



E-Edition



Contact the
Circulation Dept. Today!
605.665.7811

YANKTON DAILY

PRESS & DAKOTAN



Volume 141
Number 73

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **14 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

75¢



Ready To Rumble

Yankton Takes Part In Sturgis Festivities With 1st Rock 'N Rumble Event



BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

The Sturgis motorcycle rally may run nearly 400 miles away, but Yankton is hosting its own celebration of the 75th annual rally.

Yankton's inaugural Rock 'N Rumble celebration is set for Aug. 1. The event is held in conjunction with the Sturgis rally, expected to attract 1 million bikers during the Aug. 3-9 event.

This new Yankton event includes a motorcycle parade on Meridian Bridge, a barbecue and bands playing into the evening. The event is free and open to the public. The Yankton area already sees a great

deal of bike rally traffic each year, said Stephanie Moser, director of the Yankton Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB).

"We have folks headed to Sturgis who prefer the back roads," she said. "They come from the south on (U.S.) Highway 81 and turn on (S.D.) Highways 52 or 50. We know a lot of bikers like to take those scenic back roads."

The Rock 'N Rumble offers an excellent opportunity for bikers to check out Yankton and possibly stay overnight, said Carmen Schramm, executive director of the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We want to get them off the interstate

RUMBLE | PAGE 13

To Our Readers

The Press & Dakotan inadvertently published the incorrect crossword puzzle and Cryptoquote in Monday's edition. Both the correct Monday and Tuesday puzzles are printed in today's edition. We apologize for the error.

Escapee From Yankton Unit Captured

From P&D Staff Reports

A minimum-security state prison inmate who failed to return to the Yankton Minimum Unit Sunday morning from his work release job is back in custody.

Inmate Jack Williams was apprehended in South Sioux City, Nebraska, Monday morning.

He was placed on escape status after failing to report back to the minimum-security unit at the appointed time Sunday.

Williams is currently serving a 10-year sentence (with seven years suspended) for forgery, a five-year sentence (with two years suspended) for possession of a forged instrument and a concurrent 10-year sentence (with seven years suspended) for unauthorized ingestion of a controlled substance. All of the sentences are from Union County. Williams began serving the sentences in January 2014.

* * *

No Reason Clear Yet For Slower Sales Tax

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — State government's revenue from sales and use tax grew at an unusually low rate during the 2015 fiscal year that ended June 30.

Today the Legislature's Joint Committee on Appropriations meets to discuss the situation with Jason Dilges. He is commissioner of finance and management for Gov. Dennis Daugaard's administration.

The fiscal 2015 growth was 1.6 percent. That was less than half of the 3.4 percent growth the Legislature had expected in its March revised forecast.

By comparisons, the fiscal 2014 growth was 6.1 percent, better than the 5.5 the Legislature had forecast in March 2014.

Sales and use tax is state government's largest single source of revenue for the general fund.

The \$836.6 million collected from sales and use tax during fiscal 2015 represented 59 percent of the general fund.

Dilges said Monday that he was still digging into the possible

TAX | PAGE 13

So Close, But ...



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Meridian Bridge Plaza Not Quite Ready To Set Sail

From P&D Staff Reports

Yankton's new Meridian Bridge Plaza is nearly ready to go — but not quite.

On Monday, Yankton Parks & Recreation Director Todd Larson said a couple of kinks need to be worked out before the fountain and splash pads are made fully operational.

"We turned on the fountain and the splash

pads and we got water," Larson said. "But the fountain, the water wasn't flowing exactly like we expected on the north side, so there's going to be a little more work done."

Larson said as of Monday night he was still in the process of getting an estimated completion date for the work on the fountain and final sealing of concrete around the splash pads.

Creatures With Superpowers Invade Yankton Library

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN
alissa.woockman@yankton.net

Monday's summer reading program at the Yankton Community Library featured some unusual heroes with unusual superpowers. "The Zoo Man" was the featured presenter and he used some exotic animals to promote community reading. This event began the final week of the eight week summer reading program at the Yankton library.

Brent Mielke — aka "The Zoo Man" — of Sleepy Eye, Minnesota travels across the country speaking to kids about the importance of reading and learning while utilizing the help of some friendly creatures.

Mielke is currently on his annual summertime animal tour.

"This year, I am doing 1,700 shows and going around to 19 different states," he said.

"I try to promote it as much as I can."

A graduate of Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri, Mielke has two Masters degrees: one in wellness/exercise science and the other in herpetology (reptiles)/zoology. During the past 28 years, "The Zoo Man" has performed live in front of more than 6 million people across 47 states in libraries, schools, county fairs and town festivals.

"I love kids," Mielke said. "I'm a big kid who never grew up."

Along with his tours, Mielke also owns and operates Prairie Winds Zoo. This zoo was originally in Adrian, Minnesota, until a fire in 2009 wiped out the entire property. After the incident, Mielke relocated to his

ZOO MAN | PAGE 3



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Ava Haar of Yankton offers a sheepish grin as she holds up a royal python during an appearance of the "Zoo Man" at the Yankton Community Library. The "Zoo Man" — also known as Brent Mielke of Sleepy Eye, Minnesota — brought several reptiles to the program to delight, entertain and educate his young audience and to encourage them to read more about the creatures they were seeing.

Make life a little easier...

Easy Pay
Simple • Safe • Secure
The easy way to pay your Press & Dakotan bill.

Automatically charge your monthly subscription to your checking or credit card account through Easy Pay.

Call the Press & Dakotan today to sign up!! 605-665-7811



Printed With
SOY INK

