

## Bill Conkling... A trusted name in the real estate business

I am a life long resident of Yankton and have been engaged in the real estate business for over 5 years.

I gained most of my real estate knowledge from my late parents, Bill Sr. and Sherry, who were longtime realtors in Yankton. The most important lessons I learned were about honesty and integrity when dealing with customers. I look forward to the opportunity to help you with your real estate needs and to make your experience as pleasant as possible.

**Let me help you turn your dreams into an address.**

**Call Bill Conkling 660-0618**

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www.yanktonareahomes.com

# The Voyage To Discovery

## Like Meridian, Discovery Bridge Had A Long Road From Dream To Reality

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
The Press & Dakotan

Today, the Discovery Bridge stretches across the Missouri River. Composed of tons of concrete and featuring spires that reach to the sky, it is a grandiose southern gateway to Yankton.

But in its planning stages, the bridge project had a hard time finding its feet.

Due to continuing input from regulatory agencies and a paperwork mix-up, the bid-letting for the bridge was delayed by the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) several times.

It was the 1980s when area business and political leaders started sewing the seeds for the new bridge. In the 1990s, momentum for the project built and government agencies began setting aside funding for its construction. Now, on the eve of construction, community leaders were anxious to overcome the final hiccup in a decades-long process.

On May 2, 2007, the project got some good news that set the stage for its successful completion. At the NDOR headquarters in Lincoln, Neb., the bid-letting was completed and the Jensen Construction Company of Des Moines, Iowa, put forth a \$23.9 million bid for the project.

The contractor was no stranger to the Yankton area. It had also built the Missouri River bridges at Newcastle-Vermillion and Niobrara-Springfield.

The Discovery Bridge, a joint NDOR/South Dakota Department of Roads (SDDOT) project, was now on schedule for a winter 2009 completion date.

It was also on that pleasant spring day that the Building Yankton's Bridge to the Future Committee (BYBC) settled a minor controversy in the bridge process by dropping the "Yankton" from the official title of the structure. For several months after the name was announced, some Nebraskans had grumbled that it wasn't just Yankton's bridge — it was theirs, too.

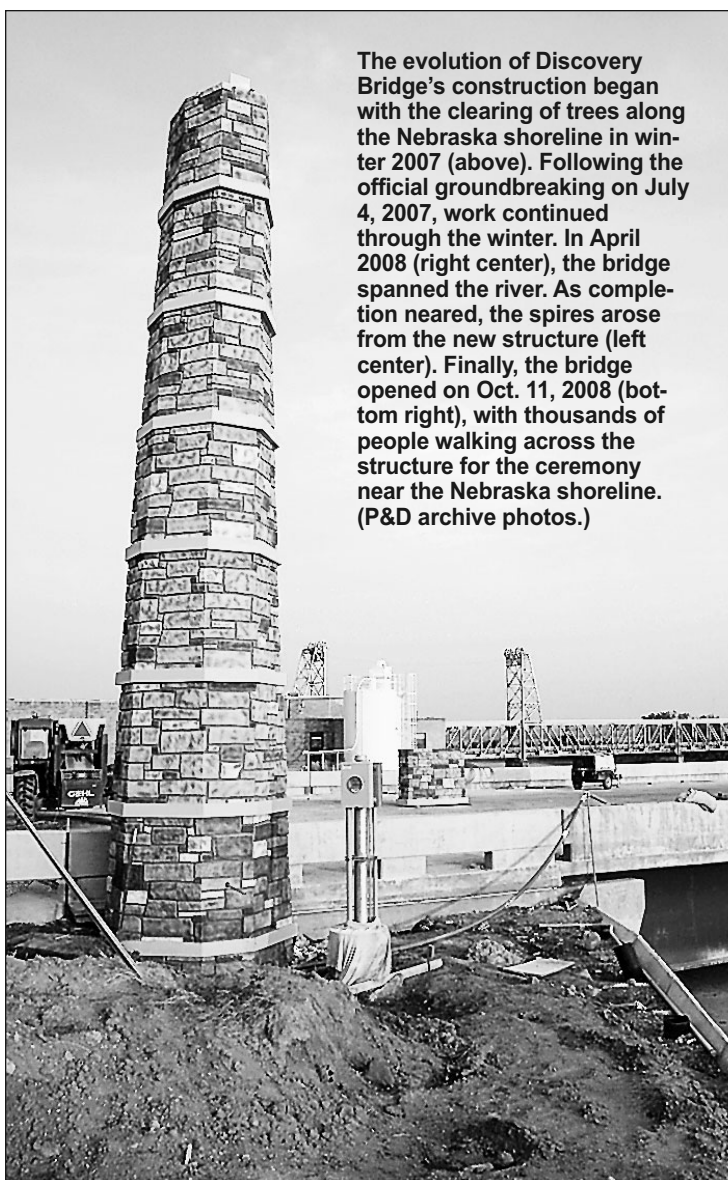
"It's the 'Discovery Bridge,' let's leave it at that," said Jim Black, chairman of the BYBC. "The 'Yankton' has been dropped."

It didn't take long for Jensen Construction to announce a new timeline for bridge construction — one that exceeded all expectations.

By the end of May, before construction had even commenced, the company said it hoped to wrap up work on the new bridge by the end of 2008, a full year ahead of what the NDOR had projected.

With construction work in its infancy, area residents held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Discovery Bridge on July 4, 2007.

An estimated crowd of 250 people huddled under the shade of trees at Yankton's Broadway and Riverside Drive intersection that hot holiday morning as they took in



The evolution of Discovery Bridge's construction began with the clearing of trees along the Nebraska shoreline in winter 2007 (above). Following the official groundbreaking on July 4, 2007, work continued through the winter. In April 2008 (right center), the bridge spanned the river. As completion neared, the spires arose from the new structure (left center). Finally, the bridge opened on Oct. 11, 2008 (bottom right), with thousands of people walking across the structure for the ceremony near the Nebraska shoreline. (P&D archive photos.)



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# Lisa's Liquor

401 Picotte, Yankton  
605-665-2188

With 35 years in business, Lisa's Liquor has been and still is, owned locally. Lisa's is currently owned and operated by Phyllis Schwandt of Yankton. Lisa's Liquor began business in 1976 at 4th and Broadway. In 1978 the business moved to its current location at the corner of 4th Street (Hwy. 50) and Picotte Street.

The liquor store offers a large selection of wine, spirits and cold beer along with ice, pop, chips, mixers and accessories.

Conveniently located along Highway 50 (4th Street) in Yankton. The store has easy access parking for vehicles of all sizes and a drive up window. Store hours are 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and is closed on Sundays.

Check out Lisa's website at [www.lisaspageliquor.com](http://www.lisaspageliquor.com)