



YANKTON DAILY
**PRESS &
DAKOTAN**



Yankton Hosts SDGA Junior Event • **7**

City Says No To B-Y Option



Yankton city commissioners David Knoff and Brooke Blaaid listen during Monday's City Commission meeting as Yankton Community Development Director Dave Mingo provides information about a new sign ordinance.

KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Commissioners Choose To Pursue Own Upgrades

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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After reviewing a proposal Monday from the B-Y Rural Water District to provide water to the community, the Yankton City Commission declined to pursue the offer.

B-Y Manager Terry Wootton said his organization could supply the City of Yankton with up to 3 million gallons per day (MGD) of water within weeks.

"That's as of today," added B-Y board member Terry Hacecky. "If you're seriously interested in saving money, you can help us put the line in from the (B-Y) plant to get 10 million or 20 million gallons (per day) — whatever you need."

The immediate offer of 3 MGD does not solve Yankton's problems, according to City Manager Amy Nelson. Currently, the surface water intake on the Missouri River has a capacity of 5.5 MGD. Meanwhile, the two wells in Nebraska have a com-

bined capacity of 4.2 MGD.

However, for several reasons, the surface water intake is not considered a reliable water source going into the future. Thus, with the wells and B-Y Water, the city would only have a capacity to reliably produce 7.2 MGD — which doesn't meet current peak day demands.

Nelson has said that a collector well at Paddle Wheel Point would still need to be built even if water is purchased from B-Y in order to reliably meet future needs. The estimated cost of the well and the pipe to transport it to the water treatment plant is \$9.3 million.

B-Y is proposing to sell Yankton the water at a cost of \$1.50 to \$2 per 1,000 gallons. At \$1.50, it would cost the city \$1.64 million annually. At the \$2 rate, the figure would be \$2.19 million.

"We're still going to have all of our overhead costs — billing administration, labor, etc.," Yankton

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YSD Mulls Changes For Elementary Schools

BY ANDREW ATWAL
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The Yankton School District (YSD) school board discussed elementary school changes at its regularly scheduled board meeting Monday night.

Melanie Ryken, Webster School principal, discussed several changes to the elementary school handbook, which board members approved.

"Last summer, we really revamped the handbooks so there are not too many changes we have to make this year," she said. "One of the changes we're making has to do with how inclement weather announcements are made over the new system we have at YSD."

Other changes to the handbook address parent-teacher conferences and the dates they are held and the visitors policy, which requires visitors to the elementary schools to sign in at the main office upon arrival.

"We decided to hold parent-teacher conferences after the first quarter, in addition to having them between the second and third quarters," Ryken said. "When we used to have them after the third quarter, we thought they were being held too late in the year."

She also discussed a pilot study for Webster School dur-

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Local Crowd Mines Info During Chat With Physicists

BY DEREK BARTOS
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"If you can't detect dark matter, how do you know it exists?" asked a voice in a crowd in Yankton.

From nearly a mile underground, 400 miles away, physicist Richard Ott answered.

"You look at the ways stars move in galaxies and the way galaxies move relative to each other. The theory of gravity predicts that they will move in certain ways, and they are moving much faster than that ..." Ott said. "One (theory) is that there is stuff out there we can't see, and that is dark matter."

The exchange took place Monday afternoon during a video chat between approximately 70 Yank-

ton audience members and physicists at the Sanford Underground Research Facility in Lead. Held at the Kelly Inn and Convention Center, the event was the fourth in a series of statewide talks aimed to inform the public about the work being done at the facility. The lab is also promoting the use of the video technology to connect scientists with classrooms throughout South Dakota.

Located at the site of the old Homestake gold mine that was closed in 2003, the underground laboratory is home to two experiments at the 4,850-foot level.

Monday's chat focused on the Large Underground Xenon (LUX)



DEREK BARTOS/P&D

Audience members in Yankton listen to physicist Richard Ott during a two-way video chat Monday. Ott spoke from the Sanford Underground Research Facility in Lead about the work being done at the lab.

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Senators Give OK To \$500B Farm Bill

Approved Package Must Now Be Reconciled With Similar House Measure

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Monday passed a five-year, half-trillion-dollar farm bill that expands government subsidies for crop insurance, rice and peanuts while making small cuts to food stamps.

The bill passed on a bipartisan 66-27 vote. The legislation, which costs almost \$100 billion annually, also would eliminate subsidies that are paid to farmers whether they farm or not. All told, it would save about \$2.4 billion a year on the farm and nutrition programs, including across-the-board cuts that took effect earlier this year.

Senate Agriculture Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., said the bill would support 16 million American jobs, save taxpayers billions and put into place "the most significant reforms to agriculture programs in decades." But it would still generously subsidize corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, rice, sugar and other major crops grown by U.S. farmers.

The legislation would also set policy for programs to protect environmentally sensitive land, international food aid and other projects to help rural communities. The Senate passed a similar farm bill last year.

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Monday that his chamber will take up its version of the farm bill this month. Debate in the House is expected to be contentious and much more partisan than in the Senate, with disagreements among the GOP caucus over domestic food aid that makes up almost 80 percent of the bill's cost.

Last year, the House declined to take up the legislation during an election year amid conflict over how much should be cut from the food stamp program, which now serves one in seven Americans and cost almost \$80 billion last year. That cost has more



Stabenow

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Hillary Clinton Joins Twitter

WASHINGTON (AP) — Twitter, meet (at)HillaryClinton.

Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton joined Twitter on Monday, describing herself with a dash of humor as a "pantsuit aficionado" and a "hair icon."

The former New York senator and first lady sent out her first tweet under the handle (at)HillaryClinton, thanking the creators of the popular online parodies called "Texts from Hillary." Clinton's initial tweet thanked Adam Smith and Stacy Lambe for their inspiration and said, "I'll take it from here," concluding with a hashtag (hash)#tweetsfromhillary.

The potential 2016 presidential candidate's profile page on the microblogging service shows the memorable photo of a stern-looking Clinton wearing dark sunglasses and reading her BlackBerry aboard a military plane while leading the State Department during President Barack Obama's first term.

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