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INSIDE



On The Run At YAA



Julie Amsberry has been named the new executive director of Yankton Area Arts. She said her goal is to make the public more aware of the organization and to get more people involved in artistic endeavors.

Amsberry Takes Over The Reins At Yankton Area Arts

BY JORDYNNE HART jordynne.hart@yankton.net

The new Yankton Area Arts (YAA) director is ready to hit the ground running starting her first week on

the job. On Aug. 1, YAA announced Julie Amsberry as its new executive director during a public reception at G.A.R. Hall. YAA hired Amsberry because of her combined background in both arts and education. She holds a degree in music education from the University of Northern Iowa and was previously a vocal instructor at Yankton High School. Amsberry also helped produce the short film "A Requiem for Emily." It was filmed in Yankton and released in 2012. The film cast many Yankton High School alumni for lead roles. Recently she has worked as a office manager for Judi's Dance Studio and The Green Room Dance Studio. Amsberry will begin working for the organization full time on Aug. 12. "I'm really excited. I think this job is going to be a great challenge for me," she said. "I want to get my feet on the ground and run a little bit, and this job will definitely let me do that. This is the perfect position for me."

With her new job, Amsberry is ready to face YAA's biggest challenge — making its name better known.

"As a teacher of the arts here, I didn't even know this place existed. So just letting people know who we are around town will be a challenge," Amsberry said.

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BY JULIE PACE AND ROBERT BURNS Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama authorized U.S. airstrikes in northern Iraq Thursday night, warning they would be launched if needed to defend Americans from advancing Islamic militants and protect civilians under siege. His announcement threatened a renewal of U.S. military involvement in the country's long sectarian war.

In a televised late-night statement from the White House, Obama said American military planes already had carried out airdrops of humanitarian aid to tens of thousands of Iraqi religious minorities surrounded

by militants and desperately in need of food and water. "Today America is coming to help," he declared. The announce-



The announcements reflected the deepest American engagement in Iraq

since U.S. troops withdrew in late 2011 after nearly a decade of war. Obama, who made his remarks in a steady and somber tone, has staked much of his legacy as president on ending what he has called the "dumb war" in Iraq. Obama said the humanitarian airdrops were made at the request of the Iraqi government. The food and water supplies were delivered to the tens of thousands of Yazidis trapped

USA Weekend

* * *

"I want to make sure that Yankton knows who we are and that we are here."

To get the name out, YAA has been doing an artistic project to celebrate 30 years of the Yankton Area Arts Summer Arts Festival, called "Do you have eyes for the Arts?" For the past 25 days, YAA has been placing sets of eyes in locations throughout Yankton. People who list off locations of the eyes and

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Power Project Intended To Suit Future Needs

BY ROB NIELSEN

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NorthWestern Energy is gearing up to boost the power capacity of the Yankton area with a \$22 million project set to get under way soon.

The project will include a switch yard — which intercepts the company's 115,000-volt line — at Napa Junction, a substation on Whiting Dr. east of town and approximately 12 miles of transmission line connecting the switch yard and substation.

Operations manager Brad Wenande said the hope is to start the work as soon as possible, with 2015 targeted as a finish date.

"We're actually going to start here this fall now that we have all the approvals that we need," Wenande said. "We have Slowey Construction doing dirt work for us and then we'll have other contractors that will be moving in for us this fall to do underground work, concrete work and also putting up steel for the substation itself. Then, over the course of 2015, we'll build the transmission line and then finish the construction on both the switch yard and substation."

The company is aiming have all the facilities energized and in service by late 2015.

The project was on the radar for around five to seven years, but Wenande said the drive to get the ball rolling on the project stemmed from a desire to do preemptive work on Yankton's future power needs.

"The main driver is the loads that we're seeing in and around Yankton," he said. "Right now with our one existing transmission



COURTESY PHOTO

NorthWestern Energy's \$22 million project to boost power capacity in the Yankton area includes a switch yard at Napa Junction (marked in red near the top of the map), a substation along Whiting Dr. (marked in yellow to the east of town) and a 12-mile transmission line between the two locations.

substation, we have 80 megawatts of capacity. In the summertime, Yankton can see loads on a hot day of up to the 65-megawatt range. We're not completely maxed out on our capacity yet, but we're getting to the

point where we knew it was time to make the investment."

The new substation will add 60 megawatts of capacity to the system around

POWER | PAGE 10A

Yankton Joins USD's Howling Pack

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Frequent visitors to University of South Dakota sporting events, Rob and Amber Ness of Yankton can recall wishing their town – a 25-minute drive from Vermillion – had some sort of official organization.

Something that could unite Coyote

fans in the Yankton area. "You go to games, and you see a lot of Yankton people there," said Rob, who like his wife, attended USD.

"Hopefully it won't take long to see that excitement grow."

That hope has now become a reality.



Yankton is one of four new chapters - the others are Rapid City, Sioux Falls

and Vermillion – of the USD Howling Pack, a booster club that raises money for student-athlete scholarships. The chapter, kick-started by the efforts of Jeremy and Jennifer Kudera of Yankton, will host a Coyote football tailgate event on Saturday at the Lewis & Clark North Marina Shelter.

It is welcome news for Coyote fans like the Ness', who serve on the Yankton chapter committee with three other couples.

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