

State

TWO KILLED

Two people died in separate crashes on Nebraska roads since Monday.

One person died early today in a crash at an intersection along state Highway 35 just west of Dakota City, Dakota County Sheriff James Wagner said.

Another person was sent to a local hospital from the 6:30 a.m. CST crash. Highway 35 traffic was being rerouted while investigators pieced together how the crash occurred.

The crash involved a pickup, semitrailer and a snack delivery truck. Sodas, candy and chips littered the highway following the collision, witnesses said.

A 47-year-old woman died early Monday in a Lincoln crash. Police said Elizabeth Corfman of Lincoln was pronounced dead at the scene of the two-vehicle crash that happened about 5 p.m. CST at the intersection of State Highway Two and Old Cheney Road.

Witnesses said one of the two vehicles involved in the accident ran a red light, Police Capt. David Beggs said.

BANK SLAYING TRIAL

GRAND ISLAND — Security will be stepped up at courthouses in central Nebraska for the jury selection and trial of a man charged in last year's Norfolk bank slayings.

The jury selection for Jose Sandoval is to begin Wednesday in the Hall County courthouse. He is charged with five counts of first-degree murder in the Sept. 26, 2002, killings of five bank employees and one customers at a U.S. Bank branch in Norfolk.

Sandoval will be tried in Aurora, the seat of Hamilton County.

Officers will be posted throughout the courthouse to help keep traffic flowing and to ensure the privacy of jurors and Sandoval's safety, Hall County Sheriff's Capt. Rodger Williams said.

Security also will be tightened in the courthouse in Aurora, Hamilton County Sheriff Kirk Handrup said.

CHURCH FIRE

BROKEN BOW — The historic St. John's Episcopal Church is assessing damage from a fire that broke out Sunday a couple of hours before morning worship services.

Broken Bow Fire Chief Ron Price said the fire department was called about 9:15 a.m. when a passer-by noticed a fire in the church.

Flames were limited to an entry-foyer area but most of the building suffered smoke damage.

The Associated Press

Calendar

HASTINGS

◆ Steve Willborn to speak on "Thinking About Women's Wages," 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Perkins Auditorium Fuhr Hall at Hastings College.

◆ Gamanon, 8-9 p.m. Wednesday, basement at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital Education Building, Room A.

◆ Alanon, 8 p.m. Wednesday, First United Methodist Church.

ROSEDALE

◆ Annual soup supper and bake sale, 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, serving chicken noodle and vegetable cheese soups and pies, Rosedale United Methodist Church.

Lotteries

WINNING NUMBERS

Monday
Nebraska Pick 5 2-5-9-26-32
Jackpot: \$58,000
2by2 Red 6-13, White 10-17
Kansas Pick 3 8-5-7
Super Kansas Cash 16-17-20-23-27
Super Cashball 23

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES SEVERAL ORDINANCES, OTHER ITEMS IN PUTTING DEBATE TO REST

TODD NEELEY
Hastings Tribune

In a matter of minutes the Hastings City Council Monday ended weeks of debate about a proposed Wal-Mart Supercenter, taking final action on a series of ordinances and other related items.

With Councilman Ken Fike absent, the council gave unanimous final approval to three ordinances, a preliminary and final plat, as well as an addition to the city on 25.33 acres west of U.S. Highway 281 between

38th and 42nd streets.

One ordinance amends the comprehensive land use plan for the land from medium residential density to regional commercial.

Another amends the zoning district map from R-1 single-family residential and R-3 multiple-family residential districts to C-3 commercial.

The council also passed an ordinance vacating several lots and blocks west of Osborne Drive West and in Cimarron Meadows First Addition.

In addition, the council approved the preliminary plat of Cimarron Meadows and the final plat of Cimarron Meadows Second Addition.

Following a public hearing during which no one spoke in favor or against, the council

voted to include a portion of Cimarron Meadows Second as an addition to the city.

Pending land negotiations with current land owner Engel Construction Inc., construction on a 203,000-square-foot Wal-Mart Supercenter tentatively could begin in the spring, with the store opening in spring 2005.

Wal-Mart Supercenters feature a full-scale grocery store in addition to typical Wal-Mart merchandise. Some supercenters across the state also have other stores inside, such as fast food restaurants, hair salons and optometrists.

In other action, the council: ◆ Approved an ordinance that amends the zoning district map for property located in the Feuerhelm Subdivision near lake Hastings.

Following a brief public hearing, lots 7-9 were rezoned from an R-1

single-family residential district to an R-2 multiple-family residential district.

Doniphan developer Tom Lauvetz will build two duplexes and a single-family house on the property.

◆ Approved the final plat for Skye Loch Sixth Subdivision, bound by North Baltimore Avenue on the west and Laurie Street on the north.

The council approved the plat with two conditions: that curb cuts be allowed on Baltimore Avenue and a 15-foot public use easement be granted along Baltimore where a city trail will be laid.

◆ Directed city staff to prepare annexation reports for District 15 School District, the Valentine property, Westbrook Sanitary Improvement District 3 and Country Estates.

