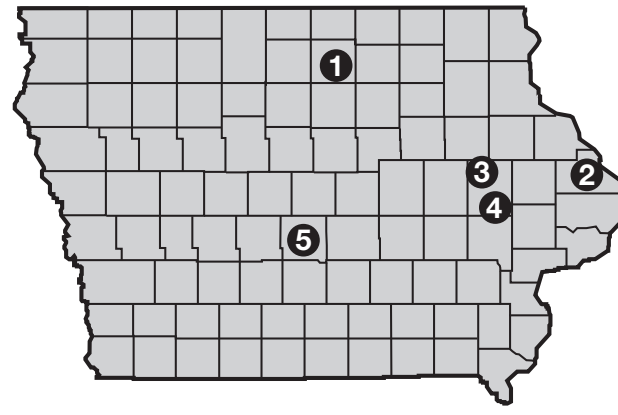


1 Police say driver was drunk, speeding at time of crash

MASON CITY — Mason City police say the driver of a sport utility vehicle was drunk and speeding in April when he crashed into a tree, killing himself and four passengers.

Police Chief Jeff Brinkley announced Monday that an autopsy shows the driver of the SUV had a blood-alcohol level above the legal limit of 0.08. The chief wouldn't specify the alcohol level of Zachary Hartley, the 20-year-old driver. Hartley and four others died in the April 10 crash.



2 Burlington police link foot found at lake to missing man

BURLINGTON — Authorities have identified a human foot found in a Burlington lake as belonging to a man who went missing in 2015. Burlington police Monday announced that DNA evidence had confirmed the foot belonged to Steven Leasure, whose family reported him missing in May 2015. A citizen walking near Lake West spotted what appeared to be a human foot and ankle in June 2016.

3 Trial moved for teacher accused of not reporting sex abuse

MARION — A judge has ordered that a trial will be moved for an Iowa kindergarten teacher accused of not reporting that a 15-year-old classroom volunteer sexually abused her students.

Linn County District Court records say Diane Graham's request was granted last week. Graham's attorneys had cited extensive media coverage of the boy's and Graham's cases. The location for the new trial hasn't been selected.

The 59-year-old Graham has pleaded not guilty to failure to report child abuse.

4 Trump's Iowa visit to include stop at college, officials say

CEDAR RAPIDS — Officials say President Donald Trump also will visit Kirkwood Community College during his visit to Cedar Rapids Wednesday.

Trump already had been scheduled to address a 7 p.m. rally at the U.S. Cellular Center. White House officials have confirmed that Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross will join Trump on a tour of the college's agriculture program earlier in the day.

5 Des Moines police ID 2 men fatally shot on Saturday

DES MOINES — Des Moines police have identified two men killed in an early morning shooting on the city's east side.

Police say officers were called just after 3 a.m. Saturday to Easton Boulevard to investigate a shooting and found two men with gunshot wounds. Police say 26-year-old Darnell Lee, of Des Moines, died at the scene, and 30-year-old Jason Smith, also of Des Moines, died at a hospital.

—The Associated Press

Data bike to pinpoint trouble spots on Iowa trails

DES MOINES (AP) — One lucky intern will have the best summer job ever: cycling central Iowa's 600 miles of paved trails on a tricked-out "data bike."

Using a 360-degree camera that sticks out like an antenna from the lime-green electric cargo bike, and a phone app that picks up vibrations caused by imperfections in the pavement, the rider will catalog trouble spots.

It's part of the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization's effort to measure the health of recreational trails and arm the agencies that maintain them with valuable data to aid budgeting decisions and

respond more quickly to damage.

"Maintaining a quality trail system is difficult," Polk County Conservation's Loren Lown said. "One of the things that's most troublesome is our ability to know when we have a fault out there, a hole in the trail or a washout."

The conservation agency manages more than 60 miles (almost 97 kilometers) of trails, including portions of the High Trestle and Great Western trails.

