3rd Ld,477

Lawmakers move to preserve online voter sign-up

Eds: APNewsNow. Updates with Dayton signing bill. Will be updated.

By BRIAN BAKST

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Gov. Mark Dayton has signed a bill preserving an online voter registration system overseen by Minnesota's secretary of state.

State lawmakers quickly approved the bill and sent it to the Democratic governor before a court order kicks in.

On Monday, a Ramsey County judge ruled Secretary of State Mark Ritchie had overstepped his bounds by establishing the virtual sign-up unilaterally last fall. The judge ordered that the system be shut down by midnight Tuesday, absent legislative intervention.

The bill takes effect Wednesday.

AP-WF-04-29-14 2321GMT

Felony Charges to be Dropped in Plea Deal with Former Sheriff

4-29-14

A plea agreement has been reached in the criminal case against former Becker County Sheriff Tim Gordon.

Assistant Stearns County Attorney Kevin Voss says the deal calls for two felony charges of theft by swindle and making a false claim to be dropped. In exchange, Voss says Gordon has agreed to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge of misconduct of a public official.

Gordon was accused of selling the county a used boat, motor and trailer and claiming the equipment was new. It was purchased with a state DNR grant. Gordon was sheriff for 10 years before he suddenly resigned two years ago. A sentencing hearing is scheduled May 28.

The Stearns County Attorney's office prosecuted the case to avoid a conflict of interest for the Becker County Attorney's office.

Industrial Finishing Services Pays Pollution Fine

4-25-14

Industrial Finishing Services, a metal coating company, has been the subject of a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency investigation for wastewater violations at its Deer Creek, Perham and New York Mills facilities.

According to the MPCA, the company failed to obtain required permits and monitor wastewater discharges at all three facilities. Discharge from the Deer Creek facility exceeded limits for cyanide, chromium, and zinc during parts of 2013. Both the Deer Creek and New York Mills facilities failed to meet reporting requirements.

The company has corrected the problems at all three facilities, and paid a \$35,000 for the violations.

Sen Ingebrigtsen Votes Against New Cell Phone Tracking Rules

4-24-14

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - New restrictions on police use of cell phone tracking technology have won backing from the Minnesota Senate. Senators voted Tuesday to require a special tracking warrant when a device is used to find a person's location by their cell phone or other electronic devices.

The lone vote against the bill came from Republican Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen, a retired sheriff from Alexandria. He says it sends the wrong message about police techniques and suggests they are merely stockpiling data.

[audio: SEN I VOTE ON CELL PHONE]

:10 "They have solved some significant crimes with this particular tool. It's a wonderful tool but it cannot and should not be abused. I get that, I understand that. Law enforcement understands that more than anybody but I just don't want to send the message we are going to try and fix this and punish, not punish probably isn't the word, but stand in the way of law enforcement."

Ingebrigtsen says that only the BCA and Hennepin County have this tool now but more counties might be interested in getting one if the price goes lower..

The bill says law enforcement must show probable cause of a crime. People being tracked must eventually be notified that their information was collected.

Republican Sen. Branden Peterson of Andover says the bill responds to rapidly advancing technology.

Franson Sued for Defamation by Ex-boyfriend

2-24-14

ALEXANDRIA, Minn. (AP) - A state lawmaker from Alexandria is being sued for defamation by an ex-boyfriend whom she has accused of threatening and stalking her. The lawsuit by McLeod County Republican Party chairman Eric Harpel claims his reputation was ruined by statements Rep. Mary Franson of Alexandria made in a court petition seeking a restraining order.

Harpel says Franson falsely accused him of stalking and threatening her and sending her lewd emails, text messages, photos and videos. The lawsuit also claims Franson illegally accessed and deleted Harpel's emails. KFGO radio reports Harpel is seeking more than \$50,000 in damages.

Franson told a Fargo radio station in an email that she's optimistic that Harpel's complaint will be dismissed.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - The Minnesota Security Hospital is being fined \$1,000 after investigators found substantiated maltreatment in an incident that led to the death of a patient.

