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SPORTS



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Delmont Ordinance Takes On Animals

BY ELIZABETH "SAM" GROSZ
P&D Correspondent

DELMONT — A referendum vote is certain for an ordinance passed recently in Delmont banning virtually all animals and insects, except certain household pets, from being kept by residents.

The ordinance was adopted by the city council of the small southeastern city of less than 250 residents, despite strong opposition. Delmont residents converged on a special city council meeting Aug. 14 to voice opinions about the restrictive ordinance that had many residents wondering why the rush and why the action was needed at all.

It applies to all residences with 11 acres or less of property... or virtually everyone.

Two council members, Earla Strid and Scott Andersh, asked that the council take more time and consider alternatives, rather than outright bans. But they were outvoted by the other four aldermen.

The following morning petitions calling for the referendum were presented to the finance officer. Those petitions contained over 30 names, where only 10 were needed.

Horses can be seen grazing on the outskirts of town, and numerous yards have small enclosed chicken coops for a good supply of breakfast eggs. Community gardens planted this spring are producing in abundance, thanks to a healthy number of wild bee hives in the area.

The new ordinance will not affect the ownership of dogs, cats, "aquarium fish, rabbits, hamsters, gerbils or similar small common household pets." Unless, of course, they are found to be dangerous and a nuisance.

Those residents who currently own chickens and other livestock are "grandfathered in" until the animal dies or leaves the property. It cannot be replaced, according to the new ordinance.

The brouhaha started four months ago when Trish Mahoney and her adult son, Paul, moved to a small acreage on the northwest corner of Delmont. Trish Mahoney, unable to work because of a disability, almost immediately started researching city ordinances and found there was nothing to prevent her from starting a small hobby bee farm. She also obtained state approval, she said.

Neighbors to the east, Margie and Jim Gilbert, also moved to Delmont early last year with the

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Riverboat Days: #RBD14 Lifts Off



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Riverboat Days 2014 touched down in Yankton Friday, signaling the start of the 31st annual festival. This year's theme is "Out of the World," and many entries in the children's parade Friday afternoon were true to that inspiration. Five-year-old Maddox Hovden (above) of Yankton went space age with goggles and antennae. Other entries ranged from space aliens to superheroes. After the opening ceremonies, the crowd at the Riverside Park amphitheater were entertained by members of Yankton's Green Room Dance Studio (right), as more than 100 dancers performed in the program "Come Sail Away." A concert by the Rumbles and fireworks capped off Friday's festivities. Riverboat Days continues today (Saturday), starting with the annual parade at 9:30 a.m. To see or purchase images from Riverboat Days, visit spotted.yankton.net. Also, share your experiences on Twitter with the hashtag #RBD14.



Neb. Jobless Rate Rises To 3.6 Percent

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's preliminary unemployment rate inched up to 3.6 percent in July, according to a state report released Friday.

That's a tenth of a point above the revised June rate of 3.5 percent, the Nebraska Labor Department report said, but four-tenths of a point under the July 2013 rate of 4 percent.

The new Nebraska figure remained well below the preliminary national unemployment rate of 6.2 percent in July, which was a tenth of a point above the revised June figure of 6.1 percent.

"July marks 11 straight months of year-to-year decreases in the unemployment rate," said acting Labor Commissioner John Albin. "The number of unemployed workers continued to decline on a year-to-year basis, and the labor force held steady at more than 1 million workers."

Last month the state listed 36,770 people as unemployed, compared with 36,205 in June and

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Darrel Mogck has been driving school buses accident-free for the Yankton School District for 40 years. In June, he received the South Dakota School Transportation Association's (SDSTA) School Bus Driver of the Year award.

Yankton Bus Driver Wins Award

BY ROB NIELSEN
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If a child has attended a public school in Yankton over the last 40 years, chances are high they've ridden in a school bus driven by Darrel Mogck at some point. When school starts in Yankton next week, they'll be riding with an award-winning driver. In June, Mogck was awarded the South Dakota School Transportation Association's (SDSTA) School Bus Driver of the Year award.

Mogck said the award took him by surprise.

"I couldn't believe it," Mogck said. "I didn't really even think I was close in the running. I thought maybe there were some better people out there than me."

This was the first time Mogck had been nominated and that a Yankton-area driver had won the award.

Mogck said it's quite a feeling to earn such a distinction.

"It's overwhelming to think you're the number one bus driver in the state," he said. "There's a lot of bus drivers and a lot of other people who do things good too. I'm kind of humbled by that."

He added that he'd like his bus driving record to be an example.

"I hope I can set an example for other people," he said. "When I started, I wish I would've kept track of miles because I've been accident-free for 40 years. I hit a deer coming back from Watertown - which can happen - but other than that, everything's been good, and I hope things keep going that way."

Mogck said his job of shuttling kids to and from school and extracurricular activities had humble enough beginnings, and eventually

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Planners Gear Up For Halloween Fun

Planning Is Under Way To Put Together
Halloween Celebration In Yankton

BY JORDYNNE HART
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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Festival Planner Cathy Clatworthy holds some festive gear. She is the founder of Yankton's first Harvest Halloween Celebration.

Planning for Yankton's first Harvest Halloween Festival has consumed planners Cathy Clatworthy and Kelsey Thomas's souls for the past year.

What started out as just a group of friends hanging out is now becoming a huge community event for Yankton.

"We were all out saying how great it would be to have a harvest festival. Then we started brainstorming and we had ideas like hay bail mazes, parades and a spooky forest," Clatworthy laughed. "We asked ourselves, 'Why don't we?' Kelsey and I were the only willing victims to follow through with it."

But neither realized how much

work it was going to be. Besides planning a huge festival, they also each own their own business.

"We had to go through a lot of people to make this possible. The city is a big help and a hurdle. We have to get everything on the same page with them so we make sure we have everything in line so that it's safe for everyone," Thomas said.

This includes planning the event, deciding activities and getting streets closed and being covered with insurance.

"We started with zero funds. Insurance is expensive. You have to worry about public safety. But it will be worth it," Clatworthy said. "It is necessary to do things like this for our city. We have been applying for mar-

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