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YSD Hears Of Potential For New Resource Officers

BY ANDREW ATWAL
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The potential for Yankton School District (YSD) to get two School Resource Officers (SROs) was discussed at the regularly scheduled YSD school board meeting Monday night.

Lt. Mike Burgeson of the Yankton Police Department (YPD) said officials have been working on getting funding for a five-year grant, which would place two SROs in the Yankton School District.

"Right now, we are planning on getting the grant money awarded," he said. "If all goes according to plan, they will announce grant recipients in September and award the money in October."

If the money is awarded, YPD will hire two new officers to replace the two who are transferred into YSD. Training for the SROs would begin next spring, with officers fully integrated into the district for the start of the 2014 school year.

There is a contingency plan in place if the grant money is not awarded.

"If we don't get the grant funding, we would continue with business as usual with YSD," Burgeson said. "We would still make sure kids know some of the issues in schools and there are also other grants out there that we could apply for."

Any SROs for the district would be fully armed, as is the case with SROs in other districts across the region.

Burgeson said since Jan. 1, officers have been called into YSD to help deal with 10 disturbances-of-school cases and one simple assault case. He added SROs can help alleviate these problems.

"SROs would help with instruction, along with working with counselors and school principals," Burgeson said. "They'll also help to coordinate school safety plans and help with security at the major sporting events. They'll be very busy."

Also Monday, Board members discussed the impact of Title I and class-size reduction funding at the meeting.

"We're still waiting for the federal government to notify the state government about funding being available," said YSD superintendent Joe Gertsema. "After that, the state government would notify us about funding."

He added that he believes Title I funding will continue because it is the main avenue in which the federal government controls testing requirements.

Last year, board members did not become aware that funding would be available until the summer.

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City Eyes Plan For Water Restrictions



City Manager Amy Nelson weighed in on a proposed water conservation ordinance during Monday's Yankton City Commission meeting. A public hearing for the ordinance is set for April 22.

KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Emergency Plan Is Proposed After Problems Last Summer

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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In response to water supply challenges faced last year, the Yankton City Commission opted Monday to set in motion the process of approving a water conservation ordinance.

A mixture of equipment failures, intake issues and high water demand put a strain on the water treatment system during the summer of 2012. The proposed ordinance would provide four stages of water conservation measures that could go into effect based on the severity of the situation.

"I appreciate your work and that of your staff on this," Commissioner Jake Hoffner told Environmental Services Director Kyle Goodmanson. "I think it's well-written."

The city has the capacity to treat approximately eight million gallons of water per day. To date, maximum usage has peaked at 7.2 million gallons in a day.

The ordinance lays out four stages that can be implemented:

- In Stage 1, conservation measures could go into effect when usage reaches 75 percent of water capacity, which would be six million gallons. Lawn irrigation would only be allowed every other day, and no irrigation would be allowed from noon to 5 p.m.;

- In Stage 2, water usage will have reached 85 percent of capacity, or 6.8 million gallons. Lawn irrigation would be allowed one day per week with no irrigation allowed between noon and 5 p.m.;

- In Stage 3, water usage will have reached 90 percent of capacity, or 7.2 million gallons. All lawn irrigation would be restricted; and

- In Stage 4, water usage will have reached 95 percent of capacity, or 7.6 million gallons. All outdoor water usage would be restricted, and users will be requested to limit indoor usage, too.

"There would have to be some staff determination of when we enact (the ordinance)," Goodmanson said. "You're not going to enact it based on one day. We'd have to see continual days at (high capacity). Some of that would be based on staff direction in terms of, are we keeping our towers full? Are we going to have the water we need for fire protection and things like that?"

The decision to base the ordinance on the percentage of capacity being used was due to the fact that it addresses issues like equipment failure or intake issues that may reduce the amount of water that can be treated in a day.

If the decision is made to initiate the ordinance, the city will notify the public through media outlets and whatever other forms of communication it has at its disposal.

Goodmanson said the city could

Local Drive To Collect 1 Million Soda Pop Tabs Reaches The Top

BY ANDREW ATWAL
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There are a million reasons why renowned children's author David Schwartz will be coming to Yankton later this month.

Because many of his books are based on the number 1 million, officials decided to attempt to raise 1 million soda pop tabs by the time Schwartz visits in late April.

Last year, the Yankton Reading Council, which is a group of school teachers and administrators, decided to bring Schwartz to Yankton.

Officials contacted Schwartz to see if he could come to Yankton this spring. When they found out the cost of an appearance, the organization took its leftover money from the year before and received numerous donations from parents' organizations in Yankton, as well as Home Federal Bank, to make the appearance possible.

Schwartz will be in Yankton for four days, beginning April 22. He will speak at two schools each day, and will give a presentation for the public to attend April 23 at Yankton Middle School.

Thanks to support from community members, that goal has been reached.