Darnell Dee Whitefeather is charged with murder for allegedly stomping on the head of Michael Francis Douglas in order to get staffers' attention on Jan. 22. Douglas died from his injuries.

The Department of Human Services says the facility failed to provide necessary care to the two men. The department calls it an "unacceptable failure."

DHS announced the fine Tuesday. It also is extending the conditional status of the security hospital's license through late 2016.

The Minnesota Security Hospital has a series of management lapses in recent years. The hospital was placed on conditional license status in 2011 after several cases of patient maltreatment.

TICK DISEASE RISK

Risk of tick-borne disease remains

★ ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Minnesota health officials say contracting a tick-borne disease remains a risk that we've endured.

The heavy snowfall across Minnesota last winter is helping ticks survive because they were insulated by the snow.

Department of Health tick specialists are studying locations in central and southeastern Minnesota for the presence of deer ticks. The highest risk for exposure to the ticks is from mid-May through mid-July.

A record 1,431 Lyme disease cases were reported in Minnesota last year. Neitzel says health officials expect that tick-transmitted disease risk will be high again this year. Higher risk areas include wooded or brush habitats in southeastern, central and north central Minnesota.

RIFLE PLANT CLOSURE

Timetable on Remington layoffs

contd...

Wx
Frozen water
lines

Healthy living
no sure

How Can I Prevent Lyme Disease?

Tips for preventing Lyme disease include the following:

Because infection does not occur until a tick has been attached for at least 24 hours, a thorough daily tick check can be an effective first-line defense.

Be aware that the ticks are very small, although they are larger when engorged with blood.

If you spend time outdoors in areas inhabited by deer ticks, wear shoes, long pants tucked into socks or pant legs, and long sleeves.

Use insect repellent with 20%-30% DEET around your ankles, other areas of exposed skin, and clothes.

If you work or walk in brushy areas or woods, check regularly for ticks; they are easier to see against light clothing. Check especially around the armpits, groin, scalp, belt line, neck and head. Check pets often, as well.

If possible, avoid tick-infested areas, particularly in May, June, and July.

If you're in tick-infested areas, walk in the center of trails to avoid overgrown grass and leaf litter.

If you do find a deer tick on your skin, remove it immediately.

High water

IT'S BEEN A TROUBLE SPOT FOR YEARS. A BUSY STRETCH OF HIGHWAY 75 NEAR KENT, MINNESOTA, (NORTH OF BRECKINRIDGE) IS CLOSED DUE TO FLOODING. IT WAS SHUT DOWN AGAIN YESTERDAY AS FLOODWATERS FROM WHISKEY CREEK FILLED A RAILROAD UNDERPASS:

Media : GETTING OLD

Length: 00:00:04.1 OutCue: "because of flooding".<PSI_END_OBJECT>

MINN-DOT'S JERIMIAH MOERKE (MOR-key) ^{Sigs} ~~TELLS KFGO NEWS~~ THE PROBLEM WILL BE SOLVED NEXT YEAR WITH MAJOR RECONSTRUCTION AT THE LOW SPOT:

>Media : MOERKE BIG FIX

Length: 00:00:17.3 OutCue: "instead of under it".<PSI_END_OBJECT>

THE "FIX" WILL COST ABOUT \$9 MILLION.

-O-

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC IS DETOURED TO NEARBY COUNTY ROADS.

New
Spm Friday

AP-MN--Right Now, 989

Latest Minnesota news, sports, business and entertainment
SEVERE WEATHER-MUDSLIDE

No injuries after mudslide prompts road closure

Heavy Rain

★ MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - A mudslide on a Mississippi River bluff in Minneapolis has caused a partial road closure and forced the evacuation of some administrative employees of a nearby hospital.

