



Partly Cloudy

9 a.m. **68** 3 p.m. **81** | DETAILS: Page 2



Baseball Rivalry
Heats Up A
Summer Night
RIVER CITY

FRIDAY ■ July 10, 2015

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75¢



All Or Nothing

Opinion: Neb. Judges Can't Refuse To Perform Same-Sex Marriages

BY MARGERY A. BECK
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Nebraska judges and court officials cannot refuse to perform same-sex marriages unless they refuse to perform all marriages, according to a state judicial ethics group.

The opinion released last week by the Nebraska Judicial Ethics Committee answers the question of whether a judge or clerk magistrate

can refuse to perform marriages for same-sex couples for religious reasons, even if the official refers the same-sex couple to another official willing to perform the ceremony.

The ethics committee, made up of seven state judges, determined that the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling last month that legalized same-sex marriage across the country does not allow Nebraska judges to refuse to perform gay marriage ceremonies if they also perform opposite-sex marriages.

"If a judge is willing to perform traditional marriages, his or her refusal to perform same-sex marriages would be a manifestation of bias or prejudice based on sexual orientation when a valid law permits such couples to marry, even if the judge states that the reason is based on sincerely held religious beliefs or upon a personal

MARRIAGE | PAGE 10A



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D
Two audience members study a map during the meeting of the James River Water Development District board Thursday in Yankton.

River Board Backs Hydrant Proposal Near Viborg

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Area firefighters are anticipating a huge benefit from a proposed fire hydrant 15 miles west of Viborg.

The James River Water Development District (JRWD) approved a maximum of \$6,375 — one-half of the anticipated cost — during Thursday's board meeting in Yankton.

The Viborg Rural Fire Department requested the cost-share assistance. The funding will be used for installing a hydrant upon the B-Y Water District system at the intersection of 291st Street and 444th Avenue in Yankton County.

At Thursday's meeting, Viborg Fire Chief Craig Simonsen said the new hydrant would benefit the entire region. Besides Viborg, the hydrant would serve Irene, Hurley, Yankton, Lesterville and Menno, he said.

"This is a good central location (for the hydrant) because it will help a lot of departments in a very rural area," he said.

Simonsen said he has been in contact with B-Y general manager Terry Wootton about the project. In addition, the land owner has agreed to locating the hydrant on his property.

"We've been working on this project for the last year and a half," Simonsen said.

The hydrant will allow firefighters to maintain a continuous flow of water when responding to grass and structure fires, Simonsen said. Currently, departments face the prospect of needing to return to their hometowns for more water.

"If you need to go back 15 miles to town, you're looking at a total of 45 minutes for the drive time and filling up with water," he told the *Press & Dakotan*.

In that respect, the new hydrant would greatly help fire departments not only with drive time but also fuel costs, Simonsen said. The hydrant would also benefit surrounding homeowners, he added.

MEETING | PAGE 5A



American
Profile



Spry
Living

* * *

Onward Yankton Receives Nearly 500 Submissions

In the 100-day search for Yankton's next big idea, the Onward Yankton committee received nearly 500 submissions. The competition formally ended at midnight on Thursday, July 9.

"This contest was uncharted territory, so we didn't know how many submissions we would receive," says committee member Katie Hunhoff. "I think it's great that we had the entire community thinking about how to make Yankton better, and now we have several hundred refreshing and creative ideas to think about."

The ideas are available to view and comment on at www.OnwardYankton.com. The committee will review the ideas thoroughly and announce the top ideas within a few weeks. In early August, five finalists will be announced and the proponents of each will be able to give a presentation to the community. The winner will be announced in early September.

The Onward Yankton

ONWARD | PAGE 10A

A Celebration In Store



COURTESY PHOTO

The Native American group Broken Walls will be a featured performer at Sunday's Sioux Falls Diocese 125th anniversary celebration at Marty.

Diocese Event At Marty Sunday

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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MARTY — As part of the year-long celebration of its 125th anniversary, the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls will pay tribute Sunday to the history and faith of the Native Americans in the diocese.

St. Paul's Church at Marty is hosting the liturgical celebration, meal and other activities. The event will also celebrate the Feast of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American saint. The feast day actually falls on July 14 but will be celebrated at Sunday's Mass.

Sunday's event looks to draw people from across the diocese, which covers all of South Dakota east of the Missouri River, said Sister Miriam Shindelar of St. Paul's Church.

"We expect an overflow crowd," she said. Sunday's event offers a special opportunity, she said.

"I'm thrilled to have it here," she said. "I feel the Native American people have so much to contribute to the faith, and sometimes it hasn't been known what wealth there is in the Native people."

The event features Mass, special speakers and music, a picnic lunch, a cemetery procession and tours of the campus.

Bishop Paul Swain will celebrate the 11 a.m. Mass with prelude and processional music by the Native American group Broken Walls. The group's name comes from founder Jonathan Maracle's realization that the walls which separate Native and non-Native

DIOCESE | PAGE 10A

Tech School Aims To Help With Affordability

BY ROB NIELSEN
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ROB NIELSEN/P&D
Chellee Nemec of Southeast Technical Institute educates Yankton business and civic leaders about STI's new Sponsor A Scholar program.

Within the next few months, high school seniors from across the country will begin the process of applying for a finite number of scholarships to help make higher education more accessible to them. Some will succeed, but that number will be dwarfed by the number of qualified students not selected to receive their choice scholarship.

However, one regional institution is looking at a means to help those.

Southeast Technical Institute (STI) president Jeff Holcomb was in Yankton Thursday to address business and civic leaders about the school's

new Sponsor a Scholar program.

Holcomb told the audience gathered at the Avera Professional Pavilion that the need for a skilled workforce is growing rapidly throughout the state and the nation.

"The issue of workforce has just swelled and has become a huge issue across this state," Holcomb said. "It's not just in South Dakota — this is a nationwide issue."

Under the program, a student would receive a \$5,000 sponsorship from an entity as well as a mentor. The student would be required to live in South Dakota for three years, which would include two years at STI and one year working at the entity itself.

Holcomb said there are several questions that must be addressed when it comes to technical education.

"How do we engage the younger generation into (the workforce)?" he said. "How do we also re-train and re-tool those individuals who may be looking at a career change and recognizing that a skilled workforce is something they want to be a part of?"

One solution is the Build Dakota Scholarship which offers students at Southeast Tech, based in Sioux Falls, a full-ride.

Holcomb said the demand for the scholarship, which applied to 12 of Southeast's offered programs,

SCHOOL | PAGE 10A

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TOMORROW: Juvenile Justice System Heads Down A New Path

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

NORTH
OF 15TH STREET