



Partly Cloudy

9 a.m.: 65 | 3 p.m.: 75 | DETAILS: PAGE 2

WEDNESDAY ■ August 7, 2013



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YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

Volume 139 Number 87

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | 12 PAGES | www.yankton.net

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American Profile

INSIDE



Spry

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Yankton Man Arrested After Construction Site Fatality

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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A Yankton man has been arrested in Wyoming after allegedly running over and killing another man at a construction site.

According to reporting by Paul Wallem of the Basin Radio Network, 31-year-old Andrew Ames was arrested Monday for driving under the influence of alcohol by the Wyoming Highway Patrol.

A report was received at 6:16

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'A Lot Of Uncertainty'



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) speaks about economic issues Tuesday at the Yankton Rotary Club's weekly meeting at Hillcrest Golf & Country Club.

Obamacare Slowing Growth, Thune Says

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Uncertainty surrounding the Affordable Care Act is one of the primary hindrances to the country's economic growth, according to Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.).

Thune spoke about the state of the economy Tuesday at the Yankton Rotary Club's weekly meeting at Hillcrest Golf & Country Club.

"I've talked to employers here in South Dakota, and I've talked to employers all across the country," the senator said. "One of the recurring themes that you hear is, 'We don't know how this is going to impact us. We don't like the mandates. We don't like the taxes associated with it. And we're really concerned with how it's going to impact our bottom lines.'"

One of the health care law's stipulations is that businesses with at least 50 employees

must provide qualifying health benefits to workers, Thune said. This has caused employers to re-evaluate their workforces, he said. "There's a disincentive for businesses to grow, and there's an incentive to reduce their workforce to get under the 50-employee limit," he said.

Thune added that the delay in the implementation of the employee mandate, now set for Jan. 1, 2015, shows that businesses are struggling to comply with the law.

"All these forces are converging on the economy at a time when the economy is kind of sputtering, and there's just a lot of uncertainty on what the impacts are going to be," he said. "Therefore, I think a lot of employers are saying, 'We're not going to hire people, and we might encourage people to take part-time work as opposed to full-time work.' And I think that's having a real impact on the unem-

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County Commission:

No Need To Fix What Isn't Broken

Yankton Co. Not Likely To Consolidate Elected Offices

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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After an informational session Tuesday, it doesn't appear the Yankton County Commission will pursue the consolidation of any elected offices in the near future.

Commissioner Garry Moore suggested to the commission earlier this year that the option allowed under state law may be of benefit to the county. The commission agreed to have a question-and-answer session via teleconference with South Dakota Association of County Commissioners Executive Director Bob Wilcox and Hughes County Manager Kevin Hipple to learn more about it.

Although the state statute allowing county commissions to combine two or more county offices through an ordinance that has existed for more than a decade, only four counties have taken such measures.

"There really hasn't been much chatter to me about this issue for quite some time," Wilcox said.

Brookings County has combined the auditor and treasurer offices; Buffalo County has combined the auditor and register of deeds offices; Hughes County has combined the



Moore

auditor, register of deeds and treasurer offices; and Perkins County has combined the auditor and treasurer offices.

Wilcox speculated that the law may have been passed with sparsely-populated counties in mind.

Hughes County combined its three offices around the turn of the millennium, according to Hipple. A finance officer, who is elected every four years, now oversees the offices.

"Our commission chose to do that when they had two of those (elected) officers leaving, so they had an opportunity where they did not have to displace an existing elected official," Hipple said. "The person who was elected finance officer was already a county employee and served in that position until early this year, when we got our second-ever finance officer."

"For our purposes, it's worked very well," he continued. "We have a finance officer, and then she has chief deputies (in each of the offices). What that does

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Muralist's Career Paints A Broad Stroke

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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IRENE — When he was painting a mural in a Vermillion bar several years ago, Greg Preheim attracted some celebrity spectators.

"I was painting (University of South Dakota mascot) Charlie Coyote at the bar, and he was surrounded by a group of co-eds with the phrase 'Everybody Needs A Hobby,'" he said.

The Irene artist noticed he had drawn an audience — USA Today founder Al Neuharth, a USD alumnus, and NBC's Meet The Press moderator Tim Russert. Both men were on the USD campus for Russert's acceptance of the Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in the Media.

Neuharth and Russert have passed away, but the memory re-

mains very much alive for Preheim.

"They were just watching me paint," Preheim said with a smile. "I turned around and said, 'I'm a big fan, can I get an autograph?'"

Preheim has drawn many admirers himself during the past half-century. He has rolled out thousands of hand-painted scenes on "canvases" ranging from bedrooms and billboards to casinos and race tracks.

"I have been doing this for 50 years, since 1963," he said. "I started doing it full-time, professionally, right after I graduated from Irene High School and received my sales-tax license."

However, Preheim knew he was destined for an art career at a much earlier age.



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Irene artist Greg Preheim, whose career spans 50 years, stands next to his latest creation — a mural at Yesterday's Cafe in Yankton with Marilyn Monroe and a poodle-skirted teenage girl as part of the retro theme. The mural also includes Lucille Ball, Elvis Presley and James Dean.

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Wakonda Man Pleads Not Guilty In Sex Abuse Case

BY TRAVIS GULBRANDSON
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VERMILLION — A Wakonda man has pleaded not guilty to two counts involving the abuse of a 13-year-old girl.

Larry Rederick, 38, appeared in the Clay County Courthouse Tuesday morning in regard to the charges of sexual contact with a child under 16 and sexual exploitation of a minor.

Rederick was indicted by a Clay County grand jury on Aug. 1 after an investigation by the Clay County Sheriff's Office.

Judge Glen Eng said Tuesday that if Rederick is convicted, there will be an enhancement of the charges due to prior convictions, with sexual contact being considered a Class 2 felony and sexual exploitation a Class 5 felony.

If he is convicted of the enhanced charges, Rederick will face a maximum of 25 years in the

WAKONDA | PAGE 11

her·voice YANKTON STAYCATION GIVEAWAY

Staycation Package #1:

Best Western Kelly Inn.....	One Night's Hotel Stay
Fox Run Golf Course.....	One 18 Hole Round with Cart & 3 Range Tokens
Summit Activities Center.....	\$50 Gift Certificate
Avera Sacred Heart Massage.....	\$60 Gift Certificate
Xtreme Salon & Spa.....	\$50 Gift Certificate
The Old Lighthouse.....	\$50 Gift Certificate
Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce.....	\$50 in Chamber Bucks

Staycation Package #2:

Fox Run Golf Course.....	One 18 Hole Round with Cart & 3 Range Tokens
Summit Activities Center.....	\$50 Gift Certificate
Avera Sacred Heart Massage.....	\$60 Gift Certificate
Riverfront Events Center.....	One Night's Hotel Stay
Xtreme Salon & Spa.....	\$50 Gift Certificate
The Old Lighthouse.....	\$50 Gift Certificate
Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce.....	\$50 in Chamber Bucks

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TOMORROW: Recent Rain Gives Area Crops A Boost

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:
NORTH
OF 15TH STREET