



Sunny And Hot

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TUESDAY ■ July 14, 2015



Area Basketball Players Look To Future At MMC Team Camp

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## At The Levy

### County Mulls Tax Tool To Repair Infrastructure

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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Large portions of the hundreds of miles of paved roadway, along with many of the vehicles maintaining them in Yankton County, are quickly falling into various states of wear and disrepair — and the County Commission feels it's time to act in the form of a levy authorized by the state Legislature with the passage of Senate Bill 1.

During a public forum to discuss the potential levy, County Commission chairman Todd Woods discussed using the law created by Senate Bill 1, which allows the county eligible to raise the necessary funds through a levy, emphasizing the money can't go anywhere else.



Woods

"Pierre's given us the opportunity to raise our taxes, and it can only be used for roads and bridges," Woods said. "It can't be used for

anything else. ... If this levy is something the commissioners pass, it's money that can only be spent on roads and bridges. It can't be spent on something in the sheriff's office or the auditor's office."

The deadline to pass the levy that can be applied to the 2016 budget is Wednesday and would require a two-thirds majority for passage. There is also an opportunity to refer the levy to the public upon passage. The levy allows a maxi-



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton County Commissioner Don Kettering discusses the road situation in the county Monday during a public information meeting about utilizing a new state law to impose a levy devoted to road and bridge repair.

LEVY | PAGE 10

## A Plan For 52



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

An audience member looks at the display outlining a proposed zoning and development overlay for the Highway 52 corridor, during a public meeting held Monday night at the Yankton County Government Center. Response to the plan from the attendees was overwhelmingly positive.

## Public Gets Look At Proposed Corridor Vision

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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From aesthetics to economic development, Yankton County residents expressed their concerns Monday night about the S.D. Highway 52 corridor west of Yankton.

And if the open house was any indication, Yankton County residents strongly want changes for the area running from West City Limits Road to the Lewis and Clark Recreation Area.

The Yankton County S.D. Highway 52 Task Force Committee sponsored

the open house at the Yankton County Government Center. The event sought feedback on the proposed overlay district and sewer district for the Highway 52 corridor.

The corridor overlay district is meant to keep the stretch of Highway 52 appealing. The district also seeks to make it more accessible to tourists, residents and potential businesses.

"We want to know your opinions on it," Yankton County zoning administrator Pat Garrity told the large crowd on hand. "Are you telling us to move forward or not?"

By nearly unanimous votes, the nearly 30 audience members taking part in the straw poll supported both the corridor and sewer districts. B-Y Water serves residents and businesses, but the corridor doesn't have a sewer system.

The county officials' decisions will affect a large portion of Yankton County's population and a huge part of the county's recreation and economy, Garrity said.

"We have 22,000 residents in Yankton

CORRIDOR | PAGE 3

## School Board Hears Concerns About Facilities

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN  
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At Monday night's school board meeting, members of the school board and the community expressed their concern with the conditions of school facilities.

With all the discussion concerned with the Crane Youngworth project, the board also expressed concerns about the school facilities. As another school year approaches, the board wants to make sure classroom and learning facilities are being made.

Superintendent Wayne Kindle discussed a similar project that took place eight years ago where the district hired DLR Group, a design firm out of Omaha, to do a comprehensive study of the elementary and middle school buildings.

Most of the improvements made during that time were to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as well as consolidating issues. But the overall architecture of the building was not discussed.

According to Kindle, this project would be much more in-depth by considering the facilities of each of the buildings and discussing what improvements would benefit

the learning environment.

"We know that we have some needs throughout the other districts and the other buildings," Kindle said.

Along with supervisor of buildings and grounds Chuck Turner, Kindle would continue to work on the scope for the Request for Proposal (RFP) between now and the next board meeting. This would consider what aspects of the facilities would be up for improvements.

Kindle will then present that scope to the board and they will decide on the approval of such a scope and the possibility of opening the RFP up to other design firms. The potential firm would meet with each of the building's administrators and have a discussion about each of the buildings and what individual staff members would like to see as far as improvements.

If the board chooses to move forward, the engineer firm could be hired, do a study and report back to the board on improvement details and cost by February or early March. At that time, a bidding process will take place similar to the Crane Youngworth project.

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## City Commission Gives OK To Hire Radio Consultant

BY ALYSSA SOBOTKA  
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An outdated radio system and the current coverage with RAYCOM ending soon has led the City of Yankton to consider hiring a radio consultant to assess the best options for upgrade, as discussed during Monday's Yankton City Commission meeting.

"Trying to identify what the best approach is to take on our radio system (is that it) exceeds our abilities in terms of the technical information — we don't have radio expertise," said city manager Amy Nelson. "We're going to have a major expenditure regardless of how we choose to proceed and (we want) to have an expert take a look

at the coverage, if we would need more towers, all those types of things."

The contract with the prospective radio consultant from the Twin Cities is for \$25,452.50 and would include consultation in upgrading 911 radio consoles and mobile and portable radios. The cost would cover the assessment, not the total upgrade.

Yankton Police Chief Brian Paulsen explained the need for an upgraded system, as well as outside expertise.

"Our current radios are 18 years old and what's considered a good lifespan for a portable radio is about 8," he said. "We've doubled

CITY | PAGE 3

## 2 Dead From Sunday Accident

From P&D Staff Reports

Two Yankton residents were killed in a two-vehicle crash that occurred Sunday afternoon five miles west on Highway 52 of Yankton.

According to a press release from the Department of Public Safety, Khuyen Nguyen, 52, and Ryan Nguyen, 39, were pronounced dead at the scene of the crash, located just west of the Oak Hills entrance. The two occupants in the other vehicle were injured.

Sunday's crash was reported at 3:10 p.m. The Highway Patrol says a 2014 Toyota Camry was westbound on Highway 52. The vehicle, driven by Khuyen Nguyen, drifted across the center line and into the path of an eastbound 2007 Grand Cherokee Laredo Jeep. The South Dakota



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Emergency personnel are shown at the scene of a two vehicle accident on Highway 52 west of Yankton Sunday. Two people were killed in the accident, it was announced Monday.

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