

Move

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was astonishment and excitement.”

The move-in process began at 8 a.m. and was finished by 10 a.m., two hours before the planned conclusion.

“The move-in committee did a really good job in making sure it went smoothly,” Erickson said. “There were enough movers present in order to make it a smooth transition. They should be

commended for doing a good job.”

The hospice center connected with ASJCC is still undergoing construction. Erickson estimates it will be complete by late February.

The move was originally scheduled for Dec. 1 before being pushed to Dec. 8. When it became apparent the work on the building wouldn't be complete by then, the new move-in date was Dec. 22.

“We wanted to make sure everything was done so the residents and staff didn't have to jump around contractors,” said Erickson.

Now that the residents are moved out, the cleaning process for the AYCC will begin. The building will be cleared out and ready for Mount Marty College (MMC) to claim ownership by Jan. 1.

When the decision was made to create the new Sister James addition, the board of directors for AYCC ultimately decided MMC would benefit from the extra space.

“We are affiliated with the Benedictine Sisters and MMC, so it made sense to look at the decision through a community partnership perspective,” Erickson said.

“It was a good decision to give it to MMC and will be a good decision for our community going forward.”

With the move complete, ASJCC is now the largest long-term care facility in the state.

The ASJCC is a 55,000-square-foot addition to the Avera Sacred Heart Majestic Bluffs campus. In addition to the hospice center and the private rooms, there is a “town center” that includes a deli, pub and movie theatre.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Krysta Anson, a Household Guide, prepares resident Marilyn Perry to leave the Avera Yankton Care Center for her new room at the Avera Sister James Care Center.

Greek Parliament Legalizes Same-Sex Civil Partnerships

BY DEREK GATPOULOS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Greece's parliament has overwhelmingly approved legislation legalizing civil partnerships for gay couples, two years after the country was condemned by a European human rights court for discrimination.

In a result announced early Wednesday, lawmakers voted 193-56 in favor of the bill to extend civil partnerships to same-sex couples, but provisions regarding family law that could pave the way for adoption applications by gay couples were dropped before the vote.

Conservative bishops in Greece's powerful Orthodox Church vehemently opposed the law, arguing that it undermined the institution of family.

“Homosexuality is a deviation from the laws of nature. It

is a social crime, a sin. Those who experience or support it are not normal people,” said Bishop Amvrosios of the southern town of Kalavryta, where church bells tolled Tuesday in opposition to the bill.

In a 2013 ruling, the Council of Europe's Court of Human Rights found that Greek legislation was discriminatory and ordered Greece to pay damages to the gay couples who brought the lawsuit.

Civil partnerships, introduced in 2008, are favored by couples seeking legal rights without getting married or who are deterred by lengthy divorce procedures. But same-sex couples were barred from civil partnerships.

Lawmakers from the governing leftist Syriza party backed the bill, standing to clap when it passed, while the

main opposition conservatives were split on the vote.

The human rights group Amnesty International called the new law a “significant and historic step in the right direction.”

Several hundred pro-gay rights protesters gathered outside parliament before the vote, under a large banner that read “Love is the law.”

“This is a good start, even though this law doesn't cover everything,” Philippos Paganis, a 21-year-old member of the gay rights group Colour Youth, told the AP.

“We want to keep up the pressure ... for same-sex marriages to be allowed — that gives you more rights — and to make it easier for people to declare their gender,” he said.

Band

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is going to cause troubles in the long run.”

The songs for the show include rock classics like “Shout It Out Loud” and “Mustang Sally,” which fit into the usual playlists for YHS pep band. Carr hopes to permanently add these song selections to the repertoire.

Not only will the band members gain new songs, but also new experiences.

The WorldStrides program brings in bands from across the country, and also recruits prestigious band directors from universities to direct the half-time performance.

“In addition to the musical experience they gain from

participating in the event, they also get to travel to another area of the country,” Johnke said. “They also gain from a great bonding experience with their fellow band members.”

These opportunities also help boost morale for the YHS band members. Because of the decline in enrollment that area schools have suffered over the past several years, it can be difficult for activity numbers to stay consistent.

Fortunately, YHS has had a steady increase of band members, according to Carr. In the past two years, the band has gained approximately 30 students.

“There is a little bit of recruitment that goes along with it,” Carr said. “The kids get this experience and they feel good about what they are

doing. That means we can kind of work a little harder the next year. I call it a pay day. You work really hard for a long time and eventually you get paid. This trip is their pay day.”

