



Mostly Sunny

9 a.m.: 39 | 3 p.m.: 54 | DETAILS: PAGE 2

WEDNESDAY ■ January 28, 2015



Scotland Girls Fall To Bridgewater-Emery In Basketball PAGE 9

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One-Act Action



The fearless Walter Mitty (Tyler Kaul, center) barks orders at his flight crew (Kelsey Hovorka and Carter Mecham) during a dangerous mission in a fantasy sequence from "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Bon Homme High School's entry in Tuesday's Region 1A One-Act Play Contest...

Yankton Considers Its Own CO Code

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Could Become Mandatory In Certain Dwellings

BY ROB NIELSEN rob.nielsen@yankton.net



Nickles

While the state of Nebraska is currently considering legislation that would mandate the inclusion of carbon monoxide detectors in all homes and apartments, the Yankton Fire Department (YFD) is looking ahead to potential carbon monoxide detector requirements in the city's residential fire code when the 2015 revision of the International Fire and Building Code is accepted.

Deputy Fire Chief Larry Nickles told the Press & Dakotan Tuesday the new international code includes requirements for detectors in certain residences that have at least one gas appliance. "In the 2015 (code), it states that if there's a gas appliance in (one-two family dwellings), there is going to be a provision for carbon monoxide detectors to be installed in the home," Nickles said.

Nickles said the code doesn't make provisions for multi-family dwellings such as apartment complexes.

Detectors start at around \$25 and up. He added that people need to make sure their detectors are up to date.

"Carbon monoxide detectors now, on average, last about five years — that is the life of the sensor," he said. "When they first came out, they were roughly 18 months. A smoke detector is around 10 years. The thing we run into there — and there's nothing wrong with them as long as you remember to do it — is that with a combination detector, the carbon monoxide detector is going to be up before the

CODE | PAGE 14

Ag Faces Climate Of Change

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

PARKER — South Dakota has seen warmer temperatures in recent years, which will continue to affect its agricultural practices, a state official said.

South Dakota state climatologist Dennis Today spoke Tuesday during the Southeast Experiment Farm's annual meeting, held at the Parker Community Center. He noted the long-range findings of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) national climate assessment.

"The NOAA says we've seen temperature change during the last 100 years," he said. "Climate change is real."

Last year's cool weather in the state actually contained warming in a different sense, Today said. He pointed to the sta-

"We are seeing more changes in the late season, when the corn and beans are still transpiring."

DENNIS TODAY

tistics for eastern South Dakota from last June, July and August.

"The big difference is in the low temperatures, not the high temperatures," he said. "We're warming, but we're warming differently. We're seeing higher nighttime temperatures."

In addition, South Dakota's cooler summer was not reflective of global warming seen elsewhere around the world, Today said.

"It was warmer everywhere else but

here," he said. "The eastern two-thirds of the United States was cool, but everybody else was warm. Europe and western Russia saw record warm temperatures. From a global standpoint, it was warm."

The current warm weather, bringing the January thaw, has occurred for a different reason than normally expected, Today said.

"I would like to say El Nino and make it easy, but it's not. We have had a marginal El Nino since last fall," he said. "The jet stream has more so kept the cold front in Canada and shunted it to the east. We're taking advantage of it with these warmer temperatures."

Today thinks the warming trend will continue. "If I had to say, I would lean on



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

South Dakota state climatologist Dennis Today explains the impact of climate change on agricultural practices during the Southeast Experiment Farm's annual meeting held Tuesday at the Parker Community Center.

CHANGE | PAGE 14

Disease Outbreak Measure Advances

BY KEVIN BURBACH Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota could more easily respond to deadly disease outbreaks under a measure passed Tuesday in the state House of Representatives.

The bill, brought by the state Department of Health, would modernize the state's authority to respond to serious communicable diseases. Despite passing the House 41-27 following an amendment that narrowed its scope, the bill faced opposition from lawmakers concerned that it gave the state too much authority.

Health officials said the state's laws are antiquated and need to be updated to protect South Dakotans from modern diseases that are easily spread, like the Ebola virus.

The proposal originally gave the state the authority to monitor, quarantine or isolate people suspected or confirmed of having a top-tier communicable — or Category 1 — disease. It was amended Tuesday to cover just five, in-

DISEASE | PAGE 14

Time Running Out For Uninsured

Official Urges Enrollment By Feb. 15 Deadline

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE shauna.marlette@yankton.net



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Gloria Baca of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Denver Field Office, discussed healthcare signups during at stop at the Press & Dakotan Monday.

Time is running out for individuals who don't currently have health insurance to enroll and avoid having to pay a tax penalty by enrolling for insurance through the healthcare.gov website.

Gloria Baca of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Denver Field Office, said in an interview with the Press and Dakotan Monday, that the open enrollment period ends at 11 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15.

"We are really encouraging anyone who has no insurance right now, that maybe is employed but not offered insurance through their employer and doesn't have access to a Medicare or Tricare program, to enroll," Baca said. Baca said anyone who wants to

apply should do so as soon as possible. She added that people in South Dakota can use the local getcoveredsouthdakota.org website or call 1-855-371-4987. For residents of Nebraska — which does not operate a Consumer Assistance Program under the Affordable Care Act — the number to call is 1-800-318-2596 or visit healthcare.gov.

Jennifer Grassrope, outreach and enrollment specialist for the Affordable Care Act for the Rural Office of Community Services Inc. (ROCS) in Mitchell, said her office is working to help people with questions on enrolling.

"We just want to get as many people as we can enrolled. The deadline is Feb. 15. After that, you will not be able to en-

INSURANCE | PAGE 14

WOMEN'S HOOPS GAME TONIGHT COYOTES VS DENVER 7 P.M. - DAKOTADOME

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TOMORROW: Town Hall Meeting Seeks Yankton, Vermillion Links

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: SOUTH OF 15TH STREET