Deputy Fire Chief Todd White ~~tells the Star Tribune~~ that the slide occurred around 7 p.m., sending a 100-yard swath of the bluff onto the road and river below. He says about 6 to 8 feet of mud were left on the West River Parkway, which was partially closed. No one was injured.

A statement from the Fire Department says crews determined the University of Minnesota Medical Center was not affected.

The Pioneer Press reports twenty administrative employees of the hospital were evacuated as a precaution. Patients were not affected.

The mudslide comes after torrential rain and flash flooding in the area Thursday.

SEVERE WEATHER-MINNESOTA-CANTERBURY PARK

Storms prompt Canterbury to cancel racing Thursday

High Water

SHAKOPEE, Minn. (AP) - Canterbury Park canceled Thursday evening's races because of severe thunderstorms moving through the Twin Cities.

The Shakopee track was soaked by rain earlier in the day and another storm was moving through Thursday night.

Canterbury Park president Randy Sampson said in addition to lightning concerns, the storm could dump another inch or two of rain. He says that would complicate flooding on the grounds and surrounding roads.

Racing is set to resume Friday at 6:30 p.m.

SEVERE WEATHER-MINNESOTA-BOATING

DNR warns waters are dangerously high and fast

★ ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Safety experts are urging Minnesota boaters,

contd...

paddlers and swimmers to think twice before heading out on the water right now.

The Department of Natural Resources says people must be especially cautious around high water, wear life jackets and be aware of local flooding conditions and alerts. And people should not venture into flooded areas.

Boat and water safety specialist Kara Owens says rivers, lakes and streams are extremely swollen across Minnesota, and water temperatures are colder than normal.

Owens says stream and river currents are extremely strong, which many boaters and swimmers aren't used to. And she says boaters should be aware that there's more debris in the water, often floating just at or below the surface. Hitting a log at high speed can damage boats and cause serious injuries.

PARTY TURNOUT EFFORTS

Minnesota parties open offices, push absentee vote

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Looking for an edge, Minnesota's Republican and Democratic-Farmer-Labor parties are promoting no-excuse absentee voting and setting up satellite offices around the state.

Both gave a glimpse Thursday at their get-out-the-vote operations in a year when voters will elect a governor, a U.S. senator and many other elected officials.

Republican Party Chairman Keith Downey says the GOP's 10 "victory" offices will be aimed first at helping endorsed candidates prevail in August primaries before turning to fall matchups. He says expanded use of absentee voting will augment this year's efforts.

Democrats say they have 18 campaign offices now open across the state, from Albert Lea in the south to Virginia in the north. They too are urging people to cast ballots ahead of time either in person or through the mail.

UNIVERSITY-LAB EXPLOSION

Grad student hurt in lab explosion returns home

(Information in the following story is from: Star Tribune,
<http://www.startribune.com>)

contd...

-All-

Water Over Two Roads in OTC

6-17-14

High water is over the road in two places in Otter Tail County. One is south of Fergus Falls on Co Hwy 15 south of Co Hwy 112. The other place is on Co Road 34 west of Perham in the Little McDonald, Paul Lake area. Signs have been put up to warn motorists about the water over the road but both roads remain open at this time.

FARGO, N.D. (KFGO AM) -- Parts of the region took a hit from mother nature over the weekend.

Heavy rain fell over southeastern North Dakota and western Minnesota leaving fields under water, some rural roads closed and streams and rivers on the rise.

The two day total at Hector International Airport in Fargo is 1.85 inches, but amounts varied across the metro. one report of 3.50 inches in West Fargo.

The Red in fargo is expected to rise to about 22-1/2 feet by Friday, and will mean the closure of North Elm between 14th and 15th avenues.

No other problems are expected.

Rainfall amounts elsewhere include:

5.0" Leonard, N.D. 4.5" Verndale, near Wadena 4.0" near Ashby in Otter Tail County.

Two-to-two-and-a-half inch amounts were common across Clay, southern Cass, parts of Richland and Wilkin counties.