The bus is set to leave at 3 a.m. Saturday morning on a 30-hour trek to Orlando. Although not excited for the drive, students are looking forward to reaching the beach, Carr said. Students are also provided with a two-day pass to Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, along with a recognition and dance party at Universal Studios before they return to the winter of South Dakota on New Years Day.

Follow @alwooc01 on Twitter.

Keystone

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project as dead Tuesday. Obama has one year remaining in his second and final term as president.

“They're going to have to start from ground zero again,” said Robin Martinez, a lawyer from Kansas City, Missouri, who represents opponent Dakota Rural Action.

William Taylor, a lawyer from Sioux Falls who represents TransCanada, said the company isn't giving up now with a new president 13 months away.

“The project has not been abandoned,” Taylor said. “We don't know what the next president will do.”

Nelson, the PUC's chairman, said a rejection by the next president would mean the project's end in South Dakota.

“I think that's something to keep in mind,” Nelson said.

Christmas & New Year Holiday Deadlines

The Press and Dakotan will be closing at noon Thursday, Dec. 24, and closed all day Friday, Dec. 25.

The Press and Dakotan will also be closed Thursday, Dec. 31 at 3:00 pm and closed all day Friday, Jan. 1.

Publish Date	Deadline Date
Sat., Dec. 26	Tues., Dec. 22
Mon., Dec. 28	Tues., Dec. 22
Out On The Town	Wed., Dec. 23
Tues., Dec. 29	Wed., Dec. 23
Wed., Dec. 30	Thurs., Dec. 24, Noon

FRIDAY DEC. 1 - NO PAPER

Sat., Jan. 2	Tues., Dec. 29
Mon., Jan. 4	Tues., Dec. 29
Out On The Town	Wed., Dec. 30
Tues., Jan. 5	Wed., Dec. 30
Wed., Jan. 6	Thurs., Dec. 31, 3pm

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Happy Holidays

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Craft: How to Make an Un-Meltable Snow Person!

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:

- large plastic jar with lid
- cotton balls or fiberfill
- orange felt scrap
- four buttons
- masking tape
- pom-pom for hat
- white glue
- two twigs

- Soak the jar in warm water to remove the label and glue gunk. Dry completely.
- Stuff the jar with cotton balls or fiberfill.
- Slip two buttons between the side of the jar and the filling for the snowman's buttons.
- Slip two buttons between the side of the jar and the filling for the snowman's eyes.
- Cut a triangle nose from the orange felt scrap and slide into place. Slip in the twig arms next.
- Use masking tape to stick a pom-pom on the jar's lid to make a ski hat.

Save the Snowman!

Yikes! This snowman needs to hop back to the large iceberg fast! Only the chunks of ice that add up to exactly 21 can keep him from sinking. Use your math skills to save him!

START

FINISH

Circle the two identical scarves.

Snowman Shapes

Look closely at the shapes that make this snowman. Complete the graph by coloring in one space for each shape you find.

square	star	rectangle	triangle	circle
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How many candy canes can you find on this page in one minute? Have a friend try. Who found more?

Extra! Extra!

Santa Comes to Town

Pretend Santa has to buy unique presents using the ads in your newspaper. Select a gift for everyone in your class using ads in the paper. Don't spend more than \$500.

Standards Link: Math / Number Sense: Solve addition problems using money amounts.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Frosty Fractions

Color half of these snowflakes green.

Color three quarters of these snowflakes purple.

Color one third of these snowflakes red.

Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

G	R	A	P	H	S	T	A	R	F
G	I	B	C	A	A	H	C	R	U
B	H	W	U	O	D	P	A	N	B
L	N	O	T	T	O	C	I	P	G
C	N	O	L	E	T	Q	R	J	E
A	O	B	S	I	U	O	N	A	N
N	M	C	O	E	D	I	N	R	F
D	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	S	U
Y	S	Q	U	A	R	E	Y	G	O

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Winter Weather Words

Is the weather outside frightful? Look through the newspaper for words describing cold winter weather. Now write an essay about a winter storm that includes a description of the weather using those words.

Standards Link: Writing: Write stories using descriptive details.

Write On! Santa Claus Memories

Pretend you are Santa Claus and have a special memory. Write a paragraph describing that memory.

A cool gift to make with your parents!

- Fill one clean baby food jar with hot cocoa mix. Fill another one with mini marshmallows.
- Use permanent markers to draw a snowman face on the top jar and buttons on the bottom jar.
- Paint the top lid black. Glue on a curled strip of black construction paper to form his top hat.
- Put a large blob of hot glue on the lid of the lower jar to stick the jars together.
- Wrap a construction paper scarf around the middle and hot glue it in place.