



Mostly Sunny

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FRIDAY ■ July 3, 2015

A Look Back On
 The Images Of
 Spring • **1B**



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Nature's Fireworks



PHOTO: PETER WOLCOTT-YOUNG

Last week's Northern Lights display created some spectacular natural fireworks for parts of the Yankton area, and photographer Peter Wolcott-Young of Wakonda got out to capture this terrific image of an abandoned barn silhouetted against the cosmic storm. Solar flares directed toward Earth created the magnificent lighting, that were seen across numerous states that usually don't get such terrific views. This weekend, fireworks will splash across the heavens throughout America, but they may have a tough time capturing this kind of splendor.

Picking Up The Tab?

State Could Be On Hook For Legal Fees In Gay Marriage Case

BY KEVIN BURBACH
 Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota could end up owing hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees to the private attorneys who fought the state's ban on gay marriage unless a federal appeals court sides with the attorney general.

Minneapolis attorney Josh Newville, who has represented the six same-sex couples challenging the ban for more than a year, hasn't charged his clients and now plans to seek attorney's fees from the state.

Before he can do that, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals must affirm U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier's ruling in January that declared the ban was unconstitutional as well as rule in favor of Newville and the couples.

Attorney General Marty Jackley filed a motion Monday seeking to vacate Schreier's decision and dismiss the case, arguing the judge erred in her original ruling and that there's nothing more to argue following last week's decision from the U.S. Supreme Court.

Under federal law, plaintiffs in federal civil rights cases can petition a court to award them legal fees if a court finds in their favor, which Newville hopes the 8th Circuit will do.

Newville said he thinks Jackley is asking for the case to be dismissed so that the state isn't on the hook for any potential legal fees, which he estimates could be hundreds of thousands

MARRIAGE | PAGE 9A

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A performer with Yankton's Green Room Dance Studio is shown in rehearsal in May for the studio's spring recital "Dance to the Movies." To see more springtime images, see today's "River City" on page 1B. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

YSD Facilities Meeting Seeks Input

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN
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A public meeting will be held on Tuesday at the Yankton High School Theater to collect input on the Crane-Youngworth/Williams Field project. The meeting runs from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

After the Crane-Youngworth Field celebrated its 88th birthday in October, community members noticed a need for repairs. The field has endured countless celebrations and sporting events, and it shows.

Last October, the Geotek engineering firm conducted a comprehensive strength test, at which point it was clear that some major renovations needed to be made.

Decisions will be made on the specifics of either rehabilitating/replacing Crane's grandstand structure or renovating Williams field to meet facility needs.

"The idea of having a public meeting is an



Kindle

added way for our community members to be involved with this process," said Superintendent Dr. Wayne Kindle.

Officials have kept the public aware of the Crane Youngworth/Williams Field Project through discussions on "Kindle's Korner" newspaper columns, radio interviews and school board meetings. They have considered the changes and have crunched the numbers, and now that the details have been made known, the public can give its input.

"This meeting is geared towards educating the public on what the options mean and what each one will entail while also answering questions," said school board member Jim Fitzgerald, who is also a member of the Building and Grounds Committee.

The meeting will be headed by the committee which includes Kindle; Chuck Turner, supervisor of buildings and grounds; Fitzgerald; Matt Pietz, school board member; and Jason Bietz, business manager of Yankton School District.

This committee meets outside regular school board meetings when topics for discussion arise. Members address problems and explore options to improve facilities. Since the debate of Crane-Youngworth has become more prominent, the group has met more often in this past year.

"The whole topic of the Crane grandstand has been in the works for a couple of years now," Fitzgerald said. "We consistently talked about it, got some numbers together and listed what would be best for the school district."

CRANE | PAGE 11A

Some Rebuilding Advice

Experience Of Viborg Church May Offer Some Insights For Delmont Church

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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VIBORG — It wasn't his congregation, but the Rev. Steven Unzicker understood the pain when a May 10 Mother's Day — tornado demolished Zion Lutheran Church of Delmont.

Fire destroyed his Spring Valley Lutheran Church of rural Viborg on March 26, 2010 — the Friday before Palm Sunday. The church rebuilt with the theme, "Resurrection from the Rubble," a process that remains ongoing.

While they suffered different disasters, the Viborg and Delmont churches have shared the same challenges. The loss of the church means finding a temporary home and also designing and financing a new structure.

Unzicker understands Zion Lutheran's grieving process.



COURTESY PHOTO

Firefighters work to contain the blaze that destroyed Spring Valley Lutheran Church of rural Viborg on March 26, 2010 — the Friday before Palm Sunday.

"That evening (of our fire), we held a worship service at Our Savior's (a sister congregation in Viborg) to help not just the people of Spring Valley, but the community with their grief," Unzicker said.

"The service was very much a community event. Spring Valley has deep roots in the area and has

touched the lives of a great number of people who do not even belong."

Following the evening service, the church council met and decided to rebuild. Later, the congregation voted overwhelmingly to do the same.

On the day of the fire, the Spring

REBULID | PAGE 9A

GFP Slated To Lease 1.2 Million Hunt Acres

BY BOB MERCER
 State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — There will be 1.2 million acres of private land available as walk-in areas for public hunting in South Dakota again this fall.

The state Game, Fish and Parks Department leases the land for its program that allows free access to the public.

The department will spend about \$2 million and has contracts with about 1,300 cooperating property owners, according to Mark Norton, the program's administrator.

The 2015 walk-in directory is in the printing stage, he said.

Norton was part of a briefing Thursday for the

state Game, Fish and Parks Commission about the roles of private land for public hunting in South Dakota.

Other presenters were Paul Coughlin and Brian Pauley from the state Wildlife Division and Matt Morlock from Pheasants Forever.

Norton said the walk-in acres peaked at about 1.3 million in 2011. South Dakota's program began in 1988 and became a model for other states such as Iowa.

There are 112,000 acres of undisturbed land enrolled this year. Those landowners receive higher payments because the land has higher value for hunting,

HUNT | PAGE 9A

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TOMORROW: Our Special Independence Day Issue

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SOUTH
 OF 15TH STREET