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Yankton Lands SO State Basketball Tourney

City Is Awarded Three-Year Contract To Host Event

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

Yankton's Summit Activities Center has hosted two state girls' basketball tournaments and countless other events.

been added for the next three years. Yankton will play host to the Special Olympics South Dakota State Basketball Tournament for the next three years, 2011-2013, organizers announced Wednesday.

The process to bring the tournament, which had been held in Mitchell in recent years, to Yankton started with two groups thinking on the same track at the same time.

Jan Putnam, the local coordinator for Special Olympics, knew Yankton had the facilities to host the tournament but she was not

sure on the manpower. "My first thought was that we're a small group," she said. "Do we have the people to contact the hotels and line up everything that needs to be lined up? It's a big undertaking."

Then came a call from Lisa Scheve, director of the Yankton Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB).

"When Lisa approached us, we breathed a sigh of relief," Putnam said. "Here was someone that knew about bringing a big event to town and what needed to be done."

The Yankton Department of Parks and

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Candidates Address Immigration In Debate

BY WAYNE ORTMAN

Associated Press Writer

SIOUX FALLS — Republican House candidate Kristi Noem said Wednesday that she supports Arizona's immigration law and criticized Democratic Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin for supporting the federal government's challenge to it.

Noem is challenging Herseth Sandlin for South Dakota's only House seat, and the two appeared with independent candidate B. Thomas Marking for the first time Wednesday at the Sioux Empire Fair. They spent 90 minutes answering written questions from the audience.

Noem said she would have tried to block funding for a Department of Justice lawsuit challenging the Arizona law, which would require state and local police to question and possibly arrest illegal immigrants during the enforcement of other laws such as traffic stops.

"When we are sitting here in a recession and need dollars to go to our priorities, our priorities should not be our administration and our country suing our states when all they want to do is protect their people," she said.

Herseth Sandlin, who is seeking re-election to a fourth full term, said blocking funding for the Justice Department lawsuit "sets a terrible precedent."

"Can you imagine a state passing a law that violates someone's voting rights and not allowing the Department of Justice to raise constitutional questions? That's what this amendment would have done," she said.

Legal immigration strengthens the nation but illegal immigration gradually erodes Americans' charity to the less fortunate, Marking said.

"The other issue that comes up is how long can you ask American citizens to obey the law if you are rewarding non-citizens for breaking it," he said.

Noem also tried during the debate to link Herseth Sandlin to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and government spending. Herseth Sandlin responded that she's stood up to presidents and leaders from both political parties.

Marking said he can best represent South Dakota voters as an independent without ties to a political party and promoted the idea of a website that residents could use to guide his vote on major issues.

He also said one way to create jobs is to rewrite the tax system, adding a national consumption tax and taking from Congress what he called its "primary tool for doing mischief: the income tax code."

Noem said job creation will follow if the federal government reduces spending and get the nation's



Noem



Herseth Sandlin

INSIDEtoday



MMC Bound

Yankton's Nelson To Play Baseball For Mount Marty. PAGE 8

THE REGION

NWS: Microburst Possible Cause Of Lake Damage. PAGE 3

WEATHER

9 a.m. 3 p.m. 82° 91° Mostly cloudy, scattered thunderstorms

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RECYCLING

River City Recycling This Week NORTH of 15th St.



TOMORROW

RIVER CITY: Concert Set For Dakota Theater Aug. 21



TWO ON MOTORCYCLE INJURED



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Two people were transported to the hospital with unknown injuries following a three-vehicle incident on Highway 52 about three miles west of Yankton at approximately 8:30 Wednesday night. A motorcycle carrying two people was traveling eastbound when it was rear-ended by a car. The two people on the motorcycle were ejected from the bike and into the box of a pickup truck that was traveling eastbound in front of them.

The truck also sustained damage in the gate where the two people collided with it when they were ejected. The South Dakota Highway Patrol and the Yankton County Sheriff's Office were on the scene, as were fire and emergency personnel.

YSD Looks To The Future

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE

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For Yankton School District (YSD) Superintendent Dr. Joseph Gertsema, looking to the future is a necessary part of his job description. In order to help guide YSD, there needs to be set goals that identify the needs of the district both short and long-term.

That is where strategic planning comes into play.

"One of the good things about the strategic planning process is it has let us look long term at the status of the Yankton School District," Gertsema said. "(Strategic Planning) gives us a chance to stretch our imaginations to decide what we want the district to look like in the future. If you establish a goal to improve the school district, you also have to get serious about how you are going to achieve that goal and how you are going to pay for it. It requires us to meet the challenges."

PLAN, Page 14 please



Gertsema

Petition Started To Get Third And Broadway Traffic Signal

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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A local man has initiated a petition drive in an attempt to convince the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) to erect a traffic signal at Third Street and Broadway Avenue.

Wade Ven Osdel, 52, of Yankton said he was motivated to begin circulating a petition a couple weeks ago out of a concern for people's safety.

"I've observed elderly people and children trying to walk across that inter-

section when there is traffic coming," he said. "Drivers do not respect pedestrians. Why should an elderly person have to dodge traffic to get to the (Yankton County Government Center)? Someone is going to get hurt one of these days."

With a new Ability Building Services residential facility now open at Third Street and Locust Street a few blocks to the west, that could mean even more pedestrians using the intersection to reach the downtown business district, Ven Osdel added.

The petition requests a signal light at

SIGNAL, Page 14 please

YC Jail Held Record Number Of Inmates In July

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Jail Officer Les Drake keeps an eye over the busy Yankton County jail Wednesday afternoon from his perch in the facility's control room. The jail set single-day population records in both June and July.

While many businesses and government institutions have been struggling with the ongoing recession, the Yankton County jail has been kept busy with historically high traffic.

During July, the jail had its highest ever population for one day with 67 prisoners. The previous high number of 62 was set in June. The daily average population for the jail jumped from 37.5 in May, to 54.5 in June and 54.6 in July.

According to Yankton County Sheriff Dave Hunhoff, the increase is due in no small part to a contract with the U.S. Marshals Service.

When the Yankton Federal Prison Camp began sending fewer prisoners to be held in the jail in the last few years, Hunhoff said he sought to replace that

revenue source. "We went out and looked for other inmates," he said. "I wrote letters to all the U.S. marshals in surrounding states trying to drum up business."

One of the biggest hurdles to getting the Marshals Service interested in Yankton is that federal court hearings are held in Sioux Falls, according to Hunhoff.

"I asked them if we could transport for them," he said. "I don't know if it's done in other parts of the country, but I made that offer."

After months had passed, a contract came in the mail, and the Marshals Service began using Yankton in the spring. The number of federal prisoners being held in the county jail has ranged from one month to 28 since that time.

Of the nearly \$192,000 in revenue generated by the jail this

JAIL, Page 14 please

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27th ANNIVERSARY August 13th-14th FREE Hot Dogs & Beverage FRI. & SAT. 11AM-1PM

Minneapolis Weekend Giveaway w/tickets to Nickelodeon Theme Park w/Free Lodging & Other Prizes Drawing Sat., Aug. 14