



## Windy And Bitter Cold

9 a.m.: **-14** | 3 p.m.: **-8** | DETAILS: PAGE 2

**MONDAY** n January 6, 2014



**Mitchell,  
Yankton  
Split In ESD  
Action ■ 7**

# YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



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PHOTO: YANKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
**Cold conditions contributed to this fire near Yankton Saturday night. Firefighters were called to Robin Roost Campground on Highway 121 west of Murdo's in Nebraska at 11:31 p.m. for an unoccupied-cabin fire. The owner discovered the fire when he went to check a heat lamp that was being used to thaw a frozen pipe under the cabin. The fire consumed the entire interior and crawl space of the cabin. Some extinguishing efforts were hampered until the power company arrived from Hartington to disconnect the electricity. No injuries were reported, and while some nozzles and hoses froze up, there was no equipment broken. Fourteen firefighters were on scene for about two hours.**

## The Deep Freeze

### Dakotas, Neb. Brace For Brutal Wind Chills

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Residents of the Dakotas are used to cold winters, but temperatures and wind chills not seen in about a decade moved into the region Sunday.

Phillip Schumacher, a National Weather Service meteorologist with the Sioux Falls office, said 20 mph to 40 mph winds out of the northwest brought much colder air into the region, and the low temperatures overnight would combine for wind chills of 40

below zero to 50 below zero.

South Dakota's largest school district made the decision to cancel Monday classes in Sioux Falls, giving kids a day off.

The city also closed its Great Bear Recreation Park public ski area and outdoor ice rinks for Sunday and Monday. Just three people had braved the weather to visit Falls Park, where the

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### Many Area Schools Closed

The Yankton School District announced on Sunday that, due to Monday's expected frigid weather conditions, there will be no school for the Yankton School District today (Monday.)

Several other area schools have also announced that they will not hold classes on Monday: Alcester-Hudson, Allen, Bon Homme, Centerville, Crofton, Dakota Valley, Elk Point-Jefferson, Freeman, Freeman Academy, Gayville-Volin, Irene-Wakonda, Laurel-Concord, Marion, Marty Indian, Menno, Parkston, Ponca, Tripp-Delmont, Viborg-Hurley, Wagner and Wynot.

Alcester-Hudson also announced that it would open two hours late on Tuesday.

To announce a weather-related schedule change, school officials are encouraged to email [news@yankton.net](mailto:news@yankton.net). If it is a sporting event, please also email it to [sports@yankton.net](mailto:sports@yankton.net)

## School Boards Seek Restoration Of Aid To Pre-Recession Level

BY BOB MERCER  
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The governor's proposal to the Legislature for state aid to K-12 education is a two-sided coin.

On one hand, South Dakota's public school districts would see a 3 percent increase in their per-pupil funding from state aid and general-education property taxes.

On the other hand, school districts would still be receiving less than before the budget cuts passed in 2011 at Gov. Dennis Daugaard's request.

The Associated School Boards of South Dakota hope the Legislature will restore per-pupil funding back to the pre-cut level of \$4,804.60 per pupil.

The allocation for the current school year is \$4,625.65. The governor's plan would provide \$4,764.42.

Covering the difference between his proposal and the pre-cut allocation would require another \$5.4 million beyond his recommended amount, according to the state Bureau of Finance and Management.

The same day as the governor announced his recommendation last month, the Associated School Boards issued a statement calling for additional money to make a full restoration.

The Legislature's interim study committee on the school finance formula has recommended restoration.

But the 8-7 vote to propose HB 1004 by the committee signals how difficult that could be in the full Legislature.

"There is some support but I don't think we have enough," ASBSD executive director Wade Pogany

said a few days ago. "We will lobby hard to get schools restored to the pre-cut levels."

Prior to the cut, the Legislature appropriated nearly \$343 million for state government's share of the per-pupil allocation.

That was 56.6 percent of the total amount of approximately \$616 million. The remainder came from local general-education taxes.

The cut made in 2011 affected only the state's share. It was part of cuts throughout state government made necessary by the recession.

The general-education tax levies weren't reduced, however. That move came at the suggestion of Sen. Larry Rhoden, R-Union Center.

His reason: School districts wouldn't be hurt as much.