"Once the word got out there, people came and brought their own pop tabs in," said Sacred Heart School librarian Jane Goeden. "Ability Building Services also had been collecting tabs and donating them to the Ronald McDonald House. However, they donated 100,000 pop tabs to our collection."

In gearing up for Schwartz's visit, teachers are doing several projects based on his books.

"He has a number of camouflage-type books, so we've had students make their own with poems based on the creature with camouflage," Goeden said. "We also turned one of his books into a song, and we hope to present that to him when he speaks here."

Lincoln School principal Paul Struck said



P&D FILE PHOTO: KELLY HERTZ

In this photo from January, Laurie Holan of Yankton displayed some of the pop can tabs that were being collected as part of a drive to collect 1 million tabs by April.

Kathleen West, who was previously a principal at Stewart School, approached the Reading Council with Schwartz's name and information about his books. Officials ultimately chose Schwartz over other authors because his books incorporate the Common Core Standards, which South Dakota has been moving towards.

Goeden said that most of Schwartz's books are educational, and primarily based on math and science skills.

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England's 'Iron Lady' Dies

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Passes Away At 87

BY GREGORY KATZ AND ROBERT BARR
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Love her or loathe her, one thing's beyond dispute: Margaret Thatcher transformed Britain.

The Iron Lady who ruled for 11 remarkable years imposed her will on a fractious, rundown nation — breaking the unions, triumphing in a far-off war, and selling off state industries at a record pace. She left behind a leaner government and more prosperous nation by the time a mutiny ousted her from No. 10 Downing Street.

Thatcher's former spokesman, Tim Bell, said that the former prime minister had died Monday morning of a stroke. She was 87.

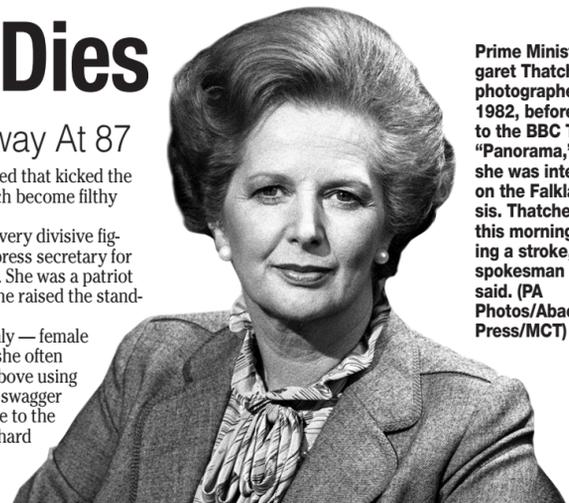
For admirers, Thatcher was a savior who rescued Britain from ruin and laid the groundwork for an extraordinary economic renaissance. For critics, she was a heart-

less tyrant who ushered in an era of greed that kicked the weak out onto the streets and let the rich become filthy rich.

"Let us not kid ourselves, she was a very divisive figure," said Bernard Ingham, Thatcher's press secretary for her entire term. "She was a real toughie. She was a patriot with a great love for this country, and she raised the standing of Britain abroad."

Thatcher was the first — and still only — female prime minister in Britain's history. But she often found feminists tiresome and was not above using her handbag as a prop to underline her swagger and power. A grocer's daughter, she rose to the top of Britain's snobbish hierarchy the hard

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Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is photographed in 1982, before talking to the BBC TV's "Panorama," where she was interviewed on the Falklands crisis. Thatcher died this morning following a stroke, her spokesman Lord Bell said. (PA Photos/Abaca Press/MCT)



City And School Elections Today!

Local Polls Are Open From 7 a.m. To 7 p.m.

NOTE: Yanktons voting centers for today's joint elections can be found at the following locations:

- 1 City Hall416 Walnut
- 2 4-H Building709 Whiting Drive
- 3 JoDean's2809 Broadway

SPORTS



Son Of Legendary USD Coach Writing Book About Dad • 7

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Career Fair Springs Into Action This Thursday

Spring is a time for change, and at the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (SDDL) Yankton office, officials are hoping that change is new employment for job-seekers.

To assist area residents in finding work, the office will be holding its third annual Yankton Career Fair from 1-6 p.m. Thursday at the Technical Education Center at 1200 W. 21st St. The event is open to everyone and is free of charge.

"We're trying to encourage anyone looking for employment or seeking a better job or different employment to attend," said Lacey Curr, manager of the SDDL Yankton office. "It's a good opportunity to get that face-to-face contact with employers. A lot of times, you don't get that anymore. You only submit an online application. So it's a good opportunity to get out and meet employers and network."

More than 40 employers from Yankton and surrounding communities are expected to attend the fair. A wide range of employment sectors will be represented, including manufacturing, health care, corrections, service, finance and government.

Representatives from each employer will be present to offer information about potential employment opportunities. Some employers also will be discussing specific job openings, and people attending the fair are asked to bring their resumes and be prepared to complete job applications. As with previous Yankton Career fairs, veterans and spouses will be given priority of service.

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