



Thickening Clouds, Light Snow

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MONDAY ■ February 10, 2014



Hastings College Sweeps Past MMC ■ 7

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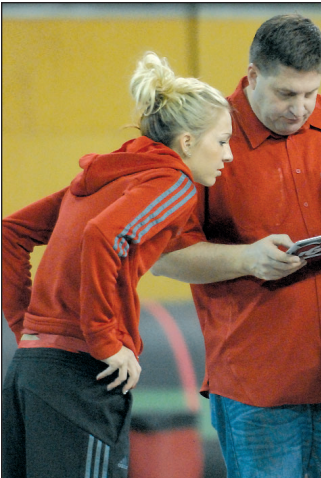


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## SPORTS



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## Victims In Friday Crash Identified

From P&D Staff Reports

The identities of the two victims involved in a Friday traffic accident north of Yankton have been released.

According to a press release from the Yankton County Sheriff's Office, Becky Marie Leapley, 57, of Yankton was southbound driving a 2004 Mitsubishi EDV. Her vehicle crossed the center line into the oncoming lane. Lloyd Harvey Mork, 64, of Irene was northbound driving a 2002 Chevrolet K1500 pickup. He moved into the southbound lane but Leapley's vehicle returned to that lane. The vehicles collided head-on and came to rest in the middle of the highway.

Both drivers were wearing seatbelts. Both were dead at the scene.

The accident happened approximately 75 yards south of the intersection of 304th St., or the Utica road, at 5:26 p.m.

No further information is immediately available.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol is investigating. Yankton County Sheriff's Office, Yankton Fire and Rescue and Yankton Emergency Medical Service assisted.

# Needed Regulation?

## SD Bill Would Regulate Health Insurance Helpers

BY NORA HERTEL  
Associated Press

PIERRE — The so-called navigators who help uninsured people sign up for insurance under President Barack Obama's health care overhaul would be regulated under a bill in the South Dakota Legislature.

The sponsor, Sen. Al Novstrup, acknowledges that he opposes the Affordable Care Act, often called Obamacare. But the Aberdeen Republican said supporters of the health care law

might also support his proposal because it provides additional protection for people seeking insurance.

"The main thing we're asking them to do is register. Let us know who they are. Let us have the ability to do a background check if we choose to," Novstrup said. "If I'm handing over my date of birth and my Social Security number, I might want to know if that person is a felon or not."

But critics of Novstrup's bill and similar efforts in other states have said such regulations are designed to add red tape that will hinder ef-

forts to enroll people for insurance policies available through online marketplaces called exchanges.

"This is clearly an attempt to block fair implementation of the ACA," Jonathan Gruber, an economist at MIT who helped design the health overhaul law, said in an email message. "There is no reason other than denying insurance coverage to state residents to impose these requirements."

Novstrup's bill would require the state Insur-

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## A Boost For YSD



COURTESY PHOTO

The Yankton School District (YSD) last week received a state Career and Technical Education grant of more than \$280,000. The money will aid the district in expanding its technical-related educational offerings. Pictured meeting in Pierre are, from left: YSD Supt. Wayne Kindle, District 18 Rep. Bernie Hunhoff, District 18 Sen. Jean Hunhoff, Yankton High School Principal Jennifer Johnke, Yankton Middle School Principal Todd Dvoracek and District 18 Rep. Mike Stevens.

# Yankton School District Receives \$280K CTE Grant

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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Students in the Yankton School District who may be interested in a technical-related career are about to see a barrage of opportunities become available to assist them in that goal.

Yankton was one of 12 districts across South Dakota last week to receive more than \$8.5 million in Career and Technical Education (CTE) grants by Gov. Dennis Daugaard.

The amount awarded to Yankton was \$280,325 for regional CTE offerings, which will be put to good use, according to YSD superintendent Wayne Kindle.

"Providing an opportunity for both college bound students and those heading to technical schools is very important to us as

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DR. WAYNE KINDLE

a school district," Kindle said.

Following an announcement by the governor's office late last year that approximately \$5 million in CTE grants would be available, the Yankton district jumped at the opportunity, Kindle said.

Yankton was then informed on Jan. 4 that its submission advanced to the final round of review. Kindle said, which gave the district a three-week deadline to submit final documents.

Then came news of the amount, which was welcomed with open arms in Yankton, ac-

ording to Yankton High School Principal Jennifer Johnke.

"When we first found out about this, we looked at it as a great opportunity for our students," Johnke said. "The opportunities this will give them is really a great thing."

The grants were made available through the South Dakota Future Fund, which was created by former Gov. George Mickelson to "invest in South Dakota's work-

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## Inaction On Immigration, Trade In Congress

BY DAVID ESPO  
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Little more than a week after Groundhog Day, the evidence is mounting that lawmakers have all but wrapped up their most consequential work of 2014, at least until the results of the fall elections are known.

"We've got a lot of things on our plate," House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said recently when asked what Congress will be busy with this year, but he predicted no breakthrough accomplishments on immigration, taxes or any other area.

"Why don't we just pack up and go home?" countered House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California after Boehner blamed President Barack Obama for lack of movement on immigration. "What we're supposed to do is legislate and not make up excuses as to why we don't."

Immigration legislation is hardly the only area where inaction is the likeliest outcome.

A Senate-passed bill has fallen into the congressional equivalent of a black hole in the House, where conservative critics cite a changing series of reasons for not wanting to take action.

Initially, they said they didn't want to vote on a bill because they oppose amnesty for immigrants living in the country illegally. Then they observed it would be a political mistake to shift focus away from their own opposition to the health care law, which unites them, and turn it onto an issue that divides them. Most recently, Boehner, who has said repeatedly he wants to pass an immigration bill, has joined others in citing a lack of trust with Obama as a reason for inaction.

If immigration legislation is moribund in the House, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., has made it clear he doesn't intend to seek passage of a second Obama priority, this one a bill to facilitate passage of

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# Yankton Sees Fewer Fires In 2013

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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As the calendar turned from one of the driest years in recent memory into one of the rainiest, the Yankton Fire Department saw a slight decrease in the number of calls it responded to in 2013.

"It was sure nice to have a little bit of a break like that," said Yankton Fire Chief Tom Kurtenbach.

The total number of calls for last year was 221, a 13 percent decrease from the 250 calls in 2012 — in which South Dakota and the region experienced a drought. The year before that, in 2011 (the year of the Missouri River flooding), there were 231 calls.

Though the number of accident calls were also down in 2013, the reports had more to do with the weather, Kurtenbach said.

"The big impact was the rain," he said. "We didn't have near the grass fires we had before."

Still, Kurtenbach cautioned that a decrease does not mean there were significantly fewer issues with which to deal.

"At the same point, while they're down, they're not fluctuating a ton," he said. "We still have a number of the other calls, like carbon monoxide and other odor smells."

Among the calls within the Yankton city limits, 39 required a full department response (the same number as the previous two years), while 97 calls required only the chief or deputy chief — an increase from 87 in 2012.

"We're pretty conservative on how we send out a full response," Kurtenbach said. "Obviously, we won't hesitate to page them (when necessary), but a lot of time it's common practice for us to check it out first."

Total man hours for the calls was



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The Yankton Fire Department saw a 13 percent decrease in calls during 2013, thanks to the wetter weather. However, the value of damaged property — such as buildings, as in this rural mobile home fire last July — were up last year.

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TOMORROW: 'AgriVisions' Looks To The Future

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: SOUTH OF 15TH STREET