The result was local property owners started paying a greater share of the per-pupil allocation.

That effect can still be seen in the governor's 3 percent increase proposed for the coming year.

State government's share would be 53.8 percent under the governor's plan, still below the 56.6 percent ratio from before the cut.

One of the defenses made by members of the Daugaard administration is school enrollment overall has risen in the past few years.

For the pre-cut year, enrollment totaled 124,016 students. For the coming budget year, enrollment is estimated to be 131,250 students.

Based on the governor's proposed per-pupil allocation of \$4,764.42, the total need from state government and local taxes would be approximately \$466.6 million.

**FUNDING** | PAGE 2

### A Kitchen Expansion



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

**These volunteers are shown working in the cramped kitchen area of the Kiwanis 4-H Ice Arena Saturday during youth hockey games between Yankton and Watertown. The Yankton County 4-H and the Yankton Area Ice Association are currently partnering with Schwan's Home Services in a fundraiser aimed at updating the kitchen facility.**

## Kiwanis 4-H Ice Arena Working To Update Facilities

BY DEREK BARTOS  
[derek.bartos@yankton.net](mailto:derek.bartos@yankton.net)

In an effort to continue promoting activities for area youth, two organizations are teaming up to cook up some funds.

The Yankton County 4-H and the Yankton Area Ice Association, in partnership with Schwan's Home Services, are currently attempting to raise approximately \$25,000 to rebuild the outdated kitchen facility at the Kiwanis 4-H Ice Arena.

"It's very important that both

hockey and 4-H be able to use that kitchen," said Ryan List, president of the Yankton County 4-H Leaders Association. "It's a big part of both associations."

The Yankton County 4-H and the Yankton Area Ice Association both rely on sales from the concession stand and soup kitchen events to fund their programs and to provide opportunities for their participants, said Julie Perakslis, Yankton Area Ice Association board member.

"It takes a lot to maintain the

building, and the concessions really help us keep our costs down for registration," she said. "We're really proud that we're one of the cheapest hockey rinks around — probably in the country."

Both organizations share the facility, Perakslis said, with the ice association using the building in the winter and 4-H occupying it in the summer. Last year, the Yankton County 4-H approached the ice association about renovating the

**KITCHEN** | PAGE 2

## Fire Leads To Arrest For Suspected Meth Lab

From P&D Staff Reports

A Friday structure fire in Yankton has resulted in one person being arrested for housing a suspected meth lab.

In a press release, the Yankton Police Department said Laray Lee Slate, 25, was arrested for unauthorized manufacturing of a controlled substance (a class 4 felony) and a parole violation.

At 4:09 p.m. Friday, a house fire was reported at a residence in the 500 block of East Eighth St. Two subjects were treated by EMS and released at the scene.

After the fire was extinguished, authorities found components of a one-pot meth lab inside the home.

This case was investigated by the Yankton Fire Department, Yankton Police Department and the State of South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

**Yankton Fire Chief Tom Kurtenbach (left) secures the breathing gear for a firefighter about to enter a house that was ablaze Friday in Yankton. An arrest was subsequently made in the incident after law enforcement found what they described as components for manufacturing methamphetamine.**

## Yankton Caregiver Support Group To Begin Meetings

BY DEREK BARTOS  
[derek.bartos@yankton.net](mailto:derek.bartos@yankton.net)

A local group is looking to offer help to those who help others.

Yankton's Caregiver Support Group will be holding its first public meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 13, at the Calvary Baptist Church Library at 2407 Broadway Street. The meeting will offer an informal, confidential setting for area caregivers to receive information on and support for a variety of topics, including medical, physical, emotional, spiritual and financial issues.

"We're sharing what we do and how we get through life's challenges when caring for a loved one who

needs long-term care," said the group's guide, Karen Schoenfelder.

While many areas are covered, the group focuses on how to deal with situations that arise and the well-being of the caregiver, Schoenfelder said.

"I make the analogy that, when the oxygen mask drops on a plane, you need to take the first breath so that you can support your companions on the flight," she said. "That's kind of what you have to do with caregiving. You have to take care of yourself so you can take care of your loved one."

Schoenfelder started the caregivers group a little more than a year ago, hoping to use the experience she

**GROUP** | PAGE 10

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been...



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