◆ Passed three resolutions for three city street and alley projects.

One resolution approved plans, specifications and cost estimates for an alley improvement district between A and B streets, from

Lexington to Burlington avenues. The others include agreements with the state of Nebraska, to resurface E Street from Burlington to Baltimore avenues, and Second Street from Minnesota to Elm avenues.

The city will receive 80 percent federal reimbursement on the resurfacing projects.

◆ Passed a resolution giving the Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad until Feb. 1 to submit a schedule to repair railroad crossings at Elm and Laird avenues.

The resolution also calls for BNSF to inspect and repair crossings at Spur 1C (Southern Hills Road), Marian Road, Lincoln Avenue, Hastings Avenue, Denver Avenue, Colorado Avenue, Pine Avenue and California Avenue.

If the deadline is not met, the city will enforce a 30 mph speed limit for BNSF trains traveling through city limits.

Currently, trains are allowed to travel at up to 60 mph.



BARRETT STINSON / AP

Walnut Middle School art teacher Jerome Dubas helps student Daniel Antle (left) with his self-portrait on Nov. 5 while Amanda Hawthorne works on hers.

The Art of Education

HASTINGS MAN EARNS STATE AWARD FOR WORK AT GRAND ISLAND SCHOOL

The Associated Press

GRAND ISLAND — Walnut Middle School art teacher Jerome Dubas knows how to motivate a class, recalled one former student who is now a successful fashion stylist.

Kristin Corman remembered Dubas' reaction years ago upon returning to his class after a brief absence and finding several pieces of artwork destroyed.

"Without art, we are but monkeys with car keys," stylist Corman recounted Dubas saying, quoting sculptor Lawrence Northey.

Dubas' style has paid off in more ways than successful students. He was recently named the Nebraska Middle School Art Educator of the Year.

Art education is not just about aesthetics or projects, Dubas said.

"The goal of a good education is to more fully understand ourselves and the world around us," he said. "Art, language arts, science, P.E. — we all contribute to that understanding."

Besides his work at Walnut, Dubas is a ceramics instructor at Hastings College, as well as an accomplished contemporary painter and clay artist.

Contemporary artists are intellectuals who reflect on modern society and produce work that mirrors the artist's understanding of current events and philosophy, Dubas said.

"The study of art in my class is directed to the understanding of contemporary art, as well as learning technical skills," he said. "My teaching at the college and my own art-making involves this same process, just on a different, more sophisticated level."

Dubas engages his students in such a way that they sometimes don't even recognize they are learning something, said Kay Stoppkotte, director of the Student Enrichment Experience Camp.

"There is never a dull moment in Jerome's classes," Stoppkotte said.

Dubas' style also paid off for his students. Walnut has been represented in the Scholastic Art Show more than other schools in recent years — quite a feat considering only 300 of more than 3,000 entries statewide are selected, he said.

"I've been very impressed with him on every occasion," said Nancy Light, supervisor of art education for the Omaha public schools.

Light recalled Dubas' impassioned speech at a Nebraska Art Teachers Conference a year ago in which he spoke of the need to motivate middle school students to express original ideas.

"I connected his words immediately to the experience I had opening the box of art works for the Scholastic Art Awards Competition," Light said. "The works from his school stood head and shoulders above what we usually see from middle school students."

JOHANN'S APPOINTS CRETE WOMAN TO REPLACE JUDGE

ANDY RAUN
Hastings Tribune

A Crete lawyer who serves as Fillmore County public defender will fill an open bench seat in Nebraska's 1st Judicial District, Gov. Mike Johanns announced Monday.

Johanns appointed Vicky L. Johnson to replace Judge Orville Coady of Hebron, who has retired.

"I was impressed with the nominees and particularly impressed with Vicky Johnson," the governor said in a news release. "She will be an excellent addition to the district court bench thanks to her broad base of experience in the Nebraska legal system."

The 1st District encompasses Fillmore, Thayer, Jefferson, Saline, Gage, Pawnee, Johnson, Richardson and Nemaha counties. The Nebraska Judicial Nominating Commission announced earlier that the new district judge would maintain his or her principal office in either Wilber or Geneva.

Other finalists for the post were Daniel Werner of Hebron, the Thayer County attorney; and Steven Reisdorff of Crete, the Crete city attorney.

Johnson, 48, is a lawyer in general practice with emphasis in criminal, real estate, juvenile and family law as well as wills, estates and trials. She has been a partner in the Johnson & Kalkwarf law firm since May 1997 and has held her Fillmore County post since 1994.

Previously, Johnson served as deputy public defender in Saline County from 1992-96 and in Thayer County from 1995-96.

She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1977 and her law degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1980.

80th Birthday



Mary Wilson will turn 80 on November 12. Her family would like to invite you to celebrate at an Open House, Sunday, Nov. 16 from 2-4 p.m. at the Community Room in Harvard, NE. Or send greetings to Mary at: P.O. Box 71, Harvard, NE 68944

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