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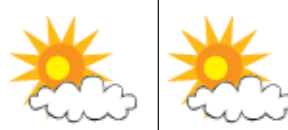


MIDWEST

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WEATHER

9 a.m. 3 p.m.



49 61

Mostly sunny and very nice

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RECYCLING

River City Recycling This Week NORTH of 15th St.



TOMORROW

NEIGHBORS: Second In Series On Farming Coops. * * *



FLOOD RECOVERY



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

This road north of Centerville remains closed weeks after recent flooding. On Thursday, U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson (D-S.D.) toured Turner County, which is seeking a presidential disaster declaration for federal assistance.

Senator Leads Flooding Tour

Johnson Sees Water Damage In Centerville, Davis Areas

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Johnson

CENTERVILLE — Davis fire chief David Bobzin intended Thursday to thank U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson for stopping in the flood-ravaged Turner County town. Instead, Johnson (D-S.D.) thanked Bobzin, his fellow firefighters and area residents for their hard work and courage while inundated with Vermillion River floodwaters. "You're doing a helluva job," the senator told Bobzin, shaking the fire chief's hand as he boarded the bus. During the fact-finding visit, Johnson and a cross-section of local leaders toured damage in the Centerville area. They extended the trip to Davis, which showed signs of the flood's aftermath even after the water receded. Sandbags remained stacked on lawns and near businesses, as if ready for another round of flooding. At one point, firefighters filled more than 10,000 sandbags, Bobzin said. "During and after the flood, it was a mess," he said. "There was a lot of work involved (with the relief effort)." Johnson led a group of officials on a tour of the region

to ensure that leaders saw the flooding's effects firsthand. The group included representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). "Unfortunately, parts of Centerville and the surrounding area suffered damage as the result of tough winter weather," Johnson said. He talked with the officials about the damage and the effects this could have on the crop season for South Dakota's farmers. "Federal officials and our local and state governments deserve praise for the way they responded to these issues as they developed," he said. "I will keep doing all I can to make sure our farmers and ranchers know how to access the insurance they depend on." Johnson encourages the farmers and ranchers impacted by the flooding to maintain close contact with their crop insurance agents. The producers need to be prepared to document their circumstances to ensure they can get the coverage they need. After the tour, Johnson said he appreciated seeing the situation up close. "It was an interesting tour," he said. "There was a lot of damage, especially for roads and culverts. But we have

FLOOD, Page 6A please

YSD School Board Candidates Hold Final Voters' Forum

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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With the upcoming Yankton School Board election less than a week away, candidates Terry Winter, Jim Fitzgerald and incumbent Chris Specht took one final opportunity to visit with voters during a forum Thursday night at the Fryin' Pan Restaurant. "I think the main challenges include budgetary and funding issues in the school," Fitzgerald said. "To address that, we need to be fiscally responsible and evaluate all areas of the school. That includes our teaching system, our administration and our facilities, making sure that we are providing a good quality education, using a good positive curriculum for our students."

SCHOOL, Page 2A please



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton School Board candidate Terry Winter, left, answers a question while fellow candidates Jim Fitzgerald, center, and Chris Specht listen during a candidate forum held Thursday night at the Fryin' Pan. The event also featured a debate with the four City Commission candidates.

City Commission Candidates Discuss Priorities

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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Part of being a city commissioner is setting priorities for the community, and the four candidates seeking seats in next week's municipal election say they will make sure those priorities are fiscally cautious. Incumbents Charlie Gross and Paul Lowrie appeared with newcomers Jeff Swedeen and Brad Woerner during a forum Thursday night at Fryin' Pan sponsored by AM 1450 KYNT and the Press & Dakotan. The election for three seats will take place Tuesday. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Asked about his priorities if elect-

ed, Woerner said that beyond the basic functions of city government — fire and police protection, as well as infrastructure maintenance — he would bring a common-sense fiscal approach. "I've said it before, it's not what we bring in, it's what we spend that will get us in trouble," he said. "I would like to maintain a fiscally conservative approach to managing the city. We need to look at the needs of the community and balance them with the wants. I think we've made some great progress lately, despite the little bit of an economic slump we're in. However, we can get through this, and we will be successful." In a similar vein, Lowrie said he

would keep his ears open to the various sides of debates and "rationally analyze" any expenditures. "We need to look at the difference between wants and needs, try to focus on the needs as much as possible and put those in the right perspective," he said. Getting the best bang for the buck requires "questioning what we're being offered," Lowrie added. "The biggest part of that is just coming to the table willing to discuss and converse with each other and the public." Other than fiscal responsibility, Swedeen said commissioners need to listen closely to their constituents.

CITY, Page 3A please

DECISION 2010

Lowrie: City Should Assist Area Interests

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the final entry in a four-part series profiling the candidates for Yankton City Commission. The election is April 13.

NAME: Paul Lowrie
FAMILY: Don and Jan Lowrie, parents
EDUCATION/OCCUPATION: BA Marketing Bethel University, St. Paul, MN; Publisher/Author William Randall Publishing, Managing Member Gurney Redevelopment Group

IF INCUMBENT, YEARS OF EXPERIENCE: Three

1. Why do you want to be a city commissioner?

I think I can offer a unique perspective on the commission by being willing to call a spade a spade once in a while. Having someone on the commission that is not status quo helps keep a healthy balance and fosters constructive discussions.

2. When it comes to working on economic growth, do you believe there are potential Yankton-friendly opportunities that the City Commission and its economic development allies have not fully explored? Do you have ideas on how the city could improve its economic development approach?

Every city is trying to get existing companies to move to their city, especially now. We should focus on three areas more aggressively:
• Recruit individuals who have left the area during college, experienced the rest of the world for a while and now want to raise a family.

VOTE, Page 5A please



Lowrie

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