Three-quarter inch hail was reported around 4 yesterday afternoon north of Fergus Falls in the Erhard area.

AP-MN--Right Now, 797

Latest Minnesota news, sports, business and entertainment

MINNESOTA STORMS-SOUTHWEST

Flood ★ Water recedes in SW Minn., eastbound I-90 reopens

★ LUVERNE, Minn. (AP) - The water has been receding in southwestern Minnesota, where officials closed all four lanes of Interstate 90 from Luverne to the South Dakota border.

KELO-TV reports that officials re-opened the eastbound lanes of the interstate around 8:30 a.m. Sunday. Water up to four feet high from heavy rains covered the freeway earlier in the morning.

Heavy rain washed away the spillway at Blue Mounds State Park, north of Luverne. The dam holds back water for a swimming pond in the park. The water drains into the Rock River, which flows through Luverne.

Secondary roads and farm fields were underwater elsewhere in Rock County Sunday. A road crew rescued one vehicle stranded near the town of Hills on Sunday morning.

MINNESOTA STORMS-INTERNATIONAL FALLS

Flood ★ Crews fill 50K sandbags in International Falls

★ INTERNATIONAL FALLS, Minn. (AP) - Sandbagging is under way in the International Falls area of far northern Minnesota because of rising waters on Rainy Lake and the Rainy River.

The Koochiching County sheriff's office says volunteers have filled about 50,000 sandbags to protect homes. A department statement says there's been damage to docks and boathouses, but no confirmed reports of damage to any homes.

Voyageurs National Park has had to close over 30 campsites because all the park's docks and some of its boat launches are under water.

Thunderbird Lodge on Rainy Lake says its docks are under water.

Minnesota Highway 11 was closed yesterday due to water over the road near Loman, about 16 miles west of International Falls, due to flooding on the Rainy River. The river runs along the U.S.-Canadian border.

MINNESOTA STORMS-POWER OUTAGES

contd...

Perham Turtlefest Medallion Hunts begin June 14 and 18

6-13-14

There will be two Medallion Hunts for the 2014 Turtlefest Celebration in Perham. Clues will be given out each day at Noon except for Sunday at the Perham Chamber Office, on Lakes Radio 99.5 and on Perham.com. Official rules state that the medallions cannot be on private residential property and must be within the official Perham City limits. If found, turn in the medallion to the Perham Chamber during office hours. The KLN Medallion hunt starts June 14. The Landmark Liquors Medallion starts June 18. Prize totals are \$1000.

*2020 AP-FBN-Peterson-Allergies,128

Adrian Peterson launches allergy education program

Eds: APNewsNow. Will be updated.

By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - Adrian Peterson has helped launch an educational program for people with severe allergies, something that affected the Minnesota Vikings' running back before his MVP season.

Peterson had a strong allergic reaction to shellfish in training camp two years ago, even though he'd been eating it for 27 years. The reaction, called anaphylaxis, caused facial swelling and breathing problems. His trainer, however, was familiar with such symptoms and had the equipment to deal with them.

Now, Peterson is encouraging everyone to take steps in dealing with severe allergies. He has teamed with the pharmaceutical company Mylar Specialty on the project.

As part of the campaign, three youngsters who have such health issues can win a trip to Minnesota's training camp this summer.

AP NFL website: www.pro32.ap.org and www.twitter.com/AP-NFL

AP-WF-06-02-14 2143GMT

Tent Caterpillar Spray Uses Bacteria

5-30-14

^{low flying} An airplane ^{spraying} flying ^{should} low over a lake spraying will get your attention. They are spraying for Forest Tent Caterpillars. The chemical used is called "Foray." It is a form of bacteria found naturally in the soil that only affects caterpillars. This is West Central Ag-Air sprayer, Ryan Lubben: (Spraying Tent)

: 28 : 36 "Yeah, basically it's a bacteria that when caterpillars ingest it, it causes damage to the caterpillar's stomach and the caterpillar quits feeding and basically staves to death and then the bacteria affects the caterpillar then also. It's very specific to caterpillars. It actually found naturally in the soil so anybody in contact with the soil would be in contact with ... that."

