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## Ready To Bid Again

### New Bid-Letting For Highway 50 Project Looms

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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Early in the year it was expected that the stretch of Highway 50 between Marne Creek and Broadway Ave. would be in the middle of a major reconstruction project. However, the project was put on indefinite hold in late March after it only received a single bid well over the engineer's estimate.

Officials are set to try letting bids for the project again Sept. 2 with plans to begin the project in 2016. They are confident they'll be more successful this time around.

Rod Gall, South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) area engineer for Yankton told the *Press & Dakotan* that the process will benefit from looking at a time when contractors are starting to plan for the following year.

"We're hoping they're real close to the engineer's estimate," Gall said. "This is the time of year a lot of contractors are starting to look for work next year."

The *Press & Dakotan* reported in March that the engineer's estimate on the project is \$10 million. The lone bid, provided by D&G Concrete Construction of Sioux Falls, came

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ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Don and Marlys List are preparing to serve as grand marshals for this year's Riverboat Days Parade. The Lists have long been active with the military and related causes in the Yankton area.

Riverboat Days

## Lists Set To Lead RB Days Parade

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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Don List has spent more than 25 years marching with the honor guard in more parades than he can count — including many Riverboat Days parades.

But Don's wife Marlys said this year, he was told by a member of the Riverboat Days committee he would not be filling this capacity in the 2015 edition of the parade.

"(Dave Wright) said, 'Don, you're going to have to get somebody else to lead the honor guard at the Riverboat Days parade,'" Marlys said. "He said, 'You folks are going to be parade marshals.'"

Don said it came as a huge surprise to him.

"I just didn't expect myself and her, too," Don said. "It just knocked me off my feet. I couldn't believe it."

He added that he was very honored to be named a marshal.

"There's got to be a lot of other people to do it rather than me," he said. "But I feel so honored that I was chosen. I can't express my humble thankfulness of it."

This year's Riverboat Days Parade is set for 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Riverboat Days committee co-chairman John Kraft said the year's theme saluting veterans was one of the main factors behind bringing a grand marshal back to the Riverboat Days parade — a concept that has been absent from the

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## Wanted: A Few New Friends

### New Group Aims To Promote The Virtues Of MNRR

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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On Monday, the Missouri River found a new voice.

The National Park Service (NPS) hosted an open house at the Dakota Territorial Capitol in Riverside Park. The open house kicked off the NPS' centennial year, but it also rolled out the newly-formed Friends of the Missouri National Recreational River (FOMNRR).

The Friends — a private, non-profit organization — will promote fundraising and advocacy for river issues, said Paul Lepisto of Pierre. Lepisto, who chairs the FOMNRR organizing committee, also serves as regional conservation coordinator for the Izaak Walton League of America.

"The timing couldn't be better for those two (announcements) to dovetail together," he said. "The Friends have been an overnight success that has taken two years so far. We are building an awareness (of the organization)."

The MNRR runs from Pickstown to Ponca, Nebraska. The 59-mile stretch, established



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Organizing committee chairman Paul Lepisto encourages Monday's audience in Yankton to join the newly-formed Friends Of the Missouri National Recreational River (FOMNRR). Lepisto has worked with a number of Yankton-area events as regional conservation coordinator for the Izaak Walton League of America.

in 1978, runs from Gavins Point Dam near Yankton to Ponca. The 39-mile stretch, established in 1991, runs from Fort Randall Dam at Pickstown to Running Water.

"We want these two stretches, as gorgeous and unique as they are, to stay intact for the next generation," Lepisto said.

While working with the NPS and other agencies, the Friends will remain a separate organization with its own identity, Lepisto

said. It will provide a unified voice for the many groups already working on the river's behalf, he said.

In addition, the Friends can take on functions as a private organization that federal agencies aren't permitted to do, he said.

"We hope to do even more for the Mis-

MNRR | PAGE 11

## Morning Blaze



PHOTO: YANKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Firefighters responded to a unoccupied mobile home fire Monday morning at 1:51 a.m. on Yankton's east side. The fire was discovered by the police department on patrol. The fire originated in the rear porch area of the home that had furniture stored in it. During the fire the gas line ruptured underground and operations had to be backed off until the gas company could dig the lineup and shut the gas off. Firefighters were on scene for about two hours. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Union County

## Search Continues For Missing Swimmer

From P&D Staff Reports

ELK POINT — The search continues for a 19-year-old swimmer who went missing Sunday afternoon in the Missouri River near Elk Point.

Union County Sheriff Dan Limoges told the *Press & Dakotan* he had no new developments to report as of Monday afternoon.

"We're still in search mode," he said. "We have a lot of assets in the water."

Around 3 p.m. Sunday, a group of individuals were swimming in the Missouri River just west of Elk Point

when the teenage swimmer went missing, Limoges said.

The search began Sunday and continued Monday, the sheriff said.

Assisting with the search are the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks; Nebraska Game and Parks; Ponca Fire and Rescue; Yankton Search and Rescue, the Union County sheriff's personnel and Union County emergency management.

The name of the missing individual is still being withheld.

## Traffic Deaths Up Sharply In First 6 Months Of Year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Traffic deaths were up 14 percent nationally in the first six months of this year and injuries were up by a third, according to data gathered by the National Safety Council.

An improved economy and low gas prices have encouraged Americans to put a record number of miles on the road, said Deborah A.P. Hersman, president of the council. But, she said, that's not the whole explanation for the increase in deaths and injuries.

All told, nearly 19,000 people across the country lost their lives in traffic accidents through June, and the tally doesn't include two of the historically highest months for traffic deaths, July and August, said the council, a nonprofit organization created by Congress to promote safety.

If the trend continues, traffic deaths this year could exceed 40,000 for the first time since 2007, when there were nearly 44,000 deaths, Hersman said in an interview. The increases began in the last quarter of 2014 and have been recorded consistently through each month of this year, Hersman said.

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