"(This) allows us to get out there quickly and repair the problem on site. It will make a big difference," Lown said.

Here's how it works: The cargo bike is

equipped with an electric hub so the rider can generate a constant speed, which is crucial for accurate data collection.

As the wheels run over ruts and cracks, an app designed by Canadian company Rival Solutions graphs the vibrations — similar to a seismograph — via a smartphone strapped to the frame.

At the same time, a Samsung Gear 360 camera attached to the rear of the cargo cage takes snapshots every two seconds.

The data will allow local agencies, including Des Moines and other metro cities, to pinpoint cracks, ruts and other issues.

"We can say, 'here's



In this May 22, photo, spokesman Gunnar Olson shows off the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's new "data bike" equipped with sensors and a GoPro camera in Des Moines.

your priority areas,' and they can spend the winter looking at the data. Come springtime, cities can go out and do an inspection in time for summer construction season," said Marcus Copenen, an MPO associate transportation planner and the brains behind

the project.

An added perk of the program: Cyclists will gain a 360-degree view of the central Iowa trail system, available on their smartphones.

The MPO plans to upload footage from the camera to Google. Users will be able to tour the

trails through Google Street View.

One lucky intern at Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization will have the best summer job ever: cycling central Iowa's 600 miles (almost 970 kilometers) of paved trails on a tricked-out "data" bike.

Height of Illinois levees concerning to some in Missouri

ST. LOUIS (AP) — State versus state battle lines are being drawn across the Mississippi River, with a top Missouri official urging Illinois regulators to back away from a plan allowing higher levees that could push more floodwater to the Missouri side of the river.

Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley, a Republican, sent a letter last month to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources warning that a proposed rule change on levee regulation would "threaten to substantially increase the risk of severe flooding" in Missouri. The letter echoes concerns raised by environmentalists and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

A spokeswoman for Haw-

ley said the Illinois DNR did not reply to the May 9 letter. The Illinois DNR didn't return several messages left by The Associated Press.

The issue is especially sensitive after another round of severe flooding. Torrential spring rains led to a sudden spike along portions of the Mississippi River, the Missouri River and hundreds of smaller waterways throughout the central U.S.

Levees are made of dirt and covered with grass. They range from small mounds protecting farmland from minor floods to massive structures serving as fortresses around towns and industry.

The Illinois DNR's rule change would deregulate levees, allowing those already

built to unauthorized heights to remain at those levels. It is supported by several state lawmakers and some river interests who worry about the increased frequency of severe flooding.

"Those living, working and investing along the rivers are worth protecting, so we encourage folks to invest in infrastructure to avoid chronic flooding," said Aaron Baker, executive director of the Upper Mississippi, Illinois & Missouri Rivers Association, which represents levee and drainage districts and supports higher levees.

Baker said the rule change would simply reduce burdensome regulation. But Hawley, who declined interview requests, wrote that it would

"reward bad actors, incentivize future misbehavior, and obstruct efforts to bring overbuilt structures into compliance."

The river battle is not new, and it runs both ways. Hawley's predecessor, Democrat Chris Koster, wrote to an Illinois lawmaker in 2013, warning that her proposal at the time to allow higher levees "could put Missouri levees and the property they protect in perilous danger."

Scott Whitney, a flood risk manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Rock Island, Illinois, said officials in that state have complained that some Missouri levees are too high.

A recent corps study found that nearly 40 percent

of the 205 miles of levees from central Iowa to St. Louis are above their authorized heights, some by as much as 4 feet. Missouri, Iowa and Illinois all have levees in violation of corps requirements, but Illinois has the most. There is little the corps can do about it. The agency's lone recourse is to kick offending levee districts out of a program that provides insurance to rebuild after flooding.

Rob Moore of the environmental organization the National Resources Defense Council said the Illinois rule change would create "this crazy arms race of who can build their levees the highest the fastest, which is kind of a 1900s-era approach to flood plain management."

Where to go when you need to know.

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