Since ^{the Foray chemical} it only affects caterpillars, humans, pets, trees and other plants are not damaged. Lubben agrees that there are many misunderstandings in what they are spraying. He is required to keep records of where ^{they are} he was and what ^{they are} is was spraying. When a ^{women} lady accused him of making her dog sick, he could prove he was ^{not spraying near} not even close to the area where her dog was.

Lake associations and property owners usually get together to have an area sprayed for tent caterpillars and ^{to} spread ^{out} the cost out that way.

The Minnesota Extension Service online has ^{and the WC Ag Air.} more information on the forest tent caterpillars and the spraying ^{as well} as the West Central Ag-Air website.

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<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/forest-tent-caterpillars/>

<http://www.westcentralagair.com/forest.html>

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MD 8 am 5-30

unofficial
over

Heavy rain reported in Fergus Falls Saturday evening, ~~almost two and a half inches in an hour~~. Police spend time putting manhole covers back on after they popped due to water pressure in some low areas; mainly around NP Park, Cascade and Channing Avenue areas.

Police were called to the downtown liquor store on the corner of Washington and Union. Water got in and collapsed part of the ceiling.

1.98 Set

5/1000

FARGO, N.D. (KFGO AM) -- Multiple tornadoes and funnel clouds were reported across North Dakota last night including at least two in Cass County.

Law enforcement reported a funnel cloud shortly after six, north of Chafee.

About 10 minutes later, a funnel cloud touched in a field near Casselton.

A deputy spotted a tornado on the ground 12 miles northwest of Jamestown traveling toward the city.

Emergency Manager Jerry Bergquist says warning sirens sounded three times in a half hour after Doppler radar indications of storm rotation.

Elsewhere, funnel clouds were spotted northwest of Gwinner and another just west of Devils Lake.

No damage or injuries were reported in any of the events.

BC-MN--Health Overhaul-Minnesota,130

MNsure reaches out to graduating college students

Eds: APNewsNow.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - Minnesota's online health insurance marketplace has launched a campaign aimed at making sure young adults don't lose coverage when they graduate from college.

MNsure CEO Scott Leitz says many graduating students will lose the health insurance they have through their schools. But the loss of coverage may make them eligible to enroll for coverage in private plans via MNsure.

Individual graduates whose annual incomes are under \$22,980 and don't have access to employer-sponsored health insurance may also be eligible for the public Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare programs.

MNsure says college graduates may be known as the "young invincibles," but they're the age group most likely to visit the emergency room, and without health insurance the expense of a trip to the ER can be steep.

Online:

MNsure: <http://www.mnsure.org>

AP-WF-05-14-14 0902GMT

Perham Living to Host Mature Mile/Family 5k on June 7

5-6-14

On June 7, Perham Living will host two events to encourage health and wellness at all stages of life: a Mature Mile and a Family 5k Fun Run/Walk,

The Mature Mile is an untimed event for those 60 years or older. The race will begin at 11:00 a.m. and the route will loop around the Perham Living campus. Everyone is welcome to participate regardless of fitness level, including individuals with assistive devices such as walkers and wheelchairs.

The Family 5k Fun Run/Walk is a timed event for friends and family members of all ages and fitness levels. The timed race will begin at 10:00 a.m. at Perham Living and will incorporate the community's new Wellness Trail and Wildflower Trail prior to returning to Perham Living.

Pre-registration for both races is \$12 per person through May 25 and may be completed online or in person at Perham Living or at the Perham Area Community Center. Participants may also register onsite on June 7 prior to the event for \$15 per person. The registration fee includes a t-shirt, medal, and refreshments. For online registration or additional event information, please visit [perhamhealth dot org](http://www.perhamhealth.org) <http://www.perhamhealth.org/>,